

Discovered  
Mo Sept 9

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Answered Nov 5<sup>th</sup> 1850  
Received Sept 26<sup>th</sup> " "

Miss. Sarah, B. Sanding.

Carmden, Mississippi.

MARY A. AREY,

BOSCAWEN, N. H.

We are quite well at present expecting dark and I feel quite  
impatient to see the fire for it is dark at night  
of the week you shall see a large and little corner  
this and so much fruit as you can for me I think it my  
wish still send much more

Dorchester September the 28th, 1850

My very dear friend Sarah

Your most welcome favor  
bearing date June the 11th came to hand on the 28th  
of the same month I cannot express my feelings at the  
reception of so unexpected a prize too truly I feel well  
nigh come to the conclusion that you had quite forgotten  
your promise But all was again easily accounted for  
and I could not in the least blame you. And were  
I prostrate with <sup>fever</sup> I beg you will forgive my negligence in  
acknowledging as I ought your letter I was in Dorchester  
and every week expecting to have conducted of course  
you would rather wait and be more strictly from  
your friends since my return we have had a grate-  
-deal of company and I now have found until  
now sufficient time to write And now Sarah  
please go back with me nearly one year to the day  
you left New Hampshire and oh what sad changes  
death has been with us and removed one of our most  
to the Spirit World. But she is an angel now freed  
from earthly sufferings she is reunited to our Father's  
family then to sing praise through out a long eternity

Is not such a state of existence worth living for?  
We would not exchange earth bright as it is for glorious  
immortality. In dreams I meet these happy spirits and oft  
fancy they are still with me. It is hard to part with  
them so soon to see them suffer and die yet we know  
that "he doeth all things well" and we say I shall  
join them. May I be prepared in my next sincere prayer  
The Spirit - part us the most tender joy and sorrow  
come home is home. "So day in, day out the morning stars  
But after all this life is not so cheery as some would  
have it. I can truly say there are not many of my age  
who have seen as much trouble as I have and pleasure  
too for I do enjoy what little of life presents  
happiness. It is my motto "all is for the best" and  
"what is is right". Every day brings with it its changes  
and it is our duty to submit willingly for there is  
no use in murmuring or complaining. Well friend I will  
leave this subject for the moment. To oblige a per-  
son of course you will want to hear something that  
will interest you more particularly.  
I spent four months in Manchester nothing in  
particular occurred which would interest a third  
person although on the whole there was some things  
occurred rather concerning Sister Asa. She spent some  
weeks with me attending school but her health being  
poor she was obliged to leave. She has now gone  
with "brother" Abram to Hakeboth. Think it may  
be beneficial at least we in hopes it may be.  
She is very much troubled with her feet



The rest are well as usual Susan has as soon she  
calls him Absair O for my own part I on every sh  
selects that none of us I delight in original and  
not in sustaining none through seven generations  
What say you to it? Brother Isaac has a son and  
they are so particular to get an odd man that  
I fear they will name him it. The best way is  
to pick out their names before hand I think  
We received a letter from Sarah Frances Colman  
on Friday she tells us that her sister Beriah is to  
be married the first Wednesday in October she  
is thirteen and it makes me feel older hearing  
my nieces marry so young. She married a Mr Henry  
Westkeys from Albany New York where they intend  
to settle. Marriages are as frequent now as they ever in  
the days of you for it seems that every one now a days  
dies only for that. Engagements are not as fashionable  
But disappointments are more so; For my own part  
I am satisfied by being nearly as obscure of their  
emotions as fashions as they might be termed. You  
speak of the Points of the South I feel that  
it is well for me that the Northerners are so  
unlike them if they were not then unfortunate for  
me it might be for I can now perceive all that come  
over and if there I fear continued trouble would  
be the result of my unguarded behavior  
I think you must enjoy yourself visiting here both  
wish I could share your "Lucy" with you some of those  
fine mornings We have had an ever supply of rain

which would not make it quite as agreeable. Fruit  
is very plenty. Berries we have had in very quantity  
and melons which are very nice.  
I am at home but little as I on seeing I expect to  
be gone all this week and was all last, I had a  
fine boat ride on the Merrimack last week  
in company with a Miss Percey who is quite a lady  
I have seen her but few times but like her much  
She is from Concord. O but how I should  
like to run in and sleep with you to night  
I reckon we should improve every moment  
I think you must be quite delighted with  
the motion of Mississippi. You spoke of meeting  
a gentleman from Nashua a Mr Dodge. I do not  
know any one there by that name after all Sarah  
is not perhaps London the best if not quite so productive  
William Carpenter is expected from this season should  
you not like to see him in his see eye state we can expect  
Cousin Sam to I am almost impatient to see him  
Leopold wrote me that Edmund Bower expected to  
go South if so he would see you give much  
to him from me and urge him to stay as I think it  
is the best thing he can do. The young people here seem  
to think of nothing but to marry and go West. I some  
times get the western fever and perhaps I may some day  
go West it is uncertain. I some expect to spend  
the winter in Winchester Mass at least on I hope so  
If I do I shall visit your friends at Keheboth  
Give a large share of love to your sister from us all and  
tell what you conceive will allow to your self your Mary &

It is raining very hard and some times it stops now as though we should be obliged to change  
the horses on the road - the carriage of the party does not but I and the party is  
of the road should never be out there will be but the road

Providence Oct 9. 1850

My dear Sister Sarah

I really don't see how I am to get a letter off to you the first of the month unless we can manage to have the first take the place of the ninth or tenth, then it seems as if I could do it very well - Two week since I was at home when a letter was brought in bearing Mr's superscription, & I just happened to say I believed I would discontinue my letters, no great loss to be sure, but then they generally go when no other one is ready, they have that to recommend them, but as I was saying, I believed I had not rec more than two or three in age when Nancy came begging me to salvage my wrath, as the letter appeared to be entirely to me. I was home helping nurse Lizzie. I had several turns of reading it before I got through & did not get a chance to peruse it & Susan & mother & some others had not read it so I left it at home & have not seen it since, I have been home but they could not tell where it was & I have found too much to do let me have time to hunt for it, I expect to get hold of it some day & find it almost as good as new - I presume you have rec Mr's letter giving you an account of Lizzie's illness, poor thing she looks badly yet, still Susan hopes to go back with her next Friday, i.e. the 12. inst. she is gaining some flesh but her head rec shaved a large part of the back of it & she was covered so much with emmentoid plasters & ointments etc, that with the fever she is skinning nearly all over & she is in lots of trouble but her skin should all fall off & there be none under it, she has to ask often if her mother thinks there is any little new skin to take its place - Uncle Tom asked me to get her something for an outside garment for her & I bought her some very pretty flannel, for a sack



must be of every hue - we have had but one frost, heavy one I mean  
that was last Monday morning, now it is Indian Summer & beautiful  
the frost has not been sufficiently severe to shiver the foliage  
very much, yet the autumn hues have commenced - The Monday  
morning previous there was a very little. I must tell you how very  
amused I was that morning - you see the Dr. they wished to return  
that morning & to come into school - I asked him when I went to  
bed what time I ought to get up & he said, he said, I told  
him to then so gently under my head if he was awake then  
& I was not up - he slept in his own bed, - I went to sleep & had a  
nice nap as I thought & just after I awoke the clock struck four  
I arose a while for the half hour, but finally concluded if I  
to sleep I should sleep too long & I might as well get up - I crept  
up over Lephe who was in bed with me to look out of the win-  
dow - she said if I wanted to know the time she could tell me  
& I could find out nothing there it is between four & five - I got  
up & dressed - went down made my fire etc - should not call  
him to draw any water & boiled part of a kettle full went to the  
shed for sweet potatoes & the other way for Irish, when I went  
up for my coffee the air at the door extinguished my light  
so I did not look to the time - I fixed my meat & every thing  
was done, potatoes baked & boiled & I just starting to call the  
people when mother appeared & said the clock had just  
struck four there - I put things as comfortable as possible &  
went to bed when I crept in Lephe was awake & wanted to know  
what I was there for - I told her breakfast was all ready to eat  
& it was three o'clock & I concluded to go to bed O! since she the  
clock always strikes four for me but I forgot - I thought she ought  
to be obliged to get up then & eat her breakfast, well we started off for  
the depot Dr. James & self with a trunk basket of sweet potatoes pair  
of pickles peppers etc in the fam wagon father had & me ahead of

Henry David's concert last Monday evening & he in return invited them  
to meet him where he boards last eve & they extended the invitation  
to others but not to me - I was sorry it should have been upon the eve  
of society for it is something of a circumstance for me to go more than  
a mile as I am now obliged to do to meet them & I like to accomplish  
something - you of course must want to hear of Jenny Lind - well she  
came from Boston in the eve Monday morn, there was a creek & four  
white horses at the depot to receive her & draw her to the City Hotel a large  
crowd collected at the depot & followed the carriage & saw her alight  
when sent to relate she had left the cars before they reached the City  
taken a public hack or rather an ordinary one & gone to the Hotel  
without any ones knowing it & her maise had been drawn there  
by the Whites & I chimed by the populace - The crowd however would not disperse till  
she had waved her handkerchief at them from the window, after they  
had made some more blunders in mistaking the person - I should  
suppose she would wish herself fairly out of America - it is said  
she is very much dissatisfied with Burnitt's management, but  
she can't help herself - I presume you have heard of Ross the ex-  
press man who makes himself so notoriously singular by wearing  
his boots with the heels square & has some piece of button behind  
his stock whole in front, his buildings with the roofs ascending  
to the ridge pole instead of rising, his rooms with the walls car-  
petted & the floors whitewashed & all the furniture lying down  
instead of standing, etc; he goes driving around in an old chair  
with the top put flat back & every part of it rattling as tho it had  
all fall to pieces the next minute & he hasse that the crows could  
never pick because the skin has always been drawn so tight  
over its bones that they never could have taken hold of it - Well  
he bid the first ticket & gave \$66.00 for it, but did not go to hear  
her - they sold the tickets at auction, the Friday previous - I heard



