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Sidney Harper Marsh Letter to Wife - Date Unknown [1866-1867]

Sidney H. Marsh

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[Supper for Thurs of up t forty]

They would like to have me
send Mary to them and would
make it half price. but it
would cost me \$400 a year
which I cant afford now
I feel very anxious about
Mary's purity of thought and
fear she will learn things
from these coarse vulgar
girls that I would rather
she would learn from a study
of Physiology [illegible]. Hattie
Collier is an illustration of a
girl who knows more than she
ought to. Don't let Mary be too
intimate with those girls I am
affraid of. better with younger
than older. Now is a critical
age with her. Vulgar impression
will taint forever her virgin
purity.

But how vain are all our
precautions and all our teaching
unless The spirit of God pure
peaceable and fruitful in all
good [illegible] in them. I want
the children early to under
stand that God is as ready
to come into them as air into
a vacuum if they desire it and
permit it. How little I have done
to teach them this.

God makes our hands clean
our thoughts right, because he
alone makes our hearts pure.

I am afraid there will
be talk about getting Prof Bailey
to F.G. and other things that will
incite Dickenson's jealousy. The
less said about the [illegible]
national matter at present the
Better. Let me know when you
receive the \$ 350 sent you. The [illegible]

the looks that I have mailed. Will you be able t make a garden? How has the wood held
out? and the corn? Harkill must write about them_
love to all-
S. H.M.