Subject: Newspapers & Periodicals

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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

Prairieville, W.[*Wisconsin*] Aug. 1. 1843

I will endeavor to write this letter more legibly that I did the last —

And first to my dear little Ralph. [*Ralph E. Burr*]

So you like to go a fishing yet as well as ever. I have thought that perhaps when you were a very good boy, & helped nicely & did not make a cry face in the whole forenoon that Ma & Mary said you might go & get some fish & Sis Mary would cook them for your supper — I hope you will keep away from the deep water, bearing in mind that you are not yet a full grown man & probably have not the judgment of one.

Wonder if you find plenty of chipmunks to shoot. There are here little animals very much resembling chipmunks, called gophers, when I see them I always think of you — When you come to visit us, had better bring your gun — I dont think you would find wolves, for I have neither seen or heard of any — but there are deer around — Daniel saw one the other day about the size of a little colt, & it looks some like one — If you should come this year, do not think you need fear snakes much for I heard but very little said about them, have not seen one of any description to D [*Daniel*]. only one — Last year they were here around considerable — When you went on a shooting expedition you might take a basket & gather of the fruit about here, as you could find, strawberries, raspberries, red & black, whortleberries, blackberries, gooseberries, high bush cranberries, grapes, plums, crab apples, choke cherries, black cherries, hasle nuts & walnuts, or you might gather herbs & roots, wild balk with purple instead of red florets, wild summer savory, mint, pennyroyal, thoroughwort, mayweed, tansy sweet flag, leeks & cattail — And I am sure you would not leave unpicked some of the lovely flowers you would — thousands of wild rose bushes bearing sweet scented, single red roses, red, yellow, white & pink ladies slipper, painted cup, wild sunflower beside a few scores of which I know not the name

But should you go into the woods in a warm day you would probably encounter several of musquitoes & gnats, <*but*> perhaps you would only feel the bite, & then think no more of it, as Daniel does, but should they poison you as they do me, & cause smarting, & itching & blotching, then salt & water or salt & vinegar is very good to put on.

Almost every thing wild grows much more luxuriant here than on old farms in New England, pennyroyal & sweet flag are not nearly as pleasant as what you gather but have a strong rank taste. It is said that crab apples grow to considerable size, are hard & sour, but still quite eatable, if one can get no better —

Should like to know if your <... *some*> prettiest kitten catches mice. We were quite troubled with mice & brought up Levi's [*Levi Grant*] cat with six small kittens to clear them away — we put them in the chamber & the first night I awoke hearing the cries of a kitten & after a while rose, lighted a candle & found it on the kitchen floor with the cat by its side — It had fallen through a knot hole in the chamber floor seemed to be bruised & had a stiff leg — I had a great mind to cut its little head right off with the hatchet or if D. [*Daniel*] had some percussion caps for his pistol, dont know but I should have shot it — but I finally lay down again, & the next day it seemed better & after a while got well

Now my dear brother if you can think yourself of some thing to write to me & do it without troubling Ma & Mary I should love to have you.

Very affectionately your sister,
Caroline Grant

Prairiesville [*Wisconsin*], Aug. 25, 1843

My dear Mother [*Pamela Benton Burr*],

Is often very often in my thoughts & sometimes the tears run down my cheeks as I think of her in her feebleness, oppressed with care & anxiety, or as I think that perhaps now is suffering by that disease with which she has at times been long afflicted O my dear mother, I want to ask your forgiveness that I have not always waited upon you with all the cheerfulness & patience becoming an affectionate dutiful, christian daughter. I know I labored to alleviate your distress, & should love <*to*> again to have the privilege, but then I think all would be of no avail without the blessing of Heaven, & with it all will be well — I am comforted by thinking that Mary is home, I hope that you will give your self as little solicitude about us as possible. I do not feel that we are peculiarly fit subjects for it, we are blessed with health, a sufficient supply of food & drink are among a Christian people with a devoted pastor, are in a Ter [*Territory*]. where with the Divine blessing we hope in a little time to be able to obtain everything desirable for our taste & I was a going to say comfort but we now have things for our comfort — There <*are many more*> is much more to enjoy here than I supposed, & it seems much more like N. England

As for myself I have a kind husband whom I dearly love who is constantly striving to promote my happiness — I am not obliged to labor hard but have considerable leisure — I have not read very much — hardly know why — some of the warm days I feel languid & as if I didn't want to do any thing or sit up — then I lie down & sleep an hour or two & it is considerable work to keep my dresses & stockings & D's [*Daniel*] clothes in repair — & I do a little of this, & a little of that [*text too faded to read*] don't really sit idle much — & read all the Miss. Heralds [The Missionary Herald, *monthly publication of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions*] & most of the newspapers & some in the Bible & in my cook books & a little moral. [...] pick fruit & write letters & read Mary's compositions.

Whenever I feel as if I wished for any thing go eat a bit of cheese or dried beef or raisin or black berry pie or stewed dried apples I remember what Ma said go right off & get it — & I believe it is a good way — Cas. E. Pinne put up dried blackberries for several pies — that bit of cheese that I brought is not gone. I do not often care for it & when it is gone I know where I can let a little stocking yarn go for some first rate — a year ago cheese was sold in Milwaukie for 18 cts pound — dont know the price now

Last Fri. Aug. 11 we received a sheet of foolscap well filled from mother Grant [*Elizabeth Phelps Grant*] — said was at our house not long before, sat to the table with you all & drank pure cold water — 'twas a good letter — we also rec'd one from John — were glad of it — said he spent an hour very pleasantly about two weeks previous with Martha Woodward — she <*was re*> & her beau Mr. Cummings were riding about & visiting their friends with the hope that it might be a benefit to her health which is not good —

We also at the same time rec'd [*received*] a paper from you & the letter send by Mr. Woodbridge & it was mailed at Milwaukie, have not seen any thing of Mr. W. or any of the Canaan people — You enquire what I did with those tins that were borrowed to bake cake in — I cannot tell — I think I clearly remember that Bill[al?] took only three, & I believe she brought that number — possibly I might have sent to Mr. Pendleton more than we borrowed of her — & her woman not have known — but I intended to make no mistake — Aunt Norton has only the one & I dont know as there was any other sent her — You also say you wonder what I took one of Mary's good corsets for — when I read it I did not believe I had one — but I looked & found it if I put it in 'twas by mistake — Mrs. Levi Grant expects to start for Ohio this week Sat. Aug. 9. & I will send it along by her for her Father Grant to take to you if he goes — I wish I had some dried plums to send but they are not ripe till Sept. I did not injure any of my clothing coming on more than one would rather fall — The Crocha shawl is in a good condition & I have thought some of sending it for M. but I do not think I can well get along without it — there are many here that dress genteely & with taste & I think this is no better [than I?]

My dress is very good for the place — I have nothing but that I am glad I have — have seen no prettier hat than my white one — the roads are so filled with black dust that I cannot avoid getting it more soiled than if at home — but I am careful — wear a handkerchief over it —

I wear my buskin calfskin high shoes when I walk at all, almost always change to go to Levi's The socks are just beginning to wear through a little so as to need underlays D. [*Daniel*] says he can mend them — in the house I wear those calfskin [run?] rounds — the heels all stand erect yet —

& I have not [burnt?] them —

I feel as if I should on no account suffer that large silver spoon to be made over —</> intend to mind the suggestions in the letter so far as I can, but you know that I cannot exactly with regard to the spoons as we lost some — I wear no night dress & a plain coarse cap mostly — Should like the sheep skins — do not need the iron hook much as we use the holder & two crane hooks that D. [*Daniel*] brought. — presume we shall sometime be glad of the churn but have not needed it this summer — we nearly fill a six quart pan at a milking usually, set it in the cellar, & skim it in a 2 qt. pan, when it is nearly full of [cream?] I stir it with a spoon or paddle & have <*from*> generally about 1 1/2 lbs butter — have made this summer about 16 lbs. have put down three or 4 lbs for winter — & hope to more.

Shall like the beer keg —

We did not find the pendulum belonging to the clock — D. [*Daniel*] also left a box of percussion caps for his pistol & a map of all <*the different*> missionary stations — he has two or three light vests here that need new button covers there are no pieces suitable — perhaps you or mother Grant could find some — do not put yourselves to much trouble — think perhaps you might send these articles by Mr. Harvey Grant & Lucinda Levi's wife can bring them in the Spring —

Of our neighbors you enquire — Levi's people live down north east 1/4 of a mile — Mr. Hubbard the next nearest neighbor — lives 3/4 mile east — they are not religious people neither should I think them blessed with a great share of knowledge, nor a capacity for receiving it, but seem to be very clever, well disposed, & accommodating neighbors — very near them lives Tim Mayor & his wife, young Irish people — believe they are very <*pretty*> clever & accommodating —

North west from here not farther than a mile lives Mr. Eggleston's people English suspect they are not in good

Mr. E. rather [is?] a mean man — near them lives old Mr. Brown & his wife — Mrs. Brown is a smart, intelligent cheerful old lady — are Baptists — have a son an Anti Slavery <*lecturer*> & moral reform lecturer His wife delivered a lecture on slavery to a crowded audience the other evening when she had concluded sung a song — we did not hear & not far from them lives Mr. Crocker — another Baptist family, believe Mrs. C [*Crocker*]. is called an intelligent lady they have a fine garden filled with vegetables & flowers We have no garden as we thought it necessary to go immediately to clearing — I miss it more than I supposed I should — but we have had sent in some lettuce, a few beets, squash, string beans new potatoes & green tomatoes — the tomatoes are pretty good fried & make very good pies —