last one that they realised between eight & nine thousand dollars, she  
was dressed in a cona coloured poplin short sleeves & low neck but  
both arms & neck were covered, her hair trimmed with flowers & it so  
to have looked very handsome & I believe no one was disappointed  
after all these bought tickets that would give exorbitant prices  
Barnum put them down & a little after nine some were bought for  
25 cts, this gave so much <sup>solid</sup> satisfaction that Barnum was afraid of  
being mobbed some who gave 50 cts felt just as good as others  
who paid 9 or ten dollars - he got so frightened at the indignation &  
pressure that it is since he was afraid to go back to the Hotel & went  
back to Boston by a special train that night - I verily believe that  
the whistle of the train that carried him only think of that - I had  
sat up late writing to cousin Esther & E. B. W. & about eleven heard this  
train going out - I don't know whether they charge any thing for hearing the  
whistle but if they did I have not price - Mr. Dyer in Auctioneer has sold  
the tickets & then charged 20500 for doing it this Barnum did not like, say  
they have always been sold for nothing in other cities - speaking of dress  
high coloured one worn this season, one strip of even or salmon coloured  
ribbon put in around the front of the bonnet, other I mean, & then strips  
of narrow black velvet going from the outer edge to the back crossing it, one  
in the centre & then each side - all the colours of the rainbow and  
stripes into the ribbons - rich but ugly enough - but to my mind again  
the newspapers say & they tell the truth you know that she lost one of her  
gloves in N. Y. & a babouring man found it & sold it to a gentleman  
& she asks \$500 for the privilege of kissing the inside & 1 for kissing the  
the out side of it - she gave her first night to benevolent objects in N. Y.  
& it is since he is perfectly beset with solicitations for different objects & the  
papers say, the friends of Phil are intending to ask her to give them  
enough to buy a lot out of the city to have their freight upon

Your good cousin James with "Hiltons best" Labassere as dis-  
tance of the Richmond St Church to carry him through his Theological  
studies at Andover, or may be I am wrong in saying he asked for I did  
not hear him, but they have voted to assist him - that I perceive - I do not  
believe it will be my duty to give towards the object - this is more Barry  
than any thing else, I should vote that what he had he only a loan & not  
to have any thing provided his father can give him a certain amount  
I think it will be just as hard upon his father as it ought to be as well from  
that & what they give will only help to dress him better than any one  
else - I really think what he has wasted since he has been in college would  
be all he ought to spend or would need in two years at Andover & I  
think there are enough that do need all we have to give - unless he per-  
sists what I fear he will as a preacher, in point of usefulness I do not  
think there is so great a hurry for his being ready to preach - but Mr. Kings  
is powerful with the Society - I would had a little bit of a letter from  
him last week - he did not write as much as he would have been glad



to for Alfred was sick & he with his mother did all the watching, he  
felt obliged to act all he could when away from his sick bed, but the  
Kingsbury & Maria & Anna had each of them letters from him the same  
week also Lewis Simon, James Angell & one other person I think I  
told me, so I conclude he has some time to write & reply his work  
as if he gets no rest only when he is watching the Kingsbury girls  
told me that. Mr. Murray said when he came back from Illinois  
he should go away to stay six months, but they did not think he  
ought to, he could come from Andover so easily. I reckon more  
than one of the church will decline paying for a great many  
pleasure excursions that last word reminds me of your trip  
to the springs, I should like to have seen you & indeed you stay  
notwithstanding the impropriety of going as you did. How does  
the poor sensitive young lady feel now with all her propriety  
hope she will be as careful to transgress in future. The bell says

yes, eve. The labours of another day are completed & here I am ready to  
try to put another idle upon paper. Do you, either of you remember the she  
that was Charlotte Thompson? her oldest daughter Charlotte Thomas  
that was Bachelor <sup>with her husband</sup> were to sail today for Burma, Mr. Keaton & I  
have gone to Boston to see them off, they have not returned & there is  
a possibility of their not sailing before Monday. Hannah has exerted  
herself a good deal for them - her <sup>proper</sup> father, Mr. Thompson is married  
again, has married a maiden lady with a house & handsome  
property. James Carpenter's wife is very low not expected to live  
but a little time. Mrs. Mason was to see her a little time since  
they have moved into the handsome brick house by the side  
of the Hotel. They have handsome grounds & a sleeping room  
upon the first floor. I wish Andrew could board with them  
he has not returned yet, he decided to remain away during this  
month by the advice of his physician. I expect he is in East  
Charlemont with Mrs. Foster - it must be delightful there now, the

must be of every hue - we have had but one frost, heavy one I mean  
that was last Monday morning, now it is Indian Summer & beautiful  
the frost has not been sufficiently severe to change the foliage  
very much, yet the autumn hues have commenced - The morning  
showing previous there was a very little. I must tell you how very  
much I was that morning - you see the Dr. & my wishes to return  
that morning & to come into school - I asked him when I went to  
bed what time I ought to get up 4 1/2 o'clock, he said, I told  
him to turn gently under my head if he was awake then  
& I was not up - he slept in his own bed, - I went to sleep & had a  
nice nap as I thought & just after I awoke the clock struck four  
I arose a while for the half hour, but finally concluded if I went  
to sleep I should sleep too long & I might as well get up - I crept  
up over Sephe who was in bed with me to look out of the win-  
dow - she said if I wanted to know the time she could tell me  
& I could find out nothing there it is between four & five - I got  
up & dressed - went down made my fire etc - would not call  
him to draw any water & boiled part of a kettle full went to the  
shed for sweet potatoes & the other way for Pick, when I went  
up for my coffee the air at the door extinguished my light  
so I did not look to the time - I fixed my meat & every thing  
was done, potatoes baked & boiled & I just starting to call the  
people when mother appeared & said the clock had just  
struck ~~four~~ three - I put things as comfortable as possible &  
went to bed when I crept in Sephe was here & wanted to know  
what I was there for - I told her breakfast was all ready to eat  
& it was three o'clock & I concluded to go to bed O! said she the  
clock always strikes four for me but I forgot - I thought I ought  
to be obliged to get up then & eat her breakfast, well we started off for  
the depot Dr. James & self with a trunk basket of sweet potatoes pair  
of pickled peppers etc. in the farm wagon - father had a new sheep



We outtook him upon the county road & took him up & drove on as we came in sight of the rail road by Mr. Alenches, the cars were nearer the depot than we were we ran the horse all the way & got there just as the cars started, one minute would have saved us father came on with me & the Dr. with James in his arms started with four other Cottages where they reached about 10. he was in season the next morning - the week before when I was home I was sitting up with Annie & just as the day dawned I dropped one of the windows at the top as I said so I thought I heard a door close at the barn, then I concluded it was the sale of something & I aimed to think I had heard a carriage - I went to the front window & peeped out & could see horses throw up their heads before the gate & could see a load standing there I concluded that it was cotton soon a white hat came to the gate & went back again - after managing for a time the horses began to turn from the gate & a gentleman & lady to go towards the house, the gentleman bearing a basket of peaches, then I pursued to be Mr. Cornell from the bridge - I ran down took them into the basement made a fire & warmed them & then sent them to bed without any ones knowing it excepting Nancy who I asked to attend to them. Mr. C. & his family will remove to California the first of December.

Don't you think they are scary I don't expect to see them again they go to join him & father who is already there - I fear they will see it they both seem very well & happy - I read our pullets paper piece where home - I wish she would be inclined to write more & if she would write she would excel, you persuade her to write the most difficult of all poetry Hymns for children - I want some for my sabbath school class I would try to have some if I had her talent ask her to do it to oblige me if for nothing else but she ought to have a higher motive than of doing good - she need not give up prose because I suggest poetry - Now B. Atholaba be a good girl & try & I will promise you if B. Atholaba are the effusions & I will decide whether they are worth printing or be the trouble - I called at cousin Marys as I came home from school she keeps about yet. Georgie is better since his summer sickness than ever before. Oct. 11. I went over to meeting last eve & there heard from Medwaite again he has preached half the day for four sabbaths without any conscious injury, & he sees no reason why he may not resume his labors when he returns - but where the poor man will put himself is a puzzle to me - the place where they want him are of course the very places where he ought not to go & Mrs. Hilde will take him in the spring & would have done so this winter but could not get a house for her down-in-law to move into, who is in the house with her; we have this morning a dense fog - hope it will pass off soon if Susan is intending to go home to-day.



Carmichael

Madison Co.

Miss

Please be enveloped that we wish the  
 have it as it is - John Whitcomb is visiting  
 at the Academy. Grandmother Hunt was here  
 several days & went to very good in E. M. A. Apper-  
 son to her residence to her last visit at P. with  
 some 4 more every day. I have met & visited  
 the young men to visit. It would seem as she  
 had received the same as before.

Probably you will like to know of my school - we have 22 scholars of more  
 spectral night time - my father I think will be about the same as in  
 the public school - do not go too far & look as Mrs. G. has had him  
 all in his room till then - we have no interest in a better  
 of the house & are down for the day - I'm away after noon & get  
 & one of us is out taking him - it is nice to have you & I'm going  
 got - I have 84 mail from school to Mr. & Mrs. H. I think I probably  
 shall the rest of the winter to your every want to his care - I am  
 great what is not going to leave comfort - let me hear from the  
 & the sitting in - I think it is let me know of your condition for I am  
 married

13  
Miss J. M. Blanding;

Care A. Purviance P.M.

Camden,

Madison County,

Mississippi.

Elm Cottage Oct. 17th. 1850.

My dear Felicitas,

This letter I believe in course belongs to you but really I cannot tell to whom my last was dedicated; I only know it was written in great haste & was two weeks behind the time it should have gone; I can scarcely recall a thing it contained aside from our dear Lillie's illness & even this I hope you may have heard through Sister E. of her probable entire recovery she gained slowly but steadily & last Friday Susan started with her & the young patriarch for New Hampshire & last Evening William took me to Geuch as meeting & went to the Post Office where he found a letter from Susan saying they reached Wells Mills about dark the day they left Elm Cottage, & this week they hope to get moved to Froherville, they will occupy the house the Office is in. The Dr. with James left us ten days before Susan; James & I hoped us all & I think him far from a bad child but he got the advantage while here & like other children made good use of it.

