E/of Bristol
Sept 11th 1844

10

Mrs. M. A. Cornell
Ithaca Tompkins Co
N York

Providence 2 mo 10 1844.

Dear Sister

Feeling quite sensible that I have been very negligent about writting, and supposing my best way to mend the fault is to commence an answer to thy kind letter. I will begin by telling thee we are all well except our little Thomas who has been sick with a coald for 2 days past I think he seems some better this evening I hope this will find you all well I feel very anxious to hear from you all as I have not had a line since thou wrote. I felt quite down about you moaning at first but begin to be more reconciled we little know what is for the best and when ways open which seems to us right all we can do is to go accourding to the best judgment and leave the event to that Power which overrules all things it is our duty dear Sister to stand obedient to the wishes of our Husbands and I believe we shall lose nothing in so doing altho we may have to make great sacrifices some ways yet be not discouraged if we endeavour to be found faithful we shall have our reward, It is geting late and I must ajourn 4

2 mo 29th I have delaid this without any excuse except barefaced neglect which I often find my companion in our healths remain good for which favour I feel in some degree thankfull for though I often think I come far short of numbering my blessings which is daily mealed out to me

We had the pleasure of reading a letter from Brother Ezra last evening which was vary interesting he is well and gave us a brief account of his travels from the time that he left hear in 1832 which has been quite extensive by his account of business affairs it appears he is likely to do well but our Saviour's vary memorible words occured to my memory whilst I was reading his letter, (What shall a man profit if he gain the whole world and loose his owne soule) and a fervent desire raised in my heart that this language may not apply to none of us but that we may be awake to our best interest and that our days work may keep pace with the day, he wrote that by a letter from cousin John Cornell he learned of the death of Elijah which occured last month he did not give any perticulars concerning it he stated that E. and I. was members of the methodist society and that they appeared to be in the enjoiment of religion which information with his frank acknowledgement was a satisfaction to me there is a reality in religion which needs not the help of language to discouver itself even to the view of the unconcerned We have lately had a visit from cousin Ruth Baker and husband and Edward Chace and his wife from Illinois they are a going to return soon as the canal opens we went out to Sarah (Earl that was) with them they were all well I suppose thou has heard that Ruth has lost the use of her right hand I will refur thee to Mary for the particulars if thou has not had them Sarah Gould has her 2 daughter which is about 5 months old Elizabeth and Benjamin lives with them which as all of the children aunt left they are vary well (their fathers wife has a son)

3 mo. 10 tas I am not able to go to meeting I thought best to try to finish my letter tho news seems scarce I have been vary lame with my ankle for some days past and of late so I can not get about house which makes it quite trying for one who has so much need of geting about in the family. I find great need of streveing for patience which of my own abilities it is vary evident it is not to be obtained for sister I find my self as of old a bundel of impatience and only as I am favoured to receive assistence from Him who is ready and willing to help those who are concerned to ask I can know of a renewal of spiritual strength oh Dear Phebe how necessary I feel it to be for us who are heads of families to have this concern even the concern of there Eternal welfare abiding with them Phebe it is an Eternal truth and I thank my God that I have in my masure experienced it to be so that those who wait upon the Lord shall renew there strength to retire with a sence of my dependence and his all suffitience and wait with my mind staid upon him with faith that He will do all things will He knows what is best for us and it becomes us to be reconciled to his Holy will in all things may this be our experience is the desire of my heart.

As for the coverleds I feel as tho it is best for thee to keep them as I shall be in the way of geting beding better than it appars how well I want thee to write as as thee can and do write befor the leaves drydon gine my love to all enquires and Martin in particular kiss those dear little chilldrew fo aunt [illegible]

Martin B Wood

Dryden

N. York

(Etney post office)

Fuerdia Chase
Providence R.I.
of Phila Wood
2 mo 10th 1844

1844

Mich, Pitsfield April 30 1844

Dear Parents

I embrace this first opportunity to let you know our whereabouts and how we have got a long since we left home. We have had a very good time since the first night which was rather discouraging on account of our being very much crouded and no regulations yet on the boat we hardly slept a wink all night but the next night we rested very well the two first days was very pleasant but after that it was raing and cold till we got to Buffalow and the boat was so crouded it made it rather unpleasant as they had to all crowd in to the ~~cabin~~ cabin to keep out of the storm. There was 85 passengers and John can tell you how large the cabin was which was filled with men women and children all the time and musick a plenty I ashure you. We got at Buffalow 7 day morning ten oclock and there took the steam boat Nile for Detrout which started out at 6 in the evening. We there met John Irish and family who were agoing out on the Indianna boat which boat Fulkersons family took for Monroe Jewell and McKay took the Nile with us, We very much regretted parting with Fulkersons folks but the Nile did not land at Monroe neither did the Indianna land at Detrout so you se we were oblige to take seperate ~~boats~~ boats. We had a very god time on the steamboat ~~and~~ the Nile landed at Cleveland and just as she was going out the Indianna ~~came~~ in ~~just~~ and we saw our friends that were aboard of that we had a first rate time was not sick atall and 2 day morning landed at Detrout about 7 oclock. Went to the hotel and took breakfirst and at 8 took the cars for Ypsilanti got there about 11 am and Martin hired a man to carry ous all to Unkles Marys, we got there at 1 oclock drove up to the door Martin went in and said he knew aunt Anna the

Unkles folks send there love to you all

moment he saw her she look so mutch like Mother she
he told her there was some ~~her~~ women in the waggon that
claimed relationship with her. She came out to the waggon
and we got out and spoke to her before she knew ous she
says I must tell Mother she was as glad to see ous as
though we had been her own children we found Winkle
quite feeble he talks with great difficulty appears
quite resined is much better than he was in
the wintes but there is no prospect of ever
being any better he enquired about you and appeared
glad to see us but the children appeared to disturb
him. Robert is at home he is well and as far as
appearence is concerned I should think a very
fine young man he takes the charge of thre
business. Aunt Aunts book old and I think
much more like aunt Elizabeth than she
used to. She appears perfectly contented and says
that she would not go back on there old
farm in Homer if she could as well as not
Maria is marred again to a cousin of her
first husband a very fine young man they
live 2 miles south west of her fathers
with her husbands father on a beautiful
place we are now at Marias Mary and
Phebe and children. Edward went back to Wind
with Robert he enjoys him self very mad
if he enjoys good health he will do well enjoy
and you need not be uneasy about him
if we did not know we had cressed Lake Erie we
should not think we were so far from
you by the look of things it books pleasant
and like home. Aunt says they saw
an account in a paper 5 weeks ago that
Charles and a man by the name of Bary wer
a hunting in the woods when a ~~ff~~ twig caught

Grandpa has stood his journey well and appears to enjoy traveling
he has made the least complaint about his care or any one of the company

in the lock of Berrys gun and it discharged the contents loged in Charles breast he was taken home a surgeon alled his wounds dressed and some hopes entertained by the Physician of his recovery they have not heard a word from him since and feel in hopes that he is alive and like to recover by some particular circumstances they think it is there son Charles with out doubt So you see Aunt has trouble enough to make her book old

Aunt Says if our N. York friends knew how much better they could live in Mich they ~~could~~ would come for my part I am not prepared to say much about it only it books pleasant to me. We start for Homar tomorrow agane Martin has gone on today to get the teem and meets gous tomorrow at Jackson 50 miles from here we then shall have 20 miles to go after leaving the cars when we get home I shall loth an opportunity to give you a discription of our home Aunt says she wishes I would stay with her this summer but I think I shall go on with Martins folks and If I dont like it I shall be for getting back towards home Tinkles folks live 3 miles from Ypsilanti south on the Monroe road Aunt says she wishes Father and Mother was here she thinks ~~she~~ you could live so mutch easyer here then at I thane we dont here of any sickness here the people all look as though they were corn fed fat and healthy. Phebe says tell them I have not seen a grave yard since I left York State we forgot to mention that Mara husband name is Simeon G. Rowley the children Tease to go to Misligan as much as when were in York State

As soon as we get settled we shall write again Mary and I have both wrote this our love to all so farewell Phebe [illegible]

1/1/1
36-4

We parted with Juwels family at Detroit they took the Norther train and we the Western her children was very troublesome otherwise they stood the journey well

15



Elijah Cornell
Ithaca
Tompkins Co
N.Y.

YPSILANTI
MAY
1
Mic.

