Litchfield (Con) July 26. 1849

Sir,

Yours of the 18th inst. is just rec.d. Our mode of instruction in the law is by Lectures, of which one is given each day, except Sundays, & the periods of vacation. There are two vacations, annually — one in May, & the other in Oct.r, of four weeks each. — The entire course occupies somewhat more than a year; the usual period being about 14 or 15 months: So that the commencement of it cannot be limited to any one particular season of the year. But it is deemed a matter of little, or no importance, so that the student enters, at the ~~beginning~~ beginning of the regular series of lectures, or at a different time. — The price of tuition is $100 per annum; that of board, including room & lodging, from $3.00, to $4.00, per week.*

I have an ample law-library, which is always at the service of the students — to be used, however, only in my own office, where one room is devoted to them. Judge Reeve, with whom I am associated in the business, has a library also, in his office, for the use of the students. There is also a small circulating library of select law-books, kept by a bookseller in the neighbouring town. It is always desirable, however, that each student should have a few elementary books of his own: as Blackstone's Commentaries, Cowen's Treatises, Chitty's Digest, & some others. But this is not indispensable. — Our students, or rather some of them, frequently occupy rooms in, or adjoining, other law-offices, upon the terms of paying, merely, room-rent.

* It may be here, perhaps, stated, that in Litchfield, as elsewhere, there are different prices for different rooms.

C. Birney, Esq.
Newburyport
Massachusetts
Massachusetts

March

1850

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