Subject: Medicine Illness and Homeopathic Cures

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Frenches Hotel. Wed morn, Sunrise

Dear all of you

Have just washed myself all over, counted my money & put on my California suit. I have $14<2>4,20 cts. [*cents*] have to pay my bill for room & get some Quinine & Ipicac yet think I shall be able to get off with a little over $140 which I think will be enough. I left the Flemington [*New Jersey*] people well Monday morning. had as pleasant a time as I could have expected under the circumstances coming up here. came up on the river from Elizabethtown [*New Jersey*]. sent the trunk here. paid .25 cts. [*cents*] went right to D.B. Allus office to see if the tickets were all right. found they were, & that we must pay 15 cts [*cents*] pound for trasporting luggage across isthmus. I asked them if we had to pay here. They said no at the Isthmus. & we are to board ourselves on the isthmus. The boat is to sail this afternoon at 3 oclock. we shall be sure to get on in season. From Allus office I came here & in a few minutes found Levi [*Levi Grant*] soon as our trunks came we took a room & had our three brought to it. locked it up & went to Gasts store & got my tin trunk & in the evening went to the museum. Yesterday morning got some breakfast at an eating saloon for 18 cts [*cents*] & have lived from then till now on 10 cents & walked as far too as I ever did in one day in the forenoon we went round with Gast & Luth Roser to buy what we wanted Levi got his money changed to gold. bought a blanket for 1,25 & money belt for 1,00 & we bought each of us a rifle. Levi bought a Stub & twist barrell for $28,00 I got a steel barrell for 32 the […] was 35 I think there is more than that difference in the guns John Stevens says so too. They warrentee mine to shoot 40 rods & gave us permission to try them & if we did not like them to bring them back we went over to Hoboken in the afternoon to tried them. Levi thinks mine is a good one says he would not try to do any better. he got so fierce loading his that he rammed in a ball without any powder & could not get it out. so he did not shoot it but 3 or 4 times did not shoot as well as I did then. he is going to get the ball out this morning. They gave a large cannister of Rifle powder each of us a flask bullet molds & 50 dolls & a large box of caps 250 in each & a sheath for Rifles. I wanted to see about Russen but where to do it or how to do it I dont know, after we got back from Hoboken we went up to Belleuwe hospital & found John had come down here, we called on Dr Cockey. & Dr Philo Rockwell when we got back here found John waiting for me he <u>gave</u> me some blue pills said they cost him nothing he is coming down to day to see us off so is Philo Rockwell & M the rest I suppose I sent home that black coat because it looked so bad I did not want to wear it. Kate put a pocket in each side of my broadcloth & put a pretty little testament in one of them. She made me a lot of <u>good</u> ginger crackers more than I brought from home & they are all in my trunk & every think else sleek & nice. I am perfectly well for all I know without a pain or ache

[*Written across first page*] & am glad I am going never have been <u>sorry</u> the first minute The small powder flask is Levis & says he has but $136,00 now he appears to <u>want</u> to go. Dr Rockwell is coming to introduce us to a Dr Pollard a friend of his who is going out with us & he says he is a good fellow & will take good care of us if we were sick

John is going to give me a letter to Dr Raison Physician on the S. S. Lewis

So I guess we shall be taken care of I shall send a line to Will & Mary am going to send the trunk by express shall leave the key with Gast I guess Goodbye

R.E. Burr. [*Ralph E Burr*]

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[*Addressed to*:] Mr. Ebenezer Burr
Norfolk
Litchfield Co.
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

Waukesha (Prairieville) [*Wisconsin*] Aug. 15 Sab. [*Sabbath*] eve / 47.

My dear Parents, Brothers & Sisters.

I do not recollect the date of your last letter to us. but I remember that we received it soon after Joel [*Joel Grant*] left us. You wished us to write often as consistent — I did not write immediately on the reception of your letter, thinking that Joel seeing you would remove the necessity of it — & I can give no other reason for delaying thus long only that I have been so busily engaged through the week that I have not taken the time.

We have been usually well until last Monday when Daniel had a violent attack of chill fever — he went to work <*at a*> in the morning about half a mile cutting wheat — at noon came home sick I gave him an emetic, soaked his feet put drafts upon them. & he took some cathartic pills — but as the violence of the symptoms did not seem to abate we called a physician Tues. eve of the homopathic order — his medicine seemed to have a very good effect — he has had no chill to day & has set up most of the time — we think if he is careful he will be able to be around in a few days — at work a little —

It has been exceedingly dry here this summer & considerable sickness prevails now, fevers of various kinds, mostly bilious & chill & some ague — I take medicine occasionally <*to prevent sickness*> when I have bad feelings — have felt much better this summer than I did last.

Abby [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] is now getting some of her teeth — the eye teeth have just come through — has had bowel complaint some, but not very bad. she grows tall, does not lose flesh — has been quite lonesome since we moved into our new house — wh. [*which*] by the way was two weeks ago — it is still unfinished as you will suppose — Abby sometimes gets her bonnet & says

I must go home. where is home. I want go meeting — want go walk Chandlers (one of our new neighbors before we moved) want to see Anny (Anty).

Mamma call Libby — call Annette — Papa you get pussy — she will sometimes get a little pail & hang on her arm & say I must go milk cow. Papa you eat medicine?

I mention so many of her expressions because some of you wish to know what she says. — she seems passionately fond of a cat & dog — we have neither but are going to get a kitten for her —

Aug. 21. Sat. eve. When I commenced this sheet nearly a week ago I intended it should be on the way to you before this. but I have been partly sick two or three days this week but have taken medicine & am now well. I have <*I have*> also been trying to finish a fine shirt wh. [*which*] I am making for the dentist who filled my teeth I had three cavities filled with gold, six with tin & four teeth extracted for wh. [*which*] the charge is $6.75. I have made two coarse shirts & the most of three fine ones for which I shall charge $3. I expect to sew more still for him —

Daniel's health continues to improve a little — he has gone to Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] to day for a man who has drawn some lumber for us this summer D [*Daniel*]. thinks perhaps he may teach again this winter — we do not expect to have more than one room in our house plastered this winter —

We still have the use of the garden that we planted — wh. [*which*] we find quite a help — Our cow does tolerably well this summer — we had it pastured — Mr. Caufield who has boarded with us this summer expects to go east next week, so that we shall be alone again for the present wh. [*which*] I expect to enjoy — though we have not found it unpleasant to have him with us — he pays us $1.50 per week in flour, store pay & work on the house — I do his washing for 50 cts. [*cents*] doz. — do not know exactly how much his board costs us, but we lose nothing — he does not drink tea or coffee nor eat meat — prefers graham bread. <u>we</u> have got into the habit of eating it & Daniel thinks it is much better for him than fine flour —

The dried apples that I brought from home are are almost gone — they have been of great use to us — we have bought a few berries this summer strawberries & raspberries sold for 5 & 10 cts. [*cents*] qt. blueberries 6 cts. [*cents*] & gooseberries 4 — last spring we set out about 100 currant & smooth gooseberry <*plan*> sprouts — but the season has been so extremely dry that a good many of them will die —

Have had no letter from Mary since June — I do not know where she spent this summers vacation, conclude not at home.

Give my love to sister Nancy & Erastus tell them we should be very happy to have them write to us — I did intend to write to them long before this time but it has not seemed to be consistent — hope they will excuse us. — I was <u>very</u> <u>glad</u> to hear from my friend Sarah Sibly

Alling — have rec'd [*received*] & read with great interest the Memorandum Catalogue — also the Annual — [*from Mount Holyoke Female Seminary?*]

Give my love to all relatives & friends — Rec'd [*received*] letter from Mother Grant soon after Joel left us — have heard nothing from any of them since — feel very anxious — expected Joel would write soon after his arrival there — but we shall not wait much longer before writing to them — am anxious to know how the [...] Ma gets along with her work — is the <*old*> house comfortable? — hope Ralph is not at Mr John Shepherd — I do not think a tavern is <*the right*> a good place for him to be. I fear he will acquire bad habits —

Yours very aff. [*affectionately*] Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*] —

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[*Addressed to:*] Mr. Ebenezer Burr
Norfolk
Litchfield Co.
Ct. [*Connecticut*]

Prairieville [*Wisconisn*], March 30. /47.

My dear Parents & Brothers,

We were very glad to receive your letter last Sat March 27 — I wondered why we did not hear before but did not allow myself to feel greatly troubled about it. I did not hear much worse news than I expected to for I concluded she was sick, or at least I feared it. O how it makes me feel but I cant help it. I am very glad to hear Ma [*Pamela Benton Burr*] say she intends to be careful about her diet, for I think it will be a great preventive to sickness — I shall not exhort her as Mary did to be picking up things &c. but rather to do as little as possible & not get overdone. Am glad you have got a good girl for a while

Brother John wrote us a letter about a week before the removal of his tumors wh. [*which*] he did not send until after the operation when Martha Woodward who accompanied him to N. Haven [*New Haven, Connecticut*] enclosed another giving an account of the operation. his state &c. he became very much exhausted & was for a time considered in a very precarious condition — The physicians thought before the operation that the tumors were the cause of the paralysis, but on removing the tumors discovered that the back bone is diseased. so that there is no hope of his ever being well — this fact John was not aware of when the letter was sent — but frequently spoke of being able in a few weeks to walk — what must be his feelings when he learns his situation I cannot bear to think of it — <*I do not*> it is enough to depress all our spirits. but there is comfort in thinking that God knows what is best & will do all things right —

It is comparatively healthy here at present although there are a few cases of typhus fever — quite a number are again having the ague as the Spring is opening Daniel did for two or three weeks feel quite aguish but has taken medicine & hopes to escape it — he is better now — he has been in school a little more than three months & expects to close soon. he gives good satisfaction for aught we know & <*does*> is not so tired of teaching as to feel that he will never again engage in it.

We have lived much more comfortably & pleasantly in this little room this cold winter than I expected to. we have had an excellent family to live with.

We expect soon to remove to a very pleasant place in the village about a quarter of a mile from here, have room enough, as there are in the lower part of the house two rooms a pantry & large recess for a bed, beside a shed. in wh. [*which*] is the well there is one plastered room in the chamber. beside the # house,

This house has rented this winter for $12.25 cash per week

we are to have & garden, & another small piece of land & the use of a cow or its equivalent, & in exchange we are to board the owner of the property & do his washing he furnishes his own bed. — this gentleman is a goldsmith & besides employs persons to make tin ware. he will wish to employ Daniel some in <*p*>selling tin & doing various other jobs for wh. [*which*] he will pay in cash

& otherwise as we need. Daniel does not think it best to try to go to farming at present but expects to work out, or teach school or both or do something else & get what he can & live comfortably as we go along Mr. Pennington in whose house we are to live is going to put a plate in our looking glass frame. we also hope to have a bureau or something of the kind before long but can not tell whether we shall be able to.

Daniel now expects to put up a house in the upper end of the village on the road leading by Joels 40 acre lot. as I have before said we shall be able to make the house very comfortable to live in without going much if any into debt though he will now be obliged to take this winter's wages as he was disappointed in selling sand last fall — he now expects to purchase the lot on wh.[*which*] he intends to build there is about 1/3 of an acre — price $50. we do not think there will be any risk in getting this property as there is little doubt but that it will sell or rent should we wish to dispose of it — should we have a house of our own where we think of we shall not pay rent & shall be conveniently situated to obtain work. attend meetings &c. It is a great privilege in many respects to reside in a village. I dont see but Daniel is just as busy as when we were on the farm — has earned several dollars this winter beside teaching — when not at work there are meetings to attend & his relations to some of them are such that he feels obliged to attend being Secretary of a Young Ladies & Gentleman's Temperance Society & President of a Phonographic Association — these meet once a week & there is also a stated Thursday evening prayer meeting, beside other meetings occasionally — We like our minister better than I expected to like one after hearing Mr. Curtis.

Little Abby is well most of the time, several weeks ago she came very near having the croup. she was suddenly taken about bed time with a very hoarse dry cough & oppressive breathing so we gave her some lard & molasses & put a little oil upon her throat she seemed a little relieved but continued so bad that we rose twice before morning & bathed her in cold water pouring it most freely about the neck & chest. we then rubbd her off briskly, wrapped her in flannel & laid her in bed — for sometime we kept a cloth wet with cold water upon her throat & chest over this we put a flannel one — we think this method of treatment vey good indeed — it is said to perform wonderful cures in cases of croup — Mrs. Curtis cured her baby by the application of water — I should mention that Abby had some croupy symptoms remaining in the morning but they seemed much abated Abby does not seem much more fleshy than she was last summer, but grows tall is 2 ft. 7 1/2 in. in height. she will attempt to say almost any think that she is told to, & speaks very plain for one of her age, so all say, she puts words together considerable she will say "Papa gone spool", "here comes Mama". Yesterday Mrs. Root put her rag baby on a little cup — Abby says (after being told I suppose) "here 'tis baby on cup." you cannot know how pretty all this sounds, as you do not hear the peculiar emphasis with which she speaks. here Papa comes, she accents the first word half sings & half laughs — Mrs. Root she calls Anny for Anty & Antoinette she very distinctly speaks Annette. she sometimes hops & dances. when things do not go to suit her, but she is usually a very good little girl to mind. I take her to meetig week days, but Sundays one of us stay with her — when she goes out she wears that scarlet flannel dress & pantalets & white apron — I have made her that little black hood wh. [*which*] she wears common & have got most of her summer clothes in readiness making them shorter with pantalets &c. . In answer to your inquiries I will say that I did not pay any thing for extra baggage when coming. I did not materially injure my new delaiu on the journey through I got it some soiled. but cleaned it — it makes me a very pretty dress, but is not going to wear well my velvet hat was repaired in Milwauk [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*]. I gave a dollar for it — was glad I did not have it done before I left as the style was not such as is worn this winter — I lost on my journey [...] scissors, a little [...] of sweet oil & that calico loose dress that was Mary's — think I left the scissors at Aunt Emeline but am not positive I intended to have mentioned them before — none of our things that we left were injured of any importance —

A few days since I had four decayed teeth taken out — I am going to sew to pay for it — am glad Ralph takes so good care of his —

Our heifer has been dry two weeks but we expect to have new milk within a week or two —

We had rather live here than in Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*].

The name of this town is changed to Wankesha. I do not like the new name half as well as I did the old one hope it will be changed back again next winter —

I was grieved to hear of the death of Aunt Jane's little Edwin. I know they will feel his loss deeply — am daily looking for a letter from May I have rec'd [*received*] no letter from Father Grants since we wrote to them a long time ago — but know they cannot write often — I would like you to send them this & then we shall not need write them at present — hope they will write soon telling particularly about Martha [*Martha Woodward*] & John [*John Grant*] Give our love to all our relatives & friends It is our prayer that you may bell all of our dear friends

Yours very aff. [*affectionate*]
Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

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[*Addressed to*]

Mr. Ebenezer Burr
Norfolk
Litchfield Co.
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

[*Note at the left side of address leaf*]

Caroline Grant
Apr […] 1849.
I think my children & Grant children may
like to read this.

Waukesha [*Wisconsin*], Apr. 2, '49.

My dear Parents,

My dear husband has this day taken his departure for California, & you will of course know that I do not feel much like writing – but I wish to ask some questions & have you write back before I wish to start for Ct. [*Connecticut*] do not now know just when that will be – probably sometime in May, perhaps the fore part of it. I will not now rehearse the reasons wh. [*which*] led D. [*Daniel*] to <*the conclusion*> decide to go, but he felt that it was best to go — Joel wrote us a letter approving of it – but, O dear – Father & Mother Grant are very decidedly opposed to it & D. [*Daniel*] says you all are. R. [*Ralph*] excepted – rece'd [*received*] her letter & yours a few days since & had two or three days previously recd one from her – poor Mother I am sorry she feels so badly & Daniel was, but he had all his a[rrange]ments made had put in some money, & it was di[ffi]cult to "back out." The company were not willing he should and he did not know as it was best – though he said if he could get his pay back he did not [know?] but he would stay on account of her feelings*

* he is afraid it will wear upon her & shorten her life.

— he has good company – in the wagon with him is a physician & wife from this place, one of our <...> best ones, & a conscientious Christian man.

Should we live we know not whether we shall wish to live in Wis. [*Wisconsin*] & we have concluded that I had better take with me one or two boxes at least of the best of our things. I shall probably go on the canal though I now feel that should the cholera rage much I shall wish to take the railroad — Should I <...> take the cars (& I dont know but if I should not) my box ought to be directed Daniel only to the care of the owner of the depot at Canaan I think. I do not know his <u>name</u>, probably R. Battell or Wm Lawrence & others [etc.] & <u>will you ascertain soon as possibly convenient</u> & <u>write to me</u> — I shall not sell the bed – dont know whether it is best to take it – can leave it with a neat nice woman who will take good care of it & use it for a spare bed, & has but little company, & we could send for it <*if*> when we wish<*ed*> to – if there is any thing in particular that you wish me to take please make it known – shall I take the seive & that little 2 qt [*quart*] brass bottle? — We are going to let our stove go but have reserved the copper tea kettle – shall I take it? Shall box up nearly all of the things that I leave – shall take the good bed clothes. What shall I do with the blue crockery? suppose I could sell it if best. I know not the price of it – could you send me the bill? have sold the largest rocking chair for $2.25 cash – intend to take the other along – do not intend to sell things at much sacrifice – how much is the table that we have worth?

Mother Grant requested us to write to her immediately on receiving her letter I have had no time until now, & I do not feel as if I could write to her but she will probably receive one within two or three weeks after you receive this, as Daniel said he would partly fill a sheet & send to me to fill it & send on — I expect to suffer a great deal from loneliness I suppose Mary is now in New Jersey – hope I shall receive letter from her before I leave Wis. [*Wisconsin*] – hope you will have some tomatoes growing – children are both well Abby [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] talks a great deal about going to Neticut It has been a job to get Daniel ready – have been obliged to hire considerable sewing done.

Love to Erastus, Nancy & little May Ellen, Ralph and all — You must not reckon too much on seeing us you know some or all of us may be taken away before we meet —

Yours aff. [*affectionately*]
Caroline

I hope it will not be too much trouble for you to write within two or three days after receiving this, for perhaps I may find company or for some other reason be very anxious to go —

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Flemington [*New Jersey*] Apr. 8, 1852

Dear all of you

We received your letter Tuesday which was the first we had heard of the delay of the Northern Light but went immediately to searching the papers & found it was so. Have not had any letter from Aretus Suppose you told him you had written. I came through all safe Carried the tin trunk to [Gust's?] Store in my hand & sent the other to the Western", [Gust?] went with me to see the Northern Light but it was so late we could not examine it that night. So we went up to the Western where I got a room had my trunk carried to it & eat Supper. [Gust?] staid with me till about eight when John came & we took a walk in the city going nowhere in particular because it was too late John & [Gust?] were both very kind to me both went home that night But there is no use in my writing all this for I expect to start for home next Monday. Am having a very pleasant time here have had my teeth filled which cost eight dollars Dr Dedrich would not have done more than one or two dollars worth without pay & I think I should rather have Dr Carroll do them for pay than Dr Dedrich without. Sam is fat & hearty the first thing that struck me when I first saw him was that he looked just like Eddy his eyes are so much like Eddy's you know & he is fatter than Eddy now. I have all my money changed into gold excepting five dollars There is no use in my writing any more I am going home so soon

Ralph E. Burr

Ralph intends to stay a day in New York & attend to your requests — His teeth were all fixed before receiving your letter — Am much obliged for all you sent us – it was very nice & acceptable — I will endeavor to write by Ralph

Good bye
Mary

I like my girl very well & think I had better keep her than to get Margaretha. I pay Ann 1.00.

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[*Addressed to*]

Mr. Ebenezer Burr
Norfolk
Litchfield County
Connecticut

Sunday San Juan Del Sur [*Nicaragua*] June 13

Dear all of you

Believe my diareah [*diarrhea*] or Alim passages commenced about the time we were at Castillo. Did not have but one passage a day but that was very thin it caused me no pain or trouble only as I gradually grew weaker I paid no attention to it for a day or two as Dr Welch told me [exactly?] to live very plain which was all we wer doing at that time all we were eating was a

little piece of the bread which came from Greytown & a little dried Beet, At Castillo my appetite had been & was then so poor & I had had so little change for so long a time & was getting so weak with a regular daily cangee of the bowels that I began to think that if I could have a meal of victuals it might do me good the price was one dollar a meal & I had just paid out 20 cts for two junk bottles of rice coffee. the fellow charged me 20 cts for one bottle but it was very strong & I got some more hot water & filled the two, & I had not paid out but 1.20 before since leaving N.Y. I thought of the drummer & the dollar & finally concluded that if a [dinner?] would do me any good I had better get it & so did dont know as it did me any good & I have been sorry that I spent that dollar. When the Director got Toro rapids I did not feel like travelling 3 miles & so went up in the [baggae?] boat Suppose I could have walked it but had rather ride at Virgins Bay I sucked the the juice of an orange with some of the ginger crackers & started for here on a mule was pretty tired & glad to lie on a bed, <*c*>found that Dr Pollard a Dr which Dr's Cockey & Rockwell advised us to employ if we needed any. He told me perhaps had better use the pills Dr Welch gave me which I did for a time but did not get better every thing that passed me was as thin as water. The Dr finally gave me something & I am better He has not given me any thing for sometime I have taken some of my pills & think the diareah [*diarrhea*] is checked, have not been very sick have been round every day & have been into the ocean to bathe almost morning when it did not rain. Have had a little rheumatism in my knees & a little in my shoulder the Dr's told me it would do me good to go in bathing & then rub myself until I got warm havent hardly any rheumatism today, Sunday 8 o clock The S.S. Lewis just arrived dont know when she will start probably in a day or two, Monday 1/2 past 3 I went in bathing this morning & came to breakfast I never eat any thing but a little boiled rice & sugar & some plain wheat bread & drink clear green tea after breakfast [S.?] & I took our dirty clothes & started for where there had been a spring of water but it was dried. we found [salt] water in an old canoe in which [S.?] washed out the cracker [...] which I brought from Flemington & the handkerchief which was wrapped round the dried beef The S.S. Lewis is going tomorrow. I washed out my flannel shirt & towel & [S.?] washed his things we had some tubs & drew the water out of the well it is pretty warm though I would rather had some heat on a stove for my greasy woolen shirt had plenty of soap got it very clean. I have had but one passage today in fact I dont any day & it is not watery although it is just probably not as thick as it would be if I lived on heartier food. Shall have a change of food & air tomorrow when we get on boat. Shall have to pay 25 cts to put this into the express Dr Pollard gave me seven [papers?] of [powders?] to be taken one <...> hours & two messes of of liquid to be taken <...> half table spoonsful once in 4 hours he kept me in <...> 4 or 5 days & has given me all the advice I have asked <...> has charged me 1.50.

Tuesday morn Suppose the Lewis is going today I have been at this hotel two weeks & five days they charge 10 dol a week when you stay a whole week & 2 dol a day if you stay only part of a week. I paid 20 dol at the end of the 2 weeks & now expect to have to pay 10 dol more for the five days & the passengers all have to pay 2 dol to get carried on board the steamer After paying all this I shall have about 97 dol I have been so weak I could not write until I have & now my hand trembles so I can hardly write remember me to all friends Kate in particular. tell her I have not forgotten her but that I hope to have better health & a better place to write t[o] her I have had kiss all the little children for me a dozen times apiece, wish I was in Cal [*California*] with good health & plenty to do think I shall soon be there Dont know as I can tell you where to direct a letter to me in Cal [*California*] unless you send a word to me through Daniel we expect to go to him now Should be very glad to hear from you

Your aff [*affectionate*] Son & Brother
R. E. Burr [*Ralph E. Burr*]

Flemington [*New Jersey*] Friday Morn July 9, '52

Dear parents brother & sisters

We are all well as usual. Mon. evening – I wrote Thurs for Friday when I felt that I could not send the letter away that day — I wanted to read it more — Ralph dear brother is almost constantly in my thoughts — I hope for the best but try to be reconciled to whatever shall happen. Sam does not walk yet, though he seems strong enough to do so, he is a plump solid little thing — If you have good opportunity wish you would ask Dr. Welch how he ought fed now that he is a year old — whether water should be added to his milk & whether he should eat bread

with it. I think of going home this summer or fall – go alone from New York & William come for me — visit from 3 to 4 weeks long — When would you prefer me to come. I may not go at all — it is not decided — business is very dull. Ralph took the money for the stocking yarn. Kiss the children for me — Is Eddy [*Edward Grant*] in pants yet.

aff. [*affectionately*] Mary B. Hill.

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Point Defiance. Cal. [*California*] Jan 2, 1853.

Dear Friends,

How long it has been since I have written I know not, when I have no letters to answer & no one to push me up to write you will not wonder that I do not write often. We have not received a letter yet since we started from home excepting those I got from Daniel & Ethan in San Francisco [*California*]. I do not know where Daniel & Marcus are or any one else that I ever [knew?] before I came here, excepting Levi & he is on the other side of the table writing home. Le [*Levi*]] has had a hard time of it lately he has had the diarrhea for six weeks so that he has not been able to earn any thing & has been paying 12 dollars a week for board, he has boarded here at the house. I am at work at. Don't know as I have ever told you what kind of a family I am living with. Am working for the firm of Wood & Clark. Mr Wood is about 48 or 50 has a wife & three daughters & one son here two of the daughters are married the other one is about ten years old & a very pretty little girl. David the son is 20. Mr Clark is about 30 not married. They were all from Virginia formerly & moved from there to Missouri & from there here they are none of them very highly educated, but are moneymakers & I expect have made a good deal here. They have between 20 & 30 horses & mules hauling flour & provisions from Sac. City [*Sacramento, California*] here. Flour is 22cts in Sac. City [*Sacramento, California*] & they sell here for 50 cts but the roads are very muddy now in the summer when the roads are good they charge 5 cts a pound for hauling. We have had more rain this far this winter than was ever known before. Last Friday the rivers were higher than they have been seen before, they were all of 30 feet above low water mark. [Some?] of a bridge was washed away about a mile up the river and an abutment to one which Wood & Clark are building was carried off. The abutment did not cost less than 2000 dollars Le [*Levi*] was over the river at the time the bridge went off & did not get back until today. They fixed up an old canoe to cross people in it eight men got into it & attempted to cross this morning but there were so many in the boat & the current was so swift that before they got across it ended the boat round in spite of all they could do & carried it down stream, two of the men jumped out soon as they saw the boat was going & got ashore, the rest staid in the canoe which went down about 60 rods turned over three of them hung to the canoe & floated down stream about half a mile when one caught some bushes & was got out alive by Mr Wood & Levi & two or three others the other five are in the river yet. Le [*Levi*] ran with all his might to get into the boat to cross but a minute too late & probably saved his life by it. There were twenty or thirty men who saw the whole affair but could not save them. The river runs very swiftly. Le [*Levi*] is giving an account of the small pox which has been here so I will say nothing about it excepting that I have not had the varioloid yet & don't expect to have it very hard if at all, for I have been vaccinated three times with good matter which took on others but has not taken on me, & if that wont take on me the small pox wont be apt to. I have 4 or 5 good scars on my arms. Le [*Levi*] & I sent to the City by David to get some bills of exchange to send home which he brought home tonight, & is going back to the City in the morning so we are writing tonight expecting to send one of the bills in this tomorrow & shall keep one. Le [*Levi*] has two bills & I have two & they keep one of each at the exchange office & in case both these are lost we can get the other. My bill is to the amount 250 dollars payable to Pa at the American Exchange Bank, New York. Le [*Levi*] is going to send one hundred & fifty I believe. I might send another hundred now if I had the bills, but guess I shant send any more till I hear from this or from you in some way. Believe the note which I gave Pa was for 240 dollars – think this $250 will pay that. You may burn that note or do as you please with it, so as I never see or heard from it again. I have more money now that I had when I started from home, & if I can make as much between this & the first of April as I could have made in a year at home I shant have lost anything this year, & don't know any reason now why I shant live here all winter. I think just as much of that — Life Insurance business as I did when at home & no

more you can do as you please about keeping up that policy I never expect to pay any insurance on it till I am making money faster than I am now.
Never had better health in my life than I have for the past three months, never was so heavy as at present. Was advised by a man the other day to use tobacco to keep me from being so fleshy. I told him that so long as I had good health enough to keep fleshy I did not think I should take poison to get thin
We have to pay three percent on the money to get bills of exchange besides 1 ½ percent to David for getting them. So you see this 250 costs me 261,25

Hope I shall get a letter from you before long

R. E. Burr [*Ralph E. Burr*]

Will you please write soon as you receive this Direct to Marysville [*Callifornia*] as usual,

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Point Defiance [*California*], Sep. 14, 1853.

Dear Brother & Sister,

For the first time since the 20th of last Oct. I am lying idle a day. My feet have been troubling me a little for three or four days & today are quite painful to walk upon, so Mrs. Wood is cooking while I rest. It appears a little like rheumatism don't know whether 'tis that or standing & running on the floor so much, we have had pretty busy times for a week or two, more boarders coming in, Have been so busily employed I have scarcely written any letters this summer, & have recd none since early in the spring excepting one from Ethan Pendleton & one from Daniel, Ethan was across the bay from San Francisco at a heavy job of cutting & hauling wood, presume he will make a good thing of it. Dont know where Daniel or any of the other boys are except Le [*Levi Grant*] he is here working by the day at five dollars. It has been cloudy & rained a little this morning which is the first rain we have had since last spring only a little thunder shower one night 3 or 4 weeks since. Fluming companies have just commenced taking out the gold & a heavy rain enough to raise the rivers & carry away the dams would break thousands of men, but we dont look for such a rain yet. It probably will not come for two months. cannot tell yet how the river companies will do but there is a fair prospect of most of them doing well. the company Levi works for worked about 25 men & took out over 2000 dollars last week it has cost them 7 or 8000 to get into the river. Although there is a great deal of gold in the country, still no one seems to be very rich that I know. It costs a great deal to live the way people generally live in this country. After a man pays 10 dollars a week for board & plays cards for whiskey & oysters & watermelons every night & now & then a day, he is not going to have much money unless he has rich diggings, & there is not a man that I know but that will play for these things excepting Mr Wood Le [*Levi*] & myself. Out of twenty five or thirty men who compose the population of this point, I dont believe there are six that are worth 1000 dollars & most of them have been in the country since '49. Tis true that soon as men get 3 or 4000 dollars they generally leave for home but there are thousands & thousands who never have saved that much although perhaps they might have done it had they been as saving and industrious as you & other people are at home. Still everything a man eats or drinks (excepting water) or wears must be bought at an extravagant price. Most men will have what they like if they see it. I have been as industrious & saving as any man could be since I have been in the country. have worked every day I could work, have not drunk a drop of liquor nor bought more than a dozen melons or any more clothes than just enough to be dressed as decent as other people & all the money which I have sent home & which is now due me is $1020.38 cts & I had $40 of that when I got here.
I actually dont know what to write about that would interest you, there is no one or thing here that you ever knew & I have stuck so close to one place that I know but very little about the different parts of the country. The farming is all done in the valley down south or southwest from here & people say almost everyone has the chills there & a good deal of fever, no one has the chills here unless they caught them in the valley. Farming is not as profitable as it was last year although it is money making business now. I would'nt want anything better than to farm & about 25 or 50 cows all the good cheese you could make would sell for 50 cts a pound & butter for ,75 or 1,00 all

the Beef you could raise from 20 to 30 cts a pound: but to buy a farm it would cost as much as one at home, & if you take it up it costs a great deal to fence it & make any improvements, in many places there is no timber for rails & then boards must be bought at from 40 to 50 dols a thousand – good milk cows would cost from 100 to 150 dols each, & if ever I have money enough to buy one a farm & stock it here I am going home. Suppose if I stay here four or five years more things will be so changed that Norfolk [*Connecticut*] will hardly look as it did when I left I shall scarcely know the place, the fence round the green & trees must be a great addition to the looks of the place. I often try to think how everything looks & all of you get along but somehow it always seems just as it was when I left although I know there is a change
Driving cattle across the plains from Missouri & the western states has been a very profitable business for two years & will likely always pay well but men say who came across this season that stock is getting scarce & high in the states so there is not so much profit to be made on it hereafter. Last year $2000 worth of stock in Missouri would be worth $20000 here. Teaming is good business. Teamsters get 4 cts a pound for hauling goods from Sacramento here 60 miles The roads are rather rough & hilly but a four mule team will draw 35 or 40 hundred & make a trip every six days. but I cant get a team for a good stout six mule team with wagon & harness is worth $3000. So I must work along as any poor boy has to at home. Wish I could be there a little while to see you all. little Mary trudging off to school. Eddie strutting round in pants little Sam running all round & getting into all kinds of mischief, & Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] a perfect little woman if she has staid with "Gramma Grant." Now Mr. Erastus & Mrs. Nancy I want you to write me a letter & tell me all how you are getting along as honestly as I have told you about myself. I would give ten dollars for a letter this minute from you. Remember me to all the uncles Aunts & cousins down your way Olive & Harriet in particular. Tell Uncle Cressey I am right glad I came here for I dont think I shall loose anything pecuniarially & what I have seen & learned will more than compensate for what little sickness I have had,

Your affectionate brother

R. E. Burr [*Ralph E. Burr*]

[*Written across first page:*] Sept 25. Have had quite a little spot of the rheumatism. it went all over me except my left arm. was not nearly as bad as when I had it at home Had no physician took the medicine Dr Welch gave me. am well now & shall go to work in a day or two.

R.E. Burr

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[*Addressed to:*] Miss Caroline Burr.

South Hadley [*Massachusetts*] March 20 [*1842?*]

My friend Caroline,

Your sister is going to have us today, and I cannot let such a good opportunity pass without writing a few lines, although my time is fully occupied. I must just tell you that you are not forgotten though you are absent. Often ones memory turn to the scenes of last year and particularly those in which you had a part. I love to think of our little circle for prayer, Was there not often a union of soul as we bowed together to pray to our Heavenly Father? And do we not now though separated still meet at the Throne of Grace? I hope we do and that we not only pray for ourselves and friend at such times, but for a world lying in wickedness. Do you not feel that we have much to do in this work and need to be active?

To be sure we are very sinful and our prayers are unworthy to receive answers of mercy yet the obligation still rests upon us and we should be willing to meet it.

I wish I could I see you now and know how you feel upon the subject of religion. I hope you enjoy the light of the Savior's countenance and are growing rapidly in grace. We may enjoy such blessings if we only seek [aright?] for them. I wish I could tell you that I am thus blessed, but I cannot, for I turn away from the path of duty too often and am too cold-hearted to be happy thus. Will you not pray for me that I may be useful in my situation here?

I should love to see you and converse as we used to upon this subject. — the bell has rung and I cannot write more, now

I shall wish to hear from you and your sister after she returns home. We are sorry to have her leave but hope her health may be better

In Haste

Your aff. [*affectionate*] friend

Susan Reed.

[*Added in another hand*:]
Now <*Rev*> Mrs. Rev. Wm. Howland[s] Missionary in India — taught several years at So. [*South*] Hadley in the Sem. [*Mount. Holyoke Female Seminary*]

C. Grant [*Caroline Burr Grant*] –

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[*Addressed to*:] Miss Caroline Burr [*Caroline Burr Grant*]
Norfolk
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

Seminary. Friday Morn

My Dear Caroline

I cannot let pass so good an opportunity without writing you a few words

How is your health now? I hope it is better than it was last fall

I am anticipating the pleasure of having you for a class mate next year, and hope I shall not be disappointed. I often think of the many happy moments we have spent here together. Do you remember our reading class? "The frost and the flower garden?" ?

I have been here but a week and consequently have become acquainted with but a few of the new scholars, from appearances should think them a very pleasant circle of young ladies — you probably know who are our teachers

I think they demean themselves with the utmost propriety

It seems more like a dream than reality that our dear, sweet, [little?] Helen has a seat with them.

I need not tell you how much we all regret to part with your dear sister [*Mary Burr*]

I had anticipated <u>much</u> from her society, and now as soon as I get here she goes away, but so it is with all our earthly hopes. How thankful should we be that there is a hope which will not disappoint, that there is a home where friends will never part. Oh, Dear C. [*Caroline*] how I wish I could see you & have a good long talk with you

Good bye
Affectionately yours
Mary W. Chapin.

Martha sends much love.
[*Added in another hand*:] The writer, Mary W. Chapin of Somers, Ct. [*Connecticut*] Principal of Mt. Hol. Sem. [*Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] 1853. C. Grant

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[*Addressed to*:] Miss Mary Burr [*Mary Burr Hill*]
Care of Lewis M. Prevost Esq.
Erwinna P.O.
Bucks Co.
Penn. [*Pennsylvania*]

Folio post.

Prairieville, W.T. [*Wisconsin Territory*] May 10, 1844.

My own precious Sister,

A folio is now spread before me to be filled for my dear sister. I intend writing now & then as time admits & inclination prompts.

The past week my leisure time has been devoted to letter writing & yesterday noon we had a package prepared wh. [*which*] Mr. [Isad?] Mills is to take. I wrote several letters to our people, one to Mother Grant [*Elizabeth Grant*] & notes to Aunt Susan [*Susan Jane Benton Wallis*], Sarah Brown & Abby Cowles [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]. Daniel wrote to Joel & Uncle Pettibone [*Amos Pettibone*].

I fancy you think of us to day, as one year ago this day my dear husband & I took upon us the solemn marriage vow – life has since passed pleasantly with me, & I feel it good "to lean on an accordant bosom, I love
The beating of a heart that beat as mine
The sparkling of an eye that tells of thoughts
That harmonize with what I feel." –
But you know "There will be dark hours for all." & strange if some moments of sadness should not steal over me, but then 'tis sweet to feel a Savior [high?] –

May 11. Sat. P.M. This morning I gathered some wild flowers & put them pressing with the view of making an herbarium for you, dear sister – I intend to analyze some of them at least by the artificial method as we have Eaton's Botany [*Amos Eaton,* Manual of botany for the Northern and Middle States?] – I suppose the botanical names will be the same as those given by Beck [*Lewis C. Beck,* Botany of the Northern and Middle States?].
I love these western wilds they are so fraught with nature's rich, beautiful, productions.

Thank you for that paper containing those lines upon a "Forest Home." They seem true & I love to read them & I think as the Author says, "more & more dear, And far more beautiful, doth Nature seem
So them who daily meet her face to face,
And learn from her the bliss, that, like a dream,
Robes common things with beauty & with grace."
May 15. Wed. This day completes brother Erastus's [*Erastus Burr*] 21st year, does it seem possible that he is "<u>21</u>" O that the bloom of his manhood was consecrated to the Savior's Service – let us sister often & earnestly remember him to the [Heard?] of Prayer –

Last Sabbath was rainy & prevented my attending church – Mon. was also rainy & I delayed washing until yesterday – Just as I was about to commence washing my pantry floor Levi Grant came up to announce the arrival of his wife [*Lucinda Octavia Tryton Grant*], & her wish to see me – You will imagine that I was pretty expeditious in finishing my work & hastened down found her & her child in good health (exerting a cold & looking more healthy & fleshy than when she left – they have been absent nine months –
16. Today have been assisting Mrs. Grant in washing her house. She brought considerable dried fruit & has given us some
17 – One year this day since we left our dear homes & fresh to mind are brought many tender recollections but I trust we shall yet all meet again & enjoy each others society –
18 – Yesterday P.M. went to the village made several calls took tea with Mrs. Tickenor & brought from the P.O. [*Post Office*] some papers from Joel the N.Y. Weekly Tribune [New York Weekly Tribune] containing articles written on "<u>Association</u>" & in one we learned that brother E.P. Grant Esq is the president of a society of Associationists called the "Ohio Phalax" Their Domain is said to be very beautiful consisting of 2100 acres situated in Ohio on the O. river [*Ohio River*] – You are probably aware that these Societies are becoming common throughout the country –

Joel says he thinks something of the kind will be eventually adopted, though not according to the plan of Fourier – thinks there is a great deal of nonsense in their pretensions, & many of their plans visionary, although some of them seem good enough –
To day Daniel planted in the garden
May 22. Wed. Yesterday I visited at Levi's with old Mrs. Brown our neighbor & Mrs. Burgess a young married lady from the state of N.Y. [*New York*] recently – she is acquitted with Mr. Erastus Holt's family – says Mrs. Holt is very much esteemed – & her children are pretty & bright – the oldest is a son 11 yrs. of age – the [next?] two daughters – she has a young babe – [Georg…] lives near them builds organs &c. is a [pious?] smart young man – Mary does not now use crutches [*text missing*?]

25. Sat. To day Daniel & a neighbor with whom D. [*Daniel*] has “changed work” are planting potatoes & corn beside our common corn we have some for parching & also “broom corn.”
[*One line erased, reads in part: …* part of the day keep…]
28. To day is the funeral of Miss Sarah love – a young lady much beloved & one of the finest singers in the vicinity – she died of the prevailing epidemic – scarlet fever – it has raged here since the last of Feb. seizing alike old & young. There have been times when the disease has appeared to abate – but there are still new cases every few days – I believe inflammation always attends the fever & if it settles in the bowels the case is considered almost or quite hopeless – we feel that a kind Providence has indeed watched over us for good <*by*> thus far preserving our lives & health –

We last week rec’d [*received*] a paper fr. [*from*] home & a letter fr. [*from*] Joel written at Millbrook [*Connecticut*] – they brought Martha home last of Apr. or first of May in Esq. Battells barouche – she seemed to be considerably affected by the journey but had mostly recovered from the effect when the letter was written May 6. M. [*Martha Grant*] does not sit up at all. & we have great fear that she will not recover, though they have a little hope think it may be month before the disease conquers her –

Give my love to Miss Hill – We last winter rec’d [*received*] a letter from Mother Grant [*Elizabeth Grant*], Miss Read & Abby Cowles [*Abigail Cowles Grant*] at S. Hadley we have the crickets made & covered – we did not take Levi’s farm – please send a paper soon after your reception of this –

They say [Mr?] Hurlbut the tailor in Norfolk [*Connecticut*] is coming out here in June – our people intend to send some letters & things by him if he can bring them

May 29 – Brother Ralph’s [*Ralph E. Burr*] birth day – how I want to see the little fellow – one year ago this day we were on Lake Huron –
June 1. One year this day since we landed at Milwaukie

I saw last fall in the N.Y. Observer [New York Observer] a notice of the death of Mrs. Henry Cowles of Oberlin died of pulmonary consumption – age 33 – did you not think she was older?

I saw this Spring in the N.E. Puritan [New England Puritan] notice that Mr. <*& Mrs*.> John Cowles & Mrs. Eunice Caldwell Cowles were in May to reopen the Ipswich Female Sem [*Ipswich Female Seminary*] also saw in the same paper the marriage of Miss Julia Hyde eldest daughter of Rev Davies [Hyde?] of Beckett to Rev. Edward Clarke of Middlefield – I suppose it was our Julia, do not you?

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Prairieville [*Wisconsin*], <*Aug*> Sept. 23, – [*in pencil*:] 1845

Dear Sister [*Mary Burr Hill*]

<*Y*> I did not intend that so many weeks should pass away – before you rec’d [*received*] a few lines from me, but our little babe makes such an ado if most of one’s time is not devoted to her little self that I find it difficult to get time for other than household duties – She is now in my arms & has just been casting up her bright eyes & laughing me in the face – we can hardly determine their color for they seem to be neither blue black or grey – we expect however they will be black – her hair is dark, her mouth pretty, her forehead good & she is getting quite white – she has been called a puny little thing – had a very ill turn about two weeks ago but since her recovery from it has appeared better & grown more than before

My health is good – my back is not as strong as before my sickness otherwise I have felt well ever since – have had a good appetite all the time
At the time of her birth expect I got along remarkably well – it was not nearly so bad as I anticipated – did not suffer more than I have many times before have since been afflicted some with sore nipples for a time they were quite bad I thought, but suppose they were not nearly as

aggravating as many are. I kept them moist with whiskey loaf sugar & borax – think that prevented them from getting very bad – heard that the oil of hickory nuts was good – as we could find none of them procured some English walnuts & extracted the oil (by heating the tongs & compressing the meat between them) applied it – either that or the former application was quite healing, or the time had come for them to get well. *
*The oil extracted from Butternut meat is also very healing

I have been a little troubled with caked breasts. I will mention some remedies & when you know any one similarly afflicted you can communicate the information. A brown paper greased laid upon the breast & a flat iron <*as*> warm as warm as can be borne rubbed upon it until the cake is softened, that was efficacious in my case – Cabbage leaves wilted & spread with lard or butter & applied are good.

A poultice made of hot brandy or whiskey, (brandy preferable) & Indian meal is said to have done wonders – Also a poultice of blue flag root, the root simmered in milk, the root is poisonous so that caution is necessary to prevent the child from getting poisoned – some use scorched [tow?] & camphor, but camphor dries the milk . Sweating the breast is said to be good this can be done by covering it over with a small wooden bowl wh. [*which*] has been immersed in boiling water – and last a piece of new calico applied for sometime is said to be good by those who have tried it.

Daniel has been looking over my letter & says he thinks I have lost my faculty for letter writing, but you know Mary that I never had any to lose.

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[*Addressed to:*] Miss Mary Burr
Care of Madam Sigoigne

No. 7. Washington Square
Philadelphia
Penn [*Pennsylvania*]

Written by Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*] from Wis. [*Wisconsin*] – Gives description of their room at Mrs. Roots &c.

Prairieville. Jan. 8. 1847 –

My dear Sister,

Yesterday & to day are much the coldest days we have seen this winter. but by keeping our stove filled with wood we find no trouble in keeping warm in our snug little room. Several inches of snow fell a few days since & we have now fine sleighing –

A district Convention of Congregationalists & Presbyterians is to meet here next week – we have offered to furnish meals for two provided they <*they*> go quarter of a mile to lodge where our spare bed is – Mr. Curtis' family have removed to Milwaukie. The Cong. [*Congregational*] church there is divided <*&*> on they subject of Slavery & Mr. Curtis is to be the Abolition preacher – we have here hired for a year Rev. Mr. Tenney recently from New England – he has not such an interested eloquent manner as Mr. Curtis, but as much so as ordinary preachers, & seems to be a very holy man & preaches good sermons – his family are not yet here –

Daniel has been teaching school about a month at the upper end of the village nearly one half mile from here – has had between 30 or 40 pupils though it does not average [that?] 4 to 18 years of age – has $14 per month & boards at home – he is as well pleased as he expected to be – his health is good now though he has times of complaining of his head & stomach –

Abby [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] is generally well – she has some days of worrying on account of her teeth – she has 5 single <*teeth*> ones another almost through & 4 double teeth wh. [*which*] have almost made their appearance – she grows some speaks a great many words plain, & kisses very sweetly –

My own health is good except that I suffer some from pain in my teeth one side of my head & face – expect it is partly nervous affection

I enjoy myself much better than I expected to living in the house with another family – Mr. Root's people are an excellent family to live so near us. Find it very convenient & pleasant living so near church &c. we are but a few rods from the Cong. [*Congregational*] house. D. [*Daniel Grant*] has the care of sweeping it making fires &c. for wh. [*which*] he receives some compensation – $1.50 or $2 per month.

We live well this winter – use as many dried apples as we want D. raised our own potatoes more than we shall need for our own use we bought a nice fat hog for 3 cts lb. weighing about 350 lbs. We have several dollars due at the store so that we obtain sweeting & what else we need – our heifer gives 3 or 4 pints milk a day & we make as much better as we wish to eat.

It has occurred to me that perhaps you would like a description of our room. This house fronts the south the front door opens into Mr. Root's room – about half a dozen steps to the N.W. is the door leading into our room as you enter just at the right stands the stove & in the corner near is <*are*> the wood & chips – about three ft. long 2 wide & 2 high wh. [*which*] answers for a chest & seat. On the same side is a recess just large enough to admit a bed before wh. [*which*] hang 2 white curtains (sheets) – I will not attempt to mention the things kept under the bed – on the west side next the bed is kept the stand, with the band box on it, & the carpet bag filled under it, next are placed two or three chairs then a cupboard the top of wh. [*which*] serves for clock shelf, & book case, it is one of the boxes in wh. [*which*] our goods were brought out here in wh. D. has put 9 shelves & before wh. [*which*] hangs a white curtain.
On the South side are 2 windows, between them is the table, above wh. [*which*] hangs the mirror & under it stands a trunk, a chair is before each window
On the <*north*> east side between the door & wall is another trunk with the water pail upon it, there is also a window on the west side –

I will endeavor my dear Sister to give sufficient attention to my teeth to preserve them, though I do not feel that I shall often expend an half hour daily upon them – I laughed when you said that you had <u>commenced being particular with your own</u>
Wm. Pease said that my front teeth were decayed very badly to fill, & that he gook a great deal of pains <u>in</u> filling them. But I am sorry to say the filling in two of the cavities has for some two months or more been loose & recently a piece came out as large as the head of a pin – there had previously one or two very small particles came out –

Why do not the Madame's & Md'lles' [*mademoiselles*] let you have a better place to study French than in the midst of "A mirthful noisy school girls?" & only occasionally a recitation! I do not see how you can make much advance <*much*>. I would not spend a great deal of time in writing to cousins &c
Harriet Prevost's death must be a <u>deep</u> affliction to her friends – present to them our sympathy & love –

D. Hurlburt appears much as he used to intelligent agreeable &c. looks some older has two children a girl & boy – has acquired a handsome property.
How do you like that plaid dress? The trimming that was on my white hat that I intended to have taken home I have found since returning –
Have had no letter from Father Grants people since my return – have had two from Joel [*Joel Grant*] & Abby [*Abigail Cowles Grant*] – J. has been sick most of the time since June – I rec'd [*received*] letter from our people soon after yours, am glad they sent yours, your lecture to Ralph [*Ralph E. Burr*] was needful & good, hope he will hear it – I am anxious about Erastus [*Erastus Burr*] – Should like you to forward this home as <*I*> it will save my writing so soon to them –

We are not yet decided where we shall live next summer. Daniel cannot feel that it is best for us to return to Ct. [*Connecticut*] & stay a few years. As it will be so much expense to go & come especially if we move our goods & if any were left they would be in great danger of being destroyed by mice or persons or both & he does not feel <*as though*> that there is any one here with whom we could safely trust our property, land &c & think it would cost a third more to live there than here – had he built a house last fall the man who was to build the barn would have put it up & [some?] of the $50 that Mr. Short was to pay & some money for D's work last summer was expended for lumber so that arrangements were made not to run much if any in debt for the building of the house

Mr. Short has not yet fully paid the $50 & there have been no deeds exchanged

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[*Addressed to:*] Miss Mary Burr [*Mary Burr Hill*]
Care of Madame Sigoigne
No. 7. Washington Square
Philadelphia
Penn. [*Pennsylvania*]

Written by Caroline from Wis. [*Wisconsin*] Speaks of Mrs. Codding – of her seeing Martha Leach Curtis & Mary Humphrey – Speaks of a teacher sent out by Ed. Soc. – Inquires about receipt from Mrs. Moses Cowles for Cough – & for Aunt S. what to use to arrest progress of [Crysipeton?]

Wankesha. Prairieville, Sept. 11, 1847 –

My dear Sister,

It is rainy Sat. evening – Daniel is setting glass & little Abby [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] is sleeping in the rocking chair in which she has sat a good deal of the time for almost three weeks past. For she has had a chill<*s*> fever every day [during?] this time & she does not feel much like playing during the intervals of fever – she sometimes says Abby feels bad & very often says Abby's tired – we are giving her medicine & bathing her in cold water & hope she will be well before long.

About five weeks since Daniel had a violent attack of chill fever, but by prompt measures succeeded in breaking it so that he was not confined to the house but about a week, he has not felt as well since, but he has been able to work most of the time – My health continues good it is much better than it was last summer there is a good deal of sickness around this season fevers of various kinds & ague & <*I don't know but*> it seems that there is sick in Ct. [*Connecticut*] also for we learn in a letter rec'd [*received*] from John to day [mailed?] 1 Sept that Bilious fever is rather prevalent in that region, he says Abby [*Abigail Cowles Grant*] had been sick six weeks & was then able to sit up but little – says she & Joel will probably remain East – also says that Martha [*Martha Grant*] seems to be declining is much emaciated & has no strength & speaks as though she would not probably live but a few weeks – is very patient & enduring – John's health is improving – can walk nearly as well as ever – has walked repeatedly two or three miles without great fatigue though the diseased spot in his spine gets easily tired – is expecting to teach somewhere soon – spoke of his calling on you in Phil. [*Philadelphia*] said you seemed happy & was apparently pleasantly located – he has spent five or six weeks in Watertown since leaving Phil.

I wrote home <*two or*> three or four weeks since – have not heard from there or from you this long time – I have no knowledge of what you expect to do after you leave there, about the first of Oct. I think – Do you intend visiting the Provost's on your way home? I expect you are wearing yourself out, but I hope not. how I do want to see you. I am sorry that checked calico dress does you so little service – the one that I had in exchange is of great use to me – I think the pieces of silk & [berage?] that you sent me very pretty did you have the berage altered over for you this summer? it was a present I think. how much was your silk? & how is it cut?

Mr. Codding is now preaching for us – believe the people are well pleased with him. Mrs. C. is an intellectual, intelligent lady – She [sane?] not long since in Milwaukie Mrs. Martha Leach Curtis & Mary Humphrey said they enquired after me, sent love &c. I presume they learned that I resided in Prairieville from the Mem. Catalogue [*Memorial Catalogue from Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] – you have rec'd [*received*] one I presume – Mr. Curtis preaches in Ann Arbor Mich. [*Michigan*]
Mrs. Codding said he looked & appeared well, but she did not think he was a great man – is pro-slavery. They were on a journey to Chicago as Mrs. Curtis' health was delicate she having been confined a few weeks previously & lost her child – Mary Humphrey is an assistant in Sem. [*Seminary*] in Racine. I think her sister Helen (widow Paler) resides [there?] now. & Mrs. Codding

was not previously acquainted with them, but they happened to be at one place I was exceeding glad to hear from Sarah Sibley – have not yet written her, but intend to when I have time –

Where is cousin Thankful now & where is Warren. & how is his health? Did he visit Vermont with T. this summer? has just curled up in the rocking chair

13 Mon. A.M. I am in the midst of washing but <*but*> Abby has a chill coming on & wants Mama to rock her, so I improve the time in writing – Abby does not like to be bathed in cold water, she frequently says on [waking?] in the morning & during the day, "Mama, need Abby be washed? Abby don't want to be washed" – Willis Tickenor brought her a pretty Maltese kitten the other day which is a great comfort to her – many remark on hearing her talk, that she speaks very plain for one of her age, but she is not constantly jabbering like some children –

We lived in Mr. Purington's house about three months & have since been in our own. It is in quite an unfinished state, we shall not be able to have more than one room plastered this winter –

We have not made much taking boarders, don't know but we cleared 50 cts. per week. Think it was better to board Mr. Purington than to paid a dollar in or even 75 cts money. he called his board 1.50 & the house rent the same

Mr. Canfield the young man who boarded with us 14 weeks has lately gone home to Vt. [*Vermont*] Are now alone – expect before long to board a mare to pay for some work done on the house –

Mrs. Root & her children expect to go East soon & spend the winter with her parents her father's name is Wilcos cannot think of his first name in Alford a small town near Stockbridge – Mr. Root is in rather embarrassed circumstances – I would like to have you & the rest see her though I have no particular anxiety perhaps it may be convenient for you to go up. I do not know as she would think as she could go to see you & I should have no objection on account of house &c.