Pd. A certain garment of Mothers I wore off I never thought of it till we had been gone three or four days. My thimble I found in my pocket while going down Cayuga Lake to late to send it back. And the first time Mary went to her handbox she found thy pot hook. in it I laughed at her told her she meant to be ready to commence housekeeping we will try to send it the things back as soon as we can find an opportunity. we saw Sophia brother at detroit. Mr. Boyd family felt very sad when we parted with them he came to the hack and shook Sarah with us he could scarcely speak

Dear Parents Homer May 8 1844

According to agreement I embrace the earliest opportunity to write from our new home we arived here the 1 of may we left Uncles in the morning Robert took us to the Rail Road we took the cars ~~and~~ at ½ past ten arived at Jackson at ~~two~~ it being about 50 miles met Mart there with the team which by the by is a good one. took dinner at the Eagle tavern which if it is a specimen of Michigan dinners I do not think much of.. and then started for Homer. It commenced raining soon after we started and we got thouroughly soaked. but did not get sick. we did not get here until 10. at night wet and cold we all got tired and discouraged but Edward he kept up good courage. things does not look as we expected. the tools was in very bad repair. we shall not milk but 2 cows two of them dees not come in which of course we shall have no use of which will make it very bad as butter is all we should have to depend upon this summer. we have not got settled yet but when we do I think it will be very pleasant. Some part of the country looks very beautiful and I think take it together the finest I ever

Arlina says tell them that she has not had the ague and fever yet and Susan say me yo and see gran-nice too

I think it best to own that I was a good deal disaponted in the look of the country and the situation of our place in partenlar it looks newer than I expected you probaly will think it was very foolish to think a new country like this to look old but it is even so. The woods is within ter of fifteen rods of the house which looks very pleasant. Mark says the Marsh is in better condition than he expected and Segar says that he think notwithstanding the the bad State of the farmery tolly we have made a good move. tell Eliyah B that I think he would be some disaponted in the books of the country for it does not book like Eden in it's natural State as it has been represented to us poor New Yorkers. but I should think by the looks of the plastering on our house that they need a mason here very much in this country but I would advise no man with a large family to move here without ernesting first to see for themselves I am not prepared to say much about our farm for I have not seen a d the part of it yet however strange it may appear there is from 15 to 20 for to cook for and Hopkins family is in a hubbub fixing to go an we have not had a chance to go out at all only first day we all went over to John Robertsons but Mary she went to meting. they live in a beautifull place I will leave the rest for Mary to write So farewell for the present Phebe Wood

Phebe says I must finish this letter but I dont know what to write I went to Homer to meeting first day and had a very good time but there was a good many pale faces it seems quite sickly around here this spring and the folks tell us we shall have to take it this fall. but I hope we shall get along without being sick. I think probible I shall be home this fall without there is more prospect of my having work then I now think there will be. I like the looks of the country and folks very much the people seem to be very neighbourly and I dont see any thing to prevent most folks from getting along well if they have there healths ——— Aunt Abby and Uncle Robert say I must not undertake back to Ithaca but if I get homesick or so I must come and live with them and they will let me live and have the same privalages that Mary had when she lived at home and worked at her trade ——— and that was to take in sewing and have all she could make and when she dont have work to help her Aunt and work for her self I want the children to write by Benjamin Wood when he come here I must conclude as it is supper time and we have got company

give my love to all enquiring friends and Mary Cornell

Mary Cornell
Honor May 8th
1844



Elijah Cornell
Thaw

DeRuyter June 7th. 1844

Dear Parents

We recieved fathers letter which he sent by D. Carpenter, from Alonzo who came up this morning from Uncle Daniels to fetch it, he staid about an hour and than went back unbeknown to us, and feeling uneasy about his disappearing so sudden, James and I went up to Uncles, where we found him. I fear he will not have a very good visit for he appears to be very much affected from some cause I know not what and disinclined to converse with any one, We are all well at present but found Unkle Daniel quite unwell but so as to be about some, He was taken about 3 weeks. sin with his limbs swelling and turning purple with causing him great pain and lameness, today he wend up to Otis, to se what he could do for him, The Dr. gave him a portion of calomel and pronounced his disorder the Rheumatism he was some better than he had been but not so as to be able to do much, Mary was at home on a visit, She lives at Olivers Anna's Mitchells health is better than is has been but she is quite feeble still, she rides out some, We have begun our summers work making cheese, we milk 18 cows now, shall have 5 more soon, we are as busy as ever, and do not feel in any great hurry about going to Michigan but if Marten realizes his expectations, we shall be for going when we leave here, The Girls have sent me two papers since they arrived there and have promised a letter which I am looking for daily I am very glad to hear that Rhoda is with you, but almost envy you her company, Father did not write any thing about coming out but Alonzo says John is coming out next week.

and I am in hopes he will fetch her out I should be very glad indeed to have her come and stay as long as she will, and she must fetch per little boy with her if she comes. I shall be very much disappointed if some of you don't come out soon, ——— We have had an early and forward season, so much so that the fruit is greatly damaged if not all killed with the frost.

I suppose you do not here much of the Dewsbury news now the paper has stoped, ther is no very important news I believe at present, there has some deaths taken place here since the paper stopped but not many among our immediate acquaintance, Aunt Thankful Slack died the first of April, very sudden, she was not sick but about 6 and 30 hours, Her disorder was called the Erysipeles, there was one or two cases of it in the neighbourhood which proved fatal but I believe it is as healthy around here now as usual. Benjamin Breed has lost his second son, aged about 3 years, Dennis Rider has lost a little girl about 2 years old

I cannot think of any thing else that would be interesting to you, and will draw to a close, only let me charge you again to come out soon, and make a long visit. Alonzo says he is going to stay until Jhon comes out. Give my respects to all my friends, and tell E.B.B. he must visit us this summer, We shall be out in the fall or winter if nothing happens,

From your affectionate Daughter Deborah Wood.

Deborah C. Wood
Dernyton June 7th
1844

Parrance

10

DERBYTER
JUN
10
N.Y.

Elijah Cornell
Ithaca
Tompkins Co N.Y.

Seneca Falls June 30th 1844

My Dear Sister

I am sensible I have neglected writing much longer than I ought but there are many reasons why I have done so I fear Ezra will think I have wilfully neglected to give him the information he claimed as a friend of Eliza but I could not obtain any information that was satisfactory to myself of course it would not have been so to him, it has been our aim to keep her and Thompson apart and we succeeded in that but we could not have her live with us on account of the influence of some of her friends and a pretty mess they were likely to make of it but they have been defeated and that does us some good After she was engaged to Keyes as I told you the Neyharts set themselves to work to break it up and make a match between her and "our Jo" and so far succeeded as to get stories in circulation that her brothers were trying to drive her to have Keyes but that she loved "our Jo" much better and that in fact she hated the sight of Keyes &c &c without end, things were in this train when a cousin in Auburn sent for her to come and work for her she went and shortly after "our Jo" followed, in the mean time she wrote two most insulting ~~to Keyes~~ letters to Keyes denying that she had ever promised to marry him and declaring that she was not in any way dependant on the will of her brothers and thank God she could take care of herself &c, mean time be it known to you her brothers had said nothing to her on the subject, well last wednesday who should come but Mr Keyes he told us how he had been treated adding that he believed she had been over persuaded by somebody said he was determined to see her and if he found that to be the case and they could come to a fair understanding that he was ready to fulfil his part of the engagement or if she wished to be released from her promise on the ground that she could not love him and would acknowledge her engagement and ill treatment of him to her brother and cousin he would withdraw but if she presisted in denying the engagement added to the insults he had already received she would find that he was not to be trifled with for he would expose her conduct to the world, accordingly he and John went over to Auburn to see Eliza it took but a short time to straighten the matter out she acknowledged she had been influenced by others to do what she knew to be

wrong and said she was willing to stand to her engagement after after a conversation of about fifteen minutes he told John they had concluded to get married he told them he had but few words to say to them on the subject but he would say if they did not feel as if they could love and respect each other through life they had better stop right where they were he then left them and came home wednesday night; well there had been such work that we did not know how it would terminate we rather had our doubts about their being married yet but he maintained his advantage he took her in to his buggy and went to Bennet to her uncle Blackmers that night and the next day about seven Oclock they came back to our house the question was asked are you married they answered no we came here to have the knot tied and it must be done to night for we will not be married on friday and saturday we must get home well this is short notice to prepare for a wedding but at it we went and about nine oclock they were married in about as severe a thunder shower as I ever witnessed on friday they started for home but the Neyharts including a certain sister of ours do feel sore I assure you

so endeth the first chapter

we are all well how are you and all our friends? has Ezra got home? if he has this will answer his inquiries if not you must write them to him tell him if he is at home we are very impatient for a visit un if not when he comes home you and he must certainly come and see us, father will be along so soon that he will tell you the rest of the news I am very tired so good night write soon Your affectionate sister E Bristol