Lillie was the sweetest child to nurse I ever had, would take any medicine if told what it was & then she knew how it should operate & tried to have it do right poor thing when she was so very sick she would make us smile by her queer & quaint expressions; about ten days were entirely lost to her except the two days & nights she slept none & was so crazy; she will now talk about what she said & did at that time & calls it a dream she had, she thought Abram was black & would ask what made him so; & one night when Sister E. & self were sitting with her she was so sick & looked so dreadfully E. began to faint & laid down on the floor till I could call Abram from the West Cottage chamber & she lay there half an hour or so ere she was able to get up & Lillie now thinks she dreamed one night of seeing a dead person lying upon the floor & many other things. Her head was very much affected as also her bowels & she was blistered & pulled & drafts & mustard plaster applied to so many parts she was skinned nearly all over & half frightened out of her wits fearing there is no red skin under the skin. She is of a most delicate nervous temperament & very amiable if they



I am glad for John, as I think him about as deserving as Brother William  
 who by the by says he is getting discouraged in the fact is he has twenty pigs &  
 hogs upon his hands & no demand for them for the potatoes <sup>crop</sup> is an entire failure  
 with us any one who puts twenty bushel into his cellar by & little is thought to do  
 well - William planted the lot this side his things garden & had they not die  
 would have had some hundreds of bushels - it is a pity not as they go to wishings  
 Relatives have done better in N. H. & Abram will send one barrel to you &  
 father dear & as our Apples are coming he will get you three barrels <sup>of Apples</sup>

the fruit from the garden of the country  
make the preservation of the fruit in the country  
obliged to go in to buy fruit for the short time as you will be obliged to  
the weather is but I want my letter sent directly to the City as before is  
and next week I intend to preserve & preserve for your benefit (see) you & I  
a few apples from one of guinea, one of cranberries & one of pears. my beautiful  
current jelly came near to spoiling while Lillie was sick & I will send only  
one jar for you to look at - for it has lost that delightful current flavor & what  
else we may find to add I know not - we have half a barrel of cranberries very  
good - every thing counts this year as the garden has done nothing this season &  
William says his Marketing is about <sup>done</sup> - he has a good many apples & his corn is a  
tolerable crop - William had fine crops last year & he must not think strange  
if he has failures sometimes - I trust another year he will make up what he may  
lose this, many are worse off than he is or any of our family, we are not suf-  
ficiently thankful for what we have & what may have caused this failure.

When we send the apples I suppose we must direct to care Cleveland & Bro.  
or New Orleans - don't put yourselves to any effort to get any box off for us, (it seems  
like you were all the time on a stretch for us) but if you do direct to W.B. Blun-  
ding Druggist Prov. as Mr. Weedon has given up his Book Store, so we bother  
William he is doing a good business at E. J. Clarks old stand - as to your  
money collect as seems best for you & your Patrons without thinking of its being need-  
ed at home - be sure you both retain enough for yourselves, you & your friends know  
best about such things, - A letter from Dr. Shiel last night received full of  
troublesome times even to the dividing of the Union, what is the Mississippi doing  
it is nearly four weeks since we received a letter from either of you, yours to Sister E.  
being the last & we begin to watch the Office closely & feel quite anxious about you as  
it is your sickly season & after such heat as you have had fear your healths have suffered.  
Mother got pretty much out done with anxiety & work while Lizzie & the children were  
here but for nearly a week has had her usual rest & is again smart. Lephia also gave  
up & took her bed but got up so as to dress up & look very smart & then accompanied  
see Susan to Boston where she will make Mrs. Bonestrate a visit while Mary Ellen  
visits James Bliss family we have heard nothing from her yet - hope she is having a  
fine time she has had fine weather - Should she return in time she may accompa-  
ny William to Brooklyn as he talks of visiting Mr & Mrs. C. before they break up.



but I guess he will have plenty for seed another year  
we have not seen from the Massachusetts seed store like those  
which have the hands of Johnson & Co. in the corner of the  
The yard looked beautifully till the 8th. inst. when we had a frost that killed all  
my dahlias also my tuberoses except one of each. I have in pots, the latter is a love  
ly flower indeed and hers had 32 buds mine has but 16 the *Greenanthemum* you  
sent, the one that lives, will soon be out it is a dark color, I went before the frost to  
remove my *Passion* flower from the hot bed & found with it a *Mountain Lilly*  
which had one fine root of *Trumpet Honeysuckle* & the frost did not kill it nor  
my *petunias* or *Verbena* & a few other plants. I think I shall remove the *Pink*  
*Sea*, *Solitaire*, & *Lamarck* into pots for fear of the Winter & risk out the *Black*  
*Rose* & *White* ones. My *Lupine* & *Sandy Washington* *Geraniums* are still in the yard  
The *Mexican* Vines are still untouched by frost & hang full of blossoms they never  
looked finer than this Summer - so very large & luxuriant, all my *Mississippi*  
plants are great sets as well as *Stacy* & *Dick* & are doing finely the latter singe result  
We shall soon have only leafless trees & scoured fields to look upon the foliage is  
now very gorgeous but will soon fall. I sometimes wish frosts did not come so  
early but am always reproved by thinking what an advantage they in your adopted  
id. & then climate & hope ere this you have had the full benefit of them  
My *Carmella japonica* has nineteen beautiful buds upon it, that  
with my *tuberoses* I keep in the East Cottage chamber - a fine place for show  
But I have not told you of Mrs. Cochran's visit which I enjoyed only that Thursday  
I was in bed with headache & Saturday Uncle was so sick I was with him  
all the time she came Wed. Eve. & returned to Boston Sat. P.M. - Mr. C. went  
to N. York in the mean time & brought us a fine basket of peaches when he  
Mrs. Cochran brought me a beautiful collar which was in good time for I  
lent it without making to Sophie for her expedition & when she returns would like to  
give it you - it is new pattern & lace collar with muslin laid over it & then was  
with such flowers as you please by a fine chain stitch, after which the muslin is cut  
out only what is included in the work - you would easily do it - Mrs. Cochran  
brought a pair of slippers she had done for Mr. C. - the material was black velvet  
the clasp was a sprig of grape leaves with the quills - the stem & leaves were laid  
out with gold braid narrow filled up with chenille so suit fancy as to colors & the  
they were beautiful indeed - Mr. C. calls them his slippers to wear to go to wear



very young or young - I had their opinion - I am almost too sleepy to write having dined heartily upon most beef & cold slugs  
am writing in Uncle's room with the window open while he is reading the Bible in Spanish  
Uncle is looking very well but complains about as usual though I think with reason  
to see the new school house the first of next week it is completed & the Committee  
are there this P.M. to accept it. Mr. Snow is very impatient to get into it but nobody else  
seems to feel in haste. Mark, D. Witt & Sylvanus are attending school at Belknap  
the latter boards at home & is small carrier for Uncle & Aunt. the former boards  
with Mrs. John Bishop - her husband has been dead two months or more, one of the  
girls is in a store in Prov. & one is soon to be married so says report. They are  
making another effort to get Mr. Vermin at Belknap. Next Sabbath the funeral  
sermons of Leonard Walker & young Belknap are to be preached in the  
Presbyterian Church after which they hope to have a meeting. Mr. Borton has  
not been to our Church for some time & people say he has not since I refused him.  
Besides, Walker & Belknap, one of Capt. Bowers sons have died in California & my  
friend from this part of the County - the said William Carpenter has only missed the  
pick for a long time & his family are very anxious about him. They expect him  
home early & hope he will call at Jessamine Cottage & Rose Hill, if so do be  
sure & show him every attention, I am more afraid he never will get home, he  
has acted a noble part toward his friends in that land of gold living people.  
Thomas Blanding is said to make \$250 <sup>amwk</sup> clear of all expenses & returns & the  
last steamer brought from him \$240 of the dust; Mrs. Blanding is visiting Julia.  
Did I tell you in my last that Cousin Jacob Pearce & wife made us a visit  
the week after Commencement. I never said them before & surely then for Lillie  
was getting sick & Lephe was with her. Mother entertained the company & I attended  
Uncle & the work. Mr. Pearce's Mother died of a fever last June about the time  
Aunt Betty Pick died of pleurisy. Allen Pearce & one of his Brothers has gone to  
California the former has a wife he can't manage she is so fond of other gentlemen  
he has given her up & gone to seek gold greatly to the grief of his Parents, yet they  
could sooner he would go there than live with his wife. his trouble has caused  
his poor health. Mr. Pearce said Allen was a smart fellow. —





