

Pine River 12 mo. 28th 1857.

My Dear Father,

Yesterday I had the pleasure of perusing thy letter to Deborah it informed me that thee and Jane went to Ithaca with with Ezra when he returned home from Mich last fall I was some surprised of finding John & Molly living at Ithaca again but I suppose the scarcity of money cripples his business as well as all other business, these times. We have not received the chest yet but I can assure thee when it comes we shall divide the contents of it with the thankful hearts in remembrance of the friends that forgot us not. I am pretty well provided fore with provision this winter I have quite 200 bushels Potatoes 40 bush Potatoes 1 bbl Beef 1 bbl broad side pork barrell & half cask of hams & shoulders 1 crock butter 1 dub of lard 50 bushels Wheat 25 bush Oats 60 bushels ears corn, two good cows 2 yearlings 3 calves and provender enough to feed them through the winter. I have built me a clay chimney large enough to take on 3 feet wood, and it is very comfortable these cold winter nights. I wish the my Father was here to enjoy it with me it would seem

pleasant to me, I have paid my taxes
my fortune will have it. aint money we got
from taking jobs of the Town to cutseway the
roads they wer nearly eight dollars there
is money a poor fellow that will have
to sacrifice on property before he gets mon-
ey to his taxes. We have got into a good
country. I like it much I if we could see
our friends often. the the thought of this
makes me almost wish I had not come
to this kind country. if we ever get a Kai
road here, it will be better for us. in getting
about. from place to place I dont know
as I write plain enough for the review
my writing. I have got so in practice
of writing fine. The use of figures have
letters the taught us when quite young were
enable me to while away my leisure hours
very agreeably and impart the knowledge
to those who I may have an opportunity to
do so. I talk some of taking a boy to send
to school this winter if I do so. I shall teach
him the arithmetic tables such as thee
taught me when I was a boy. if thee will
excuse this half sheet I will write thee
again for long. please give this other letter
to Ezra. tell him to write to us if she can
find time. I will conclude in love to
thee and respects to all. Affectionately
thy son
E. S. Cornell
Elijah Cornell

Western Union Telegraph Office,

ALBION, Jan 28 1858.

My Dear Father

When I left
Ithaca I did not think it
would be so long before I wrote
but I have had no news to
write and none now but
I will not wait any longer
It is very mild and has
been ever since our return
home It dont even freeze
night any more I never
knew such long continued
warm weather in the
winter. we have had no
snow since we got home
John and Mary are up
to Mr Eppond guess they
will come down before
long. Lizzie is very cross she
had the ague after we got home

I think we caught it of
the high water in Ithaca
I had not had it in
ten years before. We have
not heard from the woods
yet but hope to get a
letter soon. Mearns folks
are well he has not got
his corn all husked yet
He killed the pig ~~last~~
Saturday he was fat but
not very large weighed
about 150. Tell Sam that
there has been many
hard things said about
Mr. Blakeley taking money
from the drawers and
other bad things which
wakes him no better than
his Law. While in Co with
Mr. Knapp. He seems not
to be honest. Sam. French
has gone with Will. Warner

To Texas Sam thinks so
many that Mr. Richardson
but I don't know. Celie is
well. Mr. Tiltonson lives in
your house the one that
lived on the Wild farm
Brother to the dancing
master. Every thing is
dull they have got the
church enclosed and are
now building the steeple.
Johns folks have left Mearns
and gone back on the farm
live in the chamber and
so are with the family they
think Mearns folks more
than Georges now. Just as I
thought they would.
Mr. Dean has gone to see
her Sister they think the
Sister has consumption and
will not live long. Mr.
Grahan is well lives alone

while Mr S is gone
those new blocks are all
down and occupied,
Bedwell has moved in one
of Monards and A P Gardner
has a hardware store in the
other, in the block across
by Crowneth Hall has the
north one Gale Hardware
the middle one and South
the East one, from new
Brick Stores with Iron and
Glass fronts is quite an
improvement in the look
of the street

Mart thinks that Mr Herck
will take your house instead
of ours in the Spring he will
buy it so I think that will
suit you. I want to hear
particularly how you all are
especially Jan.

My affectionate daughter
Phebe Wood

Albion Jan 1st 1838

Respected Father

As we were informed by Jane that you wished to hear from the chickens & pigs, so I thought I would take this opportunity to write you. We are all enjoying good health and were much pleased to hear that you was so well this winter. Speaking of winter I can hardly call it winter as it is so warm in this country. Ever since the middle of November ~~the weather has been warm like the latter part~~ of March in usual seasons not like our former winters. The chickens are doing first rate we have more eggs than we can use and more than we can afford to sell as they are worth only 6cts per dozen. Provisions are all very plenty and cheap. But little doing and labor very low. Money very scarce and every thing else plenty.

I have more corn than I know
what to do with I have sold some over
600 bushels of ears for 18 & 20 cents per bushel
about 1000 bushels in the crib and some
400 yet to husk and have fed all that
I dare to Every thing around is fat
and sleek It would do you good to see
some of the turkey oil that we get
and the round plump pigs five
in number My sheep ran 106
and 1 lamb I bought 80 at 2.00 per
head payed in coin Wheat on the
ground looks fine Now I don't know
how you can realize what I have written
but to bundle up and come to visit
and spend a time with us again
we should enjoy it very much
It took us some time to get used to
your absence We have earned some thing
between 7 & 800 dollars with our machine
this fall have threshed about 20,000 bush
of grain what think you of that
Now don't think this a bragging letter

but nearly complying with your
request through Jane

Brother John & wife left here on Wed. inst
has gone to his own house for a while

With this I will close with much respect

Yours as ever

H. D. Robertson

To Elijah Cornell

Dear Father

Hiram says I must finish the
letter but he has written all the news however
I will try to fill it out John and Mary
are at hickory grove John was here Friday
and said they were coming down to day he
talks of going to work for Hiram until
he can do better James Finch and Ann
Hornes have just returned from Texas where
they have been to locate soldier's rite
land we here that Hoerner got 1200 or 10
acres they were gone 7 weeks My health is
not very good I have to keep a girl to do
my work have a very good one now but
cannot keep her but a short time longer