You have probably heard or read something of the Society for promoting National popular Education – I think there are a Committee of six – do not now recollect any but Pres. Beecher & Ex Governor Slade – teachers are sent out by the Soc. chiefly to the West. Miss Catherine Beecher gives the lectures &c. previous to their coming – we have one here in Prairieville – Miss Baker from Lancaster N.H. she commenced with a very small school but it increases & she is very much liked – I sent for her to tea one P.M. found that she has been familiar with the hist. [*history*] of the Hol. Sem. [*Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] from its commencement. Came [very?] near going there &c – spoke of the high repute of the Ips. Sem. [*Ipswich Female Seminary*] while under the care of Miss Grant – of the <u>respect</u> & <u>admiration</u> & <u>veneration</u> & with wh. [*which*] she was regarded –

I want you should ask Aunt Sally if she knows what it was that Dr. <*Bide*> Welch applied to her Daniel head to check the swelling when he was so bad with Erysipelas – I am anxious to know & tell what she bathed him in. She told me but I was so careless as to forget. Also will you ask Mr. Moses Cowle's people of what that syrup is composed wh. they consider such an excellent remedy for a cough – cured Lorenzo Roys they think – I asked Abby to send me word about these things but she has been so sick I presume it will not be attended to – I also asked her to ask Parna the way that she used camphor for sore nipples, but you need not find that out if you do not wish to. I ought to have remembered – do not know as we shall ever have occasion to use any of these remedies ourselves, but we may have & others do have – my love to all my friends & yours – I feel anxious about Ralph I don't know how he will grow up –

Very aff. [*affectionately*] yr [*your*] sister Caroline.

[*notes along sides:*] Direct letters to Wankesha Co.

Abby's hair <*wants*> is not long enough to put behind her ears it lacks about an inch & a half – it is no darker than it was last year – I intend to make a net for her –

I want you not to fail of going to father Grants when you get home. I have some fear that this letter will not reach you before you leave Phi [*Philadelphia*] though I think it will – if it is not too much trouble I wish you would send a paper on the reception of this if you cannot find time to write, as I shall be anxious to know whether you get it.

I have forgotten all of the names of those cousins that Thankful told about being in Wis. [*Wisconsin*] & Ill. [*Illinois*]

When you get home if those papers are not attended to you can see to it –
D. will be getting uneasily – also about the Dodge Co. [land?]

Is not Ralph […] going to College? If he does not […], he must certainly sometime a long time at school yet & study very hard too – Mary Burr

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[*Addressed to*] Miss Paulina Ward
New Marlborough

Sept the 11 1818
Perry
Dear Brother and Sister

Having an opportunity of conveying a letter to you I dare not let it slip fearing tha you will not write to me I dont know that I should write any letters at all if it was not for the pleasure of receiving them, my Friends I have many things I want to say to you Paulina. I wat to ask you many things some respecting your work some respecting your trials and some respecting Mr. which I have heard so often Capt Catlin was hear yesterday he said he was informed you was soon to be married you need not calculat your business to get rid of trials without you mean to be disappointed for it is necessary that we <*should*> have some in order to make us humble if we riteley look upon them they most scertainly will Calvin what are you a doing these hard times. I hope you are a thinking that you shull come out to Perry next fall. I believe I should be some glad to <*sa*> see my frienuls out hear and I flatter myself that I shall some of you before many years I am especting Mr [..ailon?] now evry minet and I must leive off writing I espect another opportunity to write in three or four weeks you must all of you write by [....?] you must give my love to grand Mother I shall writ to her the next opportunity I feel verry [anxious?] to hear from her Mr Sheldon and Mary send their love to you all Mary is a good girl but [porely?] [noureished?] Paulina you must give Mr Nortons and cousin Polly [.....?] my self your Loveing sister

Philena [Ward?]

[*Addressed to Paulina Ward?*]
Perry June 21th 1818
My Dear Paulina

What anxiety I have to hear from you but think it not propper to go to Uncles until the sunsets and then if my life be spared i shull hear from My Dear Sister I have been too miles and a half to meeting to day Elearsur say that Uncle Elikew and family got hear about noon to day how great my joy will be my pen cannot express when seeing them then I shall espect to see my honored Grand Mother of She is in the land of the living Sorrow is often mingled with our joy I must be denied of ever seeing Grand Mother in this world I have returned from Uncles and they tell me that they left her verry lo and all most helpless I think it must <*have*> a great undertaking for you to have the care which you most likely will I hope you will have all the patience necissary you may hear after be rewarded for your labor I excuse you for not writing this time but you must be faithfull when you [*page torn*] another opportunity I have a great many [*page torn*] I want to say to you [*page torn*].....writ but short [*page torn*, *bottom part of letter is missing*]

She tells me that Mr Norton requested her to tell his Brother if she see him that he was a calculating to be married in the fall to you and is it so your will write a word to me of it is so so that I may be convinced whether it is or not you may think it is none of my business if you do I am invious to no
give my love to cosen Polly and all who enquire exept of this from your Loveing Sister P S
Perry June 23rd 1818

Dear cousin, being at leisure this afternoon I thought I would devote my in writing to you although I do not feel indebted to you in any measure but I think I can excuse you for not writing to me I suppose you have a great deal to do I was very much pleased to see Uncle and his family. It looks very mournful to see Uncle and not aunt and to see the children without a mother I suppose you know to by experience how it seems to be destitute of a mother - I have no news to write of my fathers family are in tolerable good <*healtht*> health except my brothers wife <*an*> I do not enjoy very good health this spring I hope you will try to write me as soon as you can Harriet sends her love to you likewise to grandmother and the rest of the <*fum*> family <*My fathers fami*> present. My love together with the rest of my fathers family to Grandmother and the rest of your family. Accept these lines from your cousin Clarissa Ward.

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[*Addressed to unknown*] from Cousin Cornelia Benton to Caroline Grant?
New Haven March 12th
My Dear Cousin,

Jennie & Husband and Bertie have just made us a visit, was glad to see them, it brings to mind days that past, that I spent with my dear Aunt O how much like a dream my life appears as I look backward. I have thought of you and Edward in your affliction, although my silence would not indicate it. I am glad he is able, as Jennie told us to be about and do a little work, he has had a long hard siege. I do not wonder he feels discouraged, and yet if we fully trust, and believe that "not a sparrow falls to the ground without His is notice," and that He is leading us every step, although the way does seem dark, and mysterious. He cannot make a mistake, trust Him, some good must come out of all this, I think there is contained in this poem a beautiful thought.

My Father God, lead on!
Calmly I follow where Thy guiding hand
Directs my steps, I would not trembling stand,
Though all before the way
Is dark as night; I stay
My soul on Thee, and say
Father I trust Thy love, lead on.

I have not heard from Aunt Susan [*Susan Jane Benton Wallis?*] in a long time, for the reason that I have not written to her, I shall write very soon. We have had company this winter most of the time, it so happened, but as I have been able to entertain them I have enjoyed it, a number of Mr B's relatives have been here. Brother David is keeping house alone a good deal of the time this winter as Eunice likes to be away with her children. D. is as well as usual. Ollie is keeping house in N. York [*New York*] she is daily expecting another heir, if she has it not already, her little girl is 2 years last Sep. a pretty child name Viola. Fred Benton had a son born last Jan. an only one. There is nothing special to write about my children only they are well and seen to be prospered to a small extent. Raymond has two children, son and daughter. Fran has one son three years old Fannie still remains with us keeping house on our 2nd floor. Bessie is in school she could have graduated this year, but we thought it would seem to crowd her to much, so we deferred it until next-year, she has always been to Mrs. Cady'[s] private school. She is not very strong, but expect she will be more vigorous when through her school. Gracie's eldest daughter is through high school, is now a book keeper for her father, so cannot help her mother much, all the others are in school the two youngest go to a private Kindergarten. Emma and her family are in very good health the three children are all in school. Alonzo's family have some of them suffered with what they called the "La Grippe." I think the little girl is not very well since but they expect she will come out all right. We were not troubled with "Grippe" or any such thing.

I would like to hear about the Flemington friends. I do not hear only when I hear from you. Your husband must have had a lonely time the past year. I suppose he learned to take care of himself while in the west. We attended the Stodard course of lectures this winter it was very interesting as well as instructive, two of the lectures were upon the life of Napoleon, while that was fresh in our memory, we had an opportunity to attend a play, <*of the*> entitled 'Life of Josephine' it was very fine.

Mr Baldwin's health is very good, he is able to attend to business every day and has had some one building in process of erection for the last – fifteen years, but now he has none, and is helping Mr [Braly?] about his moving business when he feels like it. He has caused to be erected 20 brick buildings on this little square of land, and still there is room for more. Mr. B. [*Baldwin*] thinks we will visit his friends in Iowa and Minnesota next summer we went to Ocean Grove last summer, and other places.

Now dear cousin I would like to hear from you, and please tell me about all of our relatives. Nancy too, do you know where Cousin Warren is? We supposed he was to spend the winter in Georgetown, with his wife's relatives, but we fail to get an answer from there. Frank Benton is in N. H. [*New Hampshire*] working for Fred Benton in the box manufactory, has Jessie gone west again? We would all be very glad to have a visit from you, and would it not be the best thing for you to have a change from your ardious duties of the past year, and so spend a few weeks with us, it would be convenient now as any time come right along.

Yours with much love
Cornelia [*Benton Baldwin?*]
22 Whalley Av.
N. Haven, Ct.

[*Written in pencil on the bottom of the last page, is the following*]
would like this returned please CG [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

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New Haven [*Connecticut*], Feb 19th 1847

The following is a somewhat minute account of the various circumstances attending the surgical operation that has this day been performed at the State Hospital in this city, for the removal of tumors from the back of Mr. J. Grant situated between the shoulders and below all the muscular part, in contact with the vertebral column. Mr. Grant and myself were classmates and intimate friends during our College course [*at Yale University*], and for this reason he wished me to remain by his side on that trying occasion, and note all particulars with as much accuracy and minuteness as the nature of the case would allow, in order that I might commit the same writings, both for the gratification of his friend who could not be present, and <*and*> that he himself might be able in after years, if permitted to survive the operation, to recur to them, and know those facts which from the situation he was then in, he was unable with any distinctness to perceive, or afterwards to call to mind. Dr. Knight had on a previous occasion, with his usual prudence and caution, administered both to Mr. Grant and to others, moderate quantities of the Soporific gas or Ether, and thereby tested its favorable effects in producing at least partial insensibility to pain, and therefore did not hesitate in accordance with Mr. Grant's wish, to administer it at this time immediately previous to commencing the operation. The hour fixed upon for the assembling of the Physicians was1/2 past 10 o'clock A.M. It was also Mr. Grant's wish that those of his former classmate who were in the city, should be present with him at least until the operation should commence, and as much longer as their nerves would admit. When I arrived, I found him sitting in his rocking chair, with 5 or 6 classmates and some other friends sitting around him. He was conversing freely and cheerfully with those present, and indeed often laughing quite heartily, as classmates are almost sure to do when meeting after so long a separation. He was evidently a little excited in view of what was before him, his nerves slightly trembling, yet he remarked that the trial must come, and he felt prepared to meet it; and other similar expressions that indicated his firmness of resolution to hear all that was necessary. He said to me more than once, that if he should need holding, I must hold him firmly to the last, as it was his wish to have the operation as thorough as possible. A few minutes before 11 o'clock, the Physicians requested all to step out, until they were prepared to commence. We were shortly invited to return, and on entering the room, Mr. Grant was lying upon the bed, with his back towards the window, to secure a favorable light, resting on his right shoulder, having turned nearly upon his face. At about 6 minutes past 11, he commenced inhaling the Ether; in the mean time all things being in readiness, Dr. Knight stood at his back prepared to commence the incision, Dr. Jewett at his head and Dr. Hooker before him; also the three Dr.s Ives, Dr. Dom, and various other Physicians around to aid in

sponging and other necessary duties. After inhaling the Ether from 2 1/2 to 3 minutes, he became drowsy and his eyes closed. At that moment Dr. Knight made the first incision over that portion of the tumor, on the left spine <*making the*> a little removed from the central line of the back, and parallel with it. This incision was about 8 inches in length and from 1/2 an inch to an inch in depth, laying the part, often down to the tumor. It was cut from within outwards, in accordance with the Dr's present mode of operating, thus as he supposes avoiding at least half the pain that was caused in the old may be cutting from without inwards. He then commenced separating the body of the tumor from the parts around it, by the aid of his hands and instruments, assisted from time to time by others as opportunity offered itself. At the end of 2 or 3 minutes, Mr. Grant showed more signs of sensibility; at times partly arousing himself like one deeply intoxicated, and speaking in an incoherent and broken manner, saying he knew what they were doing, that he did not suffer and wished them to proceed, that it was wonderful the Ether should produce such an effect, and many similar remarks: also requested some one to go and tell his friends, who were in another room, not to worry about him, for he did not suffer as he had done on a former occasion. In about 5 minutes from the time of making the first incision, Dr. Knight had entirely separated the body of the first tumor from the neighboring parts. This was nearly oval in shape, full 5 inches long, and from 2 to 3 inches in diameter. I say the body of it, for there were then remaining numerous branches or roots, extending still deeper among the lateral and posterior processes of the vertebra along the spinal column. The next 10 minutes were spent in extricating them as rapidly as possible, constantly using sponges to remove the blood as fast as it collected in the incision. The blood and depth of the incision, making this extremely difficult. During these 10 minutes, Mr. Grants mind was constantly active, though clouded and confused, dwelling for the most part on the subjects already mentioned: sometimes making very sensible and apt remarks, but oftener confusing and commingling different subjects. He said he had had a dream, and it was a very pleasant one. His mind dwelt much on the fact that he felt so little pain, saying that it was wonderful he should feel no pain when he could feel other things, meaning that he felt no pain, and yet was sensible of what was going on around him. He said once, he might perhaps learn something then, respecting the connection of the mind and body. When the instruments were hooked into remaining positions of the tumor, and considerable effort made by other instrument and by main strengths to extricate there portions, he would sometimes say he felt pressure but no pain. Again he would flinch, and tell the Dr. it was beginning to hurt. By this time the effects of the Ether had to a considerable extent passed off, and his countenance grew more pale, until it had assumed almost an ashy whiteness. His pulse had also fallen and rest was advised, though Mr. Grant proposed <*proposed*> that they should proceed immediately to incise the other side. When beginning to faint the Dr. ordered camphor and water. Mr. Grant said he did not like Camphor, he however drinked a little, but was nauseated by it and vomited slightly; they then gave him spirit, and water which had better effect. After resting about 5 minutes, his countenance regained its color and his pulse came up again. It was now 1/2 past 11, and Ether was again administered for near three minutes, and Dr. Knight made a second incision parallel with the first, yet on the right of the spinal column. From this incision he removed another tumor nearly as large as the first, but more irregular in shape. From that time until 7 minutes past 12, every moment was occupied in removing branches and minute portions of the tumors from the extreme parts of both incisions, and from that portion of the spinal column lying between the two incisions; thus leaving entirely naked the spaces between at least 3 of the Posterior processes and some of the lateral processes on both sides. Sometimes when Dr. Knight spoke in a low tone to the other Dr's in regard to drawing out those portions of the tumor, Mr. Grant would say that he heard him, and to convince him that he was not mistaken he would repeat the Dr.s own words. Several different subjects seemed to be all deeply impressed upon Mr. Grants mind, his remarks referring first to one and then to another. One was the suffering he endured on a previous occasion; seeming inclined to compare that case with the present, and to speak of the astonishing difference in the amount of pain he endured. Another subject was the great value that was to be set upon this invention of Soporific Gas, saying he hoped Dr. Knight would not fear to administer it to patients here after, once remarking that he did not like their getting it pattented, yet he thought it a valuable invention. He said 'he hoped it would produce no unfavorable results, knowing' that the Dr's were not a little anxious on this point. He then observed that he did not know but he was as well prepared now for unfavorable

results as he ever should be, still be preferred to get well again if it were permitted him. Another subject much on his mind was the faithfulness and candor of Dr. Knight. He said he loved candor in any man, and if Dr. Knight thought there was danger he said so; and he loved him for it. He showed that he placed almost unabounded confidence in the Drs skill and integrity. Another subject still was his friends that were so faithful to him. He said he loved his friends, so long as they stood by him as they had done; he cared for nothing else. Towards the last, he charged Dr. Knight to be as thorough as though he were dissecting a dead body, repeating the injunction. He seemed fearful throughout lest he should show unmanliness. Dwelling for a moment upon what he had suffered previously, the tears came into his eyes and he said he knew it was unmanly to weep, but he could not bear to be living along thus a burden upon his friends, and then for an instant bursting into tears. Another time after drawing a sigh, he said he knew it was not the part of a true man to sigh, but he could not help it. He often remarked after saying something rather disconnected, that he feared they would think he was very foolish. Again he would say he knew some things well, he was partly sensible. During the last half of the operation he found it necessary to have recourse to the Ether frequently. Every few moments he would say he was coming to and must have some more Ether, and if it was delayed he would beg for it like a child, and then say if Dr. Knight thought it was not best he should have any more, he would try to do without it. My position most of the time was on the left side of the bed, nearly in front of his face, and invariably during the whole of the operation, when he opened his eyes and met mine, he would smile, however great the effort necessary, and not unfrequently would laugh quite heartily, especially when feeling the effects of the Ether, more than usual. Once he looked up in that way and smiling called me by my first name, said Guy, Does not such a sight as this effect your nerves? Again he spoke my whole name, inserting the middle letter, as he often did in College. After the first incision was completed, he wished me to support with my hands his left shoulder, which was much weakened by cutting off the muscle and I continued to do this till the wound was dressed. He would often speak the names of those near him to satisfy them he was sensible. There are but a few things that he said, for he was talking almost constantly during the operation. And many of these are interestingly only as they show the effects of the Morrison Gas on the mind. The time of the operation aside from the dressing, was an hour and one minute from the time of beginning to inhale the Gas. After this about 15 minutes were spent in washing and dressing the wounds. The mode of dressing was by adhesive straps of the common sticking plaster, crossing often in every direction, -- over these were laid thick compresses, and the [the?] so called figure of eight bandage passing many times around both arms, and crossing every time over the incisions. If asked in regard to the actual amount of pain he endured by the operation, I should say almost literally nothing compared with what he must have suffered without Ether or something equivalent. Still there was evident suffering, both mental and physical. The moment the dressing (March 4th) was done, the room was darkened and every person strictly prohibited entering for several days, except barely enough to take care of him. Considerable vomiting followed which may or may not have been the effects of the Ether. No other effects have been evident. The favorable results of the absolute quiet and rest which was maintained for many days, have been seen by all who were much at his bedside. His rapid improvement has been truly astonishing.

Yours Guy B. Day

[*Note on side*: I think this was written by Uncle Banister Gay]

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Elizabeth Grant
Care of Dea. [*Deacon*] Elijah Grant
Colebrook
Connecticut
Oct. 30

My dear Mother,

It is always my first impulse upon receiving a letter from home, to sit immediately down and answer it and it is that feeling which induces me to answer yours, which came to hand yesterday so soon. We were very glad to hear from you, especially to learn that all were well.

We have been expecting to hear from you through Mr Griswold, but had nearly despaired of this coming this fall before the receipt of your letter. He has not yet arrived but perhaps he will before I finish this letter. I am very sorry for his misfortunes but hope he will soon be in a more prosperous condition.

You expressed some anxiety about my health, and speak as if you supposed I was still afflicted with sore breasts. This is not the case. I was troubled twice in the fall and early part of winter with sore
hands, but drinking the sarsaparilla syrup cured them in both cases and they have not troubled me since until the past week they have been a little sore. About a week after my confinement my breasts began to swell, we tried the usual remedies for swelled breasts in vain, they continued to swell, but were not very painful unless I moved my arms, and in less than three weeks they broke three times. Since then they have never troubled me but once, and then it was a cold which was removed by sweating. I have much reason to be grateful that I got through with them with so little pain. I was quite out of health for two or three months after my confinement, had a diareah which reduced me a good deal and was bought on by the least excercise, but I have got entirely over that, and for the lat two months have been as well as any body need to be, and have grown quite fleshy. I have done my work alone 8 or 9 weeks this summer and do not now wish for a girl. I find a good deal of excercise agrees with me. Mr Grant has been in very good health the most of the summer, but has for some past days been severely afflicted with the toothache. He went this morning to attend court in New Philadelphia, and Elizabeth and I are to spend the night alone. Elizabeth is very healthy and good natured. She is rather small featured but very fat, and I think resembles Jane very much. It is very gratifying to me that she does. She lies upon the floor a great deal, but sleeps very little indeed. We do not use a cradle let her wear caps, or give her paregoric; three things which astonish the people here very much. I put her in a pail or tub of water every day if I have the time, if not I wash her thoroughly all over. She likes either method of washing, but prefers going in a tub of water. I wish you could see her. I am afraid she will not be so good when she is older, but I intend to try to make a good girl of her.

We recieved a letter from Mary about the first of Sept which had been three or four weeks on the way, which was the first time we had heard from her since April. She then wrote from Boston and said she would send us a paper and let us know where to direct a letter. I am glad she is to remain with you another winter.

We had a letter from Elizabeth about two months ago. I wish they would visit us this fall but do not know that we have much reason to expect them. Mr. Grant has thought a little of taking us to see them, but has concluded not to go. He is very busy and finds but little time for visiting. He does not thinking of going east next summer, if I should go, Mrs Whiting will accompany me and a friend of ours, Miss Fish, from Mass. [*Massachusetts*] She has been in Mrs Hopkins school 3 or 4 years, as teacher. It is of course entirely uncertain about my going.

I suppose you know that Mrs Whiting has a boy near 7 weeks old she is in very good health, and also the Dr. He is now very busy indeed although it is a time of general health here His cases are mostly in the country. Mr & Mrs Hopkins are here now and perhaps will remain, it is still uncertain. We are very much in want of a clergyman.

Wed 31st. I was very much pleased by Marcus' generosity. Tell him and Martha that we will take the will for the deed and feel as grateful to them for the things which they intended to send as if they really came. I talk to Elizabeth a great deal about her little uncles and aunts, and she seems to like to hear it very much indeed. She has now gone to sleep in my arms while I am writing. You mention the princes pine, I have used it a considerable, but never saw that it was of any use. I have never seen but one or two sprigs of it here. I think the syrup of sarsaparilla is the best thing I have ever tried, and would recommend to all who are troubled with scrofulae.
I do not know how it would affect Maria P. but presume it would not hurt her and it is a very agreeable medicine to the taste.

I wish cousin Elizabeth would not wait for me to write to her, tell her when she has as many cares as I have that I will excuse her if she does not write often, but now I cannot. Is she to be married this fall? I was in hopes if I went home next summer that she would return with me. Give my love to them. There are so many things which I wish to write that I could fill several sheets but I must let them go hoping to see you sometime and communicate in an easier way. Mr Grants business is good. The crops are mostly small in consequence of drought. Wheat crop

was about as good as usual, Potatoe crop very small. Sugar is 15 cents a pound in consequence of the Ohio being so low. Flour is $8, a barrel. Times are hard, but I am blessed with an excellent appetite and relish plain food.

I want to know Mary's plans for the winter but do not know where to write to her. Give a great deal of love to her & all of the rest of the family. If you see any of my fathers family give my love to them and tell father and mother I wish they could see how much work I have done today, and with how little fatigue. I wish you would try to persuade Mr Hubbell and Henrietta to come and see us. I think they might come.

Mr Grant has not come home and I am afraid baby & I will have to stay alone another night, as it is now 8 o'clock. He may wish to write on to send some message, so I will not write any more until he comes.

Nov 2nd Mr Griswold arrived yesterday with his family. I intend to call upon them this eve. and Mr Grant will finish the letter after we have seen them. Write as often as you find time and you will add much to the happiness of your affectionate daughter

Susan B Grant. [*Susan Boyd Grant*]

Sat. morning Nov. 3. I could add little to what Susan has written, if I were disposed, for want of room. I returned from N Phila [*North Philadelphia*] Thursday Eve. Col. Griswold's family are all in excellent health. Our books and G. Hall Jrs M.SS. came in good condition. Col. G's [*Griswold*] other goods are yet behind and no word has come respecting them which makes him feel somewhat uneasy. A letter was to be sent on their being forwarded from Albany, but none has come.

It is an exceedingly expensive time to support a family here, and while provisions are scare and dear, money is scare also, and collections difficult. Business pretty good.

E. P. G. [*Elijah Phelps Grant*]

Sat. morning Nov. 3 (continued from 4th page.) Since writing a little on the last page of this sheet, I have got some red ink and concluded to add something further. One thing I wish to say is, that our Post Master never takes the wrapper off from newspapers when they are marked paid on the outside, thus "Paid 1 ½"

If therefore you wish to write to write a little in a newspaper, if you will pay the postage there is I think no danger of its being discovered. Our Post Master is one of the best natured men in the world and strictly honest, not withstanding his zeal as a Van Buren man.

He has never yet discovered any writing in newspapers sent to me, or if he has, has never said any thing about it, though Asabel Rice once sent me a paper on which a great deal was written. I mention this that you may avail yourself of it, if disposed, to communicate occasionally some circumstance when you have no time to write a letter.

Canton [*Ohio*] has been all the season remarkably healthy. Out of a population of about 2,000 there have been but two deaths (besides infants) since February last. One of these was an old lady who died of consumption after several years sickness; the other was a young man aged 16 who died of a fever. But all around us, and indeed throughout this western country generally it has been sickly

Your affe [*affectionate*] son E P Grant

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Elijah Grant
Colebrook
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

One of sister Mary Grant's letters wh. [*which*] my children may like to look over She was then 22 yrs. old

Forsyth. Geo. [*Georgia*] May 29, 1833

My dear Parents,

A long time has again elapsed since I have written to, or received any intelligence from you. Aunt & Miss Hubbard left here the 28th of Apr. & I suppose, if prospered they are now in, or

near, New Eng [*New England*]. I received a letter from them written in Lexington, N.C. [*North Carolina*] 350 miles from Forsyth.

The weather is very warm here now, I think about as warm as any part of the season at home. I usually carry an umbrella to screen me from the sun The nights are pretty cool, & the evenings & mornings, when pleasant or clear are very fine. I have taken one morning walk, but I generally keep my room after supper. I rise with the sun usually, & retire before ten. In this family, we breakfast a little past six, dine about one, & have supper about seven. I should prefer supper an hour & half earlier, but am pleased with the regularity of our meals. – I think vegetation two months in advance of Conn [*Connecticut*]. What time there are the peach & apple tress in blossom? Strawberries began to be red the last of April though not ripe. Raspberries are now in their best state. Mr. Lumpkin has a fine supply. We have them in pies, or in milk for dinner. Peas, beans beets, & Irish potatoes are now abundant. Some of the potatoes are quite grown. A few days since we had some green apple dumplins [*dumplings*] for dinner. Plumbs begin to be ripe. Peach trees are loaded with fruit. Next month they will begin to ripen. So much for food & vegetations. One thing more. I said something in one of my letters about the variety of meat & bread at out table, I think you might gain an incorrect idea from it. These are all we ever have. I think the difference between this, & other boarding houses is that all or almost all the variety we ever have, is on the table every meal. I sometimes feel tired of hot bread, fresh meats, etc. Of late, we have had some cold wheat bread on the table. A great many live mostly to eat & dress in this state, I think.

May 30 Wednes. eve.

I believe I have written to you respecting the scarlet fever prevailing here. The sickness still continues, & often proves fatal. Today the funeral of a young man was attended, & yesterday two children were buried. This young man had been sick about four days. The first case of sickness was about March 1, a wagoner was brought here sick in the evening & died that night. Soon two little negroes in the family where the man died were violently seized, & each within 24 hours was a corpse. The physicians knew not how to account for the disease. Some thought it was the cholera, & some that the children were poisoned. One child was dissected, which satisfied them the children were not poisoned. The first symptoms are vomiting coldness of the extremities, or fever, if death soon ensues, spasms usually attend the dying agonies.

There have been 18 deaths in this village, more, many more than have occurred since the settlement of Forsyth [*Georgia*]. This disease prevails in various parts of the state, & in Alabama. Some of the most eminent physicians do not hesitate to pronounce the disease, the <u>real</u>, <u>Asiatic</u> Cholera. Indeed, quite as much alarm prevails as did last summer in New Eng [*England*]. Parents who had sent their children here to school, have sent for them, & some who live in the village have feared to send their children to school. It is thought the number of scholars would have been 50 greater, had there been no unusual sickness. I do not write this my dear parents, to alarm you, but I thought should I have the disease, & not recover, you would prefer I should write just what is felt by the community. I have not been afraid at all, nor do I now suffer from fear, yet I feel, that I know not what a day may bring forth. I have been exposed by being with the sick considerably, but am still well. I do not yet regret coming here, though the prospects of the school are nothing so favorable as they were. Mr. Parsons now assists me three hours & a half a day in my school. I have about 40 pupils. Many of them have been sick, five of them are now so. Some of them are rather difficult to manage, though they generally do well. Scholars here have less encouragement<s> to study than with us. Parents, & other members of families are not readers, particularly the female part of community, & often undervalue education. They feel that they [confer...?] a favor on teachers to send their children [to?] school, & some easily take offence, & remove their children. We must, however, remember that this county has been settled but ten y[*ea*]rs. It is the testimony of all whom I have heard speak on the subject, that there is a gradual improvement in many respects every year. There is less fighting, less swearing less Sab. [*Sabbath*] breaking, (the profanation of the Sab. [*Sabbath*] is now very lamentable) & much less of the vice of intemperate drinking. At a recent meeting of the Tem. Soc. [*Temperance Society*] 20 new members were added. I hope & think our school will do something towards raising the standards of education.

Next Sab. [*Sabbath*] a Sab. school is to [*be*] organized. You may wonder why this has not been done before. I know of <of> no justifiable reason. Parents generally are not interested.

Sab. schools have been opened two or three times here but not succeeding well, have been relinquished. Some professors of religion openly say they are opposed to Sab. schools. I know not why they are opposed. There are this season to be two schools, one in the Meth. Soc. [*Methodist Society*] the other Bap. [*Baptist*] & Pres. [*Presbitarians*] united. The Meth. [*Methodist*] school will be much the largest. How does the Sab. school in Colebrook flourish? Where or in what part of the bible are they studying? Do you recite the lesson at home Sat evening, together as you did last winter I was at home? Who teaches the various schools in town? Is Elizabeth Rockwell teaching? Is Louisa R married?

June 2. I received a letter from Aunt & Miss H. written by, Miss H. last evening. It was May 18, about 35 miles from Charlottesville, Va. [*Virginia*] They had then been detained by impassable streams about a week within five miles of the private family in which they stayed. Not a word said how Aunt endured the fatigue of the journey, only at one time she was unable to proceed, & at another she feared the damp weather. I know it is trying to her health to ride to far, but I hope in the end it might be no injury to her health.

They spent a day at Charlottesville [*Virginia*] & visited the University also Jefferson's seat at Monticello three miles from C. [*Charlottesville*] With the situation of his seat they were delighted , but the place is now going to ruins His grave is surrounded by a stone wall, in the woods, & is a sorry looking place. It was a disappointment to be prevented from proceeding on their way. I do wish you would both write to me. I suppose you have a great many cares, & I will be contented that your letters be rather few, but you can influence the children to write. I want to know all about you, & my brothers & sisters, relatives & neighbors. I love them all. Tell them so. Does Mr. Holden live with you yet. What hired help have you? How is your health? That you may live to the glory God here, & when your [*hole in letter*.?..] in this vale of tears is run, be [admitted?] through the redemption [*hole in letter*.?..] Christ, to Heaven, is the desire of your daughter.

Mary [*Mary Grant*]

Abigail, you will be 13 yrs. [*years*] old, before this letter reaches you? Do you grow as your years increase, in whatsoever is lovely, & good report? Pay great attention to forming good habits, habits of self government. Do what ever you do, well To do right is to promote the greatest happiness & suffer yourself to do nothing you feel to be wrong. What books do you read? I hope I shall see you, & all my friends again.

Do you feel that you have been born again, born of the spirit, & is it now your care that your body be a fit temple for the residence of the Spirit. My dear sister, will you write, & tell me.

From your affectionate sister,

Mary

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[*Addressed to:*] Mr. Elijah Grant
Colebrook
Connecticut

Canton [*Ohio*] 1st Nov 1840

Dear Parents,

I have been thinking for some time that I ought to write you once more, though no particular good or ill fortune has befallen me to give any special interest to my letter. We have all enjoyed uninterrupted good health since mother left us, though I ought to qualify this a little, and say that my own health has not been <u>perfectly</u> <u>good</u> for about two months past. I suppose my complaint to be dyspepsia, brought on by too close confinement to the duties of the office while Mr. Griswold was making stump speeches for the Whigs. I am better now, and have never been so bad as to give up business even for a day.

Our little girl, Elizabeth [*Mary Elizabeth Burton Shurtleff*], is the very picture of health. For activity either of body or mind I have seldom seen her equal at her years. She will outrun all her play-mates with the utmost ease, although some of them are twice as old. She knows all her letters, large and small, though she has not fully learned to distinguish between the small 'b' and 'd'. <u>We</u> think too, that she behaves remarkably well.

Daniel returned here from Penfield about a week since, and is one of the applicants for a common-school in this town of Canton [*Ohio*]. The town (borough) constitutes a single district, and the practice is to have four different schools in it during the winter. The Board of Directors of the District (corresponding to your District Committee, but consisting of three instead of one) meet to-morrow evening to determine whom they will employ.

Mr. & Mrs. Whiting and Mr. & Mrs. Griswold are all well — indeed, I know of no person in the place who is sick, except Mr. Harley's little boy, whom mother may remember. He has had a bowel complaint for two months or more, and now is believed to be afflicted with worms — the two together make the poor fellow quite sick, perhaps dangerously so.

Daniel found a letter here when he last came from sister Mary [*Mary Grant Burgess*]: the letter arrived about a week before his return. It bore date June 10, 1840, at which time she and Mr. Burgess were well. We have not heard from Mr. Burton or any of his family since mother's visit there. — Col. W. Griswold has made a tour into Indiana and Michigan this fall, I scarcely know with what object — he returned about two weeks since and I have not seen him since his return, but understand that he and his family are well. Daniel staid at Mr. Frederic Brown's a week ago last night; they were then as well as usual.

We receive occasionally a newspaper from home, though I think less frequently than formerly. It is quite likely that some of them miscarry. For a considerable time past I have sent to Colebrook [*Connecticut*] the Ohio Repository published at this place — I think I have sent every number. I directed them to John until lately — the two or three last I have directed to father, not knowing but John might be at New Haven [*Connecticut*]. I presume it makes no difference to whom they are directed.

The elections for this State [*Ohio*] are now over for this year, and such a tremendous political struggle I presume was never witnessed before in this country or elsewhere. The excitement has been intense and absorbing — the vote polled immense — and the victory of the Whigs decisive. I say <u>decisive</u> however without knowing anything of consequence about the Presidential Election which took place Oct 30 — no doubt however is entertained by either party as to the result. The Whig majority at the election of Oct 13 was about 16,500; though you will hear it from 18,000 to 20,000. At the late election the Whigs, in this and four adjacent counties (all we have heard from) have gained 960. If they gain in the whole state at the same rat[*i*]o, Harrison's majority will fall but little short of 30,000. We do not look however with any confidence for more than 25,000. The Whigs are rejoicing at the brightness of their prospects, and the Locos are apparently frightened. I am glad the elections are over; indeed I think both parties rejoice that they are now able to enjoy a season of political repose.

Susan wishes to be remembered, and little <u>Libby</u> sends love to Grandpa, Grandma and her Uncles and Aunts in Colebrook & Clifton [*Connecticut*]

Yours as ever E.P. Grant [*Elizabeth Phelps Grant*]

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[*Across address:*] From Father Grant to Mother when with Martha at So. Hadley Mar.'44

Millbrook Ct.
April 13 Paid 10

[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Elizabeth Grant
South Hadley
Seminary

Millbrook [*Connecticut*] April 13th 1844

Dear wife Yours of the 11th was duly received and it is with much anxiety and with embarrassed feelings that I contemplate the removal of our daughter in her low feeble state And I write to request you to take measures to get her into a carriage to ascertain whether she can bear to be removed. before we attempt to bring her home For if she should faint in riding half a mile I do not see that she can be brought home I want her and you at home very much but we cannot accomplish impossibilities Therefore I wish as above stated to have measures taken to make trial

and if at all successful let the trial be repeated I <*should*> should now think it not expedient to come for her till week after next and then if you think best to try the experiment to come for her. I wish you to ascertain the amount of the bills of expense made up against us and inform me if you can the amount of them I think I may as well enclose a twenty dollar bill for you to use as you think best in defraying expenses that have accrued perhaps it might be as well to hand it over to Dr Thomason but act your discretion in regard to it I wish you to keep me well informed in regard to Martha If she should attempt to ride out I wish to know how she bears it and how she is compared with the time I last saw her If you should think it best should we attempt to bring Martha home to have assistance you may write to Joel whenever he may be wanted and he will undoubtedly be ready to lend his aid May the trials which we are called to bear be sanctified to us and bring us to feel our dependence on God whose we profess to be and whom we profess to serve is the prayer of your affectionate husband Elijah Grant
My best respects to Miss Lyon [*Mary Grant*] and all friends

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Elijah Grant
Care of Deac. [*Deacon*] Elijah Grant
Millbook [*Millbrook*]
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

Shelburn Nov. 24, 1845

My dear Mother

I have been on the point of writing you for sometime -- one reason I have not done so is that I been exceedingly busy -- going round from place, and the other that I wished to wait <*that*> till I might have some news worth communicating -- What I have in the shapes of news is soon told -- My health has much improved since I was in Colebrook [*Connecticut*] though I have been laboring quite hard most of the time -- Some of the time too hard -- harder that I intend to labor in future -- Another item of news is that I am expecting and intending to spend the winter somewhere South -- probably in Delaware -- and shall probably employ my time on teaching a class in [Minather?] -- <*composed*> the class is to be composed of the reinforcement which is to join our Mission next year -- A third item is that Miss Moose of South Hadley has consented to take the place of our beloved Mary [*Mary Grant Burgess*] whom God has taken to himself -- This item of intelligence is of very recent origin -- only 3 or 4 days old -- I communicated to you as soon as I can -- for you are interested in such matters -- this third item is connected with a fourth <*and determines it*> -- viz that I cannot leave America on my return to India till after Aug. 1st 1846 -- I have heard once incidentally that sister Martha is not as well as when I saw her -- I should to hear from her -- and from you all -- I have of Joel's marriage -- and that he is gone West –

I hope some of you will write me before long -- It will be nearly two weeks before I shall leave Boston to go South -- and letters will find me direct to care of A.B.C.J.M. [*American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions*]

It will be impossible for me to visit you this autumn again -- But hope to do so in the Spring -- To morrow I go to Williamstown and then return to Boston the latter part of the week -- Though perhaps I may stop in the valley of the Connecticut to spend the Sab [*Sabbath*] --

My kind regards to all the family and friends –

I am as ever

Affectionately your son [*in-law*]
E. Burgess

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Elijah Grant
Millbrook
Litchfield Co.
Ct. [*Connecticut*]

<*New*> South Dedham [*Massachusetts*] Feb. 20, 1844.
Tuesday.

My dear Brother,

I have not heard one word concerning your daughter Martha, since I received a letter written partly by her brother Joel at South Hadley [*Massachusetts*], & partly by Miss [*Mary*] Lyon. She had then been confined to her bed six weeks, & her mother had been with her two weeks. I directed my reply to that letter to Miss [*Mary*] Lyon, & requested further information without delay, & also frequently information while she should continue ill. Why no one has written, I cannot conjecture. If the dear child had left "the land of the dying, & gone to the land of the living," surely some one would have communicated to me the fact. With a disease so severe, & so stubborn, she cannot have recovered sufficiently to be removed home in the uncommonly cold weather of this inclement season. Probably your family remains in a measure broken up, while <u>you</u> suffer loneliness & anxiety. No doubt, however, you rejoice in the privilege, which Martha enjoys in being allowed the presence of her mother; as well as the privilege which her mother enjoys in administering to her stricken child.

You may be ready to inquire, why I am again at South Dedham. Perhaps you already know, that Dr. Briggs was attacked last June with profuse & stubborn hemmorrage of the lungs. From the debility consequent, he so far recovered as to be able to attend to his professional business. A slight cough through the summer & autumn was attended by a decay of health, until December 26, after one week confinement to the house, his spirit was released, & his emaciated body, a few days after, consigned to the tomb, then to remain until the morning of the resurrection. In the last week of his life he gave, by will, all his estate to his wife, & made her sole execution. Since his death, debts have been presented to an unexpected amount; & the 6th of March is appointed as time for an auction, in which the house, garden, woodland, & some of the household furniture is to be sold; -- leaving Mrs. Briggs & her children almost destitute. From a letter, which I received from this, my very dear friend, just before evening last Saturday, I feared she was breaking down under the weight of care, labor & solitude now devolving upon her, & overcoming what I had supposed to be insurmountable obstacles. I yesterday hastened to her dwelling. The Sabbath had been to her a season of precious rest from almost overwhelming cares & labors, & her spirit seemed to have been refreshed by drinking at the fountain of truth. Still she is worn down, & feeble. What she is to do, she knows not. The people throughout the parish are exceedingly kind & sympathizing. <*Both*> Her father, the Rev. Jabez Chickering & her grandfather Rev -- Balch (Mr. C's [*Chickering*] predecessor) each spent a life as past of this church & people. Her father, having ample pecuniary means, gave a library to the parish, & did many benevolent acts suited to promote the intellectual & moral improvement of his own generation, & of their posterity.

On my way to this place I called at Mr. Wm. [*William*] Stickney's 52 Temple St. Boston. They often received a short letter from Mr. Burgess. Under date of last October he says, that it is possible they may see him here in the course of a year. Should he come, he will, of course, bring his little boy, now almost four years old. He speaks of its being the opinion of the mission that he ought to [...] of its being peculiarly trying to him to think of leaving his field of labor among the Mahorattas.

From this, I infer, that the restoration of impaired health must be his object, tho [*though*] he does not specify. -- Dear Mary [*Grant Burgess*] has finished her work, & gone to heaven before us. While our attractions to earth diminish, do our attractions to heaven increase?

I did not know, until I heard at Mr. Stickney's of the failure of Mr. Jonathan Hoyt, & I fear you may have suffered by this event. (He was owing Mr. Stickney six thousand dollars for borrowed money, which was to be paid next March. Mr. S. [*Stickney*] considers Mr. H's [*Hoyt*] house as fraudulent, thinks he is liable to indictment, believes he has funds secreted; -- but has very little hope of receiving his due.) From his having purchased cheese & wool. I fear many around you may suffer -- How is this? -- Is uncle Cowles still near you? How is he?

Wm [*William*] Banister always speaks of you with fraternal affection, & he cherishes the hope that at some future time you may visit us. For some weeks past, he has not enjoyed so high a degree of health as usual, tho [*though*] with care, he attends almost daily to his ordinary

business. The health of his eldest daughter is better than it was last winter. She rides to take the air almost daily, & on part to the time is quite comfortable, having the aspect of a person in health. She reads many volumes every month, & writes a good deal. But occasionally she suffers for hours, & some times severely. No day passes without her suffering more or less. His second daughter is not sick, but she is exceedingly slender. -- James Richards our missionary son is in his 17th year. He does not love study well enough to justify our sending him to college. It is his choice to return to the [S.I.?] sooner or later. If his own father, whom we constantly expect from Europe, should decide that he shall follow his inclination to become a farmer, I do not see how we can provide for him the necessary training. My own health is, on the whole better at present than it has been before for seven years. Still I have no capacity for endurance. Overextension when we had company last week

This in brackets is for you only. {confined me mostly to my bed from Friday noon until Sunday morning. -- We have excellent Christian minister, & many steadfast Christians, among us; but we suffer greatly for want of a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord.

I wrote a few lines to Mr. Pettiborne from Amherst last August. & I have not since heard from him. How is he?

My most affectionate regards to each member of your family, including Joel & John, when you write them. Tell Elizabeth I remember her with much affection. During these seven years, that it has lost me so much suffering to write a letter she has not once written me -- That you, your wife & children may be sustained under present trials, & prepared for whatever God, in his providence, has appointed you is the desire of

yr [*your*] afftc [*affectionate*] sister
Z.P.G Banister.[*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

Ellen continues in the family of David Choate, Esq. (at Essex, five miles from Ipswich. [*Massachusetts*]) & pursues her studies to good advantage. Her present situation is favorable for her health her improvement & her character -- Direct to me at Newburyport

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[*Addressed to*] Mr Elijah Grant
Mill Brook
Con [*Connecticut*]

New Haven March 22 1847

Dear Father

I am unexpectedly enabled to repay you the sum of money you furnished me when I left home -- It gives me much pleasure to do so, as I knew you could not well spare it. It is due to my dear Aunt's [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*] great kindness that I am permitted to refund any part of it. She voluntarily proposed to loan me enough to enable me, besides paying my bills here, to refund what you gave me on leaving home. She has moreover in the greatness of her kindness procurred & presented me a full supply of clothing for the summer. Great occasion have I to be grateful to her for the sympathy & affection she has evinced towards me in this time of sore trial. Her visit of a week here I enjoyed most richly -- I have also abundantly reason to speak of Uncle Banister's kind interest & regard, but have not time or strength to spare at present.

I have been getting along very well since you last heard from me, & had expected to ride to Watertown [*Massachusetts*] to-morrow. The storm however will probably disappoint us in this. It is now <*four*> five o'clock P.M. & the storm has been raging more or less all day & there is little prospect of its ceasing immediately. If our Watertown friends come for us we shall proceed to Watertown as soon as the weather permits -- I shall probably remain then some time -- know not how long --

Marcus' letter enclosing Massey's was received <*on*> Thursday morn before Uncle & Aunt left (they did not leave till Thursday) & we were very glad to hear again from home & the intelligence brought was not however so pleasant as we hoped -- I will though still hope for that which is more favorable ere long -- shall expect to hear soon after reaching Watertown. I know not whether I shall visit home or not this coming summer -- but deem it very doubtful. It will however depend very much upon circumstances which are yet to be developed.

I have now season to be encouraged some what with regard to my future prospects yet I cannot know how far I shall restored to soundness. I shall try to procure some employment suited to my education before long. I am able to walk now pretty well tho [*though*] I am still somewhat weak. I walk up & down stairs with ease & you would be surprised to witness the great change wrought by the removal of the tumors. I hope it has procured me permanent relief. The tumors weigh 18 ounces.

Let the next letter from home state that this with its contents is received. Marcus has neglected to state so fully as I wished what letters have been received by you at home but I presume you have lost none.

Aunt Banister left with me for Mother to be sent her soon as the opportunity presents Barris' Notes on the Gospels. I presume an opportunity will present for sending them from Watertown before many weeks --

Love to all at home. I hope to hear of Mother's recovery & Martha's great improvement in your next. You must not expect to hear from me very often as it is hard for me to write long --

Your affectionate son
John.

I wish Marcus to write soon after the receipt of this, & let him promptly forward such letters as come for me to Mill Brook should any more come --

Love to all friends --

Cousin Martha sends love to all --

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Elisabeth Grant
Mill Brook.
Ct. [*Connecticut*]

Wankeshaw [*Wisconsin*], Apr. 12, 1848.

My dear Mother,

We rec'd [*received*] your letter enclosed in Joe's yesterday -- were very glad of it -- have been looking for it ever since the receipt of Joe's letter in Jan. as he said he though you intended to write soon -- We are very glad to hear that your health is comfortable & Father's good -- as you are to have workmen this summer I hope you will have help so as not to be obliged to work so hard yourself -- You speak of the hope of visiting us within a few years -- we hope it may be brought about for we should greatly rejoice to have you do so. Am much obliged for the little present sent in your letter -- You speak of sending some things to us, they will be gratefully received -- shall think a great deal of any thing left for us by dear Martha the dresses you spoke of will come just [right?] for I shall be obliged to have some soon, & may thus be saved the necessity of getting any, or more than one at least -- dried apples will be <u>very</u> acceptable -- we have been without through the winter, for we used ours all last summer having so large a family we have had a peck of green apples this winter. My Mother wrote sometime ago that they were expecting to send some dried applies & a few other things, & asked me to mention what we most needed -- I hardly know what to say -- the first thing that I now think of is a pair of india rubber over shoes, though if it is not convenient to send them expect we shall get them sometime in the course of the [...].

She spoke of getting some knitting done for Abby -- she has a supply for the present, but next winter will need two pairs of every day stockings. I am afraid she will have them knit too large -- a pair of coarse mittens would not come amiss -- she has very small hands & a slender foot, but rather long --

Mrs. Root writes that they intend to have their Parents come out here & live with them, & does not know as they shall all be ready to come until sometime in the summer, but says Mr. Root will return early this Spring -- do not believe it would be best to trouble Mrs. Root with the care of anything as she would have her aged Parents children to see to, & if she had not I dont know but any thing would come as safely alone as with her --

Should think it would be well enough to send by Mr. Root if he does not come too soon for your convenience & it were not so much trouble to ascertain about it -- the same of Mrs. Root's Father is Wilcox (Reuben I think) they live in Alford a small town near Stockbridge --

Daniel was very well through the winter, but for two months past his health <*it*> has not been as good -- for the last three weeks he has been quite unwell with what the Dr. calls pleurisy, occasioned by a fall he rec'd [*received*] three or four weeks since -- he has not been confined to the house, but has been unable to do much he is non improving & we think will soon be pretty well -- My health is about as usual -- Abby is most of the time pretty well, though she has suffered more or less for two or three months with cancer in the bowels & the blind piles -- is under the Dr's care -- he gives medicine & ointment that relieves & we hope will permanently cure --

She plays & talks a good deal -- I was saying something to day about a duck & she said, ducks is down to Mr. Lockwood's. She had in her mind one of our neighbor's ducks that she used to follow around last summer. I think she has not seen it since -- I did not know as such little children remembered things so long -- though she has often spoken of incidents several months after their occurrences. She knows nearly half of the letters -- we cannot very well avail her learning them as she commenced a while ago asking the names of them as she was looking at pictures in books -- we did not intend to teach them to her for sometime yet --

We have felt quite rich for a week past for we have new milk -- our cow was dry two months & a half & for sometime previous to her drying up she gave so little that we could make no butter -- we have been obliged to live very plain this winter, but have been blessed with good appetites to relish what we had, & now as Spring advances & our appetites call for more variety, a kind Providence is providing it for us -- we expect soon to have some maple sugar, eggs &c -- think Abby has a very wholesome appetite, she often takes a piece of bread or cold potatoe & eats it with a good relish she seems to have a great dislike to beans -- every thing else she east that we have --

We have our bed room floor laid. -- hope to have in the course of the summer more floor partitions laid up the remainder of the windows in, & some plastering.

Our Antislavery Sewing Soc. [*Society*] meets this P.M. usually attend, but I thought best to day to take the time & write to you, & beside I have some sewing on hand to do for Mrs. Codding which she wishes soon as may be -- believe Mr. Codding is expecting to remain another year -- he gives good satisfaction so far as we know -- there has been this Spring more than usual religious interest in our church -- some <*who*> of the many who had got far away from God were brought back to take their proper places before [...], & there have been several conversions but there has not been a general outpouring of the Spirit -- we feel that our souls have not been entirely passed by without a blessing -- last fall Mr. Tenney our Minister last year gave us a book entitled "Views of Sanctifications" by Prof. Finney -- I think his views of prayer that you speak of are not in this book, but I believe that there is a book containing some of his sermons, in the place wh. we will endeavor to procure & read –

Dear Mother,

In haste I sit down to write a few words <*just*> though I hardly know what what to write

I would like to know what is the matter with uncle Luther is his mind affected? give him my respects, and also the rest of the family tell Martin to write to me I will try to answer if he will

I have been trying to get a living by teaming and could do so very well if I could get my pay as I go along, but I cannot however it will be wanted when it comes I got the team on account of my health and I know my health is better than when I labor on a farm I could have done better this winter in a school I suppose but the spring has now come and I believe I can do better with the team than any other way my health has not been good for some time but as good as ever when the warm season is approaching. I am now quite comfortable and feel that the spring seasoning is almost past if so it has past much earlier than usual I have hired a man to drive the team till I am strong again and get some other business done up He has now

been here a week and we have earnt in that time $16, besides some other work that we have done I drove the team about two months before I bought it and my health improved rapidly during the whole time and until the middle of Feb. when the warm weather commenced my health never was better.

I intend to write to our people before long -- I mention about [her?] shoes Abby's stockings &c because I thought perhaps it would be convenient for our people to read this letter some time before they would get another from us

D. <*Daniel*> last fall build a very comfortable warm stable for the horses & cow of rails and [strake?] --

give my love to all friends --
Your aff daughter --
Caroline

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Elisabeth Grant
Millbrook
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

Wankesha [*Wisconsin*], June 13, 1848.

My dear Mother,

Since the receipt of your last letter it has seemed my duty to spend considerable time with two sick neighbors so that I could not consistently answer your letter immediately as you requested. With regard to our going to Ct. [*Connecticut*] to live I do not know what to say -- Daniel has for sometime seemed to have some idea that it might be best -- at least he has occasionally spoken as though we might sometime go, says he does not doubt but that it would be better for us if we were there -- provided he could find some employment that would not be too hard for him -- it is evident that his constitution is not sufficient to labor hard upon a farm, but if he is obliged to do it, we had better remain here -- <*If we thought that was a p*>

Daniel has lately talked considerably as though he should try to make arrangements to go with in a year or two -- if we thought we should go within a year, should not think it best for you to send much if anything except the apples, unless it was a dark calico dress pattern -- but mind & every thing is so changeable I make no calculations for the future -- I hope the Lord will direct us.

Our present prospects are not very encouraging, nor do I know that they are particularly discouraging -- D. [*Daniel*] has disposed of the team, for he did not find it profitable keeping them as he was not able to get money enough to meet his expenses -- was obliged to take some kind of pay that would not buy grain, or wait a long time for the cash --

The wagon and sleigh are yet on hand --

He has not yet succeeded in getting into other business as he thought he probably could -- presume he can get a school next winter though it is somewhat doubtful whether he will be able to get one & be at home much of the time --

His health is <*pretty*> good. Abby & I are well I wish you would not worry so much about us. If Abby has a return of that complain we intend to use more water in the treatment of her -- we are now reading some borrowed Water cure Journals edited by Dr. Shew of N.Y. [*New York*] City -- they contain more valuable information -- have not yet seen any particular treatment described for cases like hers. I wash her almost daily in cold water, or rather in water that has the extreme chill taken off, but she is exceedingly averse to it --

June 20. Yesterday was Daniel's 30th birth day -- he feels that that he is getting to be quite an old man, but I supposed you & Father consider him young yet.

He has been intending to write some in this letter & has been waiting, thinking that perhaps he might be able to say something definite about going to Ct., [*Connecticut*] but he cannot at present -- presume it would be better for us & more pleasant on many accounts to be there, & for some reasons it might not be as well for us. dont think we had better go unless we can make arrangements without sacrificing a great deal --

I dont know as we have much <*sparsely*> more reason to fear sickness here than there -- more & better pay is given there for labor, & payments are met more punctually but I do not know as we should be able to get along there with quite as little expenditure as we do here -- but I am not particular where we live if we can only get a comfortable living, & keep out of debt without Daniels working beyond his strength -- D. [*Daniel*] has come to the conclusion in his own mind that perhaps it is best for us to return to Ct. [*Connecticut*] independent of any thing, that has been said to him -- I have said nothing to him on the subject till within a few days past for more than a year, but he has occasionally spoken about it.

July 2 1848.

Dear Mother,

It is sometime since we received your letter and I will now try to get it answered It is not easy to make up our minds what it is best to do in regard to what you proposed. We are so situated that we shall soon be able to enjoy ourselves here perhaps as well as any where (but that is impossible to tell) and there are great objections to our returning I can't see which way the scale will turn

If I knew of some business where I could get fair compensation, for my labor and business that I could follow I might think it best to go. but it may be as difficult to find such business there as here and I never can go there to work on the turnpike and if I have got to work on a farm, I had certainly better be here than there.

Mr. Cummings one of our merchants told me a few days ago that I must not go back says that he knows that farming is too hard for me, but he will find business for me that I can get a good living at better than I can do east, but then I cant depend upon him, that is I must look out for myself. He expects soon to build a house, near us and he intends to have us for neighbors, so there is a little selfishness about it.

I do not now fear the disease of the country, cold water I think will drive them away

Mr. Cummings I think will find something that I might do to a good advantage if I had three or four hundred dollars in money but I fear he will not without. But dont trouble your self about us, my health is better than it has been for more than a year and a half before, and if I can find employment that I can bear I will risk my health.