Mr A Cornell

I have not wrote a letter in so long. I have made a terrible piece of work of this

Our love to all

10

Mrs. Mary Ann Carroll

Ithaca Tompkins Co

N York

Homer June 30th 1844

Dear Parrents

I think it my duty to write to you as I have a good chance to send it cleare of postage we are all well John Robison folks is up here to day we have had a great deal of rain sence we they been here all though the corn and potatees and other steiff gross remarkably we have ploughed our forty acre lot over once and gest before we sow it we shall plough it again Merit has broke up 5 acres of land and has got ten more to breake we thave got upwards of 3 acres of corn 3 quarters of an acre of potatees six acres of spring wheat four acres oats besides a poore garden we should of had a good garden if we had of got seeds a nuff but garden seeds were verry scarce in homer and Albam Father it is verry easy work the ground the peace where the corn is is as easy as any of the gardens of Ithaca I spant crack it up more thane it is it is gest as I have wrote we have got a good span of good horses well able to de a gradeal of Labour shaw is a goin to have the teem to mowre morning for breaking up his sumer fallow it requires four teems for breaking I must quit now and go to suppor tell John and Daniel that they must write to me a good long letter tell Jane that she must write me a letter write me all the knews since I left Home tell Alon To that he must write me a letter I have mended my pen so that it goes a little better not much nether I was very much plesed that the wrote me a letter when you write again

write about all that happend once. I left
home all the potery how you get a longe
and how Lewice gets alonge tell E B Cornell
that I think he would do better to come out
Buffalo and work at his trad theis will be
shortly their a diging a canalls all the while
but I wont him to do what he thinks best
in the morning im a goin to houng corn
Benjamin is goin to start third day next
I herd Benjamin telling mary that that A
had left home the next letter thats wrote tell her Mar
that she must write part in the letter I am
verry much obliged to her for sending m
then socks I wont to see you all Martin
agoin to get a 4 years old stear to male a 4 year
to to mate one he got my eys is agetting wea
and I will retire I cant write much more
there is not much more Knews I clear I will
write John and a letter and Jaine we are a
getting along verry well I am in good health
and as ruggage as ever giving love to all

Edward C
Homer
Cab Co
Mich.

E B Cornell
Homer June 30
1844

July 7th 1844

Dear Mother

I take this opportunity to write to the I went to meeting this fournon of which we had good one from one of the students from Albin Simmonory our journey was quite pleasant I am in good health fat and ruggage everie thing loks fine here now wheat will be fit to lad the last of this month I wunt to see you all we have got 3 boarders M. L. Wood. William Sagar George Robison Mary haws all the work that shaan do we have had a good eb of rain cence we have been here I have had the headache cence meeting those socks that the cent me is verry nice I dont wear socks this sumer I'm very saving with my clothes I have the nose clo sum this sumer Robard Macy cane here on the 3 inst and is goin to start to mowr ough for home uncles folks is all well and is a goin to write as soon as it is convenient if you go to quartle meeting tell Frances Barnard that he must come to mich this fall as U he agreed to the next opportunity write me a letter tell Jane that she must write to and Daniel it is verry warm I put the buffaloo on the floore wal lie there til morning we have 3 cows this sumer tell John that we have got as fine a yoke a steers as the ever saw to broke this sumer and wish the was there to helpus there are 4 years old give my love to all inquiring Ed Cornell

Eunice Cornell
Ithaca
Compt & Co
N.Y.

Providence 9th mo 10th 1844.

My Dear Parents

It is a long time that we have delaid answering yowr vary excelable letter tho yow have often been brought befor the view of my mind in a vary perticular maner there, has not many days raps since I had the pleasure of seeing yow and conversing with yow face to face but I have been with yow in mind more or lefs and often do look back to that visit with feelings of thankfullness to the author of all our blessings for the mercies shown to so unworthy an object as I often feel my self to be, I can inform yow we are in the enjoyment of good health at present which is also a favour that calls for our hiest gratitude and I desire this scrawl may find yow all enjoying the same blesing, we have had the addition of a daughter to our little flock she is 4 weeks old this day and I no need to say she is a great favourite we have not found a name for her yet some thinks she ought to be called Lucretia Rebecah sais Mary and Thomas sais Eunice but I have not made up my mind yet perhaps I may by the time I get redy to write again as the privelage seems to be altogether mine this time, I was sorry on mothers account to hear that Maud P. was going west as I thought she would miss them more than any of us but I hope it will prove all for the best I was vary glad to hear Rhoda lives with yow I hope she will feel best to stay in the family as she seems vary near to me and dear little B. is a subject of my tender regards how glad I would be to have it in my reach to see them

we should like to hear from you all again as we have had no account from there since father wrote has Ezra gone back how does Mary ann get along alone I feel to sympathise with her on the account of being alone so much as I think if I were placed in here situation in that respect it would be a vary great trial to me Give my love to her and tell her to keep up good courage I hope there is good in store for her, and Elijah B I hear nothing from him and his dear little family how I want to hear from them do encourage Betsey ann to write if Elijah has no time or no disposition I dont know which is wanting but I rather think a little of both and there is Lotta and Daniel I often think of them I hope they will be good boys and be dutifull to there parents for I can assure them they can never do too much for father and mother and they will never regret in after life in looking back on the time they have spent under the parental roof the acts of duty they have shown but on the other hand they will have much to regret, I have been led to write this by my own experience for memry is the shortcomings that is presented to my mind daily when I was a child things that was made known to me as duty which I was so blind as to neglect oh that I could present the necessaty of obeying those dictates of conscience to you my dear Brothers as they seam to me, tell Daniel my baby for he seams more like one of my own children than he does like a brother it seems but a short time ago that I took him in my armes and carried him about house to quiet him, tell him I had a good crying spell to day a thinking about that little incident

which occured in his bed chamber whilst I was at home in regard to the powder, I hope we may look upon such visitations as espetias favours from our great caretaker and endeavour to keep the heart clean in his sight for He seeth not as man for He looketh on the heart Give my love to Jane I have by no means for goten her nor shall I ever forget one who (I can say) sat me so good example as she did how often did I look upon her and wish that I had filled my sphere of usefullness as faithfullly as she was a doing her press on my Dear Sister the reward of peace will be thine in proportion as thou doist fright varily thou shall have thy reward, one thing I feel in my heart to advise thee and let thy leasure moments be spent usefullly and see that a little part of them is spent in retirement evry day I have found this practice a vary usefull one to draw away by my self and wait upon the Lord with desires that he would be pleased to direct me to worship him in spirit and in truth, shun all vain company and for thy associates chose none but sober virtuous and thoughtfull girls such as will be an help in leading thee on in the path of virtue and if none of this cloth can be found keep thyself shut in from all associates it will be no loss to thee in the end but great gain (and write to me and I will be puntual in answering thee) so fore well Jane, and now father and mother I have thtken up the most of the paper thus but I it wount be wasted I was a going to tell you something of our geting alongs there is not much new Thomas is in the same business and doing about as usual we have had a family school taught in the garret one quarter this season but the young woman was taken sick and we was oblige to drop it for the want of a suitable teacher

we shall have it a going a gain if we can get a teacher there is ten schollars
besides our 5 which come and I we think it is better to manage in that way
than expose the chilldren to the free school, Uncle P and Mrs folkes was well
as usual when I heard from them last Uncle P's wife has a daughter a
bout 6 months old Uncle John Earl wife lost her child about 3 weeks
a goe by eating fly poison she was a way from home with it on
a visit I say home becaus she has been living with her father they never
have been keeping house aunt Rhodas Chilldren are all well Sarah
has another Daughter they are agreeing along well I dont think of any thing more
I hope father will not make any excuses about his writing for we are glad to
have it let it be what it will and mother I want thee to write to me
a whole letter and I will answer thee all by thy self I want to hold a
privet correspondence so as I can tell thee all about my affaires that I
have no one to tell ~~thee to~~ to I have no mother or sisters down here or
any one to look to for sympathy but dont think I have any trouble for
every thing goes on smooth so fare well. Lucretia Chace

B

Elijah Cornell

Ithaca Thompkins Co.