I wish I could get a good Irish girl but
there is not many in these parts tell
Jane I will answer her letter before a great
while we have not heard from Gratie
since Phoebe come from Wharfe if there
had been sleighing. Hiram expected to
have gone up there for a load of shingles
he raised and covered his barn in the fall
which makes it very much better. We all
want Father to come back just as soon
as it is warm enough so that thee can
come comfortable. it is so late I shall
have to conclude with much love to all
and to thyself in particular. I hope thee
will write to our if thee can.

From thy affectionate Daughter
Mary C. Robertson

Allion Mich July 23d. 1858.

Dear Father

According to a promise I made
thee in my last letter to Eva, that I would write
the particulars of news in the Woods and as I have
just returned from there will fulfil the promise.

Alvan and myself arrived at James's last fifth
day noon after a cold ride of 2 1/2 days from this
place. We found the folks usually well. included with the
exceptions of Enny who is troubled with a lame knee
better than I have seen him in a long time. Deborah
is looking finely much more flashy than I have
seen her in many years. and in good spirits.

Their prospects look favorable for getting along and
making a living now but I guess they have seen some
hard scratching since they have been in the woods.

They report having provision enough on hand
to last them a year. which is the result of taking
the grain on shares which they entered last year. and
though it was done at the expense of no improvement
on their own land last year I think they made
the right move in taking it as now they can devote
their whole time during the coming year in improving.

their lots and by so doing will be in a position
to raise a good supply of furison the next year.
then by placing themselves beyond the possibility of
want unless their crops should happen to fail.

Indian Houses are both comfortably fixed
up for winter. They having built each of them a
shanty and large fireplace last fall. Which is a
luxury they did not enjoy last winter. an evidence
of which is the fact of Angelina freezing her feet
last winter while doing her work. I suppose from
their own age they suffered very much from the cold.
they however have got things very different now and having
adopted the ready pay system. (I presume from necessity)
have reduced their wants to but very few beyond what they
raise & produce themselves. They are dependent upon
the stores but for few articles. the principal of which
is Salt and for that they are obliged to pay by purchasing
them in the woods 4 cents per lb. for making a BBL
cost them \$11.20. While it can be bought here at \$3.00.

We should have taken is from to them but am not in
possession of the above facts. Salmolus is worth 1/- Sugar 1/3
Pepper 2/6 the poorest Tea manufactured of Coffee 1/6 Rice
1/- and all other things in proportion. All of the above things
with perhaps the exceptions of Salt & pepper. they
can do without. Having made their own sugar and

And as they use corn & Barley for coffee and do
without Tea, they get along with small family expenses.
and are frustrated at that. Edward bought his Oxen
last fall and after putting down what they required for
their own consumption sold the balance for \$5 per hundred
which is a good price compared with what it sells
for here bringing $3\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 cents. They own now one yoke
of Oxen between them which they think is team enough
for the next season as they intend to chop a good
deal and will require a team for everything much except
logging. James has got about 3 acres of winter
wheat which he thinks will produce them bread as it
looks he says finally.

They are very much obliged for the chest of articles
they packed up for them, which we took up, and find
them very useful. I fear that Edward is getting
a little discouraged there in the woods and it would
be well for Ezra to write him a cheering letter, which
he knows so well how to do. Edw. says he promised
to write him long since and give him a timber bill
of Lumber which it would require for a Barn, if he (Ezra)
thought it advisable for him to build: and whether he
does or not Edw. would be glad to get a letter
from him. I like the country up there very
much - and for timber, land do not know where

a more preferable location could be found.
although they are a good way back now. still
I am of the opinion that in a few years it
will be the best portion of the State for farming
purposes. and though at present they are cut
off from a foreign market. they enjoy the advantage
of an excellent home market for all their surplus
products. and will for a number of years to come
until the market comes from them is settled
and closed up. The people here all well. Mother is
away from home most of the time telegraphing
but says business is very dull. Molly & Lizzie is
here at my side quite well. Ma says till Jane she
is going to visit her as soon as Lizzie gets through
cutting teeth. she has now got 5. I do not think
of any thing more and will close with respects
to all.

Affectionately

Eliza Cornell

J. M. Cornell

John M.

Pine River July 18th 1858

My Dear Father,

It has been some time since we have heard from thee, or any one from Shaw; and as I have been replenishing myself with ink and pens I thought the only sure way of hearing again from Shaw, was to write myself, and perhaps Jane might answer in behalf of thyself. We are having a drough, there has been no rain in five or six weeks except a verry light shower, and the weather has been extreimely hot, there is a little more air astir now than awhile since, the crops owing to the wet weather in seedling time and the dry weather now, looks as though we should be short of every kind of grain at the time of harvest. The rust struck the winter wheat some time before it was time to harvest, thereby engering it considerable. I have 144 square rods of Bluyter yellow corn planted, I manured and plowed the ground and have mowed it twice. considering the dry weather it looks fine. I have $\frac{1}{4}$ of an acre of potatoes planted verry deep and eard y they stand the drough verry well. I did not sow any wheat last fall, and