Elizabeth Goff Perry has been quite sick of a threatened fever but believe  
she is now better & visiting in Boston which must be the fashion now I fear,  
for Mrs. Col. Wheaton & one of her daughters have gone to visit King Cyrus.  
I had to give up my Sabbath Class two Sabbath when Lillie was so ill but they  
appear willing to take me back - Mr. Grosvenor has quite a Class of gentlemen  
& Dea Brown a good number of ladies - Paschal Allen has experienced religion  
since the death of his wife, he & Ameen are in in Mr. G. Class - we this week  
have made another effort for teachers meeting to meet Wednesday Evening -  
do not expect to go often unless it proves a convenience in regard to the P. Q.  
Sunday 18th. Last Eve. William John Hall & self attended meeting at the Mr. Hall  
just the neighbors - Amelia came down the lane with me, said she should  
write Sarah when she got to Littleboro where she goes in a few weeks to spend the Winter  
with Martha who is still under Dr. Millers care, or the armpay & gets no smaller.  
Father went to the P. Q. and brought us a letter from Lephie who is having a fine  
time at Mr. Comstralls they want she should spend the winter with them & I guess we  
will let her but she will be home a time next month - if all the girls go off & leave her  
here she would nearly go off with loneliness & I think she would be quite happy in it.  
Lephie has got her bonnet fixed fashionably (i.e.) turned out side with a crimson &  
black ribbon very gay & lined & turned inside with bright salmon satin & ribbon to match  
high colored ribbons are worn this fall not any <sup>bones</sup> & a deep biased cape of the ribbon  
with humming inside to contrast as strongly as possible, many trim with green velvet cut  
in biased pieces the width of wide ribbon with fringe to match on the ends which are  
only long enough to be gracefully easy - cape of velvet & Mrs. Mreter has added gold  
fringes to the velvet, she is now at her Brothers while Mr. Mreter is looking up busi-  
ness in Boston - Rebecca & Hannah has been so far West that they call over sold for  
\$3 & etc. and that surely must have been a long way - I can not make show enough  
I wish you had a pattern of a sack Cape to be worn this Winter they are something  
new & very pretty made of the material of the Winter dress & turned all round with  
velvet cut biased an inch wide - dresses are made tight bodies or plain bodies high  
in the neck & open in front & trimmed from throat to bottom of the skirt with best  
steel, silver, or silk - Bethia & all the dresses she makes are open in front - folds



of course friends hope they may be in our order as soon as possible. I shall try to send some more with it.  
Contrasting colors are fashionable - have the inside of your bonnet & lining contrast  
as strongly as possible with the out. <sup>strings like the lining</sup> If you wear a belt ribbon to match your dress like  
your neck ribbon is a strong contrast with the belt. I expect that most the young ladies  
fashion for any thing goes called by her name & this part of the country has gone crazy  
after her. I like has heard her sing & thinks like everybody else that it is unequalled.  
I nearly forget to say Sister E. read Maria Carpenter's marriage in a paper some  
two weeks since - if she is married it has been done so still we have heard of it in no other way.  
Sister E. is indignant is quite excited just now having recently learned that J. O. W.  
is to be assisted through his Theological course by the Richmond Street Church, &  
says that is too Parsey & I am somewhat of her opinion. James told Benoni it took more than  
\$8000 a year for him in College, & Benoni thinks that is all his two boys will cost him per year.  
James under Mrs. Kingoburgs wing is quite safe from all harm - Alfred had been sick  
since James reached Ottawa but was better at last accounts - I have heard Mrs. Wheeler had  
another child which makes the ninth & she is about my age - All who read Novas prices  
like it & wish they could see the place which called it forth - Long ere this I hope you have  
received the package forwarded in August, so many things have transpired since then  
it seems a long time - I did not finish telling about Mrs. Mrs. Cochran, both talked much  
of Juliet & Alice & Mr. C. offered to take South any who wished to go this fall or another, did not  
seem to feel it any trouble he had with either of you - he will soon be off for N. O. & wishes  
me to visit Mrs. C. again this Winter but I cannot it will cost too much & I can't leave home.  
There little Corrie is a beautiful child & appears very amiable - look like Mr. Cochran.  
A letter from Mrs. Wright a few days since says she has not forgotten Sarah & intends to  
write but it more & more of an effort for her - Dr. Michel says all the Charleston Blund  
ings have had the broken bone fever severely the past summer. Lucy Powell has another  
Mr. William Rivington came to Providence with Mr. Hattinger the day before Commencement  
& it was both grieved & mortified that he did not take him out here & James was too busy  
to show him any attention & if he was in the City Commencement Brothers were not in  
town - although I asked Mr. Hattinger to do it - Sister E. has claimed the basket  
Caroline Mearns sent me but which got lodged at Noah's it is a very pretty thing intended  
at last accounts Cousin Will had gone to look for a new home in Manchester, they  
are all well but his family dissatisfied with his stay in at Newark.

10.



Miss J. M. Blanding;  
Care of A. Purviance Esq;  
Camden,  
Madison Co.  
Miss.

Providence Nov 4. 1850

My dear sister

I really cannot tell to which my last letter  
was sincere - but as they are both the same what is the difference? can  
you tell - I have started to write you as barren of incident  
as possible - for I have been so where & heard nothing and yet there is some  
things that are not trifles either - last sabbath <sup>we</sup> morning a sick cousin, Maria  
was taken sick & Monday afternoon gave birth to a little daughter - I have  
not seen it or Maria yet - I did not presume to call into the House till Fri-  
day & then they did not ask them to let me see her but said I must call  
sometime when Maria was better - she is getting along finely they say much  
better than when Georgie was born - Lizzie asked me what the name was  
to be - I told her if they would let me I would call her Susan Carrie & No!  
she said Susan was not a pretty name - I had said before to Maria if she  
had a girl it must be Susan - Carrie, but she said the family would not  
agree to that & if I have a daughter we shall have a hard time to agree upon a  
name, now George was named entirely to please Mr. W's family & I do think she  
ought to have the privilege of naming this, but you know she must be passive -  
I wrote the eve. after its birth to Maria D. & Mary A. Young - M. A. Y. has a young  
child, she has been more regular but is now changed again - Aunt C. & of course  
Uncle Wm. was quite out of patience waiting for its arrival - by the way I do  
not know whether Aunt C. is going south this winter or not - can you tell  
me - she has been staying at Leekbank but whether she is there now I do not  
know - father called Tuesday last no Wednesday, he said Uncle thought he was  
very sick the day before, when he had company from Camden to Ca. at first  
he said he was too sick to see company, but finally concluded to, & entirely  
forgot that he was sick & appeared to enjoy the visit very much. The gen-  
tlemen was blind, father thinks his name is Dutton - I have not been home  
since Susan went back, I expect to go next Friday or Sat. I expect indefinitely  
because we think of chartering an Omnibus & taking something over thirty chil-  
dren out with us if it is pleasant Sat. - we think the effect will be good, go  
as to get there about eleven & return about three - Miss Coldy says let them each  
take their dinner with them but I sort of want to give them a piece of roast  
beef & plum pudding - you know a private school in this City must have some  
thing to make it popular - want you join us with each of your little charge  
our school now has 39 upon its list but quite a number will be only half term  
scholars yet I think we shall probably do as well as the public School teachers  
Miss Aphie at the Capps's home wants a teacher do you know of any one for  
the place - if Sister Lephie was well enough I should like much to have her go  
there - you know it is the same situation Sister M. had in Phila. the compensa-  
tion is not large - I tattered some of the place before I went into Miss Coldy's



Last Tuesday Mr. Joel Hatcher Esq & his wife Martha H. Perry came here she looks  
some older but has the same bright eye she shows the defects in her person less  
than when at S. Hooley - she has never been there since she left school how long  
was she there? she was married the same morning she came here, her predecessor  
died last March or April I don't know which I saw them but little as I have an  
yaged to go to Dr. De Wolf & pass the night & they left Wednesday afternoon I came  
with them Wednesday - they came just as I was starting for school Tuesday afternoon  
the family here were pleased with your letter - she enjoyed particularly after you  
intended to be home the last of the week where she is going immediately to housekeep  
she has her house all ready - does not leave Leominster - his first master was not  
a happy one in as much as she was an only daughter, her mother a widow & she  
lived with them & took the ordering of the wife as much as much as if she had no  
husband & as she died in childhood the mother insists that he was her murderer  
as usual the mother is called avenge; what lots of things the arrangement had  
to father - the physicians think the mother's injudicious management of him  
was the actual cause of her death - Lirine De Wolf is now at New Orleans  
or on her way there now - she went to Plymouth in the summer & took cold &  
while there, these coughs come on & she did not get rid of it - she had for  
good while suffered from a bad throat which eventually terminates in lung dis-  
eases but we hope better things of her indeed she seemed better before she  
left but her Uncle John & Aunt Kate were anxious she should go & she went  
I have called at the Dr since school, they have not a line from her, they went  
in the steamer Ohio she sent her letter from Charleston they sailed Sat. aft.  
noon a week since & she sent her letter from C. Tuesday following, whether they  
were to touch at Savannah, I do not know they go to Cuba & then to N. C.  
I should like the trip, Lirine said in her letter or rather began her letter  
by saying she was very well & concluded by saying if her Uncle was will-  
ing she should return when the steamer returned for she should never get  
well as long as she was so homesick, but she did not let her Uncle know  
it, i.e. how homesick she was - her Uncle wrote upon the outside of the letter  
saying Lirine's cough had entirely left her & she was going & enjoying herself  
that is the difference between outside & inside - it seems lonely enough at the  
Dr's, Northrop I believe I told you is gone with Mexican boarders appen-  
ion & they all feel very anxious about him if you are not so deep in the woods  
you don't see a paper you have seen notices of the expedition & that there has  
been one Mexican murdered by one of their teamsters & one of their own men  
murdered by another along in company. - I have been buying a book since  
school which I expect some of these days will find its way to the hands of  
Miss. it is Maria Antonette by Abbot. I also want all his historical series &  
perhaps I shall get them some of these days we use it as reading book for our  
first class in school & I think you would like to do it in the same way - we do  
not confine ourselves to any one reading book but any work that comes to hand  
which we think will be instructive, occasionally such as will only be inter-  
esting - the only trouble is they cannot all have the book, but when we have  
only one copy we pass it along & if they are interested they will be likely to fol-  
low after if they cannot look over & I don't see why it should not make them at-  
tentive listeners - another thing we have a library in school each scholar that