If we should conclude to go it would be a year before we could get away

Yours &c. Daniel

Shall send to Joel soon & intend to write to John before long -- think a good deal about his weak back. fear it will never be strong -- hope Marcus is well & doing well -- what do you hear from Elisabeth Hope you are not obliged to work very hard.

Abby said she wanted to write to Grandma so I let her scribble a little -- I am distressed because this letter was not sent before, for I know you wished to know what to do about sending Martha's things -- As it is impossible for us to tell now, when, if ever we shall go to Ct. [*Connecticut*] think you had better send what you wish to, if you have an opportunity that you consider safe, but if not, keep what you feel the most choice of till a good opportunity presents -- (turn to margin on first page)

Since I wrote you before, I have written to our people that perhaps it would be best to try to send some things by Ms. Root, as I had seen Mr. Root & he said he could have the care of them &c & represented that She would return before long but he rec'd [*received*] a letter from her two weeks ago & her Mother has so far recovered as to be able to walk about the house but is not able yet to endure the journey out here & she did

Mrs R. [*Root*] did not tell when she thought she should return -- I presume she will not before fall if then -- but if our people thought best to send by her presume they have seen her before this -- We expect to have the bed room & one other room plastered before winter. D. [*Daniel*] has been to work lately for a neighbor farmer --

remember us aff [*affectionately*] to all friends –

Yr. [*your*] aff. [*affecitonate*] daughter

Caroline

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Lockport, Ill. [*Illinois*] Dec 18 1846.

My dear Mother & Sister,

I have been forcibly reminded of home to night, and if you wonder how, it was by getting tea alone, which I have done but once before since leaving home. Mrs. Blackstone is absent for a few days, and the girl, poor thing, had a terrible ague shake this afternoon. Just before tea time, I went out and made some nice cookies (tho' [*though*] not so good as if I had had my favorite receipt,) also some toast -- & tea all of which Joel & the children pronounced excellent. It is a treat indeed to have things to one's liking. Mrs. B. [*Blackstone*] always has them good enough, and most of the time better than we could afford, were we keeping house, but you know people sometimes enjoy having things their own way.

The girl is suffering dreadfully from the fever which follows the chill. If it was any thing but ague, I should be alarmed about her. But in this country, people may be deadly sick as they think one day, and stirring about the next, gathering strength for a renewed attack.

Joel has again been sick with billions fever. Last week Wed. & Friday night he had a fever, Sat morn a chill, and severe fever followed which lasted 24 hours. He did not go out on Sunday, but at evening the fever came on with great violence, & continued till Monday night. As soon as he began to cool down & perspire, Dr. gave four large pills of such a nature, that the fever has not since appeared. Dr. says quinine alone will not affect his system properly. He is now giving him peruvian bark, mixed with magnesia & carbonate of iron also orders him to take a glass of <*small*> strong beer, the same as ale. four times a day. The ale is made at Detroit, & we get it here for 371/2 cts [*cents*] per gallon. Joel is of course very much reduced in flesh and strength. One of our ladies who has been absent for a few months called yesterday; she said if she had met him elsewhere, she should not have known him. He has not lain down to day, but is unable to prepare for next Sabbath; Any exertion mental or bodily brings on a fever. How long it must be so we cannot tell, but I fear it will be no better this winter. In spite of all our endeavors to the contrary, we are almost discouraged sometimes. It is a time when a great deal needs to be done, but Joel has no strength, and consequently cannot do it.

The audience on the Sabbath is increasing but of course, if they come & find no minister nothing but reading meeting, they will not be so anxious to come again. To be sure, we hope every shake, or fever is the last, and on that live till the dread reality appears again. Joel is not the only sufferer in this place. Almost all who had the fever severely in summer, have attacks of it, on ague, now. At One of our neighbors where there are 10 in family, three or four will have it one day, & another four or five the next. They break it with quinine, but in two weeks it reappears. Some families do not have it at all. In a letter recently received from one of Joel's friends up in Wis. [*Wisconsin*] we were told that persons in that territory, suffer, as well as here. And so they do, more or less, throughout this great valley. No tongue can tell the suffering that has been endured along the [line?] of the canal. They are better now, but the money is gone for medicine, they are weak, their hovels unthatched, their children naked, and all discouraged. Persons bred in New England can have no possible idea of poverty. Within two miles of us there 50 hovels not half as good as old Isaac's. Children are abundant, but alas; for the means of clothing, feeding, & sending them to school. The parents are making a great effort to get them to school, as the school is a free one to them this winter. We have been making some clothes in our Sewing Soc. [*society*] for some of the children, and oh that we had a few hundred yards to make up. I have often wished I could get to some of your old flannel petticoats, that you could no longer use. They will cut over four small girls & are so much warmer than cotton.

It must be acknowledged that some of this poverty arises from drinking, but that is not always the case by any means. Our temperance Soc. [*Society*] is very inefficient, and must remain so as long as so many of its members are unwilling to have any measures taken to prevent the licensing of graperies.

We have commenced a Tract distribution they are refused by but few, those mostly Catholics. We have a priest in town, also one at Joliet [*Illinois*], four miles below.

While Joel is unable to write, some of the time, he spends in singing. His harp is a great help. There have been 24 singing schools here, but I have attended but part of one evening. The three children attend, & have improved very much. I hope Mary sings often with her father. Has Dwight forgotten his favorite "Holiday song"? Does Willy sing & If he does not, I would beg of

his mother to try to teach him. It seems to me more important even, than when I used to sing so much. Your children may go West, or East, or to some place where the ability to sustain that part of public worship will be to them almost invaluable. Oh, train them in that and every other respect, as if you knew they were to be models often which a whole people should pattern; you cannot now determine what shall be their position in Society. I trust it will be a high one for I know their natural talents and I hope they will early be consecrated to God. I think of them very often, and hope they are improving all these precious days and evenings.

Thus you can see a kind Providence has supplied us with cotton and linen for the coming year. I have knit one stocking from that fine yarn and commenced another. My health is good as usual, rather better.

If one of Mrs. Stuart's calls she left a bundle saying she did not like to have me get out of work. It contained 18 yds [*yards*] of five bleach'd sheeting two yds [*yards*], five linen, 4 doz [*dozen*] buttons 2 spools thread & a pair of gloves.

In Oct. I filled my feather bed & pillows. The feathers had been in a box at the barn, but were unharmed and good as when first [brought?]

The sack will make a good crib tick. If it I keep it seventy years, it may come in use. A few weeks since, I made a petticoat quilt, my old one having long since been given to our pony for a blanket. The outside of my quilt is the small figured dress wh. [*which*] was once Parney's. The lining is -- what once lined my cashmere dress, leaving enough on it for the facing.

If you have not quilted my old blue black silk, you need not it will do me more good in aprons. My alapacca dress will be for a quilt next winter. If you have quilted it, no matter.

I hope we shall soon hear from you.

With much love to all, I am your aff. [*affectionate*]
Abby.
Joel sends love to all of you.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Elisabeth Grant
Mill Brook
Connecticut

Marysville, Dec. 26, 1852.

Dear Mother,

Day before yesterday I went to Parks Bar, & was rejoiced to find a letter from Joel & one from John, inclosing a half sheet written by you.

You may well suppose that it was a comfort to hear from home and more as nearly six months had passed since we had received any intelligence.

I do not suppose that it was long between times of writing with our friends at home, but the letters were in some way lost. As you will now direct to Parks Bar, I have strong hopes that we shall receive your letters. So far they are very accommodating at that office.

I was surprised to learn that Joel had gone to Ill. [*Illinois*] again, & to the same unhealthy place he once occupied. I can no more conceive why he has done so, than he can why I prolong my stay in this country. I suppose he has reasons for so doing that I cannot understand, as I have for staying here that he cannot understand.

You must not think dear Mother that because we see trying times that the dangers we escape are greater than we should or at best might have to undergo nearer home. Truly the time of cholera was very trying, but there are trying scenes of the same nature in the Atlantic states. Joel states that "death has been busy" in Lockport, & no one knows but we might have fallen victim if our residence had not been changed. But this is foolish speculation.

*I wish I had something to write that would be pleasant for you to <*hear*> read, but I have nothing except that my health <*has*> is good.

The rains set in this year with a good deal of fury, & continue at the same rate. But a short time since we were very anxious for rain, now we are overwhelmed with it. There have

already had two freshets, <*the*> both of which the water was higher than before since the white population have inhabited this country. Today has more appearance that we may have have some pleas-ant weather, than we have seen before for some weeks. Snow is very deep in the mts. [*mountains*] John wrote that he expected to visit home at Christmas, so I presume he is at home today, How I wish I was there too.

I am now at a ranch about six miles from Marysville. I came here from the Bar nearly two weeks since & have been prevented from leaving <*on acc*> by the rains.

All farm or public houses in this country are called ranches, also an indian village is called an indian ranch.

I am going into the Mts. [*mountains*] to make shingles as soon as the travelling will admit.

I went to the Bar day before yesterday & saw Marcus. He is enjoying good health. I dont wish you to tire yourself writing to us. There are enough to write that are better able, if they only will <*if*> do it. Caroline wrote often about the time Ralph left home. I don't know how often she has written since. I have received nothing since R. [*Ralph*] arrived from her nor but one letter from home.

Heard nothing of R. [*Ralph*] in a long time, have written to him, but perhaps he did not receive it.

Saw James Allen about four weeks since he was well.

Suppose from what you wrote that Abby is stopping with you a-gain. It seems too bad for her to wade through the snow to school, to that old barn of a schoolhouse.

We shall one or both of us go home I think within a year, & I presume both of us.

Don't worry at all about us but remember us in your prayers.

Your affectionate son,
Daniel Grant

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Lockport, Ill. [*Illinois*] Sept. 1, 1854

Dear Parents,

Mother's letter was received in due time, bringing the comfortable news that you were still in your usual health, as also many thoughts and suggestions wh. [*which*] I highly value. I was pleased to receive that fragment of Elliot's letter, it so truly, so sweetly, expresses the proper feeling for every Christian in circumstances of trial. The times through which we have passed have tested Christians' hopes, and the result in general has not been so comforting as we would have expected, perhaps. There was but little of peaceful, hopeful, quiet rest in the hope of the glory that is to be revealed. Christians like others seemed to have a feeling that nothing but a promise of life and health could give them peace. God's promise "I will never leave nor forsake thee," did not sustain them, and of Christ's declaration "Whosoever liveth and believeth in me shall never die" we might have asked the question "Believest thou this?" for the number of those who derived any thing like stable comfort from it was very small. And yet there were some who did. Of the 46 who have died out of our village there were members of the Methodist Church, one of the Baptist, and one (an English lady) had never united with any church here, but < *an*> had long been a professor of religion, and died in the triumph of faith. Still another on her death had made such a profession of penitence and faith that we indulge a good degree of hope for her, thus making six of whose views we have some considerable knowledge. Many of the rest sank into the grave as they had lived, with no hope, or a delusive one.

But I was thinking of the sustaining power of the Christian's hope. If it is ever to be "an anchor to his soul," if it ever is to help and comfort him during his stay here it seems as if it should at such a time. In my own case I felt that it did sustain me. I unhesitatingly went everywhere that it seemed best to go. About half of those who died were either Catholics or Germans that spoke a language unknown to me, and I did not visit them. Every where else as far as my strength permitted I went, and felt that I went under God's gracious protection and with his promise, not that my body should be spared, but that even if it died it would live again, while my soul should, even in the interval, be <*the*> permitted to be with my Savior. But there were only a few who felt so – very few indeed.

As you will see by a paper I send the cholera seems now to have left us. There is but little sickness in the place. The weather, however, is astonishingly hot. Day by day the sun pours down his scorching beams until it seems difficult longer to endure them. Every body exclaims “I never knew it like this before!,” though this is no very good proof that such is the fact, so forgetful are we of the past. This is certain, however, that the season is unusually hot and is fast becoming very dry. In one thing we are favored, and that is that our winds are from favorable quarters, principally from the North, East, and West, rather than the South. All these winds are regarded as healthy while the latter is not so.

We received a letter from Marcus a few days since. I enclose it so you. For the first time it is possible that the boys may make a little, though not enough to render it best that they should tarry for it. Marcus, I infer, still intends to return as soon as the season is over. We are all, as well as usual, unless we except Willie, and perhaps he is, though we fear not. This chief hope is that his bodily system may get a more complete development and this very warm weather seems to operate the other way, making him less strong and healthy. His fits, though no more numerous than formerly, seem to be somewhat more violent. At the same time he grows in all that is lovely most rapidly. If he does any thing wrong and is rebuked for it, he ordinarily desists at once and expresses a wish to kiss his rebuker. Can it be that he who said “Out of the mouth of babes and sucklings, thou hast perfected praise,” has thus early taught him to <u>feel</u> with David (he cannot say it) “let the righteous smite me, it shall be a kindness and let him reprove me, it shall be an excellent oil?” At the same time he does not seem now to grow rapidly <*in any*> in any thing but sweetness and music. He scarcely speaks a word, though he sings with surprising sweetness, and accuracy. We feel that God is preparing him for service in heaven rather than on earth, but whichsoever it may be our prayer is that he may be well prepared.

I am very sorry to hear of sister Elizabeth’s misfortunes. Hers too is a life of sorrow and disappointment, though not unmingled with joy, I trust. I suppose it is still time that through much tribulation we must enter the k. of God. May we all be prepared to achieve as seeing Him who is invisible.

Your aff son
Joel Grant.

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Hamilton [*California*] May 12/1854

Dear Mother

I thought to have written you a long letter before this time but I have a very sore hand which has delayed me very much & but for M.’s [*Marcus*] timely arrival I should have found it necessary to hired some one to do my work. The trouble as far as I know is an eruption on the back of my hand similar to biles yet they are not biles.

M. [*Marcus*] has told you something of my situation &c. & as I hope to write more definite soon I will add no more now. As for M.’s [*Marcus*] prospects we can say nothing just now but will soon know something more particular he came here very unexpectedly. Though not strong, he seems pretty well & I think will soon be pretty smart.

Your letter was dated Feb. 26 Caroline’s mailed at Flem. [*Flemington, New Jersey*] March 18 John’s same date & Joel’s Feb. 2 The only letters from friends at home written since last Nov.

M. [*Marcus*] has dated his letter Marysvil[le] [*California*] though written here & I suppose is just as well & perhaps better I as often send my letters there to be mailed as to Hamilton [*California*].

Excuse me from writing more now. I will write to C. [*Caroline*] or John next mail

Your affectionate Son
Daniel Grant

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Lockport, Ill. [*Illinois*] Dec. 4, 1854.

Dear Parents,

I am happy to be able to report to you again that we all <*continue*> are in pretty good health, and that we have met with nothing particularly unfavorable since I last wrote you. We are somewhat encouraged with reference to Willie, who for a few days past, has had his fits in a modified form, and not so frequently as formerly. His general health is very good – he grows very fast, and is fleshy. He does not talk very much as yet, but is learning rapidly. His musical powers develop more rapidly than any thing else but he seems to be sufficiently bright in all particulars.

As to medicines for his relief, it seems probable that we shall never be able to secure any. We have prescriptions made every day <*from*> by persons who profess to have been similarly afflicted, or to have had friends who were. Some of these prescriptions are curious enough. One woman says a string of beads made of Lima beans and worn on the neck will cure, another says that a like string of the rattles of the rattlesnake, has cured her son. While yet another says, that a prescription given by an Indian Doctor cured her brother wh. [*which*] Prescription was to cut off the head of a mud turtle, and let his blood run into brandy, and give the mixture. Yet another, (a Mr. Savage, brother of the Rev. Mr. Savage, who is, or has been, Agent of the Tract Society in Ct. [*Connecticut*]) says that an Indian Doctor prescribed for his daughter Camphor dropped upon sugar, some six or eight drops every morning, and that it was successful, though he thinks the fits had injured both constitution and mind before they tried it. We know the daughter, and though she is not very bright, and is weak in constitution, yet her capacity is very respectable, and her character very lovely. Mr. Savage resides in a neighboring town about six miles from us. Yet another person, (a lady who represents herself as having been a sufferer) says that black Cohosh is a cure. (The article is one found in the ships but I know nothing of its origin or character.) Besides this we have had Peony root prescribed, and various other articles that I will not stop to mention. We have tried the Peony root, the spirits of camphor dropped on Sugar, & are now trying the Cohosh though we have recently learned that the lady who recommended it did not have epileptic fits nor fits of another kind. From all this however we derive this comfort; that as some persons have had fits, (perhaps epileptic, & perhaps not) and recovered from them, we may hope that Willie will recover. In medicine we have very little reliance, but in that vigor of constitution wh. [*which*] he now seems to be gaining we have much.

When I last wrote I had the Jaundice somewhat severely. I have now recovered from it, several pounds lighter in flesh, but not otherwise affected. My recovery has been rapid, much more so than those acquainted with the disease judged possible. I took no medicine except the Homeopathic. Whether my rapid recovery is due to its operation or not I cannot say, but think I should resort to it again if I had an attack.

We received a letter from Marcus, dated Hamilton California, Oct. 18, last Wednesday Nov. 29. He intimates that his intention to return was providentially frustrated. If he had secured all the money due him, he should probably have taken passage in the Yankee Blade, and perhaps have gone to the bottom of the sea, or reached shore without friends or means.

The dairy during the summer furnished him a support, i.e. his food, medicine & [. . .] about $30 more. It was his expectation [. . .] he and Daniel, with James Allen, would together work a mine about 18 miles north of Hamilton. He was then working for $40 a month near Hamilton, though temporarily laid aside, by poisoned feet.

The last news from John arrived Dec. 1, and was dated Nov. 4, at Padua in Italy. He was well and apparently improving his time to good purpose. Our village paper has not been issued for the two past weeks in consequence of the illness of the publisher, and some other difficulties. It will be a good deal behind hand in publishing John's letters. I think there is a marked improvement in his communications, and though many deficiencies appear, yet they are so much better than the first that I feel encouraged. Meager as the first and second were, I put in a good part of them on my own responsibility, being unwilling that such a mere skeleton should appear in print. I took care, however, not to modify facts. The succeeding letters were published almost as he wrote them, as <*he*> in future they will be.

Your aff. Son,
Joel Grant

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Austinburg, O. [*Ohio*] May 28, 1856

My dear Brother & Sister,

Phelps & Elizabeth have each of them invited Jack & his wife to meet you at their homes. Will you write directly, & let me know when you expect to start from home. Not that I expect to see you but I like to think of you as you are.

On Tuesday May 20, just three months after calling at Cleveland [*Ohio*] [T … S…]. I left there, passed Tues. & Wed. night at Mr. Raphael Marshall's in Painesville [*Ohio*], then in Mr. M's [*Marshall*] carriage in company with Mr. & Mrs. Corbin I came to Mr. Burton's. This week I go to Kingsville [*Ohio*], stay with Mrs. Betsy (Dowd) Gillett till next week, then return to Cleveland [*Ohio*], consult further with my physician there, Dr. Cushing; perhaps have my throat cauterized as it has already been three times with nitrate of silver = [lunar caustic?] & take a new start. I seem to be pretty well a part of the day, but my strength don't last & I must rest often & long. It is better I keep in open air much, when dry & mild, & if I gain strength as I may, perhaps I shall sympathize still further with some, who are serving the cause of education, before I return<*ing*> to N. Eng. [*New England*], may not see home before July, probably I shall not visit Connecticut before autumn.

My throat & breathing organs are susceptible & diseased, & the mucous coat about my lungs; but probably <*not*> the lungs have not disease fixed upon them. I cough but little now. Cod Liver Oil has sustained & strengthened me wonderfully. Cauterizing my throat & larynx has seemed to have a good effect. My object must be to promote my general health.

Mr. Burton has a cold and tender lungs confining him to his house for several days. His family well. Mary Burton has something of the loveliness of her sister Mary.

Have the goodness to send this to Mr. & Mrs. Phillips, as I cannot write them now.

A young lady in good health is to be my traveling companion after first week in June.

Mr. & Mrs. Corbin take Louisa Marshall home with them next week, or week after.

How is your son John? What news from Daniel & Marcus?

In sisterly love,
Z.P. Banister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

I write at Marguretts, 2 ½ mi. from her father's.
Write me care Prof St. John Cleveland, Ohio.
[*p.s. written down side of page is illegible*]

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Newburyport [*Massachusetts*], Feb 20, 1863
Monday eve.

My dear Brother,

Your letter was gratefully received on the evening of the 16th. I rejoice to hear that your family & your friends generally are enjoying physical health. Still more do I rejoice, that so many of the branches in your neighborhood are enjoying a season of refreshing from the presence of the Lord. I would not only desire that converts may be multiplied as drops of the morning dew, but, I would also desire, that believers may be baptized anew by the Holy Ghost.

Many places in this country are visited by the influences of the Spirit; but as yet, there is nothing marked among the religious societies in this town, with the exception perhaps of one of the Methodist churches.

I am myself greatly surprised at what I hear & see of poverty in this place. After much has been done by individual effect, & through the Howard Benevolent Society, & the Washington Total Abstinence Society, it was ascertained that many families were suffering for the want of comfortable food. Contributions were made, & it was advertised that soup would be delivered three times during the week before last, at 12 o'clock to such as needed aid. The applicants were much more numerous than was expected. Last week it was delivered daily. On Friday the number of families supplied was 112, embracing 551 individuals. It was said, that some applied who

ought not, but after examination into the condition of those who were recipients of this public bounty, the number of families supplied last Saturday was 120. The population is a little over 7,000. Business has revived here since the manufacturing of cotton has employed so much capital & occupied so many persons, but some of the mills have stopped, & others have dismissed many of their hands. Mechanics do not find it easy to get employment, & many have little or nothing to do. One morning last week a gentleman on inquiring at the market whether the seller could send some fresh fish to his house, was answered by a respectable mechanic that he would like to carry it. On the gentleman's putting two cents into his hand, he remarked, that was all the money, which he had earned for a week. This mechanic, (ship carpenter,) had a wife & children dependent on his earnings. Many others are in similar circumstances. A great variety of wants are expressed by those, who come to us personally for aid.

Your son Joel passed two or three days with us the latter part of January. He is very well situated at Andover [*Massachusetts*], & he is pleased with his situation.

Our family are well except our older daughter. Disease seems to be making advances on her system, & we fear it may prove fatal. From the nature of her complaint, it seems plain, that she cannot have health for some time to come

Rev. Wm. Richards of the Sandwich Islands visited us, before he left our country for England in steamer Caledonia. His son James, & indeed all of us, valued his visit very highly.

I feel very much for Lucius, in his reverses. I hope he will keep a conscience void of offence both toward God & toward man.

Mr. Bannister writes with me in affectionate regards to yourself & Mrs. Grant, & to each of your children, also to Mr. Lucius Griswold & his wife, & to Uncle & Aunt Cowles & their family.

Your affectionate sister,
Z.P.G. Banister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

Company & other engagements prevented my writing either on Friday or Saturday of Last Week.
How are Mr. & Mrs. Pettibone this winter?
How are my good friends Mr. & Mrs. Marsh of Winchester? You did not mention Winchester among the places receiving showers of divine grace.

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Newark, N.J. [*New Jersey*] April 7, 1866.

My dear Elizabeth,

Your favor of March 14, is before me. I deeply sympathize in your very heavy trials. It is obvious, that they are occasioned by disease of body, affecting the nervous system & the brain. No pecuniary aid, no arrangement of kindred & friends, not even the presence of filial affection, & unvaried attentions of your children can afford any permanent or essential relief. You need the best professional skill, of some physician, that understands what <*medical*> treatment has relieved others, similarly affected. This is probably your only chance for recovery, entire or partial. Without treatment you must undoubtedly find your difficulties of body & mind increasing.

I am glad your presence & aid have been so great a comfort to your father & mother, & to Caroline. There is perhaps no other condition in which you can be so useful, as the one you are now in at your father's house. Where you in good health, & spirits, it might be as well for your sons to struggle on alone, & by bearing the yoke in their youth, gain strength of character by trying discipline, as other young men have done,

Our heavenly Father who appoints our lot, knows the lessons we need for our highest & best education for our good in this world, & ever so many myriad of ages hence. It is wise for us to receive filially what he appoints for those we love, as well as what he appoints for ourselves, Instead of rebelliously seeking to get rid of trials, we should seek to have them sanctified to us. Our heavenly Father chastens us for our profit, that we may be partakers of his holiness. (See Heb. [*Hebrews*] 12.)

It must cost money to you to put yourself on trial of a three month's medical & remedial treatment. If only one chance out of many for recovery or even relief, it is a call to you to appropriate your own funds in this way, How much more to be desired is your delivery from the burdens that press upon your tho'ts [*thoughts*]; & oppress your spirits, <*even*> to the cost of all

your pecuniary means even to your last dollar, than any amount of cash in your hand, or in stocks, & your present wretchedness. Let your prayer in this matter be, "Lord, what wilt thou have me to do?" I enclose a little tract, adapted to your wants & mine. Jesus Christ died, to save sinners from their sins. Will we allow him to save us? I came here yesterday. In the course of this month, I hope to be at Millbrook [*Connecticut*], & see you all. I love each one of you, & I thank Caroline for her letter. In tender sympathy, your aff'te [*affectionate*] aunt, Z.P. Banister, [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

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[*Addressed to*:] Miss Martha Grant
Mill-Brook
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

New Haven [*Connecticut*], Dec. 21 1840

Dear Sister

I am so far reovered that I now begin a letter to you although I am yet weak, & as you see can write but poorly. I do not know when I shall finish this, for I suppose I shall be unable to write long at a time. The wounds on my back are almost healed & I suffer no pain except that arising from weakness. I suppose you know but little about my situation for you have heard no particulars. I do not know what Mr. Gilbert wrote but suppose it was but little, but in fact there is not much worth writing. You can think how a person with two huge wounds in the places where mine are, having such an immediate connection with the shoulder & head, must be situated. My arms indeed I have been able to move to considerable degree, but till within a day or two I have not suffered myself to move my shoulders, or to lie on my side. I can hold up my head without very much difficulty but the muscles in the back of the neck are much weakened. You will perhaps wonder how I lay in such a condition I will tell you, I lay flat on my back, & that too for about a week. I indeed lay so from the time of the operation, which was Wed. P.M. at 2 o'clock instead of eleven A.M. as was expected, until Sat about noon without rising, when on the Dr. coming they raised me up on the side of the bed, but I immediately became so faint that they laid me down again. The next day the Dr. dressed it when I got along with it very well

Tuesday, Dec. 22.

Yesterday after writing the above Mr. Hill's son brought me a letter from the P.O. [*Post Office*] which I soon foun<*n*>d to be from you. I was exceedingly glad of it. You write that you have some sleighing, but there is none here except what fell last night & this morning & that is not enough to make sleighing. There was a little <*sp*> snow here when I came here but it had all disappeared except the drifts. Last night there fell <*a th*> two or three inches of snow. In answer to mother's inquiries I reply that now I sit up most of the day time, wear all my usual clothing except a coat can use my arms considerably, help myself to food, have a good appetite & sleep very well & am very comfortable but shall be confined to my room yet a few days. I have <*been*> hoped to be able to attend church at Christmas either at the Catholic or one of the Episcopal churches, but fear I shall not yet as the Catholic church is but a few rods from the Hospital it is possible I shall attend there at that time Perhaps you would like a brief description of the Hospital &c. It is situated a little out of the thickly peopled part of the city on a slight rise of ground, in a pleasant situation, with a large and beautiful yard in front. It is a very large building & presents a beautiful appearance. It is very high, higher than you might suppose by knowing it to be three or four stories, for the rooms are 12 or 14 feet high The center part is three stories besides rooms still higher lighted in the top of which is the room for operations. The wings are also three stories. The room which I occupy is in the second story, is about the size of our east room. The furniture consists of two single beds, a stand, wash stand, three or four chairs &c. Coal is used for warming the room There are at present but two patients beside myself in the Hospital. There was one left yesterday but another was brought, the captain of a vessel, who yesterday morning brok[*e*] his leg the other is <*one*> a lady who has been here some years. Dr. Henigh has to day dressed my back, says I have got along very well indeed, all healed but a very small spot & that almost to the surface. You have I <*sp*> suppose been informed that there were three or four distinct tumors removed, though perhaps you do not know that the same are extended

across to both sides, passing between two of the projectures of the spine. The operation was double or more that of last year, & extremely painful, the fever was but little more than at that time. About 50 persons were present to witness the operation that is including the surgeons. The whole medical class was present, Mr. Gilbert & Mr. Bull, of whom you have heard me speak & Mr. Hill steward of the Hospital. The operating room is constructed for the purpose of accommodating medical students & others with seats, made in a semicircle those farther back higher than those in front so that all may see, & in the center is a place with a low railing for the surgeons & patient. Mr. Bull could not endure the sight but left the room imme- on the commencement of the operation. I find Mr. Bull & his wife the same kind people as formerly; last Wednesday they came to my room & made a short stay & brought me some little notions which did me much good Mr. Gilbert has called a number of times & generally staid over night with me. I have not been alone all night yet but shall to-night

I mean to send this to-morrow but as letters either way must rest one day on the way I presume you will not get it till sat. I <*dd*> do not know as you can read it the pen is poor & I have no knife & I have to write just as fast as I can for it makes my back ache to bend down to write

It is two weeks to-morrow since the operation. Do not know when I shall come probably in a week or two. Yours aff. [*affectionately*] John

You must write again. I want to know all about things.

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[*Original not in file, from typed transcript*]

AN ACCOUNT OF THE DEATH OF MRS. BURGESS, FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY HER HUSBAND. SENT FROM MILLBROOK, CT. TO MISS MARTHA GRANT IN SOUTH HADLEY, MASS. OCT. 31, 1842.

Ahmednugger
July 3, 1842

My dear friends; -- I have this morning returned home, after an absence of 15 days and oh! what a return! The voice of my dear Mary [*Grant Burgess*] does not greet me, for it is hushed in the silent tomb; -- & I shall never hear it again in this world. I shall never see that sweet face again this side of the grave. At my last return home, but one week before I left on my late journey, -- with what affection did she welcome me! I shall never forget the tones of her voice as she met me at the head of the stairs; -- "Is it you, Mr. Burgess? Has my dear husband come?" Our dear Mary died on the 24th of June, of the cholera. She was taken unwell about 8 o'clock in the morning & at about 5 OC. P.M. of the same day, her spirit left this world of pains & trials for a world where these are never known. I was not here, to go with her to the dark valley; -- but she had friends, who did all for her I would have done. Her Savior too, was near her & supported her. -- When the intelligence of her departure reached me I was at Jalna, about 100 miles from this place. I was then ill myself, under the care of a physician; -- so ill that to hasten my return would endanger my own life. As soon as I became able I set out on my return, in the safest and most expeditious way; & reached home about 4 1/2 OC. in the morning. Oh, my desolate home! Oh, my poor orphan boy! but God is with me, and supports me. Since the first anguish of feeling was over I have been tranquil, cheerful, and happy. In all that lonely way, returning, my peace of mind was perfect. God was my rock; never was I more full of hope and courage with regard to myself, or the mission. God has done it; He knows best how to carry on his own work.
Who shall dictate to him the means he shall employ? How easy for Him, to make an impression, by her death, which many years of faithful labor would not have done. We already feel that the influence is mighty. It appears an important link in that chain of causes, and influences, necessary to accomplish the work for which she came.

July 6th This afternoon, I went with my little son Edwin, to visit the grave of her who was so dear. A strange mixture of feelings arose on thinking that that beloved form was only a few feet distance from where I stood, and I could not see it. I can never see it again. Edwin has been

quite sick. I have great reason to fear that he will never be well. Should he live he may be a great source of happiness to me. We often conversed about the happiness the dear boy would afford the survivor, should one of us be taken away. Should the Lord remove him, also, the stroke would be very distressing: -- but not equal to the one just suffered in the loss of his mother. My only prayer is, prepare me for Thy Holy will, and enable me to fulfill my course with honor to my Savior. Must dear E. [*Edwin*] go to? The Lord's will be done. If the Lord supports me, I can bear up under it; -- if not, I can endure nothing, do nothing. I regard the experience of the last week as of almost infinite value. Can I doubt that this stroke, which I now feel so keenly, will in the end, prove for my good. For some months past my beloved wife, & I, have often and freely conversed, on the subject of death. The importance of having our house set in order has been particularly impressed upon my own mind; & she has had the same feeling. This was especially the case just before I left home the last time. A gloom seemed to rest upon us. Edwin was quite sick: I was about to leave home on an arduous journey: the season was not the best for traveling; owing to the rains: yet there seemed no good reason for my remaining at home, excepting, fears, undefined fears. So after laboring hard, to have my accounts in as good a state as possible; -- & providing as well as we could against all emergencies, -- I got off on horseback for Jalna, on the 18th of June. I had the two-fold object in view of visiting Jalna, where we have missionary operations, & of preaching, & distributing books in the villages on the way. I reached Jalna on the 23rd. In the afternoon of the 25th I received the following letter from Mr. Abbott, written June 24th 1842.

> "Dear Brother: -- Our dear sister [*Mary Grant*] Burgess was attacked this morning with cholera, & we are all at your house, waiting with great anxiety, the result; & doing everything that can be done. An hour or two will decide the case. She says her Savior is near to her; still she feels very much for you & Edwin. We still hope for her recovery, -- but you will trust in God, & prepare to hear that she has gone to her rest."

You may imagine the effect which such intelligence, so sudden, so unexpected, had upon me. After an hour or two of great mental suffering my mind became calm, & unusually cheerful. The mail did not come in the next day, which was the Sabbath. On monday morning I received the following from Mr. Ballantine June 25th 1842.

> Dear Brother Burgess: -- Mr. Abbott's note of yesterday, informing you of Mrs. B's [*Mary Grant Burgess*] illness, & doubtless prepared you to hear the worst. We looked in vain, for a change for the better. She revived a little, but soon sunk under the power of the disease; & about 5 OC. breathed her last. We have this morning, followed her remains to the silent tomb. It is a day of intense grief to us all, -- for she who was the life of our little circle, has been suddenly removed from us. For you our hearts bleed, for we know what she was to you. But we hope God will sustain you. Indeed there is great cause of gratitude in view of the circumstances of her death. Her mind was clear, & unclouded, to the last. It scarcely wandered for a moment. Her hope was firm. Mrs. Ballantine asked her if she had any fear of death! She said -- "No -- not the least" She also remarked -- "How easy it is to die; no pain --" At one time she turned to Dr. Atkinson & said -- "How important is it to be prepared for death" I remarked to her, I suppose you feel safe and happy? She replied, -- "Yes" -- & added -- "I have done but little -- but for Christ's sake God will accept me" These expressions will show you the state of her mind. Miss [*Cynthia*] Farrar and Mrs. Ballantine had considerable conversation with her just before her death. The stroke was very sudden to us. In the morning we met her out on the road as she took her usual drive with Edwin, & we promised to go and take tea with her in the evening. She remarked that Miss [*Cynthia*] Farrar was more feeble that Edwin had had a fevor night, & did not appear to be so well, but she said nothing about herself. We afterwards learned that she went to visit her schools before returning home; but finding herself unable to do anything in consequence of sickness & pain she rode home & took medicine -------
>
> the funeral was attended this morning. Several of our English friends, and crowds of natives, were present. Many were deeply affected. All seemed to feel a deep sympathy with us, & especially for you. The funeral services were very impressive. Mr. Jackson officiated and he has been very kind in giving us much assistance thus God has broken in upon our little circle & who could have been better prepared than Mrs. Burgess? Oh

how we loved her! who can make her place good? But she is in heaven & happy in the enjoyment of God. All connected with us went to your house, yesterday, to see her, before her death. May it lead them to think of that salvation which she desired to teach them. I know you will almost dread to come home. The thought of seeing your house desolate will be painful. May you be enabled to endure this, through him who is the source of all consolation. Little E. [*Edwin*] is with us. he appears to be gaining. He is happy in the company of our children. Poor boy! he does not understand his loss. Mrs. B. said several times, "my dear husband." "But God will take care of him & my little boy".
Yours in deep affliction --
M. Ballantine.

I leave you to imagine my feelings on the reception of the above letter. Oh, what would I not have given to have been there present. But God orders all things right & I bless Him that I can submit without a murmur.

July 8th -- Dear E. [*Edwin*] is worse, today; & I have but little hope of his recovery. I bless the Lord that I am able to say "thy holy will be done" ----- as I looked, today upon the dear one, my anguish has been great. When he fell sick at first I thought, if he should die, Mary would be left, but Mary was taken. Then thought I, dear Edwin is left. What a source of happiness he will be! Now it seems he must go too. Well -- so be it -- if I am bereaved -- I am bereaved. My only prayer is -- O Lord sustain me, and keep me from sinning against thee, & enable me to do all thou hast for me to do. What God intends to do with me I know not. One thing appears certain; if He does not support me I shall sink under my trials. I am willing to suffer all my heavenly father sees fit to lay upon me; only may he sustain me. O my poor frail nature! Lord -- have mercy.

July 9th E. [*Edwin*] is much better to day & I have more hope of his recovery. I have been thinking how Abraham must have felt when his son was restored to him.

July 10th Today I have been filled with joy, by hearing that one of our most promising teachers has expressed a resolution to become a christian. What glorious news! Another Bramin came in this morning as he was about to start for a distant village. His mind has been extremely tender since Mrs. B's death. He often used to call and converse with us in the subject of the Christian religion; and has sometimes manifested concern respecting his salvation. I have never, before, seen him apparently, so much wrought upon, by the spirit. We have strong hope that he will come out on the side of Christ. May he have the influence of the spirit.

July 12th E. [*Edwin*] seems to be growing weaker & weaker. The Dr. has but little hope of him. What have I to do but pray. O, Lord prepare me & the child for thy holy pleasure respecting us. I have often given him to the Lord; or rather, confessed with my whole heart, that I regard him as the Lords, & not mine: & I would not now, retract these conversions. There is something painful in the thought that you it must be two or three months before you and other friends will hear that Mary [*Grant Burgess*] has gone to her rest. How I would like to see you all! but that cannot be. I can only communicate in this poor way. It is a relief thus freely to express my feelings.

July 16th Our letters start for Bombay today; the steamers leave that place on the 19th I have never seen the time when all the powers of my soul were in such a state of activity. I have never performed anything like such an amount of mental labor in the same length of time. We are just making out our semiannual report & our quarterly meeting of the mission is at hand. Much labor has fallen upon me; much care respecting E.; writing to friends in America; all within thirteen days after returning to my desolate home. This is favorable; much better than if I was left to brood over my loss. Even when everything around me reminds me of my bereavement I can turn my mind with pleasure, & efficiency, to those things which concern my labors; can dwell, with the light on the goodness of God, the sureness of his promises, the thousand encouragements we have to prosecute our labors. -- -- My dear wife has left me, it is true; but she has only gone to heaven a little before me, -- & is beyond the reach of sin & pain. How I love to sing -- "Ah lovely appearance of death" -- & that line, -- "No longer a sinner like me". How much meaning it contains! O -- that my mind could always retain that heavenly savor -- weanedness from the world, -- which has pervaded it since Mary's death. It is a painful thought that I must remain & mingle in the scenes of temptation; that I must with such a depraved heart endure the <u>trials of living</u>. Oh how sweet would be the summons to follow my beloved wife! But then my poor boy! The mission, -- the poor brethren! I would if God wills still live & toil & suffer. I wish to be like a helpless child in the arms of my heavenly father. I am as nothing. With out divine support what

would have become of me! That support has been granted. But I have not even the poor merit of having prayed for what I have received. I have prayed, & often too, for support, in this trying hour. But I never had an idea of anything at all adequate to what is the reality. Still there is nothing rapturous; only a perfect assurance that God will do all things right. God is a rock, God seems to have given me sober views which look into eternity; which look at things comparatively in all their connections; -- which enable me to see the inconstency of judging of all, where I can see only a part. Spiritual things seem clothed with a reality which they never wore before.

Dear friends farewell; we shall soon meet with that loved one who has gone before us. Perhaps you & she have met already.

Yours truly as ever,
E. Burgess

EXTRACTS FROM A LETTER WRITTEN BY MRS. CYNTHIA FARRAR WHOSE HOME WAS IN THE FAMILY OF MR. BURGESS. THE STATEMENTS IN BRACKETS ARE TAKEN FROM OTHER LETTERS.

"You doubtless have heard of my long confinement at the Makabulishwur Hills, in consequence of feeble health. When I arrived here, June 3rd I thought Mrs. [*Mary Grant*] Burgess did not look so strong as when I left. She looked service-worn. As soon as I felt sufficiently rested from the fatigue of my journey, we entered into the arrangement that when she visited the two schools which I left in her case, on going to the hills, she would not stop to hear the girls reading lessons, but would send them to me, at the house, until I should be able to go to the school. When Mr. Burgess with two of the native Christian brethren set off on the 18th of June for Jalna, little Edwin was not well; but the Dr. did not think that much ailed him; & he expected that he would soon be better. He however continued feeble. [all a mothers anxieties were awakened by the state of the child; -- & she seemed to quite forget herself in her desire to do constantly for him. She remarked -- "I fear this is Edwin's last sickness." Her rest was much disturbed at night, -- & we've all greatly feared that her own health would suffer. No doubt this fatigue & care made her much more easily the victim of the cholera, then raging here] On wednesday night the 22 both mother & child slept well, -- & in the morning, they seemed refreshed. She appeared well, he much better. We went out together for a drive, -- & on our return, stopped & took breakfast with Mrs. & Mr. Ballantine; -- had a pleasant time, -- arrived home, -- & had a quite pleasant day. The next morning, Friday the 24th, on her return from the drive with Edwin, she looked so pale I inquired the cause. She said she did not rest so well as the night before; -- & was not feeling quite well in the morning, she took a little medicine. I professed her going to her chamber & keeping very quiet; -- that I would see that little Edwin had his breakfast -- & was taken care of; -- & as soon as my rice gruel was ready I would send her some. All this was done. Between 9 & 10 OC. I observed the servant to carry her a cup of tea, which led me to think she was better. After a short reading lesson I dismissed my girls, between 10 & 11 O.C. to go up stairs; but from sickness, occasioned by medicine, I was unable to do so, for a little time. On my second attempt to go to her the servant met me, saying that if I was able to come upstairs, Mrs. [*Mary Grant*] Burgess wished to see me. I hastened to her, without delay ["from the time of Miss [*Cynthia*] Farrar's return from the Hills, she had not been able to ascend a flight of stairs."] The moment I saw her a chill went to my heart. Clasping her cold purple hands I exclaimed -- "O my dear sister, how very ill you are"! "Yes," she said, "& -- I do not know but I am dying." I answered it may be so". To one standing by I said, go quickly for Dr. Atkinson. She said, "I have sent for him, twice, --- & I think he will be here soon. I then sent for the brethren & sisters of the mission, -- & for the European nurse, at the hospital Until they arrived, the two native girls Mrs. [*Mary Grant*] Burgess & I had living with us, assisted me, in doing what we could to arrest the deadly chill that seemed fast pervading the whole system. There was not the least action from the stomach, but an apparent cessation of action throughout the whole system. ["Mortification seems to have taken place, in the extremities, soon after she was taken. This shows the nature of the disease."] I asked her if she could cheerfully acquiese in the disposition, should God now in the sudden manner, call her to leave the world? She raised her eyes upward, -- paused for a moment, -- then said, -- "I think I can. Should this be my last sickness, how quick & easy will be my release from this body, -- & from the

world! But -- O -- my poor dear husband! What will he do? -- And -- my poor motherless child! What will become of him? But God will be gracious, He will be merciful, I know He will. I can leave them in His hands; I can trust Him. He will do all things well." We spoke of the conversations & promises of the gospel; -- repeated texts of scripture; -- &, alluding to our work among the heathen, she expressed no regret for the sacrifices, she had made; -- but rejoiced that she had been accounted worthy to manifest her attachment to the cause of Christ. She was so composed, -- so cheerful, -- so rational, -- so natural were the tones of her voice, -- & the expression of her countenance, -- that there was no occasion for a tear. Oh how precious the recollection! I love to ponder on the mournful -- sweet -- scene of her last hours, -- her last days Yes -- on the varied scenes of all the days I ever knew her, o, how dear she was to me, -- to us all! & deservedly so. May the savor of her life so far as it savored of Christ, be as holy ointment to chastened souls, Nature weeps, but does not murmur. She frequently spoke of her family with tenderest emotions. She suffered but little after I saw her, except from a painful kind of restlessness which seemed to pervade the whole frame. My feebleness compelled me to retire as soon as those I sent for had arrived. They continued. with her until the last, -- using every means that wisdom or experience could devise, for arresting the process of the dreadful disease. When I was told that there remained no longer any hope of her recovery, I went again, to her bedside. She appeared perfectly rational & composed. As I took her hand I said to her, you now feel that you will soon be with your blessed savior; -- She replied -- "yes, -- & I feel that he is near, -- & precious." I then asked her if she had anything to say to me? She said "yes -- I have much that I wish to say to you but I have not strength." --
Between 4 & 5 OC. P.M. the door of the upper sanctuary opened to her. -- Jesus called, -- she cheerfully answered -- "I come to Thee." She entered in -- & is safe. From that peaceful pensive moment I shall see her no more, until the glorious resurrection of the just. Her remains were interred early the next morning; & at 5 OC. P.M. we had a prayer meeting here at the lonely dwelling; & a most excellent address from Mr. Ballantine from John 11. Here too, nature wept, -- but not without hope. Like her may we be ready; Like her, happy in prospect of our great change. -- Pray for us.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER FROM MRS. BALLANTINE

Mrs. [*Mary Grant*] Burgess said to Mrs. Abbott, -- "Well, this is cholera: it is different from what I thought it was. I have not much pain." Mr. Abbott said to her, "What a comfort it is to one, in your situation, to be able to trust in the savior"! "Yes" -- said she; -- "I have lived very far from Him; -- but if I go, I think He will receive me. He appears near to me & I think I can trust in Him. What will become of poor Mr. Burgess"! An hour after this He said to her, -- "what a blessing, that we can cast all our care upon God, leave every want with Him."! -- she replied, -- "Yes, -- it is indeed; yes, -- all our cares; -- yes, -- yes." This we suppose she said in reference to Mr. Burgess, & her little boy [*Edwin*]. Upon opening her eyes, after they had been some time closed, she fixed them upon me & said, -- "Dear sister, do sit down". The Dr. now brought her some soda, & asked, "Do you think you can take this"? "Yes said She "if you think it best." This was her uniform reply to him, whenever he offered her medicine. About 3 O.C. she went to sleep, & appeared to sleep quietly for some time. When she awoke she said to me, -- "I am better," "You have been praying for me have you not"? "I think I Shall recover". The Dr. then brought her some more soda. She looking upon him & said, "I believe I have been wandering; & that made me think I was better than I really am". Then taking the drink she said, -- "How I want you all to take care of yourselves. I then said to her "You feel that you are almost home, do you not"? "Yes" said She. I then asked, "have you any fear of death"? She paused a little & said in an expressive tone, "No." I asked what shall I say to Mr. Burgess for you? She quickly said -- "My poor husband," -- "my dear husband; -- but he is a man of God, -- & he will be comforted. Then after a few moments of deep thought, she lifted her eyes to heaven, & exclaimed, Oh, -- to God be all the glory, -- all the glory, -- all the glory. A little after this she looked up to me and said, -- you will be kind to Edwin I feel that you will. She now began to sink rapidly: & when I supposed her almost gone, I said to her, -- "Miss Burgess do you know me"? She looked up with a peculiarly sweet expression of countenance, & said in a firm tone, "It is dear sister Ballantine". From that time She could no more be roused; & she sank away as quietly as a little infant to its slumbers. -------- She

had her reason so perfectly, -- was so free from pain, -- & above all, so full of peace, that we must all feel that she was "let down, to the grave, most gently". I trust it has done us all good. Our native brethren & sisters have seen a Christian die; & we have all of us gained new, & clearer views of death, as it is to the child of God. --------- Mrs. [*Mary Grant*] Burgess was with us only a short time; but we do not measure her usefulness by years. We feel that few have done more for this people than she. Her prayers for them were many, fervent , & heartfelt; She had four schools to which she devoted a good deal of her time, energy & thoughts. These schools were in the city; -- & visiting them from week to week she became extensively known to the girls mothers & to many women in the neighborhood. Often would they collect around her in little companies, and she would tell them of Christ, & of his salvation. Since her death these women speak of her in the most interesting manner. "A more cheerful happy person", say "They we never knew." She had many calls from the natives, -- & no one was ever suffered to go away from her without some word of instruction. Often would she say to me, -- "Now speak a word to this person, -- or to that," -- when we might. It was evident from the first that Mrs. Burgess meant to spend, & be spent for this people. She labored with all her heart & all her strength. ---------- the native brethren & sisters loved her ardently: -- & they now mourn & weep. As for ourselves we feel stricken & afflicted. She always came among us with so smiling peaceful a countenance as to impart life and joy to us all ---------- we try to inquire why it has been necessary for God to afflict us so deeply? The harvest here is great, & the laborers are few. We hope we may now say, Lord is it enough; -- stay now & thine hand; -- & spare us to labor on; -- &, o, accept our labors. ---------- The death of Mrs. [*Mary Grant*] Burgess will be a shock to you & to all her friends. May an abundant measure of grace be vouchsafed you, -- & support you all. I know you must all have ardently loved her, -- for she was worthy of your warmest love. She loved her parents, brothers, & sisters, ardently. She often spoke of them with great interest.

EXTRACT FROM ANOTHER LETTER OF MR. BURGESS. JULY 16

Little Edwin is better today. He appears to be gaining & we have strong hopes of his recovery.

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Lockport Ill. [*Illinois*] Aug. 15, 1846.

Dear Sister,

We to day received the letter written by yourself Mother, John, and cousin Margaret. The news was on the whole quite as agreeable as we could expect though in many particulars far different from what we <*hoped*> should desire if it were in our power to choose John's fever and Ague is I doubt not much worse than it would be in a fever and ague country, where physicians and almost every individual by virtue of the principle "practice makes perfect", would be able without hesitation to apply appropriate remedies. It is the testimony of every one in this region that a transplanted ague is much worse than one that is a native. By the kindness of God we have as yet been preserved from any thing of the kind whether native or foreign (excepting the billious attack I had in the spring) but now is the season for such things and many around us are more or less affected with them. There have been no severe cases as yet but no one can say how long it wd [*would*] be before there will be.

But I will leave these items for the present, that I may say a few words upon a topic of which you make inquiry viz the views we should take of an over rulling Providence. I can say but few things concerning it and my views you can gather from them

In the first place I would say that the Bible differs from all other books in that in it God is every where acknowledged as the chief agent every where acting. It is he who raises up and casts down. At his pleasure who brings princes to nothing while he places the poor on high. Indeed there is no one thing which characterizes the Bible more than this. Read books of laws as elsewhere found, read history, and you find no such thing, or at best only to a limited extent. And that Bible also testifies most strongly against such as forget this truth. (Deut. [*Deuteronomy*] 8: 10-20) God warns directly those who would be inclined to say <*that the*> "My power and the might of my hand hath gotten me this wealth" and that not merely because it was not true but

because such an assertion denied the truth "It is the Lord thy God that giveth the power to get wealth." He warns all these saying "I testify against you that ye shall surly perish."

But let any who can for a moment doubt this read the 107th Psalm where the agency of the Lord is so beautifully described. There it is the Lord who delivered Israel, who rescued the captives, sets free the prisoners, and saved distressed mariners. It was no accidental combination of circumstances, nor yet the wisdom or might of those concerned for these would have been useless unless the Lord had interposed. And how solem as well as instructive is the last verse that Psalm "Whose is wise and will observe these things even they shall understand the loving kindness of the Lord." This intimating that while the truth was obvious it might easily be lost sight of by the careless & unredeemed . If men will not be wise, if they will not consider these things, then <*must*> may they fail to see the truth with wh. [*which*] the Bible is so full.

But while this is true I still think God never interposes at the present day by any means wh [*which*] counteract or interrupt natural laws. If he did so, if he saved the mariner when tossed by a tempest by sending an angel to bear him up, would it any longer require wisdom or consideration to see the loving kindness of the Lord? No. It would all be as plain as the sun in the heavens. Every thing that is done is so done as not to countervail natural laws, and hence it is some forget the hand that wields those laws as instruments.

Do you ask how this can be done? I answer just recall any events of your life which in your view are important and consider the train of causes that led to them. In every instance it is probable there were many point upon which the whole result depended and concerning which you were in doubt how to act. By the weight of a feather you could be turned one way or another. Now God who sees the end from the beginning might at that moment have interposed and presented in some way the thought that decided the whole matter. All such crises he can render the wisdom of the most profound as worthless as the folly of a child and they shall never know it unless they are "wise and consider." In this way alone (and it is but one of a thousand) our fortunes our lives our happiness lie wholly at his disposal.

Let me relate an instance. A man and his wife now residing in this place were a few years ago at Buffalo designing to come here. They started for the Boat and on their way there the gentleman stepped into a store to purchase some trifling article, and there he met a friend with whom though in great fear that he should miss the boat and in great haste to reach home, he conversed a short time and then hurried to the wharf, when to he was just 1/4 of a minute too late. They were much grieved and disappointed. But hark the result. That boat was the ill fated Erie, that trip she never finished and but one or two of her hundreds of passengers ever set foot on land again.

Now no philosopher I care not how learned can say or bring the least argument to prove that this event was not controlled by God. In a thousand insensible ways he could distain that or any other man. In a thousand such ways he actually does control us while we know it not.

One thing more. It is impossible for any man to pray to God who denies such a doctrine. For what does he pray? Not for the thing for which he asks for he believes God has nothing to do with it. The Bible then teaches such a doctrine, there is nothing within the whole circle of truth that is more rational, and why should we doubt it. I might write much more but cannot, now, If you continue to have difficulties write me again.

Your aff. brother
Joel.

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[*Various envelopes*]

My dear Caroline,

My headache yesterday & to day tho [*though*] it threatens to become rich head ache, is not that, & I hope will not be, I hope your kindness to your father, on the confines of heaven, is a service to Christ, in love; & that He will grant you mercy in that day. 2. Tim [*Timothy*]. 1:16-18. [...] Mar. [7?].

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[*fragment of letter from John Grant to Daniel Grant?]*

You wish to know what Dr. Knight said to my inquiries &c.

His opinion is that [trouble?] must recur again for the same reason as before. When I asked whether it would be best to try farther for relief he simply said that he could not tell beforehand — implying that it would depend upon the symptoms or the modifications under which the malady should be there formed. Probably under the same circumstance <*I think*> he would advise to submit to another operation, if I felt disposed. He charged me $30 — for services last spring —

You will perceive that you sent me a good deal more money that I expended for the book but you did not tell me how to dispose of the balance of sixty — cts [*cents*] or so — I have not the amount in postage stamps — so will keep it till you want some thing else — I use the book in our school — and it was a [tachen?] that I got it so cheap

I am glad Abby has an opportunity to learn much — Give my love to her and Eddie — to sister Caroline also a brother's love —

I shall write to Mill Brook [*Connecticut*] immediately the intelligence from Marcus — also to Joel —

In haste
Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother
Jn. [*John*] Grant.