and, but little this spring, it will not
amount to much. It is a very fine
time for burning old shavings this summer
I have just commenced cutting my muck
grass prospect of getting it up in good
order. In company with Angelina and
Deborah, have been talking of going to Albion
on a visit this fall. Hiram & John made ~~us~~
a visit last winter, and I should think
some of the Ithaca folks might make
us a visit ^{this} summer. we are not so pro-
ud but what we should be happy to
have them come any time. I have writ-
ten to Ezra twice, concerning Bulls I have
received no answer as yet, and if he
has not been affronted by my urging
the matter, I should like to have him
answer them, and send me a nice Doe
or Bull calf when convenient, has
John resumed the Pottery business I
have not heard from him since he was
here in the winter, what does E.B find
to do these times, I should like to hear
from Sam once a while, I suppose his
boys, Nelson and William are keeping store
by themselves. I wish thee would send
me a couple of Dr Marshall phials
of Catarrh snuff. I can't get the
genuine article here, they cost 25

cents per viol I believe. and I will send
thee the money after I get some. Deborah
and James have come I, says she wants to hear
from thee very much. they are well, also the
in family. We are going to have the court
house located at Alma, or Elyton, the name
^{more} recently ^{given} called. that is our courts will be
held there untill the year 1860. the time
will be the Legislature for it to be perman
ently located some where. The American
Agriculturist comes regular to me sent
probably by Ezra, or Alonzo, it is, with
the United States Journal also very inter
esting. we have a paper printed at Itha
ca, the center of this county called the "Graft
ot News" there is one Jefferys who owns
much land at Ithaca that has been striving
very hard to get the county seat loca
ted at that place but is like to fail, the
Legislature said the courts should be
held at or on Pine River. untill 1860. but the
Supervisors in our county through the influ
ence of money undertook to locate it
at Ithaca. but our circuit judge has de
cided in favor of Pine River well if we
can retain the county seat at Elyton
we shall be only four miles from the County
seat. and that will be better than to have to
travel 16 miles to get to it.

I suppose Jane is with thee at Ithaca. she
does not write verry often. I wish she
would send me that new Bible that
I bought. I gave it to her when thou was
keeping house. I suppose she would
care no great about it. therefore I would
like verry much to have it. and that
table that I bought her when in Ithaca
I would like to have if it was carried
to Albion, well I have already written all
that I think will be of intrest to thee, but if
thou should think of any thing that I should
write about that I have not written in fo
rm. me at some other time of it and I
will attend to it. Affectionately thy son
Edward Cornell

Elyjah Cornell

E. S. Cornell
18. July 1854

New York State Agricultural Rooms,

Albany, June 10th, 1858.

Dear ~~Mr~~ Madam

You have been selected by the Executive Committee of the N. Y. S. Agricultural Society, as one of the Judges on *cheese work*

Class 6 Com. No. 63 at the State Fair, to be held at Syracuse, on the 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th of October next. The Judges are to meet on Wednesday, 6th October, at 9 A. M.

~~Mr~~ You are requested to advise the Secretary, on the receipt of this, whether it will be convenient for you to attend and discharge the duties of the appointment.

Yours, Respectfully,

B. P. JOHNSON,
Cor. Sec'y.

To Mr E. Cornell
Ithaca

Sept 1st

Belvedere Hills
9th mo 12th 1858

Dear Father

I received thy letter in due time but have been too busy and negligent to answer it - I was however very glad to hear from the and that thy health is so good. I am also happy to be able to inform thee that my health and also my family is quite good - My boy was 5 years old the 25th of 3rd mo. last he has been to school this summer for the first but he could read and spell before he went to school as I laboured with him some last winter at home

How often my memory has
carried me back to the long
winter evenings when Edward
John myself and Jane were
gathered around the table of
our old DeRuyter home engaged
in writing and studying by
the cheerful light of the
blazing fire in the capacious
old fireplace
how cheering the memory
of those bygone days

I can inform the that
my prospects for business are
fair but not quite as
flattering as they were
before the hard times came
on. I can say truly that
I have heard more talk
a great deal about hard
times than I know any

thing about by experience
as I have not felt them,
my wages since last year
this time has been nearly
or quite four hundred
dollars. I am nearly out
of debt and in a fair way
to live - I could use 4
or 5 hundred dollars to
a good advantage however
if I had it

I received a letter
from Deborah a few weeks
ago they were all well I
believe - Deborah's oldest
Girl Luince I suppose is
or soon will be married
If I guess rightly the hint
given me -

From thy Son
D. B. Cornell } Affectionately, D. B. Cornell
H. B. Cornell }

Elizabeth H. Schuyler

Oct 17. 58

Doth Ferry West Chester

Oct. 17. 1858.

Madam,

My sister, Miss Anna-
-ette, is obliged to be in town
the three first days of the
month, & she has asked me
to reply to your letter of the
21st Sept. — she has been
absent for ten days since
that date, & has not yet got
up with her correspondence —

She finds, as you do, that
the young are the energetic
& successful collectors — We
can smooth the way for
them.

but they win their own
way towards Mr. Larnon,
more readily than we do.
In our neighbouring villages,
the young girls are provided
with printed slips, suitable
to the character of the pro-
- relation, which they leave
at each door, & some time
after, call for the money.

My sister has rec^d. officially
no information as to the
amount collected since the
\$18,000 paid in April - part
of which was Mr. Everett's fund.
He mentioned to us a number

ago, that the amount of
his fund was much ex-
-aggerated. - it amounts to
little over \$40,000 - He also
stated that the Association would
save over \$11,000 by making
the full payment on the 22nd
Feb - as Mr. Washington
remits in that case, all interest.
The payment due Jan 1st \$57,000,
is in hand & at interest -

From other sources, but
without knowing how reliable,
we hear that Alabama
has raised \$9,000 - Tennessee
\$10,000 - There are large sums

for the time - We trust the
money will be raised, &
brought over to begin the
work of repair - a friend,
a gentleman of N. Y. who visited
it lately, says the pigs were
running at large - & sends us
this message - "I trust the women
will work on, & we will help
them - only ask them to work
on - while there, I felt as if we
could not do enough, or soon
enough, to get profusion" -

Can we not get more towns in
your County represented - At Lake Ridge
there is Miss S. C. Cornell - at Leyden
Mrs. M. Graw - Mrs. C. Cornell of
Ithaca - state her willingness to do what
she can for the cause - if necessary -
Will you thank her for her kind letter -
Yours respectfully Eliza H. Schuyler.

