

Hartford Aug^t. 13th.

My dear Alice,

Your letter has just reached us. — It has been my daily prayer since we parted that you might be preserved & have grace given you to bear this trial from your Heavenly Father's hand — for from the first hour that sweet child was taken sick I have feared & dreaded the result, —

I long to have you near us at this hour that I might put my arms about you & mingle our tears — yet I rejoice that you are with your dear Mother & Sister whose place no other could supply.

I had just finished a letter to Mary this afternoon, when your father came in with your letter. I had already my paper before

me to write to you - I then hoped, still,
that the dear babe was gaining -
but your letter and the telegram
to day forbid hope.

Saturday Morn. I was interrupted
yesterday by a call from Mrs. Camp
who brought a letter from her son Henry
just received. She seems to feel very
easy about them now - far more, she
says, than if they were engaged in
the battle, & very much pleased
that they have been removed from
Charleston - he writes as if they were
very comfortably situated - under the
circumstances - plenty of food - Coffee
fruit, such as peaches Melons &c. - to
be had for the money - and at one third
the price they paid in Charleston.
I called to see Edwards wife yesterday
she was out - but called up in the
evening with her father. I hope we
shall hear from you to day -

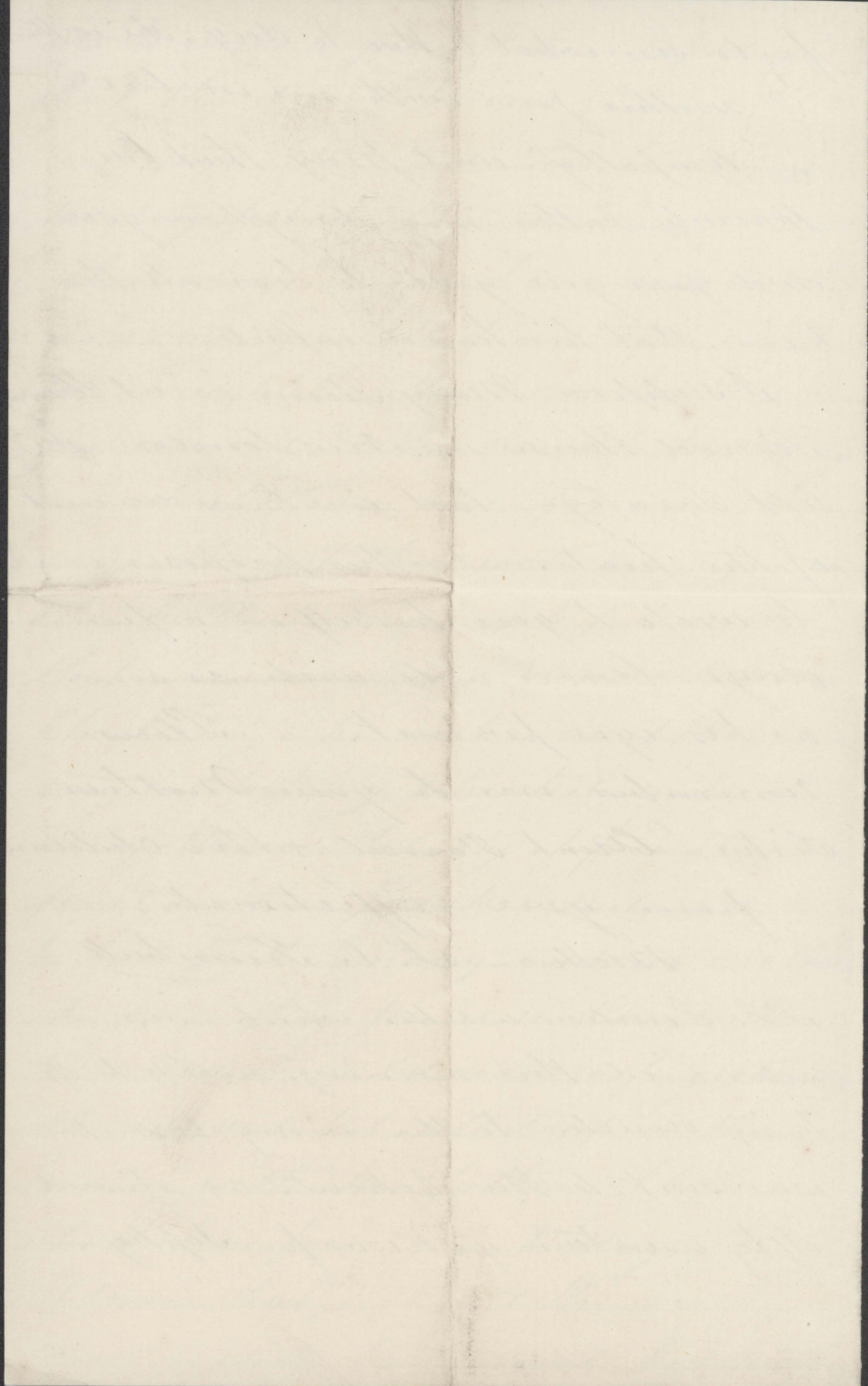
Armi has ^{been} sick all the week -
nearly - with her usual headache.