N. Y.

Homar Oct 6th 1844

Dear Mother

As I am setting up with Phebe who is sick with the chill fever I thought I would commence writing to thee and have a letter ready to send a by Sylvester. But I ~~dont~~ am inhopse she will get smart before he leaves for Dryden. As you have probibly learnd before this for mearly 3 months we have not seen the time that we were all well at once Sylvester says you think it a goodeal worse then it is from reports you have from here. I dont know how that is but I know it is bad anough at any rate. I will commence and give the a history of our gettings a long as nearly as I can recolect Well then about the first of harvest Edward was taken down and had a run of the billious fever he got a little better of that and the ague took him and he has had it by spells ever since and part of the time been vary miserable in about a week after Edward was taken Edgar and Orson were taken with the ague and had it 3 weeks every day poor little fellows they said if they could go to grand mars they wouldent have the ague any more they got bleached out pretty white and still continue so. Before the children got over the ague Phebe was taken with it and in a days after she was taken I came down with the same and was the sickest I ever was in my life but as good luck would have it sis and I got smart in a few days But not till William Tegar and grandpa got the ague so thee sees we were all a shaking at a time accept Mart and Arling 7 out of 9 sick to once what a story for poor Michigan hant it Mother I wish thee could have slepped in and seen ous we was a miserable set I ashure thee

Oct 20 after an pause in my letters of 20 days I again resume the pleasant task of writing to thee Phebe has been smart so as to spin 20 rots a day but she is down again with the ague she haves it pretty hard every other day I have done the work for 7 weeks now and such tedious grounds as I have had the neves saw they have been swelled and all covered with the salt rhume but I have been very sauds cure for the salt Rhumn and have got them pretty mutch cured so I have a great deal of faith in that medicine but I have pretty new wrd up my bottle and if I should be troubled with it a gane I should send to Ithaca for more of it Edward is a getting the letter of the ague quite fort I think I amin hops he will get his health again soon

Before they all got smart Martin was taken with an intermittent fever and was pretty sick and in less than a week after he come down stating come down with the chill fever they both got a little over that and were both taken with the ague when they got down me had got around and was in hopes that would be the end of it but no they have all but me had 2 and 3 turns a piece. There is but very few deaths here considering the sickness there is. Where a person haves good care there is not much danger in the fevers of this country. But there is a time in those intermittent fevers that if the patient is not watched they will run down and die in a short time it is a good deal as it is in the turn of a continued fever they know when the fever leaves in that case it goes one way & the other with them soon. But in those intermitent fevers (in a severe case) when the fever leaves (which it does once in the course of every 24 hours) after it is broken up the patient haves to be stimulated with brandy and quinine and raise the nerves for a short time as it generaly leaves the patient so weak that they have to have something to keep them up in an hour or two they will recover and be smart till another turn of the fever takes them and then the same over again. We have not had no very severe cases yet but have had to use some stimulous at times. My health has been good except the ague. I am acquainted with families in this town that have been here 11 years and have not had a case of the fevers or the ague and fever since they have been there they are only 4 miles from here to I think the reason why they escape is because they are a way from the river a mile and not near any pond or dead water I expect others will say well I have heard a nough about fevers and sickness and that sort of things and should like to here some good news if there is any But alas that is scarce with us. When I left home I expected to return in the course of a year at any rate but I am afraid I shall not realize the pleasure of meeting you in that time now

Thee will probably want to know the reason why I have altered my mind and it is my duty I believe to let my parents know the reasons of my stay here. The probability is that I shall be married in the spring (if it is agreeable to yours wishes) if nothing happends and go to housekeeping it will be well then for me to be pretty prudent and the expenses of traveling are so high I thought I could not afford to go home this fall as I should want to return in the spring & therefore have made up my mind to stay a year or longer. The young mans friends live in your county and I have the promise of his company to visit you in the course of 2 years at any rate so you se I have not given you up without a provision for a visit before long and I hope we shall all live till that time comes I have thought sometimes that if any of you should be taken away I should regret very much that I did not return this fall But I hope for the best & think of you very often too Brothers I have thought more about him this summer and fall than I ever have before I hope he does not have such hard times to get a long now as he did last year for I thought he would wore himself out he had so much running about to do and so much to attend to at home I hope the boys will help him all they can when I get to thinking about Robin David and Dave it seems like a long time to wait for to see them tell John I received the express and was glad to have it if there was nothing but his initials on it it gave me to understand I was not forgotten by Brother John tell him when he receives a papers from any of us if the wrapper is white to hold it to the fire and scorch it and see what he will find on it. I shall want you to send my things that are there in the spring I think there can be a box made large enough to hold their chairs and carpet and those things in the trunk: and what other duds there is there of mine my spoons pitcher and little Edward and if you can put them in so as not to brake

I should like to have that picture frame put in too if you think those brake ables will not go safe dont put them in but I should think they might be fixed to be right I would not say any thing about the chars but you cant get chars as good as them here short of 10 shillings a piece every thing is high and hard to be got if mother finds any thing she hant any use fore throw it a side for me amost any thing will come good here I think I will try to satisfy thee for any thing thee has that thee can spare that thee thinks would be usefull to me I want to know if Ezra has settled that accounts of Rhodas yet there was about 7 dollars a coming to me and if he cant send me the money as he is in company with a father if they have factory cloath or feathers or any thing of that kind to spare I should like to have it fixed some way as I dont feel able to loose it feathers are a very scarce article here and all most impossible to be got. If he could send me one of those little clocks I should like it very mulch I hope Mother will se if E can do any thing about it if he hant

I have plenty of money can pay the postage and spent regret it neither this letter is for Father and Mother and dont let no one else know at present all of its contents you will here from me again before there is an opportunity in the spring to send those things my paper is about and up and I must stop writing for this time give my love to all Brother and Sister and reserve a share for your selves from your absent child Mary I shall look for a letter soon dont disappoint me

by the politeness of Dryden

Eunice Cornell
Ithaca
N.Y.

Mary Cornell
Hanover Oct 6th
1844

I think there will be people as comeeny to Michigan in the spring from Dryden that you can send a box by or that you can put a box in care of fruit from Ithaca to Albion is about 1.50 cents a hundred tell John and Daniel I can afford to pay fruit on some handsoure pieces of wore if they will make me some spitunes and other nefesaries P says tell Father to send ous a couple of nice little stone churns but he can do as he thinks best about that I want thee to get Father to write to me very soon I want to here how he gets a long I have tryed to find out whether you are a making stone wire or not but have not been able to yet do get a sit and write me a long long letter write a way Mother and Jane and Rhoda and John Daniel and Father I think might fill a large sheet and you dont know how much good it would do me to get such a letter

Beloved Sister

Albion Dec. 8 1844

We have none of us had the ague in three days and for fear that we shall not enjoy a long season of uninterupted health I hasten to write while we are well. last Sunday was the last that I had after church. it was the first time I had ventured out to meeting since my indisposition and and I took a slight cold. M.L. and Lady and Mother went with us Mrs. Sage liked the looks of the Yorker people much and the meeting likewise she thinks if she could enjoy the meeting previlege as she has been in the habit of doing she could be contented as it is I think she will not M.L and Cary is happy of course. I hope they will not get discontented as they are a great deal of company for us. we like them much. we received E.B., letter last evening and was much surprised to hear of John, leaving as he did we have not heard from him and if we do we will let you ~~Dorothea~~ know immediately and we want you to do the same. we feel very anxious about him and feel to sympathize with Father and Mother.

