

not confound courage with foolhardiness," His mother told him tales of the Revolution and gave him poetry, romances, and allegory to read, which largely developed the ideal side of the mind,

At the age of seven he went to school taught by Dr. Worcester, author of the dictionary. When nine years of age he was lamed by an injury received while playing ball. His foot shrunk and was much smaller than the other so that for two years he was confined to the house, during which time he did much studying and reading, Dr. Worcester coming to the house to teach him. Concerning his school days he tells us:—

"One of the peculiarities of my boyhood was a grievous disinclination to go to school and (Providence favoring me in this natural repugnance) I never did go half as much as other boys, partly owing to delicate health (which I made the most of for the purpose), and partly because, much of the time, there were no schools within reach."

At the age of fourteen Hawthorne went with his mother and sisters to Raymond, Maine, near Sebago Lake, to dwell in a house belonging to his uncle, Robert Manning, and called "Manning's Folly." Here he enjoyed the utmost freedom, running wild, spending his time hunting, fishing, etc., but it was while here that he acquired his "cursed habits of solitude." In winter, on moonlight nights, he would skate on the lake till midnight, then oft-times, seek an old cabin and there be lost in meditation. He says:

"Oh, how well I recall the summer days, also, when, with my gun, I roamed at will through the woods of Maine. How sad middle life looks to people of erratic temperaments! everything is beautiful in youth, for all things are allowed to it then." Perhaps this had as much to do with "ripening the genius" of Hawthorne as any of his studies. Among his early favorite authors were: Bunyan, Spenser, Shakespeare, Sir Philip Sydney, Milton, Thomas and Gray;