Fri. Eve 10 o'clock. I intended to write Ma every little incident that occurred daily for several days in succession, but I thought I must write what I have I will endeavor to sometime Good night dear mother My health is good as it was last year — am not sick any only sometimes

very aff — Carry — [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

don't feel much like work — Daniel wants me to give his love to all our people — he has intended to write in some of the letters but found no time —

I want to tell my dear Father that I many times look at that little lock of hair that I cut from his head with a great deal of satisfaction — I do look at all the others too, but there is a peculiar emotion on seeing that, because there are silvery hairs there — I fancy that the next time I see my father I will find about the same number of black ones that I now do of grey —

Believe we have not heard since we last wrote whether our boxes are in Milwaukie — Levi is going there to morrow & says he will search —

By all that we enquire & hear abou[t?] stocking yarn don't think that we can do any better with it than you & perhaps not as well — Give our love to Father Grants people — we wrote to Joel about a week since & directed to Millbrook —

If Mr. Harvey Grant has left for Conn. Before Mrs. Levi reaches there, or if he does not go shall ask her to mail this in Ohio

D. [*Daniel*] is now cutting grass on our marsh south of the house 1/4 mile should think — has quite a stack a little distance from the house

My dear brother Erastus,

Before <*I*> leaving we took Ralph's height but I have forgotten it will you please see that it is taken again & sent — if you have grown any would like to know it — <*You may*>

The time that the kitten fell D. [*Daniel*] had gone to Tenessee to [Ruluf?] & Frederic Grants for some potatoes they have been worth 50 cents [*writing very faded*] [a bushel about?] […] [very fair?] at that — the prospect of an abundant crop this year is very unfavorable it has been so extremely dry — we have had but about two bushels potatoes — wheat bread, & biscuit with milk & butter griddles & hasty pudding & milk of which last D. [*Daniel*] is a very fond — He has eat since he came to Wis [*Wisconsin*]. About as much as you do — says he never eat so much before

People that come here & settle on uncultivated <*new*> land are obliged to labor very hard to out & burn bushes & gather together & burn old logs dig a few stones & "break up" after the land is once broken then one can get [al?] with less hard labor then in N. E. [*New England*]

My [dear?] brother I think of you often this summer & [in?] my prayers too — O I have wept again & again to think that I did not pray & labor & agonize more for you last winter when It seemed as if you had almost entered the kingdom of Heaven but O it is not now too late — the Savior says "come go to a meeting all you can, wont you" & try to be good every day — be assured you have my most sincere love & regard — very affectionately your [sis]ter Caroline

I want to know how your back is also your lungs —

To my <u>dear</u> sister Mary what can I say — My heart is full — You have my sincere sympathy a[s?] I think of you this summer laboring hard &c I suspect I don't grieve as you do not because I love you less but because I have an aff. [*affectionate*] sympathizing heart here that <u>lightens my heart</u>

You are remembered at the throne of grace —

<u>O dont</u> grieve for me so — I trust we will yet spend part of our remaining days together —

We want to hear from home often

[*written in pencil, upside down on bottom of page*]

Norfolk [*Connecticut*], Sept. 18.

My dear Mrs. Grant,

We received this last Saturday by Mr. Harvey Grant — Think perhaps that some portions will interest you Would like to read the letter which you last received from D. [*Daniel*] & C. [*Caroline*] & shall be much obliged if you will send it us the first opportunity should John not come with it you will notice that Caroline would like some pieces like D's [*Daniel*] light vests — You may know what they are — We do not. Shall probably send something by Mr. Grant

Yours &c.
Mary Burr [*Mary Burr Hill*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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

Mr. I. Mills

Prairieville [*Wisconsin*], May 7, 1844.

My dear Parents,

Mr. I. Mills called here unexpectedly last Thurs. P.M. and we were very glad to see him — He observed things pretty closely for he said he supposed our Parents would "quiz" him —

Daniel has been so busy this spring that he has not got the house & yard &c. in as good condition as we should like to have them — in fact we are rather ashamed of the looks of things but hope for better times —

We have not yet got <*that*> a mirror plate as they would ask for putting it in $1. in Mil. [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] & we have had other uses for our money. I have had considerable leisure this Spring for reading — half or more of the time I take is consumed in reading news papers & Miss Heralds [The Missionary Herald, *monthly publication of the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions*] — for the last 6 weeks we have had no milk of our own so that I have had less to do than usual — but the cow has calved to day — & we rejoice — we have

had milk occasionally of our neighbors. as our appetites are not all the time very keen we find it rather hard to be deprived of <*milk*> it —

I am glad that you have got a pr. [*pair*] stockings footed for me, for I dont seem to get along with knitting as I do with sewing — I wish to knit Daniel a pr. [*pair*] suspenders, but cannot tell how to get it right — I have commenced two or three times & tried <*till*> long as I thought 'twould be of any use — no one here knows, at least that I have asked perhaps Matilda can tell you so that you can write — does She take off the first stitch & then put over the thread. & then narrow as we generally do? or does she narrow backwards — I suppose you will think I ought not to have forgotten. I think so too, & had no idea I had, till I tried —

<*The heels of the*> The stockings that I heeled for Levi [*Levi Grant*] had apparently rec'd [*received*] but little attention & new heels were needed I thought — Mrs. G. [*Grant*] wished them — I knit them to accommodate & I know dried apples & peaches will not come amiss —

I saw recently in one No. of our Cultivators a cure for Corns. — An individual pared off what he could with a sharp knife & then bathed it freely in sprits of turpentine & put on it a linen cloth wh. [*which*] he wet with turpentine — in a few days the corns came out root & branch. Daniel has just said that one of our neighbors recently applied some turpentine to a corn & it made him very lame & pained him so much that he was obliged to discontinue the use of it. I presume it does not affect persons alike —

We last fall bought some corn & have & expect to feed it to the hogs & oxen, except enough for our own use, as the<*y*> oxen are old & need something beside this marsh hay

Daniel has written a letter to Uncle Pettibone [*Amos Pettibone*] & given some description of land wh. [*which*] would probably interest you though I do not know but Mr. Mills will tell as well. Dan'l [*Daniel*] helped me make nearly half a barrel nice soap a few weeks since —

[*Written across second page:*] My health is pretty good though I dont believe it is perfect.

[*2 maps drawn on third page: one of the plot of land, one of the house*]

Daniel drew this map of our farm & was expecting to describe it to you, but I think he will not have time — there are 40 acres in each square — that crooked line is nearly a dividing line between the marsh & dry land — most of the upland rises rather abruptly from the marsh — the land fr. [*from*] the E. boundary rises slightly as far as the barn — there is quite a pitch between the house & barn there is a plain west of the house extending about 50 rods & from 10 to 30 rods in width — the remainder westward is broken — the 10 ft. 35 ft &c. on the map means that distance above the marsh. as we guess at it.

I think you will understand the house d. means door — w. window — if we stay here intend to have a closet partitioned off at the east end of the bedroom & perhaps move the partition between the bedroom & pantry so as to have the <*pantry smaller*> bedroom larger

we yet go up chamber with ladder. intend to have the settee stand extending from the S.W. corner of the kitchen to the library shelves. there are three rows of shelves on the N. & W. sides of pantry — the lowest one not quite three ft. from floor — on each end of the upper shelf on the west end stands a pile dishes not often in use, on the north end of the shelf large platters &c. between them are the canisters sugar boxes, &c. — on the second shelf at the S. end of the shelf first is an old tin platter with knives & forks daily used on it — next are the common earthen dishes tumblers &c & then blue cups & saucers plates &c. on the lower shelf at the S. end stands the soap dish the remainder of the shelf is used for milk at the farther end & between that & soap I put dirty dishes — the lower shelf on the N. side is used for milk & tin dishes, the second one for food & the third for candlestick & many "notions."

Dear brother Erastus,

We would like your help & company & I will write for Daniel something that you might expect D. [*Daniel*] says. people get from 12 to 50 bushels per. acre according to the quality of the land, the time of sowing & the manner of plowing & getting in seed to the ground — 50 bushels per acre is a very extraordinary yield — many say 25 " [*bushels per acre*] is an average yield but D. [*Daniel*] thinks 20 is — our land was not plowed well & some of it was sown rather late & D. [*Daniel*] thinks we shall do pretty well if we get 15 bushels per. acre this year — it now looks as

well as <*some*> almost any other<*s*> about — The price of wheat is generally 50 cts. [*cents*] per. bushel, many times more & not often less. he does not know how much it will cost to prepare the land & gather crops, or at least cant very well tell now, but perhaps will sometime, but he says you could probably earn from $10 to 11 per month the year around — I think of you a great deal & love you much I want you should form right principles & opinions now & pious ones too — be kind to all — if you do sometimes feel that it is hard to be, Your affectionate sister, Caroline. [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

[*Written across last page*:] We have got our crickets partly made

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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 "<u>broom</u> <u>corn</u>."
[*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?

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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

Ipswich [*Massachusetts*], March 22, 1834

My dear Brother,

Most sincerely do I thank you for your affectionate letter, mailed the 18th & received yesterday. The evidence, that it proceeded from a heart filled with fraternal tenderness, was most grateful to my feelings. As the number of my relatives diminishes, I seem to cling with increased ardor of attachment to the few that remain. Doubtless my heart too much resembles the vine by seeking support from near earthly objects. While I prize these blessings, may I always keep in mind their author.