Edward does not have the ague now but is not able to do much nothing except little chores around the house it is a great pitty he came here if he has to go home in the spring. he says he does not want to go. he has been but very little help to Martin yet and he was in hopes another summer he would be able to help him more

The people here have complained of the ponds and got them indicted. but the owners put off the trial until the next court which does not sit until May and now they will have to stand over another summer unless we mob them I think some of going some night and digging a hole in this one let it off for them I think it would be a christian act. at any rate I intend to use my influence to induce Martin to move in the old school house and live through another Summer. as it is only one in all probability that the ponds will remain. E.B. writes as though he thought we were a disconsolate set pining away after the joys of home. but if you could step in some Evening and see us around the stove in a warm pleasant siting room with the children romping around and rooling on the carpet. which are entirely recovered from their seasoning and would not suffer in comprison with your New York children they never was so rugged and solid before. you would think perhaps we have our portion of the sweets of life with the litter I see you all get. as for myself I feel contented and thankful that I am as well off as I am I feel quite well now and can stand it to work very well. I am a perfect skeleton but have gained in looks remarkably for four days past. we have a young man a boarding and going to school and a fine little fellow he is to he is from N. York. we went down to R. Bunkers a few weeks ago they live well and are contented except Eunice she wants to go back to Otsetic she and sherred has had the fever and the rest are well the children want to go on to Wisconsin

We calculate to go to Uncle Mack. the first slay sleighing if we have any uncle is smart Cousin Bunker went to Adrian to grand lerly meeting and saw John Dura and Betty they are well and Beman Staays folks (this is for Mother and Father) I Now

My Dear Sister Mary Ann

[illegible] says I must [illegible] his [illegible] [illegible] he has [illegible]
[illegible] news so I think that this part of the letter will be rather dry
I received your kind letter and was happy to here from you all and to here
you were all doing well. last night M B went to homer and I told them
I hoped there would be a letter from home at the office and there was one
from E B and I was happy untill I opend and read of Johns leaving home
and since that I have been quite miserable. I dont know as it would
have given me much more unhappiness to have read of his death I hope
you have heard from him before this time do let us know the first
intelligence you get from him without delay. I put 2 papers in the
office for John and Jane a few weeks a go and wrote on the wrappers with
saturatus water which seems to be a cheap way of conveying a little news
once and a while if you have received the papers just scorch the wrap
pers and read it seems to be a more safe way than to write in
the papers as they are a getting very strict here about that Daniel
paper that he sent to Edward we received last night he wrote
of Johns leaving home on it and we had to pay 25 cents for it
we got the same news at the same time in Brothers letter tell D
to write on the wrappers as I have mentioned if he cant afford to write
a letter when he wants to let us here from him we are allways glad
to here from him or any of the rest of you and hope we shall often
have the privalage of doing so you raised the enquiry in your letter who
the happy man was to be but I must beg you to excuse me from answering
at present I thank you for your good wishes and hope they will be
realized if an annexation takes place. To send me paper after the above
method and I will do the same I says I must put in a piece of
our new dresses she and I have one like the smallest piece and
I have one like the other mine if the french yard wide at 2 and 9
pence a yard the other was 15 cents how much [illegible] can you do at I than thou that

the last time I was homesick was when I went up stares and cried at your house some thirteen years ago and I do not think I ever shall be again we think of you all and talk and dream about you. but when we shall see you time alone can determine in two or three years I hope we were glad to hear you and Mother went to R.I. and now Mother has ventured so far from home I hope she and Father will come and see us one of these days give our love to them and tell B. A. C. if she has not forgot us quite to write Give or Love to your folks and all who takes the pains to enquire after us when you write you are not minute enough we want to know what you are all about and every thing what you have for dinner for instance do you hear from Eliza

not do as John has and when he is a man come to Mich

25

Mrs E. Cornell
Ithaca Tompkins Co
New York



P. Wood Allin Dec
8th 1844

HOME

M.L. is keeping house very comfortably we have visited them once. M.B. is as fat as a pig and geting healthy he is teaching singing school in this district for $1.00 per evening. Orson B Wood is as full as ever he is a whole team a perfect steam boat the ague did not sober him only while his fit lasted. and he could not spend time to have it only a few days at a time and all he cares for in the world is old Jack and Kill. he says Grand Ma. has gone to Michigan he will not own that he is there You must not think we do not want to see you because we are not homesick

Tell Alonzo he must but be a good boy

Washington Jan 9 1845

Beloved Sister

Pardon my negligence for not appearing to notice you before, as I have expected that you would of course hear from me as often they did at home and besides I have heard from you frequently through Ezra until quite recently. It is now 4 or 5 weeks since I heard from him and I am not now certain what he is doing but expect he is putting up a Telegraph line between N.Y. & Boston. The last letter I rec'd from him was the early part of Dec. & then he wrote me that he thought he should be at home the fore part of Jan. He also stated in the letter that he thought some of coming to Washington some time in the winter to secure a patent for an invention which he had made which he appeared to think was of a good deal of importance as he said "it was next thing to the telegraph". This part of the letter you will of course keep private as he enjoined silence upon me. I have not seen him here yet & am certain I shall not this winter if he is engaged upon that line between N.Y. & B.
I get along with his friend Tail admirably as he begins to think he could not get along well without my services. I should like to know how you like travelling without an attendant. I heard that you got to Providence safely & also that you got around home but how I did not hear. I would like to have you send me a paper occasionally & let me know how you get along &c. Be liberal with your pencil upon them as they never pay my papers at this office. We are having considerable excitement here on Texas question in Congress & for the last week there have been some powerful speeches delivered on that subject in the H.R. The excitement is getting so high that I fear some of the Southern members will get up a quarrel. A Whig member from N.C. has already sent a note to a Democratic member from Alabama demanding of him an explanation of some remarks that he made the other day. They are both young men & full of Southern fire. Yancey the Democrat is one of the most brilliant speakers I ever listened to. There have several speakers occupied the floor to-day but there was nothing of interest from any of them. I suppose that you have heard in a round about way that Merritt is married. He wrote me to that effect about 6 weeks after it took place & then did not say positively that he was married. I gave him a good whittling for his neglect but have not yet rec'd his answer.
I will send you Prof Morse's report & I have one to send to Ezra as soon as I know positively where he is. I expect a letter from him day after to-morrow when I expect Prof M to return from N.Y. where he has been for the last week. We have had a cold rain

storm that loaded the wires so with ice that they were broken in several places, so that it delayed all communication for one day by Telegraph. But it is now repaired. There has been no winter here yet & the snow has not been an inch in depth at one time although we have had 3 snow squalls.

You need not be to the trouble of sending this to Snyder as they will hear from me about the same time that you will. My love &c, Your brother with affectionate regards C.A. Wood

P.S. As I feared Yancey & Clingman left in the cars last night for Balt. & it is supposed they have gone out of the district to fight. A good deal of excitement here about it this Friday morning. You will soon see by the papers what is the result. Your Brother Orin

Mrs. M.A. Cornell,
Ithaca
Favored by "Uncle Sam"

C.A. Wood
Jan. 7 1858

Venice 2nd Mo. 2nd 1845

Esteemed Friend
Elijah Cornwell

There was presented to our last Monthly Meeting a Certificate for thee and thy wife and Severdl of your Children from D. Richyter whose names I have forgotten and the meeting not knowing wheather they all resided within the compass of this meeting appointed David Mitchel and my self to make the inquiry and therefore we think it would be best for thee to attend our next Monthly Mg and give such information as is necessary it will come on fifth day of the week and 26th of the Month if it should so happen that thou cannot attend pleas write me how many of the children are members and reside within the Verge of this Monthly Mg with their names

All well I remain thy affectionate Friend

John Merritt

Poplar Ridge Ck
3d March

6

Elijah Cornwell
Fall Creek
Ithaca
N Y

Elijah Cornwell
2 mo - 4 1845

Providence 9 mo 1895

Dear Parents

It is with a feeling of thankfulness I can inform you we enjoy a good degree of health hopeing this will find you comfortable, I am very sensable of my neglect in not writing before but trust my Dear friends can find in their minds a spirit of forgiveness for this and every other omition. Little did I think when my Dear Mother and sister left so long a time would pass before I wrote but thus it is and so do I often find myself behind witnessing my dayswork to not keep pace with the day but there remains a desire in my heart to be more faithfull, I suppose mother will want to hear about our getting along since she left and I will try to give her an account as full as my memory will serve, we made our contemplated visit to Burrelville taking the three oldest childrem and young Eunice left home 7th day and returned the 3 day following had a good visit our friends expressed some regret in our not coming before and carrying mother with us. when we returned we found a letter from Mary ann which we had been looking anxiously for and felt quite relieved to hear of your safe landing I dont recollect of any thing in particular to notice except the pleasant little visit we had from Ezra until the first of the second mo when 6 of the children come down with the measels they had them very light we got along very comfortablety with it Rose seamed to think she took more comfort than sick than she had for since she had been here they were so still and quiet

Rose stays with me until a week ago I have no one with me now but we have a prospect of having a young woman come in about a month to assist in the family and teach the children her name is Lucinda Putnam she is in appearance a very suitable person, Sarah Gould has not recovered from her sickness yet and they are very much discouraged about her cousin Sarah C is very much out of health she seems in a melancholly state of mind and consates she is going to be as her mother was Elizabeth and Benjamin are well our friends at Fall River was well the last I heard cousin Dalis Chace son of Uncle Robert is very much out of health they think he has got the consumption.