he or she ~~was~~ is sitting to place there is put in with their name in them they are  
Coarsed & numbered & then each scholar has a bill with as many weeks across  
it as there are in the term arranged in columns then following each week the  
columns bears the number of good lessons, the number of absences, irregular-  
ities, lateness etc. then if they get three irregular or deficient marks they  
cannot take a book - each week the bills are sent for their parents to see  
& are returned to the teacher - of course if a book is injured they cannot  
take another & no one takes a second till the first is returned. This is done  
ie, the taking out of books Sat. afternoon at the opening of the school & the  
scholars are very careful not to get bad marks enough to prevent their get-  
ting a book, the scholars that go through the term without any bad marks  
whenever get some little present - I have been thinking whether you could  
not get something of the kind that would have a good effect upon your  
school & make it easier, we will send you some books from the Depository  
of a larger size than those sent & some in little paper bindings, if you  
wish it I am much pleased with any school, sat. no Friday afternoons  
we do not have our regular exercise, but as every half day begin with spell-  
ing but after the spelling they read composition & then have the privilege  
of selecting some piece & reading it - Thursday afternoons after all have spell-  
ed they all read & that afternoon only one of us are in the school & the other  
has the time to play - this week is my turn to be in - I received a letter from  
B.B.W. last week in answer to one I wrote but a little time before - he began  
by saying - just as I was about setting myself to answer your letter I received  
one from Nancy of eight pages, which I find by actual measurement to be just  
as long again as yours & therefore seems as if I ought to answer that first, but  
the right of priority must rule "first come first served" - he has received  
his appointments from the Synod of Ohio giving him his subjects, which I think  
consist of a Critical Essay a lecture & a sermon each of which he gave me  
the texts for but as the letter has gone to Elm College I cannot repeat them  
& judge from the tenor of his letter that he did not expect to remain at  
Princeton another year after this, but perhaps he is to remain a year after  
he is licensed, he said after being examined next summer he should be  
licensed to preach, ie, if he sustained himself that more himself with two  
other students of the Univ. sustained meetings two miles out of Princeton, he  
usually took his choir along with him, he wished he could sing himself, but  
if he could he should have to read, sing, preach, & pray all himself & he did  
not appear to think he should be as likely to be imposed upon as if he could  
he said nothing of coming to N.C. I do hope he will - yet I want him to be able  
to preach laborfully before he comes or rather I want him to come after he can  
do so, now he is not allowed to preach in a regular church.

Cousin J. has been back & gone on to Andover he came Thursday eve  
& left Monday morning did not call upon me or go to Rahaboth - he actu-  
ally went to meeting but was so fatigued that he could do nothing more



Mrs Kingsbury sent for me there to tea with him but I did not go - he had a letter from him Sat. eve. he said he was homesick - I laughed & told him that was all nonsense he was not to indulge in such foolish feelings that his fancy & habit was too much to get with those he liked & then keep himself that he said not so half the good he might see it not for that foolish habit & he had told him so - The Richmond St. Church one to help him through his theological course - I really feel that he has spent enough more than he need to during his college course to take him through his years at Andover. He expressed himself pleased where he is, they say, for they read his letters.

I had a letter from Cousin Esther a little time since she has moved into Pine St. but I cannot tell the number that too has gone to C. C. this is the first line I have had from there since I left - she said her brother had come from Colton greatly after I left for medical treatment for his eye which he had injured very much - then Sophia's sister, the long lost, came & Sophia was sick herself & then the six weeks were gone, then they went out of the city, etc, etc & they did not write, she seems to like her change of house & location too very much - her rooms are large &c

Mrs Benson is in the city trying to get a house if McDevitt had returned his house she would take it & take him with it, but it is extremely difficult to get a house particularly without an enormous rent. She with Adol have gone now for a little time to Kingston - Julia Constock has had two attacks of raising blood but the Dr. thinks them both from the throat she is trying to come to Providence to pass the winter, for the purpose of getting better air than she has at home - so you see Dr. J. W. runs from P. to get better & others to P. for the same purpose - McDevitt has actually returned to us in improved health - he has grown gray very much since he left & looks care worn, but his health is much improved - he has passed here but a very few times since his wife's death & I know it must be painful to him now but I trust he will be sustained, he is entirely afloat, has no place to boomer - is now staying at Rev. Bealton by the way, one of our Western brothers are here I think his wife with him I cannot tell whether it is one of Maria's old flames or not - I wish you would come here & take tea with me & I will give you some nice cold breasts for one thing - if you have not made your woolen dresses you must be sure & make them plain waist open before & high in the neck, yes higher & button them up in the waist, the old lady has just made herself one & buttoned it up in the waist - cut the pocket hole straight in front, place the skirt excepting smoothly behind gather it. put a binding around the neck about an inch wide a little less - put in cotton where you shape is not good make the sleeves open at the wrist i.e. flaring, half as large again as at the top & a little short - scallop at the wrist or rather wave so that you can put a coarse piping say as large as round corset lacing & two rows of the same half an inch apart above it - the caps the same cut them pretty loose & straight at the top so that they may set off from the



cover the piping with silk & face the ends of the sleeves  
with the same if you can match your colour let your long  
sleeves be tied in so that you can take them out & wear white  
bishop sleeves made quite full & gathered into a wring at  
binding - this is fashionable with any sleeves or rather dress  
es, particularly silks - little sunny collars as usual.

When Father was in they had heard but once from  
Lepke they were rather expecting her home - I think I told  
you of Mrs Rachel's oldest daughter being married to a  
Baptist Missionary, she has sailed H. Wadsworth begged her  
a good many things here for they found she was going  
out very destitute, I thought it very strange as they both  
belonged to a church in Boston, but it seems the good people  
did not think he had made a very judicious choice - the  
woman where she boarded since she was long & the wife  
of the pastor of the church wrote Mr Thomas a letter warning  
or cautioning him &c. how much is true I do not know  
but they have gone - her poor mother has given away  
her two youngest children that live, the one born after  
its father's death died I believe she has two or three more  
with her, she works in some kind of a shop - Mrs Mouton's  
children where I used to board have been very sick and  
I believe are not well now - as for Rehoboth now I really  
believe you get more of it than I do - I went to Bethia House  
a few days since & saw Lepke Gardner there, she was well but  
gave me nothing new. Mary Allen has returned from Boston  
she did not see Lepke after they first went there - Susan  
has returned to Andover - are you glad - I saw Dr. Brown  
was in the city a few days since & said they were near

Dr. Love May 10/9

Our children were well again he said - I really believe that  
between two good sister Nancy will come to the for I really  
believe Mr J. C. Barren is going to be a married lady of  
this city only one better town than Mr & Mrs Chase a nice  
methodist woman - he goes to the methodists half the time  
& I do not feel that he floats in such deep water but that  
he might be turned entirely over, she is called very nice  
woman & I do hope she will prove so, I pity him & if as you  
say that is next door to love, I never yet any more the  
kindness he goes to McLevett's meeting half the time.  
Did I tell you Chalmers is in our school - how long to see  
Lottie, she is quite well again - I am nearly ashamed  
to see you & I imagine you do not think I startle far  
from shore - I expect you like C. B. W. will be contrasting  
my letter with sister Nancy's - don't you think I grow very  
sentimental - our Colporters so meet again day after  
tomorrow night, how I dread it - the last time they met  
near me & this week not far off the last we met a  
gentleman was present who never met with us before he  
was a graduate of last Sep. he was introduced to a lady when  
Mr Southgate had been seen, i.e. with her mother - then just  
asked if they did not miss Mr L. & yes! said she we were  
very much attached to him, I shall never forget his  
kissing kiss - he kissed us all round, "now want that smelt  
I thought if that was part of a pastor's duty Mr L. had said  
by neglecting his - I must close - I can't go to the trouble of  
reading this all over so excuse & correct - I want some of  
those hymns I was to have - good night - let me hear from  
you soon - May the angel of the covenant watch over you



we can do so to manage it as well as we can - the 10 letters were sent out all  
is during hardly & you better understand - but the first letter, such as others & all  
Gail kept no account of any thing we gave the things all to you & that  
and for many years that we had & I am mostly much out the fence, but for  
Edm Cottage Nov. 14th. 1852. -

My dear Sister Sallie; - I am glad to hear of you - I hope you are well & happy -  
This day is I believe the Anniversary of  
your arrival in Camden Mississippi & as it is time for my month-  
ly epistle I have concluded to celebrate the day by writing you & I  
must take note it is regularly your letter in course, but if I do forget  
I shall endeavor so as to give one all the letters, I am open for correction &  
hope you will set me right. - I am glad to hear of you & I hope you are well & happy -

Dec. 19th. I only made a beginning as you see instead  
of celebrating the day for when I had begun Uncle found he  
had a letter to finish for Mr & Mrs. Murray which has caused  
to be much later than I intended & perhaps it is well I <sup>am</sup> glad  
that your letter to William & self came to hand & glad we  
were to get it; & have let <sup>me</sup> tell you about that letter as well as father's  
last, here came to hand when we had looked longer than usual  
had become somewhat anxious about you both - the seal told me  
had nothing to fear & I commenced reading, Mother soon came in &  
said I must read aloud, I said well, here is something I know <sup>you</sup>  
did not intend for all eyes, but Mother says I can't help that I  
to see it so read it & as I knew Mother would feel quite hurt if she thought  
I kept any secrets I read it & when she knew it she all must so all did, & I  
telling at Uncle I told him it was too nonsense to read to him & added  
Your letter came when Elizabeth was at home for the first time in six weeks  
well, it was baking morning & all were in the basement, William sat down  
& read his part to us before he found there was any to me & then he tried to  
make me promise I would read every word to him as he had done to me  
& made such a promise as not to commit myself & began, Mother began &

William in his letter has been very kind to let me know of your family & all  
all very well, more & more of the same kind - I am glad to hear of you & I hope you are well & happy -

William in his letter has been very kind to let me know of your family & all  
all very well, more & more of the same kind - I am glad to hear of you & I hope you are well & happy -



William listening, well after reading awhile I came upon broken, but the day was dark & dusk with clouds & the ink so pale I had to read slowly & by dint of good management I kept of the words so no one knows the secret but they all got the cream which was intended only for me; & I guess it is as well as long as the secret is mine & yours, for they did enjoy it too well it seemed like we could actually see & hear your mischief & William wanted to see your degenre type & see if the elbow did not nudge at Juliet's; I did not let them know it was written especially for me, as long as I was caught I made the best of it but when I keep my part of the letter close-mind; if you should write any thing again to be kept secret let it be on a separate piece of paper & at the top or commencement say private —

I think Miss Lillie you must have had as severe duties to perform at the wedding as if you had been walter; & expect your black eyes sparkled at Mr. Coarington if you did not smile upon him; I presume he thought it long enough for one day to bask in the sunshine of your eyes with out smiles, perhaps both would have made him more silly than the one, Ah! poor fellow — but I expect to hear of him in your path again for "live his eyes".