It is painfully pleasant to me to mingle my sympathies with yours in behalf of those entire orphans, who are bone of our bone & flesh of our flesh. I rejoice, that the one among them now entering on manhood, proposes to take a course, that can keep the little children together, at least a little while longer. These tender lambs are by no means prepared to sustain the chilling blasts, & piercing storms of this tempestuous world. I hope it will be possible to have them in safe harbor, till their good moral habits can become established, & their right principles deeply rooted. Amanda, the little one, is probably from her childhood, in less imminent danger, from taking a misjudged course, or a wrong step, than Lovina. At this day, it is hazardous in the extreme for a female of Lovina's age to go any where among strangers unprotected, & to go thus into a city is

almost certain ruin. Many from good families who have been induced to go either to <*either*> Boston, to Albany, or to New York for the sake of being in a better situation to procure their own support, have come in contact with society, unprincipled, corrupt & corrupting, & have been imperceptibly led to deviate widely from the moral rectitude of their parents, till they have eventually classed themselves with the vile. For together, less desirable, less respectable, & less safe than to be situated as a domestic [a servant] in a family. Should Lovina or any other of my neices be offered $10. a week or any other sum that could be named, I should not consider it the least temptation to have her place herself in such circumstances. I feel, therefore, that the plan for L. [*Lovina*] to go to the place proposed must not be executed. Could I see her one hour, I am sure she would be convinced that it would be best for her to relinquish it without hesitation. I am so situated, that I cannot immediately see her face to face. It seems, therefore, to devolve on you to be an active agent in the case, & I shall depend on your taking measures that will prevent her going forward in the way proposed. When you have done this, I will take charge of her for a year or more. It is very important she should attend school some more. I could probably obtain a situation for her in the family of my dear friend, Mrs. Briggs, where she might by her own efforts do something towards defraying the expense of her board, & <*attend a good school*> be treated as a sister, watched over as a child, & attend a good school. I should choose that situation for her, rather than that of a pupil in our large Seminary [*Ipswich Female Seminary*] at present. Mrs. Briggs has three children an aged mother, & a domestic about 60 years of age & a little girl in her family. The little girl will attend school next summer, & cannot render Mrs. B. [*Briggs*] much aid. Mrs Chickening, her aged mother, needs much of Kezia's time. <*And*> Mrs. Briggs is under the necessity of devoting much of her time to her wearisome babe now almost 3 months old, that she would probably highly value having some one with her, who could get the breakfast, & do some sweeping, & sewing, or aid her in any way she should need. She does not, however, think it best to employ any one wholly. <*Her*> Lovina's tuition, & the remainder of her expense for board, through the summer, & her traveling expenses on I will defray, without charge to her, [or] any one else. I will also come to Con. [*Connecticut*] about [the] first of May, & take her back with me. As I shall not be able to stay long, it is desirable she should be ready. I will aid her to a light calico dress, & to a white one if necessary. Her other clothing, it will be desirable she should have made, before she comes from home. Probably she may now have nearly as much as she will need. When I come to Colebrook [*Connecticut*], I will confer with you about the course to be pursued after this summer. I very much wish you could be guardian both to <*Almira &*> Lovina, & Amanda. It would be much more convenient to me to co-operate with you in relation to these children, than with a stranger. I know your cares are many, but I believe you would be sustained in your efforts to secure paternal care for these dependent children. My cares are almost overwhelming now, <*but*> should they become greater than they are, it would be my duty to care for your children, if they should become orphans.

Elizabeth is in good health. She will probably be able to make you a visit of a few days the last of April & first of May. I do not know precisely the time in May Mr. Hull will leave Andover [*Massachusetts*], but as soon as the middle & perhaps before.

I have unavoidably been prevented from finishing this in season for the mail today. hope it will reach you next Tuesday.

Did you receive from me a No. of the Religious Magazine? I suppose Almira can keep house with [Y?] As soon as any thing is decided will you write. With love to each member of your family individually your very affectionate and only sister, Z. P. Grant.
[*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to*] Mr. Elijah Grant

Millbrook
Litchfield Co.
Con. [*Connecticut*]

Paid
No. 6.

Boston, March 29, 1839.

My dear Parents,

Mr. Burgess wrote you in Amherst [*Massachusetts*], & sent by Mr. Cowles. We left Amherst the next day, & rode nearly all the following night, & arrived in Grafton [*Massachusetts*] Fri. noon. The next Tues. Mr. B. [*Ebenezer Burgess*] was ordained. The exercises were highly interesting, & well attended. I was pleased with our visit in Grafton, the people are hardy, sensible, & inhabit the eastern part of the Green Mt. range. Mt. Ashutney was in sight & only a few miles from us. The people are now engaged in making maple sugar. It was a good season, & sufficient is generally made for their own use. We visited Mr. B. [*Burgess*]'s four uncles, & called on a good many cousins & acquaintances, found them interested & kind, indeed I was much more gratified with my acquaintance there than I anticipated, & think I should have regretted it, had I not gone We stayed in Grafton one week, & came to Lowell [*Massachusetts*] last Sat. where we stopped at Rev. Mr. Burnap's an old teacher of Mr. Burgess's. We spent the Sabbath in Lowell. Mr. Burgess preached half a day in each orthodox Congregational ch. [*church*] Lowell has now a population of about 19,000. About 1,000 persons usually attend at the <*ortho*> congregational chhs, [*churches*] & they are now forming a third congregational ch. [*church*] It is a city & is quite an interesting place. In the town about 6/7 of the inhabitants are females, & about the same proportion in Mr. Burnap's ch. [*church*] about 600 females, & less than 100 males. We came to Boston Monday last, and are now almost ready to embark. My health has been very good, & my acquaintances say that I am looking very healthy for me. I get tired days, but sleep, & rise refreshed & well. We are staying at Mr. Stichney's.

Ipswich, April 9, 1839.

My dear Brother, & Sister,

On Saturday March 30, the missionaries Rev. Messrs. Burgess, French & [Hume] & their wives with Miss Cynthia Gannan, came from Boston to Salem [*Massachusetts*]. On Sat. eve. private instructions were given them at the house of Rev. Mr. Worcester, by the Rev. Messrs. Anderson & Armstrong. Judge Darling of Henniker, N.H. the father of Mrs. Ballantine of the [Nahvalta?] Mission was admitted, & such relatives of the missionaries as were in Salem. Judge Darling remarked, that his love for his daughter had increased every year since her absen<*t*>ce, but he did not wish to see her in this country; he wished to have her a devoted missionary. Mr. Anderson very familiarly told the missionaries what was due from them to the Capt. <*&*> mates, helmsman & sailors on board the vessel, what would be due to the English Consul on their arrival at Bombay &c., & exhorted them to render unto Cesar the things which are Cesar's. He gave them good counsel also, in reference to their deportment towards each other.

On Sabbath evening, Mr Anderson as the organ of the Board [*American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions*], gave the missionaries their public instructions in the Tabernacle church, the house in which Dr. Worcester formerly preached. Mr. Worcester gave the address. The missionaries occupied the same place in the church, that was occupied by the first missionaries sent out by the Am. Board, & the first sent from North America 27 years ago. They were, as you know, Messrs. Hall, Nott, Newell, Judson, Rice & their wives. The church is very large, & it was crowded to overflowing. The number present estimated from 2000 to 2500. On Monday morning the<*y*> mission company had their state rooms, 6 ft by 5, assigned them, & they made up their berths with their own bedding, & arranged their trunks &c. so that the rooms were in readiness to be visited at ½ past 10. Multitudes went to [...] the rooms. At ¼ before 12, Mr. Burgess from the highest part of the ship addressed the crowd on deck & on the wharf, estimated at from 2500 to 4000, (probably not far from the highest number.) He said they were going to make known the gospel to those who were without it, that this same gospel was no less important to us than to them. He hoped those around them would not think some strange thing had happened [there]. They were only obeying that gospel which they themselves (the missionaries) had received. He exhorted all to see to it, that they (the heathens) became personally interested in the same salvation. The day was one of the finest of April days, the weather comfortable, the sky & air clear & the wind westerly. After singing & a prayer lead by Mr. Armstrong, persons were requested to leave the deck, & friends to take leave of the missionaries, & in a few minutes the activity of the sailors spread the sails & put all things in readiness, & the vessel was in motion. I

lingered & watched her proud & easy movement until the hull & half the height of her masts were out of sight. May he who rules the ocean keep them in the hollow of his hand, waft them to their destined port, bless them & make them rich blessing to the heathen, by employing them as the agents of Christ, in turning many from Satan unto God. – What a blessed privllege it would be to give up Phelps to so glorious a work. May all yours & all mine, & their descendenants to the end of time, give their own selves to the Lord, & be co-workers with Christ in advancing his kingdom. Capt. Ward of the brig Waverly is an excellent, pious man, a member of the Baptist church. He has already carried out several missionary companies. In 110 or 120 days he hopes to reach Bombay. His wife thinks she shall visit these missionaries, within a few years.

From Sat. 5 o'clock P. M. I was at the same house with Mary [*Mary Grant Burgess*] until her departure. She was cheerful, solemn & happy & so appeared to [love?] all the company.