I received a letter from Sister Phebe this winter stating they were mostly recovered from there sickness that all but Edward was pretty well he was so as to help her around in the house but could not be exposed much yet but did not want to come back home and that Mary was about to be married to Hiram Robertson and that the girls were both very well suited I suppose you have already heared all about Michagan it is no news to you so I will come back to Rhode Island before I forget it I will state that I hear cousin Ruth Baker is like to recover the use of her hand Cousin Patty Pettis and Nancy Tower are as well as usual and Hannah Robertson often enquires after you mother and Maryann and would like to be remembered by them Content likewise give my love to dear Sister Maryann and tell her she must except as hear in this and to write to me letting me have a good account of the families and children how they do and how all of her friends are and the latest news from Michagan &c

3d mo 27th It is 3 weeks since I wrote the above we are all well still I am also still without help and get along comfortablely from day to day as to the outward but often have to number my shortcomings in casting up the accounts of the day with the inner-man. O how do I desire to arive to a state which is promised to those that overcome but I feel this to be out of my power. O how weak and feable are our endeavours to do a good deed in our own ability, without me ye can do nothing said our dear Saviour to his disciples Bond through his blessed help we can do do all things that is necessary for our peace and Salvation. how desirable it is to know our dependence to be upon this presant helper in every needfull time but how are we to come to this knowne by obedience to what he is pleased to show us to doo and in leaving what we know has contriversy is against, how can we break off from old habits even when we are convinced they are wrong by diligently seeking to our Dear Saviour for assistence for he is touched with a feeling of our infirmeties he was tempted in all points like unto us but without sin let us remember he will not alowus to be tempted above what we are able to bear but with the temptation will make a way for our escape therefor let us take courage and endeavour to be found working the works of God this is the works of God to bleve on him whome he hath sent, why should I write this to you my dear parents doubtless you know those truths before I was born but you are very tender brought to my mind often and may I not say in my best hours even in times of silent retirement befor the Lord and I have been permitted to breath forth desires for your safe landing when time is no more

Lucretia

Letter Sanctis
March 1845

Paid 6 cents

Elijah Cornell

Ithaca Tompkins Co

N. Y.

Providence 4th mo. 15th/45

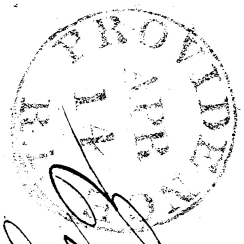
Dear Parents

I write to inform you, of an affliction which in the dispensations of Divine Providence has come upon us. my dear Lucretia is sick with the brain fever & is very low. She was taken out of her right mind a week ago to day (First day morning) without previous complaining. & has continued so since. She seems to have a dregree of conciousness of what is passing knows individuals & sometimes inquires for the children and others, for most part expresses feelings of love & affection. She had been out to visit Daniel Gould's to see Sarah E. his wife, who is in a bad state of health & mind (I suppose she wrote to you how it is with her) & came home seventh day afternoon (the day before she was taken ill) & stated to me she had had, to pass through a trying scene that she had slept little while out there (three nights) & during that night she called several times some to see what time it was (once I did) saying I have slept none. which with some other things I attributed at that time to disturbed sleep. She got up in the morning & got breakfast as usual. I left early & when I got home about ¼ quarter past 9 O'Clock found her sitting in her chair with her hands hanging down by her side her eyes partly closed she paid no attention to what was passing & made no reply to any thing said to her

Not knowing what was the matter, or what to do I let her remain about half an hour & then went to her & after some solicitation she got up and went about her work for a few minutes the babe crying she took up & nursed it she soon became wild in talk & I called in an acquaintance (we being without a girl ~~help~~) & went for medical assistance from that time until Fifth day night the force of the disorder seem to increase & Dear Parents a trying scene it has been an almost constant exertion of body & mind her strenght seems now to be exausted considerably so & she lies compartively still yet she is no better, although I have not given up hopes of her recovery yet her physician gives but little incouragement. I shall write imeadiately if she does not, so with ~~wi~~ wishes for your & sympathy. I remain your son

Thos Chace

Thos. Chase
April 13 1865



PROVIDENCE
APR
14
R.I.

Elijah Cornell
Ithaca
Tompkins Co. N.Y.

Providence 4 mo 14th /45

Dear Parents

I wrote last evening to inform you of my Dear Lucretia's illness & now also, that she is gone she departed this morning at about eight hour after an illness of about eight days & I have not a doubt but what she has entered into everlasting rest which I believe she had foretaste of by her expressions the night before she was taken ill she had her senses near the last. I do not wish her back at all, on her account: but my feelings I can not well discribe on my own & especialy the dear little ones..... I thought it my duty to write & let you know now. but my feelings are such that at this time that I think should fail to give a full account & therfore will leave it for the future & remain your son in sympathy and affection

Thos Chace

N. B. please give rest of your family the information of our loss



Elijah Cornell
Ithaca
Tompkins Co. N.Y.

Rec'd Chicago
April 14, 1865

that our prospects are more flattering now than then
looks much better than last Spring. Give our love to Mary Ann and
that we get. It is hard to get money here M.B. about $40 due now
teaching singing school but there is no money to be had

Dear Parents Brothers and Sisters Albion Apr 30 1835

We received your letter yesterday
which bore the sad news of our dear sisters death.
Yes Brother we do feel to sympathize with you. O that we
were with you now. whoever been almost afraid to
open a letter from the East of late: it seems as though
we were expecting bad news but little thought of its
comming from the source it did. What will become
of her helpless family. we were anxiously looking for a
letter from her. but Oh. how sadly disapointed. But it
seems the hand of Providence is visible in it. Do inform
us as often as you get news from there.

We are well now as usual but have been sick some
for two weeks past. You solicited a letter from Martin both
in your paper and letter. Mary recieved two from M.A.
and M.B. one from Elijah B. and you seemed to doubt our
assurance of good health. But dear friends we always
have wrote the true statement. and have smothed over
nothing or kept nothing back. although we have
not wrote a letter every cold we have had. But when we
have been sick worth mentioning we have always informed
you you wrote that you heard by the last accounts
M and J was shaking but it was a mistake. We knew
not what it ment at first but recollected that when
they took down the Homer pond they let off the one
here by us too for fear it would break away. and the steam
was very bad and I had the symptoms of the ague and

It is just one year to day since we came here the 1 of May and I can truly say
our 40 acres of winter wheat looks beautiful and the crops all over the country
tell her we hope she will continue to send papers as they are most all the news

Edward has been to St Joseph County this spring about 30 miles and to Hills dale with a load of flour. So you see he is not confined at home he wants to see you all very much but does not care much about coming home this spring. Father must let down and write a good long letter

went to bed and Mary had a bad cold and went to bed likewise and Merrett came in. he asked me if I had the ague I told him I had he inquired after Mary and I told him I was afraid she would have it too but she did not and that is the way it came. Edward is as hearty as a pig he is larger than you ever saw him. he has worked 4 weeks and can stand it to plough all day as well as ever he could. he has had a cold of late but it is getting better. 3 weeks ago Martin and Edward and Grand pa took a notion to put off their flannell and all took cold M.B., settled in the inflamation of the liver and was quite sick for a few days but the doctor broke it up and he by over Eating and Exercise brought on a relapse and now is better again but has not obeyed the doctors only but has gone off 2 miles and now it rains. and they sent the team after him. but if you hear of his being sick again you need not lay it to the country he is so careless. the blister on his side is not healed up yet and only day before yesterday the doctor told him to avoid simulationg food and drink and now he has gone 2 miles from home and eats and drinks as hearty as Ever. he appears as well now as ever he did but I am afraid the inflamation will return he is so careless. and if it should I fear it would go hard with him. Grand pa stood it the best of any of them he had a sore throat but soon recovered tell Benjamin he has got tired of sleepping in the house and has moved his bed to the barn the rats are his company

Mary wik finish the children never was healthier than as present. I we are liable for sickness and death in any place and the protecting hand of Providence is over us here as well as there. O that we may live so as to meet again in Heaven. P Wood

May 1
Martin is very smart this morning and has the appearance of getting perfectly well we have not heard from Uncle Mary family Cin some time and are in hopes Marie will visit us some nor Cousin Robert folks either but suppose they have where they did in the fall as they said they would let us know if they left the prospect for it is very flattering now M.B. has had 700 grafts set this spring

