shrink back from the task (if it may be so called) with so much dread, as I have seen manifest to be done, whom I have always considered far superior to myself in composition. But we must return to our subject & attend with more assiduity to those rules, which I, whom I consider high authority, has instructed us to use & to abide strictly by, lest we too far into the very same error about which we have been speaking, I become as much prejudiced against Comps as any one else; for we will certainly get into difficulties if we go at random writing whatever happens to come in our way; therefore may very easily account for the fact, why young men are at all prejudiced against writing Comps. — Why! they can not converse with any one, with the least degree of composening, about sitting down two or three hours at a time, & thinking on some subject, & thoughts of which (they me say,) never conjure the mind of any person. Nor for the reason; — if they only had certain rules which might direct them, which might apply very well in different ways in different cases, & by which they might quieting themselves as to the propriety or the impripositiei of the steps when they come off of their subjects, why! the mere answers to these questions would enable them to progress some, by are means, in thin Comps; taking away thereby all causes of complaint on account of the lack of subject matter, & consequently taking away as much causes of prejudice; for we suppose that, if they could compose without an effort of the mind, if they only were to write down on paper mere words & sentences without taxing their brains to conceive them & to put them in their proper places giving the correct orthography of their language, they would be altogether indifferent as to the matter but for the writing. Their plan of composing is altogether false; they reject