feels somewhat better to day, she with
mother join with me in love &
sympathy. and pray that Our
Heavenly Father may strengthen you
and give you grace to bear all the
trials that his hand inflicts. —

I suppose Mary Prime is at the
Regent House in New London. She
left Saratoga last week on account
of the heat. Mother proposes
to write to you herself in a few
days. Annie will write as soon
as her eyes permit. Please
remember me to your Mother
Sister. Aunt Farnel & the children
from your affectionate

Mother S. O. Turnbull

P.S. I enclose a letter which was
addressed this morning, owing to its
being directed to the wrong box it
was sent to the Retreat. we opened
it to ascertain if it was for Sophy —



With best love
Kind remem-
ber to May &
B. your aff-
daughter
Alice.

Sunday Afternoon Feb. 19th

Dear Mother,

I don't like to send
Henry's letters without a word.

We were all so glad to see
Tom. he called here last ~~Th~~ Thu-
only stayed a little while, but
has promised to come again. he looked
very well. Sophy & May were delighted.
S. came screaming into my room - that
somebody was in the parlor & wanted
to see me. it was a soldier, she said.
I did not think of Tom at first - but
supposed of course Henry had come. Tom
was very good to come way out here.
in the mud, I don't mean he washed,
for he did not. I hope you are all
well at home. I often think of you -
the time seems a long way off when
I shall see you again - Mother sends

much love. Sophy is perfectly
well. but May & I have been almost
sick for a few days - yesterday & today
we have not been down to our meals.
I don't know whether it is only a
hard cold. or a kind of intermitted
fever. we seemed to be taken just
alike. The Dr. is coming to see
us tomorrow. I trust we shall
soon be well. for I have too much
to do. to be sick long. May thinks
it very nice to have me laid up
with her. lying on the bed with
her - taking our meals together &c.
I think May's head is improving.
I wish you could see it. the scab
seems just ready to come off.
shall I keep on using the ointment
till it does? She has not scratched
it for nearly two weeks. She & Sophy
send best love to you all. How is
dear Annie? Ned is going to write
her tomorrow about coming here.

Sabbath of V.

Dear Ben.

I left, at the house
a vol. of "Da Dinner". I had not
read it through, but noticed, in
the beginning, a card to the effect
that if the book was not returned within
a week, it would be subject to fire.

I kept the other to finish it because
it says in it "until Dec. 1854 or"

Now it does not specify whether the
book would be fineable, if ~~it was~~
drawn or if returned before "Dec."

I took the benefit of the doubt.

You did not say anything about
the time of returning, however.

I suppose you have arranged it in
some way or another. The weather
is not very promising to day. I suppose
we shall have a hard work for
Rehoboth. Ellis was loud in
praise of your dinner. He said
he had not eaten such a big dinner

before in years, & that he should not
want anything more & eat in two
weeks. I wish I could have
staid long enough to come &
see you, & the rest of my friends.
My visit was only an aggravation.
— Good Bye.