Deas Brother and Sister

Phebe has left this page for me but I hardly know what to write that would interest you. We had watched the mail long and anxiously for news from home and had allmost given up having a letter atall. from you but alas one come and sad news it brought to ous all, little did we think of hearing the Death of ous Deas Sister. I dont know as I ever heard of a death that was so unexpected and sudden to me I have often told Phebe that I expect to here sad news from Ithaca and allmost dreaded to here on that account but little thought we should here of Sisters death I hope you will write us more perticularly concerning her sukness should you here the perticulars. I am at Martins yet but expect to get to house keeping in 2 or 3 weeks as I believe the house is about ready to plaster and paint you have written 2 of the death of Sister Snyder which is all we have heard with the acceptions of Mary Ann paper I think there will be a letter this week Merret expects to start for Ithaca in a few weeks and then I shall try to write to Mother I think My health is very good and has been ever since I have been in Milligan accepting a few shakes of the ague indeed I have not hardly had a cold as even the headake worth nention my I wish we could have a visit from some of you this summer perhaps if you should come and see ous and the country you would not be so readdy to believe all thee evile reports you here of the sickness to this country from those who wish to make it appear that there cant no one live any where only in Ithaca I think of any one will take care of them selves they can live here just as well as any other country M. S. Wood and family is well and look as tough on any of ous his wife walked ~~three~~ four miles last week which does not look as though she was in way delicate health as we have heard from Dryden. The think that amost all the sickness we have had here has been brought on by exposures and neglect in attending to our selves after exposures

I hope there will be an opportunity to send my things before long [illegible] I shall want them very much when I get to house keeping I shall write more particularly how I am situated when I get home and will then give you a description of my house any gittings a long I hope Mother will send my little work basket It is quite surprising to ours how you get news of ours being sick so much as we dont know it untill we hear it from the east you seem to fear we put the best side out but I am shure of we have done either it has been to the reverse of that we have sent papers to John and dont here any thing from him do you request him to write to ours as we are very anxious to here from him in particular you requested M B to write you a letter and we will try to get him at it when M S goes east is is not probable Edward will be at home this spring as Martin was disapointed in help he expected and E is his dependance now besides is would be impossible for Mart to get money to send him home before fall I have writen as far as it will answer and must conclude with much love to parents brothers Sister and friends M. C. R.

Give our love friend Sigurs folks and tell Benjamin and wife we shall look for them this fall where is Montgomery. Hopkins relatives are well are they homesick yet We do not get harrassed on the account of their trouble we are on good terms with Lewis and Smith and Isaac Cook to Court comes on next week and expect some trouble on account of the poor but they do not blame Martin

Do Brother and Sisty write me a good long letter

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Elijah B Cornell
Ithaca
N York

Phebe Wood
Albion Mich Apr
20th 1846
Parents

Mary says you must send her papers to Homer as you have done as she clerks Sear ch the envelopes at the Office at Albion but her letters at Albion. The children are regular worthwhile they are fat and hearty they like to go to school tell father and Mother they must make their calculation to come here next fall and spend the winter where is Aloda why dont she write to us is she at the Falls yet tell Eyra to put up a line of telegraph to Michigan P.

Dekruyter May 2nd 1845

Dear Brother It is with pleasure I comply with your request to grote you a letter for I have often wished that we brothers and sisters were more communicative to each other than we have ever been, we know not how long the privilag may be ours to write to each other and it behoves us to embrace the privilage while it is extended to us for doubly dear is each little memento of affection after the beloved author is no more it is then that the advice given speaks to the heart, and we respond to it as to a voice from above, Mournful indeed was the tidings of your letter an unexpected, an event for which I was wholy unprepared. But why mourn for the dead when her condition is far better than ours Oh could we here her voice once more what would be her advice Mourn not for me but for yourselves, for you will soon be called to the same fate, Prophetick words; let them sink deep in our hearts For death is every where in the land and who will be the next called we know not two of our band of brothers and sisters have been called, and the chain can not be perfect untill the links are all numbered The lord only knows which will be the next and let us rest assured that his time is the best and that it is for some good and holy purpose thatus we are deprived of the society and council of those we love Even in this sad event we can trace the hand of a merciful God In calling one that was prepared for the awful sommons, and leaving an impressive lesson for the survivors, Oh that it may not be lost on us, should be the daily Prayer of our hearts. Consoling indeed must be the reflection of brothers visit last fall, with what thankfulnes must she look back to the time she spent with our dear Lucretia and recall to mind the many little offices of kindness and affection mutually received and bestowed ~~by both~~ Every kind word every endearing look is registered in the heart never to be forgotten while memory remains and is a fountain from

which to draw consolation while overwhelmed with the reflection that she is no more. — There has been some sudden deaths about here, this spring. But two I believe amongst our acquaintances. Esq Wyk died very sudden about 2 months ago and Johnathan Tripps wife 3 weeks since with the throat ail, and several cases of inflamation in the Lungs among children which have proved fatal, Our little boy has been very much run down since we came from Ithace so much so that he could scarcely set alone and was reduced almost to skeleton, He first did not seem to undergo any pain or what you might call sickness attall we took him to the doctor and he recomended him to be washed in brandy twice a day and dipped in cold watter every other morning which we did and gave him the watter of Oysterchefs burnt to a lime to drink which has helped him so much that he is going to creep and climb about again; we continue the dipping yet which I think has saved him from being deformed by the rickets

I am in hopes if father and mother are spared until that time they will try to come out Quarly Meeting and Elijah will you not come too and bring Betsy Ann with you, When Edward gets home if he is able too I wish he should bring Jane out and make me a visit, but I am afraid he has been sick so long that it will take a great while for him to regain his health if he ever does, What is Martin agoing to do, will he try to stay there and with his family and have the hopes of enjoying better health untill he and they are deprived of life or will he give up the western country entirely and seek a home in a healthier place I am in hopes that they will retreat before it is to late for health and poverty is far preferable to sickness and wealth and if they stay there much longer I believe thy will have great reson to regret they ever left Dryden, if they have not all ready The last I heard from them their spirits appeard to be as high as ever But it was dissembled for well health and high spirits are seldom if ever combined, It was said the place Mary was going to live on was healthier than where martin lived but it seems she is sick too

Several days have paped Sine I commenced this the lapse of which leaves us in good health but have swept many within the vicinity to Eternity. Joseph Nash dropped down while at work not long since and expired almost immediately with a fit of appoplexy Thon Pages wife in the Village died this morning with the Erysipylas, and there is quite a number sick within a few miles west of the village, so we see that every one is subject to sickness and death, and no one is long exempt from afflictions of some kind Oh that we could learn to meekly submit our wills to the will of our guide and say in the deepest sincerety "not my will but thine O Lord be done" Then let what would befal us we could rejoyce at all times - & in all things give thanks", and look upon our afflictions as our many blessings sent in mercy to wean our hearts from the world and place them on the rock of ages, truly it is a hard thing to give up the world and its allurements but it must sooner or later be done and if we strive to overcome our love for it our efforts will be strengthened and we shall soon feel we are not left alone to the conflict, I have long felt that the world had too much power over me and that I must seek my happiness from some other source or my portion of it will be small indeed, O! that I may ever keep in mind my infirmities and strive to overcome them is the desire of my heart and brother write to me often and strive to encourage me to be faithful and come off victor at the end

D. Wood

P.S. there was a murder committed on Linkleam a few days ago by a man named Griffin, We have not heard all the particulars but jealesy was the cause. Eliza Sutton is to be married next fourth day in the Orthodox Meeting to a widower by the name of Underhill. D. Wood



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E. B. Cornell

Ithaca

Tompkins Co. NY.

go back in the spring with us and I should like to have Brother Dan to if he thinks he could afford it and would enjoy the company of his old maid sister as he gouste call me tell him I dont as old madish as I gouste to be we have got a well dug and first rate water and there is a lake that our farm boarders come to but a few rods from the house that the water is pure and cool as rain water I think we have a beautiful situation we have apple trees Peach trees Plumb trees Cherry trees Chesnut trees quince bushes and Currant bushes and pear trees the Apple Peach Cherry are not large a nough to bear yet we are situated a mile and three quarters from Albion which in a few years will be as large as Olive the cars pass through the village and just way neer our house it would be in sight of the cars if the woods were down so when any of you come here you will come to our house first

Phebe Ward
Albion 5th/8 45

Edwin Cornell
Ohio

If there is no objections I should like to have my things sent along as soon as they are done right for I want to get them at Albion and I will be at the Captain of one that I can leave them at Boze and I will take a receipt where he leaves them and I will pay for them as soon as I get to Albion and if you have any thing for me you may leave it at Albion and I will get it when I come there