Brantford Dec/2

My Dear Sister

I wrote you some
time ago and gave John the letter
to mail, and I do not know whether
it ever got any farther, than his
pocket or not, so I will inquire of
you. Figgie & I are close to day
John is up most and will not be
home till the last of the week, he
is away a month at a time this
winter, and I should be very anxious
if it wasn't for my little Chattahoochee
she says Papa soaps Cigars, and
goes to grass, I wish you could
see her, she does not look much
as she did last winter. has Jane
got back from Mich. I have never
answered her letter that she wrote
last summer but will when I hear where
she is, how does the water cure

agree with Cara? I hope she is
getting better will you come and
spend Christmas with us, and bring
Mary + Emma. I will get up something
brown if you will, how is Father this
winter and C.B. folks, how do they like
farming. Henry folks have got a
boy I suppose it is a wonderful child
as it is the first son Delia has got
her hands full again, she wanted
to go to Port Byron this winter but
she can't get away, now Anna is
not able to do the work for such
a family as they always have,
Mrs Norton is dead, and Mr Norton is
in town he has got the Pottery back
and will commence work in a few
weeks, he has left Emily + Warring on
his farm, and gives them all they
can make for a year,

has Emily gone west, and what
are they doing? I wish you would

come out here this winter—we have
a very comfortable little pen
to live in, just four rooms but
it is all we need while we
live alone, it is very convenient
the well is close by the kitchen
stove so handy that I have never
had a water pail since I have
lived here, and we have a nice
cellar + better something we never
had in Toronto, and there is a barn
+ woodshed, and if I could only keep
my fellow with me I should be
quite happy, how is it with you
can you keep E. G. at home
any more than you used to,
it is cold enough to freeze a nigger
to night, but we have no shivering
yet, give my love to all and
a Merry Christmas to you, hope old
Santa Claus will put a baby in your
stocking, Good bye write soon,

Your Sister Mollie

Albion Feb 11th 1859

My Dear Sister

I did not intend, when I received your letter, to let it be so long, before I answered it, but it is the old story of neglect, and procrastination, but believe me, it is not because your favor was not appreciated, or that I do not want to hear from you very much again, my letters have accumulated until I have some half dozen which ought to be answered, without further delay, I commence the list with yours, as I want to hear from you more than the rest. Molly wrote me about Christmas, she was well then, and Lizzie was growing fine, and talking very plain, I am stopping with Mary at present, Lizzie left home last Monday morn with Edward for Greatol. Ed came the week before, he bought wheat of L and had it floured here, they had a load

of about twenty five hundred. Heron was going down
there if the weather and roads would permit. They are
all well up in the woods, and very well contented.
Ed says Maria's folks live comfortable. Elizabeth's health
is not very good, she has a troublesome cough, and fears
her lungs are affected. Edward bought some cherry pectin
-al for her, he seems to think a great deal off her, and well
he ones for she is an excellent woman.

You have doubtless heard of Aunt Polly's death, her sick-
ness was very distressing, I was there one night and day before
she died. I never saw any one suffer as she did, but at
the last she died very easy. George and Susan were able
to be there, it was the first of their going out after their sickness.
Uncle John and Miss felt very badly indeed, they took her
death harder than George. I will send you a little piece
of her shroud. Aunt's health has been poor this winter
by spells, he has had two attacks of erysipelas in his head
first on one side and then the other, they have just returned
from Indiana where they have been visiting the boys & sons.

returned with them, he fell between some cars, and
hurt himself quite badly, have not seen him yet.
Tell Oscar I received his letter and am much obliged
for his kindness. I think he could not have read my
letter understandingly, for he has mistaken the waist
that was mine shows altogether, for which mistake I
suppose I am excusable for the bill I found enclosed
well I won't complain if he don't, he says they are
wonder what in the world I want of a low necked waist
well my dear sister, if you won't consign me to a Lurette
Caglin (for I assure you I am perfectly sure) I will tell you, I
tried my waist and theme with velvet, and thought a low
necked waist with a black lace cap would be nice for
summer weather. Oscar was mistaken in his inference
altogether - as justament dislike to see that kind of dress
the time has not yet arrived for me to consult the taste
of any particular sort of creation in my dress, they have to
like me as they find me, till I must say he has no signs of
flightiness about me only when I have some money to spend

and as that is a feminine weakness, he thinks I am
all right. Does Father say anything about my coming
home or is he willing I should settle among the
volunteers, if I like you to this, I don't know, but I might
stay in Albion, even if I should go out sewing.
I dreamt about him the other night, give him my
love, How are E. B.'s folks prospering. is Marion and the
children there yet, we are having a fine snowstorm to
day, is A. B. and Eliza with you yet, so Carrie is married.
Wonder how many broken hearts she has left behind her.
Give my love to the children, want to see them badly.
Please answer this as soon as convenient, as I want to
hear from you all, glad to hear of Carrie's improved health
hope it may long continue, give my love to Maria, and all
other inquiring friends - and accept a large share yourself.
I remain affectionately your sister
Jane

Jane Feb 11, 1859

Abion April 6 1859

My Dear Father

I received thy acceptable letter last week and this is the first opportunity I have had to answer it as I do my own work and it keeps me pretty busy. We are all quite well at present. Matt and Phebe had the measles last week quite lightly. I think Hiram is getting along with his spring work nicely. He has got his oats ground ready 14 acres his garden ready and is now plowing for corn. He wants to know what game is about. She is getting ready to be married to James Fenck I think.

