Danvers 11 Mo 21 1886

Dear Friend

I ought to have thanked thee before for thy graceful and kind verses -a tribute I fear quite undeserved.

I quite agree with thee in deploring

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the folly of the Independents. I could not read Jewall's letter, and Jas. Freeman Clarke's speeches! And the suicidal curse of the Prohibitionists vexes me But for them Blaine would have been

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elected. What a combination of rum-sellers and the John-Johns! I am greatly sorry for the defeat of Cabot Lodge: but Massachusetts, on the whole, has done well, for which let us be thankful.

(page 3 ends)

I am truly thy

friend

John G. Whittier