Ever your friend & sister, Z.P. Grant
[*Zilpah Polly Grant Bannister*]

My dear Brother, Your letter was most precious to me. That I have such a friend in you, affords me great consolation. I suppose that Christian parents are often blessed, when they, in faith, educate their children, & that <*generally*> if they can they shd [*should*] educate them [for?] faith, even when the children are not pious. I know not what the Lord would have you do with your son John, but I trust that he will make known to you his will in this matter. You cannot safely lean much upon your children, in such a way as to depend on them in future. But if you do all you can to fit them to glorify God, & give them up to him, he will be better to you than sons or daughters. The course of obedience to God, is the only happy, as it is the only safe course. We must not desist from commencing a good work for fear, that we shall be unable to carry it through. David did well to commence what he could not finish. Every good work is commenced in the mind of some deviser. I mean when commenced & carried on understandingly. May Heaven guide & bless you. – Mary [*Mary Grant Burgess*] handed me $50. in return for my loan. I do not want the funds from Mr. Bass's estate forwarded to me

My connexion with Ips. Fem. Sem [*Ipswich Female Seminary*] closes on Tues. the 10th. I have no doubt, that it is my duty to give up all care of a school for some time to come. By quiet, & much exercise in the open air, together with the blessing of Heaven, I may again have comfortable health, & enjoy the luxury of laboring for others. But to obey the will of God seems to me more desirable than any thing else. In my abundant cares in closing business, my poor body suffers, but my spirit is wonderfully sustained Teachers & pupils are as kind & faithful as possible, & so are all with whom I have to do. The Lord deals with me in great mercy. – I do not expect to visit Colebrook [*Connecticut*] for some time to come. Whether I shall be moving about in [a hass?] next summer, & be stationary I do not know. My health will be my object. Miss Elizabeth [Heaton?] expects to go where I go, to stay where I stay. She can write such business letters as I must have written, & <*perform for*> gives me the sisterly attentions I need. – The future in this world is a blank, but I doubt not, the Lord will provide – I hope you will write me again before long. Direct to Ipswich [*Massachusetts*]; This will be my head quarters for six weeks to come. After that, I shall keep the P. M. [*Post Master*] here advised of my movements. I send you an Essex Register.

Much love to all your children.

Your ever affectionate sister,
Z.P. Grant.

I should have written last week if I had been able. I write in great haste now.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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 perfectly good 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'. We 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 decisive 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 Libby sends love to Grandpa, Grandma and her Uncles and Aunts in Colebrook & Clifton [*Connecticut*]

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

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to*] Mr. Daniel Grant
Care of E.P. Grant Esq.
Canton
Ohio U.S. A.

[Ahmeduaggur?], June 10, 1840.

My dear brother Daniel,

Nearly a month has passed since the Brenda, a vessel from Salem [*Massachusetts*], laden with ice, reached Bombay. The ice which cost the owners some 1500 dolls [*dollars*], immediately sold for $10,000. But I was about to tell you it brought letters, periodicals, & books to us, which truly cheered & feasted us I had heard nothing directly from my relatives for 14 months previous. I had two full letters from Joel, a part of one being written by mother, & among other items I learned that you were in Ohio upon a farm near brother Phelps. I was, as far as I could perceive, glad to hear it though knowing so little of circumstances, I ought not to have a decided opinion. But in that land of enterprise, & improvement & progress if you take a right stand you will be respected & useful [...] have a pretty good foundation for an education, I mean you are

somewhat thoroughly grounded in the rudiments, upon this, by your reading, reflection, & intercourse with men & things you may in 20 years erect a noble superstructure, & be a first rate farmer too. Your first thoughts, after your soul, I think should be directed to the profession you have chosen. This is desirable both as to success & comfort in your labor. But dear brother, be not cast down by disappointments. Settle that point that it will not do. Be a happy man; a cheerful man. Govern yourself. Your habits have been some defective in this respect. But this must not dishearten you. Rise it is not too late, not too late for you to be all you wish. You may be as useful in your sphere as any of your brothers, though your vocation is different. Do not compare yourself & your priviliges with others to your injury remember God only requires the best improvement of the talents with which he intrusts us. You will meet all sorts of society, but I feel confidence that you will be found in the ranks of the virtuous. I feel that you will be where you can have access to good books. You should not work all the time, but you must continually be industrious. You should probably read some, besides devotional reading every day. Besides keeping accounts straight I would recommend your writing a little every day perhaps in a diary, something which you read, or some fact you would like to retain or practice upon drawn from conversation or observation. Watts on the Mind would be a good book for you to read with care. Phelps will help you to standard works which read principally I think, but you will not read many volumes a year, yet by having a system, you will treasure up much that will be valuable, & tend to make you happy. Improvements & arrangements upon the little spot made more green & lovely by your labor, will constantly tax your judgment, & the works of God, <*will often*> as manifested in the vegetable world, will often attract your notice, & raise your heart in admiration & love. Yours is a noble employment, & is every where considered so. Aim to have a plan, a system, & though often unavoidably [...] to deviate, yet do not give up. Consider your habits, perfect the good, correct the bad, & create the wanting. Be cleanly in your person, do not neglect the frequent use of water upon the whole system. Be temperate in diet & especially be virtuous in every particular, yes, be chaste, every where, alone & in company in thought, speech & manner. Be a Christian example. One point more, important though delicate. You will need ere long to select a bosom partner. O what circumspection, & what guidance from on highs you require here. Make this an important part of your intercession before God. Your usefulness & your all will be affected by this step. So do not be hasty, make yourself worthy of one of the excellent of the earth, not the rich, but one of the sensible, healthy, & virtuous daughters of new Eng [*New England*] I would say -- yet I would not choose for you. I think some of your New Eng. [*New England*] acquaintances would make you happy. In training your own habits, one motive may be, to make yourself what you should be as the head of a family But dear brother, from my interest in you, I have written thus much, it is for your own eye, & for your own good. Keep near to God. Aim to do every one good. Remember the Sab. [*Sabbath*] & the Bible & closet. I wish you to write me particulars about yourself. brother Phelp's family and all.

Aff. [*Affectionately*]
M. Burgess [*Mary Grant Burgess*]

We are interested in our work, & happy [...] I feel that we have a wide field, & need the prayers of those who seek the extension [...] Christ's kingdom at home. Mr Burgess is devoted to his work. It is a hard field, but we have encouragement to work on, Mr. B. [*Burgess*] has just commenced a school for teaching Eng. [*English*] & we are hoping it will be useful to the people. I will tell you more of our work next time. Do you see the Recorder's that contain Mr. B's [*Burgess*] letters. My very kind regards to each of the cousin Griswolds & their wives. also to Mr. [Golding?] & any others, who I should remember.

Truly yours.
M.B. [*Mary Grant Burgess*]

Dear Brothers, Phelps & Daniel, & Sister Susan,

Through brother Joel & mother I learned respecting your return to Ohio, & your visit in Ct. [*Connecticut*] I am glad too to hear so favorable an account of that little niece. I would like well to make her acquaintance. I wish to hear from you as particularly as you can afford to write. I have written one letter home since we commenced keeping house last Nov. but as you have not probably seen that <*probably*> I will introduce you to our pleasant home. And that you may get a

clearer idea even from an imperfect sketch. I will draw the city with a pencil at one corner. It is not a square, but it is longer from east to west than from N. to S. It is surrounded by a mud wall, 18 or 20 feet. This wall is kept in a good state of repair. The city is entered by 11 or 13 gates. I forget which, some of these two or three entrances are not for carriages. Pop. [*Population*] of the city is 23,000, the majority of whom are miserably poor, & degraded. <*No. 1*> Fig 1. represents the location of our house just outside the N.W. gate of the *

[*As best representation -- perhaps not entirely to scale, see original if necessary*] *city Fig 2. the house Mr. French now occupies. He has lived with Mr. Abbot till this week. I value having them so near. Fig. 3. Mr. Ballantine's place. It is situated in the center of the city, but it is high & airy. The female boarding school is in the yard. Fig 4. is Mr. Abbott's place a full mile from us. In his yard is the boys boarding school. The chapel too is there. It is the only spot owned by the mission in Nuggur, & is in the S.E. part of the city. Fig 5 represents the fort, & the sixes the cantonments of Eng [*English*] residents. A few of the Eng. [*English*] call on us & many are friendly.

We are about 170 miles E. from Bombay the intervening road is good a government road. The mail leaves for Bombay every P.M. & arrives here from there every morn, requiring two days in passage. Postage is cheap is determined by weight, so that I have been telling my Amer. [*American*] friends that when convenient, write on thin paper. Our upper rooms are peculiarly pleasant composed of a sleeping & bathing room, & Mr. B's [*Burgess*] study. In front is a verandah where I often walk at eve for the fresh air. We have a thick cotton carpet on the study which cost about seven dollars. Here is Mr. B's [*Burgess*] library which consists of about 500 volumes, & I assure you we have no want of good reading (There is besides here a mission library.) a desk & table & about three chairs constitute the remaining furniture. Here we spend our evenings when we have no company. My room & our sleeping apartment has a much cheaper kind of carpet a wash hand table a towel rack, a dressing table, a bed, a wardrobe & some trunks, & a chest. It is of good size & is airy.