I have decided enjoy promised part of your <sup>letter</sup> yes, enjoy because you did not get all the Chestnuts, but how could you expect it when I never heard of any body sharing the beans with you; do not flatter yourself you can have all for I reckon the beans & chestnuts came from one & the same quarter & to repay him for his kindness to you both I send a jar of apple butter for you to share with him & his sister it will go so nice with their cheese but expect you will want him to have it all & his sister only smell of it; but you must be very kind to him when he is so careful of your sister, you know his profession leads him to know exactly how much heat & cold Northern ladies can bear. — William says tell Juliet that peaches & apples are good but the man must be better & he advises her to say — that all important word so essential for her & our happiness but which has been thus far so difficult for us to get the chance of saying to any one

Now we all have set down the gentleman who has put his daughter at Mr  
Purviance's to be in fulfillment society as one of sound judgement her influence  
upon her must be very great & very good if she proves a dutiful child for  
doubtless her father wishes for her to be very obedient. —

I recollect the day you went to the wedding it was a fine day & Evening  
& now we are again enjoying most lovely moonlight Evening it seems we  
never had as lovely Evenings & the three past moons, but I only enjoy them  
by looking out the window & thinking where you all are enjoying its beauties

The Act I must do the rest of its message or I'll forget it he says if you  
ever intend to get married you better do it while you are there you can find  
there <sup>are</sup> none left in town (young people) but him & John Hunt & Mary & Amelia  
& what John goes to see Sally Allen & no one else — I reckon I will have to go  
South if I ever get married for all the hopes I had hung upon J. C. Brown have  
vanished; "in toto," for report says he was married last Sabbath, now E. dish as  
well as mine must be upset — Edmund Carpenter said "he believed J. C. B.  
had tried ~~all~~ the girls in Fitchburg & North & a large part of Warren & Prov.  
& now this lady was so long in considering, his horse tore up so much pavement  
standing at her post that Mr. B. has had quite a bill to foot to get it repaved"

The lady belongs in Providence, is a Cousin of his first wife, her name is Chase  
& is a Methodist. Lizzie says Mr. Brown is now half Methodist & half Congrega-  
tionalist divided up & down & she can see the line of division distinctly & whenever they  
now meet Mr. B. always turns his Methodist side towards her. — I presume she sees the line  
more distinctly than anyone else, — but people say he will come no more to our meet-  
ing & sit up so straight — Oh! but you would have been <sup>early in the summer</sup> amused to see him so regu-  
larly in his seat & then he always had a spare seat to carry or fetch Father, William  
John Vernon, or Lizzie as the case might be, but fortunately I never was caught & John  
after riding a few times advised me never to <sup>marry</sup> Mr. B. unless I wished to be prisoned  
It's said his lady lived in his family when Peter was small & all I have to say is  
her memory must be shorter than mine or her sensitivities less acute than mine  
but I guess I'll change the subject —



The day before your letter came I had written Abram to have his apples & p  
tatoes ready & the arrangements made with Mr. Forrestall to get them off about  
the beginning of time. I hope they may get off next week, our season has been so  
warm I have been getting them off fearing the preserves would be more be  
able to stand if not delayed as late as possible - it is so warm today I have hung  
my buds, but fear my delay may be a great inconvenience to you about dresses  
we shall send the dresses as near made as we can venture with tight bodices for  
light they must be we shall try to have them nice & pretty as well as fashionable  
& farther than that we must not tell for fear you will be disappointed when you  
get them - we talked some of getting some material at \$1.00 per yard but will not  
We shall try & send quite a variety of whole roots as well as fruit &c. &c. Uncle  
knows we are making up a box but he has mentioned nothing he wishes to send  
either of you or the family - his generosity to Susan & Leppie will be sufficient  
for a long time - Aunt is spending a new \$10.00 clock & has plenty of pen money  
besides money to pay her board bill - she came from Leekport this day week & she  
had plenty to do sitting with Uncle to whom she is very attentive & affectionate is here  
G. C. A. & goes home only to eat her dinner & stays till dark, while Uncle gets on  
very day at me because I do not tell him he is feeling very fat, if one thing I  
am sure they know more at Cousin Elizabeths now than formerly & I reckon  
they think they have bought it all at a dear rate. - C. M. P. says Aunt is the most  
selfish & deceitful person she ever <sup>met</sup> & she can't take a bit of comfort when she is  
that is a discovery I am glad they have made for it is worth knowing - they had  
been flattering themselves Aunt would spend most of the Winter at Kithampten  
but Uncle says she has concluded to wait till after his death when she will go immediately  
Last Sat. night week Uncle had another attack of gall stones which lasted from  
that time on till the next Tuesday Eve during which time he was screaming for  
most of the time day & night we had many various performances but none called  
for Uncle said he would not take that they would over so Father & self officiated  
before Aunt came home he was entirely relieved but had taken a heavy cold from  
during just as she pleased & Aunt was sure he had a lung fever which was a common



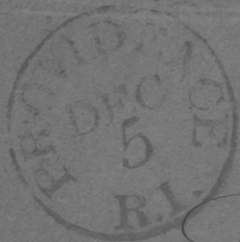
Supper

Fisherville Nov 18<sup>th</sup> 1850

I hope you will get this for a Thanksgiving treat  
Dear Sisters

I have once more taken my pen  
after letting your letter lay untouched for more  
than two and a half months. I intended sending you  
but two sheets this time but I have waited so long  
that I shall have to add another half sheet; your  
letter that is Sister Julietts letter mailed the 26<sup>th</sup>  
of August came to hand in due time, and I found  
it waiting for me when I returned from below the last  
time; I presume you have heard from Elm Cottage  
since I was there, and the particulars of my last visit home.  
I went down the Monday before commencement, to  
be gone one week Lizzie and Martha went down with me.  
L. was taken sick a day or two before I was ready to  
start for home, and I staid with her three weeks, when  
she had been sick a week her father ~~came~~ went down  
and in a few days her mother; for a few days after  
Nathaniel got there I had no idea she would ever  
return here for she was extremely sick; she did not know  
her father for several days after he got there, and when  
she got better she thought her father and mother came  
together; it was six weeks before she was able to get  
home, but she has done well since she got home and now has  
regained her flesh and strength and I think looks quite as  
well as before she was sick; she has moved to  
this place and I now board at home; she got married the 22<sup>d</sup>  
of last month.

He has to go to Rosehaven nearly every day and probably will  
have to do a considerable business there for the present  
as there has no one yet taken his place; some of the people  
are so much pleased with the idea of his leaving that they say they  
hope he will not have a patient here but will be obliged to  
go up there every day; there seems to be more sickness  
up that way now than here, the fall has been very pleasant  
and uncommonly ~~pleasant~~ healthy <sup>enough</sup> though we are doing  
enough to give us a living; we have had no rain and but  
very little cloud weather for three weeks past till last  
night and today there has been considerable rain falling; the  
most of the time the weather has been warm and pleasant  
last year at this time there was snow on some of  
the hills to the north but I have seen none this fall  
or Thanksgiving in this state and Mass. come in the same day  
this year so I suppose I shall get there and last year I had  
two I rather think I shall go home to spend the day this  
year; think now I shall go down with an orchard.  
I have three ~~the~~ barrels of apples and one of potatoes  
which I intend for the Southern market, and shall probably  
get them as far as Boston this week or next. Apples  
this season are very fine but do not keep as well as  
some seasons; the best potatoes this season are fine and  
seem to keep well I should like a barrel of fair fine  
hams; and now I think of it I will say that I would like if  
I could get one without too much trouble and to much expense  
in sending it, a Mackin Bird that will sing well; I do not  
know as they will live here in this cold country through the  
winter but I would try one if I could get it.  
The church in the no order of the winter have made



10

Miss S. M. Blending  
Care of A. Purviance Esq.  
Camden,  
Madison Co.  
Miss.



Providence Dec 3. 1850

My dear sister - I believe kind & truly welcome letter bearing postmark Nov  
14, came to hand the first day of Dec & I presume was the last one for this  
year. I was in the city last as I was home. Mr. Fletcher took it Friday & when I came  
in, Mr. Manning he gave it to me & also from Carrie Ellis, as it was Sabbath and  
to see it or let her father, as she was to return with him to Boston, I could send it to see  
and returned before I read it. I waited till they had been out there  
in with a load of wood to Mr. Bernon who has commenced housekeeping here. I believe  
attends our school - I believe I always think when I close a letter to you that I will be  
giving me to again immediately & write a little often & see if I cannot scratch up some  
thing more interesting but the result is everything is postponed & when I do write  
there is nothing of which you know or care to learn about - true it is, I am a little more  
in the world than you are but I go to my regular duties every day & the same sets here  
nearly as soon as I am out of school & the work is not very productive of incidents, &  
yet is really more so now I believe than the light in getting incidents for the city is  
now infested by a band of burglars & incendiaries which give us a fire nearly every  
night, & some houses are broken into the city has doubled the watch & the loggers then  
industry, for I had never heard of more than three houses being robbed in a night  
since the increase of the watch & one night since they have been into six houses - the  
first house that I heard of was that of an acquaintance, there had been a  
broken open before, the gentleman & his wife always had a lamp burning in their  
room the wife was very timid, she awoke & found her lamp was out & thought she saw  
some one in the room she took hold of her husband & woke him without speaking. he  
spoke however & she then said she believed there was some one in the room. he thought at  
her she then thought she heard them cross the room - she told her husband she would  
he would light the lamp he started to do so but could find no matches - he took the  
lamp & went up stairs where there was another burning, lighted it came down & said  
he hoped she was satisfied that there was no one in the house, but that day, their  
housekeeper had gone to bed & left the window open in the kitchen, they had opened  
in consequence of the house getting too warm, the lady said no she did not for I saw  
her close it myself hereafter, that must be a mistake for it was open when he went  
up stairs & there was no body in the house, well said she if your watch is upon the  
beaman I will believe there was no one here, he went for his watch but watch chain  
of all one gone & he really began to think his wife was honest - about an hour after this  
something woke Dr. Mrs. Mason, they thought one of the girls was up & they laid  
& heard them at work at the furnace as they supposed after hearing them for quite  
a time & calling without getting an answer they concluded something was wrong  
& got up & the loggers descended they had got the collar window all ready to  
pick out, they suppose what woke them was their getting over a high fence  
& as they put themselves down they came upon an old cooking range that had  
been put up its side in the yard, had it not been for that they would probably  
miss a haul there - Dr. Mason does not live in the black mob but west the City  
Hotel they have a beautiful house & yard & garden - some houses they get little  
& some much - O! I forgot you get the Providence news every week, so here  
I am off again - I was invited to Mr. Bernon's to tea this week with a lawyer  
but it seemed & I did not go - Winthrop & Linn are both in New Orleans &  
I guess I told you Winthrop joined the Mexican band of expedition - he  
went as far as El Paso where he was taken sick & would not probably have  
lived had he not been out of camp, as soon as he arrived there he looked up  
an aunt of his father who he knew was in the place, I believe he was stay-  
ing with her or was carried there when sick I cannot say but had he met