Now Father we want the to
come out here this summer
if the is able to I have written
to Daniel and think the will
here from him soon I was
glad to hear that ~~Frank & Peter~~
was married I hope he will
live to enjoy life for some
years for he has been deeply
afflicted for a great while and
I think bore it very patient-
ly more so than thousands
would Does the here from
Thomas Chace it has been
a long time since have how
heard from him. We had
a letter from Edward a few
weeks ago I don't think of any
thing more only I want to hear
from Brother E. B. I don't hear a
word from them in any way no
more then of if there want any such folks
affectionately thy daughter Mary

April 7th 1839

Dear Father

As Mary has
commenced writing to you
and come to a stopping place
I concluded to write a little
so that you would not
forget me I intend planting
14 acres of corn this season
and some Sorghum I intend
plowing up the orchard
and sowing it to Buckwheat
Speaking of the Orchard, I think
that there is a fair prospect
for fruit this season Peaches
will be very scarce on the
account of the scarcity of
the trees Produce is plenty yet
it bears a high price Great com-
plaint of the scarcity of money but
plenty with those that have anything
to buy it with, With much respect
to you all
H. H. Roberts

Albion ^{April} March 8th 1853

Dear Father

Mary received thy letter several days since, we were all very glad indeed, to hear from thee and feel too, that thy reproof was a just one, for truth compels us to acknowledge that we have been very negligent about writing, but I do not think it has been from want of affection, or interest in thy welfare we will of course do better in future I do not know whether Mary has answered thy letter or not. Her children have been sick with the measles for a couple of weeks.

Thou inquires in particular what I am about, I wrote to Ezra the same day he left for this, informing

him of my movements, future prospects
as, and presume as he was not at home
my land would open the letter, and
of course then would be informed of its
contents, my only wonder is that she
has not written to me before this.

From a letter of ~~Abner's~~ to his uncle
we were expected to see Eben here before
he returned home, but Mentis thinks
he has gone home, I hope I shall hear
from him soon, I also hope this will
approve of the step I am about to take
please write to me soon, I do not know
when I shall visit Whitten again, but
we all are in hopes this will be able to
come and see us, I have not heard
from Daniel in a long time, but will
write to him, and since thy request -
we have had rather cold unpleasant
weather so far this month, but a
fair promise of an early spring, How
are Elijah B's folks getting along, are

do not hear one word from them -
Mrs Greham is well, she is housekeeper
for Mr Prey, Mrs Deane goes out dress-
making as usual, Ezra is at home
he and Abner attend school, Edger
is in Indiana, Phoebe is not Telegraph
operator any longer, the office was moved
to the depot the first of this month -

I hope this will have no trouble in
receiving my letter, I have tried to write
plainly, we do not hear from our friends
as much, hoping to hear from them soon
I will close with much love -

Respectfully & affectionately
Thy daughter Jane

May 1. 1859

Dear Grandfather

I have taken this special opportunity to write thee a letter, and hope it may find thee well. We hear in Iowa are all well and enjoying good health as far as I know, I am going to school now, and expect to go all summer. If I can find the means to pay my board and schooling I ~~begeth~~ ^{begeth} ~~begeth~~ ^{begeth} in this line of business, some I thought that I could drop one summer work ^{to} school. I am boarding with the school teacher at this time. I do not know, but what thou knows him. The man is Henry Goodrich, he is a very good school teacher and he has the good will of all that know him. We have a very backward spring this season now and then very cold for this time of year, wheat is just coming through the ground it is not very good. Old crops will not come, and new ones not good for much. I suppose that, thou has heard of the scarcity of food in Iowa ~~it is~~ ^{it is} no doubt but the flying reports are on extremes and ^{need} some discount, but there are some people that need a lift have to scratch hard to get a living. Corn is \$1.00 a bushell. Wheat not much more than enough for seed. Flour is 4.00 dollars a hundred. Potatoes 1.50 per bu. If the crops fail this year what will the poor class in Iowa do. It now lies in the hand of Providence. There are not many cattle in Iowa at the present time they have been driven East or to Pike's Peak, not many stalk hogs, driven away last fall because there was not corn enough to feed them on.

Brother Elijah is doing very well this spring
has built a house for Uncle Amasa and
has rented a farm now gets a good lay, he
has every thing found him and gets his board
and one half of the crops. I have a letter now and
then from home. They are all well except Brother
Albert his leg troubles him some Father is feeding
Milk yet and will be likely to for a while
I try to get him to come to ~~this~~ country
as he can do so much better hear than there
I suppose thou heard of Grand Father Chases
death last fall, he left the cane which
thou~~g~~st give him to Elijah. Grand Mother and
the girl wants to go east very much but
cannot get the means Uncle Amasa has let
them have a house to live in and all the land
that they want to tend, so that they can get
along very well and next will try to get them
to the west if they want to go they have had their
health remarkable well, Old Benj. Fry is living
in this country, if thou knows him, it will be proper
for me to say that he is feeble and stricken with age
May 8th

I laid this sheet aside, and this morning I will try to
close it. A week ago the trees had not leaved out
at all and now are blossoming a very fine prospect
for a crop now

I will draw to a close

Edward Chase
Shalooma Iowa
to Elijah - Cornell

Albion May 28th 1858

Dear Father

We arrived in Rochester about six o'clock in the evening, of the same day we left Ithaca, had to wait about one hour for the train on the Niagara Falls road. Arrived at Brockport after a short ride, it felt for the night with a cousin of Jim's, next morning got a horse + buggy to go out to another cousin of his living about five miles distant, went about five miles further to Barman where Jim's uncle lives. had a pleasant drive, and got around to cousins in good time for dinner.