Our bathing room is one of our choicest luxuries, & we are not sparing in frequenting it. During the hot season which is now giving way to the rainy season, it has been to us invaluable. From the first of April to June 1 the thermometer (excepting two days when it stood at 99 [*degrees*]) has risen to above 100 [*degrees*] in the shade, (open air) -- quite a number of days it has risen to 105, 106 & 107, -- yet by keeping rooms shut, & by frequent bathing, in general, we have not suffered much from heat. Yet there is a [*languos?*] which unfits one for rigorous action, & is one of the trials of missionary life in India. Below is a parlor, breakfast room a small room, which I call mine, & a dispense room answering to a pantry at home also a room which I use for storing away things. None of these rooms are remarkable, they are generally convenient. The house is very old, but it is comfortable a part of it, is of stone, & part of mud brick. In my parlor I have a ding table, a pretty table, a couch sofa like, & about 9 chairs. We brought a rocking chair from America & Mr. B. [*Burgess*] purchased another in Bombay of the Capt. of our vessel. So we have each of us one, one we keep above the other below. My furniture is respectable better than I expected. Indeed I wish you to think of us as happy. As for eatables, we do not get much variety, though we have many good things . Eggs are abundant & cheap, much more than fowls, Beef & mutton are good, particularly the latter. Sweet potatoes & onions are our principal vegetables for cooking Rice is an important article of diet. We also get good wheat bread from the baker, & I often make it myself. I have my butter made in the house, every morning. Fresh fruit may be had almost every day, some of which is very fine & would be so rare in America that we often wish we could get some to you. -- I forgot to mention that our house is surrounded by pretty gardens. It has rose bushes, just arrived, artemisia, a species of hyacinth, & many other pretty flowering plants. It is shaded too by the Tamarind the Pride of India, the gum Arabic tree, the mulberry the [pineful?] pimpuree sandal wood, & several other trees whose names it would be difficult for me to write in Eng. [*English*] I often walk in the garden, & botarize some have pressed some hundred specimens. Next vessel I shall see a letter from you, I think. Any letter you know as posted in N.Y. [*New York*] will finally reach us.

Aff. [*Affectionate*] your sister
M. Burgess [*Mary Grant Burgess*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Written in pencil — upper right —* "*written before 1854, from D Grant 1848-1854"*]

there is for others

Your affectionate Son
Daniel Grant

Dear little Abby

I can have but little idea of you, but as the same little Abby, that you were when I left you, though I suppose you have grown a good deal since that time. I love to have you write a few words with grandma when she writes to father. The last time you wrote you said you had a sugar cake for uncle M. [*Marcus*] & me; but we want to have you eat them or give them to your little brother, or little cousins or whatever you please.

I expect you will be able to write whole letters to me pretty soon.

Can you help grandma considerable about <*your*> her work.

I expect you are most always a good girl. Father will try to come home before a great while. He wants to see you very much.

Your aff [*affectionate*] Father
Daniel Grant

Dear Wife

I think I had better finish on this page [B…?] & L.P. came to Marysville [*California*] last thursday They left for Cherokee Corral about 45 miles from here monday he was not quite well but I presume is better before this They left in good spirits

Your affec. [*affectionate*] husband
Daniel Grant

Continued from page 4 I have read an old letter from you to Me, in which you state, that you saw a letter in the Connecticut Courant, that states Marysville [*California*] is at the head of river navigation, & that vessels drawing 11 ft. water can go there 8 months out of 12. Now this is a little nearer the truth than reports of Cal, [*California*] generally are, boats drawing 11 ft. water can reach here from 2 to 4 months in 12, & boats drawing 5 ft. from 6 to 8, & boats drawing 3 ft. from 10 to 12 months in a year,

You think I was mistaken in the spelling of the name Juba, or Yuba, but I was not, Juba is pronounced without the J. in spanish, The americans have made it american by using Y instead of J, The San Joaquine river retains its spelling but is pronounced San or St. Waukeen. San Juan retains the same spelling, but is pronounced San Wan, i.e. St. John. I presume that it would be nearly correct to substitute the sound of Y in English, for J in Spanish. Joel can tell something about that I presume. I presume there are a great many things that I scarcely notice. I see them so much, that I could write about, that would be interesting, but as they have lost all interest to me if they ever had any, I cant see what

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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

Andover Theo. Sem [*Andover Theological Seminary*]
July 7, 1843
Dear Brother,

Atmost two months or a little more than seven weeks have elapsed since I parted with you at Albany [*New York*] and I have as yet heard nothing from you. I can however easily account for your not writing without making any disagreeab[le] suppositions, for I know that you must

hav[e] a great deal to do, and when you get a moment to devote to the writing of letters there are many whose [claims?] are prior to mine. I can therefore easily pardon the omission, and call it my misfortune not your fault. If however you have not written me on the receipt of this I hope you will soon and that for reasons which you will fully appreciate.

Within the enclosed letter you will find (unless it has been extracted) some money which as I have not it at hand I will describe hereafter, which I wish you to use at your own discretion in purchasing some [l]and for me somewhere in your vicinity. It is a small amount which I do not expect to want for a year at least, and I do not like to lend it to anyone for fear I shall never see it again, and I do not know that I can do better than to buy a little land with it. In order to buy it to best advantage I think you had better devote a few days after harvest &c. to siding around the country to see what there is for which I will allow you as much as it will cost to hire a man, and 37 1/2 <*day*> cents a day besides for your horse. This will give you a recess and will improve your health if it is out of order, and give you an opportunity to see the country, and become acquainted with the people, and the land. At the same time you can determine whether it is best for you or sister Caroline to purchase the lot which lies east of the one you own, and which as you recollect I value at $170 with interest and taxes from Oct. 1842. If you should conclude not to take it I think I shall get Levi or some one else to put up a log cabin upon it after which I think it will sell to a good advantage to some emigrant who [wo]uld like a pla[c]e t[o] put h[is] family. As f[or] the land you are to buy for me, I have but to say that I would prefer you should [buy?] it of goverment in tow lots of 80 acres and within 20 miles of Wilwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*], or if that cannot be, let it be uncultivated land within 16 miles of Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] and at no greater price than two dollars and a half per acre, or if you think it worth while to pay more, write to me. I think it cannot but be that land will increase in value in the vicinity of Milwa[u]kie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*]at least as fast as [money at interest for?] some [time?] to come [if?] you [should?] [r]eally believe i[t] best to buy land at a greater distance from Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] than 20 miles, I will leave it to your judgement, though if the wise admits of it, I wish you to write respecting it before making a purchase. I should not like to have you spend more than 12 days in my service looking for land.

I suppose you will need soon to pay the taxes on my lot, I enclose $20 for that and such other expenses as you may be at on my account. Upon the other half of this sheet I will write a few lines to Caroline and if I think of any thing more to say to you I will do it there.

Your affectionate brother,
Joel Grant.

[*other side of paper*]

What do you think of the 80 acre lot that lies south of the wood lot? I doubt whether it is worth buying but in case you should not want the wood lot I do not know but the two together might be so divided as to make two good farms. The streams which would then pass through each would I think render them valuable. If however you want the wood lot I suppose it would not be best to buy the other as it would not be worth any thing by itself.

If you could purchase the land somewhere near you so that I could make you my attorney for its sale it would be well. I know the land there is principally occupied, but perhaps you could find some [...] that has been overlooked. I have not heard from home since I left, directl[tly] Remember me to Levi and his wi[fe].

What do you think of father's selling out and going to Wisconsin? I do not know that it would be best but I wish some method might be devised to free him from the load of debt under which he now staggers, and which must embitter his old age. I do not know indeed that he could be persuaded to think of the thing but if you think best I will mention it to him some time.
You probably have heard of the death of Cousin Maria Cowles. Please write immediately or send a newspaper to indicate the safe reception of this. If you send a newspaper Mark the figure 4 upon it somewhere, by which I shall understand that you have received this safe.

[*Addressed to*] Daniel and Caroline Grant
Andover Theor. Sem. [*Andover Theological Seminary*]
July 7, 1843

Dear Sister,

You have been often in my thoughts since I last saw you at Albany [*New York*]. How often I have imagined to myself your little farm away off there in Wisconsin and revolved in my mind how you and brother Daniel felt. Still with all my revolving I have not been able to resolve my doubts, and I have looked with some impatience for a letter from one or both of you, as I thought you would by the time you had been there a fortnight be able to wr[i]te a little to me. But I kno[w] how it i[s]; you have so much to do, you have so much to see, and you were so tired after your journey that you could not write any except those letters most immediately necessary. If it should prove that you have not been sick, and that no accident has occurred, I shall readily pass over what may now seem neglect. <*I a*>

I arrived s[a]fely at your father's the day after I left you, with no other injury than a burned face. Your people made many inquires concerning you and when they heard how cheerful and happy you appeared to be, they were themselves rendered cheerful. They sent soon after some things by the Canaan people which I hope you have received ere this. I told your people they had better direct them to the "care of Dowsman & Hosmer, Agents of the Merchant's Transportation Co., Milwaukie [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*]," and unless they have written to you differently I presume they were left there, and if you have not already obtained them you doubtless can by sending. You would do well to send to your people the <*indi*> names of the individuals to whose care you wish things sent.

I learned soon after I reached home that steam boats on the lakes had formed a combination and raised the price, so that you had to pay more than I expected you would for your passage. I was then sorry you did not gage a p[a]ssage thro[u]gh from Albany [*New York*], but it is another proof that we mo[r]tals are short sighted, and know not what is for the best.