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[*Note — in pencil. to Caroline Burr Grant from Elizabeth Grant*]

New Haven Ct [*Connecticut*]
Feb 28th '83

Dear cousin Carrie

Yours of Feb 11 was received & we were very glad to hear from you — thank you for your sympathy in our sorrow [yet?] — we feel as though Marion had gained a heavenly home and is now and forever <u>at rest</u>. She died of Pneumonia — had been with me since about the first of Nov. when she first came I was quite feeble — had taken cold & had a good deal of malaria — so that under the circumstances there was a great many things she could do to assist me, soon my girl left, & Marion thought that together we could manage the work, for a time, at least my health was improving so that I could do a little more than take care of baby — We got along very well together she only doing the lightest of the work — but she became very tired and thought best to stop & rest awhile. I engaged a girl to come & help me so that she could go rest — she came the 29th of Jan. that being the time M [*Marion*] proposed to go — was going to Davids from here to make a visit & probably would have visited with all — She was getting ready packing her satchel & arranging her things to leave in her room — when she was taken with a chill & her head ached dreadfully — she went to bed, and began spitting blood right away — this was about ten o'clock, before one, we sent for the Dr; when he came he said it was Pneumonia — but thought until Friday that she would get through it – she died Sat. morn at half past eight — she had a cold for some time & coughed some — & the day before she was taken down she [*in pencil* — went out to church a slippery, rainy day &] took a little more —

Mother was here all through and took most of the care of her. Cornelia came and <*spent*> helped what she could — was with her Friday night she passed away very peacefully — without a struggle — she said several times while sick, she was "so tired" "but she should soon have rest" she realized that she could not live and was prepared to go — The funeral was from here — on Monday — Cornelia took cold the day of the funeral and was sick in bed three or four days — was threatened with catching fever is better, and gaining slowly — David & [Eunice?] had both been about sick with colds — but are better now Grace's husband has been sick with chills — but is as well as usual now — Alonzo's two children have been afflicted with Whooping cough — had it pretty hard; think they are over the worst of it. Mills has had a very bad cold, is better but gains slowly — we are all pretty well here — baby is quite good now — but I feel as though I

had a great work before me, if they all live — Mother is with me yet & is a great help in many ways. That cousin left me last Aug.

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Praireville [*Prairieville*]
Milwaukie Co [*Milwaukee County*]
Wis. Ter. [*Wisconsin Territory*]

New Haven, Feb. 24, '44
Dear Brother,

Your letter of Dec. 12 mailed Dec. 17 I received on my return here at the close of vacation (Jan 10) [*at Yale University*]. How long it has been in the office I cannot tell, but probably some days. I was exceedingly glad to hear from you and your letter was the more acceptable because it removed some impressions which your previous letters had made in reference to your feelings. I should have answered it before this time had it not been that we had been getting up a letter at S. [*South*] Hadley for you and I thought it not best to write until some days after that had gone. I do not intend to finish this for several days but as I have many things to write about I thought I would begin now.

You certainly have been very unfortunate in your connection with Levi Grant, and I can very readily believe that he has cheated you a great deal. The affair of the rails is a very bad one. I had an idea that you understood the matter at least as far as this that he was to get but $30 worth for you in any case, so that at all events you have paid him $10 too much. I made no bargain with him before I left Wisconsin but merely told him "Perhaps we should like to have you get some for us." I afterwards wrote to him as follows, (As I used the manifold Letter writer there is no possibility of mistake.) "My Brother Daniel has concluded to take the lot which lies south of yours, and I herewith send you some money with a part of which I wish you to get some rails split for him. If you cannot get them for less than $7.50 a thousand, you may use $30 of it for that purpose. But I trust you will be able to get them for something less. If you can get them for $6 per thousand you may get 5000 but if you can get them for any thing less do not get more than 5000 but apply whatever of the $30 there may be left to transporting those that are split to the farm during the winter I do not doubt but you will manage the business in the most prudent manner." The letter from which this is an extract is dated Springfield Nov. 16, 1842, and doubtless Levi has a copy of it now. In his reply to it he says, "You stated in yours that you would like to have some rails got out this winter and also that you would like to have me look out and get them. I saw a man a few days ago which lived about two miles from my house that has a plenty of timber and he says he would like the job of splitting a few thousand, and he thought that he would get them for five shillings per hundred or $6.25 a thousand. I did not make a bargain with him at that time, but promised to see him again and let him [him?] know. I think however that I can get them at the fence about one mile from my house, which will be worth considering."

This is all that I wrote and all that he wrote about it. You may judge of my surprise when I read in your letter that you had paid him $40 for 3000 rails. My letter to him as you see did not authorise him to get more than $30 worth at any rate I am very sorry I did not explain this to you, and until I read you letter I had always supposed I did, and it is with difficulty that I can bring myself now to believe I did not. But perhaps it is not too late now to do something about it. If you have actually settled all your accounts in reference to the rails, it probably is, but if you have not and will let me know it the next time you write, I will send a letter to Levi and if he does not pay you $10 I will see to the matter myself and I think I will make him pay $20 at least. I think however you had not better say anything to him about it at present. I have proof positive that he was not authorised to expend more than $30 for rails for at the close of my letter to him I say "The $20 left of this money is to go towards paying you for the house." If therefore the matter is at all as I left it there can be no doubt about it, but if you chose on your own responsibility to buy of him 3000 rails for $40 there is no help in the matter. I sent him at the time I wrote my letter $50.

You never have written me how your accounts with Levi were you should have been his Dr. to the house $65 to the rails $30. Total $95. You should have been his [credits?] for the $50 I

sent him in the fall of 1842 leaving a balance of $45. By paying for the rails 40 instead of $30 you made the balance $55. But I should not wonder if he had made you pay the whole $105, thus making no account of the $50 I sent him. The next time you write do not fail to let me know about these things. I am a little surprised that you did not ascertain by enquiry that rails were not worth $13.33 a thousand. The enormous price he charged should have excited your suspicion.

But setting this aside, let us have a little talk about land &c. you do not think your land was very well chosen nor do I feel disposed to assert that you cannot now see where money could <*not*> have been laid out to better advantage. All I would claim is that at the time a better choice would not have been made. Still on some accounts your location is not so bad you already have a road laid out by your house, and it will probably be opened next summer, nor have I any idea that it will be many years before there will be one at or near the west end of your farm. But be this as it may, you evidently wish you were rid of your land and that you had an opportunity to get some other place. Under the influence of this feeling and urged on by one of your neighbors, "who is considered by all who know him a man of good judgement," and who "tells you you had better leave your farm if you do not get a cent for it" I fear you will be parting with it for some trifle. Now I know the farm is not worth less, and all the talk of all the neighbors you have or ever had or ever will have would not convince me to the contrary. Now I am willing to take the farm from you for more than it has cost you although that will be much worse for me than if I had never sold it you. Last May you paid me for the farm $3000. I gave you then $100 making the expense to you $200. After getting there you had to pay Levi $55 (the whole expense for the house and rails being $105 of which I had already paid $50.) making the farm cost you $255 Next May the interest on that will be a trifle more than $15 making a total of $270. I will now offer you for it $300 and allow you to have all the crops you have taken the pains to sow, and you may go where you will. I might however attach one or two conditions to the payment of it for I do not think I can raise $300 at once. $150 I will pay at any time besides so much of my money as you now have in your hands (I know not how much it is I suppose $40 or $50 please let me know next time you write) and the residue with interest I will endeavor to make up next fall. Perhaps you would like to exchange your lot for the one you bought for me last summer, if so I will give you $150 to boot. In case you should think it best to accept my offer of buying your farm I should like to have you sell the 40 acre lot though I think it ought not to go for less than $200. I am getting to be in want of money or shall soon be especially if I buy your farm, but I am very sorry you are not permitted to suit yourself in reference to a place and will therefore do almost any thing to assist you. I would not have you think, however, that I wish you to sell your place to me, provided you can sell it to someone else to a better advantage, only I exhort you to be careful to whom you sell and do not trust any one without the very best security. I make this offer to you that you may know you can dispose of your farm on terms which will at least clear you from lop, and of two purchasers offering the same or nearly the same price, I expect you will prefer me. Beside if after purchasing another place you should find that its unforeseen inconveniences were greater and its <*anticipation*> conveniences less than you anticipated if I should not sell the farm I would let you have it at a reasonable price, though I will not promise it at the price I give you and the interest thereon. suppose, however, you are fully satisfied that once off from it you would never wish to come back. But can you get places equally convenient to town to meetings, post office, &. things which will be every year more important for you? I hope you will not delay a week to write to me what you would like to do and what in view of the offers I have made you, you are willing to do. I suppose Mr. Knapp will probably come out in the spring, and if he should I suppose you would like to buy a place where he does. I would on some accounts be pleasant to do so, but doubtless should you have him for a neighbor you would find in him some qualities you never dreamed of before, which would make him disagreeable to some extend. He is a very excellent man but has his fault, as all other excellent men have. We are perhaps liable to infer too much from the fact that any one has an excellent character, at all events we do so when we infer that all he does will please us.

So it seems you do not think school teachers would have very good encouragement, with you, I presume the decision of [S]ister Caroline is correct. I suppose there are children enough that need teaching <*and*> to emply abundance of teachers, but there parents do not know how important is education, nor when their teacher is a good one, nor are they willing to pay their money for such objects, so that good teachers who go there must go as missionaries with the

desire to do good not to make money. It will not be best I presume for Cousin Margaret to go there, although I wish she might do so. In reference to preaching the difficulty is I presume the same-that is, the people have more preachers altogether than they are willing to employ, but not half so many as they ought to have, and those not of the right kind. However, I think I shall come to some region of the West when I finish my course, though it is by no means certain or even probably that I can be near you.

March 11 I have delayed my letter a long time partly because Mother who is still a[t?] S. [*South*] Hadley [*at Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*], hoped we might be able to send you more decisive information concerning Martha. M. [*Martha*] has been much worse than when Mother send you the letter, nor is she now as well as at that time, though better than she has been at intervals between that and this time. Almost fifteen weeks have passed since she was prostrated on a bed of sickness (Nov 30) and she does not seem to make any advances towards the recovery of her health of course we have very great fears that she will never be any better. She is very weak indeed not able to sit up any. She expresses perfect resignation to God's will respecting her and to him alone can we commit her as the help of man has proved indeed vain in this case. Physicians have done her no good nor does it seem probably they can. Mother has been with her about 11 weeks nor does it seem probably that she can leave her soon, unless indeed death should terminate the disease. The Dr. says it must be a long time before she recovers if she recovers at all. You can easily imagine that our family must be in the deepest affliction possible short of being called to mourn her death. At home they are there are only Father and Marcus. Father has been to S. [*South*] Hadley twice since Martha was sick.

I hope you will be careful to answer this letter immediate as spring is now close at hand. If Mr. Knapp goes to Wisconsin he will wish to start early and I shall be anxious to know something about your calculations. Our term here lasts but six weeks more, and if you cannot send the letter so that it will get here by April 24, you must direct it to Mill Brook [*Connecticut*] I hope by all means to receive one, as soon as I get home, and if possible before.

What do you think of [...]sociation? I have a somewhat better opinion of it than when I last saw you. I do not know but it might be well for you if you wish to leave your place to go into one as on some account I think you might like it. You would have a comfortable place to live, and as much company as you would like I suppose, without the trouble of buying stock, waggons, &. I think I will send you some publications on the subject that you may look them over and form an opinion for yourself I would not have you say thing about it in letters wh. [*which*] you send home as Father does not like it at all. Indeed I have no hesitation in saying there is a great deal of nonsense in their pretensions, but still I think the idea of getting together and helping one another along some is a good one. Something of the kind will be I think eventually adopted though not according to the plan of the Fourierites.

I think you ought to write home somewhat often you need not do it all at once but keep a sheet of paper by you and every few days write a few lines and thus you will before a great while have a sheet filled to send home. It is a very great comfort to Mother to hear from you as well as to all for us. If there are any particular books you would like to have, if you can write me before I go home I will try to get them & send them to you by Mr. Knapp.

I have not much more to say at present. John sends his love but has not time to write now. He has an oration to prepare for Junior Exhibition [*at Yale University*] – is a good scholar and in good health. Good-bye dear brother, remember to take with patience the unavoidable evils of this life and to look for the consummation of all your joys in a future and better world. Do all the good you can to your neighbors, and strive in all ways to make your own house the abode of peace and contentment

your aff. [*affectionate*] brother Joel.

Dear sister Caroline, If I have not written any part of the above letter directly to you it is not because I do not think often of you, and rejoice that Daniel is permit-to spend his time with one who is so anxious for his happiness and so well calculated to promote it. I hope you will be able to cheer each other on in life's rugged road and find in each other a happiness which does not depend on the changing and capricious world around you. You have troubles in Wisconsin, so down here, and probably not many less, though of course as this is our native country it is dear on that account, and must be viewed by you with tender feelings. What good ma[y] [c]rown your days with joy is the prayer [...] [your?] aff. [*affectionate*] brother Joel.

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Praireville [*Prairieville*]
Milwaukie Co [*Milwaukee County*]
Wis. Ter. [*Wisconsin Territory*]

April 5. Received a letter to day from Cousin Abigail and Mother at S. [*South*] Hadley [*at Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*]. Martha is not any better that I can gather from their account. Cousin A. [*Abigail*] says “it almost impossible to tell who she is.” She seems to change very little. She is very weak hardly able to sit up at all, but notwithstanding all her suffering, all her protracted weakness she exhibits perfect patience and resignation to the divine will. Mother’s health seems to begin to fail some, in consequence of her long continued labors and anxiety in taking care of Martha. She has been somewhat unwell, but when my letter was written she had nearly recovered. She has been now at S. Hadley about 15 weeks, a long time for her to be gone from home. She begins to be impatient to return home, but Martha is so weak and the going so very bad that any such idea is preposterous at present. After our terms closes [*at Yale University*] which will be in a little <*less*> more than two weeks John and I mean to contrive some way to get her home, though we hardly know how, and hope that her will forestall us by getting her home before we get there. She must be sick many months before she recovers

Sister Caroline gives a description of your meetings and the doctrines taught in them which I am sorry to hear I hope you will not encourage women to talk in meeting for if the Bible said nothing about it, the custom is so contrary to the modesty and delicacy of females <*that*> and to the constitution of their nature, that I would never approve it. Still perhaps you ought not to be violent in opposition, for there will be some who will attribute your opposition to any but the right motive the evil will cure itself as soon as your people become better educated, and more refined. As to perfection it is too preposterous a doctrine to need particular remark. If I had room, however, I would state a few arguments in reference to it, and if you feel desirious that I should I will do so at some future time. All I exhort you to do is to avoid such errors.

I have no doubt you will enjoy the coming summer much better than you did last. You are now used to things, and will take them easier and more pleasantly. Your affectionate brother
Joel.

New Haven [*Connecticut*], Apr. 6, 1844

Dear Brother & Sister It is indeed a long time since I have written off anything & I am glad to have an opportunity to finish this letter. Though you have not heard direct from me yet I presume you have a t least heard through other members of the family that I have been well & you of course know that as [...] as I am well I must <*of course*> be very busy. I will not however undertake to offer any excuse for having neglected to write you, or to plead want of time for such duties. Though my time is indeed pretty full occupied, I have enough for such purpose as these. The only reason why I have not written this long time is that when I have thought of it I felt that I <*ed*> could not fill a whole sheet with any thing that would be interesting & when I have had opportunities to fill part of a sheet, I have had just at those times some very pressing duty to perform, as a very hard lesson to learn or a dispute to prepose I will endeavor to do better in future, I am not [...] ever acknowledging hereby that you have placed me under any obligation by having written to me out I know how such things go & if one neglects [...] because others do nothing will be done. I have since I last wrote been very well usually. I do not however always take sufficient exercise & by this means I sometimes suffer some from a sort of nervous weakness – nothing serious though. I have not yet since the commencement of my College [*Yale University*] course been absent from a single recitation or asked to be excused from a single lesson. So you see that I must have had pretty good health. The hardest of our course is not past, & I hope to reap the benefit of the severe study of the few past years in increased mental vigor & power. You both know I doubt not that the life of the faithful student is a hard one – one of toil & weariness & often

of anxiety & suffering. Though I have not suffered all the evils to which close study has brought some of my acquaintances, yet I can not but feel that this <*if*> has sorrows which other pursuits know nothing of. Even now I feel that I have not improved my time as I might have done, but I have not withstanding confined myself closely to my books most of the time I cannot say that I have not succeeded in my endeavors to my satisfaction I have even exceeded my hopes. I aimed at nothing more in the shape of college honors than an Oration, doubting even whether I should succeed in reaching that; but I have that & I am assured by my tutor that three higher appointments than orations had been given I should have had one of them. But as the difference between myself & some one or two was not such as others, to warrant a distinction of that kind now only had first appointments were given for the Junior Exhibition. You may readily believe that I am encouraged by this to apply myself pretty closely to my studies, I do not mean however, to be swayed by ambition or elations beyond what is right and proper. I have here spoken plainly as you see & that too of myself, but I know that in the present instances such plainness is allowable, & I cannot believe that you will charge me with ostentation in thinking thus to a brother & a sister. Our Junior Exhibition comes in two weeks from next Tuesday – a time to which many of us are looking forward with much interests and some dread. I will send you at the time what account the papers give – I feel as though I can almost through College & soon to go out into the wide world. Some times I rejoice to see it so near that more usually feel that I should not be ready to grapple with its stern realities.

You will doubtless hear of the results of the election here before this reaches you. We are glad to find Conn. [*Connecticut*] again true to herself. Both branches of legislature are Whig & are to choose the [...] & a senator to [...reps?] – Joel has written you I suppose this latest news from Martha. Her case is a very critical one, yet we hope for her recovery – there is considerable religious interest in the Mt Holyoke Sem. [*Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] this Winter & Spring. there is also here in College [*Yale University*] a hearing prospect. For a few days past matters have taken a new turn, & all seem more or less awake to the subject. We are hoping for a powerful revival ere the close of this term. Some hopeful conversions have already occurred. The interest is daily increasing. Elder Knapp has been here thru of four weeks & preached every afternoon & evening in the Baptist Church. He left however last Monday, but not without having left a deep impression on many a hearts – We have not heard directly from home for many weeks. We hear that they have considerable snow there still. There is more here now & the grass is beginning to appear in some places. I do not look forward to the vacation with the interest I should if Martha were well. We expect to get her home as soon as the weather & roads will allow. Cousin Desiah is intending to go to Mt. Holyoke Sem [*Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] next year – I hope you will not neglect me, & not write to me at all. I want to hear from you both so badly [knows?] but that I shall come out & live with you some day & I want to know about that part of the world. But more especially I want you to write to me as brother & Sister & you need no assurance that as such I shall ever sorrows & joys as fast as I can, I now sympathize with you in the trials to which I know you must be subjected, but hope they well soon most of them pass away. Now dear Sister Caroline you know that you can write letters more easily than David can & of course you have rather more leisure for such business will you not therefore take it upon you if he cannot write & even if he can, to write a part or whole of a letter as the case may be before long? I will promise you an answer. you affectionate brother John.

I will add for Caroline's information the sad news that Martha Woodward is very low & that all hope of her recovery is abandoned by her friends. This I have learned from Mrs. De Forest How fleeting moral life!

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Praireville [*Prairieville*]
Milwaukie Co [*Milwaukee County*]
Wisconsin

Mill Brook [*Connecticut*] September 9, 1844
Dear Brother & Sister,

Your letters of July 30 and Aug 14. have been read for wh. [*which*] we thank you. We rejoice to hear of your success in all ways that you are blessed. We are glad you have been able to find a piece of land with wh. [*which*] you feel pleased and hope that in future you will have no occasion to change your views.

You have not adopted the course in reference to money wh. [*which*] I wished you to, but hope it will prove for the best. I want or am going to want it very much, unless you can sell my 40 acre lot, and even in that case I do not wish it to stay where it is one day after you can get it even for the interest at 25 per cent. I thought my instructions were plain in reference to it, that if you did not want it you should send it back to me at once, and if you have not already learned, it will be well to learn that in such matters you must "obey orders if you break [owners?]." Had you sent the drafts to me they would have needed to endorsing. But as it is get the money as soon as you can and send it to me.

Strong has written to me that Swift called and paid your note, and I shall, as you have directed, take the money and give you credit for it. I do not wish you at once to send me the money you get for your wheat, as you will have abundant use for it yourself. If there are a few dollars you can send you had better do so say some $10 or $15 but the rest keep for yourself. I would not sell at present for less than 50 cts [*cents*] per bush. as it will doubtless be worth more than that during the year.

I have been thinking some about your land in the S.E. corner of Dodge Co. I have no doubt it is good land – excellent land and all that, but had you better go to live there? How far is it to any respectable meeting? How far to a physician? How far to neighbors who can get together & form a sewing soc [*society*]? How long before there will be any thing like comfortable society there? These and many like questions have occurred to me and as I have thought of your going there it has made me feel badly. You are wild enough now without going to live among the bears. I would not however attempt to influence you, for you know best what you should do. It has occurred to me that a plan wh. [*which*] I have heretofore suggested to you will now perhaps meet your views. You now have a good lot of land, 160 acres of the very best, but man was not made merely to live on good land. He needs society and you need it as much as any one, and Caroline feels the want of it as much as any one. Had you not then better take my 40 acre lot? It is as much as you can take care of, if well taken care of it will yield you a good living. You may have it for what it cost me and the interest at 6 per cent. It is so near town that it would not be necessary for you to keep a horse & waggon, two pretty expensive articles. You could then enjoy society, go to meetings, improve you mind, and grow wiser year by year while upon the first rate land in Dodge Co. after ten years no one would know you from a barbarian. It seems to me that you like thousands at the West <*do*> forget that <u>land</u> is not all, that there are many things worthy of consideration and of weighty importance besides land. I think then you had better let the lot you have bought, and cultivate one nearer the residence of men. If you do not wish to do so, then sell my 40 acre lot as soon as possible for wh. [*which*] purpose you perhaps will not need to take a deed at once. You and Caroline will be happier however to reside upon it yourselves and then is it be best you can sell either the whole or a part of the lot upon wh. [*which*] you now reside, and you can use the avails in building a good house, where you will be comfortable and in a state to receive company with pleasure to yourselves and them. You will probably never see such times should you go to Dodge Co., or at all events not for many years. In case you wish to take my lot will endeavor to make the terms of payment as easy as possible for you, especially in case you can send me the $100 I sent you last summer.

It does not seem to me you had better let your farm for so long a term as five years. You know not what you will want to do with it long before that time comes around. If you have not already arranged that affair you had better think a little before you let it for more than two years, at most. If you are to live upon it yourself I do not see the wisdom of letting it at all.

I am willing you should cut some poles from my lot for fencing and making a barn if you wish but you must do it yourself, you must not let any tenant or hired man do it for you, even to be used on your own farm. Could you not sell my lot there and yours together to good advantage? I always though they ought to go together and your request to cut timber from mine shows that you think so too at least in part. Perhaps some one would like to buy 80 acres of yours and mine too thus leaving you 40 acres which is more than you can well cultivate. I hope you will think well of the matter of taking the 40 you bought for me "within one mile of the village, upon a good road" as

you described it when you first wrote of it, it is simply for your good I urge it. I offer it to you for less than to any one else, and that is not all I am willing to wait for you a little time a thinking I would not do for any one else, no not if they offered to pay me 25 per cent, interest. But unless you see it to be best do not be influenced by my opinion for I have already made you trouble enough. I do not doubt there is better land elsewhere, but will you be any better off upon it? What is the question, not how good is the land?

I regret to say that Martha has made no improvement for the last six weeks, but if any things grow worse. Her case is very discouraging indeed, and its result very doubtful. The remainder of our family are well. The typhus fever is raging very violent by in this region this fall. It is of a kind that is very contagious and destructive, and its [ravages?] <*ever fearful*> in some neighborhoods have been fearful, such that the hay and crops have been left untouched. Our neighborhood has hither to be spared, but a short time since Mrs. Robbins was taken sick with it so that we now have it here. Cousin Olivia Cowles and Mr. Knapp are to be married Sept. 11 (day after tomorrow) Olivia sings rather more than usually about these things your affect brother Joel. Sept. 18, 1844

I have waited nine days in the hope that some of our people would write but mother has now a most terrible and painful felon on the second finger or her right hand, and John has had one of his fingers smashed by the falling of a piece of timber. John's finger is getting better now and I do not think the injury is important. Mother's finger too is a little better and I cannot but hope she has seen the worst of it.

Mr. Knapp and Olivia were married one week ago this evening, and this morning they started for Ohio.

Martha is not I think quite as well though there is not much change.

You will see the reason why Mother does not write, and as I am in a great hurry you will excuse me for closing this letter now. Mr. Burr's people are well.

Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother
Joel.

Mother wishes me to say for her that many times tenants prove very troublesome indeed, and she thinks you had better not involve yourself for five years.

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Prairieville
Milwaukie [*Milwaukee*] Co
Wisconsin.

New Haven [*Connecticut*] July 28, 1845.

Dear Brother and Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

I received your letter a day or two since and as it requires an immediate answer I haste to give it. I have no news to tell. Martha is no better. We had her make a visit to Watertown [*Massachusetts*] <*to*> at Dea. [*Deacon*] Woodard's, hoping it would improve her, but it did not. She had to ride there and back on a bed.

As to your selling your place I shall be glad to help you by letting you sell a part or the whole of mine with it, but I do not think you ought to sell yours short of $500, and I think it ought to bring $600, or $5 per acre though of course you can judge of that. You know how land is selling with you and can tell better than I.

I find there are some objections to sending you a power of attorney to sell my land, though they have reference to the expense solely, which after all would be no more than two or three dollars. If after my explanation you think best to have such a power, write me and I will send it. It must be made before a justice here, and must be recorded at Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] before it will be good for anything. A better way seems to be for me to authorize you to sell and I will give the deed as soon as the name of the individual is made known to me. This will be I think satisfactory to any one who wished to buy, and will save expense and trouble. If you think differently however, let me know. At all events such a plan will suit some folks, and therefore I authorize you to sell the whole or a part of the 80 acre lot. If you sell the whole it must not be for less than $200 or $2.50 the acre. If a part it must not be for less than $3 per acre, and

as you know far better than I what land is worth you may get as much more as you can, remembering that all you can get more is your own, though unless you need it much I should prefer that you would apply it to the extinguishment of your debt to me of whose amount I know nothing. [Terms], either cash, or one half cash and the remainder secured by mortgage, interest 8 per cent, (or more if you do not think it wicked to take more, less if you feel that it ought to be). Perhaps you can divide both your farm and mine thus making two pretty fair farms with plenty of wood, though at some distance. Do as you think best but remember that if you wish any one to value your farm you must not run it down yourself.

What do you propose to do after selling? I hope you will not think of going into the wilderness. I care not how good the land may be, it will never pay you for being <*ex*>secluded from society. Perhaps if you can sell your farm you can take my 40 (though you say you can take that whether or not) and buy a part of the 80 for wood &c. and then if you can get a house up on the 40 you will be very comfortable. But I feel altogether incapable of advising you. As land is not diminishing in value I should be in favor of your keeping yours for a year or more, till you can get a house somewhere to live in, but perhaps it is not best. I give you full latitude as far as I can.

I do not think I shall come to Wisconsin. You have as many ministers now as you <*can*> ought to have till people can do more for their support. I do not decide <*conclus*> finally however as yet.

Write me at any and all times just as much as you can. The postage now will not be a severe tax especially if you will hand your letters to some one who is coming within 300 miles of Mill-Brook [*Connecticut*], though you need not take great pains to do that. You can send two letters at a time however nor need you be very anxious to fill them full. Our [term?] lasts only till Aug. 21, therefore you will direct to Mill Brook [*Connecticut*] for me and to Newberg N.Y. [*New York*] for John. He has taken a school there, though his prospects are somewhat doubtful. Both John and I expect to speak at commencement. I enclose you my duplicate, though I do not see of what use it will be to you. I am certain it is of no use to me. Your affectionate brother Joel.

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Prairieville
Milwaukie [*Milwaukee*] Co
Wis. Ter. [*Wisconsin Territory*]

Milbrook [*Mill Brook, Connecticut*], Nov 9, 1845.

My dear brother,

I promised Martha [*Martha Grant*] when I left her at Lebanon a few weeks since, that I would see that all of the brothers and sisters were written to, and if no one else could write, I would. It seems almost impossible to get Marcus to write, and Mother has always more on her hands than she can, well attend to. Phelps is busy writing letters, so that the only alternative is, that you do not hear from home at present or that I write myself, a thing which I have had it on my mind to do ever since the introduction of the new postage law.

Your letter to Joel [*Joel Grant*] was recieved sometime after he left us. We were glad to hear from you that you are getting along so comfortably. I regret never having an oppertunity to see and become acquainted with sister Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*]; give my love to her and to the little Abby, who is I presume a source of much enjoyment to you already. May her life be spared for many years! You have probably heard ere this of Joels arrival in Ill. [*Illinois*] and though you may not be able to see him for many months, it will be a gratification to you to feel that he is so near you. John is engaged in a school at Richmond Va. [*Virginia*] with what prospects I cannot state, as I have not seen his last letters and have heard nothing said about it. Martha's at Lebanon Springs at a hydropathic establishment. She, as well as the rest of us had become satisfied that medicine could do her no good and we hoped that the application of cold water as practiced by the hydropathists, might stimulate her nervous system, and restore a healthy action throughout her system generally. She has been there a little more than three weeks, and as yet there is no perceptible change though some symptoms are more favorable. For two years she has been obliged to take cathartics daily or suffer severly. When she wrote

last she had been able to dispense with them for 5 days. Dr. Graham considers her case a very critical one, but gives encouragement that she may recover. We have much confidence in the application of cold water, but it cannot cure all diseases and hers may be one of the incurable. You may feel some desire to know something of the operations to which she is subjected. I can not state it accurately, but she is plunged into a bath of cold water, then rubbed briskly, then walks as much as she is able to do probably after an interval of rest. after this she sits in a tub of cold water 1/2 an hour is rubbed again then walks. In the PM she has wet napkins applied to the spine & abdomen and is bandaged with dry blankets for 2 hours. This process seems at first a hard one but it seems in many cases to be very effectual in removing diseases often of a long standing, and is said to be much less unpleasant than one would suppose. Mother and Marcus intend visiting her next week if the weather should be favorable.

I saw Mrs. Burr a few weeks since, she was then well. I do not know any thing of general interest to communicate. It seems to be a season of general health here. Uncle Sam is very feeble but seems to continue far beyond the expectation of his friends. L Griswold is to teach the school in this district this winter.

I am sorry that you do not feel satisfied with your prospects where you now are, but I hope you will be able to fall upon some expedient for making enough out of your farm to induce you to remain where you are. I never thought it well to change if one can possibly avoid it, and I feel more the folly of it and I have had some experience. I am sorry that you have to work so hard as to impair your health this ought always to be avoided if possible. I think you will find frequent ablutions in cold water strengthening and invigorating. Take a towel wet with cold water and rub yourself over every morning and see if you do not feel the better for it. The more water you use the better. I have written in great haste. I hardly know what, but Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*] will be able to sympathise with my confusion when her little one is 2 or 3 years old and she attempts to write with her at her elbow chattering the whole time, and keeping the table in constant motion I will leave the rest of the sheet for some one to fill up I shall ever be very happy to hear from you, where we shall go next we have not decided but Phelps has some idea of returning his profession in Canton. Elizabeth cherishes an affectionate remembrance of "Uncle Daniel." Your affectionate sister

S B Grant. [*Susan Boyd J. Grant*]

Dear Brother

As I have never writen to you I now take the oportunity to write a few words, to you would like to hear about our crops and such things I supose. Our potatoes are <*lite*> light about <*half*> two thirds of a crop they did not rot in the field but have some in the cellar our hay crop is about half as much as we had last year our oats were pretty good the straw was very light but well filled our hogs to are pretty fat but not very large if these few lines will at all interest you I may at some future day write some more your aff [*affectionate*] Brother Marcus [*Marcus Grant*]

My Dear Children

I was glad to hear from you by Joels or the one you wrote to Joel and I will here mention that has taken quite a rise I cannot state definility how much but think I will send you a paper before long that will give you more information than I can give you I am glad that you think of keeping more stock I think keeping cows and sheep in your situation will be a good course not that I would advise you to go largely into the business at first a small stock will soon make a large one and I fear that you feel a desire to be rich but if it is so I hope you will remember the Bible injunction be not in haste to be rich also that riches bring a snare

I want you should be come[...] I want you should keep a horse and waggon that that you may go to church and wherever you want to go with less futigue I am glad that you call your little daughter Abby I wish her name to be Abigail Caroline. I hope you will give her to the Lord in baptism and consider the Lords and may you pray the Lord to sanctify her wholly body soul and spirit and preserve her blamely unto the coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ [live?] near to God my dear children

I want to have you bathe the dear little one from the crown of her head to the soul of her feet in tepid water daily I think it will prevent her crying so much I would not have it [creuelly into?] I must stop for want of room may God bless you is the prayer of your Mother [*Mrs. (E.) Grant*]

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Lockport. Ill. [*Illinois*] Tues. Feb. 16, 1847

Dear Brother & Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

I need not say how glad we were to get your letter last Sat. evening. for you already know the joy of friends at hearing from those they love. I do not know that we had said "we will not write to Daniel & Caroline again, till they write to us," but it is a general principle upon wh. [*which*] we act. to write in answer to letter received. Of course exceptions are sometimes made. but in general. I know not that we ought to do otherwise than as we are done by. (I now refer to nothing but writing) You both write as if you were enjoying yourselves well. I doubt not you find it much pleasanter living in the village, than out. You have now. easy access to meetings, lectures &c. the tendency of wh. [*which*] is. improvement in various ways. Is Mr. Curtiss in Prairieville [*Wisconsin*] still? I believe he owned the house in wh. [*which*] he was living when we were there.

We have now the pleasure of saying to you that Joel is quite well. He has had no ague for four weeks. and is now looking quite like himself. His appetite is good, & for the three last Sab. [*Sabbath*] he has preached all day. Our congregation is increasing: a good deal of attention is being paid to Sacred music. and we are causing tracts to be given monthly to every family, together with an effort to increase the number of Sab. [*Sabbath*] scholars. Our Sewing Soc. [*Society*] is flourishing; New Year's eve, the ladies gave an oyster supper, the avails of wh. [*which*] are to aid in finishing the steeple to our church. The frame only is up. Near $100 were cleared. considering the time we had to prepare in (three weeks) we think it was doing well -- It is near four weeks since we heard from our homes, or John [*John Grant*] -- we are daily expecting to hear from both). John [*John Grant*] was then at Watertown. [*Massachusetts*] designing to spend the winter in the family of Mr. Woodard, teaching their children. and a few others. He then thought to have those tumors removed in the spring. hoping to be relieved from much of the consequent suffering, by inhaling the "etherial gas." of wh. [*which*] you have doubtless read. I hope much for him, but fear more.

I noticed in one of the recent papers an account of an uncommon outpouring of the Holy Spirit. in Mt. Hol. Fem. Sem. [*Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] "We could only stand still and witness the wonderful working of God." said the writer. A friend wrote me a few days since, that Miss Lyon [*Mary Lyons*] had been very sick. and is now feeble. I cannot imagine how they get along with so many of the important one's gone. How rejoiced we all shall be to get the Mem. [*Memorial*] Catalogue [*from Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*]! It will inform us of the residence of many a loved one, and make us feel how far separate Holyoke's daughters really are. Three weeks since, I saw a notice of the marriage of Celia Wright. (sister of "Kate Wright") to a missionary among the Choctau Indians. His name I have forgotten. Did I tell you in my last that "Miss Reed," "Nancy Foote" & Miss Webster" that were, had each a son? I hope you see the Miss. Herald, [Missionary Herald *published by the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions*] How much more are we interested in the missions where we know the missionaries. Do you hear from home often? Where is Mary [*Mary Burr*] now? I hope we shall not have to wait quite so long next time before hearing from you.

[*written along verso side*] I did not [take?] at all. when you said some of Daniels brothers & sisters did not write particularly enough, for Joel says I am too particular altogether. and that I ought not to write so long letters.

[*written along front side*] We have had a little sleighing. but it is gone, and we are now having an ice storm. I dread the wind of March and April. Should like to take a peep at N. England [*New England*] faces & scenery next summer. Perhaps we shall though we cannot now decide certainly about it. I fear Joel's health will again suffer if he should spend the hot months here. Hoping soon to hear from you. I remain your aff. [*affectionate*] sister Abby. [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]

Kiss little Abby for us both.

Are you sister C. [*Caroline Burr Grant*] learning Phonography? I cannot get time.

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant.

Prairieville
Wisconsin

[*March*] 11, 1847
[*Date supplied from date stamp:* Lockport Mar 13 Ill. [*Illinois*]]
[*First two pages in phonographic shorthand. Numerous sums of money are mentioned.*]
March 12 Friday, morn. 47.

My dear Brother & Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

We were very glad to receive your letter yesterday. It seems so much more like living as brother and sister should, to have frequent communication, and know of each others state. We are so near, that of all others, we ought to <*be*> write often.

You may have heard from John [*John Grant*] before you receive this, but lest that be not the case, Joel [*Joel Grant*] thinks best to send the letter we received Monday. It was enclosed in one from John [*John Grant*], written in part, the day before the operation. He says if he does not survive the operation his friends have not cause for grief. He feels that all will be well with him. It is a great comfort that he can trust in his Heavenly Father, now in this time of deep affliction and that those to whom he is so dear, can supplicate God in his behalf. We are very anxious to hear again from him. Let us all thank God for providing him with friends who sympathize with, and aid him, especially for so disposing the heart of that kind family where he has spent a part of the winter, and some of whom are constantly with in the Hospital.

If John lives, I shall feel more anxious than ever to go home. It seems as if it would be easier to give him up after seeing him once, and not him only, but all my friends -- Some ten or 12 of our ladies intend spending the summer away, most of East. If I go before my husband it will be in compay with some of them. Aff. [*affectionate*] your sister Abby

[*written along* side] In your next will you please return the enclosed letter from Martha W. as I suppose it will be of no service to you after reading it. and it may be to me. Kiss that dear little Abby for her Aunty's sake. I am glad Mr. Curtis has left P. [*Prairieville, Wisconsin*] he is not the man to minister to you there, though I doubt not but he is good.

Joel feels somewhat agueish, but I hope will not have it hard. He will not be very well, I fear till he has breathed purer air than is found here. The travelling is terrible now.

I hope Daniel will be able to sell that land –

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New Haven [*Connecticut*]. June 30 [*1847*?].

My Dear Sister [*Caroline Burr Grant*] --

Your very kind letter came Tuesday morning -- and gave me pleasure and comfort -- In such trials as that through which I have passed the sympathies of friends avail much to alleviate and sustain.

You will be glad to know that my recovery has been rapid and uninterrupted -- so that I can now quit myself -- It was my purpose to leave here today, but it being rainy I shall remain till tomorrow at least. Think to reach home by the middle of next week -- where I shall remain pretty quiet for a time. Will you not be able to come and see me?

I received also on Tues. forwarded from New York a letter from Daniel and Marcus -- dated May 26 -- Daniel speaks of having written you by the same mail a few day previous So you doubtless have all the intelligence which I have. He says he requested you to send him some book on Butter & Cheese making, but that he does not wish you to do so as he has found one there --

My pen is poor and I ought not to write much yet, so excuse my short letter --

In [...] for your sisterly remembrance,

Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother

John[...] [*John Grant*]

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[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Waukesha
Waukesha Co
Wisconsin.

Mill Brook Ct. [*Connecticut*] Sept. 23, 1847

Dear Brother and sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

Today we have performed the sad duty of following our dear sister Martha's [*Martha Grant*] mortal remains to the grave. She died night before last (Sept. 21) at about half past eleven o'clock, after a season of most severe suffering. I found her very low upon our return, though I did not think her case hopeless. She has been sinking gradually ever since, and about three weeks since we began to feel more anxiety on her account. About one week before her death, she became very weak, so much so that she could not see company except in extraordinary cases. Last sabbath she became still weaker and we became apprehensive that her end was at hand. Her sufferings were very great indeed, and we sent for the doctor, hoping he might give her something to relieve her pain. He did so, and she had a more comfortable night, but in the morning she was unable to swallow any thing, so that she was beyond the reach of anodynes. She appeared in the course of the day to be dying but she again revived, and lingered in great suffering till Tuesday night when she expired.

In her case we are privileged to record another triumph of divine grace. She has all along expressed herself resigned to the will of God, and has felt <*more*> deep anxiety lest she should cease to be patient under the <*deep*> sufferings which it pleased God to send upon her. When I prayed with her, it was usually the burden of her request that grace might be given her for that purpose. She felt almost ready to chide the slow approach of death. Her sufferings had made her very poor, and weak. I never saw a human being so much wasted and emaciated.

She bade us all farewell, and gave us such advice and exhortation as she judged adapted to us, and sent messages to her absent brothers. She said "Tell Daniel to be faithful to himself in the study and contemplation of religious truth, never suffering his business, his cares or his prosperity, to interfere with his religious duties. soon he may be like me upon the bed of death. O may he be prepared to follow his sisters who have inherited the promises."

A post mortem examination was held which showed, that, as a result of protracted disease her lungs had grown to the sides of her chest, and her bowels had become one solid, agglutinated mass. Dreadful has been the suffering she has endured, great (as she said <*before*> the day before her death) beyond the <*pow*> belief of the world in general. But she sleeps -- sleeps in Jesus, and we cannot mourn that she has exchanged this life for another. We could not take care of her. -- Physicians did her but little, if any good. All our care could not relieve her sorrows, or comfort her upon her bed of suffering. She has gone, we trust, to the Great Physician, where her case is perfectly understood, and where no sorrow enters. Let us praise God for his grace that called her to his kingdom, and not sorrow as those without hope.

My health has improved rapidly since our return and I am now quite well. But Abby [*Abigail Cowles Grant*] has had a severe and dangerous attack of billious fever, which lasted about seven weeks, and from which she has scarcely recovered yet. It is about eleven days since she came from her father's here and since that time has been for the most part with us. Our people are usually well.

Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother,
Joel Grant

P.S. Sept. 24. Whenever the business is all completed with Mahar and the papers properly recorded I wish you to let me know. The time for the payment of $15 is at hand (Oct. 1.) I wish you to use such portion as may remain in fencing out the sand bank on the 40. I think that about 1/2 an acre more or less should be fenced with boards. Fence five or six feet high, boards nailed to posts set in the ground, and with a gate that can be locked, so that no one can get at the sand without going to you for permission. I would like to have you do the labor, keeping an exact account of it and in due time I will pay you. Perhaps you might make some arrangement with Mahar to deliver the timber on good terms. Joel Grant

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[*Addressed to*] Mr Daniel Grant
Waukesha Co
Wisconsin

Mill Brook Ct. [*Connecticut*] March 3, 1848

Dear Brother & Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

Though it is a long time since I have heard directly from you, (the last intelligence being by your letter to Mary [*Mary Burr*] which she sent to your mother Burr) I am glad to write to you. We are all in usual health except that we have been troubled this winter with colds

I expect to settle in Avon [*Connecticut*], about 12 miles from Hartford. The society is a small one but will be pleasant I think, and will open a field of usefulness. I think we shall commence keeping house in two or three weeks.

We have had a letter recently from John and Marcus at Woodbury [*Connecticut*]. They are well. John's school is small, numbering only about 27. We also have had a letter recently from Phelps, who says they are now well though during the past summer he has had three attacks of chill fever, one of them very severe. That class of diseases is increasing in that part of the country, we think.

Though I made a somewhat earnest request to be informed of the results of your teaming operations, I have, as yet, received nothing. I hope you are doing well.

Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother, Joel [*Joel Grant*]

Mill Brook [*Connecticut*], March 11

Dear Brother & Sister,

As you will perceive, this was commenced by Joel more than a week ago. A multiplicity of duties have prevented its being filled out, but I hope its time has now come. Many things occur to me day by day that I should like to write to you and I hope the more important will not now escape my mind. Joel has informed you of the usual health of father Grants family. My father's family are also about as usual. Pa is very much broken down since that long illness summer before last.

Parney has a boy three weeks old to day, and weighs 13 lbs. She is very comfortable. She think her sufferings previous & at the time of her confinement very much alleviated by taking "Mother's Relief." Tom is talking about going to Ohio next summer some time, says he shall work no more on the farm after April 1st. I know not what is to be done all around. Now that we are to be <*here*> in this vicinity I hate to have them go away. As Joel has <*told*?> written you, we expect to go to West Avon. I know not when Mr. G. [*Joel Grant*] is to be installed, but we expect to go to housekeeping next week. It looks like a mountain to begin for my strength is not great, still I hope we shall get along. I have a girl to go with me, but know not for how long. I have spent the winter past here and at my home. It has seemed short, very, indeed it has to every one, probably because it has been less severe than usual. We have had but little sleighing, but a great deal of mud. I came here to day upon a light snow that fell yesterday accompanied with sleet, so as to form a crust. I am to go to Collinsville next week. There to meet Joel and from thence to Avon.

In Jan. we visited Uncle and Aunt [Banister?] at their home in Newburyport [*Massachusetts*]. We found them well & happy & very pleasantly situated. We spent a week with

[...] except that Sat. and Sabbath of it we spent in Ipswich [*Massachusetts*] with Mr. & Mrs. John Cowles. They are teachers of the Sem. [*Ipswich Female Seminary*]
<*once*> and occupy the building once used by Aunt B. [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*] Their school is prosperous: Mrs. C. goes into it morning & P.M. of each day, and has some ten <*th*> for boarders. Her moth[er] manages the domestic affairs. Ipswich is [a] very beautiful place, one of the pleasantest I have ever seen. We saw a good deal of Boston, but less is to be seen or enjoyed there at th<*i*>is season than in summer. On our way home found some S. Hadley [*South Hadley, Massachusetts*] friends in the cars. It was their vacation. An interesting revival was then in progress at the Sem. [*Mount Holyoke Female Seminary*] You have probably heard of Mr. Condits death. I know not who supplies his place

I intended to write more, but have not time. The remedy for sore nipple is camphor gum & sweet oil, the latter will dissolve the oil. Camphor gum simmered in cream is an unfailing remedy for piles – Please to write fully to us very soon direct to West Avon Ct. We want to know all about every thing, for you well know we are interested in all that interests you. With much love to all I am your aff [*affectionate*] sister

Abby – [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]

A kiss for dear little Abby –

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[*Addressed to*]
Mr. Daniel Grant
Prairieville
Wisconsin

[*From*]
John Grant
Apr. 1848
Mill Brook Ct
April 22

Mill Brook [*Connecticut*], Apr. 21, 1848.

Dear Brother & Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*]

It is truly a long time since I last wrote you. It ought not to have been so long, but I have always felt that I was not quite ready or quite strong enough. & so I have deferred.

I am now enjoying a little rest from my labors in school. I closed my school three weeks ago & commence in three weeks again. You of course know that I have been in Woodbury Ct. [*Connecticut*] only four miles from Dea. [*Deacon*] Woodward's – some of the family having attended my school all the time thus far. [Ann?] Maria the whole time – Martha all but five or six weeks - & Burr some weeks. Have had a pleasant school tho' [*though*] not quite so large as I wished. A little time I had 33 – but my number did not average above 23 – for the whole time. I shall probably have as many as 23 – the coming summer in time to continue 11 weeks only from May 15. I hope to have a large & profitable school next winter if I live & am in health. I have got along very well this winter – have pleased my pupils generally & their parents & have earned some reputation in my business, tho' [*though*] not without effort & some trials

I have had pretty good health all winter & have had strength for my duties, but not a great deal to spare. My general health is good enough & it's only my back that gives me trouble which is easily fatigued – it is no worse than usual & I think is stronger. I hope I am to continue as well but am not without my fears.

You are probably aware that Joel is about to be settled in Avon [*Connecticut*] – is not ordained but has gone there to live. They are keeping house - & seem glad to be located, tho' [*though*] the place is not so large as he ought to be located in – society is small – salary only $450 & parsonage It is not at the church on the turnpike road bit south of it or rather between it & Collinsville. I visited them last week – found them well, but hardly settled in their new home.

You have been informed that Marcus spent the winter in Woodbury [*Connecticut*] & attended my school – improved his time very well. I do not know what he will do this summer. He is now with Joel helping him plant potatoes &c. altho' [*although*] we expect him home soon.

It is as you can readily imagine very lonely here at home – no brother or sister here. I shall probably not spend the whole of my remaining vacation at home, but do not know how soon I shall leave. Geo. Woodman is to be married soon – probably in a week two & I shall attend the wedding & not return to these parts. Aunt Banister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*] has invited Martha Woodward to come & stay a few months with her to assist her & be company for her, giving her such opportunities for improvement as she can. She will go on in a few weeks.

Our friends are so far as I know all well. I have been about but little & have not seen them all. Cousins Margaret & Isaiah are to teach in the same school at Falls Village this summer. Uncle Luther is very feeble & probably cannot endure much longer, tho' [*though*] he may live many months.

I am sorry to know that you suffered so much from ill health in the early part of the winter but hope you are restored long ere this & that you are prospered in all your concerns Let us ever remember in whose hands we are & live as tho [*though*] this world were not our home – for how short is our time here.

I hope you will write me soon as convenient at Woodbury & if I do not write again till another vacation you may rest assured that you will not be forgotten. Mother sends love, but says she is too tired to write.

Your very affectionate brother
John –

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[*Addressed to*]

Mr. Daniel Grant
Waukesha
Waukesha Co.
Wisconsin.

W. Avon [*West Avon, Connecticut*] July 5, 1848

Dear Brother

Having waited many months with great anxiety to hear from you, I have at last concluded to take my pen and write something myself. Since your letter of Nov 7, '47 (now eight months) I have received nothing from you, and have heard only a few indefinite reports. My last letter to you was dated sometime in Dec. last so that it may <*be interesting*> interest you to know something of what has haped in the mean time. I was at that time preaching here, and after a few weeks I received a call to settle as their Pastor, wh. [*which*] call I accepted and after delaying a time I was installed the 14th of last month. It is a small society, and they cannot give a large salary, <*though*> and it is by extreme effort that they are able to pay me the $500 which constitutes my salary. They are however a very pleasant people, and the place is situated conveniently to Hartford, being about 12 miles west.

We have a son born April 21, whom we talk of calling John Cowles. He has been healthy until about a week since, when he was attacked with some kind of a complaint wh. [*which*] has made him feeble and worrisome. He is now better, and has a good prospect of recovering entirely. Since his birth (almost eleven weeks) his mother has been very feeble. For a few of the first days she seemed to be doing well, but then she seemed to come to a stand, and soon after began to recede with frightful rapidity until she reached the verged of mortal existence. For many days her case seemed almost hopeless. Such was her state at the time of my installation. At last however she began to revive a little, and she is now better; though still unable to sit up and as you may infer very feeble. My own health has been in general good. I have heard, through a report of some one (stated to rest on the authority of a letter from Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*] to her mother), that you have been ill this past winter. Of the nature of the disease, its power or duration I know nothing, but presume it has some connection with the ague. I have also heard that mother has written to you <*advice*> advising you to return to this country after settling up your affairs there. If your present disease properly originates from the country in wh. [*which*] you live I should think such a course a good one and I believe I suggested it to you when I last visited you in the spring of '47. I suppose the great difficulty will be in disposing of your property without a sacrifice that would be ruinous, yet I think if your health is constantly suffering from billious attacks you must do the best you can. I do not know that it would be wise for you to return to Conn. [*Connecticut*] I suppose better farms may be bought in the interior of N. Y.[*New York*] at equally reasonable rates, and in situations equally exempt from billious tendencies. But of this you can afterwards determine.

It has been a matter of surprise to me that you have given me no information concerning my business affairs. You have [*been*] appointed my confidential agent with all the formalities of law, and besides this I wrote you a very urgent letter last December, a letter which I expected nothing but bodily inability would prevent your answering. On the first of last April a $50 annuity was to come into your hands, to be forwarded to me, or to be satisfactorily accounted for. You had bought a team with my funds, and at my risk; and common justice should have led you to report to me the result, or by some means signify to me a just cause why you did not. A report (I know not that it is to me, though it comes on the authority of a letter to Mrs. Burr) has reached me that you have sold them. With this I do not find fault, but why do I hear nothing either of the sale or its proceeds from you? As to the $50 annuity I admit that it may never have come into your hands, but if not why am I not informed, both of the fact and the [the?] reasons of it? I must confess these things give me great anxiety, the more so as I am in immediate and pressing want of money, and shall be yet more and more so for some time to come. The propriety of the matter does not rest upon this, however, for it is the undoubted duty of agents to inform their employers of the state of the affairs entrusted to them, and faithfully to deliver over all property that comes to them in a shape to be thus delivered.

May I then expect that you will give an immediate answer to this, informing me [both] of the present state of the team and all the affairs connected with the sale of the 40 [acres]. Of the payment due from Timothy Mahan on the first of last April, whether the note then due was taken up, & if not the reasons why as far as you know them? Perhaps it will assist you to <*tell*> be told how far I understand these matters already. Your letter of last November is my only source of information and from that I learn that you sold my 40 for $250, taking in payment,

2 mortgage deeds of village lots	$163.00
2 notes of $29 each	58.00
Cash to balance	29.00
	$250.00

(Of the last item you make no explanation, leaving it doubtful in what way you received it, or whether you received it at all.)

You afterwards bought a team for which you gave the mortgage deeds above mentioned, and agreed to pay $37 this spring and $37 next November, making its entire value about $237.

As far as your account with me is concerned I believe it is embraced in the following items

Oct. '47	Cash received of T. Mahan	15.00
April '48	do. do.	50.00
Nov. 47	2 notes of $29 each	58.00
	<*2 village lots mortgage*>	
	Cash (rec'd to balance as above)	29.00
	Investment in team	163.00
		$315.00

From this there may be something to be deducted for taxes <*due*> laid on the 80 before I sold it to Mahan, but I know of the way in which the rest can be accounted for. If there is any error in this statement you will inform me. [Thus?] let the matter be at once explained, however bad it may be. I shall keep a copy of the above statement , so that I can see what I wrote to you and compare it with your reply. I have endeavored to get the whole case before you so that you need have no difficulty in explaining it Brother John has left his school in Woodbury [*Connecticut*] & is now engaged as Tutor at New-Haven. His health is as good as it has been at any time since he had the operation performed.

Abby sends her love to you and Caroline to wh. [*which*] I would add a great deal of my own. Do not delay to write directing to West Avon Ct. [*Connecticut*]

Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother
Joel Grant

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[*Addressed to*] Mr Daniel Grant
Waukesha
Waukesha Co
Wisconsin

[*From*] Mother Grant
Sept 1848
Millbrook Ct
Sept 13

Colebrook [*Connecticut*] Sept 11th ...48

My dear children [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*]

I believe you think the letter I promised you when I sent the goods I have been so long about to send has been very tardy in its movements indeed it has been very different from what I intended it will be of no use to enumerate the many obstacles that have come in my way but after all last monday a week to day I went with the barrel well stocked with good to the Depot and I there found John Watson son of Jacob Watson who said he would see it started in the P M I have felt somewhat uneasy since that I did not see the Agent myself but he promised that he would be faithful and I thought he would so I left it with him to do the business and if he does the business as he promised I hope you will receive it ere long when I went with the barrel I carried your sister Elizabeth [*Elizabeth Grant Burton*] she and Mr Burton have after so many years made us a visit and it was a great pleasure to me she looks oh altered a good deal since you saw her my son she and I went in our waggon and Mr B in the stage she enquired about you and your family thought she should write to you but she has her hands and her heart full Lavinia is married and Margaret has poor health her children she left well they returned the northern route and had it in contemplation to call on Phelps at Canton I will have mention that the barrel was directed to the care of Mc Clune & Williams Millwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] Mr. Allen was buried last

monday I wanted to attend the funeral but felt more that I wanted to go with Elizabeth [*Elizabeth Grant Burton*] as far as I could he has been in a suffering condition for a long time I shall mix my letter up in such a way that you will think strange perhaps <*that I am more than usual light minded*> I want to say to you that I fear you will never get your pay for the improvements you make on your Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] Wall people always say that improvements never fetch what they cost and people have such different views upon the subject that one man will want to undo all another does I would like to have you sell it and pay your debts if you should have a good opportunity I would like to know about your concerns as much as you think best I should, I went with E [*Elizabeth Grant Burton*] to see your father B's [*Mr. Burr?*] family found them all well Mary [*Mary Burr?*] sent you <*her*> a number of articles she will probably write you what Joel sent & a pair of books John a pair of pantaloons and a suit up a pair that I suppose <*give*> was John's and some shirts and one of Marcus' bosoms and a collar he was absent he left Collinsville after his father told him that he disapproved of his grinding axes and engaged in a [coal?] job in New Hartford he came home and staid four days when I was at home [&?] was pretty well but said he worked hard I put up as many apples as I could with the other things I put mine into some cloth that I thought would make you a pair of pillow cases sweet into one and sour into the other but the mice ate one and you can do what you please with them we have no apples this year and last year they were very knotty friends all well your Uncle Luther lives and may a good while yet he may not be the first to die in our family there is a good deal of sickness and a good many deaths in Winter Phinny Root's wife is dangerously sick Abigail [*Abigail Cowles Grant*] is better and has been home and made a visit She does not nurse her babe at all I sent some new calico for [it &] a dress also two breadths of a dress that I thought might make her one but as I understand you may have more family make use of it as may be most for the comfort of your family two pair of morocco shoes of <*m*> Martha's one indiarubber Mary sent a pair of indiarubber I did not send the dress patterns but sent a dress almost new which Martha said she thought you might wear with very little alteration she thought by letting down the [ep?] [...] each of you a pair of mittens and [also] two of the sheepskin mittens Susan [*Susan Boyd J. Grant?*] made for your father she made a pair for Marcus and they suited your father better and so they have both worn them and these have [lain?] by they were too large you will need I guess to cut out a little more than the seam I guess Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*] and sew them over but you can contrive that part I shall put a little into this letter and when you receive this write me soon and I shall want to hear from the barrel if you ever receive it I have not mentioned but a part of what it contains much love to dear Abby and from [your?] mother thank her for what she did to write her I was very tired when I commenced and I have written with my paper on a map lying in my lap and you and you will find it somewhat difficult to read may you enjoy the blessing of God and strive to live near to him don't neglect your bible and under all circumstances spread out your wants before the Lord and store that tender mind that is commited to your care with that which is good not burden it be careful that her clothes are not tight [worm?] holes and all that there be no compression may the Lord be your guide & [grant?] help in time of trouble is the prayer of your aff [*affectionate*] Mother Grant

West Avon [*Connecticut*], Oct. 18, '48.