Mr. Lotie's mother is living with him. Mr. Linch's oldest sister, a lady of seventy or over, she was very glad to see us, spent the day very pleasantly and got back to Brockport in time for the evening train. reached

Detroit about six seventh day morning
and an hour later were steaming at over
the central road en route for Albion
found a couple gentlemen acquaintances
from Albion on the cars. which served to help
pass the time away, reached home a little
before noon, found friends all well and
expecting us, Went left home Monday
for Kentucky, to be gone probably five or six
weeks, from there I suppose he is going to
Ohio, Mary is not very well. her feet and
ankles trouble her very much. she is so lame
by spells she can hardly get around. she
thinks some times she is going to leave
from here, she has a good girl, I run over
there two or three times a day. it is so pleasant
living over there, I like my new home
very much, think it is about as pleasant
and as good a country as any we saw
while gone, vegetation looks very promising
our folks have some fears of a frost tonight
we are going to have very quantities of strawberries

currently chasing two or three kinds of
raspberries apples &c. James wishes me
to inform you that the gentleman that
owns the hotel found at Richmond of
the firm of Richmond and De Boise
no 47 Broadway New York, near Greenwich
has been heard from Daniel yet. he does
not answer our letters, tell Mary and she
must share this letter and write me in answer
Give my love to Eliza, tell her not to forget
that promised visit. James sends his regards
to all, if you think of anything in particular
that would like to hear about, let me know
and I will try to inform you. I will close
for the present hoping to hear from you soon
affectionately thy daughter -
Jane

Pine River July 10th 1859.

Dear Father.

I wish thee to answer me two questions namely. What is thy mode of telling g. what kind of weather we are going to have by the Moons changes? also what is thy way of propotioning numbers by the rule of three? I wish thee to write me the answers of these two questions in connections with with the bearth days of thy, and Mothers age. We have had verry cold weather the past month. and several heavy frosts which don conceidirable damage to potatoes, corn gardens, and wheat. we had a white frost the night of the 3 of July, which killed corn beans that wer in sunken places. crops are doing well now but are back ward. James family are well, Angeline is south on a visite to her friends, and I am alone keeping house. Respectfully Thy Son E.S. Cornell

Elijah Cornell
Athaca
N.Y.

Albany, N.Y.

Sept. 16. 1839.

Dear Grandfather:

Since writing you last, you will observe a change has taken place in my residence. I am here attending Law School, and shall probably remain all winter, and it may be, for a year or more.

If any of your folks at Otsego may happen down this way and can find it convenient to stop, I shall be truly glad to see them. I am "keeping house," though humbly, and would try to make them stay agreeable.

I am living in "high life," (that is, about four stories,) and

am full of the world's enjoyments. The entrance to my room is on State St. next door to 94. (it has no number) and up three flights of stairs. I may be found there until 5 minutes to 9 in the morning, at noon until two, and in the evening after six. The rest of the time will find me at the lecture room, corner Eagle & Jay St. in the forenoon, and at the State Library, back of the State-house in the afternoon. I think the dictionaries ~~the~~ are sufficiently complete to insure my being found.

I left the folks at home all well about 2 weeks ago. Fall River and Swansey friends were also well.

Today I rec'd a letter from my brother Elijah in Lowell. He states that times are still hard there; home provisions very cheap and imports very high.

The boys, Edward & Elijah are well, and appear to be full of business. Crops have been very good there, which I believe is generally the case throughout the country.

A letter from Cousin Arline of Michigan reports Albion friends well.

Albany, what I have seen of it, and I have taken a number of pretty extended walks through it, I like very much. It is a very compactly built city, mostly of bricks, and contains

some as fine buildings as I
ever saw. But one feature
I dislike, and that, the
ruinous condition of many
of the streets. Hardly one
of them is in good repair.

The State Library, is
the largest collection of books
I have ever ~~seen~~. It fills
the whole of a very large
building, from the first
floor up. It contains all
the principal ~~law~~ books ever
published on English law;
The reports of all the States,
as well as of the Federal Courts;
the documents of Congress; and
every miscellaneous work of any
note ever published. It is open
to all who choose to accept its
privileges. I remain

Truly Your Grandson
Alfred Chase.

Fall River 9th mo 22 - 1859
Dear Brother Elijah Cornell

Three of 16 have ~~duely~~ to hand, We were glad to hear from thee and that thy health holds out so well, I think it wonderful that it is so ~~spart~~ considering thy age, we have an aged aunt of my wife with us, she is in her ^{first} ninety ~~second~~ year, a very bright, sunny good, but very nervous, she must have two in the room with her all the time, can not be left alone at all, she has been with us most of the time for two years, she is the widow of Job Chace she was the daughter of John Robinson, her name is Libel, she is the sister of Benj Shades wife & aunt Patsy Buffinton, she says she does not remember thee, but does remember Ezra well — She wanted to hear a bout Benjamin Shades family his children are all living but one, Elizabeth who married Clark Shave, they are both gone Reuben who married Abraham Shave is still living at the age of eighty, the youngest is Content who is sixty years old, three of them are widows Reuben, Hannah who the wife of Oliver, who has been dead a bout one year, Phoebe who married Edmund Chace, who has been dead about a bout two months

Abuel lives where Jonathan Chae lived, he is
well they he is worth from fifty to seventy five
thousand dollars, Susan married Hilley Gifford,
she lives at the same place, they are all well off,
Ruth married Mages Buffinton, I omitted saying
that Content married Weston Earle, Grandson of Weston
Earle, his mother was the daughter of Asa Cornell, he
is a respectable man and of wealth, I think I have
given a minute description of Benja Shuck family,
Concerning thy old friends they are most all gone,
James Pierce Widow is still living near one hundred
years old, Mabel Chae the daughter of Enoch
Chae, is still living, the only one of the family,
Clark Worington family are all gone but three
namely Betsey, Ruth & Dian, Betsey is supported
by the meeting, Ruth & Dian are better off —
John Buffinton family are all gone but two,
David & Sarah who married Limban Buffinton,
who is still living, the only one of the family,
he was the youngest brother of Job & Joseph Buffinton
Left James Chae family are all gone but
three namely Perry, Samuel & Wanda,
John Chae family are all gone the last survivor
was Stephen, who has been dead a least two
years, Jonathan Chae family are all gone
but one Israel, Amos Baker's family are
most of them ~~are~~ living, that is the children.