I hope you find means to employ your time pleasantly. If you have any considerable leisure I think it would be well for you and Mrs. Levi Grant to make two or three friendly visits in the course of a week to some of the families around you. If it be possible I would select such as are in the habit of attending church somewhere. Such visits will cultivate the social feelings, remove all tendencies to exclusiveness and selfishness, and will make the time pass cheerfully. If you could start a sewing society, whose object might be to assist your minister, adorn your church, or furnish a Sabbath school Library, no finite mind can estimate its good effects. I confidently expect that in a little time, you will enjoy yourself much, and you may be the means of great good. I hope you will endeavor to make (and I know you will) your house the abode of cheerful, though not expensive hospitality and I believe you will not generally need to labor so hard by that you can have some time to cultivate your mind, your heart and your manners. More I might say but for the present time let this suffice.

Your affectionate brother,
Joel Grant.

Dear Brother

The following is a description of the money I sent you [viz?]

One treasury note of $100 No. 20412 dated Sept 2 1842, Issued [Oc]t. 14, 1842.

One $100 bill o[f] the Mercha[n]t's bank at Boston. No. 184.

One $20 of the same bank No. 665. The Treasury note has been on interest at six per cent ever since it was issued and will continue to be so until Oct 14 of this year when it will cease to draw interest. It will be taken at the land office at any time in payment for land and can be sold at its full value I presume at the brokers. I wish you to inform me what mode of sending you money will be best, whether by treasury notes bills, drafts, certificates of deposit[e] or by what means. If I could have procured another Tre [*Treasury*] Note of $100 I should have sent instead of the bill and if you can not pass the bill without a loss of considerable you may return it to me. The Treas. [*Treasury*] notes I gave you were on interest till June 30 after which the interest ceases. Let me know how you managed them and also at what expense you <*re*> were in getting to your place.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to]* Mrs. Caroline Grant

January, 9, 1850. No. 3.

My dear Wife [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

I did not have an opportunity to send a letter by the last mail, therefore did not write. Now I have

an opportunity to send by private conveyance, to the Miss. River [*Mississippi River*], and as I get no information from home, I fear, my letters will not reach you. I have written twice only, this is the third time. I improve every chance to send for letters, but have received none. Who of my friends may be alive, or who dead I know not, what sorrows or joys await them I know not, but as I can do them no good, I try to bear up under my privations, as well as I can, Hoping all are well, and all enjoying themselves and one another.

I cannot tell what my prospects are in Cal. [*California*] but think, they are some what flattering. I have refused to take $200, and my board, a month, for driving an ox team next summer, I have good reason to believe I can make that & perhaps four time as much mining.

I was too late in the mines last fall, to get a start before the winter set in, but I have been able to get enough to pay my expenses, which have been almost $350, I fear some times, that I shall not make as much mining as in some other way, but the chance is so much in favor of making more, that I am not willing to accept of such an offer as $200 a month. [My] information is more extensive than when I last wrote, and I think that the majority of the emigrants are not sorry that they are here, <and> instead of one in ten as I stated in my seco<o>nd letter, but nearly all that were comfortably situated at home, wish they had stayed there, and many that thought they were not well off at home, have learned here that they were.

With the knowledge I have now I think hard of advising Ralph [*Ralph E. Grant*] & Marcus [*Marcus Grant*] to come here, to spend a few months next summer if they should be so disposed, but I dont know as it would be best. If they were christians, as I am here; I would advise them to come, but a <yong> young man ought to have not only a fixed, but a christian character to withstand all the temptations that are set before him in this country. Many a fine young man is ruined here. If they should come, by all means take the rout by the Isthmus or through Mexico via, Vera Cruz. The Mexican rout I am not acquainted with.

Now I think of it, I want you to save newspapers, containing Cal. [*California*] news, so that I can see them on my return, also inform me who is Governor of Cal. [*California*] when you write, and such other news as you think I would like to hear. We know not what is going on except in our own neighborhood.

Write often, I shall get some letters some time, I have no doubt. I will say again direct to Sacramento <river> City pay no postage. If R. [*Ralph E. Grant*] & M. [*Marcus Grant*] one or both would come and find me, I think they with the characters they have already formed, and my assistance, <they> would not run much risk of getting in to bad company, but It might be impossible to find me, for a long time, I am now near Hangtown, but I do not <know who> suppose any one could find me in a month if they should try, I shall write again, thogh, so you will get it before time to start, and by that time I shall probably know where my summer location will be, I want them to start so as to get to Sacramento City about the first of Aug. and not stay at Sac City at all, but push for the mines, or hire out the first opportunity, to drive team or any employment they may find, at such wages as they think best, but it is not likely that wages will be less, than $200, per month, for the summer, they were from $300, to $400 last sumer. If I can get $250, from the man that offered me $200, I shall drive team, because he is a man that I know will pay. I ask him $300. When I commenced this letter, I did not thin[k] of saying any <thyn> thing about anyone coming out here, but as I have said so much I will finish this sheet with the subject.

You can learn more about the steamers from N. Y. [*New York*] to San F. [*San Francisco, California*] than I can, therefore I leave that with you. I suppose the passage takes a month and a little more, then if the boat leaves N. Y. [*New York*] the first of July, take the July boat, they will be soon enough in Cal [*California*], then for the climate, and to take advantage of the best months for mining which are the fall months, and sometimes Dec. Bring no fine clothes with you, or white shirts, but <penty> plenty of flannel shirts.

They can find employment cutting hay in the <y> vicinity of Sacramento or San Fransisco [*San Francisco, California*]. Hay is worth in Sacramento, 16 cts. per lb. by small quantities, and will be next summer from $100, to $150 or $200 per ton.

The thought has come into my mind that you (thoughtful soul) will be sending out some things to me because prices are so high, but dont do it, it might save me some thing & might not. Daniel.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to*] Mrs. Caroline Grant [*Caroline Burr Grant*],
Norfolk
Litchfield Co.
Connecticut

Jan. '50

I suppose this sheet will make double postage but I dont care for that, I pay a dollar to get it carried to the states, & I suppose it will be the same whether I send one sheet or two. The man that takes it leaves for the states on the 16th of Jan. and will take the Feb. boat, he is from Mo. [*Missouri*] has made $1,500, and thinks he can't stay from his family any longer He run a carriage from Hangtown to Sac. City [*Sacramento City, California*]. will not be more than a year from his family. I have been able to preserve your letter sent by Dr. [Blye] and have just read it, & will answer it. The logs Mr. Root was right about. You did right about the saddle. Mr. Tichenor must have been mistaken about the dollar, for I paid him the common price for all he did. The long dress I did not want, but shall I ever get home, should have thrown it away as I did a good many things, if I had had it. I sent a letter from Ft. Larimie [*Ft. Laramie, Wyoming*] in wh. [*which*] I enclosed a lock of hair, but perhaps you did not get it. Will send another lock in this, my hair is short now, cut it myself, & cliped pretty close. I will give you some description of our company. We have 2 houses built in a small <rav> ravine, about 2 miles from the road leading from Hangtown, & Weverville, to Sac. C. [*Sacramento City, California*] about 45m from the City. Our house is 14 ft. by 12 ft. with a chimney at one end, built out side. My chums are Walter Young, of Sheboygan [*Wisconsin*] & Joseph Ludington, of Mil. [*Milwaukee, Wisconsin*] Young is a tailor & not very agreeable, though a tolerable good fellow. I worked with him, from the commencement of my mining, till <...> December first. Then we separated, & for three weeks, not feeling well, I did not mine. He is very profane. Ludington is a very pleasant young man 20 years old, also profane but not as bad as Young. Young left his wife with her father near Diesner's mill. He is 35 years old. At the other house is Mr. Burlieu, from Sheboygan 25 years old, quite profane but a first rate fellow, also Mr. Peters fr. [*from*] She. [*Sheboygan Wisconsin*] 25y old very profane, but a good companion in every other respect. Mr Jones from the lead mines Wis. [*Wisconsin*] 35y old I guess, uses profane language some, & is a clever man. The other (for there are four) is Mr. Matthewson fr. Hartford Ct. [*Connecticut*] A fine young man, does not use profane language, but is not so agreeable as I wish he was, a good companion though much more so than Young. He is my present partner.

Last week we took out $168, 80, $68, of it in one one day. We are at work in what is called dry diggins, or what I should call winter diggins.

In wet diggins there is too much water in the winter and in dry diggins no water in summer. The wet are much the most productive.

A good many came from the States last summer and got from $1500, to $10000, and returned, are at home before this time, but big strikes though somewhat common, are in proportion to the number engaged, few & far between.

The mine<*e*>rs however almost invariably make money, some spend it fast as they get it, others save it, some soon as they get a few dollars go with it, to the gambling table. I have heard a report that a young man came into the mines, & was successfull, took out in a short time $5000, went to Sac. C. [*Sacramento City, California*] and bet it all at once, at the time telling the gamblers, that it was the last bet he ever should make, whether he won or lost, & if he won, he should go home, but if he lost he should go back to the mines, He won, took his $10000, & went home. Every store almost & every public house is a drinking & gambling shop. The Sabbath is not regarded here, except as a day of rest, and not even for that by some. Probably 99 out of a hundred of all the inhabitants of Cal. [*California*] are in the habit of using language. Yet there never was a country in the world, where there was better order, & less crime.

I enjoy myself very well. You know I mean as well as I can. My greatest trouble is I am separated from my family, and can't hear one word from them or any of my friends. I never could put up with it but I think the Lord had a design in my coming therefore, I try to be content.

The Indians are somewhat troublesome in some places, not far from here, they burnt a sickman about a week since. They sometimes steal oxen & horses and other things, but if they steal to much extent, the whites raise 30, or 40 men, go in pursuit kill all they can, recover the property & take what they can from the Indians.