Yours off. Brother

Charlie.

P.S. I don't know whether you
understand or not about the books.
I want the other vol. which I
left at home sent back after you
get it renewed. I am very much
obliged to you for your trouble. I
can't get the books in any other
way & you don't know what a treat
it is to me after a hard day's work &
sit down to a book. You see there are
absolutely no books out here, & ~~they seem~~
~~to be~~ those which are sent to me
seem the only tie which binds me to
civilization & refinement. Remember me
to Alice, if you please.

Saturday 1st

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Dear Mother

I was left at the house
and a "Sunday" I have not
and I thought, but a short, for
beginning a part to the effect
if the letter was not returned with
it, you will be angry. I first
left it to finish it before
any more with it. I am 18 3/4

I don't know exactly what to
write, would be pleased if you
would return before 10 o'clock

I will be the benefit of the doubt
You should not say anything about
the time we are staying here in

I suppose you have arranged it for
yourself. The weather
is not very promising to day. I suppose
we shall have a hard week for
Saturday. I like was loud in
praise of your dinner. He said
it had not been such a big dinner

before in years, & that he should not
want anything more to eat in two
weeks. I shall say to him
that long enough to permit
see you, & the rest of my friends.
My most cordial regards
Good Bye.

Wm. H. Smith

Charlie

P.S. I don't know whether you
understand or not about the books.
I want to allow you to select
left at home, sent back after you
get it renewed. I am very much
obliged to you for your trouble &
for the gift of books in any other way
except you do at them. But I trust
it is to me after a hard days work &
it is done. I look. Now see there are
absolutely no books at all here. Something
longer than those which are sent to me
seem the only one which have more
civilization & refinement. I'm sure you
to share by the place.

Mr H. Clay Trumbull

P. H. & T. R. R. Office

Hartford Conn.



Sunday evening June 10th.

Dear Brother

You can count upon a ^{weekly} letter from me on Tuesday, while you are from home, for I intend to write you one on each Sabbath evening, because I don't want you to forget Stonington, in attending to the affairs of the Nation. We are prospering here at Stonington as much as usual, although it has been rather a "perilous week", as father says, I believe I told you of our ill success in trouting on Monday, on Tuesday Mr Prime and Mr Elyt went out and succeeded in taking one apiece, on Wednesday Sam Waring, Ed Van Renssaler Amos and myself went out and made a discovery of a Trout pond where we succeeded in taking 49 trout, Mr Prime I am afraid felt rather bad at being beaten but he said that he did not wish to go.

Mary got a letter this morning from Mr Prime, he wants me to go to Blake's in the morning and inquire the price of board per week for a gentleman, Lady, from 2 to 14 children (or of children from 2 to 14, I am not sure which) and servant, I suppose he

is thinking of bringing Mr Cummins and family on here to be out of the way of the Cholera. Mary and Betsey came home this morning on account of the Cholera, Mr Day has hired the whole of Mr Noyes's house and intends to fill it with his friends, the Wadswannock will probably be full.

I don't know, from present appearances, ^{that} ~~and~~ they will gain much by coming here, for there have been two imported cases and both got well, but at eleven o'clock this morning Mr Thomas Ash was taken with something and Cholera and is now dead, it has created quite an excitement here, Mary has just gone into Miss Amys to sleep with Gabriel, she was afraid to sleep alone on ~~an~~ account of the Cholera. But I must bid you Good Night.

Monday morning

I left you rather abruptly, last night, but Father sent me to bed rather suddenly, and so I will try to finish my letter before noon. The Death of Mr Ash has caused quite a panic, the board of health appointed a committee to go about the streets and clean up all the filth, and to inspect all the back yards and houses. I believe they think of getting Harry Rhodes to superintend the last bunch, for he has a fine

now for such business.