Dear Brother and Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

While at home last week Marcus handed me a letter from John to you in wh. [*which*] he had designed to enclose a half sheet. But Mother's sickness & his other duties prevented his doing it soon. & he thought I had better bring it home. I have long wished to feel able and have the time to write you, and that fully but know not that I shall ever do it with greater ease than now, tho' [*though*] my space must be limited.

It is 7 o'clock in the morning. My baby taking his morning nap in the cradle, husband in the study, girl washing dishes in the back room & I have one hand on the cradle, the other [grasping?] the pen. We have a pleasant house & convenient, th'o [*though*] some of the rooms are too small. If I ever have sufficient strength shall like housekeeping very much. We had been here but six weeks when Johnny was home. & those were weeks of great care in arranging and getting things comfortably [settled?]. Billah was with me five weeks after the birth of my babe and

could she have stayed five more. I might have been spared a great deal of suffering. But as I can not have room to write every thing will only say that thro' [*though*] the mercy of God I was spared, even after resting for some time [from] the [verge?] of the grave, and am now in tolerable health, tho' [*though*] far from being strong, am able to endure. Our boy's name is John Cowles, is near six months old, weight 21 lbs. is perfectly pleasant, seldom crying if not sick. He takes all his food from a bottle. I was obliged to wean him when two months old, on account of a sore mouth, which is not yet well. We have bought milk & butter all summer, but expect a cow today. Our expenses must greatly exceed our salary this year. There is no end to demands upon the purse in sickness, and little economy in the kitchen, when hired help manages. Our people have been very kind & thoughtful for us, thus adding greatly to our comfort.

We found Mother Grant very sick with Typhus fever, and seen how it may result, tho' [*though*] there is hope in her case. Sister [Parney?] had been dangerously ill with dysintery, but when we were there, was able to sit up an hour in a day. Her beautiful babe 7 months old died two weeks since with the same disease. Ann Elisa Knapp was buried last week Tues. her disease consumption. There have been a great many deaths in Norfolk [*Connecticut*] the past season. I wanted to see your sister M [*Mary Burr*], but there no time to go there, as we were gone from home but two nights. I hope she will spend some time with us this winter. The impression in N. [*Norfolk, Connecticut*] is that she is to be married I did not see her gentleman when we were out. Johnny is in my lap and joggles my pen. I think he wd. [*would*] like to send his love to his Uncle & Aunt and cousin Abby. Do let us hear from you soon, and all the particulars. Joel sends love to you all. I was sorry to send you nothing but that little [neck?] ribon, but did not know that the box still opens- Those little dresses were out out <*from*> by one of my baby's slips. I like them very much. If you name a babe tell us all about it, will you not. I doubt not you had a comfortable time. You got along so well before. I was sick but three hours. Dr. Philo Rockwell is our physician. We had others in council.

Aff. [*affectionate*] your
sister Abby [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]

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[*Addressed to*]

Mr. Daniel Grant
Waukesha
Waukesha Co
Wisconsin.

West Avon [*Connecticut*] Feb. 26, 1849.

Dear Brother & Sister [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

Your letter mailed Feb. 9, was received about three days since, and we were truly glad to hear from you once more. Your letter found us in more than ordinary affliction. I was confined to the house, & mostly to my bed, by a severe ear ache, the result of a cold; and our little boy was afflicted with a very dangerous lung fever. Through God's blessing we are both now better.

Our fathers family is much afflicted this winter, as you have doubtless heard in part, though all are still living. Father & Mother are living entirely alone, & Mother has been so feeble as to be unable to do any thing a considerable part of the winter. John has had another operation for the removal of tumors, through wh. [*which*] he has passed as we hope, safely, though he writes that his back is not healed yet. He has resumed his duties as tutor nevertheless.

Since my wife's recovery from the severe sickness which she passed through last summer she has been gradually improving in health as we hope though there is still much room for improvement.

I think you must feel singular to be left without a house after laboring so long to obtain one. Of course you are the best judge as to what you ought to do, but it seems to me the price for wh. [*which*] you disposed of it <*were*> was less than it was worth by a good many dollars, especially as the pay is not prompt. $220 I should think a low price for a house situated as that was; however, I do not profess to be able to judge.

So it seems you are again without a home, and are somewhat perplexed to be able to tell what you had better do. Probably you will have decided before this reaches you, yet I will venture to say just a few thoughts. As you are out of business at present would it not be as well to try California? According to all accounts the success of those who go there may be presumed to be good, in some cases excellent. It strikes me favorably, if you can get some one to bear your expenses and then divide equitably the results of your labor, inasmuch as that will involve no pecuniary risks. Indeed I suppose it would be impossible for you to go on your own responsibility, as the expense of an outfit would be quite considerable. For a single traveller I find the outfit at Independence Missouri (& it will cost $20 at least to get there, probably more) to be thus stated by Col. [Gilpin?] a man who has been over the whole ground

Riding horse----------$60
Two pack mules---------$120
saddle bridle, & spurs-----12
pack saddles----------8
----------$200.00

Provisions 150 lbs. flour----------$3.00
75 do bacon----------2.00
20 do coffee 1.50 50 sugar 4.00 5.60
Salt pepper vinegar etc.---2.40----------13.00
$213.00

Besides these <*blan*?> he puts down Mackinaw Blankets at from $10 to $16 the pair, & he might have put down many other things so that the expense of an outfit at Independence cannot be assumed to be less than from $250 to $300. He sets down the time necessary as two or three months. But of these things the people of your place know far more than I can possibly If you go I trust you will go comfortably.

There will be many risks to be run, but I think the probabilities are altogether in favor of its doing your health good. You may be sick, you may die, & if you could avoid these things by staying at home, I would advise you by all means, not to go. As it is I am favorably impressed with the idea of your going.

I hope you will be able to see to the forwarding of the money due April 1 from Mahar. I received the $49 of which you write, though I was very sorry you did not send it sooner as I wanted it very much. <*It*> I understand that it was 88 cents more than was then due. If you should be unable to see to the business yourself please to designate some one by name, whom I can make my attorney. I presume it will not be [weeping?] to make an attorney this year but it may be another. Let me know the name of the lawyer who did my business for me when I was there last; his <u>whole</u> name, for he seemed to be a man worthy of confidence. If possible I hope you will forward the payment for this year before you leave

Should you go to California, take with you paper pen & ink and keep a diary of your course and forward it to us as you may have opportunity. I have many things to say, but I have not the leisure to say them now. Let what I have said suffice. Forget not amid all the perplexities with which your path is surrounded, that God sees through them all, and if you commit your way to him he will prepare it for you. “Trust then in the Lord with all thy heart; & lean not to thine own understanding.” (Prov. 3:5)

Your aff. [*affectionate*] brother,
Joel Grant

I hope Daniel will have his Daguereotype taken before he goes to Ca. [*California*]
Abby – [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]

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[*Addressed to*]

Mr Daniel Grant
Waukesha Waukesha Co
Wisconsin

Millbrook
Ct March 3d

From Mother Grant disapproving of Daniel going to California –
March 1849

late *Feb. 1849*

My Dear Children [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*]

I have for a long time wanted to write to you but I have never been very well since I was sick last fall and now for several weeks I have had a cold which has made me quite unwell but I now feel quite well. We received your letter along time ago which was a great relief to me I felt anxious about the barrel I felt that we did not know how to lose the contents and it rejoices my heart to hear that you had a dear little son which I hope will prove a blessing to all the friends and to learn about Dear Abby and that Caroline had been carried through her confinement so comfortably I was sorry that Daniel was home with his wrist and that he was troubled with Dispepsia but if it must be so I want to know it I do not hear from you near as often as I should like to but yesterday we received a letter from Joel stating that you Daniel was thinking of going to California which was to me inteligence of a very unpleasant nature and I thought I could delay writing no longer but must say to you immediately that I cannot endure the Idea your health is poor <*and*> and for you to think of going to California in pursuit of health I think you will be disappointed should you do it your Physician may recommend it and so I might think favorably of it if you <*was*> were in circumstances to go there and live at your ease and have a Physician and nurse to attend to you <*and*> but under your circumstances I feel that your prospect is nothing more than an increased state of suffering and then how can you be separated from your Dear family dont indulge a thought of any such thing Joel seems to think it might do but I feel that he has incorrect views he said to me that he did not know but it might be well enough for Marcus to go but I shall never give my consent to have any of my children go and your father is very much opposed to it I understand that you have sold your place and are gone to live with Mrs Root I am glad you have kind friends there but I hope you will make arrangements to return <*n*?> in the spring to Conn [*Connecticut*] should I live it will be pleasant to me and I hope that I shall be able to contribute to your comfort I am in the decline of life but should the Lord see fit to continue my life and give me strength I shall always want to do what I can to make my children comfortable I think was you here you might enjoy better health than you do <*there*> where you are but if you must be sick I had rather you would be sick here than abroad There are a great many gone and going to California <*and many that are gone*> Chauncey Canfield and <*Albert*> Alfred Cooper and Samuel Seymor Erastus Seymore, son of Lewis <*an*> Andrews Daniel Andrews' son is talking of going Mrs Andrews died the winter past so that he has no mother to feel bad about his going and if you should live there will be no hurry about your going there is such an extent of territory that is called the Golden region that it will not be exhausted for a great while to come now I hope that whoever says go that you will not regard it _____

Marcus has been teaching this winter in Danbury Quarter and I hope that he may have health and strength <*be able*> to labor and with the blessing of God he may be made happy I have not seen any of father Burrs people this winter I have not been able to go out myself but very little and your mother and Mary [*Mary Burr*] I suppose have been very busy I expect Mary is to be married about this time but I do not probably know as much about it as you do I hope that when the weather is warmer we shall see them more I hope that Mary and her husband will call on us before they leave but perhaps they will not I do not think of any special news of Joel and his wife and and babe but they are now better John is tutor in [W?] Haven yet he had another tumor removed from his back the forepart of January but he was able to return to his duty in about three days after the term commenced he was well felt no inconvenience from the tumor but knowing there was one commenced he thought he would have it removed while he was well____

Your uncle Luther is much as he has been though rather finding other friends usually well Martin has taught our school this winter I hope you will not set your hearts on glittering dust I want you should be comfortable I hope you will cast all your cares on Jesus and not forget to pray. I want you should not neglect to to pray God to bless your dear children both spiritually and temporally Kiss them many times <*to*> for me and tell them them that grandmother thinks much of them I have had grandmother Burr's letter to read and I love to read about Abby my dear children

I want to have you write to me immediately and let me know your plans may the lord bless and direct us is the prayer of your affec mother Ely

Dear cousins,

As I am spending a few days, with Aunt, and there is a little space here, for a word, to assure you of my kind remembrance, I gladly [improve] it. Though you have so long resided at the West, presume letters from home, and news from old friends – are ever acceptable. Norfolk [*Connecticut*] seems much as usual. There have been several deaths among children recently from croup. Nothing particular has occurred that will interest you. Please accept my love and best wishes – Cousin Margaret

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Hope you will be able to train those dear 'little ones,' in the good and right way, and that they may prove continually, a rich blessing.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Norfolk
Ct. [*Connecticut*]

Indian Territory [*postmark Highbuck*] June 3 1849

My Dear Wife [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

I love to write to you, and I have run on before the teams to save a moment to set down upon the grass and hold the paper on my knee and do so. I am determined to have a letter ready to send from Ft. Laramie [*Wyoming*], & I will try to have a long one. Perhaps I shall meet some return teams and send one to be <*mailed*> mailed at St. Joseph [*Missouri*] or some other place but you must not make much calculation to hear from <*you*> me.

We left St. Joseph one week tomorrow and have traveled some 80 miles, the first day we traveled 4 The second crossed the Mo. river [*Missouri River*] 4 miles from Town and traveled about 5 miles the 3d 20 miles or more the fourth 25m. etc.

Our company consists of 9 wagons 33 yoke of oxen [7?] yoke of cows and I don't know how many persons but 30 or upwards including some 7 or more of the female part of creation. We crossed the river with four wagons in company and the rest have by their request joined us. Just overtaken 17 wagons in camp they be by today it being Sunday and have been detained by sickness in their camp<*ed*>.

We have seen 14 new graves by the road side since we left St. J. [*St. Joseph*] all I believe died with <*col*> cholera and all came up the river This is but a small mortality in comparison with the report we heard from what we were told was reliable information viz, that in the first <*14*> 140 miles there was 300 (and (upwards) new graves. This was told by a citizen of St. J. [*St. Joseph*] who started for Cal. [*California*] and returned, after he had gone that distance beyond the river. A Justice of the peace in St. J. [*St. Joseph*] told us that he was his neighbor, and his word was truth.

He reported also that hundreds were sick, and deaths were of almost hourly occurrence, but we have heard that his report was a great lie.

Since writing the foregoing we have passed one more grave and 2 wagons have joined our company.

June 13 We are now at fort Kearney [*Nebraska*] on the Platt river [*Platte River*] from 250 to 300 miles from St. J. [*St. Joseph*], have passed 20 graves since writing before making 35 in the whole distance a small mortality for the great number of people that have passed.

Our company has been again increased by 4 wagons and since diminished <*by*> to the same No. [*number*] that crossed the Mo. River [*Missouri River*] together, They could not keep up so we came on and left them. We are all in good health and good spirits have not seen a dozen Indians yet but expect to every day, passed a place Monday morn. where a camp of 500 had just left, about 40 soldiers from the fort were in pursuit of them to recover some cattle that there had been lost by emigrants. They returned last eve. but saw nothing of any Indians They did not try

to find them for they followed them but one [1/2?] day at the rate of about 2 miles an hour and then left them.

Another Tribe the Shians [*Cheyenne*] were on this road about 6 miles from us <*last*> night before last but they had gone up the river [*Platte River*] before we came along. We shall probably fall in with them on our route. This is the Pawnee country here the Shians [*Cheyenne*] belong on the other side. before long we shall cross to the North side then I suppose we shall be in the Shian [*Cheyenne*] nation.

We keep watch at night live as well as any body can wish to and enjoy ourselves as well as anyone can who is travelling.

Last night there was a thunder shower and the wind blew a hurricane which rather disturbed [us?] but not bad. Such storms are common on this <*side*> great prairie we had just such an one last Monday morn. before day light. Had no watch out last night brought up our cattle and picketed them i.e. drove some stakes in the ground and tied them <*to them*>.

The road has been very good since we left St. J. [*St. Joseph*], on continued prairie the whole distance, unbroken except by an occasional <*the*> stream, lined with a very narrow strip of timber. How much farther it extends I know not. Grand Island in the Plat [*Platte River*] against us is covered with timber, all the wood we get here is from the Island.

Expect to leave here tomorrow. Mr. Cone and his company are before us. he promised to wait for us but is pushing on with all speed. let him go

The mail from Ft. Laramie passes here next week as I am told, I determined to mail this here hope to get another written to send from Ft. L. Letters may miscarry from this wilderness, dont be disappointed if you dont hear from me again, I want to write to Abby but can't now. Give my respects to all friends

Your affectionate husband
Daniel

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[Addressed to] <Mrs. Caroline Grant>
<Norfolk> Ct.
Dea. E. Grant [*Deacon Elijah Grant*]
Mill Brook [*Connecticut*]

California, Feb. 3d 1850.

Dearest Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

I wish I knew whether you are alive or not. I shall continue to direct my letters to you till I know. I have another opportunity to send a letter to the states, & this time to Boston, the chance is so good that I cannot let it pass, for if this man is careful<l> to mail it at Boston or N.York [*New York*], it will most certainly reach you. Twice I supposed I had sent for letters when I had not, the first time I left my name with Mr. Mudd, I think from Ct. [*Connecticut*] but instead of bringing letters he went to his home in the states. Next I left my name with 3 or 400 others at a store in Hangtown, to be sent by express but in consequence of some little difficulty between the merchant, & express men, the merchant would not let the express have the names, I have sent again & the man is expected back every day. If he does not bring letters for me I shall go myself pretty soon. It will cost me at least one hundred dollars to go to San Fransisco [*San Francisco, California*], & back, my time too will be worth another hundred, but I want a letter I would give a hundred dollars tonight, to get a letter, if I could get none cheaper.

It costs a dollar & 60 cts. [*cents*] besides the postage to get letters from S. Francisco[*San Francisco, California*]. We have papers from N. Y. [*New York*] & Bos. [*Boston*] of Dec. 13, so that we get some news.

It seems that the rush still continues from the states to Cal. [*California*] I suppose it will as long as one man in ten thousand makes a strike, as we call it, when he takes out a number of thousands of dollars in a short time.

I have pretty good luck now and then, but most of the time I am doing but little. Week before last I got $3, and about 60 cts, last week about $30, & my prospects are better this week, I think, but can't tell, we may get $30, or more in one day & next day not more than $5,. Week before last it commenced snowing on monday, in the forenoon & snowed till wednesday night,

then turned into rain & rained till Sat. night, but many who think they know something about it say that the rains are over, & I think that there is reason to think it is so, I never saw a more beautiful<l> sky, or more delightful weather, than was yesterday & day before. Today has been very pleasant, but the sky covered with thin clouds. It is clear again this evening I hardly know what to write, because I do not know how things are at home, & shall not write much in this letter. I know if I have any friends that they wish to hear from me, & I shall take every measure that falls in my reach to have them.

My health is generally pretty good, but I have a slight attack of scurvy, think I shall be able to check it, but dont know what it may do to me, My blood is very thin, & I am troubled some with the nose bleed. I am better than I was a few days since.

Rather a laughable occurrence took place when I first began to feel the effects of the scurvy. It <seen> seemed that I felt bugs crawling about me, & biting pretty sharp occasionally. I did not know what to make of it, or what to do, I could find nothing but felt them frequently, they troubled me very much. In two or three days after I began to feel the bugs, one morning I saw Mr. Young My first partner, pick something [o]f his wrist & throw it in the fire, & said he "big flea."

I knew he was a dirty fellow, that he wore his clothes a long time, & that he had worn a pair of flannel drawers, nearly 3 months & how much longer I did not know. That, with the "big flea" set me going. I boiled all my clothes, blankets &c. in water and ashes, & left the house for another place – got in near by with a man from Rhode Island who was living in a small cab<b>in by himself his partner hav<e>ing gone to San Fransisco [*San Francisco, California*]. Got some mercurial ointment & used it pretty freely &c, &c.

At last I found some scurvy sores, & as I have seen no bugs – I conclude that it was scurvy instead of bugs, that was crawling over me.

Feb. 6

Dear Wife,

I have been made <about> happy today – I know you can guess how – this P. M. Mr. Hoffman the man I sent by for letters returned & bought 3 letters for me. I took them in my hand, and caught <anoter> one of my companions by the arm and <ran> asked him to pay the bill and ran for the bushes, but with my happiness there was a pang your hand writing I could not see on the outside. I fear I was never to see it again, I opened a letter the writing of which I could not recognize, I read a few lines & thought I could not get the news I wanted, & threw it down & opened another, there I found your own writing & learned that you were all comfortably well at home, though it is two months since the last letter was written, a load is removed. The other letter I looked at again and was satisfied it was for some body else whose name is Dan'l Grant & sent it back to San Fransisco [*San Francisco, California*]. The 3 letters only cost $5.20 I can't write more now, you know I must have a little time to think of what I have heard, this is letter No. ?

Your husband

Daniel

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Norfolk
Connecticut

Marysville [*California*], Dec. 9, 1850.

My Dear Wife,

It is a long time since I wrote home, longer I think than it will be again. You may expect a letter every mail after this, or twice a month. I am now in Marysville [*California*] & have been for some time. As long as I remain here, or where I can get to the P. O. [*Post Office*] I shall send by every mail, & I would be glad to receive by every mail.

Have had no news from you since M. [*Marcus Grant*] arrived because I suppose, I have not sent for any or have sent but once & then the express did not return. I shall send to Sacramento city by the next mail, to have letters forwarded to Marysville [*California*], if the P. M. [*Post Master*] will regard my request I have no doubt I shall hear from you, but it is very uncertain whether he will, Post Master are either exceding careless here, or else exceeding indifferent.

I have been searching for a piece of land for M. [*Marcus Grant*] & myself & for cows that we could buy but both are very difficult to find or at least it is difficult to find land at the present time that suits in quality & location, six months ago I could have found it.

There is a place about two miles from here where I think to go & build a small cabin & if I can get a few cows, & keep there I will, & when M. [*Marcus Grant*] comes we will decide whether it is best for us to stay there, or not.

M. [*Marcus Grant*] is still on the Yuba river & I suppose doing pretty well, I have not heard def<*f*>inite from him since I left him, some six weeks since, suppose he has had no opportunity to send.

Marysville [*California*] is a flourishing place, & I think will continue to grow for a time yet, the city as it is called is regularly laid out the streets crossing at right angles. It is a very pretty location, & I think healthy there were two or three cases of <clol> chol[e]r<y> [*cholera*] when it was so bad at S. City [*Sacramento City, California*], but I can see no reason why it is not healthy.

The buildings are mostly made of cloth & almost every house is a store, tavern or some other kind of shop. A great deal of gambling is done every day, every tavern is furnished with cards & tables for the accommodation of visiters, & loafers many is the game played for a drink & even for money, the monta bank [*montebank*] is the principal bank here, there being many of them, but Faro is common & Rolet, [*Roulette?*] Ronda & all other kinds of games are always to be found.

The stores are none of them furnished with stoves, but the weather is considered warm enough to throw the doors wide open & admit all the air.

There are but few women here of the right sort, but plenty of bad ones. It seems that bad women & gambl<*ing*>ers are good associates.

Yesterday I attended church, meeting was held in the court house. The minister is a young man, & <prety> smart enough for this country I suppose, he told us that he wanted us to contribute enough to enable him to live, said “the laborer is worthy of his hire,” & “all he asked was enough to live,” & I am sure it [will] not cost him but little more to [live?] here with the high prices, than it <*is f*> does most of our ministers at home. You must not think that it is for want of talent that he will live cheap, it is the absence of false pride, & a sense of our wickedness in this country, & a desire to do us good, he is some like that man we liked so well in Wis. [*Wisconsin*], I have forgotten his name.

Do you think I thought of home while I was at church, ah! you know I am thinking of home nearly every moment, but the impressions were more vivid when there.

I thought to write a full letter this time & give you a good deal of information about myself & other things here but, I think I must cut it short & see if I cant do it next time.

The last letter I sent home <&> contains ½ an oz. gold dust M. [*Marcus Grant*] wrote in the letter, he stated that I was going to packing, so I did, & succeeded in getting the load to the place, but on my return I lost both of my mules for which I paid $165.00 I then gave up doing any more packing. Send your letters to Marysville pay no postage unless Joel continues to be postmaster I am pretty well. Your aff. [*affectionate*] husband
Daniel

<There is something of a revival here I hope you & Mary [*Mary Burr Hill*] will remember & pray for us all that we too may be blessed I went to meeting last Friday there was a very full prayer meeting Halsey Stevens & Ralph Cressey and others have hopes think Erastus & nor Ralph haven’t been awakened R. could not very well attend meetings, I believe it began among the Methodist

Mrs. Rebecca Sexton Canfield has a son 6 days old we had never though of the thing till Mrs. Welch told of it yesterday Elmore Canfield’s wife has one 3 weeks old we heard for the first time today There was a man killed yesterday in Capt. Duvals shop by the burtsing of a grind stone

P. Burr [*Pamela Burr*]

Jan 25>

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[*Addressed to*] Caroline Grant [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

Oneida Bar opposite Bartons Bar [*California*]

Sept. 6 – 52

Dear Wife,

I have taken my pen to commence a letter to you, but my hand trembles so that it is difficult to write. You will not wonder, that my <*near*> nerves are affected, when I tell you that I have just begun to get my strength, after a relapse of my former sickness, of which I made mention in my last, and of the sweeping pestilence, that threatens to depopulated our bars, viz. the cholera.

Nigh before last, (saturday night) six men died with Cholera on the other side of the river, & yesterday five more were added to the number, last night & to day has swelled the number but I know not how much, <*two*> two of our neighbors breathed their last on this side the river last night, & another is at this moment almost gone.

Great numbers have fled, I say great numbers, I mean proportionably, the whole population on both sides the river, I presume <*will*> would not exceed 200, when the disease broke out. Now there are not enough, to take care of the sick, <*or*> and bury the dead.

We hope the plague is stayed. The only question now is are there any new cases? we don't stop to count the dead.

Not a case has been cured.

It is now six o clock, about three hours since I wrote the foregoing. I fell better than I did then, my hand is a little more steady.

There are no new cases of Cholera that I hear of. Not a man that feels well, & about half the men on both sides of the river are quite unwell. All that have shown symptoms of the dread disease have slept their last sleep.

I hope we may all rest tonight.

Oh! that I may never witness another such a scene.

To go from house to house & prepare bodies for the grave, some of which had been lain for six or eight hours, was almost too much for me in my weak state, but I have been thus far sustained.

Marcus [*Marcus Grant*] is with me, which is a great comfort. He has been here one week

Tuesday morn. nine oclock. No new cases that I have heard of.

There has been some change in the weather which is favorable. How delicious a little rain would be, yet rain enough to raise the streams would do an immense amount of damage to miners.

There has been no warmer weather this summer than there is every summer, but if I have not strangely forgotten there has been a great deal more of it.

Almost every day for nearly three months, the thermometer has been more than 100 above zero. The highest I have known is 115 in the shade. It sometimes is 120 and more, but this season the weath- has been more uniform than usual.

It has been very unhealthy as far as I know. Nearly the whole population in the low country, either have been or are sick.

Half past six. Two new cases of chol,- are reported but not severe. Oneida & Barton's Bar [*California*] look very desolate. The sick & ailing are generally getting better.

Business which was entirely suspended has been commenced by a very few men today. It must be sometime before the number of men that have left will be replaced. I fear it will be a great hindrance to our getting in to the river. Marcus [*Marcus Grant*] has been to work to-day.

Wednesday morn. The cases of cholera reported yesterday were slight, & I have heard this morn, that they are convalescent.

Everything is quiet now, the stillness of the tomb appears in this usually bustling place.

The air is more bracing than it has been formerly. I have no doubt that many of us owe our lives, to the change in the weather.

I heard this morning that there has been some rain in the mountains, which confirms my opinion of the cause, of the change in the atmosphere.

I have not heard from Ralph [*Ralph E. Burr*] since he was here, & wrote a letter to Erastus.

Letters from home are becoming almost as scarce as showers, in this now parched country.

After you receive this you may direct all your letters to Parks Bar, Yuba Co. besure to write Yuba Co. Cal,

I think all is not right at Marysvill P.O. [*Post Office*] Let Marcu's' [*Marcus Grant*] letters be sent to the same place. It may not be long before we shall give other directions, but until we do direct as above.

Our prospects are discouraging again this year. They were some what flattering before this plague broke out. A few days may improve appearances, but at all events there is, & will be a [delay?].

Do write often.

Your affectionate husband

Daniel Grant

P. S. Thursday morn. Sept. 9. one of the cases of cholera reported yesterday as convalescent has proven fatal, the other is still better.

Another case reported last night has proven fatal, & still another has been attacked this morning.

Sept. 27 My Dear Wife

I wrote the above for the last mail but as we were so unsettled at that time & as the letter would have a tendency to create unnecessary fears I did not send it.

There have been several cases of cholera the opposite side of this river since writing before but it has not been very prevalent in this neighbor At [Bevre's] Bar a mile above here for some days past it has been severe but is growing less At Marysville & some other places it is pretty bad but does not cause the fears it did at first.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Norfolk
Ct. [*Connecticut*]

Hamilton [*California*], Apr. 14, '55

My Dear Wife [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

It is some time since I received the letter containing the news of your fathers [*Ebenezer Burr*] death. I have no excuse for permitting so long a time to pass without writing & I believe It is not best for me to make any calculations about writing often. I wish I was with you to comfort you in your afflictions, but it is not to be you know the true source of comfort. If the Lord spares us a few months longer we shall meet again on earth.

You wish me to come soon as my interests will not be sacrificed here. I will just mention that that time will never come, my worldly interest will be sacrificed when I leave this country, & are now impaired by the fact that this is not my home.

For the first time in my life there is an opportunity now open for me to provide, not only the necessaries of life, but many of its comforts, yet I suppose that I should not be permited this chance if It was my home, & I was so situated as to make it available.

I do not mention this to disharten you but thoug I know it is foolish for me to feel so I am not quite willing you should think I can leave here without a sacrifice when it is not so.

It is not to late yet for matters to take a different turn from what present appearances indicate but it will not be my fault if they do

I have laid your last letter where I can't find it & don't know as I shall answer it as thoroughly as you wish. I think your fathers will is wise <*It is not the*> I do not desire to be enriched by the property of my deceased relatives but our friends must die & their property must pass into other hands & it is propper that it should fall to the legitamate heirs & that they should lookout for it the same as though they had bought it with their own money therefore I must take an interest in such things when it falls to my lot to do so

I have nothing of importance to write and should not have written but for the fact that a long time has passed since I wrote.

I saw J. Allen a few days since he is troubled with the ague some. He told me that Marcus [*Marcus Grant*] was also troubled in the same way I told J. that I should like to have him try to persuade M. [*Marcus Grant*] to go home this spring it will not do for me to meddle with the matter for if I should he will be sure not to go

I will try & give some historical facts relating to Cal. [*California*] to have some thing to write from time to time & first I will hit upon the aboriginals or natives of this country Of their origine history has been deficient but there is reason to suppose that the natives of China and the Pacific Islands carried on a commerce with this continent some 800 years ago & the complexions of the natives is strong proof that they are decendants of those eastern countries or we might here say with more propriety western countries

How their knowledge was lost or how their commerce was alowed to cease must be a matter of speculation

It seems that not more than 25 years ago the indians were pretty numerous in this valley. <*Tthe*> The old sites of indian vilages here shows to some extent that such was the case I saw a statement in a M.ville [*Maryville, California*] paper in 1851 purporting to come from an old Californian He said he traveled through this country from the south part to Oregon in the summer of –4[2?] & returned in –43 When he went up the valley was thickly populated with indians but there was very high water that winter wh. [*which*] caused it to be very unhealthy the following season & great very great numbers died so that when he returned the valey was almost depopulated & dead bodies lay st[. . .]d over the surface of the ground The account I thought was not to be credited & it was but about a year ago that I succeeded in getting any clue to the matter. At last I learnt that at that time or rather 10 years before for it was in –33 instead of –43 the Columbia fur company were trapping here & the indians being troublesome they inoculated two or three with the smallpox & it came near exterminating the whole race but they are fast dwindling away now & the same ratio followed back for 25 years would find a pretty large population

Yours entirely
Daniel Grant

[*some very faint writing in another hand vertically at the top of the page:* Dear Mother, I recd these Sat. last and feel so much relieved. All well here. If Abbie has a first reader & does not need it will you pleas send it.]

Hamilton [*California*], May 2nd, 1855

My Dear Carrie [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

I have done wrong very worng, I do not deserve forgivness. You see by this that more than two weeks hav passed since I wrote the other sheet, but I have suffered a mail to go without it & it was then a long time since I had written.

I am sorry but that does not remedy the evil. I can give no other reason for such conduct that the U.S. surveyors have just passsed through our neighborhood surveying. As was of course expected it caused a gooddeal of excitement, & the excitement must be my only excuse. I did not forget, but by some unaccountable cause I neglected to send the letter.

I cannot now give you any deffinite, or at any certain knowledge about my [preemption?] but shall doubtless be able the next mail or the first of June. Things are favorable. My health pretty good.

There is certainly a difference in my luck from formerly. It is strange that anything beyond my control should shape itself to my advantage, but I will not crow to soon, it may yet be dashed from me, still I am thankfull for present appearances.

Somebody says “never say die” “never dispair” but is a man to endure forever especially when every effort is a perfect failure & only sinks him deeper in the gulf of misery <*an*> Occasional success will enspire hope & if this my last effort in Cal. [*California*] is destined to prove successfull I shall have some reason to hope on but if it fail <u>but it will not fail</u> I will not give up.

"When ruin hangs grim o'er our passion tossed bark,
And the future approaches all cheerless & dark,
Or the past is o'ershadowed by errors & crimes,
Resolve still to conquer & hope better times"

This verse does not all apply to me for just at present the future is not as dark as frequently it is or as it is generally even nor am I aware of any crime that that o'ershadows my path however many errors I may have committed except my neglect to write home which has indeed amounted to a crime.

"When vices allure us or evils assail,
And good resolutions repeatedly fail,
<*Resolutions repe*> Resolve still to conquer & nobly declare
Independence of spirit, & "never despair".

This verse is very good & applicable to anyone. You wrote me once that brother Ralph [*Ralph E. Burr*] thought me persevereing. I thought then he was not as well acquainted with me as he would be some time. but alas! he was, unless his spirit is making acquaintance without my knowledge but I never thought I was very persevereing yet I now think he had more reason to think so than I thought he had then. But adieu.

Thine, Dear Wife,
Daniel Grant

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926 Broadway
New York, Oct. 23. 1856

My Dear Brother [*Daniel Grant*],

Ever since I heard of your return to your native state, I have cherished the desire and intention soon to write you. When you came I was in Ohio and unable to use my pen but soon after became so well as to write with a good deal of ease. Perhaps a reason why I have till now delayed my letter of greeting and congratulations to you, has being of late a succession of very serious boils on my back and right shoulder. I know not how many I have had, but surely I never had such an experience in that line before. And just as I flattered myself that the last were getting well, behold yesterday another appeared – very sore – but apparently not to be very large. I only hope that they will prove as beneficial as they are by some reported to be.

You have heard enough I doubt not of the peculiarly sad trial of the past summer. I lay prostrate for a long, long time with very slight prospect or hope of relief. My current of life ran low and I saw many an hour of weariness and pain. At times I would have welcomed death as a merciful deliverer – so completely was every energy exhausted, and so heavy the burden of life. Our darling niece Libbie was constantly by me – an angel of mercy to whom I doubtless owe my life.

But let this suffice on that subject. Let me however return my thanks to dear sister Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*], for her kind remembrance and sympathy during my illness. I really do not know whether Libbie answered her letter or not. Her hands were very full.

I found your card here at my rooms on my return from Ohio. It would have been pleasant to be here to receive you on your first arrival -- as I know not now when I shall see you. But I rejoice that in life and health your family and friends once more may behold you and welcome you from your long wanderings and sojournings in a far distant land. I too rejoice with them and with you in your restoration to your wife and your dear children in whom time must have wrought many changes.

I <*have*> received not very long ago a letter from Marcus, dated Oroville, Sept. 1. He said not a word of any plans to return home and I do not know what he intents to do in that matter. I have desired an impression that he wished to come. Probably he had not yet seen teh way open and as he knew of my recent weak, helpless state, thought it better not to say anything about it. I wrote him by the last mail, about two weeks since.

My illness has proved in every way detrimental to my affairs here, but I hope if I continue well to repair some of the harm. Our school has commenced small and we shall barely pay expenses and get a living for the present. My partner feels at times discouraged, though I think without reason. I will say that it is possible he will wish to leave me in the hope of some situation where he can have his wife with him wh. [*which*] in present circumstances he thinks impracticable.

But if I buy him out I shall not pay him all he gave me in Sept. I shall only offer him what I think I can afford to give in present circumstances. Possibly he will prefer to remain. He would surely succeed if he would remain. We have now about a dozen pupils—nearly all such as have been with <*us*> me in time past, and who will remain with me if he goes. But I know not what he may prefer to do, so it is as well not to say much about it. He is delighted with all connected with the school except his income.

Give much love to Caroline and to the children, and let me hear from you soon as convenient. Remember me likewise to all friends who inquire after my welfare. Tell them that my New York friends say they never saw me looking better. I am however not so strong as before, but am improving. The weather is delightful.

Very affectionately your brother,

Jno. [*John*] Grant

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Lockport Ill. [*Illinois*] Aug. 31, 1857.

Dear Sister Caroline [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

I am not in a writing mood this morn, but perhaps shall feel more like it if I try to use a pen. At any rate the hour between this and dinner ought not to be useless, & I never can sew Mond. A.M.

My husband [*Joel Grant*] arrived in the noon omnibus last Tues. I need not say he was heartily welcomed. The five weeks had seemed as many months to me, though in the meantime I had with Johny made a trip to Detroit [*Michigan*], & spent a week with a dear friend there. Mr. Grant enjoyed his trip very much and each visit; he has not yet had time to tell me all the particulars of each one, but does so from time to time as opportunity occurs. The freedom from care, change of air & scene &c, &c, have produced a great change in Mr. Grants health. He went away thin and feeble from the effect of that dreadful typhoid fever, but now is so fleshy & apparently so much stronger, that every one remarks it. It is such a privilege to get away from cares for awhile and rest.

I value very much those things you sent, the paper is always useful, and the socks not less so. One pair fits Mr. G. [*Joel Grant*] the others are just right for John. (he wore them to meeting yesterday) I do most of my woolen knitting, but never get time to knit cotton in any way, and the bought socks last so short a time.

I wish I had something that will do you as much good as they will my husband & Jon. John read with interest his book – he remembers Abby & Eddie.

John is very large of his age, but not at all precocious. “Slow & sure” is part of his nature. He is a good boy, obedient & kind. Poor Willy is having very hard fits today: he suffers none after the convulsions (then during them by prostration & feebleness _ _

He is very sweet tempered as you would know if you could see his face. It is a blessing that he has no distortion of feature, the only change in his so beautiful face being a lack of brightness in the eyes, and that is not more than is observable in many children, who have their senses. From what he says and [sings?], and acts, you would say there is no lack of intellect, but it is deeply shrouded by disease. The trial is great but it might be infinitely greater in a thousand ways. And I do feel that God does not subject us to it in vain. He knows just what we need, and will send no more.

So it seems we have a new sister! I am glad, and hope she will be happy in her new sphere. Mr. Grant [*Joel Grant*] likes her and Susan [*Susan Boyd Grant*] writes that they all love her very much. I want to see her, but shall not soon. It is fitting that John should have a young heart to cheer his, so sorrowed by suffering, and prospects of gloom. She may not realize more of

care or anxiety, than any of us whose cares are different. They have my best wishes for happiness and prosperity.

I have just received a copy of Mary [Hubbells?] memoirs.

You must excuse every thing incoherent in this. I have had to get dinner, wait on Willy & entertain three callers but I should not have more time if I waited and am really anxious to send this by the P.M. mail.

I shall always be glad to hear from you, I often think of you all and imagine you living up to North[. . .] but not as particularly as if I had seen you keeping house there. If you ever change yours for a western home, & are [. . .] here I hope you will make us a visit. I want to see brother Daniel & you and the children all together, & feel that I know you as a family. Remember me aff'ly [*affectionately*] to them all. Mr. Grant & John send love. Accept also the love of your aff [*affectionate*] sister

Abby [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]

Love to any friends who man not have forgotten me in Norfolk [*Connecticut*].

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Lockport, Ill. March 25, 1859.

Dear Sister C [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

I was very glad to receive a letter from you a few days since. John was delighted with his from Abby & Eddie, and has often asked when I was going to write so he could write to them -- I hope their correspondence will continue, for John longs so to write to some one, & will not do it, unless written to. He has had a great deal of comfort in communicating with his Grandma Grant, and will continue it, also while his Pa has been away from us, he writes to him -- John will be benefited, and Abby & Eddie too, if they will pass up these exchanges of thought as long as they live; they are cousins and would love each other dearly if they were well acquainted, as I hope they will be some day -- J. has one intimate friend here by the name of George Smith, who is like a brother, and they mutually share in every thing pertaining to each other but he often weeps over the loss of their sister Mary, & brother Robie --

Our home has been made very desolate by death, and the reality of the loss, becomes greater & greater day by day: but those children can not come back to us: neither will I have them (if it had not been God's will they would not have been taken) for soon we shall go them. These lessons of bereavement are very hard, but not profitless to the soul -- The <*only*> assurance that God never makes mistakes, He knows when we are sufficiently driven by affliction, and need no more, and does shew the light of his countenance to every humbled and subdued heart, should be sufficient balm for every wound.

You have probably known something of the situation of our family the past winter -- Mr. Grant went directly to Bristol [*Illinois*] in this state, where he is still laboring, with more encouragement than in any other place -- The town village is not as large as this, but spiritual things are valued more. Meetings are better attended, church members more active, indeed every thing more encouraging -- The location is fine, on Fox River -- it is three miles away from the R.R. [*Railroad*] station of the same name, which seems a great way, for now we are only a quarter of a mile from the depot -- I hope Mr. G. [*Joel Grant*] will think it best to remain then -- I spent a week with him recently, leaving my family of seven in the care of a girl, that makes [Flora's?] place good -- I have the four teachers of the public school, & [Tom?] Hubbell (formerly of E. Avon) in my family -- John, & Isabella (the girl) -- Willy is taken care of near by -- shall leave him for the summer, in the same care -- Mrs. Spenser does more for him than I could -- He grows, but those dreadful fits have taken so much of his reason, that he cannot take any care of himself -- not so much as to go & get a drink -- he asks for it -- but would empty a cup all over himself if let alone -- we think him a little better just now, but I cannot feel much encouraged as long as he has them at all -- The discipline of someone in his care, is more than every other trial --

I expect to break up here the first of May -- and shall go east after a few weeks -- don't now know just when -- The place is rented from that time, with the reserve of one wing of the house in that I shall pack, away my furniture to await my return from the east & Mr. G [*Joel Grant*] will board in B. [*Bristol, Illinois*] as he now does till fall --

Mr. Grant [*Joel Grant*] has not yet decided whether John goes east with me -- I hope he can go -- he is a great deal of company for me -- I cannot realize that the time for leaving this pleasant home is so near -- it will be a trial -- There is a spot in our cemetery where two little graves are, side by side that I dread most to leave -- There will be no one to visit them, & remember the beautiful forms that lie beneath -- no other heart yearns over theirs as does the mothers tho their father's is just as sad and lonely as mine. I shall hope to see you in a few months or weeks -- With love to Daniel & the children as well as yourself. I am your aff. [*affectionate*] sister Abby

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[*Addressed to*] Caroline Grant
Lockport, Apr. 1, 1862.
Dear Sister,

The enclosed letter from Joel came this morning. He writes cheerfully, & I hope will keep in good health.

Three weeks ago last Sat. P. M. I received a dispatch from Paducah, saying Mr. G. will be in Cairo, Mond. & wished me to come – I took the train here, Mond. morn at half past ten, & reached Cairo, Tues. morn at six.

Went to the St. Charles hotel, & found Mr. G's, name was not registered, and knew by that he had not arrived. Soon I went down to order up my luggage, & saw the same old striped carpet bag, that has seen so much service in the family, standing by the door, with a familiar trunk, & roll of blankets strapped to it. I asked the darkey who was watching it, where the gentleman was who owned that baggage. "He's coming down there maam," and soon he came up looking so thin and weary, as to make me heart sick. He had just come off the boat from Paducah, & had slept very little, the boat was so full. We staid one day at the St. C. but soon as possible went to a family where Mr. G. boarded last summer, & where several of our acquaintances now are boarding.

Joel was very unwell for two days & nights, & I had fears of a fever, but my Homeopathic box contained the little pills that arrested the diarrhea, & fever. He soon rallied, & was quite well when I left, the next week Wed. morn. at half past three. We had a precious visit, one we shall both remember as an oasis. It was hard to leave him to go down amidst the rebels, but it was best, for I could be of little use amid so many hardships & was needed more here.

John staid at Mr. Smith's here,<where he> who has a boy of his own age, with whom J. is intimate. John, has often helped Mrs. S. by milking for her, when her girl was gone, & in many ways been helpful, and Mrs. S. has often said, "John is to come here when you go to see Mr. G." She says he was a good boy, & gave her no trouble – Mrs. S's sister from Odell, 70 miles from here, sent for J. & George Smith to come down & spend a few days. So they went last Sat. & are to return Thurs. eve of this week – Mrs. S. was in this morn, said she had a letter from G. they were well, & having a good time. A change will do J. good, & help him to study better next term.

Spring is coming on, already the tulips have started, & the other [borders?] look green. I fear the summer for our armies. I am so glad Mr. G. & Philander B. have met, hope they can often see each other

Love to father & Mother & all the family, from your aff. sister

Abby.

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[*Addressed to*] MrsCaroline Grant
Mill Brook
Ct.
Lockport, Ill. 4th. July '62.
Dear Sister Caroline,

Not knowing if you have of late heard from my husband, & if not, Father & Mother will feel anxious. I will write or little this P. M. We are not in a jubilant mood at all here; the news of

McClellan's retreat, the terrible loss of life, & the dark war aspect in other quarters, make us sad, and undemonstrative

Received a letter from Mr. G. last eve written June 27, & 28, - he was at Corinth, Mis. there are 13 Reg. three Brigades there they expect to remain for a time & garrison Corinth. Their Div. Generals name is Gen. Daviss -

Mr. G was well, except an attack of Cholera Morbus, from drinking lemonade; he will not try it again I hope; the water is so bad, anything to relieve it must be tempting.

He thinks he shall not try to get a furlough till Aug. or Sept. when he will have been absent from home a year -

The demand for Western men at Richmond, may change the whole programe & the next thing I hear may be, - that that Div. are on their way east. I feel uncertain in every thing, always expecting if the porter from the telegraph office is coming on this street, that he is bringing me a dispatch of some kind. Mr. G. says the heat is terrible there, & the dust, flies, etc. etc., most uncomfortable I hope he will keep well, & out of the hands of guerrillas and that in the course of two or three months I may have a visit from him.

We are in usual health. John with the other boys of his age has been trying to amuse himself on this 4th., but he says it is very dull down town, a few fire crackers, occasionally a pistol shot, are all we hear –

Willy is much as usual. The anxiety of these days make them pass rapidly, in the main, tho' some pass slowly. We are having warm weather now, our rhaspberries are just ripe – have plenty currants, some cherries, & prospect of grapes –

By a letter from Mary Phelps, yesterday, I hear that Abby is not well. I hope it is nothing serious.

How is Daniel, & does his business go well? Is Eddy well? & is your own health good this summer?

How are Father & Mother? and Markus? Are the other friends well?

I hope to hear from you ere long. How shall the $45 int. money be sent you? In what form?

With love to all, I am as ever your aff. sister

Abby –

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[*Addressed to*] Caroline Grant
Newburyport, Mass. Aug. 30, 1862
My dear Caroline,

Young generous letters of February last, rich in family intelligence & genial in spirit, I highly prized. Wishing to reply in some degree worthy of so valuable an epistle, & being so limited in my writing that I could not, at my present time, I have delayed in hope, till I am constrained to allow myself just to speak to you in gratitude & love, as I see not when I can do more. - How are you now, & how are all your loved ones? – Through different sources, I have learned that your father & mother are not so well as they were half a year ago, that your daughter has not been well, that she has gone to Austinburg, Ohio, & that is about all. Whether your brother Joel has officiated as Chaplain since last spring, I have not heard.

Through the spring & summer I have been a sufferer, from what my physician supposes may be the scrofula, manifesting itself in various forms of inflamation. Just at present I am in a more comfortable state than before since last winter. There seems an abatement of my difficulty. Perhaps it is subsiding.

Generally it has not seemed like the breaking down of my constitution, & a general failure. So many of the functions of the system have had such a degree of healthful action, that in my best state, my aspect would be suited to give a stranger the idea, that I might be pretty well. – Not having been well enough to journey, or even to be away from the comforts, which had become necessaries , I have had no definite plan for going any where, & cannot at present form any. A large amount of discipline has, for many years, been applied to me, as if on purpose to lead me to live <u>in the present,</u> & moment by moment, unto Him who created & redeemed us. I blush with sorrow that I have been so slow to learn to live constantly for eternity. As to the

[future?] in this world, it is doubtful whether I [see it?], & if I do live a little longer here below, what is before me, that I nearly look into it in sober thought or even in imagination. Earthly props are taken away that the soul may lean wholly upon the Lord. When we assume the burdens of the undeveloped future as we are pruned in imagination to do in our want of faith, <so> much is subtracted from our present strength for sustaining our present burdens. What depth of meaning, in the words, Sufficient unto the day is the evil thereof, & all connected in Mat. 6: 24 – 34.

The note from my aged brother was most grateful to my feelings. My heart has responded, tho my pen has not. When you next write, as I hope will soon, perhaps you can tell me of his scripture reading, & of subjects which interest him. – I think of your mother as quiet & sustained in her sufferings, & as looking forward in hope to the time when she shall be absent from the body & present with the Lord

Assure them both, & Marcus & Daniel, & all kindred of my love best wishes always. In love & sympathy y'rs

Z. P. Banister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

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[*Elizabeth Grant Burton to Caroline Burr Grant, 1866?*]
Dear Sister Caroline,

Your most welcome letter came seasonably to hand, & I have too long waited for a convenient opportunity to reply. Thank you for mentioning so many circumstances of interest Indeed your letter is quite a little history, wh. will bear reading over, & over, & over again. I hope you will excuse me if I do not produce any thing one hundredth part as interesting

I am looking forward with pleasure to the time when your daughter will be with us. The spring term of our school has opened more prosperously than I expected, but as you say, it might probably be better for her to rest, or teach the coming summer. This school produces so many teachers, that all our schools are in demand, & if Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] really wishes to teach, she might probably stand a better chance in Conn. [*Connecticut*] than here.

Please inform us, if she succeeds in engaging a school, & how soon she may add one to our little family circle, now so much broken. Will not her mother & father, & brother accompany her on her journey? If all cannot as many as can.

Last week was Mary's vacation wh. she spent at home. Lavinia spent a few nights here, also, with her babe 4 months old.

I saw your sister Mary when in Conn. before her marriage. Where is she now? Please tell me about her.

Mary rec'd a letter fr. Philander last Thurs. He has been out of health for some time, suffering fr diarrhea, extremely, & in this, he speaks of his throat being very sore & mouth swollen so his artificial teeth will not stay in their proper place, besides being so weak, he can hardly walk. He says he that morn, (Mrch 30,) placed himself under the care of a surgeon. But I rejoice that he has found his uncle Joel, or that his uncle Joel has found him. He says "I like him much better than I used to." (he always was greatly in love with him since he knew him) Doubtless they seem very dear, meeting thus, in a far off land, & under such trying circumstances. He says "he is absent now, on business to Cairo, but will be back next Sab. & hold services in the 12th Illinois, when I expect to attend." He says, "O this wicked rebellion, that has brought so much misery & woe into our hitherto happy land. Surely none but Satan could have originated <*so*>such an unholy, unrighteous cause. I hope and pray God that the end is close at hand when peace, honorable peace, will be proclaimed throughout our land." This encourages me to hope the poor boy is not a stranger to prayer, & I do hope & pray that God may make the interview with his uncle J. a blessing to both, & to all the dear boys fr. this place. He says nothing wd afford greater satisfaction than to meet the family circle around the old fire place, but though the privilege is denied him & Wm. it may be all for the best, & by their present mode of life they may acquire an experience that will be a life long benefit to them. The Lord grant it may be so.

I have felt so sad & lonesome, since Mary went away, yesterday morn, I am in no mood to write any thing to interest, but I promised to write you & send her love. I hoped she would join me & we wd together make out something to you, worth reading, but you have some idea how

one week may be occupied with a little visiting, resting etc. It is gone, as it were, before it is begun.

Wm. was in Paducah Ky. when he last wrote. I have felt less concerned about him as he is farther from the seat of war. But they have rec'd their equipments & we know not how soon he may be called to battle. We know not how many more noble one must fall a sacrifice to this rebellion before we can come out of this furnace of affliction Doubtless we need chastisement We have been proud, we have boasted in our own strength & that our name w'd endure while the world sh'd stand.

[*written across front page*] Doubtless we deserve far more chastisement than we have yet rec'd, & we must not despise the chastening of the Lord.

I hope our nation will come out of the furnace purified & prepared to appreciate her privileges

Has Mr Burgess visited you yet? Did one of his children die, besides little Edwin?

We rec'd aunt B's picture It is good.

With much love to all your family

I remain

Yr aff sister

E. Burton [*Elizabeth Grant Burton*]

[*written across front page*] I am rejoiced to hear that father & mother are comfortable.
[*written across middle page*] Raphael Marshall & wife made us a short visit while aunt Olive was with us.

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[*From attached envelope:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant,
Millbrook,
Conn.
[*written across envelope*] From Mrs. Cowles Jan. '66
[*date stamp*] Ipswich Mass Jan 10

My dear Mrs. Grant,

Our school continues just nine weeks longer. I think your daughter might join some of our classes where they are & make some account of what time remains. We have a vacancy at a boarding house which we could give her. If she does come let it be as soon as she can move. We have no school from Friday night to Monday & she could attend to her clothes on Saturdays. We shall feel a special interest in her for the sake of her beloved godly ancestors & relatives & should she stay over a vacation we shall depend on her passing a week with us. The vacancy in our boarding houses is in the family where the Misses Foshite live & they will cordially welcome her to their circle. They are good common sense young women.

Mrs. Barrister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*] wrote me, some two weeks since, from your brother's in Newark and was then considering the question of remaining [...] of New York until the Sun reaches the equator again.

Mr. Cowles burst a blood vessel on the 13th of December which delivered its contents into the stomach and then became stenched. He lost a great deal of blood & was so weak for some days that he could not lift head or hand scarcely. But his [?] habits, a good constitution & the blessing of God has given him a new lease of life. He is still comparatively feeble, but is able to walk to the Seminary from our house twice a day & to hear two classes now, & is gaining strength every day. If no new rupture occurs we are hoping he will soon be as well as ever. He joins me in most affectionate regards to your father & mother, your husband & yourself & Sister Carline & her husband.

I want to hear what Miss Wright has done with herself.

Board is $4. per week but we will remit <*her tu*> your daughter's tuition or in some way reduce the regular expenses ten dollars or a little more in her case --

We have classes in Latin & French, Arithmetic, Algebra & Geography.

I must close for the mail.
Yours in love,
E.C.Cowles

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[*From John Grant March 1846*]
[*Addressed to:*] Daniel Grant Esq
Prairieville
Wis.

Millbrook, March 4. 1846.

Dear Brother & Sister

The last time I wrote you I was on the eve of starting for Philadelphia whither I have been & <*returned*> whence I returned last Fri. & Sat. The reason of my so speedy return you shall learn presently. I now write you, by way of preparing you for more sad news, should it become necessary to communicate it, that our dear Mother is lying very sick with what was at first termed Typhoid Pleurisy & perhaps may still be called the same, though it seems to resemble much the Lung Fever. Her situation is now very critical, tho' we do not despair of her restoration. As far as we can now judge the chances for her recovery equal those against. I feel therefore bound to write you to inform you of her present condition, fearing that if I do not, you will soon hear of her death without a word of forewarning. Yet I do not advise you to expect to receive such sad news. We cherish strong hope that the hand which now rests so heavily upon her will soon be removed & she be restored to us & to health.