The country is generally barren, producing little except trees, which are scattered all over the mountains. below the mountains there is no timber, or anything else except on the ranches, as the fertile spots on the rivers are called where grass grows luxuriantly.

The winter is delightful, so far, where we are located, but a little higher up, the mountains are covered with snow. I think every day how you are hemmed in with snow & the cold wind whistling through every crevice, while I can sit by the open door, & write or read without fire, and be warm & perhaps a little too warm. A little fire though is generally comfortable.

Oxen are generally worth about $200, [ ] & cows from $100, to $150, dollars a apiece, milk at Sac. C. [*Sacramento City, California*] is $1, per g't. Almost all kinds of business is profitable.

The rainy season is not so unpleasant as I supposed. Sometimes it rains for 3 or 4 days so hard that we cannot work, & sometime will be wet for more than a week, raining more or less evey day, then a spell of fair weather for a few days, or may be a few weeks. The nights are frosty in fair wether. The rainy season continues 3 months, & generally commences between the 20th Dec. & first Jan. This season it commenced the <first> second week in Nov. so I suppose the rainy season is pretty well along. Today is the 10, thursday & the third rainy day this week. I probably shall not make any more than $20, this week, perhaps not that.

I have written a long letter for me. I dont know who there is to read it, but some of my friends are alive. I dont know which of them. I will put a few verses in to this <...> for [Abby]. I clipped them from a Newspaper I hope that I shall see my father & mother a gain, but I fear I shall not. Your affectionate husband

Daniel [*Daniel Grant*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[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

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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

Marysville [*California*], Jan. 1, 1851

My Dear Dear Wife

If we were differantly situated I might wish you a happy new year, & of course I do, but in our present condition, if you have any enjoyments, they are lessened, by our being so far from one another, yet may you have a happy year, & pleasant times in your far off home.

I do not look for enjoyment while I remain in this Country, but <*yet*> I must stay sometime yet. This year I may wish may be more happy than last, but I see no reason why it will. If I can get some gold & start for home I shall then be a happy man, for a time I know. Marcus has been more lucky than I have since he came I suppose, he had a last accounts. I had a letter from him

10 days since, but it had been a whole month coming, he had then done very well, & wished me to come to him I could not then leave, but shall start tomorrow, he & another young man are together, some distance from my neighbors, & I don't feel quite easy about them. If I find them doing well shall stay with them but if they are doing nothing we shall probably leave that place, & seek employment elsewhere.

I have found no place to suit for a farm nor shall I be able in this section. Cows & milk are falling in value, I have not bought any.

Wm. Elder, passed through this place on his way home about a month since I saw Wm. Graves as I was walking through the streets, he recognized me & hailed me & told me that Elder had started for home, in a small boat to go down the river. I went to the landing & found the boat had not yet started, saw him got some news from home, & I learned that John Howel was at or near Weaverville, & had made
by tra<*i*>ding 30 or $40000,00 G. C. Cone had gone home with about $1500, Eliott & Woodworth were in the mines & had a good claim. He gave me to understand that he had made by tra<*i*>ding about $8000,00 but Graves said he had not made $1000,00 Graves said that he himself had made nothing, but I think he had, two or three hundred dollars, he is keeping a small ranch about 20 miles from here, says he is going home in the spring.

I have been reading some of your old letters presume you can judge better than I can tell you how they make me feel. You inquire if I suffer with headache? I was never so free from it as since I have been here.

Whenever I have paid for a newspapers it has been with others, but never have bought but two or three.

It does me good to think you enjoy many comforts, you say that last winter you did not suffer with cold feet in bed, how bad it is that next winter must come, before <*you*> I can know but what you do this winter.

I sent to S. City [*Sacramento City, California*] for letters but got but one, from Joel to Marcus containing but little news. He stated that his success in geting letters to me was so poor, that he should not be very particular. Now I presume you do not wonder that I was careless when I did not know as I could get a letter to you. I believe that we receive the letters that contain no news, but none that <*do*> are filled, I wish I could be situated so as to at least hear from home. This letter to M. [*Marcus Grant*] was mailed Sep. 9.

The weather is very dry for the wet season, there has been but five rainy days & then but little water fell. I have been told that the Indians prophesy a dry winter, & thus far the prediction is true.

You will find enclosed a draft for a little money, made payable to the order of brother John, one half is for you, & one half for John I sent it to you, because I do not know whether he is yet in N. H. [*New Hampshire*] & if not, it might be more likely to get lost. You will notice that this is number first. I shall send in a month number second, I think to Joel at Avon [*Connecticut*] if he is not there it would not be likely to be lost as at N. H. [*New Hampshire*] No. third I shall keep till I hear whether you have received no. first or no. second. I want you to use your part of the money as you please but pay sister Mary what I owe her if you can, the rest use yourself. I hope to be able to send more soon, but you know that it is hope alone that sustains me so dont be disappointed. I am pretty certain that nothing but ill health will prevent my getting something this <winter> year.

I should like to hear something about our affairs in Wis. [*Wisconsin*] but if you should write ever so much I might not get it. Mr. Hubbard did not take the land in Waukesha only till next spring, if you can make any arrangements for a longer time perhaps you had better. I fear I have said more about home in this letter than I ought. You must not think but what I am happy I have a good many comforts Much love to all health good Your aff. [*affectionate*] husband

D. Grant [*Daniel Grant*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to*] Mrs. C. Grant
Norfolk
Conn. [*Connecticut*]

San Francisco, Cal. [*California*] March 3d, 1856.

My Dear Beloved Wife [*Caroline Burr Grant*],

I had no intintion yesterday morn of trying to describe a day in S. Francisco [*San Francisco, California*], but as there are some incidents which interested me, I think they may not be altogether uninteresting to you, & to begin with the morn. I will try.

I arose about my usual time (six oclock) & after my mornings shower bath, attempted for the first time since I left home to dress myself like a civilised man.

I had the day before purchased a few articles of clothing & with other things some white shirts & a black silk cravat, the first in this Country

It was quite an undertaking for me to don a white shirt "with a standing collar" & it was after seven before I was ready for my mornings promenade, but I was at last in the open air the streets were as usual alive with carriages & pedestrians moving in all directions. I took my accustomed walk to a high sand hill in the south part of the town (I forgot to mention that it was sunday morn.) which overlooks the city.

No incident worthy of mentioning occurred during my walk but <*I?*> as my rout was through China, as it is termed here, that is where the China population live & trade, it may not be amiss to notice there market.

With the heathen Chinaman the sabbath is as another day, their market was filled with such eatables as Chinamen are most fond viz. pork, chickens & fish, of the flesh kind & vegetables which were strange to me. Other articles were inside their shops & as I cared not what they had there I did not examine. I shall have occasion to mention the chinese again & will now return to breakfast.

My breakfast consists of coffee, beefstake & cornbread, after breakfast a little rest, then the electric machine which ties my arms in knots, after which I generally spen[d] the ballance of the morning in reading or writing. So far this is the description of every day.

Being desirous to attend church & also being a perfect stranger here I examined the daily papers to learn where to go, but no notices fell under my eye that quite suited my fancy. I therefore made inquiry at the office of the hotel where I am stopping, (it is a temperance house for someone to attend church with me, but no one was at hand who wished to go to church.

I was however told <*where*> that probably Dr. Scotts church on bush st. would suit me better than any other & received directions how to find it. I immediately repaired to church, was told at the door that the seats were free & I could sit below or in the gallery. I chose the gallery where I had a good seat. I was not yet aware what denomination worshiped there but thought I could soon learn.

As I was watching the gathering congregation the sound of the organ fell upon ear. O! what a sound the first I have heard in Cal. [*California*] It caused my hart to leap into my throat. I scarcely knew what to do with myself, but imagine if you can what effect it had upon me when the <*q*> choir commenced a chant. I was surprised. I cannot describe my feelings. In an instant I was transported in imagination, across the american continent. I was <*in an*> for a moment by your side my dear wife, but it was but for an instant, black reality snatched me away & I was again sitting in the church trying to listen to the chanting of the choir, but I could not listen, my thoughts were <*far*> with you. I was in short quite homesick. My eyes overflowed with tears, I wished myself away. I longed for solitude but I could not well get away. amongst my purchases were a pair of boots which I had on. They made an awful squeaking, so much so that I dare not attempt to go out therefore I was compelled to remain. The services continued. When the conggregation rose for prayer I rose with them. By so doing I was brough in sight of the communion table. I perceived it was covered with the emblems of the sacrament & as the minister was engaged in prayer was several times overcome by my feelings. How vividly did every sound, every act, every sentence bring to mind my home, my friends & all that I hold dear. How often did I think that you probably were attending afternoon service in your church, at home, at the same time that I was tending morning service on the Pacific coast.

I soon ascertained that the church was Congregational. Eleven new members were added to it, most of them by letter. One family from New Haven Ct., [*Connecticut*] a man his wife & daughter.

About one third of the conggregation I should judge were ladies, & of the communicants one third gentlemen & so two thirds ladies.

Notice was given of services in the Chinese chapel at three oclock. A Chinese convert was to be baptised by Mr. S[pure] the chinese missionary in Cal. [*California*] He , the china[man]

has been recently converted from heathenism. The first convert under the labors of the Rev. missionary. The chinese have a very pretty chapel erected by subscriptions & the aid of the missionary soc. [*society*]

I attended the chinese meeting in the afternoon My mind had become more quiet & though at times my eyes would fill with tears I was pretty well able to control myself. I enjoyed the meeting. In the eve. I again attended church at Dr. Scott's place.