had her care which he said was all a mother could be he would probably  
never have left them. When the expedition was ready to leave, Mr Bartlett  
told him not to attempt to go on this winter he might leave for the winter & then  
join them or leave entirely - he had chills & fever come on which produced the  
old trouble in his eye of which caused him to leave college he remained till  
he thought he was able to start & is now I suppose in N.Y. he was there the last time  
he wrote Lizzie took cold during the summer & her cough stayed by it, & her  
Uncle John took her back with him - she went in the Mail Steamer, Ohio,  
went to Cuba first & then on - if I could only get time to write you often at  
home I could sharpen up against Nancy, but this I cannot find time to  
do - we sewed some for you last week but did not write the joint letter  
we usually do - Abram came home Wednesday eve, Thursday it rained all  
day, or misted some & killed some, no one went to meeting we had a goose  
& spending had a slice for each of you A. brought a splendid squash  
from N.H., one the Br sent down, the finest one I ever tasted & eat those  
about you some & about G. B. Brown some with various other things - Mr B.  
has turned half Methodist <sup>since the spiritual man</sup> & divided directly up & down I can't tell you  
how plainly the line shows, it was a very wrong thing in Nancy, for he has been  
having school and surveyor etc, but did not employ father if she had  
said yes, I knew father would have had a chance. When the wood was sold  
we tried to get him to buy a little bit, we didn't want to burn it, but he  
he means not even enough to make one spingle - as you see he don't do any  
thing for us, I really don't know whether the man is married or not if he  
isn't, he means to be - the hopeful John has gone to California - the new  
house is all done above & all with a piazza in front & a lemonade stand  
& windows enough for a blind person to see - Aunt Carpenter came home  
after it was decided that he was engaged - she has a new cloak all in the  
fashion got a dress maker to do it in the city gave only twelve dollars for  
it, says it was very cheap, I think I will get one exactly like it for my  
some time since when going home from Grandmother Hunt's she had  
her Maria's old cloak (which will remember the cinnamon coloured one  
she had before her mother's death & had it colored white after her father's  
death, at any rate it was colored a very dark brown, a large full cloak, I  
expect she left it for a comfort & convenience to Grandmother, well after  
Aunt got her new cloak she decided to make Maria's own fashionable  
C.M.P. wanted it to make one for Lizzie & there was enough to make  
a nice cloak for her or for one of Mary Ann Young's children to have  
worn just as it was, but last Friday she got Sepher's pattern which was  
a regular sack pattern for a little child & she cut it out & now she says  
she is not ashamed to look people in the face as she comes over to our  
house - I wish you could see it certainly it is nearly enough to make  
a cat laugh it is all of a quarter of a yard shorter behind than at  
the sides where it hangs nearly to the bottom of her dress the pattern  
was the one I got for little Lizzie's sack & just fitted her - Aunt  
did not go by the pattern; she says she hopes Grandmother  
won't want it again, but if she does she knows she will be pleased  
that she has made it fashionable & she could certainly do asked than  
alter it when she let her have it to wear so long - poor Elizabeth  
groans & wails under the destruction which she sees going on -



Aunt I think it was came in & was telling about Aunt's songs when I  
said you did not know Aunt Carpenter before she went to your house  
as well as you do now did you, no said she, "I guess we did not" I don't see  
any possible way for her to alter her new cloak so much so it won't last  
very long - she says she wore the one before this 10 years but she could  
not have done so had she not altered a good many times - they are as  
thoroughly sick of their bargain as people need to be - Uncle is flat  
in bed again where I expect he means to remain again for two years he  
had an attack of gall stones & now only gets up to have his bed made that  
at night - Aunt Carpenter has decided again not to leave him as long as she  
lives but I wish he will get sick of it - Maria D. sent her an invitation  
to Thanksgiving with her but she could not leave brother Nancy leaves her  
to comfort him when she is there - he says Nancy has a look at the foot of  
the stairs where she hangs her fiddle whenever she comes up stairs & takes it  
as she goes down for he can hear it going as long as she is down fast enough  
N. looks better than she did in the summer, is getting a little flesh on her  
bones, but the odors she sleeps in are enough to poison her, that old  
tobacco smoke & then to keep the matter she has some matches that are all  
worse than any thing of match kind I ever smell, unless it may be the  
match I have written about before this in this letter, & she burns two or  
three as the case may be during the night - she has come out young  
again this winter with her blue satin bonnet that has lace folded up  
I can't tell how long - she has no new dresses & I can't say certainly but  
she has fitted up a soft for her winter campaign with her wardrobe, I  
think it very like the cruise of oil - the box will soon be sent off to you  
& in it there will be a dress for both of you alike the narrowest in the  
book is yours - the seams are under the arms & upon the shoulders are  
not sewed you can let them out or take them in to suit you know you  
will find a difference in the length of the skirts I hope they will suit  
in length as I know you will not want to do them over, put a binding in  
the neck like the one upon the gingham dress but make it of silk if  
Nancy sends the pieces left of the piping - she may cut some like the  
dresses, but you had better put on silk if you have it & do not sew it in  
the neck, but cord the bottoms of the waist - the sleeves are open at the wrist  
as you had better get you some delicate cambie & make some small bias  
of sleeves before they get there make them with or without inserting a ridge  
at the wrist, some simply full them into a little plain binding, half finish  
wider, others inserting both sides edging on both - if the cambie with which  
the sleeves are faced looks badly you must get some silk & face over &  
I should not be surprised if you was obliged to - if the sleeve hangs too long  
at the seam take a little plate at the bend of the arm - the sleeves are  
meant to tie in but the strings are not on - sew in the caps with a cord  
& then you can go with white sleeves if you like, but if you wish it you can  
make cambie tight sleeves & cover them with some like the dresses as  
high as they will show & then you can wear them in the place of white ones  
some times let the loose ones come over - Amelia Blanding is having a  
dress made exactly like yours - hers is lilac & piped with velvet - after  
I got your dresses I was told the sun would fade it, it was too late  
then to change & I guess if you are careful to keep them hung in the dark



as you well wear them in the woods I hope they will not trouble you  
about put a hot iron upon the cloth as it turns the colour altho it turns  
back again it takes time for it, I hope you will like them, the ging ham  
does not look exactly like the woollens - but that will be no matter - the  
dye pattern was sent off in a paper with some more cord when I was at  
home, one piece of cord is in a half paper that has some account of the  
Institute held in Northampton last summer the one containing the pines  
pine was intended for you but when M. came to direct them she could  
not tell which was which - the pine is done Jane Carpenter picked in the  
you - the pattern you must begin at the bottom two widths & let them begin  
immediately to blend together & grow narrower & then two thirds of the way  
up no wider than the pattern - let the stems pass sometimes over & some  
times under so as will look the best - this will top pullets & hill in a rope  
lecture - Nancy kindly offered to write you who my dear friend Mrs Foster  
is but believe I can do it myself - I supposed I had mentioned her before  
she is Mr Sewatts sister who spent about five weeks there when he was seek-  
ing up & was my bedfellow a good deal of the time - Mr. has now been back  
preaching since the first of Nov. & a little time since I heard him tell some  
one he had gained flesh since he came & was better, but last sabbath he looked  
& seemed far from well - I think it was a sad week for him Mr. enjoyed  
all the amusements very much & since last year was the pleasantest one she  
can pass - I felt that the day recalled much of pleasure mingled with pain  
then last sabbath was communion & one year since she was there with us - he  
has gone this week to visit his little daughter, Chalmers has gone with him  
they are passing the winter at Mr Bialls, they have a very pleasant home I  
think only Mrs B. is one that would grease you & swallow you before you  
know that you was going down & her husband is greatly like her - you will  
find a bell to go with your dresses - don't forget don't some nice gaiters  
I'd not think about it when I got the shoes - the gloves you have enjoyed  
about so many times were 75 cts - if Nancy sends the bill of the shoes & long  
she will do what I do not intend she shall - the shoes are 1.25 per pair some  
you know are for other people the young 4 cts p not 4/4 in all - I feel afraid  
your leather gaiters will be too low in the instep if so don't try to wear them  
I remembered we had sent some too large, & I had a pain last winter that  
seemed impossible to get them on but they proved large enough - I used to  
put my scissors down the heel & get the stiffening up smooth, sell them  
for 1.50 if you sell them that was what they cost - A little time since Mr Gro-  
-ver was sent for to visit his sister who was low with consumption, before  
he returned there came a telegraphic despatch saying his wife's father, Mr. Har-  
rison was dead - he died very suddenly, had gone from home on business  
was taken sick & died before any of his family got to him Mrs G. went immedi-  
ately on but he was buried before she reached there - Mrs Fletcher says tell the  
girls she hopes they won't be as sleepy when they read this as I have been writing  
some part of - Mr F is away to night & I don't know but the rogues will catch  
us - I send but one sheet but believe there is as many words upon it as there  
are upon your sheet & a half - I would write more but want it to reach you  
as soon after the papers as may be - I am ready for your letter now have not  
yours - we have commenced school with 86 scholars - see more last time than in  
the public school lot of love to quiet may God bless you - in love with her