Mother was taken sick two weeks ago next Friday not very violently, but showed a degree of stupor which excited alarm & we believe she suffered some kind of shock, though whether she did & if she did of what kind I cannot inform you. She has been very low ever since a week ago last Sunday which was apparently her worst day thus far.

The foregoing I have written without any farther direction than the knowledge of Mother's situation as given me from time to time since I reached home Sister Susan who is in our present trials of invaluable service to us all has found time to give me a full statement of the facts of Mother's sickness from the first, as far as necessary. I give her statement as well as I can -- She says that Mother was <*was*> taken ill as the Doctor (Jas. Welch) believes with congestion of the brain amounting nearly to a paralytic stroke during the night of Fri. two weeks ago nearly. On Sunday she had high Fever with pain in the side. Susan says that was the day on which she appeared most sick, though she has grown weak<*er*> ever since -- that in her opinion Mother has improved very slowly in every respect except in strength since that Sunday -- that the Fever has in a good degree subsided & that she is encouraged to believe that she will recover. One circumstances Susan mentions as favorable is the evident return of sensibility. For a number of days she seemed almost insensible to any thing unless her attention was directly called to the object. This is not so much the case now.

Aunt Maria is now here to take care of Mother -- she came today & says she will stay as long as she is needed. Cousin William called last Monday as he was passing, not knowing that Mother was sick, for the roads have been almost impassible by reason of deep snows which drifted very much. To-day Mr. & Mrs. Cowles have been here -- they are well as usual. I was very glad to see them after so long a time. All at home they said were well though cousin Parney has but just recovered from a severe attack of Erysipelas. Aunt Settleton was here last week a few days. Cousin Margaret is not well though better than in the early part of the winter. Uncle Luther is still feeble & much as he has been for some time past. Cousin Martin is well -- is through his school. Other relatives & friends well.

Phelps now intends to leave for Canton soon if circumstances permit. He is now absent having gone to Boston to see to his goods there & as I believe to forward them to Ohio or make arrangements to have them forwarded soon as the Canal opens. He will visit Newburyport before he returns unless he hears from home. Susan as I have said is here with us & is rendering us great assistance. We all love her very much. The children too we love dearly. I value much my opportunity to be with them for a time. Libby is now for a time in Winstead -- Mary is here, & a

sweet child she is. She helps me to pass my time cheerfully, & I at the same time can relieve her Mother of some care of her.

I will now tell you briefly respecting the weather We had during last week the coldest weather of the season. Thursday & Friday were the coldest days. There was some snow in Philadelphia when I left (last Fri.) more in New York, & here it is supposed to be three feet on a level. It is drifted very much & sleighing is not very good. As the weather is now milder & the sun shines warm the snow is wasting where it is thin & softening where it is deep, so the roads must be bad for some time.

Now I will speak respecting myself. I am physically much as when I last wrote you, & am happy to assure you that I have not been growing worse so fast since I left off drugging. I got on to Phila. [*Philadelphia*] without difficulty, <*& am now*> also came home without difficulty or much inconvenience, & am now I believe as well as when I left home. I have great faith in Cold Water <*to*> as a means by which I may be restored, & I intend to preserve the treatment at home which I commenced in Phila. I remained in the Phila. establishment just two weeks, & left them not <*merely*> on account of Mother's illness for I had not heard of it, but on account of the Doctor's jealousy of my intentions to leave him. The ground of this suspicion was the fact that I rec'd a letter from Dr. Wesselhoeft of the Brattleboro Water Establishment in answer to a letter I wrote before I left home

Our people enclosed this letter to me, & the Doctor hearing that I had rec'd a letter from Wesselhoeft presently wrote me a note advising me to go to Wesselhoeft as I distrusted his skill, &c. I therefore requested an interview with his Lordship but only received another note stating that there was no mistake in the statement of the last, &c. I wrote him yet again & he wrote me again. I then wrote him that I was ready to go but that I should not regard myself as his debtor, unless the charges were honorably proved or retracted He had alrady been corrected in the impression of the letter by other patients. He however wrote among other things that he never retracted anything he said &c. So I left at once & he by reason of his unfortunate temper gave me two weeks board & treatment gratuitously. I did not see him from the time I rec'd the first note which was the first intimation that there was any thing wrong. Mr. Canfield has just now handed in from the post office a letter from a fellow patient with whom I formed an intimate acquaintance at the Drs. He says the Dr. has not spoken of me since I left, & that he is evidently ashamed of himself. My course was approved by all my fellow patients there, & this letter contains the following signed by all but two of the patients who declined because the Dr. had heard of it & was displeased.

"We the undersigned fellow patients with you at Dr. Schieferdecker's do with pleasure bear testimony to your gentlemanly deportment while with us, & especially exempt you from any blame in the late difficulty between the Doctor & yourself."

I intend as soon as Mother's situation will admit to have arrangements made by which I may carry on the Water Treatment at home & by which Mother can also be accommodated better than at present. March 5. Mother is very much as yesterday & there is perhaps a probability of her recovery <*of her recovery*> should nothing serious in her disease show itself more than now.

I frist enclose this to Joel & he will forward it to you, as I shall be saved the trouble of writing two statements, & you will get this but little later.

Your aff. brother

John

[*Written across first page*] Martha is better than when we wrote you. She does not now suffer as then with pain in the side which is a great relief. I is cheering to see how she has improved within six <*weeks*> months past. She sends much love so does Susan Aunt Maria & others.

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[*from Daniel Grant*]

Ottawa May 23 1866

My Dear Wife

Last Sabbath I wrote to you but as I have a little time to day I choose to improve it altho I have nothing of importance to write. It is rainy weather or I should be as busy as ever.

Received yesterday the deed. It has not been as long as I thought since I sent it to you. It went and back in trifle more than three weeks, very quick.

Your statement of Dr Bidwells opinion of the black walnut is not very favorable for me. A medicine I prepared in this, from the butternut with rheubarb mixed in was a better medicine apparently than rheubarb root and if it was true that black walnut would work as well I was anxious to prepare some of it but if it is astringent it will not do. I have now however a medicine that works like a charm but suppose it will wear out pretty soon. It is gin and black cherry bark. Where the laxative qualities lie I cannot say. I have tried rheubarb for a good while but it takes a good deal to have the desired effect.

May 24. It does not rain this morn. but rained a good deal during the night. Is to muddy to work in brick yard The weather is very unfavorable for brick making. Hope it will be better.

I am sure there are plenty of better places for farming and stock rasing than this but this is pretty good especially stock raising but farther south is better for both. The summers are probably more endurable here than farther south as according to report there is almost universally a breze wh. tempers the heat but report is very uncertain and the weather is frequently such as was never known before.

Brick making may be as good here as any where or it may not but I know it can be good here but He who holds our destiny in his hands can make the best directed efforts a failure. I have written to Joel two or three times particularly requesting him to state the price of land in Ark. but all I can get from him is "it is very cheap" an answer so indeffinite I cannot tell whether it is 25 cts. or $25, per acre. There are objections to going to Ark. it seems the same as you made to going to N.C. The state of society is objectionable. Mo. is in the same predicament. I have been of the opinion that these troubles would get quieted but it does not seem to be any nearer if as near now as it did at the close of the war. Altho it is but few out of the whole number who suffer yet cases of murder are frequent especially in Mo. A few days ago a man was enticed away from this town and hung. There are conflicting reports about it and until I can give a more definite version I will not try to give particulars Some say he was a quiet citisen others that he was a horse thief. He did not reside in town but on a farm a few miles out. He was in town on business when he was enticed away. Horse stealing is of almost nightly occurance somewhere in the country. It seems that rebels are generally bold and defiant whereever they are. It is perhaps as quiet here as any where. Robberies are common and murder not very unfrequent all over the country.

May 26. I have just taken up the pen to record that it is still raining. This is indeed dry Kansas. We worked some yesterday but perhaps it will not amount to much Rained a good deal last night and some today. Kansas is not a mudy state like Ill. but where it rains so much it must of course be muddy Vegetation looks fine and crops are apparently doing well but we cannot judge so well of crops now as a month later.

An effort is being made to build a Presbyterian church here with how much success I am unable to state but think it will be built.

A church is organized and an appointment made for a meeting tomorrow. The Baptists are to give way and the Presbyterians occupy their place of worship The sacrament is to be administered

May 27 There seems to be a failure in the fulfilment of the appointment by the prebyterians today A Mr. Chapin of Lawrance was expected but has not arrived. I have not exactly identified myself with them but they claim me as one of their number. Without any consent of mine and entirely without my knowledge they have appointed me one of their trustees. I told them when I heard of it that I thought they might have found a better man but I suppose I shall become one of them. Dr. Sawyer the baptist preacher gave us a very practical sermon this morn. He talks so plain to professors that it would seem that there are but few real Christians and I believe he tells us no more than the truth There are getting to be the usual number of denominations in this town. The baptist are of course much in the ascendency. A respectable presbyterean society can be found here as soon as a place of worship can be obtained. The protestant methodists and Cumberland presbyterians have places where they hold meetings. The Episcopal and Wesleyian methodists are represented here and there is a right smart chance of United brethren. Some of these sects are little known in the east

[*written across first page*] I am yet unable to give anything like a true statement of the murder case mentioned within.

Several men are arrested & bound over for trial for the murder. I say bound over. I should say committed. They are in jail

[*in pencil*] June 5 And still it rains. Wet wetter wetest

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[Letterhead] Rev. E.M. Boring, Secretary
Residence, 290 West Madison Street
Mrs. J. Grant, Matron
911 Wabash Avenue

Home for the Friendless,

Chicago Ill. Jan 4 186 7

Dear Sister Caroline,

Your letter is just rec'd and read, and if I delay replying, it may be a long delay; so I sit down at my table a large pile of letters waiting, but this shall be the first answered.

I am truly glad to hear from you & all about <*y*>our people. Father is really infirm; how he must miss his early activities! I often wonder if it is not the same sort of paralysis that affects Father G. that has earlier shown itself in poor brother John: none of the family seem to have very good health. I am glad my husband can be a comfort to John in this time of his trial. How much he has to endure: You and I can well sympathize in this life separated from our husbands. It is not pleasant, not the way to live, but circumstances make it best. I look forward with hope knowing that the same necessity will not always exist. I am more than paid for all my toil & care, by the certainty of knowing that I am helping my husband & that by this means we are able to do as we wish at educating John. Mr. Grant often has said "Is it best to spend so much upon John, He will not make a better business man for it & may be that is all he is fitted for" &c -- &c – But I am hard to pursuade on that point, if God spares my health, he shall have a thorough education & I believe God will call him to do something for Him. I want him to be what he will make the most of a man at – a th<*r*>orough earnest Christian man. I expect him to be a Christian, to act upon the highest Christian principle in every thing, when J. wrote me he was going to teach, I wrote him that of course he will not think of beginning his life work without asking God's blessing. He said he should do it, & does open his school with prayer every day – Isn't that a thing to thank God for! I give thanks often as I am engaged in numerous cares here, & ask God to do yet more for him, to lead him upward to the intensest devotion in His cause. John's geniality, and hearty good nature insures him friends always.

Eve. My love to father & Marcus, and all your family when you write to them – also to the friends whenever you see them. We are having a good deal of snow this winter, but not so blockaded by it as in your vicinity. It has been snowing fast all day and is yet (10 o'clock). How quiet these days & nights must be with you! They are so full of noise & bustle here, so hurried to get [thro?] with the meals, & all the work, so many calls to see to & entertain. I am thankful I can do. God give me strength to go on – with much love, I am your aff. sister

Abby [*Abigail Cowles Grant*]

Write often –

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Newburyport [*Massachusetts*], Feb 15, 1867

I thank you, dear Caroline, for your recent letter. It told me just what I wanted to know of your father, &c.

Mr. Phillips writes that his leg had opened & had discharged a good deal. Is this considered as an indication of a speedy change? Or, may it be the means of prolonging his life?

For five weeks past I have not been as well as for several weeks before. In this time I have once attended chh. half a day, & I am at meals, & in the family in the evening, & about the house more or less daily. Not ill, but ailing.

Will you write & tell me of your father's present condition & of his prospects. In case of his decease, be sure to write at once. It was a great satisfaction to me to be present with you all in spirit at the last services before the laying away of the body of your mother.

In love to all yours wherever they may be,

Yours truly,
Z.P. Banister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

Mrs. Caroline Grant

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[*in pencil: Abby E. Grant to Caroline Burr Grant*]
Grinnell Iowa
June 10TH 1867

My dear Mother,

'Tis a long time since I have heard from you, and I concluded that you must be very very busy. Have you a girl to help you? You ought not to do all the work alone. How is Grandpa now? And is your own health as good as it has been?

The peoinies are looking lovely now, and I enjoy very much "botanizing." Phloxes, Larkspur and Spider Lillies grow wild and I presume that I shall find many others before I am through, familiar to us as garden flowers. I have purchased a new Gray's Botany. You remember I used to want one there are so many flowers that are not in my old one that I couldn't get along with it. I am pressing some, and intend to make a nice herbarium, which is to be a present to Mr. Burr [*Almon Burr*], he asked me to preserve some of the Iowa flora for him. So I am going to get as many specimens as I can.

The warm weather commenced a few days ago, and though it makes us all feel a great lack of energy, I hope that I am better than before it came, for during the cold wet weather in the spring, though I seemed to have no cold, yet I contracted a cough and I suffered a great deal with my left shoulder and some with my side. My shoulder was sore and pained me clear through, from the breast to the back, it made me grow weak and thin and I was beginning to be a little frightened, fearing that it might be something permanent for it clung to me so long, but when the warm weather came the cough left me immediately, and I have no pain except when I have been working or lifting a little too hard, so I think the danger is passed this time, though I am beginning to be almost discouraged about ever being very strong, for as soon as I begin to get up, my liver lungs or something sets up a disturbance and keeps me on pretty much the same level all the time. I have called to see the doctor a number of times but have never been able to find him at home, so have never been able to pay my bill, the last time that I was there I asked his wife to find out for me how much it was and I could pay her if the doctor wasn't home

I mean to take my hat up this week and have it pressed over. I shall not try to get any new summer clothes here for every thing is so dear in Grinnell, and I am so far from town that I know nothing of the fashions. After considering all things, I have concluded that it would probably be best for me to return to Ohio before teaching, for unless there is a vast improvement in my health I am not going to be tough enough to stand teaching on these rough prairies in the winter time, nor to teach in one of the large hard [ward?].

I wrote to Father a while ago, and am going to continue writing occasionally, whether he answers or not. Family all send love. Please answer very soon.

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[*Envelope addressed to*]
Mrs. Caroline Grant
Mill Brook
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

Oberlin, O. [*Ohio*] Sep. 17th 1867

Dear Aunt Caroline:

Thank you very much for writing so particularly of Grandpa's last hours. I had expected to hear of his death from what you wrote to Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] while she was still with us. We have indeed great reason to take comfort in thinking of him as now at rest from all the burdens of life – Still engaged in the service of the master he loved but without pain or sorrow or weariness. I little thought when I visited Colebrook with aunt [Gertie?] in '61 that it would be the last time that I should ever see my grandparents. I have often regretted that Mr. Shurtleff and I did not go to see them when we were at Newark directly after we were married. But though I shall never see them again in this life, I feel sure that I shall meet them in an eternal home if I am myself, faithful.

You speak of mother's lameness. Thedie writes that she commenced to be troubled soon after Abbie left, and that she had some ill turns which she thought were worse than any in past years, but that she is better now. She had at that time (Sep. 6th) a good girl, who had been with her about two months. Thedie has resumed his studies at the College, and I think Philander's work has taken him away from home much of the summer so that I <*hope*> trust she has not been overburdened with labor or care.

We moved into our new house Aug. 30th It is not quite finished, but we make ourselves very comfortable without all the rooms, and are very happy in the prospect of having so nice a home which we may call our own. – Brother Edward was married in the Presbyterian Church in Lincoln on the 1st inst. and reached Oberlin with his bride the following Wednesday. They stayed until the next Monday. I liked my new sister Hannah, quite well. They seem very much devoted to each other, and full of enthusiasm and enterprise in view of their prospects.

Sister Lavinia expects to visit Ohio this month – is perhaps now in Jefferson, She may remain in the state until the latter part of next month. I intend to send mother some fruit &c. by her, and your package if you send one, might go at the same time.

I do not wonder that you have many anxious thoughts about Abbie. It must be hard for you to have your only daughter so far away. You inquire about her health. I should not think her by any means an invalid, though it is hard to form a judgment in regards to the matter. because under the <*impulse*> influence of excitement she will do and endure so much more than she is able to, ordinarily. She is not strong -- not able to endure hard work. I noticed one day when she did some washing for herself (my girl did her regular washing) she seemed quite tired out. I thought it might be because she was not accustomed to that kind of exercise. She often walked downtown and back (1/2 mile each way) without appearing at all fatigued. She also devoted herself to sewing with great patience and constancy and without complaining of weariness. Some of the work would have been quite perplexing to me for instance the making over of two old dresses and cutting a new one. – I told her one day that for me such work required more patience than teaching school. She seems to have a great dislike for teaching. I tell her that if she could simply teach without having the care of a school I think she would like it. I was pleased to hear that uncle John thought he should want her. It seemed to me that would be just the place for her. I should prize the privileges I should there enjoy and a home in his family so much. It would be my judgment that such a situation would afford greater opportunity for general improvement than the routine of school life. I believe Mr. Burr [*Almon Burr*] opposes the idea of her teaching anywhere.

It is pleasant to see him so tender of Abbie but it seems to me that he is unnecessarily so. His oldest sister two years younger than Abbie, improve[s?] the winter vacations in teaching district schools, and he himself (if I judge rightly) has earned his spending money, until quite lately, in a similar manner. For several terms past he has had some classes in the institution for which he is paid at the rate of .30 an hour. He will probably be able to find a situation which will pay him better during the winter, but I can hardly see how he could afford to pay Abbie's expenses, at school, in addition to his own. I should dislike to accept such an offer, if I were in Abbie's place. It probably would result pleasantly in this case, but I can but think of the case of a lady I well know who accepted a similar offer, for one term, and the match was soon after broken off by her lover. Of course in regard to this question, as well as the others of which you will, I do not expect you to receive my judgment as decisive. I can only tell how it seems to me. I always do that, candidly, where my opinion is asked, even though it may be likely to offend some one.

We see no reason to change our opinion in regard to Mr. Burr. We like his general characteristics, and think him a very promising young man. But we think his attachment for Abbie

leads him into some extremes. He's young you know, only a few months older than Abbie, and this is, I suppose, his "first love". Some extravagance in the manifestation of his feelings seems quite pardonable. He seems to want to place her on a plane quite above the ordinary lot of mortals – keep her free, as far as may be, from either mental or physical labors and yet have her enjoy all the advantages which such labor procures at the expense of <*others*> himself or others. This does not seem selfish in him because he evidently does not seem to think Abbie is able to burden herself with any serious responsibility. She is the only person in the world who can convince him to the contrary, and this, I presume she can do, only by experiment.

I can but guess that his desire to have A. study more is due in great part to the pleasure he would enjoy in having her near him. I hardly believe he would particularly enjoy having her attend school away from Oberlin, though I may be mistaken in regard to that. To speak plainly, I am quite doubtful whether Abbie would be much benefitted by continuing her studies here. There would be so many things to distract her mind – calls from Mr. B. <*and*> the company of so many lively acquaintances &c. – though from all that I could see, I should not judge that the state of her health <*would*> is, at present, such as to be a serious objection to her studying or teaching.

I have written a long letter, and must now close to attend to domestic duties. I still have my girl with me, a part of the time, and [Eltie Lenrant?], a neice of Mr. Shurtleff's helps me some hours each day, but enough remains to be done to keep me busy most of the time. But I am well, now, and enjoy my cares. Please give my love to all at the "old homestead". If any of them come this way I hope you will admonish them to stop at Oberlin.

Your very affectionate niece
Mary B. Shurtleff

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Thompson Ohio
Nov. 11th 1867

My Dear Mrs. Grant

Mother and myself were both very pleasantly surprised by your welcome letter; and as mother is not very well able to write, she desired me to reply in her name. Mother has often spoken to me of you, especially since dear Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] & I have been so intimate. She often expresses the wish that she might see you and renew an acquaintance which was ever pleasant to her.

Mother's health is quite poor; for two years or more she has been suffering from a complication of diseases which seem to shift localities; At first in her lungs & throat what the doctor calls chronic tuberculation of the spine & muscles. Now confined entirely to the spine (producing curvature below the shoulder) & the muscles about the shoulder.

She suffers great pain, and is often so weak as to require the aid of a staff.

Our dear Abbie left us about four weeks ago, was feeling pretty comfortable for her. She did consult our physician while here, though <*not*> he did not make a very thorough investigation of her case, as she did not request it. He thought her system very much deranged in consequence of the irregularity of her monthly periods, or rather their frequency. He gave her some medicine which he claims to be a sure cure in all difficulties of that nature, saying that he thought all her other bad feelings dependent in a great measure upon that. I do not know the result of that medicine. He did not examine her lungs at all. I think with mother, that it would well for her to consult some reliable physician about them. If Abbie will be careful this winter, I think she has a school and boarding place, where she will be comfortable, and enjoy herself; though all her friends here were opposed to her teaching at all. We hope she will not suffer in health from her labor this winter.

At least she will have a very careful guardian in Mr. Burr. Speaking of him let me say that he is one man among a thousand, a man of rare abilities and, better than all a warm hearted earnest, honest and loving Christian. Just the one for our Abbie, in my humble opinion. I always grow enthusiastic when I speak his praise, and still I feel that no one can say too much.

I have been offered a situation in the Union School at Wellington, 8 miles south of Oberlin. Think I shall accept it; if so, I shall be near enough to see Abbie occasionally during the winter. I cannot tell you within the limits of one short letter how very dear Abbie's friendship has been to me from the last renewal of our acquaintance at Oberlin. I value it as above price.

Mother says "if you come to Ohio do not fail to come and see us" Hoping that our opinions in regard to our dear one's health may allay anxiety in your mind I am, dear Mrs. Grant

Most respectfully your
Alice M. Leonard

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Oberlin, O. [*Ohio*] Nov. 26th '67

Dear Aunt Caroline:

Not a day has passed since the reception of your last letter that I have not inwardly bewailed the press of duties which seem to crowd every moment of time, and render it almost impossible to give any attention to absent friends. You know it is something to clean and put in order a large house, and if you ever moved into an unfinished house where you were having the rubbish of the carpenters and masons constantly tracked into your furnished rooms, you can have some idea of what we have had to do and endure this fall. Add to this the labor of canning several bushels of different kinds of fruit, the entertainment of some company nearly all the time since we came here, and the effort to dispose of some of the sewing which <*has*> accumulated during my long confinement last summer, and you will not wonder, I think, at my being very busy.

Now in regard to Abbie's [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] health, I think I can say what may relieve you. So far as I can observe, I should think her to be in as good health as I ever knew her. I do not recollect having heard her cough at all since she came back from Iowa. She is able to read aloud for quite a length of time, without fatigue – a thing which I have not been able to do for years, and yet I have no idea that my lungs are at all diseased. Your letter was the first intimation I had had of a difficulty there. She has not complained of the other difficulties you speak of, except the pain about the shoulders. With the exception of two or three days, when there were special reasons for her feeling poorly, she has been about, appearing as lively and well as any of us. After receiving your letters I questioned her about her feelings and she admitted having all the troubles of which you speak, but said she was getting better all the time, and thought it quite unnessary to consult a physician, I told her she ought to write you what she thought, and I hope you have been already relieved, at least in great measure, of your anxieties.

I suppose she was quite sick for a time at Thompson, but she attributes her illness, in great part, to over exertion in taking care of Alice. – She left us yesterday morning to begin her school, and if <*her school*> it proves as pleasant as was represented, and her boarding place what she expects, I apprehend no difficulty for her. I know she was quite sick for a time in Grinnell. But the Dr. told her that the trouble arose from disease of the liver. I do not believe the trouble in her lungs can be owing to settled disease there. I think it must be sympathetic as her former physician thought.

I do not think Abbie need to return to Conn. on account of her health, but there are some other reasons why it seems a pity that she cannot be with you. If all goes as we expect it will probably not be much over a year before she will be settled in life and obliged to assume the new duties of the mistress of a household. These duties, it seems to me, will be very difficult and perplexing to her, unless she <*has*> gains considerable more experience in them, than she now possesses. What she does, she does well, but she lacks the ability to dispatch work and, I think, now finds it about all she knows how to do, to take care of her own clothes.

Then again it hardly seems to me that one or two terms more study here would be of any particular advantage to her. To be frank, during the two terms she has already spent here, according to the testimony of her teachers, she has not gained very much in scholarship. It could hardly be expected, that one who had so many calls, and so many distracting influences, would be very devoted to study. Should she attempt study again, she will be similarly situated, if Mr. Burr [*Almon Burr*] is here. After she came back here, from Thompson, he called upon her on an average, once a day, often staying several hours. If I were in her place I think I should not attempt

to study, but should want to be getting ready to keep house. It will take her a great while to make up every thing she needs. I have found that by sad experience, you know, house keeping goods were so expensive for some time before I was married, that it <*was*> seemed poor economy to buy them, until they were cheaper. It is not so now, and it would probably be a great gain if she had them all ready for her when she comes to want them.

You need not feel at all troubled about Abbie's having been burdensome to us. I feel that I owe you such a debt of gratitude for your kindness to mother, that I am glad of the opportunity to repay it, to some extent, to Abbie. I feel deeply interested to have every thing done for her, which will be "for her best good", as you say, and have long felt that it was my duty to say what I have with regard to her longer stay in school here. Mr. Shurtleff has told me again and again that I ought to write you how it was.

Please give my love to Uncle Marcus, and accept a double portion for yourself. Do not think that I shall always be so negligent about answering your letters. Our house is just about done now, and when it is once in order I expect to have some leisure.

Very affectionately,
Your niece
Mary B. S.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Care Wm. Hill Esq.
Flemington
N. J.

Rec'd letter sent March 1868 – from Mary Shurtleff
Oberlin, Ohio
March 25th. '68

Dear Aunt Caroline:

I have waited a day, since receiving your letter, in the hope of seeing Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] as I wanted to inquire more particularly about her health before I wrote. But for fear you may be unduly anxious about her, I conclude to write today. I saw her Monday (day before yesterday) and she seemed as well as usual – said she had been doing the washing, and had had a fine day for it. I think she has about given up her plan of going to Cleveland, though I am not sure. The last time she spoke of it, she said the teacher of drawing, in Cleveland, had been sick for some time, and her place had not been filled, and she should certainly not want to go until it was. She has gone into two classes in French, and is taking lessons in drawing, here. I do not think her health is as good as it was during the winter. She has spoken of being sick, not able to attend her classes, several times. Yet I do not know that there are any indications of permanent poor health. In speaking of it, she attributed her feeling poorly to the "spring weather."

Mr. Burr [*Almon Burr*] came back from Cleveland quite worn out – was sick with fever for a time, but is better now, has commenced study, and teaches one class, though he does not look as vigorous as usual. Probably he and Abbie have not fully matured their plans for the future, and perhaps this is the reason she has not written you. I have been glad to learn the Mr. B. does not call upon Abbie nearly so often as he did last fall. That will be better for both of them, so far as study is concerned. I think Mr. B. is anxious that some plan should be devised by which Abbie can have some opportunity for study and improvement and yet not do enough to endanger her health. If the matter is left to them I think it will be managed so that she can remain here or near here, as Abbie seems to dread the idea of going to N. J. I really do not know whether there is any serious objection to allowing Mr. Burr to make Abbie's arrangements for her or not. What think you? I feel as if I should like to have her a little more independent of him, at present, if she could be as well provided for by some other <way> friend. Your plan for having her with you at your sister's, with the opportunity she would there enjoy for French, would strike me as a pleasant one, but I see she does not so view it.

I cannot give any advice, as I really have not an opinion of my own as to what is best for Abbie, though I fell greatly interested to have the best thing done.

I am glad you are thinking of getting settled. I think it will seem so much pleasanter and better <for> to you all, to have a home of your own, even if it requires a separation from those you love, and a removal to the west. If you do go west, cannot you make Oberlin as visit as well as Grinnell? We should be so glad to have you.

You have probably heard, through Abbie, of Phil's marriage to Rubie [M....?], on the 5th of Feb. They made us a visit, of about ten days, just after, there returned to her home in Madison, until two weeks ago, when they started for the west, stopping here on their way. We liked Rubie very much. She is a few months older than Phil, so is nearer my age than any other member of the family. She is industrious and seems to understand all kinds of work, though she is not very strong She is intelligent, well educated, refined in her manners, and best of all, a Christian. We think she will be a great acquisition to the family. I do hope mother will feel more cheerful when she comes to have such pleasant company.

Thedie is attending school – if he goes on, will enter the Freshman class in Iowa College next fall.

- My health has been quite good since I last wrote – I have been quite busy, providing bedding for our new chambers, getting them ready for students, etc. We rent three of our chambers to students, real nice young men, one in a room, but do not take boarders. We enjoy being quiet and by ourselves. I feel a good deal more at leisure, this spring, - or perhaps I should say less pressed with work – than for more than a year before.

Before closing, I want to tell you how nicely I think Abbie got along last winter. Besides teaching, she accomplished a good deal of sewing, so that I almost feel like taking back what I said about her "lacking dispatch." I am called away and must close. Mr. Shurtleff joins me in sending love. Your affectionate niece

Mary.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant.
Flemington
N. Jersey.
Abbie & Almon

Oberlin, Ohio
March 10th 1869

My dear Mother,

Your kind letter should have been answered before this, by some of us, that you might know that we received the draft you sent safely, but we have all been, very busy. Edward and Almon with their work and studies, and I with my house keeping. Edward takes hold and studies faithfully, it keeps him pretty busy. With the work he has besides, he cuts our wood for us, for which Almon allows him a dollar a week. Almon teaches three classes now, he hasn't been very well for some time, he was just completely tired out the last few weeks that he was in New York, and has had no opportunity to rest yet. I think that I get along pretty well with my housework considering my strength, but I get dreadfully tired every day, so that before night comes it seems as though I could not take another step. I have had pretty good luck with my cooking. My bread has been good every time. I get too tired to sew or even mend, I dont know that part of the work is going to get along. We were to have gone to Mary Shurtleffs to tea tonight, but it is so very stormy that it has been put off till tomorrow.

I must go to bed now so good night.

19th I expected to finish this the next day when I stopped writing that night, but I haven't had a minute since when I wasnt too tired. I am too tired to iron tonight so will try to write a little.

Almon has gone to society and Edward sits here studying Algebra. Edward applies himself very faithfully to his studies.

Mary Shurtleff had her party last week. She had quite a large and pleasant company. I enjoyed it very much. We went last eve to the church sociable

Our sitting room, is a green room, there is green in the paper, green in the carpet, in the table spread and in the pictures, and when we get a rocking chair we are going to have that

covered with green, there is green in the oil cloth too. So you see that we are quite greenies here.

Principal Fairchild at whose house the sociable was last eve is soon going to leave here to become president of Berea College in Kentucky.

I had a very pleasant, cheerful letter form Aunty Burton about two weeks ago. I think she must be a great deal better.

March 24th Dear Mother

We received your letter yesterday. I am sorry that you are so worried about us. We ought to have sent you some little word any way, but we have all been so busy.

Mary Shurtleff was down here a few minutes today. She is very kind to me, she gave me a jar of tomato pickles when I came here, and is going to give me some cucumbers, she has given me cake too, and fathers people have given me some, so for the first two weeks that I kept house I did not have to cook any cake.

Fathers people have given us a good many things, today they sent over a nice piece of veal. Some of them come over here every little while, they are all very kind to me.

The cake that Johnnie and the children sent me was real nice. I enjoyed it very much.

Thank Aunt Mary very very much of the linen sheets and pillow cases that she sent me, they will be so nice for next summer, and will make me very nicely supplied with <bedding> sheets, etc.

Tell Johnnie that one of my cats has the sweetest bit of a Maltise kitten, eyes not yet, if she were only here, it would be a second Abbie.

You have said nothing about those statuette photographs, did you find them in Flemington?

The ivy which was sent is commencing to grow very nicely now, the slips didn't live, couldn't some of you send one or two slips in a paper? I think they could come safely.

Ella Shepardson is teaching in Cleveland now, so I havent seen her since I have been here.

I will leave the rest of this sheet for Almon or Edward to fill.

With much love to all the dear friend in F. and to your own dear self.

Your aff. daughter

Abbie.

Dear Mother,

I have just returned from Society meeting and can add but a word for I have not looked at my lessons for to-morrow. We are all very busy as Abbie writes. Edward is doing finely. Abbie gets pretty tired from her work. It troubles me some, for I fear she does not enjoy life as much as she ought. I wish to see her happy and not worked almost to death. I shall do all I can and when our family is smaller, shall insist on her doing less housework, I think we have got along finely so far, as will as I had expected. The money you sent came very opportunely indeed. Am very thankful for your kindness in sending it so soon. It has been quite cold here and was good sleighing yesterday, very unusual at this time. Pardon my writing so little this time. Give my love to all the dear friends with you and accept very much yourself from

Your affect'ate son Almon.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Flemington, N. J.

Bristol Ill. July 6, 1869

Dear Sister

I was very glad to receive yesterday yours of the 30th ult. Matters have been a little out of joint in my writing to you – I was aware of the fact, but did not realize it so fully until I rec'd yours. I gladly sit down then to write you.

My health is better than two months ago. That fearful numbness which then excited so much anxiety has now ceased to trouble me. I am not sure any medical prescription helped me – indeed I presume it was a symptom accompanying my transfer from a younger to an older period of life. When I saw Dr. Sage of Unionville, Ct. [*Connecticut*] about (but less than) two tears ago

(he was our Physician at Avon) he gave me a prescription (Homoeopathic - through he used to be regular) which I used for many months; but its benefit was not marked.

The scrofulous affection has been for a long time almost cured but does not become entirely so. Improvement began when, about 18 months since, I came to Ill. and is due I think to a course of treatment recommended by Physician who attends upon the Home of the Friendless in Chicago. He is a Homoeopathic Physician, but his prescription was not of that kind. It was the constant and abundant use of the syrup of Yellow Dock and Burr Dock – mingled in about equal proportions. I have prepared a beer from these roots wh. I use during spring summer and autumn. It would be well I suppose to use during winter too but it is not convenient for we to make it then. The beer is a contrivance of my own through the Physician said it would be a good way* to take the medicine. To most people the syrup, and even the beer, is unpleasant.

Since I began this course one side of my leg has entirely recovered – is apparently as well as ever, and has been so for 10 months. The other side, (and that too in just the place where father's greatest trouble lay) is almost well but not quite. I hardly look for its absolute restoration, though within a few days I have, at my own suggestion, changed my medicine putting red clover blossoms in the place of the dock roots. I see it mentioned in some papers that they are a good remedy for cancer – and though I do not suppose my ailment is cancer, yet I suspect it may have a similar origin.

My wife <will> expects to start for the East a week from to day. She goes mainly because she wishes to get rest attend John's graduation, wh. is to be three weeks from to-morrow (more accurately the 29th) I cannot give her plans fully, but they embrace a visit to brother John – also to Winsted and Mill Brook. Of course these last, and indeed all of them will be very brief, as she does not propose to be gone more than three weeks.

It is hardly probable that I shall go, though I should be glad to do so. Many considerations render it on the whole not wise - at least it appears so now. Possibly the aspect of things may change. You may see her at Brothers John's or at Mill Brook.

I have Aunt Banister's carpet bag, and will at once report to her. It did not occur to me that she would care to have it returned. The inquiry comes in good time as my wife can take it East.

Am glad to hear from Daniel. It is a long time since I heard any thing from him. Through my wife I heard that he had taken exceptions to my letter of a year ago last January - a letter which I hoped he would answer; but which be never did. His own imagination created some, if not all, the phantoms of wh.
he thought my letter was full. I pardon (and always have and shall) the sensibilities of one who has tried as hard as he with no better success – of one in whose life failure has been the rule and success the exception. I should have written him long since if had known where to direct.

Am glad to hear from Abby and Eddie. Should I go East I shall make it a part of my plan to visit them – as I propose to stop a day or two at Oberlin. I shall not leave till about 10 days after Abbie does.

I thank you for your suggestion respecting Harvey Grant's family. Shall endeavor to act upon it.

I remember my visit to Mr. Hill's with great pleasure. Please assure your sister and her husband – and the children too, of this.

Your aff. brother,

Joel Grant.

* or an unobjectionable way. I make the beer just as I used to at Father's though I suspect the corn is of no consequence.

P. S. I have no reason to complain of the labors of my position; though I am far from doing all in it which it would be well to do. The parish is poorer than I supposed and poorer than I hope it will be. They give me $800. As long as Abbie is at Chicago it is a pleasant place for me to labor in. It is a three hours ride from Chicago 3 miles of it by stage and 48 by R. R. The fare is $1.90; but ministers ride at half fare.

I had a sickness last Dec. & January much like that with which I was bought down at Newark two years ago last winter. It lasted longer however, laying me entirely aside for eight weeks. I have again recovered, though I cannot expect to recover from many such attacks.

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[*Envelope addressed:*] Mrs Caroline Grant
Care of Mr A.W. Burr
Oberlin
Ohio

Fr Mrs. Anderson Apr. '71

1871
Flemington April 23rd

My dear Mrs Grant,

I received your letter last Thursday morning, and would have answered it immediately only that I knew Mary had written you, and supposed you were in the possession of her letter, about the time I received yours, I was very glad to hear from you though sorry you should have been kept in suspense regarding the state of M's health, Her recovery is tedious, she improves; but it is slowly, and some days she feels pretty well, and on others, quite miserable, but she is able to be about the house and give directions. From the the beginning of her sickness, Hetty and I have tried to do all that we could to relieve and assist them, the bread baking, and the heaviest part of the washing has been done either at mothers or my house, and for several weeks I did the regular-= weekly sweeping through the house. and went out any, and every day that I could spare from my own duties, to do any thing to advise, and help in any way. Minnie is a great treasure to that household, she has been so womanly, and so untiring in energy during her mother's sickness and withal so cheerful, that it has been a pleasure to see and help her. My sister, who has so great a charge at home, was not able to be with them so much as I was, but she did considerable in altering, mending and making some of their clothes, and in doing their ironing at her own home. I have not, dear Mrs Grant told you all this, to praise ourselves, but that you may know that they have not suffered for want of attention, and that Minnie has been relieved of that which we feared might be too hard for her, when continued for weeks. She seems very well. and to my question, "Minnie "aren't you tired?" she always says no auntie I am not tired, I like to do. Both she and Alletta drank tea here a week ago on Saturday. Alletta has not been kept from school at all during Mary's sickness.

My mother is very miserable, can not walk without a cane, and suffers in various ways, she had a very severe term of palpitation of the heart last week, we felt quite alarmed as she seemed almost exhausted with it. Miss Allen is pretty well tho. she was more feeble than usual last week, and a little rheumatic but when the weather is fine she likes to be out in her garden.

Tell Abbie I often think of her, and would enjoy seeing her and the baby very much, I hope they may all be induced to visit Flemington, before a great while.

Annie Pierce, (Emery she was) has a lovely baby, he is not so pretty, but very sweet, blue eyes, and fair complexion, very large and very good natured. She calls him Fred. She is very fond of him and I hope he may be spared to her.

We all love our present pastor, Mr Mott very much both in the pulpit and out of it. I wish you could hear his prayers & sermons. I trust that I hear him with profit, I know I ought, much more than I do, I often feel grateful to my Heavenly Father for sending him here He is very kind and attentive in visiting my mother.

You ask about Louis and Frank. The former was married last November, He and his wife are living at Branchville, a small village about 10 miles from here, where Lou is in business (the mercantile) for himself. They commenced housekeeping on first of April. Frank, returned from Iowa, rather more than a year ago, he is now at Hamilton Square, where his aunt and grandmother live, engaged as engineer in an India rubber manufactory. We hope he may do well, and keep his place, it is much more satisfactory to us to have him there, than so far away from home. Lizzie and Charlie go to school and are doing well we think, Rev Mr Woodhull a friend of Mr Mott and through his influence brought here, is the principal of the school. is a very fine man, and a good teacher we think, Charlie is in his department, he has an assistant teacher -- for the younger ones, Miss Ioanna Higgins, perhaps you may have heard of her when here, Lizzie's teacher. It is more expensive to us to send them to this school, but we feel better compensated, because we think they have superior advantages <*than*> to those of the Public school. Charlie has grown so you would scarcely know him, I suppose, he is as tall as his

auntie; He is learning to work as well as to study. and is quite persevering in what he undertakes, for which I am thankful as it is an essential trait, in one's character I think. I hope and pray that he may develop into a good, and an upright and noble Christian man that is my highest wish for him. and; May God help him.

The weather here is quite cool and we are needing rain very much. Our garden is all dug and ready to finish planting, we have peas and potatoes up, but they need raid to bring them on. Mr. Anderson has gone to Trenton to-day, he is the sole trustee and executor of his step-fathers estate, and that takes him there quite often to gather with his own business. He has been quite well for him during the past winter, but has a cold a present. I hope it will soon pass away. Mother and sister join me in love to yourself and Abbie. I hope you will write again, I shall always be glad to hear from you Please remember me to Mr Burr.
I have heard of sister Mary. this (Tuesday morn) and she is feeling better. Good bye.

Your aff. friend
E.H. Anderson

I should like to hear of Mr Grant and Edward. I suppose they are well.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Clayton
Berkshire Co.
Mass.

Oberlin O.
January 1st 1874.

My dear Mother,

Almon is very sick, the worn out body must have rest. Mr. Finney was in this afternoon and thanked the Lord in his prayer. “That Thou hast laid thy servant upon his bed to rest, before he was dead from over work.”

Jan 2nd A’s sickness commenced with bilions fever & inflammation of the ear was [latern?] down about two weeks ago. Has now run into Typhoid. Has also had inflammation of the kidneys in connection.

The prospect is that he wont be up for several weeks yet. The children [slay?] down to fathers a good deal. Father is also having a long sickness, but is not so nervous as Almon. We have some man to watch every night -- now. So that I get some rest. Mr Finney has been in to see Almon again this morning. Every one is very kind. I dont try to do much about the housework, what the girls cant do I let go.

I will drop a line in a few days to let you know how he is getting along. If he should not get any better or the children should get sick (it is a very sickly season here) I may be glad to have you come for a few weeks if you can. But as things are now I think we can get along very comfortably. I have received all your letters. Pettie was pleased with the little card.

I cannot write more now
With much love

Your aff daughter
Abbie.

I have received [no.?] dressed from Mary Burton.

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[*Attached envelope with printed return address*: “Return to Hallowell Classical and Scientific Academy, Hallowell, Me. If not delivered within 10 days” addressed to:]

Mrs. Caroline Grant
Clayton
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]

Hallowell Maine
Apr. 2nd 1876

My dear Mother,

I certainly intended to have written you last week, but I am trying to do all the sewing that I can and keep putting off my letters. I dont know as I explained to you sufficiently about our money affairs. I would help Minnie this year if I could, but do the best that we can it is going to cost us about fourteen hundred dollars to live this year, and I dont see how it can be much less any year while we are here. Our board at home will amount to about $800. Then we have to dress better than we have been obliged to before, the children especially, and the furniture and the books that we have had to have &c. I cant enumerate everything, but as I said before we shall need about $1,400. There is premium on Insurance Policy and giving to benevolent objects. When we came here we owed over $700. We have paid $300 of it, and that is all that we can pay this year. I dont mean to complain but I want you to understand a little better, that is all, everything costs so much here dress goods dont cost any more than in other places, but it costs so much more to have them made than I have been accustomed to<*o*>. I do all the sewing that I can myself, but I dont suppose that I get so much time as you think. I have three rooms to take care of you know, and I have to keep closer watch of the children, and spend more time in amusing them than if I were in my own house, and I suffer very frequently from nervous headaches which unfit me for anything, <*The princip*> for one or two days at a time. We cant find out what brings them on so often. I am as careful in diet as I can be here. Almon [*Almon Burr*] has about made up his mind that it is something about the air of the house.

Pettie had a very nice letter from Uncle William not long ago. It delighted her very much, he sent a pretty little picture too. The children are having very bad colds, but are some better than they were. Will soon be entirely over them, I hope.

The snow is going, and the river shows some spots of water. I hope that the ice will go out before long, for I do like to see the river.

Dr. J. P. Warren editor of the *Christian Mirror* of this state, spent a sabbath here not long since, he was a college classmate of Uncle Joels, and also knew Uncle John well. He is a Conn. [*Connecticut*] man when he found that I was from Conn, He asked who I was and where I came from, and said “Why I know the Colebrook Grants”. It did seem pleasant.

I received the *Congregationalists* that you sent. I read the article and thought that it couldn’t be Charlie, and when Almon read it he said that he knew it wasn’t Charlie. It doesnt sound like him at all.

Aunt Beach of Lawrence died last week.

Austin has salary of $1200, and parsonage. They are boarding now and rent the parsonage, but expect to go to housekeeping in a month or two I believe. Almon sent them a silver butter dish for a wedding present. Mother Burr sent them a silver cake basket and a [Brouge] clock. [Fannies] Mother and Aunt gave her spoons. I am very glad that Edward [*Edward Burr*] has obtained a situation. Hope that he will like it. I received a letter from him a few days ago. It was a very nice one. When Almon read it he said “How much Edward has improved in letter writing lately.” What do you hear from Father now? Are Uncle and Aunt well? Give my love to them and also Cousin Semantha [Binlors] when you see her. how are all her little boys?

With much love
Your aff daughter
Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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[*Attached envelope addressed to*:]
Mrs. Carrie Grant,
Clayton,
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]

New Haven, Conn. [*Connecticut*]
June 5, 1876

Dear Cousin Carrie [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

We received your letter, and was very glad indeed to hear from you & to know that you were all as well as usual; am glad that aunt is no worse with her lameness, think she must be a little better, at times, to go about even the little she does go, hope she will not get sick again this summer. I don't know what excuse to make for not writing sooner. I certainly thought I should write very soon & often, after returning home from there last summer, but I have kept putting it off from time to time until the long winter has passed and still no letter. I hope you will all excuse me. I have thought of you often & have heard occasionally through Cornelia, but my visit there was a pleasant one, and it did me a great deal of good, was better after my return -- & have been better through the winter, and am now stronger & have more endurance than last year at this time, & with hiring my washing, ironing & sometimes sweeping I can get along nicely with the rest of the work, and the sewing, but always find enough to do. My housecleaning is done & my sewing for the summer is nearly done, have only one new dress, a twelve & a half cent cambric, have made over two, the grey one I had up there & my poplin; more work to make over than to make new. I am glad that I did those laces for you, wish that I could have <*done more for*> helped you more about your sewing, suppose you do not get much time for any thing but housework. Are you thinking of going to the Centennial? I do not expect to go, think it would be very hard & then one would need to stay a week or more to see or even glance at all the things, suppose Lon will go sometime, perhaps not until September. There has been a change in the firm with which he is <*with*> this spring. Mr. Bowns has withdrawn his interest, selling out to Lon & Mr. Briggs, the other partner, so now they have it all to themselves, there was no dissatisfaction, but as Mr. Bowns had business in New York, which took nearly all his time, they all thought it was best to dissolve. Most kinds of business here are very dull, a great many men out of work, am sorry that Mr. Hill has lost his situation, it must make it hard for them all -- hope (she) ^Mary has as many boarders as she can take care of – should think she would have as it is so convenient to Phila. [*Philadelphia*]

We have heard that Minnie has returned to Oberlin. Grace has had sickness in her family nearly all winter, the three children have had whooping cough, scarlet fever & measels, & later, the baby had catarrh fever but they have all lived through and are pretty well now except the baby. Mother has been with them, is there now. Cornelia has had a hard time housecleaning, they have been painting & whitening the walls all over the house but are nearly through now. She received a letter from aunt E about the middle of May, and a postal card a few days ago. I found a soapstone a good one, what a comfort they are I think of you every time I use it. This letter is intended for Aunt E. too, although it is addressed to you. Hope you will write again as soon as convenient. Wish Aunt E. would write to me. How is Lennie this summer. Marion is still in Southford likes it pretty well her health is as good as usual. David & Alonzo's family are well. Must stop now. Your aff cousin Emma B. [Bownsird?]

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[*Attached envelope with printed return address:* "Return to Hallowell Classical and Scientific Academy, Hallowell, Me. If not delivered within 10 days"]
[*Addressed to*:]
Caroline Grant
Clayton
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]
Hallowell Me. [*Maine*]
Oct. 24th 1876

My dear Mother,

We are having a long spell of dark rainy weather the sun almost shone out once this afternoon but is completely darkened again now. Carrie and I have been watching for the rain to cease so that we can go to the dentists and have one of her teeth extracted, the new teeth that are coming in are so very large that I fear she is going to have a real deal of trouble with them. She is pretty well and is getting on very well with her reading. Harold is better than he was the first of the term.

Almon [*Almon Burr*] is very busy now getting out a catalogue, is pretty well except that he is very tired. I hope that it will be finished this week. Almon hasn't much idea that he can get

money here for Uncle Erastus, people don't let money at <*6* > six percent to go so far away, but he will see what he can do when Mr. Page comes home.

I received a very pleasant letter from Mary Shurtleff the other day, she thinks that her health is improving somewhat says that Laura is well. grows tall very rapidly but does not increase in weight. the baby is quite healthy and happy, has dark eyes and hair and they think of calling her Mary Grant. says that she enjoys<*d*> this baby more than she did Laura because she does not have so many "needless anxieties" concerning her. Speaks of cousin Will as being at Michigan University getting field practice in Surveying. Says that Phill has been nominated for county clerk and will undoubtedly be elected, which will necessitate a removal to [Montesenna?] the county seat. She fears the affect upon her mother as removals seem to be disastrous to her. She also tells of the death of one of President Fairchild's daughters, Alice the darkest-haired one.

Father Burrs people are all about as usual I judge from their letters. Alia is teaching in the [Divine?] School in Oberlin.

I am very sorry to hear that Jennie and her husband have been turned out. Were they able to save their furniture and goods? I hope that their loss will not be very great, and that they will be sufficiently prospered in the future to make up for it all.

It is not raining now and I must stop and go down town with Carrie. ----

We are home again, did not have it taken out, dentists now do not advise it, they say wait till the child is older the taking out of one tooth only makes it worse for the next. the gum shrinks much more than if the tooth is not removed.

I have been reading Dr. Hills "True Order of Studie" which treats of the proper teaching of young children, it is an uncommonly sensible book. I hope that you are all well. With much love to you all.

Your aff daughter
Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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Flemington NJ [*New Jersey*]
Bitter Sweet July 1877

Dear sister,

It is just after ten and am writing in Mary's bed room she is lying in bed well propped up with pillows as she has been most of the time since being sick Was not so well yesterday but today seems more comfortable again and I think breathes easier and more natural than since she has been sick

We get along pretty comfortably with work. Rebecca is very good about helping extra and Hester sometimes comes earlier in the day than usual and if extra busy Carrie stays home from school.

Doct Mott called to see Mary today, and gave her words of comfort and consolation, & made a very excellent prayer. He has a very lame back but hearing yesterday that M was not quite so well came today to see her.

Sister H. came down this morning and sat with M for several hours while I lay down on sofa and rested. Things in bbl carried very nicely but it was quite a sum in long division to separate the beans Hnuts dried apples – chestnuts

Have not as yet cut the whole cheese All the articles are very acceptable unpacked them in cellar.

Mary was not able to see much about them, but we thank both you & Aunt E. very much for your kindness.

Folks enjoy maple sirup.

Mrs. Jackson sister of Miss [Imby] was here today to see her & gave Abbie five dollars for her extra trouble in taking care of Miss I. She is still in her room but her sister and the Doctor both try to encourage her to get out of it pretty soon, about half her illness is imaginary.

We did not think it best to write you to come unless more needed than at present

Doc says that he does not see any probability but that Mary will continue to improve. Saturday will be six weeks since she was taken badly though she complained for several days before

Glad to hear that Daniel is well. Often think I ought to write to him. Do not think you ought to try and do anything further for Minnie as am sure you have done more than you ought already & hope that in some way we will be able to help her through the course. She has 100 dollars that her Grandmother left her and if necessary she will use that.

Shall very soon have to trim grape vines.

When M seems tired we do not admit callers. Sister Kate has had a very bad cold in head and has not been able to get down since I wrote you before. Mary says must thank Aunt E. for her letter and all her kindnesses. Doctor thinks as a rule alkalies are much better than acids in rheumatism. Do not think a plaster would do much good in inflamitory rheumatism.

Will write you again before many days.

With much love

Yours truly

William Hill

Friday Morn
M had good night slept straight through without morphine.

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant.
Clayton
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]

(Care [Dr. Collar?)
[*Note on envelope:*] May '78
Speaks of my Photograph of her using Lemons to aid digestion – of using Sulphur for sore throat of Nettie Burr's illness – of birth of Austin's second child – cautions me not to overdo it.

Hallowell Me. [*Maine*]
May 21st 1878

My dear Mother,

Your letter with leaflets enclosed, was received to-night. Thank you. I shall read them as soon as I have opportunity. The photographs came a few days ago. I think them very fine, especially the one with the light background I think the expression is more perfect than the other, but I like them both and would be glad to keep them both if I may. If you have not promised or bestowed them all, I wish that you would send one to Mary Shurtleff.

I am not feeling very well to-day, but I attribute it to the damp weather. My health as seemed very good for the past few weeks. I think that I have used lemons with benefit, for some time I took one every morning before breakfast, now I take them only occasionally as I seem to need them, they seem to aid digestion and help fight away langor. My rheumatism is not as troublesome in my foot as usual, it is distributed about more. The fingers of my right hand and my shoulders have been taking their turn.

Nettie Burr has been quite sick with some lung trouble. I have not understood from their letters exactly what it was. The doctor considered her in serious danger for a time, indeed I do not know that she is out of danger now, but they called her better when they last wrote.

I dont remember whether I have mentioned to you that Austin Burr had a little son born on St Vallentines day.

The diphtheria has been quite prevalent here this Winter and Spring, especially so this Spring, and with fatal results in many cases. I keep sulphur on hand. Harold had been having a sore throat and I gave him the sulphur freely. I knew it wouldn't hurt him if it was only a common sore throat, and it might prevent something worse, he is now nearly well.

Carries [*Caroline Lynette Burr*] Whooping cough<*t*> left her weaker than usual this spring, but I can see that she is gaining strength every day.

We do not yet know how affairs of the school are going to turn out, but of one thin<l>g we are sure. If the school keeps another year we shall be rid of Miss Lincoln, for she has got beyond endurance. And steps have been taken to have her leave at the end of the year.

I should like to be able to invite the Townsends here, but dont see how I can. They would not be treated with common decency by Miss L, and I would rather not invite any of my friends

until there is a change. I am glad that you went to hear Moody. But I feel concerned about you. I do wish that you would give up working so hard there. I wish that Aunt [Emmeline?] would get a woman to do the hard work, and that you would do the overseeing and some light work, of course you wouldn't receive the same amount of money that you do now, but hasn't the great necessity passed? or you could have her get a good capable woman, and you just look after things and help take care of Aunt, and you have your house there, and be at liberty to go and come when you pleased. I thank Aunt Mary very much for her kind thought of inviting us there, but if the school continues I think very likely that we shall go to the same place that we went last Summer. It did Almon [*Almon Burr*] so much good, he is living on the strength that he gained last summer yet. Whom is Mary Burr to marry?
I am sorry for Uncle John.

With much love to you all.

Your aff daughter
Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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[*Printed letterhead*:]
Belleville Avenue Congregational Church,
Newark, N. J., July 5th 1878

Mrs. Daniel Grant [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

My dear Madame

I am deeply grieved to be the bearer of evil tidings. Mr. John Grant was seized suddenly with acute pleurisy last evening at about 5 o'clk. and died this morning at 8 o'clock. We are all greatly shocked, as I know you will be. He was unconscious for some time before he died. We take the body to Colebrook Conn. [*Connecticut*] for interment, on Monday morning.