We received your letter yesterday morning and were very glad to hear that you are well and enjoying yourself. You must make haste and come home again as soon as possible or Ed Stanton will go off for lack of some one to speak to, he looked sore enough yesterday when I told him that we did not expect you home under a week or fortnight, You must endeavor to be here by the 4th, at any rate, for I suppose Prime will be here with, I don't know how many, young ones.

I went to Providence on Saturday with Father and Tom; Ed and Amos went down with us, we had a great time going and coming. We had a good deal of a laugh going down at the expense of a young woman who brought a large double accordin into the cars and played some very lively jigs on her passage, the best of it was that she was alone and no one asked her to play, Ed and I stamped her but she put in the harder for it, Father sat a little a little way behind her and was perfectly charmed by the noise.

I got some "Cocculus Indicus" at Providence to ~~hook~~ fish with I am going to try it on cunnies.

Give my love to James and see if you can't
get him to come home with you to spend the
4th, Tell Dr Hyde, that the good folks in
Stonington are getting rather gouty at his long
absence in Cholera times, I have been asked
a great many times when he would probably
come home.

You see what a long letter I have written,
I don't know that I ever wrote so long a
one before, and I must now bring it to a
close.

From your aff^d Brother

Charlie

Henry C. Sumner

Stonington Sunday Evening.

Dear Hen'

I supposed all the ^{last} week that you were coming home this week, but Mother informed me last night that you were not expecting we rather expected home yet, I had made extensive calculations on that big Pic' Nis you were talking of getting up if you came & expected Stonington would be as gay as it used to be, when you made your appearance, but alas! for my vain imaginings! those fond hopes are not to be realized, & I fear I shall see no more of you. 'till I behold you engrossed in the numerous cares & duties devolved upon a 'Public Official Holder', & weighed down by the responsibilities of your high station, for you know well you have an enormous number of steps to take each time you visit 'Pera Prima' engaged, perchance in transcribing some hundreds of pages for Bourse or some other kind patron, maybe sending off fifty score of pamphlets to the town clerk, assist-

materially frequent reference to the Register,
& graving that you can't insert yourself
in the envelope directed, "John S Hayes
Simington" - or displaying to the staring
eyes of some country girl & her beau,
the Famous Charter, & eyeing with sa-
picious covetousness the shilling, which
Maitin receives as a remuneration for
his services, while you receive not even
a smile in return for your trouble, console
yourself as you remember the condition
of your finances with the idea that
"Republic's oc," at any rate I wish
you could exchange such business for
the more agreeable occupation of paying
compliments to Mrs Betsy Williams,
or running some of your other friends,
& making yourself generally useful
& entertaining about Town, however you
don't lose much so far as I can see
by your absence, for never before did I see
the place so dull & desolate, I suppose
that it appears so to me, because
You & Anne & Mary are absent, but
there is nothing at all doing in the
line of Parties or Pleasure Excursions, or
Social Gatherings of any sort, I have not
into any Houses excepting I was obliged to,
& were it not that I go a shooting

once in a while I don't know what
I should do,

Ed Stanton came in the Boat this
afternoon, for she was belated by Fog,
& with him his old Glass Mate - Buck-
ananger Buckingham, & he & Amos
are the only two of the Fellows who have
been here since you left. I expected
Norm would be here this week & a Song
Hop & Ball at the Hotel, but I under-
stand that Mr Colman refuses to give
it, so he may not come, but you see,
I suppose, better looked up in regard
to his movements than I am.

Ed brought a letter for Father from Prime,
concerning the engraving the kids, he sim-
ply stated that they were all well,
saying nothing of coming up to Stone-
ington.

I have been necessitated to give up
my Song Island trip, on which I had
reckoned so long & pleasantly, & feel
very sorry about it, & shall hardly
know what to say to Sam for excuse,
for the agreement was that if I would
come to the Island he would return
home with me, but I sent off a cou-
ple of letters to Bridgehampton, where
Father told me to direct them, & after

wards, I remembered that he said 'Sage-
Harbour'; I believe he lives nearly B' Star
A, but I suppose he must inquire for
his letters at the latter place, anyhow I
have not heard from him yet, so I shall
try to get off on the strength of that.