Dear Brother and Sister I received your letter and was glad to hear from you and that you were all well as this leaves us at present I am glad to say I have been very busy all summer and have had a good deal of sickness in the neighborhood but have been very healthy myself I have been to Albion several times and have been very much pleased with the place it is a beautiful town and has a fine location there are a number of buildings going up and a number of new houses to be built this fall and next spring there is a good chance for a tailor to live there

T. Chace
Providence

Providence 7th mo. 1845

Dear Parents

I hope you will excuse me for not writing before: & permit me to plead not only that my time is taken up by my business (especialy at this season of the year, when milk has to be searved twice a day) but also that I have not had my mind hardly brought to a state, to enter upon the subject of addreping ~~the Beareaved~~ Parents of my late, but I trust ever to be remembered companion. In answer to the inquiry of Father in his letter how I have succeded in the management of my family I can state that thus far we have been carried for by him, who carreth for the children of men & to Whom belongeth alone all the praise. We have all enjoyed tolable good health the babe has had a slight touch of the bowel complaint but is well now. She has cut no teeth yet. we think she is nearly able to go alone she has been a very quiet good natured child all speak of her resemblance to her mother which seems to increase as she grows older & when I look at her she often brings her to mind. the rest of the children have been well. thier elastic & playful spirits scarsely seem to notice thier loss they do not often mention her. except Thomas, who when any thing vexes him will call for mother, sometimes that he will tell his mother on my shewing him a young calf at the farm a day or two ago. he said that his mother told him that he could have one. Treelove Pratt the woman that kept house for us when Lucretia was at Ohio

has thus far been my housekeeper She seems to be a good hand to manage the children & take care of things but is not able to do much hard work. Lucinda Pinkham a young woman from Farmington school whom Lucretia engaged to keep a school in the house & assist her in doing the work has continued with us & I have endeavored to keep the family along in that manner that had been planned for me or as near as I know what her (Lucretia's) wishes were, & have thought it best to try keep the children all at home with me. I do not expect that either the women will stay longer than this fall with us. as Ireland say she does not want to stay any longer than until I can get some one to take her place. I pay them $1.50 a week each & hire the washing done beside a 67c a week. The girl who keeps the school does part of the children's sewing Rebecca does not seem to get over her phthisic yet but is better than last winter. I hear that S E Gould they think is getting over her deranged state but is still at Hartford Insane Hospital to come home soon. Babies Chace, the second son of Robert died of the consumption the 25th of last month. The rest of our friends & acquaintance as far heard from are well, I have contemplated giving you some further account of Lucretia's last illness and death thinking probably you would like to hear some account more particular than what I wrote at the time. She went out to D. Gould's to visit Sarah on 4th day the 2nd of 4th mo. & came on 7th day evening the 5th she found S. worse than expected & it seemed to take a deep hold on her mind

I did not think that any thing was the matter with her until the next morning when I came home from carring milk. I found her sitting in her chair in silence (she had got breakfast before I started as usual & we ate together before the children were up) I spake to her she made no reply & thinking she might be keeping the children quiet who were around her I did not pay much attention to it but went out a few minutes to do some chores when I came in she was standing by the mantle piece with her hands upon it I spoke to again but she made no reply I then went to her and ask what was the matter she said that self will must be over come I asked her stept in to the front room & sit down a little while with me she complied after sitting a few moments & my looking up at her she smiled. I thought she had got down in her mind about Sarah. I then endeavoured to cheer her up telling her that nothing was the matter but when got over with it tried to turn her attention to some other thing asking her to about her work. she soon went about her work regular as usual for a few minutes & then taking up the babe to nurse (she commenced talking about a woman in the next house to ours who died that day & for whom she had a concern for, fearing she was not prepared for the event) I saw by her talk that she not in her right mind & it seemed to graduely increase upon her I went for medical aid that afternoon the doctor thought it was the histericks at first she grew worse until 5 or 6 day when she seemed to sink under violence of the disorder until 2 day morning.

about 9 Oclock when she expired. During her illness she made no compaint of any pain but would put her hands to her head & some times would say "Oh I feel dreadfuly I cant discribe it" She was rational at intervals one time she wanted to see Thomas she was brought & she seemed to enjoy his play on the bed. the morning before she died was quite rational for some time & asked many questions about the family & what was the matter with herself if any thing had happend it seemed to her that something dreadful had happend but could not tell what.. — had any of your family been here perticular Ezra she had thought it was so. for some time before her departure she was perfectly calm & sunk gradualy away.

It was observed by some present & so it seemed to me that there was a remarkable calm that spread over the minds those in her room at the time of her departure & for some time, after, "that is not at all at our command & Dear parents I can but take it as an full evidence that her spirit had entered in to its evirlasting rest. The assurance on this point to my mind is placed beyond a doubt the night before she was taken ill she awoke me several times telling me she did not sleep at all & her mind was enjoying heavnly things & the last time she said" Oh Thomas I have seem wonderful things such a I can not describe" I believe that she was then permited to have a foretaste of the joys that awaited her & her funeral was acknowedged to be one which was owned by that Master whom she had endeavoured to serve =

Moscow August 19th 1845

Respected cousin

I got your letter last Sabath and was very glad to hear from you and I suppose you will be some surprised to hear that I am left hear a lone our folks they have gon to branch and settled they went in April and have bought since Sherod bought forty acres and Father eighty both timbered land they have all been well this summer except Robert he he has been some sick with the ague and fever I was out there before harvest and he was then getting so as to go about some our folks had a job of harvesting out hear so Father Sherod Lydia and Luther came back with me Lydia would have been glad to come out and see you when she was out hear but all hands ware so busy that she couldnot come they got threw and went back two weeks ago last saturday I got a letter from Lydia at the same time I got yours they got home safe and found things all regular Robert said he had the goague and fever while they were out hear but had got better a gain Lydia is teaching school out there and that is what they have got meat hear, but I shall probably get through with it next week I wrote to our folks about what was in your letter as near as I could you must go out and see them or write to them if you write to them direct your letters to Branch Co Cattaraugus Co. I think likely I shall be out that way probbaly in two or three weeks I have no more room to write so good luck to you from Reuben Bunker

Moscow Mich
August 21

2c

Martain Wood

Homar Po.
Calhoon Co.

Ruben Bunker
Moscow Aug 19th
1845

Secretias disorder & Brother Benjamins seem by accounts to be much alike She knew all her aquaintence at sight & sometimes by their voice before they came in sight. I think that she caught a heavy cold going out to Cranston. & that combined with deep sympathy she felt for Sarah whom she loved as a sister were probably the producing cause her Physician pronounced her disorder to be the nervous fever affecting the brain. And yet I have no doubt but it was all under the direction of him who sees the sparrows when they fall whose all penetrating eye scans the present the past & future & knows what is best for us all & I am comforted in believing that our great loss (especialy to the dear little ones) is her gain. although my heart has felt as though all my earthly dependence was gone. that I could have parted with all beside for her sake. yet I have been preserved from wishing her back to this troubled scene having full confidence that her purified spirit has passed the Pearl gate & has joined the ransomed of all generations who have come through great tribulations & have washed their robes & made them white in the blood of the Lamb

8th mo. 20th /45

Since I commenced this letter the babe does not seem as well she has cut one of her teeth & they seem come hard. but she is better than a day or two ago. Please to write often. Please to remember me to all aquaintance

Accept my best wishes for your present & eternal welfare & remain yours Thos Chase

Thom. Chace
Providence.
Aug 23

Elijah Cornell
Ithaca N.Y.

Tompkins Co.

Dear Mother

Albion 5 mo 5 1845

This day we have abundant reason to be thankful for the blessing of health and prosperity and the privilege of conversing with our distant friends by writing. M.B. is smart he has gone to Hillsdale with a load of flour and if he does not get sick I shall think he is quite well. Edward is ploughing with the Oxon And Mary and I have just finished washing we have very large washing, you must not be disappointed to much about Edward not coming home I hope it will be all for the best if Martin could have got the money I think he would come he has $60. but cannot colbect a penny now. he wants to get some for M.L. as he owes his father but I am afraid he cannot. You must not think Mich. a bad place because the „Children„ come back. the most they complain of is the want of Society. You will think by their talk there is no one here. but Mother we find as good neighbours as we left. this is a christian community. and the people take much pains to visit us Last week two of the merchants wifes were here and spent the afternoon. they were very friendly. it was Lewis And Smith wives the ones that Hopkins had the trouble with. Smith came down and drank tea so you see that we find company and as good as in the place. And if we could enjoy your company we should ask nothing more

I have not wrote as much as I want to for my [illegible] and she wants to write and so I will have to stop [illegible] Mary