Yours in haste & sorrow
Geo. M. [Bryceton?]
for Mrs. Grant.

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[*Addressed to*:] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Clayton
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]

[*Note on envelope*:] Aug 3, '78

Speaks of Edw's visit & of the Burrs (Almon's family) & of her fall.

Cushing Me [*Maine*]
July 31st 1878

My dear Mother,

We have been in Cushing nearly two weeks now and have been enjoying ourselves very well. Celia and Nettie Burr came a few days ago, and Austin Willard and my brother Edward came today. Edward appears well. I think him a very fine looking young man. He is to stay but a few days, not so long as I hoped he would be able to. I feel proud of him beside those Burrs he looks and acts so much more gentlemanly. I dont see how my husband came to be so different from the rest of his family. I am proud of <u>him</u> too. I sent a pair of shoes to you this morn I beg pardon for being so long about it. I put them all up in a little box before I left Hallowell and was going to express them to you But when Almon [*Almon Burr*] came home he hadn't time to make any enquiries, about rates and thought perhaps we would better wait, and not send them immediately so we took out a pair and brought along to send as soon as we could.

I fell on the stairs last Sunday and hurt my back quite badly. I think something as you hurt yourself at Uncle Erastuses once. It quite laid me up, until today I am getting about a little more, but I havent got full control of my legs and arms yet. I am sorry on Edwards account that it happened just now. still I hope to get about a good deal before he goes away. Now dont worry about it. I think I shall do well. I am using sea water and hops and wormwood and mustard, and

Almon has been to the doctor and brought some alchohol, and I am going to have a [cat] spruce plaster, and I dont know what else, so if there is any virtue in doctoring I <*dont*> think I shall get it.

Edward and Almon and one of the other boys I think have gone out fishing for mackerel. The rest are down at the shore some where.

Uncle Johns death has saddened me very much, dear kind Uncle John, it doesnt seem possible that I cant see him again. I did love him very very dearly. When you have time please write me something about it. I had a letter from Aunt Elizabeth Burton a few days ago. I dont remember that there was any especial news in it except that William is in Los Angeles Cal. [*California*] but what doing I dont know.

I hope that you are well. Please give my love to Uncle and Aunt and take a great deal for yourself from your daughter Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

Aug 2nd My back is very much better. I think it will soon be quite well. My birthday yesterday.

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Clayton
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]
(Care D[r.?] Collar)

[*Note on envelope:*] In Oberlin when Harold was sick
Apr. '79

[*Note at top of letter:*] from Abigail G. Burr
Oberlin Ohio
Thurs eve. Apr 3rd 1879.

My dear mother,

I am at Father Burr's with my little sick boy. Almon [*Almon Burr*] and Carrie started for home on Tuesday, and if they had no mishap reached home this morn, at about three o clock. We started from Hallowell [*Maine*] two weeks ago last Tuesday, at about ten o clock in the morning, reached Boston at half past five in the evening, and left there at six on the Hoosac Tunnel rout, were delayed on that, so we did not make connections at Troy, so did not arrive at John [Frazier's?] at Madison O. (where we were to stop over one night) until between seven and eight o clock on Thursday morning, several of Almons classmates were there to meet us, and we had a very pleasant time. We left there for Oberlin at noon Friday, where we arrived at five o clock in the afternoon. We had a very pleasant time for the first few days. Minnie Hill took tea with us on Saturday eve. Sunday was communion, and a great many united with the churches. At the Second Church where we attended, forty two united on prof<*f*>ession of faith and a few by letter, it was a very impressive occasion. Monday eve we took tea at the Hall with Mrs. Johnston, Tuesday eve at Mary Shurtleffs. Minnie also was there. Wednesday was so rainy that I remained at home all day and no one came except Prof. Newton. Thursday we spent in making and receiving calls. Went to Mr. Maltbies for one place. I do like Mrs. Maltbie very much. They seemed pretty well, though I think Mrs. M. is not very strong. I have forgotten just what they did say about themselves. Mr. M. I did not see.

Friday just before noon Harold was taken suddenly ill, headache and vomiting. we thought at first that it was a sick headache, but as the afternoon progressed and he continued to vomit and a high fever came on, we feared scarlet fever, we sent for the Doctor, he didnt seem decided what it was. Saturday he thought it bilious fever, but Sunday he began to break out and show other decided symptoms of scarlet fever. We were over him day and night until Monday night when he seemed a little more comfortable Almon took care of him alone that night as I was about worn out I had a very bad cold too. We had all expected to leave for Hallowell on Monday, but of course could not. Almon stayed over one day longer, and will be one day late at the opening of the term. We thought it best for Carrie [*Caroline Lynette Burr*]
to go with him, if she is sick will have to have a nurse, there seemed no way to take care of her here. I have my hands full with Harriet. [Utica?] is no place for her to be sick, and no one in the family to take care of [him?] Celia teaches all day long and is not able to do any thing here. Nettie is an invalid Mother is not well, and if she were is so very deaf as to be useless in taking

care of a very sick person, and there is no room in the house for a nurse. I hope the dear little thing will get along all right.
Friday morn. Harold had not had much fever for the last two or three days, but is very weak, and does not seem to gain much, his spine seems some affected, could not sleep last night because of pain in the back of his neck, he does not sit up any yet ex. to be held in my arms for a few minutes, or be propped up by pillows while he eats. Of course he is very fretful and wants me to be with him constantly. I have been having a very bad cold which with the care of Halley has made me about sick, but I am much better now, and I sleep the larger part of the night. The Shurtleffs are in their usual health, little Mary is a very lovely child. Mr Shurtleff is going away on a financial trip again soon We were invited down there last Saturday eve to meet Theodore, and some other friends. Theodore was not able to come, for what reason I do not know. I received a card from Almon today. They had reached Boston in safety. I hope that I shall hear tomorrow, that they are safe in H. Minnie Hill seems well, she appears well. Almon has a fine account of her from Mrs. Jonston. Mrs. [Joth...?] & she will make a fine teacher. I can spend more time now.

With love
Abbie. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant.
Clayton.
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]
[*Note on envelope:*] From Abbie May 79
[*Note at top of letter above address:*] Abigail E. Grant Burr
Hallowell Me.
May 7th 1879.

My dear Mother,

We are safe at home my little boy and I. I am pretty well. Harold is very weak yet, but is gaining every day. The dear little fellow has been very sick, and we are thankful enough to have him as well as he is, when he was down the first time the doctor said that for a day or two he did not know which way it was going to go with him, then when he began to mend, we suppose that he took a little cold, though we hardly see how, and he had a serious relaps, with dreadful swelled neck, vomiting and other painful troubles. I was at that time sick myself, then he was taken with dropsy, but now he has recovered from all, and is slowly gaining strength. We started for home at the first minute that it was safe to do so. We left Oberlin Thursday noon May 1st and reached home about ten o clock Saturday morn. We came from Boston by boat, and both of us enjoyed that part of our journey very much. Harold was much stronger when we reached here then<*re*?> when we left Oberlin. We took a sleeping car Thursday night, and were in the boat Friday night, so that Halley slept well both nights. Brother Willie is in Boston now, and met me at the depot. I also saw Prof. Shurtleff for a few moments. All tell me that Carrie has been a little woman while here alone. I was very glad that she did not remain with us, she could hardly have escaped being sick. She has not been well for two or three days, and was taken down with diphtheria this afternoon, but I hope that it will not be serious. I am sitting up for a while to take care of her and it is pretty late that I am vomiting.

Minnie Hill and the Shurtleffs were in their usual health when I came away. Celia was suffering considerably with rheumatism and Nettie was feeling pretty weak and under [able?]. I had the scarlet fever thoroughly, but was not very sick, and got over it well, was confined to my bed four or five days, or rather five or six.

Mr. Shurtleff stopped in to see Aunt Gertie [*Sarah Gertrude Day Grant*] a few days ago, he says that she is living alone in the house now. A man comes to sleep nights. She spoke very tenderly of Uncle John, but on the whole seemed quite cheerful. Many Shurtleffs children are very pretty and sweet, little Mary is especially lovely.

I had a letter from Edward yesterday, he represents himself as about as usual</> and glad that he has changed his boarding place.

Carrie [*Caroline Lynette Burr*] has been quiet for some little time now, and I think I will venture to go to bed. Please give my love to Uncle and Aunt, and take a great deal for yourself please. Your aff. daughter

Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

Father and Mother Burr, received your letter, but as I had sent you a postal a few days before they will probably not think it necessary to write [now?]. I think that in some ways Carrie seemed a little better this morning.

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant.
Clayton.
Mass.

[*Note on envelope:*] From Abigail E. Grant Burr
1879
Tells what Mrs. Johnston says of Minnie Hill

[*Note at top of letter above address:*] From Abigail E. Grant Burr
Hallowell Me.
May 20th 1879.

My dear Mother,

Your letter enclosing one from Minnie Hill was received a few days ago. I will send the shoes as soon as I go back to the house, at present I am in exile, for Carrie [*Caroline Lynette Burr*] three days after I returned home had a mild attack of Scarletina, and the matron was so frightened that she kept some of the rest all the time stirred up. So Carrie Harry and I left the house and are not at this present state permitted to enter it. The doctor makes a good deal of fun of them, he says that if any of them were going to take it of Carrie, they got it during the day or two that she was feverish, for she had not rash enough to be likely to give it from her skin. When she was taken her throat presented every appearance of diphtheria, and the peculiar appearance which scarlet fever exhibits did not occur for several days. Carrie has had three or four very sick days with inflammation of the bowels, which the doctor says has no connection with the fever but he thinks was engendered by the condition of her stomach previous to her sickness, indeed he says that she would not have had the fever at all, had it not been for this state of her stomach. We are pretty well posted about diphtheria, as we have a great deal of it here, there is hardly a time in the year when there not some cases in town. Nettie is expected to be an invalid for some time, her disease is considered to be a serious one, which time and rest may overcome, but their physician says it may be several years. Celia has kept in school all the time, is now getting a little better. She writes me Willard is in Boston studying music, he expects to go to Germany in the latter part of the summer, his whole heart and soul is bound up in music.

I thought I told you in my letter from Oberlin about Minnie, and still think that I did. Every one spoke highly of her, Miss Johnstone very much so. She was not a <u>first class</u> scholar but a <u>good</u> one, and had remarkably good sense and executive ability would in their opinion make a good teacher, better than many who stood before her in scholarship. Mrs. J. spoke of her as a most excellent girl in all ways.

I think that Carrie took care of herself mostly, all were kind to her.

Carrie is improving rapidly Harry keeps tolerably well, has the ear ache some, but the doctor says is not at all strong, and cannot endure much, shall have to be very careful of them both till we can get to the sea shore and let the sweet salt sea breezes straight in them. I received a letter from Edward since coming home. We live in a little room in one of the houses near the school, and Almon [*Almon Burr*] brings us our meals from the house. I hope that you are well. How are cousin Albert [Bentons] people now? and Jennie and her family [Write?] much to Uncle Aunt and Yourself. I am

Your aff. daughter
Abbie E. G. Burr. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

Was glad to see Minnies letter. I hope that if she is to teach she will be successful in obtaining such a situation as she deserves. I think Minnie is much liked in O. [*Ohio*] I noticed that she was one of the leading girls in her class.

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant.
Clayton
Mass. [*Massachusetts*]
Care Dea Collar.

[*Note on envelope:*] From Abbie
Aug. '79.

[*Note at top of letter above address:*] [fro?] Abigail E. Grant Burr
Cushing Me. [*Maine*]
Aug 4th 1879

My dear Mother,

We have now been in Cushing three weeks, and are glad to be here. We were not any of us very well when we came, the children were not strong at all. Carrie [*Caroline Lynette Burr*] had coughed slightly ever since her sickness in the spring, and seemed to be losing strength all the time. She has not been very well all the year, and I have been feeling a little troubled about her, fearing that the climate [was] too severe for her. She is so apt to have a cough, but I am feeling greatly relieved now for she has <*imp*?> improved wonderfully since coming here, has grown plump and rosy and strong. Harry does not improve so rapidly but I think is now really on the road to better health, he is quite deaf though, but I am still in hope that it will wear away. I had a very dreadful cold on my lungs, when I came but do not cough any now and am growing stronger. Almon [*Almon Burr*] is gaining strength and enjoying himself very much It has been very hot here for the last day or two which makes me think that it must be very very hot back in the country.

Willie Burr was married July first, to a lady of Franklin N.H. a widow with considerable property, they are going to Germany sometime this month, I suppose to spend several years. [Austin] Burr had another son, born in June.

We begin with new teachers entire next year. Carrie & Harry have just begun lessons again and I think Carrie will be able to write you a letter before long, as she seems to learn very well. You spoke sometime ago of Uncle Erastus' going to leave his pleasant house and take another elsewhere, that Ralph was to be married &c. I would like to hear more about them. I shall be sorry enough to have Uncle Erastus' people have there. How are the Bentons now? and Jennie and her husband and children?

I hope that Uncle and Aunt are pretty well, and how is it about yoursel<*f*>f I have not heard anything particular from you in so long. I suppose you must be very busy. We shall be here about three weeks longer. With much love to you

Your affectionate daughter
Abbie. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]
Cushing
Care of
Capt. Ha[thorne?].

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs Caroline Grant
Clayton
Mass [*Massachuetts*]

Colebrook Sept 16th/80

Dear Aunt,

Was very glad to get your letters, glad to know that you take an interest in Father & Mother, Charley took me home Sunday night, & asked Mother if she would like Marion to come & stay a while with her, she said No: one Benton was enough thinks can have one of John Robart's sisters said she did not want Aunt Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*], so did not send, Julia's sister could not come was not well, When home Sunday night Mother said she was some better than

when we were at Uncles, has been taking hop tea; that is good for the nerves, does not get up in the morning as early -- says gets more rest, I do hope she may get better, it does trouble me. but as you write I take it to the "Lord in prayer," & it is a help to me many times, then again it does not seem to help me as much, Oh dear! there are times when I do not know what to do, I am alone now for a few days. Father Eunice, & Anna, have gone up to Monterey, coming back Saturday, it seems nice to be alone, only three of us not a large family. E- expects to be married before many weeks, Cousin Nellie Northway is to be married next Wednesday C. & P. will go over home Tuesday night so I will be there to help Mother get ready in the morning, says she cant get ready alone & I am very glad to help her, mean to help her put up some peaches when we get back from wedding, Thursday after C. & J expect to start for brother Alberts, will be gone about a week, Ralph & wife are well or were yesterday,
Sunday evening You see it takes one some time to get a Letter started. have not had a good opportunity to send Ralph was here yesterday for about an hour, says thinks does feel better, Father, Eunice, & Anna was there to tea last night, E. said Mother told her to tell me she was better, so glad, but suppose she is not well, C. & J have been over to M. Phelps this evening, a pleasant time Must stop now & go<*t*> to bed, C. joins with me in sending love to you

[*written across first page*] & Uncles folks Hope you will write me again glad to hear from you & would like to have you visit me,

aff

Mary

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Hallowell Me [*Maine*]
Oct 5th 1880

My dear Mother,

Your letter and postal were received to-night. It is a great disappointment that you cannot come now, for it makes your coming at all seem very uncertain. We had found that the American Board meeting was this week and were thinking that you would be here in a few days.

About the silk, it is not <u>necessary</u> for you to have it here. Hallowell people are not particularly social, and as you know I always stay at home if I can.

The boat is safe as long as it runs. its time of stopping varies with the season. Sometimes the river closes in the latter part of November. and sometimes not until a week or two of December has passed, The boat "S[*t*]eamer Star of the East" leaves Boston at 6 oclock P.M. Tuesdays and Fridays. at Gardiner four miles below here, you change to the "Della Collins," a small steamer which runs right along side, all you have to do is to step from one to the other.

There is some Small Pox in town, and the children and Cora, my little kitchen girl have been vaccinated. Harold has been very sick for several days. I never knew a case when the disease was so violent. Cora is beginning to be sick to-night. Carrie was vaccinated when a little child, so presume her trouble will be very slight if she takes at all.

The fare from Boston by rail is $3.95. or $4.00. I dont know which. but when Almon [*Almon Burr*] comes in I will ask him. Almon thinks $3.95.

Our lease of this house expires on the 20th of Nov. but unless the next tenant is very anxious to get in at that date, we shall probably be here a few days longer. I feel very sorry to leave this pleasant little house.

If you cannot come this fall you must visit me some other time. though of course it would be pleasanter if you could come while we are in our little house.

With much love to Uncle and Aunt, and Edward and your self,

Your aff daughter

AbbiE Burr [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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[*Minnie Hill to Caroline Burr Grant*] Office

Jan 11, th '81.

Dear Aunty

Mother received your letter this P.M. We are all very sorry indeed to hear of Uncle Erastus' sad accident but hope to hear still better news than you sent us, Hope Mary is there to help Aunt Nancy and be a comfort to her Father It was too bad I forgot to send that bundle I send it tonight Hope Ed has not his expectations raised with regard to it The contents are only some cloth gloves pretty color but too large for any of us but Father & too small for him Miss Bethel gave them Hope they will fit Ed The reason that I forgot to send them before is that we are so busy Sophie Hill has been with us two weeks & Paddie Morrison was also with us between Xmas & New Years and with the work & Carrie trying to study some Latin & less Algebra and the office work keeps us stirring round only mornings I dont get up much before half past six & I am the first after Papa Carrie does not know that her back is much better We try to spare her & hope she will be better sometime Allie is going home with Sophie next week and will have a chance to rest up We think she is pretty well Father better than he was but is very stiff sometimes Mama well & so am I. Will Allen was buried today Allie Sophie & I attended the funeral He was in bed but two days How he felt with regard to the future no one knows I did not hear all your letter so perhaps leave out something I might write, kind remembrances to Uncle and Aunt & Ed

With love

Minnie

Shall be glad to hear further news of Uncle Erastus if you have time to write

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Flemington N.J. [*New Jersey*]
Jan. 21st 1881

Dear Auntie

I have been sitting here for five minutes trying to think of some way to commence this letter so at last I grew desperate and put down anything. I thank you very very much for the money. It will be a great help if I go back to Hallowell [*Maine*] and I hope I will improve my opportunities and <u>learn</u> something to pay up for all that has been spent on me. I am afraid that I never will know enough to teach but perhaps shall if I try hard enough. It has been storming and blowing very hard all day The trees are all covered with ice and some of the branches are bent down to the ground. They look very beautiful. Lizzie Anderson has been very sick with billious fever but is better now so that she sits up a little while each day. I went in to see her yesterday afternoon. She looks very sick and her hand & arms are so thin and white.

The girls are up in Sophie's room talking away for dear life. Sophie has been here for some time and we shall miss her when she goes away. Allie expects to go with her when she goes home to Phila. [*Philadelphia*]

I expect that Mamma has told you everything that I am telling so it will be rather stale.

It was so slippery and story that I did not go to school this morning. I go for an hour from eleven to twelve every morning. Am taking Cicero & Algegra. I don't like Mr Bahler's teaching very much it is not nearly as thorough as at Hallowell. Don't think I will take more than this term. I wonder if you have heard about my Christmas presents. Papa gave me two dollars and Mama gave me one. Then I had a glove box and some candy and when Allie does to the city she is going to get me two picture to put in some frames that we have. Miss Gast gave me two pretty collars and <*some*> a set of Chinese tangrams made of carved sandal wood. They are beautiful little things. Aunt Hetty gave each of us girls two nice towels and Lizzie gave me a white tie. Think I fared very well don't you? I had such a nice little letter from Carrie Burr [*Caroline Lynette Burr*] several weeks ago. She writes very plainly for such a little girl. I expect to write to Cousin Abbie as soon as I finish this. O I forgot one Christmas present. Uncle Tom Hill sent me an oil painting. one that he painted himself. We went for a walk one morning over to Cape Elizabeth and he made a little sketch of the C. E. lighthouse

[*written across first page*] which we could see was across the water and <u>was'nt</u> I surprised when he sent me the painting from that sketch. Give my love to Ed. I have been all over the house

hunting for Mama to see if she has any message to send to you but I can't find her. Give my love to Aunt Emeline and keep a great deal for yourself from your aff. niece

Carrie R. Hill

[*written upside down across top of last page*] Abbie is not going to Phila. because the smallpox is so bad there.

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2219. Wabash Av. Chicago. Ill

Apr. 3rd 1881.

Dear Sister C,

I was most glad to hear from you, a few days since. It is a great blessing that your health continues. Your cares must be great. It is wonderful that your Aunt lives, eating so little & suffering so much # !

[*Written across side of first page in different handwriting*: # I did not write that Aunt suffered now, but she knows she did suffer with rheumatism & suppose she thought she did still. C.]

I am glad your kind care can be for her comfort. I do not know of any one who would do as much as you have done, & do, for aged feebleness, & helplessness -- God will bless you for it in the end, if you do not see it day by day -- I think of you very often, & know how full of care you are --

It is good news from Abby that you write! how little we hear of revival now, & yet the way of salvation is just the same, by repentance & faith in Jesus Christ.

We noticed the 23d of M'ch & spoke of Edward's new happiness, & gave him our best hopes, & warmest congratulations -- you did not say where they were to live, or what E. was doing.

I have hoped dear brother Daniel w'd come home some time, & still hope so, but who can tell what a day may bring forth! His life may be longer for the rough way of living, or may not. he evidently enjoys it -- & has large

[*Written in gutter between second and third pages in different handwriting*:] You may return this -- Abby has an Ovarian Tumor -- has been tapped twice -- is not expected she can ever <*recover*> be well again.

hope -- Am glad to hear so well of Willy at Marcu's & of them all. I did not know where Gertie [*Sarah Gertrude Day Grant*] was, or if she was doing any thing Am glad, for she will be so much happier for it, & can help Willy. neither she, or M. have written me in many, many months.

I have had bad health for a long time, & our Board in March voted me a leave of absence for three months! so I am with John & Susan, in their small but comfortable place, just before 22d St -- almost in sight of the "Home," & hear from it every day, & oftener. All is well there, & work is plenty -- Miss Bowman "holds the fort" --

John & partner, a Mr. Schubrujn, a Swiss scholar, have a very successful school of 80. pupils, & are encouraged -- J. & Susan enjoy their housekeeping vry much -- & I am so thankful to have this house to come to. It is quiet, & every thing done for my comfort -- I bro't a girl to take care of me, for I need a good deal of waiting on, & have little strength -- Have been here since March 10th am going to try with J'C's help to go down stairs to dinner this P.M. at 5 -- It will tire me but may not be worse for me -- have not been down since I came up --

[*Written across last page*] Love to your sister M. & family.

[*Written across first page*] Am always glad to hear from you. Our love to yourself, Daniel, & your children & grand children. Remember me most kindly to your Aunt C [*E*?]. I hope she may be better & more than all that her hopes for eternity may be bright.

Very af'ly y'r sister,

Abby. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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Flemington N.J. [*New Jersey*]
July 27, 81

My dear sister,

I think we will take the encyclopedia as first offered & make no change.

I dont understand about the mails. Did you not always have a daily mail to Clayton? & does the N York mail pass your house & does the stage hand it out to you?

No doubt those cashmere dresses will be nice for some one. Perhaps the whole suit of which that sack is a part will be nice for you sometime. Last winter the sacks here were worn quite close fitting.

There does not now seem to be any time to talk with the girls about the dresses (have not shown them that part of the letter) & you need not send any with the flannel which you may send by mail. Send nothing else now. Am glad if you can have the Brocha. I don't see what you can say to Daniel more than you have said -- Say what you will to him -- & he must be his own judge after all. If he can get cured at Eureka Springs I would advise him to stay & be cured.

I forgot to say in the other letter that I think the cans are washed & scalded at the factory. I would ascertain & not do them yourself if unnecessary. Am glad the work is easier & that you hire. I forgot also to say that aunt Jane gave Abbie $5.00 for her marriage gift. You need not send what she said of visit in New Haven. She told me something of it on Postal & Cornelia wrote about it too. Only the Van Syckels are here just now -- We expect one or two others soon. We are getting along very well. Mary improves & Carrie too I think & Alletta remains about the same. Warren thinks she seems better than 3 years ago.

Two or three weeks ago we recd, a postal from cos. W. Benton who was at Georgetown that if convenient for us he would like to stop & see us a few days -- Should leave his family there. So he came & staid one week -- & left to day for Bordentown to join his wife & daughter whom he expected to also arrive there to day.

We hope & rather expect them all to call here on their way North. Cousin Mary's "Aunt Pierson" lives in Bordentown & <*she had*> cousin Mary had arranged to stay there a few weeks -- but Warren fears it may be too malarious.

Warren is so changed that I would not have known him. About middle of May (I think) he went out to Michagan to his brother John to learn about Western investments. He intended to go much farther West -- but found that he could not be sure of escaping Malaria -- so he staid two weeks with John & then came to Georgetown there to await his wife & daughter who went on after the close of Maries school at Saratoga. I think he was at Georgetown 6 weeks <*before*> in advance of his family.

Fanny Brayley was a little mistaken in regard to the subject of cos. Waren's curiosity. John had written to Warren telling all about Western investments, securities &c. which was what Warren was anxious to know & had made inquiries about -- & he was curious to know if John had heard of that desire & how. But Warren found that John was entirely ignorant of W.'s wishes & had only happened to write the letter at that time.

John is worth about $30,000. He did well at farming which he has now given up & makes money by shrewd investments. John has one son by the first wife & two daughters by the present wife. Son & eldest daughter married. Neither the Son nor son in law is good at getting along. Bertha the daughter at home is 18 or 19 I think & has more taste for painting than for literature. Warren advises "Erastus & Carrie" not to invest in Western Securities through those agents in Norfolk & Winsted especially at those high rates -- says you will lose -- though he says you are safer to have small bonds than large. Says he will not invest without examining securities himself -- But every body cant do that. W. says he expects to find it very hard to get 6 pr. cent in good securities here at the East. Will probably have to take 5% & perhaps 4%. Thinks perhaps he will go West again this winter & invest. The low interest curtails his income too much. He says that although the lawful interest here is 6% yet there

[*Written across third page:*] is so much money to let that it can often be borrowed at 5 pct. by giving good security. He says there never was a better time to borrow money.

Love to Uncle Ed. &c.
Your aff, sister
M.B. Hill

[*Written across first page:*] Cap. Warren says that ten years ago uncle Collar told him that he had $7000.00 (seven thousand dollars) at interest. He cannot be poor.

Your aff sister
M.B. Hill

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Flemington, N.J. [*New Jersey*]
Feb 7, 1882

My dear sister,

I hope that Uncle is again on the mend. It is hard to endure so much weakness & suffering -- But I believe that he endures patiently knowing it to be his Heavenly Father's will.

How pleasant for him that his sister can be so much there.

How is Jane? This Malarial Fever cannot be a very pleasant acquaintance. He is so loath to leave & so ready always to return.

I feel sorry that Lucy gains so slowly -- but how thankful should we be that the baby is healthy!

We think there would be no impropriety in saying that you do not care to have Caroline an appendage to this baby's name -- that you would rather it should be reserved for the next -- Though of course you would be willing for them to do as they please about naming the next for you.

I did receive Jan. No. *Miss. Herald* [*Missionary Herald*] from Boston. How good of you to send it. I enjoy it & saw Mary reading quite a while in it on Sundays. The Feb. No. has also come.

You will see that coz. Mary wished this letter sent to you -- but I do not wish you to burn it as she said -- but return it to me sometime. You will see her address at the head of her letter.

I think the Ther. has not been below zero this winter -- if so it was only for a day.

A great deal of snow fell last Saturday. It piled in drifts & much shoveling was necessary all around the house.

Sophie came Sat. Jan 28 (week before last) & staid until last Thurs. She & the girls were invited to aunt Kates Tuesday P.M. William & I were invited to Mr. P.J. Nevins' Before noon it commenced snowing & the storm increased so in fury that Mr. Anderson sent for the girls in sleigh -- So did Mr. Nevins send for William & self Dr. Mott Mr. Bullock Mr. Connet with their wives were there & we had a very pleasant evening -- we all came home as we went.

Sophie made & sent Aletta for Birthday present a suit of underclothes -- night gown chemise & drawers -- The muslin trimming & making would have cost us seven dollars at least.

Dont know when Aletta will be married -- possibly in the early summer -- perhaps not till fall.

This is the second week of a two week's vacation in school on account of scarlet fever -- So Mary & Carrie are at work on Aletta's underclothes & Mary Dunn is to help 2 days & they hope to get the most difficult part & quite a share of them -- done. Aunt Helly has made 2 pr. drawers -- but they do not offer to do any more -- though they know it would be a help of course.

There is no Spring vacation & will be none until school closes -- the last of June. There never is but one vacation (in this school, beside the long one) & that is "Holiday week" Mary judges from the way the Aunties talk that they think that she & Aletta might sew after they come from school & office -- but they cannot -- Mary has to look over lessons for next day & they are too tired to do very much & she told them so. I feel sorry for you to have so large a family & so much care.

You write when you are very sleepy. I can tell by the way your pen made zig zag marks when you dozed.

Love to uncle & all friends

Your aff sister

Mary B. Hill

Will write two W. Burton about Uncle Collar -- Had though of doing so before. Their address is Catskill Greene Co. New York Box 282. If coz Mary's letter will make the postage 9 cts. it is to be left till another time soon or after hearing from you again.

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309 Gale's av.
Brooklyn, N.Y.
March 8. '82

Dear Friend: --

Your letter of the 3. was duly rec'd. Accept many thanks. I have been too much occupied to answer sooner. I received a short letter from Aunt Sybil but with no particulars. She was almost sick -- & her eyes troubled her and it was hard work for her to write. Sometime when you have the leisure please give us a long letter of particulars about things that you know would interest us. We should be glad to hear.

We have a German girl helping us now. She has been with us little over a week. She cannot talk or understand English very well but she is quick and willing and good natured and anxious to learn and wants to stay with us. So we are fixed for the present but how long it may continue I cannot say. We should like somebody that would relieve us more from the work and care but when she is taught our ways she would I think be a good servant. Will you not be going to N.J. and give us a call? By the time that you may be ready to come here we may need you and want you, so do not decide positively yet awhile <u>not</u> to come. We had quite a little tea partly Sunday evening Shall I tell you about it? It was not just the thing for the day but was rather unavoidable. There were two families of three each who wished to visit us to-gether and when they could see Charlie and that seemed the only way as one of the gentlemen is quite feeble not going out evening only to business in the day -- hardly able for that. It made considerable work for Sophie and me the last of the week to get everything in readiness for so many but it all went off pleasantly and we survived. But we do not care to repeat it for next Sunday.

How is Jennie? I rec'd the paper she sent. Was glad to get it. Our love to her. Are you staying alone? How lonely you must feel! Please write soon. Love from all to you.

Hoping to hear soon,

With much love

Yours
Fannie C.C.

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Office
Aug. 6 -- 83.

Dear Aunt --

Carrie told me the very first of last week to send back the letters you wished returned and I am sorry that I forgot to hunt them up I would think of them when here and forget them when at home

I reached home two weeks ago Saturday after an absence of nearly four weeks Spent one week in Oberlin and enjoyed every moment of the time in spite of the intensely hot weather. (In your letter you asked them to send you some of mine written while away the truth is I wrote but <u>one</u> <u>short</u> letter Postals kept the family informed of my whereabouts and that was all I could afford to do) I met many old friends attended class meetings Called at Mrs. Shurteff twice and should have gone there to tea but there was no time. Called on Mrs. Malthy She seemed much as she did four years ago Both she and the daughter inquire particularly after you They did not

seem to know how Uncle Collen left his property, and I did not know either as much as I should have

Tues. P.M.

Had so many interruptions yesterday was obliged to put the letter aside until today. Mother told about Uncle's will and I have written to Mrs. Malthy so her mind is at rest.

While in O. of course went several times to Mr. Burr's. The family seem just as they used to Celin not very well. Has not been teaching all of the last year. Nettie is better than she has been but still not strong at all Thought I should not see Almon [*Almon Burr*] at all He was continually going like every one else but I did see him for a little while and he showed me some inventions has made for keeping circulars and [seraps?] of paper essays etc. in order. I advised him to patent and <*hope*> as he had the same advice before hope he will do so

The baby was not yet named A. looks thin but counts on the sea shore to [...] in <*three*> a few weeks what ravages the year's work has made

I did not call on Mrs. Johnston much as I wished to because there was so much excitement and it was feared that it would be too much for her I saw her however for a few minutes at Chapel Prayers one Eve. also at Prayer meeting I attended at great many exercises Heard Ex Pres. Hayes, Lucy Stone Blackwell and many others called at Pres. Fairchild's twice and was cordially received both times. Austin Burr was home but not his wife.

I Called in a house right next the one where Abbie kept house on [Wes?] Lorain St. the same St. on which Mr. Burr lives

I spent one night in Cleveland with Miss Betts before I went to Oberlin I went to Painesville with Helen Pepoon and was there ten days Mary Richards a classmate was also there we had a very pleasant time the weather changed and was cool and comfortable we were invited out four evenings in succession went down to the Lake went on a picnic to Chardon Ohio where I picked water lilies for the first time in my life Then Helen and I went to Austinburgh for four days visiting Frank Rydor and Mrs. McClelland whose husband is the minister there, So you see I went a great deal saw and enjoyed much Came home by way of Philadelphia and saw Sophie for a few hours

Am glad that I went and feel all the more like work because I have been Am trying to keep the money order accounts so that Father may have his vacation in October We have a young girl now and a woman comes to help with working and last week and this has helped iron also. Mother walked to church Sunday the first for a long time The new church almost finished Chalmers has been sick for several days Has not eaten high fever but is more comfortable today and will be up in a few days the Doctor thinks

Other members of the family well as usual By Dr. Parrish's request I took his [little mind?] down to Coney Island on day last week Nora enjoyed it very much and I enjoyed the trip down New York way but did not enjoy Coney Island

Possibly you may not be able to make this out very well as I have been obliged to write in a hurry

If Uncle Daniel came on this Fall I suppose you will go to house keeping. It is too bad that with his other misfortunes Uncle must have Bright's disease However he may live comfortably [...] time we had corn from our own garden today also tomatoes Have made our own butter since the Aldervery came in

Uncle William as usual He took mother riding Sunday Father to Sunday before and for a wonder [Diggier?] wrote Carrie last week

Work to do must close give my love to Mr. and Mrs. Pinney I remember with much pleasure my visits at their house

Affectionately William H.

Love to Uncle E. Mary Ralph and his wife and Ed to Lucy when you see them Me.

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[*Addressed to*] Caroline Grant
Office
3 – 11 – '84

Dear Aunty

I am afraid you do not get news of Mother as often as you would like but I know that you remember how busy we must be and you may always be sure no news is good news, Mother progresses from one stage of the sickness to another Her cough troubles quite a good deal just now. Her joints are not so stiff as during the exceeding cold weather of the past week

The end of back bone has been very tender but by help of air cushion hair cushion and a great deal of rubbing it is much better, no skin has been broken we have used, tablespoon of powdered alum in pt. of alchohol to toughen skin It is very grateful With help Mother walked half way round the bed this morning

The outlook is favorable if we only have pleasant weather During all the five weeks she has been in bed we have hardly had three entire clear days

So you see we have had great deal to contend with just at present

Emma Loweree is away so there is only Nora Parish beside the family We expect Emma back any day

Mrs West the nurse who was with Allie has been helping us with Mama this week and that is giving us all a rest

Mother likes her and she is able to rub a great deal more than we could get Min to do Allie grows all the time and Baby Sophie is better than she was at first about crying takes long naps of three or four hours.

March 15th – Dear Auntie

Min asked me to finish this letter this morning so as I have a few minutes before the mail comes, will try and do so. Min has taken cold and is not feeling very well so I came up to the office this morning. Mamma is a great deal better than when Min began this letter on Tuesday. Her cough is better and her feet and legs are not so much swollen. The baby is as cunning as can be. She laughs sometimes and looks so pleased and happy. Cousin Tom & Cousin Eliza & Sophie are so pleased with the baby's name. It seems as though they would never be done talking about it. I went up to Easton last Sat. and spent Sunday with Sadie & Jessie Pollock. You remember Sadie Pollock don't you? She is Mrs Bullock niece and use to live there. She and her sister are going to break up house keeping next week and they wanted me to come before they left their house. I knew it was the only chance I would have to go to Easton so as Mrs West was with us to help take care of Mamma I went up Saturday afternoon and came home Monday night Sadie wanted Min & me both to come but we could not both go of course, and Min was good, and let me go. I had a splendid time. I don't think I ever enjoyed a visit so much before. Easton is a very hilly place. It reminded me of Hallowell on that account

John Watson a senior in "LaFayette" College there, took Sadie and me all through Pardee Hall on Monday morning. John used to live here in Flemington and went to Mr. Leighs School at the same time I did so he was an old friend.

The view from the top of the Hall is beautiful. We could see all over Easton and Phillipsburgh over in New Jersey, and up and down the Delaware. It must be lovely there in the Summer.

Allie had a letter from Miss Bethel on Thursday and she says she is to be married in May and had been out that morning buying furniture which gave her inexpressible pleasure etc. Benton [.....?] is to be married on the twenty fifth of this month. Chalmers & Allie have an invitation of course.

Ella Ramsey and Ed. Allen are to be married in the Presbyterian Church next Wednesday at five o'clock. We all have invitations. I just heard the train so will have to stop. Please tell Carrie I was very much pleased to get her nice little letter and will answer it when I get the time.

Does "Puppy dog's tail" go wiggledly – waggledly as much as ever. I don't suppose he has forgotten how to talk yet. You must kiss dear little baby Arthur (I dont suppose you will object!) for me and his cousin Sophie and give my love to his Papa and Mamma and tell then that "Cudya" Thinks it is high time baby Arthur has his picture taken and sends us one. Auntie what is good for "hungry consumption" I have that or something else for I am hungry all the time. I can't get enough to eat. Perhaps Hally can <symphath> (I am worse than Sam am I not?) sympathize with in this respect. Well I can't write any more so goodbye. With a great deal of love to you all

Affectionately

Carrie.

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[*Addressed to*] Caroline Grant
Flemington N. J. [*New Jersey*]
Mon. eve. Mar. 24 – 84

My dear Auntie

Your letter came this morning, we were very glad to hear, we were afraid it would be a great shock to you, but please Auntie don't blame us for not letting you know before. We did not telegraph to Sam until Friday eve. poor fellow, he did not get here until all was over. The doctor had spoken very encouragingly of Mamma, and we had great hopes of her going right on improving. When the doctor came Friday morn. he said Mama was not so well that she has not fair, square pneumonia, but it was the rheumatism that had gone to her lungs, the left lung was affected, that was about ten o'clock in the morning, he said he would call again <in the> toward eve. I had no idea then, that the end was so near, neither had the Dr. After dinner Mama seemed so much worse, that when Papa went up to the Office, he sent Minnie at once for the doctor, but the Dr. was not home & would not be until six o'clock that eve. When Minnie came home, Mama said Dr. Ewing would not get here and she wanted some other doctor, so we sent for Sullivan he came a little after six o'clock said Mama was very dangerously ill – pneumonia in both lungs that, he said might be relieved but he did not like the looks of here eyes and lips (by this time her hands and arms up to the elbows were cold) we telegraphed to Sam after Dr. S. had been here, so you see the end came upon us very suddenly. Carrie was with her in the afternoon. At 2 o'clock I was obliged to go up stairs to my baby, who was very wakeful that day, I came down again at five, and was very much alarmed at Mamas condition. Mama was perfectly conscious that she was dying. She was not afraid, though I think she dreaded the physical suffering – When Minnie was by her in the evening once (Mama), she told her not to cry, it was all right it had to come sometime. Mama said a great many things that I know you would like to hear but I can't write them to night and I hope you can come and make a visit and we can tell you all about it. One thing I must tell you, Mama mentioned you, said "my love to Aunt Carrie" and then afterwards "my dear sister" She left her love to all her friends in Connecticut.

She said "Tell Dr. Mott it must be hard to die <u>without</u> a Saviour" said "I know the Lord Jesus is all sufficient" her mind wandered more or less all through her illness. She did not talk after 12 o'clock , excepting just yes or no, and about the hot flannels we're were using, yes – she did say one or two things but her mind was wandering – Mrs. Bullock was with us all night and was such a comfort. When the Dr. went away at 1 o'clock he said that we need not fear that Mama would die that night, he though her better, he said if she could live 24 hours, she would have a chance for her life, but do not think he expected her to last longer than Sat morn. It did not seem to me that Mama could live through the night, I am so tired dear Auntie that I can't write much more, we will try and write [soon] again. Sophie Hill came up [Sunday?] [afternoon] and is the greatest [comfort] to us. Everyone is so kind and <take> everything is that can be is taken off our shoulders. Chalmers is taking charge of office has John [C....?] & John Bullock to help him. Uncle Erastus came to night and I wish you could be here too. I dread to morrow very much, but I know you will be thinking of us and praying for us. It is very hard to let Mama go, although we feel assured that she is far happier. She needed so much care that we still feel that she must need something and often think we here coughing or pounding (she had a cane to pound on the floor, if we were not there) I think Mama <said> for us, felt that <I had> she had good care – Papa was <u>so</u> good to her Mama often told him, that she could not live without him, she thought no one else could fix her for the night like papa. The services to morrow will be short. Mrs. Nerius and some others will sing "Asleep in Jesus and perhaps one other hymn. We are all quite well, but of course tired. We all try to keep up, for Papas' sake and for each other. I feel so sorry for Papa, he is all alone now, of course we are left but it is not like his wife. I think he was very glad to have uncle E. come.

Well good night dear Auntie write and ask questions, if we do not write enough. There is so much we can't write, so I hope you will come and make a visit

Very lovingly your niece
Allie

All send love.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs Caroline Grant
C/o Rev. A. W. Burr
Andover
Mass [*Massachusetts*]

From Wm. Hill after Sister A's death Apr. '84.

Bittersweet April 6/84

Dear Sister

I have passed many lonely hours since the sad event so unexpectedly came to pass. It was only on Friday Morning when Mary thus spoke "I would like to stay a few days longer, but if it is God's will <that> I am willing to go. Yes I want to, that I realized the probability of what happened.

She was wonderfully patient & cheerful all through her long weary & painful sickness, and thankful for all that was done for her comfort. We miss her so much every day in so many many ways. Yet we try to say even so Father for so it seems good in thy sight. And we pray that the faith that sustained her in her departure May be ours when our turn shall come to bid farewell to all things here below.

It was the most beautiful day of the spring when we laid her down to her last rest, but even its brightness, would have been darkness except for the shining of the Sun of Righteousness. We rec'd words of Sympathy & deeds of Kindness from Many friends far, and near and it was a great comfort to have all My dear children with me and to know & feel that there dear Mother still lives in them.

Sophie Hill staid with us until Yesterday afternoon being a great comfort to us all and especially to Allie, so kind & good to the baby – so helpful & thoughtful in many ways. We miss her sadly and begin just now to feel more fully our great loss. –

I have been pretty well though tireing very easily with my daily duties and feeling as if I never could get thoroughly rested again.

We were very glad that Erastus came and we made him stay over Wednesday with us The girls feel more acquainted with him than ever before and think he is very kind & good and we all sympathize with him in this trouble. His trial I think is greater than mine.

We shall be glad to see you whenever you feel able to come and am glad that you have had such a pleasant time with Abby – Give My love to Almon & Abbie [*Almon Burr & Abigail E. Grant Burr*] and hope they may find some pleasant & profitable place in near future.

Our spring weather comes along slowly the grass has started a little and we have the birds with their morning & evening songs but very high winds and cold weather prevails

How many of our friends are past now called to part with their dear ones – When Sam was here he took the baby's picture and for one so young it is really good –

Sam has left Lewis and [engaged] to work for a [Mr...?] of Waterbury getting much better wages than Lewis could afford to give him We are glad that he is going to do better as he was quite low spirits over his slow advancement –

Farewell with much love

Yours

William Hill

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[Addressed to] Mrs. Caroline Grant
<Mill Brook> Canaan
Conn.
Care E. D. Grant

Soon after reaching Beloit in Aug. '84
Beloit Wis, [*Wisconsin*]
Aug. 1884

My dear Mother,

There really hasn't been a chance to write before for lack of a suitable place, even if the chance had come other wise. I think of you and know that you are wondering why you don't hear. It has been very hot most of the time since we came, though it is cooler now, and settling has been slow work. Here the house is a very inconvenient one with but few cupboards and closets, and it has been hard to know what to do with things. We are getting along now so that we are beginning to see through

After we left you we went to Aunt Charlottes. There Arthur began to have bowel trouble I <made> had some neutralizing mixture <and> which I gave him, and he improved a little, but while we were at Lymans it gave out. On our way to Oberlin I stopped at Alice Leonards as we expected, but after leaving the train I began to worry at the character of the passages, which I hadn't fully observed in the close quarters on the train. At Mrs. Leonards he grew worse very fast. I sent out and got the ingredients for some medicine for him and began giving it but Mrs Leonard was so alarmed that she wanted me to send for the Dr. he came and pronounced him a very sick child. I told him what I was giving him, but he knew nothing of it, so I let him treat him as he wished. Baby grew worse faster than before. I felt that I must get to father Burrs with him, and went on the day before I intended to, the Dr gave me medicine to give him every half hour on the train. When I reached fathers I said to Mother as quick as I got into the house, "I want some neutralizing mixture as quick as I can get it." There happened to be some in the house already prepared and he began to take it immediately. Before twelve hours had passed he was much more comfortable, before two days were gone I felt he was out of danger. But if it hadn't been for the neutralizing mixture I believe he would have died. He was so sick poor little thing. He hasn't been quite so pleasant and happy since his sickness as before, but seems well.

We find Beloit very pleasant, the people are kind and a number have sent in things such as apples, green corn etc. a good many have called already too. Our house (The one we used to speak of as the Rowland house) is in a very nice neighborhood on a pleasant street. When we came Pres. Chapin meet us at the station and took us to his house to tea, and to spend the night.

We are all pretty well now. I hope to hear from you before long and hear something of father. Give my love to him. Have you made any plans yet? What do you hear from them at Uncle Erastus's ?
I must get to bed.

With love Abbie.

Mond morn

I found there were no envelopes so did not get my letter off. I forgot to say that we called on Aunt Susan and Jennie in Chicago. John of course was not at home again. Little Susan is a sweet child. Not as tall as Arthur but about as broad.

I had a nice visit in Oberlin both at Fathers and Mary Shurtleffs. Spent two or three days at Mary's and was there at tea once or twice beside. Annie and Laura renewed their intimacy and were very happy together. Prof. S. was in Dakota but returned the day before we left for Beloit. Father and Mother Burr are well. Nettie much better than when I last saw her. She is wearing an electric belt which she thinks helps her. Celia rather under the weather with rheumatism
I send a picture of little Arthur

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[Addressed to] Mr. Daniel Grant
<Mill Brook> Canaan
Litchfield Co. Conn. [*Connecticut*]
E. Law On back of envelope [Care of Edward Grant]

Arkansas City Kansas
August 30th. 1884
Mr. Grant

I seat my self to rite you a few lines to let you know of our situation I am hardly able to go and Charlie has the typhoid intermitent fever and the doctor is tending on him I had to loose My dear husband he died on the 12 of this month and I am left to get a long as best I can with my little Children I cant tell when I can pay you any thing for it Will take ever thing I can make to pay

the doctors with I get a dollar a day for my team when it works but we have to live and that costs a rite Smart Mr Law is in the territory and he is going to move down there and he cant see to enything for me and I have to trust to most enybody to get things tended to I would like to hear from you so I may know how long you Will Wait for your pay this from Mrs

Ellen Law

to Daniel Grant

Recd by Mr. B		$215
Grant		487
Grants surplus		272
Payed by Grant Slandleys bill	262	
		10

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[*Printed:*] W. L. Scott & Son,
Estate and Insurance Agents,
Loans Negotiated etc. Room 2
7 Richmond Street West,
Toronto, Ont.

[*Typed:*] 7 Richmond Street West, TORONTO, Ontario,
January 2nd. 1891.

Mrs. Daniel Grant, [*Caroline Burr Grant*]
New Marlboro, Mass., *[Massachusetts]*

Dear Madam: -- Your favor of the 29th. ult. addressed to Mrs. Scott was duly received. As Mrs. Scott rarely writes letters, and is especially busy at present, she desired me to answer your enquiry.

Mrs. Scott's kidney trouble was quite largely brought under control by Dr. Robbins during our stay in Southfield, she has rarely been troubled in that direction since, and not at all since using Dr. Hall's treatment, which she has been using now for about 15 months. I do not suppose that with the present light on the subject there is any positive cure for advanced Bright's Disease, but am quite sure that some benefit at least would result from Hall's method. Mrs. Scott has had more trouble from imperfect digestion and assimilation than from other sources of late, and for this the treatment is very helpful.

As to the frequency of its use, our experience in our own family and with others leads to the conclusion that much depends upon the individual, and the general state of health. In some cases it may be used daily to great advantage, and in other instances every alternate or every third day will be enough. To one who is in very poor health I would recommend the frequent use of the treatment, using only a small quantity of water at first, gradually increasing as may be found convenient until at least the system has been thoroughly cleaned out, then a less frequent use may suffice. Experience will show what is required.

In the case of your pastor's wife, I would advise the use of the treatment, not to supercede the physician's work, but in conjunction with it. They will not at all interfere with each other, but if the physician is an intelligent man and knows of the use of the treatment he will be greatly aided by it.

Your pastor can obtain a copy of the Health Pamphlet at a nominal cost. If he will sign the enclosed pledge and send it with 8 cents to Dr. Hall to pay postage, he will receive a free copy under the offer to ministers, if he states in his letter that he is a minister. It certainly will be worth trying.

I have not the slightest hesitancy in saying for myself and family that having paid the full price $4 for my own copy, that if I could not in any other way regain the knowledge now possessed through the study of the Health pamphlet, that I would not think of parting with that knowledge for $400. I have not an unlimited faith in it and always call in a physician in case of special ill health, but have found the treatment a great preventative of sickness, and a strong aid in recovery of strength. We do not call in a Dr. once where we used to have him twenty times, and for this the treatment is largely responsible. Trusting this may meet your desires,

Yours faithfully,

Lock[...] B. Scott

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[*Addressed to:*] Danl Grant Esq
New Marlborough
Massts *[Massachusetts]*

$1.00 Lebanon, Ohio
[*added:* Mr. and] Feb. 27-, 91
Mrs. D. Grant

Dear [*added:* Sir &] Madam

Your letters of 19th date recd and answer delayed on account of my absence from home at Syracuse, N.Y. -- Letters were forwarded to me, at this place where self & wife have been spending February to avoid the cold weather of New York State. We will be home in about two weeks. I note what you write of your afflictions. I receive a great many letters -- coming from all parts of the country, & answer them as best I can. The Hall treatment from the start, has been a matter of surprises. Almost numberless cases, to which it did not appear to be specially adapted have been cured; while in some, as in yours, it has not seemed to work well. In most of the latter I have found they have used either too much water -- or too often -- or too hot, or have overtaxed the kidneys by retaining water in the colon over night too frequently.

Great numbers of cases of both constipation and diarrhea have been relieved as well as almost every kind of functional disorder. The general tendency of the treatment is to improve the nutritive functions, and when the general health is improved may kinds of local diseases disappear.

I use the treatment regularly every other night and have done so for 24 years, as a health preservative, and have been absolutely healthy all that time -- have gone from 145 to 206 pounds weight, & am 72 years of age. I see no reason for your not getting the same benefits from the treatment as others. I generally recommend the use of from one to two quarts of blood warm water every other night, retaining it but a few moments. When there is a rank odor to the urine, or a sediment, occasionally a pint of water may be retained over night to be discharged by the kidneys. But this process, while beneficial in some forms of kidney disorders, it is not well to carry too far.

I have known relief to follow the treatment in very many cases of piles, but in such I recommend small quantities of water and quite cool.

you mention being troubled with indigestion for 3 or 4 months, and think the treatment causes it. So many report relief from indigestion and all forms of dyspepsia that I cannot see why it should have the opposite effect in your case unless *</ except>* it is in some way by the manner in which you use it. In my practice for many years I have used the treatment instead of cathartics, and have used it as an adjunct to other treatment to a large extent, and especially in constipation -- and have been, always, careful to adapt the details of its use to the conditions existing with the patients. That is, it is a matter to be used with care & judgment, there being no set rules for guidance. Like all other remedial agents it is not a <u>cure all</u>, for there is no such thing.

You ask if it is right to use the treatment during pregnancy. I have recommended a use of water in such cases if constipation existed, but only enough to overcome that disorder.

Yours very truly R.F. Stevens M.D.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Photocopy*] Oberlin, O. Dec. 10th 1891.

[*Original handwriting*] Dear Aunt Caroline,

[*Photocopy*] We were greatly shocked about noon of Dec. 1st to receive a telegram announcing my sister Lavinia's death, which occurred that morning at her home near Grinnell. She had not enjoyed usual health since an attack of "La Grippe" a year ago last winter. To save her from the exposures to the next cold season, her son Marcus and his wife sent for her a year ago, to spend the winter in Salt Lake City. She was with them from the first of December to the

latter part of April, but even there did not escape a second attack of the dreadful disease. She however rallied, and I was with her a few days on her return. She looked more delicate than I had ever seen her, but seemed cheerful and enjoyed talking of the strange things she had seen and heard at Salt Lake City. I hoped that warmer weather would bring a return of her wonted strength, but some references to her health in letters received during the summer and autumn, gave me serious concern. On Sep. 22nd after hearing that brother Theodore had been suffering from an attack of rheumatism, she wrote: "I am sorry you and Theodore have such a heritage of pain, but Dr. Safford used to say that "Pain was one of God's blessed ministers,' and though it seems hard to think it so, when tortured almost beyond endurance, yet I know from personal experience that it is <*so*> true, and I have never felt Him nearer, or his presence more consoling than at such times. Earth loses its charms, and Heaven seems something to be longed for, as suffering increases, and our strength grows less."

Her son Lynds is spending his second year with us, a member of the Senior College class. It has been the plan for some time, that his mother should be here next summer, when he graduates, and that Kate Cowles and Margaret Starkey should meet her. We were anticipating it as much, for Lavinia had not visited us for more than twenty years. In writing her last letter to me Nov. 5, she is looking forward to it, saying "If I am no worse, when Lynds graduates than I am now, I think I should venture to go. It will be a great disappointment if I can not, but I shall try to bear cheerfully, whatever the Blessed Master has in store for me."

I felt hopeful that the right sort of medical treatment would relieve her difficulties, and wrote to her recommending a Sanitarium, where some of my friends had been successfully treated. She returned word, writing to Lynds on Friday, Nov. 27th with her own hand, that she was not able to leave home at present, though feeling better at the time of writing. Her physician, she said, did not encourage her to expect a return of health, but assured her that she could be made more comfortable. This word was received on Monday and news of her death on Tuesday!

Lynds started for Grinnell on the first through train, and has written particulars of her last days, and the funeral services. I am greatly surprised to learn that the cause of her declining health was a cancer. She was herself aware of the fact but with characteristic heroism kept it a secret from every one except her husband. The immediate occasion of death was congestion of the liver and though that brought dreadful pain arriving the last three days of her life, it no doubt saved her more prolonged sufferings from the other disease. Her physical exhaustion and distress were so great that there was no opportunity for parting words with her family, but when her husband raised her in his arms, that she might breathe more easily she said: "Don't hold me back Father. I want to go Home." Her letters as I read them now, show that she had anticipated the worst that came to her, and faced it calmly. She had lived such as consistent, faithful christian life that we have no shadow of doubt that she is now tasting those joys "which eye hath not seen nor ear heard, neither hath entered into the heart of man."

She was the life of her family, dearly beloved and honored by all her children, who are proving the influence of her wholesome training. The youngest of them is now twenty years of age, and there is not a frivolous or wayward one among them all; seven sons and one daughter! Marcus came all the way from Salt Lake City to attend the funeral, which occurred at their home last Friday, her entire family being present.