Grandmother has just brought in a half
sheep for you. I did not know she was
writing, & as it's late & I'm going
to Providence in the morning, I'll
close!

From your aff't^d Brother,

Charlie

Sunday Eve. 12 past 6.

Dear Mother

As James has left some blank paper, I will add a few lines although I had not intended to write again so soon. Yesterday afternoon I rode down to Wethersfield, with Judge Fish, (he has his horse here) We visited the State Prison and was very kindly treated by the Warden, he said he knew my brother and father very well, he enquired whether father was in Hartford now. He showed us around all the work shops, showed us Williamson, Brumley and Lawrence (who is not dead as was reported) all at work in the same shop. After visiting all the work shops and grounds, and seeing Rabelli, (the crazy Portuguese) and examining the kitchen, where the female prisoners were getting supper, we went down to Dr Tucker's, there we saw Eliza for a few moments, she was very anxious that we should stay to tea but we hurried back to the prison in time to see the prisoners at supper. The warden took us into the yard while the prisoners were coming out of the shops, and being searched, and getting their buckets. Spectators are not generally allowed in the yard. We then went into the chapel while they attended prayers and sang a hymn.

There were many other spectators there but they all had to look through a grating while we were in the room with the prisoners. I shall have a great deal to tell of my visit when I get home. Yesterday I also attended a floral exhibition at the Natural History rooms in the etheneum. I saw some most beautiful flowers there.

This morning I heard Dr Bushnell preach, for the first time, He preached a most splendid sermon, his text was "Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees which is hypocrisy" He commenced by saying that most persons considered Hypocrisy a sin of the olden time, a sin which belonged exclusively to the Pharisees, But, said he, if I was to say that the great part of the worship of this congregation was hypocritical I should probably be censured although 'tis the truth." He then went on to show what hypocrisy is, and he certainly had some very original ideas on that. He said that the greatest and worst hypocrites were those who really thought that they were doing right, and who did not intend to deceive others ~~by~~ their appearance and professions. He said that the worst kind of hypocrites were liars, pious liars, who really believed that they were doing right and who thought that by flattery they could make God think that they were doing right.

This afternoon I heard Dr Hawes, preach from the text "If meat cause my brother to offend I will eat no flesh &c" He alluded to temperance; he said that he preached the same sermon fifteen years ago, and he could but think of the difference in his congregation with regard to that subject, "And," said he, "although I may not live fifteen years more, yet whoever occupies this pulpit fifteen years hence will not have to address his hearers on the subject of abstinence from intoxicating drinks." — Just as I was coming out of church this afternoon I heard a cry of fire which proved to be a barn in the rear of Beach's store it was burnt down and some injury done to the neighboring buildings. — I am in excellent health now and I hope to see Father on Tuesday, as the Legislature will adjourn this week, they say so. Your affectionate son Henry —

In the latter part of 1849, four young people of the village. Henry Clay

Trumbull, his sister Mary, afterwards Mrs. William C. Prime, his classmate in Latin, Edmund D. Stanton, and another schoolmate, Miss Bessie S. Williams, printed a small paper in Stonington, with the rather ambitious title of Lux Mundi.

The names of the young editors may have been guessed at, though perhaps not actually known to the general public.

In a short time another paper was issued called The Extinguisher. In the latter paper the first was severely criticized- even ridiculed. Quite an excitement was caused in the quiet little town and much discussion. Four numbers of the Lux Mundi were issued. The paper showed the most profound indifference

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to the opinions expressed in the Extinguisher. I think the latter was not even mentioned in the columns of the Extinguisher.

November 27 came a second issue of The Extinguisher. Those who had declared it far superior to Lux Mundi, in the ability shown in its columns, were rather nonplussed when it appeared that it was probably the work of the same young people who had produced Lux Mundi. So far as I know, only four numbers of Lux Mundi were issued, and two issues closed the career of the Extinguisher.