Capt. John Kier Children are living Except David,
the eldest, I think I have given thee all Information
that I can think of, If thou wilt write what I more
thou wants to know I will answer thy wish —
Concerning our family we are all In Usual health,
Except my self I have had an Ill turn of late,
have not quite got over It, but am much
better then I was, I was the sickest that I have been
for many years, It was the Colic or morbus, Brother
Robert Is quite well and living quite comfortable
with his 2^d wife, she loves him well there, only
himself & wife and Grand Child Is the family, I often
visit them, We had a visit of one of Ezra's Grand Sons,
he was the son of Paul, his Name Is Paul his
father Is not living likely thou has heard of that
about my coming out there I should like
much to but hardly budge enough to undertake
such journey In my Old age and after have Ill
turns I think I have wrote a long letter this time
I must come to a close, my Wife & family
gives me In love to thee and all, our friends
there affectionately thy Brother
Elijah Cornell Miller Chase

Albion Sept 23rd 1858

Dear Father

I was over to Corams a few evenings since, and read a letter Mary had just received from thee - fearing I was partially forgotten, I thought I had better embrace the first opportunity of writing to thee -

I was very glad to hear of thy comfortable health, I think thee had a good deal of courage to start off on a visit to DeKintz and Scipio alone - although no doubt it was very pleasant meeting so many of thy old friends & acquaintances - My health is very good indeed I had an attack of chills & fever week before last, but succeeded in breaking it up without much trouble - the first I have ever had in Michigan - Phoebe Robinson

was taken sick about the same time, &
in the same way, that I was. her fever sud-
den days, without any intermission, she is
just getting so, she can walk around
the house. they employed a spiritual
doctor by name of Steele - a fellow they
knows nothing about medicine himself
but pretends that the spirit of a cel-
-ebrated doctor prescribes - and this doctor
cannot control Steele himself - so he
imparts his knowledge to an old Indian,
who they say, has been blind about a hun-
-dred years, through whom it reaches Steele.
The biggest piece of humbuggery they have
ever invented. I was fearful Hiram's folks
would tamper with it to their sorrow -
It seems so strange that people can believe
such stuff. I don't know whether
Mary has written to thee since our visit
from Angelina or not, she staid about
two weeks here, she has grown very fleshy

her health is excellent, she returned home
with one of their neighbours who was down
Mary received a letter from her a short
time since, she had a quick journey home
considering they went with an old Indian
found all well. Edward writes that he will
have wheat enough for his bread and seed
I do not hear anything from John's folks, or
Daniel, we have been having a drizzling
rain of two or three days continued.
James has nearly finished his sowing, he is
putting in sixty acres of wheat, he is 31
today. not far from thy age when thou was
married is it 26 years ago this month since
he came to Michigan, quite an old settler.
Tell Mary how when I get a better pen I
will write to her - give her my love, and all
other improving principles. Person just came
in, he has been hunting, says this folks are
well, he and Ashina are attending school.
How are Elijah's folks getting along, are they

going to give up farming, I don't know as
thou will be able to read my writing, I
am so neglectful about it, then I gave up
out of practice, Martin wrote that he expected
my aunt would accompany Ezra on his next
trip to this, ask them if we may not expect a
visit from them, Phoebe thinks she shall go down
there and spend the winter if my aunt stays
Do you have peaches? they are quite plenty
around here, but we have had none yet
we have quite a good many apples, I should
be very glad indeed to have a letter from
thou if this is worth an answer, I will
try not to be so negligent about writing in
future, tell Ezra I should be very happy to
hear from him, and much more so to have news
from him, I will conclude this scribble with
much love - Ever thy affectionate daughter
Jane

Wolf River 1mo 16th 1860

My dear aged brother
Elijah Cornell

A short time ^{since} thy very acceptable letter came to hand, I should have liked if there had been more of it, but it was gladly recd. — I want thee to take time if it takes two or three days to write me a long letter tell me all about Egeas farm & his stock what there is of each kind, I suppose he is not at home much at present, I want to hear how he is getting along with his oil works I wish he would send me a vial full by Express I want to see the quality we have it here very nice it is as clear as water and not much smell from it and does not smoky that kind that we use cost me one dollar & ten cents by the gallon I can get it for a dollar a gallon but not so good as the other, it is much used in this place for a standing light, I told Mabel Chase who was the daughter of Benjamin Slade the other day that I had recd a letter from thee she said she wanted to see it, she wanted to see a letter from thee I have not shown it yet and don't know as I shall would the like me to

Mike Chau I about my age 74 I shall be 74
the 2^d of next month, I have been in public health
the most of the time this winter, the rest of the
family are in usual health Brother Robert and
family are well He is past doing much he is
living with his 2^d wife are getting along quite
well he like to meet with quite a loss by Mason
Barney the man that he has built so many ships
for he has failed, I not known how much
he will pay on the dollar but I fear not much
he was owed Robert two thousand dollars a good
part what he was worth Except his house and land
I will Inform the that Kelley Chau the daughter
of Uncle Paul the last of the family departed
this life a few weeks since, she was the widow
of Benjamin Chau the son of Silas he has died
within one year he was the last of the family
Except Mike was married Moses Chau the son of
Samuel she is all that remains of the family
We are having a mild winter have had some cold days
but have not had much snow so far, I will send
a paper giving the account of the party that fell at
~~Lorance~~ a little below Boston a few days since
I think of nothing more at this time that will enter the
affectionately thy brother Miller Chau