The day was cold and there was snow upon the ground, but the weather did not prevent many near friends from gathering for the last sad services. The hymn "My Jesus as Thou wilt" was followed by remarks in the same strain, and a most comforting prayer by Dr. Magoure. Prof. Buck gave a sketch of her life, and the song "I know that my Redeemer lives" was sung at the close. -- As seemed fitting her sons bore her body to its last resting place near the grave of my mother.

Her relatives who have known of her abundant labors and self denials in bringing up so large a family, had hoped she would enjoy an easier life in her later years -- reaping the fruitage of so much toil and care -- but in the sight of Him "who doeth all things well," she was ready for the kingdom above. "The Lord's appointment is the servant's hour."

Only the sweet and inspiring memory of her life remains to her loved ones, but we take comfort in the thought that her influence will continue to be felt in the lives of her children, and all whom she helped to aspire toward the best things. In our time of supreme need may we look, as she did, to the great Consoler and find comfort and strength.

[*Original handwriting*] I thought you knew enough of her to be interested in what I have written of her last days. Mother's family all feel her death, deeply, but the loss seems greatest to me, because, being the oldest, I remember her, very well, as she was before her marriage. Since Margaret's death, thirty one year's ago, she has been my only sister, and the bond between us was very strong. Heaven ought to seem nearer and dearer, now that she is there! Truly, I am coming to have as many friends there as in this world.

We saw Carrie on her way home, and have heard from her since her arrival. I hope she has been really benefitted by her stay in Castile, but she told me she never expected to be strong. She is a dear sweet girl!

Hoping you and uncle are both well, and with much love, in which the family join, I am,

Your affectionate niece

Mary B. Shurtleff

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
New Marlboro
Berkshire Co.
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*

[*Printed return address*] RETURN AFTER TEN DAYS TO
<WILLIAM HENRY SMITH,>
<DEAN OF THE COLLEGE OF LAW,>
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA.
LINCOLN.

[*Note on envelope*] from Theron Crissey 1892

Lincoln Neb. Jan'y. 24, 1892.

Dear Cousin Caroline:

I heard recently, through a letter from my brother Ralph, of the death of Mr. Grant, and have had it in mind to write you ever since, but this Sabbath afternoon seems to be my first opportunity. I am not surprised to learn of his death, as he seemed feeble, when I saw him last June, and this winter seems to be unusually severe with persons advanced in life, where they have become somewhat enfeebled. I realize somewhat I believe your bereavement and loneliness, now that your companion is gone, to return no more, and that your home must seem quite desolate, if you find yourself there, all alone. As I advance in life I realize much more than formerly the greatness of the loss to the one who remains, when a couple who have been united for many years are separated by death. But there is such a comfort in the thought that the separation is but for a little time. The one who has "passed over unto the other side," has reached the end of his journey, and is at rest, at home. "Tossed no more on life's rough billow,

"All the storms of sorrow fled,
"Death has formed a quiet pillow,
"For the faithful Christian's head,
"Peaceful slumbers, guarding o'er his lowly bed."

_____
_____

"Fixed in an Eternal State,
"They have done with all below;
"We a little longer wait;
"But how little, none can know."

_____

What a comfort it is, when our friends are removed from us by death, to feel assured that it is well with them; - that they learned the great "lesson of life;" – that they were prepared for the great change, and are at rest.

I know a little of how hard it is to feel resigned to God's will sometimes, when our dearest earthly friends are removed. When my dear sister Olive was taken away, it did seem as though I could not have it so, and that it was a mistake in some way, and wrong, and that it must not be so: - but I have felt comforted many times by the thought that she escaped many of the trials,

disappointments and griefs which come to nearly everyone, in one way or another, whose days on earth are lengthened.

May the blessed Comforter, who knows the burden and grief of every heart, be very present to you, dealing tenderly with you, and sustaining you every day and hour, helping you to "lean heavily" upon His sustaining arm.

Did Mr. Grant have a severe sickness at the last, or did he fail gradually? I should be pleased to hear from you and learn the particulars of his death.

I called upon Hattie Burr, Kilburn, thinking she had not heard of Mr. Grant's death, but found that she had seen a notice of it in the Winsted Herald.

She said she had thought of you a great deal since she heard of his death, and would have written you, if her eyes would have permitted it. She wished me to remember her very kindly to you.

Hattie's health is pretty good now, except that her eyes trouble her very much, so that she cannot use glasses at all, and cannot see to read, write or sew. She has a very pleasant home, but there seems to be a serious drawback to her happiness in the trouble with her eyes. Charlie Burr's oldest boy, (Frank Daniel,) boards at Mr. Kilburn's, and is Clerk in a Savings Bank here, of which Mr. Kilburn is a Director. Charlie lives in Gove Co. Kansas. Martha (Burr Stocking) lives now in Creighton, this State. She has a nice family: three boys & three girls. As for myself, I am feeling much better than when I was East, last June.

From Ralph's letter, I judge that there is a very un-usual amount of sickness in Norfolk and vicinity, and he mentioned several deaths there recently. So the old acquaintances and friends are one by being "gathered home." My wife heard quite recently of the death of an Aunt, a sister of her mother, in Boston. She had been in poor health for years, having at times severe attacks of asthma;

I shall hope to hear <*f*>how your son's health is. We heard from him several weeks ago through Dr. Hartwell, who stopped over a day with us on her return to Colorado, and understood from her that he was somewhat improved. Ralph wrote that Mary, Warren's wife, had been quite sick with "la grippe." I have not heard directly from them.

You told me last summer when I saw you where your daughter's home is, but I have forgotten. The thought has been <*possibly*> in my mind that possibly you will go and have your home near or with her.

My letter has reached great length b<*y*>ut I do not seem to have said much. You and Erastus, and Uncle Silas three children are all the cousins I have remaining alive. Albert Norton, William Norton's oldest son (He lives in Waterloo, Iowa,) is only a little younger than I am and always has seemed quite near to me, as have also some other second cousins, especially Halsey Hulburt's children.

I shall hope to hear from you if you have the time and feel able to write. Give kind regards to Edward and his family, as I suppose you see them frequently.

I am Your cousin
Theron [M?]. Crissey.
Lincoln Neb.

Direct, P. O. Drawer 1493.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs Caroline B. Grant –
c/o Ewd B. Grant Esq.
Southfield –
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*

5 Forest St.
Oberlin Ohio
Feb. 15th 1892

Dear Aunty:

Have been thinking much of you lately and in Father's letter received this A. M. he writes that you have sold cow and chicken & rented house This last item must be in one sense a blessing, and yet it will make you much work if you have to give possession very soon How I

wish it were possible to divide myself into three persons then one part of me would go to you and one part would go to Flemington *[New Jersey]* Allies nurse was obliged to leave having another engagement, and the third part would stay here where I am still needed to look after these patients

My husband did his regular work last week One morning Thurs. I think he felt so much worse that I went for the Dr. When he came he wanted to keep A. in bed that day but finally told him if he would go in a carriage & return in the same way, he might be allowed to do so But it is very hard for him to properly estimate his strength He was in the house four weeks the longest time he was ever away from his classes because of illness Well am glad it did not come last year when I could not have seen him, or done anything for him Mother Wright has been sick six weeks is now able to come down to all her meals gains strength but slowly As for myself am well but of course feel somewhat tired We had a nurse for Mother W. three weeks constantly and the fourth week the nurse was here at night I took all care of A. night and day but he needed but little care at night after first two weeks

I had a sympathetic attack of la grippe Should have been in bed several days if it had been possible The nurse did come down and take care of Albert and me too for two days I was up but not able to do much but I came up again very rapidly. Am very thankful it was so

Mrs Shurtleff was in Sat. eve spoke of writing you within a day or two I do greatly enjoy her friendship

I think I have written you since Uncle's death but have no recollection of what I said I am glad that Providence brought Uncle D. thr[u]' all his wanderings into a quiet home for several years And I am glad too that he is laid to rest in Colebrook I remember the last time I was in Conn. *[Connecticut]* that I saw the beautiful spot where "They who have gone before" were sleeping. It was in such neat order and seemed such a peaceful spot Mary Sage I think took one there

I do hope you can rest some but how can you at Edwards where so many things will walk right into your hands to do But really it is your duty to spare yourself if possible after these weeks of unusual strain. My mind would be easier about you if you were at Abbys tho' I know how you feel about it I suppose, but, dont overdue I do want to see you very much Oh dear me the truth is I do get home sick for my own [Jobber?] sometimes Not that I am not happy I am but I just ache once in a while to talk things over. Dont worry about me one bit They are all just as good to me here as they can be. And I do enjoy and trust my husband more and more

How sorry I am for Emma [Penton?] It does seem dreadful that people should be burned to death as he Alonzo Townsend was. Some ladies from Flem. William H [Fullers?] widow & daughter were at the same hotel that night and barely escaped with their lives I do not remember to have heard a word about Aunt Jane Wallace What do you hear from her Wish you might visit her sometime I send a newspaper with acct. of celebration they gave Almon's Father on his 80th birthday

Do you remember that Saturday was Father's birthday Seventy years and the oldest of the living Hills. I sent him a birthday letter It comes to me that next Monday is your birthday I wish for you years of comfort and quiet happiness It does trouble me that I have had nothing to send you this year Believe me it is not that I do not think of it and long to do it But it has seemed impossible But I love you and shall never forget all the loving kindnesses that have come to me from you Nor do I forget how dearly our Mother loved you and how close and near you were to each other. Oh! I do long so sometimes just to see Mother and hear her speak once more. But she has been spared much that would have been hard for her to bear For that I am thankful Will you be seventy two or three I do not seem to remember just how much older Mother was Now I feel that I must close Give love to Ewd. and [Lucy?] Keep the largest share for your own self

From your loving niece

Mary [P. B Sh.?] Wright

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[*Addressed to*] Dan'l Grant Esq.

New Marlborough

Mass.

Mrs. S. tells of rec'g money & about investments – also what she does for rheumatism

Oberlin, O. *[Ohio]* Jan. 9th 1890.

Dear Uncle and Aunt,

As Mr. Shurtleff is quite busy – it being just at the opening of the winter term – he wishes me to write you that your letters have reached us, enclosing the draft of $200.90. He wishes me to say that if you would be able to add something to this sum, say within six months, he would find it easier to get a good investment, for a larger sum, and would pay 6% for the money already received, until it would be convenient to add to it. If it is not convenient to send more, he will no doubt be able to place this, in time.

He also says that he would be better satisfied with a farm mortgage as security, at 7%, than city property at 8%, unless the investment were made with great care.

We are very glad to hear that Edward's family are, on the whole, a good deal better, and hope the sad experiences of a year and more past, will not be repeated. You refer to the few things I sent them. I have been wondering if a few things I am have, too small for my own girls, would not be useful. May had a "tam o'shanter" (a sort of turban for head) knit last winter of white angora yarn. I have washed it and it seems to be about as good as new. We have also white, all wool wrappers and drawers. Would they like any or all of these things?

May does grow stronger as she grows older; is much interested in her studies, and bids fair to be a good scholar. She has been taking music lessons, this year, outside of her work in the Union School, practicing one hour a day. Laura seems to be as well as ever. She joined the Freshman class in the Philosophical course, last fall, and has carried the regular work of the class without difficulty. Her father too, seems to be a great deal better than he was a year ago, so that we feel that we have a great deal to be thankful for.

Mrs. Nichols went home to Grand Island, for a two months visit, last fall, and the baby improved greatly, during her absence, so that he is now a very pretty, promising child. The call him Grant Hurford.

She seems herself to be quite well and happy. I have not seen her or Minnie Hill, since you wrote, but will remember your message to them.

It is getting late in the evening, and I am too tired to write respectably, but I must not forgot to answer your question in regard to my rheumatism. I suspect the medicine I took helped me. It was a mixture of iodide of potassium and silicate of sodium. But the diet I adhered to, and still keep up, probably did more than the medicine. I aim, as much as possible, to take no sugar or starch in my food. Of course I let potatoes alone, and expel the starch from bread by toasting it. Laura sends love, and so would the rest of the family, if present.

Your affectionate niece

Mary B. Shurtleff

Please remember me to Mrs. Pinney, if she is with you.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
New Marlborough
Berkshire Co.
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*

Beloit Wis. [*Wisconsin*]
Feb. 11, 1890

My dear Mother

I became a little alarmed during the past few weeks <on> because I did not hear from any of you. I feared there was some serious sickness among you, but about two weeks ago in looking over my box of papers pertaining to household expenses etc., I found an unopened letter from you. I need not say that I was surprised, but I concluded upon thinking it over that Harold had brought in the letter & laid it on the table as he often does when I am not in the room, that any papers were then also, that when I came back & picked things up I did not notice the letter.

Then two or three days since I received another. I do hope that you will continue comfortable & that Edwards family will also. Lucy wrote me not long since of which I was very

glad & I will try & write her sometime. You spoke in your first letter of the Christmas package to Edwards people being broken, & did not know but something might have lost out, as none of you have mentioned particularly about the things for the children & Edward. I will enumerate them that you may know whether they all came.

For Edward there was a little hymn in booklet form, a pocket handkercheif & a dollar bill. For the children there were one collar & two handkerchiefs each. Also for Grannie a little collar pin with a blue stone in it, & for Carrie two gold headed pins with chain, which are very fashionable for collars now. I shall be much disappointed if they lost out.

With regard to ourselves I have nothing very good to say. Almon has kept pretty well, but has been very hard worked. He has not has the Influenza yet, but there is still time. My girl is not at all strong & had a good many little sick spell that are quite a strain upon us. I have been unusually poorly all winter. I was taken with Influenza a little before Christmas, was quite sick, & get but little strength since. Carrie has not been nearly so well for two months back, is sick with Influenza or "La Grippe" now. Harold is about as usual though I do not think quite as well as last winter. Even little Arthur is rather miserable this winter.

Our beloved physician Dr. H. R. Clarke died early in Jan. literally for his patients. Your note with regard to insurance money came yesterday. Almon will get the money to-day. I wish that we could pay the whole of it this year as we did last but we find it impossible.

School has been quite a little injured this winter by the influenza so many sick all the time, both teachers & pupils.

Our winter has been very mild, some foggy days which is quite unusual here. We have had considerable cloudiness & some drizzle, but not much rain or snow. It has been a very comfortable winter.

You spoke of cousin Elizabeth Pinney's visiting you. I should very much like to see her. You must tell me about her visit. Her bright piquant ways & the evident strong affection between my dear Grandmother & her have always been among my pleasent memories. If she does not visit you until after you receive this letter, please give my love to her & assure her of my sympathy in the loss of her dearly loved nephew. What a blow it must have been to them all. What was the matter? Please tell me about it.

You would like to see how pretty the blue dishes look in the dinning room here, there is a sideboard & some corner shelves in there & I have them arranged so that they look nice, this is a beautiful house. I have enjoyed it very much, but the [Emersons?] will be home in a few months I presume. Austin Burr is in Colorado this winter supplying a church there & thinks he is gaining a little in health. His family is at Indian Orchard Mass.

Thank you for Mrs [..ites ?] letter it was very interesting. Were glad to hear from you & father both this last time. With love to you all

Abby. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlborough
Berkshire Co.
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*

Tells what she does – what her work is at Oberlin – also tells about Mr.Emory's

Oberlin, Ohio
May 16th, 90

Dear Aunty,

Possibly you have given up all hope of hearing from this quarter of the States. It has taken me so long to get at it.

I have been careless, intending every day to write, & then letting my feelings or some trifling matter interfere Never feel quite so energetic at this time of year.

First let me answer one or two questions of long standing Mr. Emory was in good condition financially had not lost any money that I know of His disease was disintegration of the spinal column & that affected his brain & he <u>thought</u> he was growing poor. He did commit suicide which was a trial to his children What he was worth I do not know Father probably could tell

approximately He was wealthy. Mr. Emorys mind had been somewhat affected for six months before his death but Cousin Annie did not seem to have apprehended what finally came Some of the others had feared it I believe

Mr Emorys Father & Grandfather & one Uncle died in a similar way.

This winter Mary Studeford has been very much depressed & the last I heard had been taken to a private Asylum in New Jersey out far from Philadelphia. In spite of their wealth their heritage is a sad one. Cousin Annie & Will are more like Cousin Nancy Their home has been rented to a Dr. from Philadelphia Father looks after their rents & what other business there is & receives fifty dollars per year for doing it Not much but it helps

The plaid flannel sent to L. would be perfectly suitable for a dress for one of the children. Your cape can be suitably worn to Church if you need it, also to call on your neighbour but of course one would not make state calls in it but with you state calls are seldom made. As far as I can think now, whenever you need it you can wear it

We have no President yet & it looks as though we might wait another year The right man does appear & it would be much better to wait than to make a mistake & call the wrong man

There has been some talk of J. G W. Cowles of Cleveland son of Professor Cowles of commentary fame But I think the feeling now is that his would not be the best appointment.

Now as to what I am doing, I enter in books made for the purpose a record of what each student is doing in each study he is pursuing. I do this for <u>all students</u> in <u>College, Preparatory Deprtm't ,</u> & those in <u>Classical Course</u> in <u>Theological Seminary</u>. I send to all College Students once a year a card showing what studies they have ahead of their class, & in what studies they are behind. I prepare the names for the Catalogue. I am Secretary of two standing Committees that of Entrance to College & "Committee on Substitution" To this last Committee come all the requests to make up work, to have one study count for another, I give out all certificates for private Examinations. I give out certificates to all boys who enter for Field Day showing that they have the required grade in their studies.

I make out copies of Students marks for them to use in obtaining schools Besides this there are little matters coming up all the time that naturally belong to this office

I mean to make myself so useful that they will not want to do without me.

I am not expected to do more than I can & I am careful. I am treated with great kindness & consideration, and am coming through the year's work in good condition tho' of course begin to feel that it will soon be vacation time My title is "Ass't Registrar"

I am sorry to say that I do not have so much faith in "Microcosm" [Ext..?] as you and Uncle Daniel have. Doubtless it is owing to my natural depravity. I think any individual who has discovered such a blessing to mankind is more sharp than benevolent when he requires four dollars from poor suffering humanity for the revealing this same wonderful discovery

However I may be mistaken so you must not mind my foolishness Time may give me better sense

I see Mrs Shurtleff quite often Feel welcome there whenever I can go in. Their house stands in same yard with Talcott Hall I do not know Mrs Nichols I have no

How is Uncle Erastus Ralph & Julie & Mary Sage & her husband Give them kindly greetings when you see them

Father has the selling out fever again & we do not know what is best to do May the Lord give us light to do the right thing

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlboro'
Mass. <CHICAGO>

[*Printed return address*] THE HARVARD SCHOOL
2101 Indiana Ave., Cor. 21st Street
CHICAGO, Ill.

[*Printed letterhead except for date*]
The Harvard School
2101 Indiana Ave. Cor. 21st Street

John J. Schobinger,
John C. Grant
Principals. *Chicago,* June 28, *18*90

My dear Aunt Caroline:

Your long and interesting letter of some time ago gave me a great deal of pleasure, because it was proof that I had not entirely escaped your mind; it was also a source of deep regret to know of Cousin Edward's poor health.

I trust that long before this things have changed in that respect and that he is enjoying all the blessings that there are.

I often think of you and Uncle Daniel snugly settled on your farm – a rather small one I believe, but probably large enough. It has been my hope to get to see you when in Mill Brook, but each time there have been obstacles which made it impossible. At some future time I may be more fortunate.

Long as Mr. Burr & Abby have been in Beloit I have not seen them, but yesterday I wrote them to come and spend a few days in idleness with me here. I hope for a favorable reply in a day or two. I have heard from others that Abby is not very strong. The school is prospering under Mr. Burrs management.

Remember me affectionately to Uncle Daniel and Edward.

Most sincerely
John C. Grant

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[*Addressed to]* Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlborough
Berkshire Co.
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*

From Dr. R. F. Stevens of Syracuse N. Y.
Sept. 1890

I receive a great many letters - coming from all parts of the country & answer them as best I can. The Hall treatment, from the start, has been a matter of surprises. Almost numberless cases, to which it did not appear to be specially adapted have been cured, while in some it did not seem to work well. In most of the latter I have found they have used either too much water – or too often – or too hot, or have overtaxed the kidneys by retaining water in the colon overnight too frequently. Great numbers of cases of both constipation & diarrhea have been relieved as well as almost every kind of functional disorder.

The general tendency of the treatment is to improve the nutritive functions, and when the general health is improved, many kinds of local diseases disappear. I use the treatment regularly every other night, & have done so for 24 yrs., as a health preservative, & have been absolutely healthy all that time – have gone from 145 to 206 pounds weight, & am 72 yrs. of age. I see no reason for your not getting the same benefits from the treatments as others. I generally recommend the use of from one to two quarts of blood warm water every other night, retaining it but a few moments. When there is a rank ordor to the urine, or a sediment, occasionally a pint of water may be retained over night to be discharge by the kidneys. But this process, while beneficial in some forms of kidney disorders, it is not well to carry too far.

I have known relief to follow the treatment in very many cases of piles, but in such I recommend small quantities of water & quite cool. You mentioned being troubled with indigestion for 3 or 4 months, & think the treatment caused it. So many report relief from indigestion & all forms of dyspepsia that I cannot see why it should have the opposite effect in your case, unless it is in someway by the manner in wh. you use it.

In my practice for many years, I have used the treatment instead of cathartics, & have used it as an adjunct to other treatments to a large extent, & especially in constipation, and have been, always, careful to adapt the details of its use to the conditions existing with the patients.

That is, it is a matter to be used with care & judgment, there being no set rules for guidance. Like all other remedial agents it is not a <u>cure all</u>, for there is no such thing.
[*Note at end of letter*]

This is a copy of the main part of a letter by Dr. R. F. Stevens the Physician to whom Dr. Hall "revealed his treatment" more than 20 years ago. Lives at Syracuse N. Y. We saw in a Microcosm a magazine published monthly by Dr. H. (it is mostly on scientific subjects, but 2 or 3 leaves of "testimonials & something referring to the Health Pamphlet.

It was said in one of those, that one wishing for advice with regard to the treatment – wishing for advice to consult with a Dr. could by enclosing a dollar write to Dr. Stevens & receive from him a personal answer. – You or any one can you see if you wish.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlborough
Berkshire Co.
Mass.
Castile, N. Y.
Monday Dec. 22. 1890

My dear Grandma, -

I am so sorry you are all having such a hard time, Mamma wrote to me about it. I think of you often & wish you could each one be here & have the care taken of you & the kind pleasant things done for you, that I am having.

Grandma dear, I am a different girl bodily. Every one says I have changed so much. They would not know me, especially since all my hair was cut off, which was done a week ago. I look & feel very queer with it short, & secretly wish many times that I had it again, but Dr. Greene knows best, & I am trying to be a "glad, happy child" as she wants me to be.

My roommate who kindly mothers me, is one of those dear, sweet "Friends" from Poughkeepsie, & brightens my little south room, - which looks out on the green terraces & Summer houses, bestrewn in warm weather, with hammocks & the gay trappings of the ladies, - by her sunny self.

There is a lovely little women in the building, whom I wish you could know. Her very presence is a benedition. She/Miss. Morse/was the first Lady Principal of Vassar College & I doubt if there was ever a sweeter one.

Do you remember Hawthorne's "Story of the "Seven Gables"? Grandma, we have a Mrs. Pyncheon here, who used to live in those same "Seven Gables" & belongs to that old family. She is a delightful old lady to meet, & then the romance all about her name facinates me. I can not tell you about each one. There are so many pleasant & entertaining, & young girls, of whom there are quite a number, are warm hearted & lovable too.

Every one is very kind to the "Little Burr" as I am called, & surely in no other place are they more 'kindly affectionate one toward another' than here.

Though all are more or less ill, they try to keep cheerful, & now & then, we have some sort of a social gathering together in the evening!

I am kept busy from six o'clock in the morning, when my nurse rouses me for medicine & exercises, before breakfast, what with gymnastics, of one sort and another, baths, & resting hours, till nine in the evening, at which time we must put ourselves to bed, whether we want to or not, however we are so tired with the day's work, the beds are usually welcome indeed.

The Doctors & nurses I like & trust, they are so thoughtful & interested for your good. I feel that I am learning many things & that my time is not wasted.

I sent you three or four copies of the Christian Union not long ago, as I had some coupons given me. Did you enjoy seeing them?

I hope the clouds are beginning to break by this time, for you & Uncle Edward & his loved ones, that they are improving, & someway has been provided for them.

You will find a small card inclosed, which I had taken just before my hair was cut. It looks a little older than I do Grandma.

A <u>happy peaceful Christmastide to you everyone.</u> With a great deal of love. The letter is loaded <u>full</u> for you all.

Your own Granddaughter.
Caroline Lynette Burr

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Bolton Feb '89

My Dear Niece

I was happy to receive a letter from you remembering my 78th birth day & containing so many kind wishes for my future both here and hereafter. I hope they may all be realised. I had a cheerful comfortable birth day without a pain to speak of.

As it happened I made over a dozen buttonholes on a winter dress for Sue & sewed on the buttons & put in the pocket &c. I make all the button holes on dresses & any thing It is slow plain work & it is something I can do thus far but I fear I may not be able to do it much longer I will do it while I can. It dont tire my eyes to sew as it does to read I do a great deal of plain sewing in a year & do most of the mending I find a plenty of easy work to do & enjoy doing it for I know I am helping others to live more comfortably for what I do for them, & they do many kindnesses for me. I am very comfortably situated for which I am truly thankful I have been able to go to church Every Sunday this winter & indeed for the past year, I have been quite free of colds, but all the rest of the family have colds more or less severe & Every body Else as colds prevail here this winter. It has been such an open winter. I had written thus far when I received your second letter containing the [hair?] (for which I am very thankful) telling me your were going to Edwards. I was glad to know you were going there, & hope he is better. I delayed writing more at that time on account of your being from home for a time. I hope his case is more encouraging

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Oberlin Ohio.
Feb. 10, 1889.

My dear Grandma, --

Your have looked long & vainly for a letter from this dilatory girl I know. For along long while I have resolved over & over again not to let this day or week go by without having a talk with you. & all the more so since Christmas came & with it the bright half dollar, Grandma I thank you very many times. for with that I shall get what I have wished for much & that is a new pair of manicure scissors. I had a set Christmas but the cutters were almost useless.

Feb. 22. Dear Grandma --

I began this a number of days ago in hopes that you might receive it on this your 67th birthday is it not? but my sick week came upon me that very day & I have not been able to do anything yet. I am writing this in bed so I am hoping that you will <*be*> overlook <*ed*> the mistakes on that account. My visit here has been of benefit to me in more ways than one. I am gaining flesh rapidly One day had to be spent in letting out my gowns. Then of course all the new & beautiful things seen & heard, could not but teach me a great deal that never was learned in any book. Grandma Burr has taught me the Art of making button holes too since my sojourn here.

All of them being so ill at Aunt Mary's made me feel worried, & perhaps was not so good for me As I could not help them any.

Laura is now better than she has been at all since last September. It seems along while does it not? (But just think of poor Uncle Edward, Oh!) When will he be better? How very sorry I am for him & Auntie & you all. I suppose it must be coming out right somehow. Now however it seems, As far as the East is from the West does it not? Please give my love to Uncle & hopes of a better time coming.

Uncle Giles is improving also. I wonder if you knew that. He & Laura intend to go South in March & Aunty her rheumatism troubles her so. If only she might go with them.

The bright & shining star to me has been my cousin Minnie [*Mary P.B. Hill Wright*] . So surprised & happy as I was to see her. She has been my ministering angel since she came.

What should I do without her here to run to for comfort & advise? & she has does many things to give me pleasure. I could not count them.

Then too it was good to hear about all in Flemington [New Jersey].

Has anyone written you of the delightful trip planned for me. & how the Doctor [vetved?] it.

I was going to [J.?] & then up to Connecticut & about in the course of time to your dear old home. It was a little hard to give it up but I have no doubt but what it is best.

Mamma has not been well any of the time that I have been away & I am anxious to get back to her again. Indeed they sent for me to start for home to day, As I can not go next week will probably see me on the way. They are not very well here neither one they really ill much of the time. Aunt Nettie I think is better a good deal. Grandpa is getting old fast one can see. They are all as busy as ever though.

I had a letter from Adaline Emerson the other day. You know she is now at South Hadley *[Massachusetts].* She says Prof. & Mrs. Emerson are [warming?] in Italy <*now*>. I think I wrote you that they had gone abroad. Did I not?

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[*Crossed out stationary*] <*If not called for in five days, return to*
A.T. HEMINGWAY
Room 57, 204 Dearborn Street,
CHICAGO, ILL.>

[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant
New Marlboro
Mass

Beloit College
Beloit, Wis. *[Wisconsin],* Feb. 13 1889.

Dear Mother,

I read your letter this Morning. Abby brought it up and opened it, leaving it on my table. I did not look at it as she had opened it and so it has been overlooked for a couple of days.

Enclosed you will find an order on the Express Company for the amt $37.50. I am very glad that we can help Edward out in this way. I wish that we could do more. Our pay comes slowly and it costs us with our sickness &c a good deal to live. I think that Abby has been slowly going. Carrie will be home before long, I think. We are having interesting meetings in the college now. Several have already begun the Christian life and we expect many more will do so.

Austin's health far broken down and he has resigned at Peterboro. I feel somewhat anxious about him.

Harry seems to be taking hold of study this winter better than usual. He is studying Latin. I am very anxious that he should begin the Christian life, He seems afraid to go near the meetings.

I think of Edward very often. We always remember him at our morning prayers and you & father also. I will try to write Edward. With much love

Your [affectionate?] son
Almon

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs Daniel Grant
New Marlboro.
Berkshire Co.
Mass.

Baldwin Cottage
Oberlin Ohio.
Feb 20th. '89

Dear Aunty:

How many times I have thought of you and thought I should get letter off long ago, but have been as busy as a bee, I think your birthday is Friday the 22nd is it not? I wish you many happy returns.

No doubt they have told you how unexpectedly the opportunity came to return to Oberlin I have salary of ($500.) per year iE school year of course the greater part of vacation will be spent at home My work is to keep record of marks of all students in Preparatory, College and Theological Departments I have an office of my own but it is not well furnished, It is in the South west corner of the chapel I am in office usually from 1/2 past Eight until twelve and from half past one until five Do not return to office after tea Just now am working some in the Evening but do not Expect to usually If I am to be away from home I could not be in a pleasanter place than Oberlin for me One of the Professors Prof. [Peing?] and his wife were both class-mates. All of the Older Profs remember me and have met me most pleasantly

Mrs. Johnston is very kind and my [times?] have fallen in pleasant places

Mrs Shurtleff is very good I have been in frequently Prof. Shurtleff is out Goes to Office and Laura is much better They too Expect to go South about the 1st of March, Last but not least Carrie Burr has been here since just before Christmas It has been a real pleasure to me to have her here to take over matters with her She is quiet, but has very pleasant manners, like her Mother in that. has a sweet face. wearing glasses is a great improvement to her We had thought that Carrie would go to Flemington *[New Jersey]* but they Almon and Abby have finally decided that it is best to have her return to Beloit *[Wisconsin]* and I presume she will go next week. I will send letter received from Abbie a few days ago

Carrie Hill has not been very well, but, Dr Parish has taken her in hand, And she is to go away for a short visit taking Sophie [Hulsiger?] with her probably they will go to Phil.

One of Halsey Hulburts grandsons is in the Senior class here His name Halsey Hulburt Matterson He called on me last Sat. Eve He came to my office on business and his name made me think he must be a connection He says his Aunt Julia is quite [stout?], Expects his Grandfather here for Commencement We do thank you for the Catalogue also for the lace you need not send the muslin We do not want it so do not have it on your mind

How is Edward getting on Improving I hope Are the girls Fannie and Carrie still with you Am glad you could make use of things sent Wish I could see you but that is out of the question just [now?] Give my love to Ed. and Lucy

One of my pleasures here is attending Faculty Club The Faculty meet Every two weeks One Eve. they read Shakespeare Another Eve the conservatory Faculty played and sang for us Last Monday Eve we met at Prof. Monroe's and Prof. Frost read a paper As an officer of the College I can attend the conservatory Rehearsals every week.

I am boarding this term at Baldwin Cottage one of the handsome new stone buildings

There are but thirty girls here Miss Mary Fairchild is Matron but next term I Expect to go to Talcott Hall as board is fifty cents per week cheaper Both these houses are heated

My table board, room rent, heat and light, (our lamps are student lamps and kept filled for us) costs me ($4.25) per week My washing about fifty cents more

I borrowed fifty dollars to come here and I want to get that paid back.

When Carries bond is paid I think probably I can get Prof. Shurtleff to invest it She will have to use Every cent of her interest money to pay for her teeth I would love to write more but I think I must go to bed I am so sleepy

Give love to Uncle David and to all the friends I do want to see the children so badly

Will is such a loving little fellow

I hope Friday will be a pleasant day for you

Your loving niece
Minnie H. [*Mary P.B. Hill Wright*]

When you have time write to me and tell me how your own health is You have had too much to do this last year but I know you could not help it

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs Daniel Grant

New Marlboro
Berkshire Co
Mass *[Massachusetts]*

March 7, 1889

Dear Carrie --

I should have been glad to write you in time for you to have received it on your 69th birthday but could not I hope you had as comfortable a day as I did on mine & hope you may have many more birth days, I know you are living & have lived a very useful life & the world is much better for your having lived in it, which cannot be said of Every one.

Sam came home to spend the '22'nd with us & brought a young friend with him He is looking nicely & doing well All Enjoyed their visit much although it was short as he felt that he must return Sat. morning as he could not well be spared from his business, as he is head one in his department. The young man is one that boarded at the Edes' last summer & became acquainted with us & is much pleased with Sue. He expects to enter Amherst College next summer. Sue & Mollie are still in the High school here & doing well We are all very well Sewing circle was to have met with us yesterday but it was so rainy only one came a new neighbor but it broke up the afternoon & they will probably meet here next week "Grandpa" Haynes' folk were here this morning week [noon?] to dinner & supper. It was kind in you to write so much about your & husbands health & Edwards I hope they will not keep Edward on too low a diet

According to our late reading a pretty generous diet is recommended for nervous persons & indeed for many invalids & cousin of Amory's was sent to a Hospital in Boston he had a bad sore on his arm & they had him Eat all the beef stead & roast beef &c he could. I think he is getting better I am glad for Minnie she has got so good a [situation?] I will return her interesting letter & will not write more lengthly now hoping soon to hear from you again soon. I should think Edward would be very much discouraged with that farm on his & himself so feeble but you all know what is best for him to do under the circumstances We all send love

Affectionately
S.J.W.

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[*Stationary in upper right-hand corner*] Return to
G.W. SHURTLEFF,
Treasurer of Oberlin College,
OBERLIN, OHIO
If not delivered in Five Days.

Mrs. Caroline Grant
New Marlborough
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*

Oberlin. O. *[Ohio]* Aug. 16th '89

Dear Aunt Caroline,

It is some time since we exchanged letters, and I hardly remember which wrote last, but you are often in my thoughts and I would very much like to know how cousin Edward and family are getting along.

As for ourselves, Laura continues quite well, and her father has been able to do his usual work, except during a week's time, when he was laid aside with serious bowel trouble. His health, however, is poor, and I greatly fear that he is overworking, and will find himself obliged to give up so responsible a position.

I inquired the other day in regard to that investment of yours, and Mr. S. tells me that he has one now, paying 7 1/2% interest, which he can make over to you, but he has hopes of doing better, of getting 8%, and perfectly good security. The time has been so long since you sent the money, that I thought I would write you how the matter stood. You will get 7% on the money from the time Mr. S. received it till the bond is made out to you. If you prefer to have the investment Mr. S. already has on hand, please write, and he will have it made over to you immediately.

You will be glad to hear that my brother Edward's children Grace and Mary, have been with us a month past, and will stay a week longer. Grace, as I presume you know, is somewhat lame, as a result of inflammatory rheumatism when a child. But she is a fine scholar, good performer on the piano, and of so happy a disposition that life seems a great boon to her not withstanding her infirmity. Mary is also a bright and happy child. I can well believe that Edward is very happy in his family.

Please remember me with love and sympathy to your Edward and his wife. My love also to Uncle Daniel.

Your affectionate niece
Mary B. Shurtleff

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[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlboro.
Mass. *[Massachusetts]*
Riverton Conn. *[Connecticut]*
May 17th 1888.

My dear Mrs. Grant.

Your letter was duly received. I was truly glad to hear from you. I suppose you have seen Mrs. Hyde before this and learned something of our troubles. It was four weeks ago to-day that Mr [Nute?] was taken down sick. and it is impossible for him to go down stairs yet. Although he is better, and is dressed to-day, lying down and sitting up as he feels best. In the mean time after getting worn out with constant care by day and by night I was taken down very sick with sore throat and severe pain throughout my whole system. I was unable to sit up had severe pain in my throat, and violent headache. had no faith or courage to resist the disease consequently when the Dr. came in let him prescribe for me, and took his medicine without feeling in the least condemmed for so doing.

Next Frank came down with it, and all the children have had a time of it. Josephine is still very badly off. her neck is badly swollen, and she is a sick looking child. the Doctor says it is a disease that is epidemic all around here. We have had no sickness before this winter and it has all come inside of the time of Mrs. Hyde's being here Lizzie's confinement and all, she is doing well now, but her babe is very cross. cries a great deal.

I hope Mr. [Nute?] will be able for us to go home next week, but he gains so slowly I do not know. We need your prayers -- I have not been able to remember your son at the appointed hour since Mr. [Nute?] was sick. but will at different times as I may have opportunity. Remember Mr. [Nute?] in your prayers. My son seems to have the continual presence of the Holy Spirit. and especially when he preaches. God has and is greatly blessing him with peace and joy. May he be led out in just the way the Lord chooses to lead him is my desire. He is inclined to the Evangelistic work. feels God is calling him to it. We have a woman come in and work by the hour some days. and everything along as well as we can. Miss Mrs. Hyde. remember us kindly to her if you see her Frank did not have time to call on you the day he carried her home got home that eve -- about 9'oclock? in the heavy rain storm.

Mr. [Nute?] sends much love to you and Mr Grant. all the family unite with me in sending love. It is growing warmer here to-day. I think the weather has much to do with the feelings of an invalid like Mr. [Nute?]. cloudy weather is rather depressing.

We have not seen any arbutus this Spring. They say it does not grow around here. Should like to see you both before we go home, but hope to hear from you soon, and write us what success you have in getting a minister.

Yours truly

J.W. [Nute?]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to:*] Daniel Grant Esq.
New Marlborough

Mass.

Oberlin. O. [*Ohio*] Sep. 26th '88.

Dear Uncle and Aunt,

You will be interested to know of Theodore's nomination to Congress from the 21st district, last Saturday. I send you a Cleveland paper containing a notice of it. I am mailing to Uncle Marcus another, containing a sketch, not altogether accurate, of his life. I had only the one copy of either paper, but if you think it worthwhile, you and Uncle M. can exchange, as I have suggested to him.

Our daughter Laura is passing through the ordeal which Edward has been called to endure. She is having typhoid fever. The fever has now run its course, the end of the third week having been reached on Sabbath, but her condition is still extremely critical, as she is very weak, and has no relish for nourishment. We fear also a recurrence of the bowel trouble, which has been kept in check by injections of laudanum, but is liable, I suppose, to wear her out, before it is cured. Since the fever left her, she has been more wandering in mind than before, and to me the most pitiful feature of the case is her utter lack of understanding her condition. Do pray for us, that we may be prepared for what is before us.

We have used every human agency for her recovery. Dr. Allen has been in constant attendance, and had the counsel of Dr. Noble for a week, when the fever was highest. We have had five and six calls a day, sometimes, and uniformly four. Dr. Allen thinks she is better now, but is anxious she should show less nervousness and wandering of mind.

May and Mr. Shurtleff have both been ill with bowel trouble, but are better. In fact the house is a good deal of a hospital, and we are doing nothing, thinking of nothing, but the care of the sick, Please tell Abbie when you write, of our condition. I am owing her for a good letter, and she ought to know what hinders my writing, since I came home.

A daughter of Libbie Grant Hurford has just been married to a Mr. Nichols of this place, and the bridal pair are expected at the home of the bridegroom's parents about this time.

Excuse want of care in writing. I am sitting up into the "wee small hours", with Laura, while the nurse gets some rest.

I was sorry to hear that Edward had had a relapse. Give my love to him and family, and tell him that I know now, better than when I saw him, what typhoid fever means!

Your affectionate niece

Mary B. Shurtleff.

[*written across first page in pencil*] Wednesday morn.

The Doctor pronounces Laura's symptoms favorable, and she is more nearly rational.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlboro
Berkshire Co. Mass.

Bittersweet [*New Jersey*]
April ‘ 17 ‘ 84

Dear Aunty,

I return Abbey’s letters also the one you wished of Fathers. Am sorry we have delayed so long but various reasons have been the cause

Mrs Herland has been here a little more than two weeks as a kitchen girl She leaves on Tuesday and goes to housekeeping again the 1st of May

We have been doing all the housecleaning we could while Mrs H. was here

Tomorrow we will finish the 3rd story. Attic and all and have already cleaned three bed rooms on 2nd floor so you see we will be able to manage the rest alone Mrs H. does not clean much but she helps get the meals and washes dishes Etc

Very unexpectedly to us one week ago last Wednesday night [Lizzie?] told me that Cliff had decided to move back to his Aunts to board until their house was finished

C. thinks it too far from business here at least that is the reason he gives. I am glad he is no relation to one He is nothing but a spoiled boy. Even Aunt H. says that. Lizzie has to give up to keep peace in the family.

They C & [L.?] moved a week ago yesterday we did not like the short notice they gone and told them so we had made arrangements which we would not have made had we known our income would be curtailed in this way

But somebody will come I hope Have had several applications but no engagement as yet

The present clerk at Post Office leaves May 1st Possibly I may get the place Shall do so if I can A regular sum coming in is better to depend upon than boarders

Father would try office had he not been elected Freeholder Chalmers is Justice of Peace and moves into office of his own this week for which we are all glad

Our chickens have done well this Spring we get nearly forty eggs per day Have two broods of little chicks already

We sell all our cream milk three cows and will milk 4 after a little Are raising Sweetbriars calf which is two or three weeks old.

More than half the garden is dug and planted very early for us Chalmers helps with digging

Sophie and Will have been vaccinated three times The third time Will's took and this last week his arm has been very sore and the poor little boy has been cross His father takes most of the care of him at night He is better to day and more like himself Sophie is to be vaccinated from Will

Will is a bright little fellow tries to talk and many words can say very distinctly

He is crazy to get out doors and always wishes to go to barn to see "cows" will cry if not taken there

Runs to where his cloak hangs and says "out" "out" He seems to have more fun and mischief in him than Sophie had Climbs like a little circus boy on all the chairs rocking chairs included Seems to have no fear and needs constant watching Sophie is very fond of him and some times sings him to sleep as they lie together in their big bed in their Mama's room

Sophie is learning to pick up her play things and to go on errands and helps her Mama very often

Aunt H does not seem so strong this Spring has worked too hard the past year but will have more time to rest now that Charly Hyde has gone

Father is pretty well tho troubled with rheumatism some Is so ambitious that he will work too hard when he gets into garden. Father washed off all the old [halumine?] from the walls of his room and [rekalsomined?] it and it has been painted and looks very clean and fresh

We are all longing for pleasant days Have had a cold spring so far

I am feeling better than I did several weeks ago but want to feel stronger yet

We are well along with sewing that could be done Early

Do you know that you never said whether the little shirts would do for Carrie Grant or not

Give love from us all to Edward and Lucy and the little girls I think the baby's name a pretty one

I must stop now and retire Glad you see Mary Sage now and then

Was Glad to read Abby's letters Am so sorry to know that Carrie Burr is not strong Poor girl There are trouble enough for those who are well

Hope she may outgrow some of her trouble Really got to it and wrote Abbey last week ---------- Monday Noon

A severe storm of hail and snow Hinders some with cleaning but we are making progress

Before we know that C & L. were going to leave we had ordered new shades for parlor & sitting room They are "Windsor sage" in color, perfectly [plain?] holland with fringe across the bottom We had saved [skim?] milk money to pay for them The old ones after twelve years use are exceedingly shabby Hope you will feel able to write soon and report progress in preparations for Hadley Have we written that Charly Anderson has a little daughter Katherine Henrietta

Aunty and Lizzie are going to Vineland soon to make a visit would like to write to Julia Burr to congratulate them on birth of boy but cannot now. Have a plan in my mind for a table cover for your parlor table Hope to get at it some day

With much love to Uncle Daniel and yourself

Affectionately
Minnie

Give my kind regards to Mrs [...] if she remembers me & is still in New M.

Will send a picture of Will by [Abbie's?] request in a few days

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[Addressed to] Mrs. Caroline Grant
New Marlboro
Berkshire Co.
Mass.

Beloit, Wis [*Wisconsin*]
Aug 1[]th 1887

My dear Mother

You are probably wondering why you dont hear from me. I have not been well this Summer & cannot often write. Have been very nervous have written almost no letters unless necessary or account of business.

I think I last wrote you in the neighborhood of Commencement time received your letter telling me not to send lace shawl just as I was about it send it so it did not go.

Father & Mother Burr came just about Commencement time & stayed three weeks or so. Soon after they went away from here Almon's Uncle Harmon died. He went down to the funeral then went again & visited at some cousins with Father & Mother. He has been away over Sunday a few times is to-day in Chicago. So he is getting a little change from time to time. He is in much better health than he has been.

The children are unusually well.

The heat & [drought?] have been terrible here this year. I will send you a bit from the Boston Journal which describes it all very well rather than write about it.

Yesterday we had a delightful rain -- today it is cloudy & cool. I hope that we are past the worst time though many Farmers have lost everything.

On my birthday I had some very pretty presents from Almon & the children Glass ware mostly. Carrie had the most things for me. Then she gave me a little party in the evening. Pres. & Mrs. Chapin, Prof. & Mrs. Emerson. Prof & Mrs. Blaisdell & some of our near neighbors doing everything herself except making the rolls & salad which she allowed me to do.

I may make you a short visit in the early part of Sept. but will write you again with regard to time. & it is just possible that I may not go at all, or may make my visit later. Please do not send word all a <*round*> round that I am coming. Or make any arrangements for my visiting at places. I shall do very little visiting & prefer to make my own selection. I am not fit to visit though probably you wont see why I cant. I feel that I must have the visiting business let alone or I cannot come.

Mr. Shurtleff is home from Europe has been appointed Treasurer of O.C. Mary writes that though he is better then when he went is still very nervous.

We hope that you are well & all send much love

Affectionately
Abbie E. G. B. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

Received [chimes?] which you sent with Arthur only will accompany me.
recevd to South Hadley.

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Bolton Sept 25. 87
Dear Carrie --

I received yours telling of the safe arrival of the bbl Sat A.M. I was very glad to hear from you & yours &c & of the [the?] barrel.

Why I was so particular to know the price of the freight on the bbl. Amory said when he got home from the Depot he guessed the freight would be $4 dollars which quite surprised me. I had not thought of its being more than $2. I thought they would have a fixed price for a flour or sugar bbl whether it was light or heavy. I am glad it cost no more & you are entirely welcome to the over plus money. I hope the contents will be useful.

I guess the cool bracing air & quiet & rest & change will do much to restore your daughters health but it may take longer than she feels that she can be away from home but she may gain very fast in a little while. Lilly Edes called here last Evening. She has been in Nantucket considerably <*fo*> during the year She speaks of it as being a very healthy place Especially for those affected with malaria It is quite a resort for invalids & also for those seeking rest & pleasure A great many have summer residences there. Her sister -- wife of Mr Boys our former minister lives there they went from here there about two years ago & like there very much. The climate Especially & also people. Lilly intends to go back there & spend the winter Thank you for your good long letter & the one in it Write as often as you

I dont know as I have any thing of interest to say of our family since I last wrote We are as busy as Ever our cattle Fair comes next Wed. which always makes additional work for us. We are all well now & try to keep well which requires considerable thought & care. We consider Sams the most natural looking photograph of them all. Mary & Amory have not had any taken lately I hope Emme had good reasons for her belief in Cornelias restoration to comfortable health. Love to you all

Affectionately S.J.W. [*Susan Jane Benton Wallis*]

I write so soon again to make some Enquiries about your Mother Grant. I remember she had a cancer on her nose When your sister with her little Carrie & Minnie were there I think. Did she not have a cup of copperas water & Every little while wet the sore with a little rag or lint? I think it was a rare sore at that time If she did so use copperas water was to allay pain or backen the disease or both? Did the cancer cause her death & how long did she live after she had the cancer & what did you do for it or what was done for it for her comfort? The reason of these Enquiries is that one of our neighbors an Excellent woman has a cancer come near her collar bone & she has consulted doctors & is told that it cannot be removed without Endangering her life it is so near an artery. It is not very painful yet but is very tender to the touch but has not broken into a sore. She can now do her work for herself & husband. She has no children. She may be 60 year sold Her name is Mrs. Proctor. You may not have hears us speak of her. She goes & belongs to the Baptist Church.

She does not Expect to get well but if she could do any thing to backen it would be glad to. She has had two removed but this one cannot be removed. When I spoke of the copperas water her countenance brightened up & she said it might backen it. I told her not to use it for what I had said for [...] I might not be right about it. It was long ago & did not make much Enquiries about it. It seems to me that her chemises became some yellowed from her use of the copperas though the pores of her skin. Now was it so or not? I never thought to speak of it whenever I have seen you since. Please write about as soon as you will can & write on a separate piece of paper so I can read it to her Easily.

You did not ask me to return C's letter but I can as well as not
I was glad to see it & hope to see the others you speak of It keeps up my interest in the friends. I wonder you can write so much as you do as you have so many to write to & so much to do & you dont feel a great deal of the time

Try not to overdo for you are needed.

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[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Daniel Grant
New Marlboro
Berkshire Co.
Mass

Bolton, Nov. 26 1887 (Sat A.M.)

My Dear Niece,

Thanksgiving being over & having a little leisure I will endeavor to answer your last letter to me dated in Oct. answering my Enquiries in regard to treatment of a cancer. Thank you for the information you gave. I immediately called on the neighbor & told her about the copperas application & she tried it but it caused so much pain that she gave up using it. She cannot bear any outward application but takes something to purify the blood. I think she is quite comfortable & does her own work & is very careful not to over Exert herself. I have been hoping to hear from you Even if I did not answer your last. I presume your daughter & child have returned to Wisconsin & I hope were rested & improved in health. I want to hear all about her & family as well as about yourself & family. I know you have many letters to write & many cares & much to do. I am glad for you all that your daughter could come onto visit you & now you must be behind with your work. We are just as busy as Ever. Sam. came home Thanksgiving & we all went up to "Grandpa Haynes" to dinner but did not stay to supper as Amory needed to come home & take care of the cows & hens it would be very dark driving in the Evening. Sam returned to Boston Friday morning. He is well & likes there still. Last evening (Friday) I went over to Berlin with our minister & wife and a neighbor to hear Mrs Mary Livermore Her theme "My Dream of tomorrow"

She was intensely interesting & was intensely clapped. I felt well paid for going 4 or 5 miles in a dark misty night (though not cold) to hear her eloquent addressThe audience listened breathlessly with deepest interest for an hour & half & then she said she had just glanced at the possibilities of the further <*possible ties*> generations as civilization increased & mechanical art & morality & christiainity & humanity &c &c I cannot tell you much about it. It was worth hearing. Now while I think of it I want to know if you have received the Woman's Journal dated Nov. & how many. An offer was made Nov 19 that any subscriber might send in 5 names & they would send the Journal free till 1st of June .88. I sent in 5 names yours among them, Since then I have had several Extra numbers sent me from the W. Journal office, so I dont know but they have sent the papers to me for me to remail them to those I named & to whom I pleased If you have received a paper I should like to know it as soon as may be <*If you have*> & what dates. I hope if you think it advisable you will let your ministers family see the paper Minister you will see can have the paper till 1889 for $1.50 & some others are specified as being favored. I have always paid $2.50 a year & considered the money well spent. I find this Evening that no more Extra members have come to me so I presume those whose name I mentioned will receive the paper mailed from their office the Extra numbers sent me are dated Nov. 5th & 19th If you have not received those numbers I can send them to you I fear you have so much reading on hand so much to do that you can't spend time to read them but perhaps you may know some one that might like to see them & know what is doing. Very likely some of us will go down to the Bazaar commencing <*Nov*.> Dec. 12th & continuing all the week. Last year Mary & Bessie went down & staid all the week I think Hired a room & took their meals out

We are not all quite fitted up for the winter yet, We, Mary & I have new bonnets Mary a felt & I a velvet. Sue & Mollie Each a felt hat Bessie will probably get a hat <*this*> next week. I am to have a new shawl Expected to have it today sent for it but it did not come but will be here Monday. The girls all have to be fitted up anew with out side garments as well as dresses so you may imagine we are quite busy. I have had a sink & pump put in to my room where the old sink was. I find it very convenient to have the water in the house. Cost about $25. Mary prompted me to having it done <*I find it a*>

A double Tablet was placed on our burying lot last week. The inscription on one reads John J Wallis died June 6 1887 aged 76 & 4 months The other part is not lettered.

<*The lot*> It came from Boston. It is a light grey marble & cost $70. We expected it in the early part of October. It came so late that I shall not be able to have the lot wholly fixed up this fall. It will probably cost $25. or 30 to have it nicely prepared. The tablet is satisfactory to us well as the price. Thanksgiving day I thought of you & wondered where you were spending the day as you were at home last year & had something of a family gathering. I presume you were not at home this last Thanksgiving. I shall be glad to hear all about yourself family & friends. Our Minister Mr. Isaac Porter has a brother out in Kansas City who has made a great deal of money by buying & selling land. He bought some land for the purpose of farming & the grasshoppers

ruined his crops so he sold his land at quite an advance for house lots the purchaser sold the same for a still greater advance too & so on. He is one that happens to be fortunate in his speculations I presume he had very little to loose when he went out there but had a head for business. I have heard nothing from New Haven friends since you wrote me so you must inform me of them. I sent to have a paper sent to Cornelia I mean a W. Journal the same as to you & I hope she will get it. If you dont care for the one that is sent to you & no one about there cares to read it you might sent it to Flemington friends They may like to see it. Our desire is to get the good seed scattered as much as possible. I sent in the name of our own minister & Mr Stone & a neighbor, one to [Halyme?] one to New Haven one to South Carolina & should have liked to name others.

Mon. Evening I had four shawls sent me from Clinton which a merchant had sent to Boston for me to select from. They are black cashmere which is not just the kind I sent for. I wanted a later style which they did not send. I may not have liked it any better the price of these is from $6 1/2 to $10. I shall take the $10.00 one It is a large fine heavy shawl.

I hope I shall hear from you soon, & that you are well We are all well. It has rained here all the afternoon & is still raining this I presume it is the same with you. Next week the High School is to give an Entertainment Sue & Mollie as well as the other scholars have been preparing for it some time & will continue their preparation up to the time that its to come off

They have a new upright Piano costing $450. Sue is to be the player but Mollie & two other girls are to play duetts.

S. J. Wallis [*Susan Jane Benton Wallis*]

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Beloit Wis. [*Wisconsin*]
Feb 3rd 1886

My dear Father & Mother,

You are doubtless wondering why you do not hear from us after your good letters, but we have been fully occupied for the past three weeks. Almon has been very <*illsy*> ill with a low fever seeming somewhat malarial accompanied by nervous prostration brought on the Dr. says by overdoing. He is not able to sit up or move himself much, neither to take much nourishment.

It seems probable that it will take him a long time to recover.

I will attend to sending the check for the interest if Almon is able to sign it. Tomorrow Feb 4th is the anniversary of our marriage., seventeen years.

I have the old red chest for which you have inquired several times. I am sorry that I have forgotten to answer the question before.

I was glad to hear of Edwards family, and feel a great deal of sympathy for Lucy and her people for the loss of their dear son and brother.

I am keeping remarkably well during this sickness. Everyone is kind, and Mr. Bacon is like a son to me in helpfulness and sympathy. I do hope that I may be able to send you word before many days that Almon is better.

With much love to you both,
Your aff daugh.
Abby E.G. Burr

[in pencil] Please return

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