Bus covered  
N H Peng }

10

Miss Sarah Blanding  
Camden Mississippi

Specimen Jan 30/30  
Answered Feb 6/30

Black will you please send us some flower seeds  
ought have your wife if convenient I must close  
for it is almost time

Pine Cottage December 8th

My very dear friend

I am almost invariably disappointed  
when I attempt to write you so I am going to write  
this Sabbath day; it being so stormy that we cannot attend  
church. Your welcome letter came to hand in due time  
I need not say with what pleasure I perused those pages  
and in imagination I enjoyed sagely as well as your self  
your frequent excursions on "horse back" I think you  
must enjoy a Southern climate especially at this season Your  
favorite "gent" must think him self highly elated What  
will Mr "Carpenter" say when he returns from California  
if indeed you are so far lost as to be irrecoverable? will he  
despair? or will he wrap around himself his heartily  
earned coffers and live a bachelors life? Oh! Sarah break  
not his heart. remember former years I think "Hyman"  
has more to do than he can perform satisfactorily so  
do not allow him to do so much for you untill he has more



because but if necessity requires tell him to do the  
thing that is right. Well now I will say a little  
about Thanksgiving it was the most stormy day we have  
had this season. Brother N's family were with us brother  
Abraham was in Mass we hoped to have him with us but  
his Mother of course has the first claim. One thing more  
about the day news came to me that I was to be married  
at nine o'clock that morn the gentlemen sent word to me  
to go to Rev Mr Briggs as he must be out of town and  
he would be at an other services: so you see there was nothing  
to hinder our union but the boundary lines of the two States  
I have not since seen him so I can not <sup>tell</sup> whether I am  
ready "double or single". A few weeks since I visited the  
Shakers at Canterbury. It was a very cold day and riding  
our hills as we did gave us a fresh wind all of the way  
and a good prospect of the surrounding plain. We  
found the village pleasantly situated on a hill  
commanding a view of the Country for miles. The  
number of inhabitants is one hundred and fifty  
every thing is neat and in order the streets as  
orderly as the house every chair has a mat or peg  
espically in the chining the chairs (all but three) hang  
on pegs they use no table covers. In moving about  
they go so lightly you hardly hear them

I was much pleased with my visit but did not care  
to join them. I have been to Sandbornton Concord  
and Salisbury and several other places visiting. This  
week I pass at Wisterbath. Joseph is in Boston. I think  
I will here to stay at home this winter as we have a school  
in the Academy and Sister M goes she boards herself  
at Mr Thurston's I have to work very hard If I was  
in Mississippi I think I should enjoy it much  
Fevick I believe is now Mrs Watkins don't you think  
I must feel rather old having a dear marriage - -

The ground is covered with snow and looks fair for sleigh  
rides I hope I may be a favorite individual

There was an accident upon our rail road at the Concord  
crossing A Mr Cobb and wife and people were killed, not  
a piece of the carriage two feet long was left Mr C -  
lived eight hours they left seven children

We have little news and no public spirit I feel very  
lonely When I look back for a few years I seem to  
almost despair ever being again happy I miss those  
dear ones more and more Every object reminds me  
of the past; not one eludes the future My dear Mother  
is quite unwell for her and should she too leave us  
Oh Sarah it is too much for weak humanity I dare  
not think we can ever be separated. Yet we know

we can not always live and indeed I care not to  
for my own Father is in heaven and should we  
all meet there I will care not how soon I love  
to think of these things they seem to waft me  
from earth to commune with departed spirits  
But I will not weary you with such sad foreboding  
you who have parents and friends must of necessity  
be happy I often think of my visit at Rehoboth  
with no small degree of pleasure when I shall again  
visit those friends I do not know

Probably many have been the changes no doubt  
since I was there Mr. Warrel and Wife I would  
like to see, hope life glides as smoothly as they  
anticipated Oh Sarah if I could see you  
I would say a great many things that do not look  
well on paper Mother sends much love to you  
and your sister Sister Martha also sends much love  
The family all wish to be remembered to you both  
Please Sarah remember me to Auntett and take a  
large share of love to your self Excuse imperfection  
and answered soon for I always enjoy a letter from  
a friend With much love I remain your true  
friend Mary A. Gray



Received Jan 1841  
Answered Feb 7th



10

Miss Sarah M Blanding

Camden

Madison County

at A Purviance P M

Mississippi

Exeter Dec 29<sup>th</sup> 1850

Dear friend Sarah

I fear friend Sarah that you will begin to think I have adopted the motto "out of sight, out of mind" and I should not blame you if you did, but it is not from forgetfulness of my friend Sarah, that I have not written, but <sup>from</sup> negligence, every time I thought of you, and that is almost every week, I have determined to write immediately but something would happen to prevent, and I dislike letter writing so much that I let it be till the last minute, and don't wonder my friends think I have forgotten them entirely. I feel almost ashamed to answer your kind letter now, but think perhaps "better late than never", I will now tell you how I have been occupied since I received it. I was in Exeter when I received it, where I am stopping now, making bonnets, and ~~at~~ we were very much hurried at that time and thought I would let it be, untill I got home, and had plenty of time, but staid here untill June, then went home sick, and was not able to do any thing untill it became cool weather in

the fall, and there was gone from home so much, that I have found myself back here in December, without having accomplished half I intended to, since I left, I can hardly realize so much time has slipped away, and I must try to make amends for for the past, by being more punctual in future.

I will try to tell you a little what going on in our little village, there is not many of the girls there, that were there when you was, except the old settlers, and they are likely to remain for aught I see, Lizzie Hunt is teaching school in the little school house this winter again, and Sarah at Ruther, Murtha is at work at her trade is the wife of Cawhackett, and Maria is there too, most of the time, and my two oldest brothers are away this winter, so it leaves no one at home but Emily & Albert, it does not seem much as it did when we were all at home having a good time together,

Murtha Newman does not seem to have any use for her bedgowns as yet, Shubal has left, and the last I heard of him he was troubled with a weak back, don't know whether it was caused by going or staying or not, Emily Bowen is at work in Providence, don't know whether she has picked up any bear or not have not seen her but once since she went there, but to tell the truth bears are very scarce, not more than one to half a dozen girls, how is it your way, if they are plenty just sent a few along, Celia B is at home I believe intends staying there this winter, her health is not very good, Crustus Woodworth, & Maria Carpenter, has stepped into a state of matrimony, I don't know but you have heard of that before, and Rufus Billock, has lately tied the Kyones knot, with a lady from New York state, I don't recollect



what part, I have not had the pleasure of an introduction  
yet, she is very plain looking, but suppose she has a very  
amiable disposition, as I heard, he said he would not have  
any one that had not a good disposition, Albert & Mook are  
left yet, the story was Mook was courting John Capron's sister  
but believe it is all felt through, by <sup>the way</sup> I don't know as you heard  
John Capron is married, well her is, they all live in the family  
together, I have not seen Austin or John very lately, the last time  
I did see them, they were very sober don't know but they have  
got sick of married life. E French and Caroline Wheeler are  
good friends, yet, I believe but don't think it will amount  
to much, after all, Emily is in Tucumton, with Leonard W's  
his assistant teacher, she gets along nicely. I must not forget to  
tell you that Mrs Cook has a daughter about four months old  
the most remarkable child there ever was, in their estimation,  
Mrs Richardson she is now, Hildah Bliss has had a pair of twins  
in eight months after she was married, and lost them both.  
Cook says he shan't get married, for fear he shall have three  
the first time, I don't think it would be advisable, to try  
it, do you. The general health of the neighborhood is good as usual  
I don't think of any thing more just now that would be new  
to you, I will give you a little description of the place I am  
in, it is quite a village there are three churches, one Hotel  
an old fellow hall, & steam business is the main business  
and carried on extensively, Mr E Carpenter the one I work for  
employs between fifty and sixty wiremen, and some seven and  
eight ~~sevens~~, hundred sowers, the buildings are all new and  
finished of pine, so it gives the village quite a pretty appearance  
I board at the boarding house, kept by Mr Simmons

there are between ~~thirty~~, thirty and thirty, boulders so you  
can imagine some nice times here, the only trouble is  
there is not but a few bears, it is excellent sleighing here  
now, I have had four rides this week, rather short to be sure  
but very good, I suppose you are having a nice time riding  
horseback, I have learnt to ride, since you were here and  
think I shall come and take a ride with you, some pleasant  
day. It is so long since I heard from you I don't know  
but you are married, I did not know but you had set you  
up for that unmarried brother, of the gentleman you  
board with, just send me word, what you are up to.  
don't you ever expect to come this way and see your  
friends again, I should think it was most time you  
made us a visit, I suppose you will see by <sup>my</sup> writing I have  
not improved any, but the reason is I have not had any  
writing school to go to, have you got so you can write  
the Caligraphic hand yet. I have not  
heard from him since he left should not wonder  
if he had caught his death cold (before this time) by  
writing his feet. I have not time to write any more  
and believe I've told you all the news, I can think of  
but fear you will not be paid for reading if I should  
scribble any more, I hope you will return "good for evil"  
in the way of letter writing, although I know I <sup>don't</sup> deserve it,  
but do write soon Sarah, and let me hear all about  
what you are doing, and I will do my best not to be so  
negligent next time, although bad habits are hard to be  
corrected I know, but I will try and see what I can do  
if you will give me a chance, excuse all mistakes  
and accept this with much love, from your friend  
Lucy S. Hunt