Dear Brother Elijah Cornell

My Husband having written thus far desired me to add a few lines & I will inform thee that we went over the river not long since and attended the funeral of Elizabeth Chase wife of Nathan & daughter of Moses Buffington Nathan was the son of Daniel Chase who is not living died about three years since, While we was on that side of the river we visited Sister Patty she lives on the place where Caleb Sted~~de~~ formerly lived with her only Son and child her youngest ^{son} Edward died in California several years since which was a very heavy blow to them, Robert and wife went with us they enjoyed our visit very much. Phoebe Chase is quite an invalid she is confined to her bed she received a fall last Fall which made a cripple of her who is the daughter of Ichabud she lives in the same house where he did and the only one that is left of that family.

With much love to thee with Ezra & wife & other engineering friends I will bid thee farewell

Mary Chase

Hall River 1 mo

1860

My Dear Brother Elisha Cornell

A short time since I rec'd a letter from thee, more than I ever expected a gain to see a nother written by thee, I think the holds out in writing remarkable for one of thy age, I hope the will continue to practice the will hold out the longer for so doing, I find the old saying to be true practice makes perfect, I have for a number of years been in the millinery buisness and marketing meal and had to keep a book, had much writing to do, which I did improve all the time untill within two years past I have been out of the buisness and have not had much writing to do, since that time I have lost the use of the pen in a great measure, I will Inform thee that we are in as good health as we could expect, that I my self and wife considering our ages, I shall be in a few days my wife will be 68 this month, our children enjoy human health. Mary the most feeble of the family, with a difficulty in her spine which makes her suffer much at times the other two has no local disease but not cured, Sarah will hold out the longest of the three but neither of them cured like Jane

there I but a very few left a hint here that
the one here, there I Ruth Surington & Lyon
I all of Clark P's family that I left, none
of Asa Chaus Children but a few of Grand
Children left, James Tice Widow I still
living, she I speak a hundred years old, Aunt
Sybel I still with us she I 92 years old but
very feeble it takes two to take care of her she
I very bright, mummy good, James Chaus family
are all gone but ~~and~~ two Perry & Samuel the
remembers them, James Chaus family are all
gone, Stephen the last of the family died about
two years since, John Buffinton family all
gone but two Sarah & David then three family
with ours had 43 Children, all in that neighborhood,
Benjamin Slack family are all living but
one, Elizabeth who married Clark Shaw,
that family are all gone, I omitted saying
in my last that David Brown the son of Smt
Brown who married Sarah Chau the daughter of
Asa Chau, who left two sons David & Smt the
latter I still living, David was a man much
much set by by all that knew him, last spring
he was taken sick and was feeble most of
the summer in the fall he got in a disbanding
way, and ending in his taking his own
life with a ~~knife~~ knife.

yesterday was a very cold day the coldest for a number
of years .15 degrees below zero, I went to meeting in the fore
noon I was all of the family that went on account of the
cold, how the ever see any of Sime Wptons family
I should like to see or hear from them, How many
of thy children are in michigan and what are their
names Mary I want know I think she is there, We all
wish to be remembered to them, I do not think of more
at this time With much love to the and there
Affectionately thy brother Miller Chan
Elijah Cornell

P.S. Write soon I should like to have a letter from
Mary or any of the family M Chan

Salisbury River 2nd 10 1860
Dear Brother E C

A few days since I recd thy letter giving me a count of Ezra's stock on his farm and his crops the past season the said nothing about his hogs or horses, nor any thing about the birth of any of your there I should be glad to hear how Clara Wood birthed, I also wanted to know how Ezra gets along with his oil works, I thought thou might find enough to fill a sheet which would be interesting to me I am able to be out about farm this winter Aunt Sybil is still with us at the age of 91 she keeps her room and has ~~to~~ to take care of her all the time, most of the time they must sit in the room with her, her mind has become weak in some respect, but will converse about many things quite to the purpose, particular things of her young days, Elizabeth's grand daughter of Benjamin's daughter of Rebekah who married Abram Shave is a Corporal in her mother's house at Salisbury, she has been sick about two years has suffered a great deal with the spinal complaint She died the 8 of this month funeral the 12 first day next She was 48 years old

Not much has taken place here since I last wrote Fall River & a growing part a part this time a large number of new houses are being built ~~a part this time~~ my health I fear better than it was when I last wrote we are all in usual health except Lydia who has a hard cold I am about sick but hope she has got the worst of it, Mary I think is a little better we hope of her complaint which is the spinal complaint she has been applying Electricity to her back it has had a good effect, This is a very windy day as much so as any one I ever knew so that I keep the house most of the time yesterday it was very warm and has been for two or three weeks past, and to day very cold, Rose & the Wood still live in Michigan she wrote me a letter some time since and I have not answered it but must soon if I know where she is, Where is Elizabeth B. is he at Stead I can't get acquainted with him as with Ezra I should like to tell him to write me he has but two uncles living I think he might get acquainted with, Ezra Children are all gone and there is but 4 Grand Children Mary left one daughter and Paul left three sons two of them has been here to see us they appear to be likely men they carry on shipbuilding.

Brother Robert I a like to lose two thousand
and dollars by a failure of a man that he
has built a large number of ships for and
was owing him a boat all that he was worth
except his house and lot, I think I must
come to a close for this time I am willing
to answer all the Inquiries the may make
so fare well for the present

Affectionately thy brother
Elijah Cornell Miller Chase

P.S My wife & Lyza wishing to be remembered
to thee and all Inquiring friends
M C