Dr. Scott is a very smart man. The <*g*> choir in his church consists of four persons, two ladies &c.

I ought to let the close of the service in the eve. close my narative, but a little incident occurred on my return which I somehow cant help naming. I strayed from my way <. . .>& if I was apt to get lost probably should have been on this occasion, but it is difficult for me to get where I cant find my way out as long as I have my liberty.

On my way a round, I passed through some streets which were pretty quiet, not so many promenaders as in some parts of the city. As I was walking a window was thrown open by my side & a female voice called for help. I turned aside to see what was the trouble when I perceived a man in the room where the voice came from. As I walk to the window The man came to the door & opened it. It seemed that he was trying to make some disturbance with the woman I just said come friend don't be making disturbance here & he walked away with me I suppose the woman is "one of them" & I did not care much for her anyhow Though as I was not sure of that I was determined to rid her of her present trouble & then let her take care of herself

I have written one sheet to you which will go with this

You inquire in your letter what nursing I have I am not often so sick but that I can wait on myself when I am some friend is generally to be found

I will now close Don't <*laygh*> laugh at me now for writing such a bundle of nonsence

Give a kiss to the children

Entirely thine
Daniel Grant

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Flemington [*New Jersey*] Jan 2 1858

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

The Bundle that you Sent came safely to hand, think the counterpane very pretty and Sam is very much pleased with his pencil and Liquorice root. As to money matters you need not borrow at present so send me any I can get along now very well until spring and than if it is not convenient for you to pay will try and do without it until you find it convenient Grain is getting so low here that I hate to sell it but if it continues so will have to do it corn is only 45 cents oats 30 and wheat 113 per Bushel and that seems very low after paying two dollars a day to have it gathered Hope that Daniel [*Daniel Grant*] Will write soon and tell us what he is so busy about and settle up that affair with Mary about that western land and also give us his views about Virginia. Whether he would like to go there if you can sell out where you are &c.

Father is more comfortable and has been for a few days than when I wrote before but still requires almost constant attention. You think it requires some energy to write a letter but it takes a great deal more for me to work hard when I do not feel well more than half the time & I think I grow more lazy every year and that is one reason I have for wishing to go to a milder climate and cheaper land I think, for what my farm would sell for I could buy twice as much land of better quality and have enough money to build a house & start the farm over so as to Start entirely out of debt and remain so -- whereas if I continue farming here must 100 dols a year rent or put up a House & building that will not cost less than 3000 dols which will keep me in debt for some years to come & might always Am going to try and work to better advantage the coming year and see if the prospect will brighten any -- We have very mild weather for the season and it will be a great help to those that are poor on account of taking so little fuel -- Think about, raising might answer well with [you?] and have lately seen an account of some pasture lands in Connecticut that were very much improved by the use of plaster -- have you ever tried any on pasture lands, it is one of the cheapest fertilizers and if it answers well would advise you to try some of it. Am glad to hear

that some of you are being led to a better life and though we do not all think alike as to the best method of conversion (That is not quite what I wish to say but cannot express it better) we ought all to rejoice that any are turned from the eror of their ways to walk in wisdom ways of peace & comfort I should like to slip in and see you all if I could but as things are that pleasure is not to be thought of -- We have killed our cow and our hogs were done some time ago Do not remember whether I told you that we killed one that weighed 521 pounds, Jersey corn will fat hogs Am glad that you had a pleasant time (visit) with your friends and think that most of us spend too few hours in social pleasures that would help lighten the cares of life and might prove good opportunities of gathering strength in the conflict with selfishness which sin is hard to root out -- We have gone out but little on account of Sickness & Death in the family for two years past and now another has gone to his last account. Mothers Brother John was buried last Saturday and so the world keeps passing away -- Sam wants to send a letter that he has made with his pencil and often talks about Abbie & Eddie -- Shall we look for a visit from any of you this winter – Mary [*Mary Burr Hill*] is trying to break little Alletta from eating in the night and had a free concert for 1 1/2 hours last night and anticipate a continuation of the pleasure for several nights but after the playing is over they are expect to take a benefit
I saw quite a long article in the Presbyterian the other day about [gift?] lotteries and an happy to see that others coincide with my opinion, which you have been favoured with and I need not repeat [*see William Hill's letter of Nov. 8th 57*]. Only when you look at that [pen?] do not feel <u>badly</u> will [”?] you? But as you are lucky perhaps you had better try again & next time you may get a farm --

I am glad to hear the good tidings from Norfolk [*Connecticut*]. What a happy thing could Erastus [*Erastus Burr?*] share the blessing Is Mr. Nelson Moses living? What a trouble the counterpane must have been to pick apart all that was sewn & do it all again. But how much better it looks! I think it very pretty & am much pleased with it. Sam is also pleased with pencil & Liquorice. The socks are too small for Allie [*Alletta Hill*] that is the soles are too short even for her [naked?] feet. She wears leather shoes (she is helping me write now) creeps all about & climbs up by things & grows every day & with no change of diet or very little believe I gave her <u>bread</u> when at <u>Conn</u>. [*Connecticut*] I occasionally give her potatoes & turnips -- I like the flannel color & quality it will be pretty & durable.

The [freight?] [...]. 62 cts.
[*William Hill*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Care Mrs. Samuel Fletcher

Concord. N.H. [*New Hampshire*] May 2, 1859.

<u>Mrs</u>. Daniel Grant [*Caroline Grant Burr*],

My Dear Friend,

Since I was at your house, I have thought of you with deep & tender interest. By writing to me at once I can hear from you here. Since I came here tho last of October I have spend my time in the family of Mrs. Fletcher. Her house is to be rented a year & to day her occupant has taken possession. She & I board near the homestead two weeks perhaps.

Possibly I may remain in Concord longer. But if you wish to write me, now is the best time. The weather has been very fine here for several days the roads very dusty, Crocuses, daffodils to pansies are in bloom.

Will you not tell me all about your family? individually. In your family worship, where are you now reading in the Bible? The advantage is much every way by reading a whole book in course. In the family of Samuel Fletcher Esq. while he lived, each had a Bible in the morning after breakfast & read around two verses each. At the time he departed to heaven last October, they were reading in Pslams. Now they are reading the book of Jeremiah -- I have attended public worship almost every Sabbath morning through the winter. Lessons in the S. [*Sabbath*] School at noon. I have formed very profitable. In love your aunt. [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]
Please tell me of your children & give them my love.

Concord, N.H. [*New Hampshire*] May 2, 1859.

Mr. & Mrs. Daniel Grant [*Daniel Grant and Caroline Burr Grant*],

With your leave I propose to make you a weekly call, or to remind both of you of me, by the arrival through the mail of the "Albany Cultivator," Today the postage stamps have been enclosed to pay for it the current year. A small book may be expected with the first package. Afterword only the Cultivator from week to week. By your paying the postage in advance from this time onward it will be but little. Perhaps you may like to stitch together the package of No's that came at first into a book form with paper cover, & often you have read them, loan them for a short time to Marcus [*Marcus Grant*], for his perusal instruction & entertainment. Tho you may not either of you be able to buy many of the experiments in horticulture or in improved agriculture, you may enjoy knowing something of what is done elsewhere, you are called to do the best you can with such field as you have. But we shall never do the best we can unless we aim at an ideal above our reach of attainment. He that is faithful in that wh. [*which*] is least, is faithful also in much. In all we do. We are sowing for eternity, & shall soon reap the harvest of our own sowing. May we each of us sow to the Spirit. In best wishes yours Z. P. Banister [*Zilpah Polly Grant Banister*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Newburyport. Aug 18, 1864.

My dear Caroline,

My letter of last week must have reached you soon after your last was mailed. I am sorry not to see Daniel before he leaves.

The enclosed I found today in a periodical. My own thoughts are there [lothed?] so much better than I could express them, that I hailed the idea with delight of transcribing them for your husband & yourself, as suited to aid you both in your embarrassments, & your earnest wish to know the [...] of [dirty?]. The government of God is the model for the parent, & for the teacher. May light be shed on your pathway. The great thing is the good of those whom our heavenly Father has committed to our training, that we may train them for his service & glory, [ending their?] socialticrate their powers that they may better receive & understand his wrath & have moral capacity & obey him on earth & in heave.

With much love to you all In great haste, yours

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

A copious rain fell here yesterday refreshing the very thirsty earth. The Monthly Record of the [Frice?] Paints [Heans?] of Indies. Try for Aug 1864 -- N.Y.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Little Rock, Ark. [*Arkansas*]
March 15, 1865

Dear Brother Daniel [*Daniel Grant*],

Your letter of the 27th ult came to me yesterday, having been forwarded from Memphis on the 7th of this month. It was long since I had heard from you, except a vague report that you had gone to the coal regions, but in what part of the country I had no idea. Even now (as I have no map at hand) my views of the position of Titusville are very indefinite, but in due time I shall find out.

The <*coal*> oil interest is not yet in a growing state here. We hear nothing of it, and know nothing about it. As, however, the whole country seems to be underlaid with it (i.e. wherever there is coal) I presume it will yet be found here. At present there is too much of a struggle going on, and besides the cotton interest is so strong that it leaves no room for any other to grow. This is one of the best cotton regions away from the Mississippi and though there is but little land that is safe for tillage, yet there is a great rush for such as is open for that purpose.

I do not therefore see that I am likely to be able to help you in the oil matter. For your sake, however, I will give the matter attention though I know nothing about it more than the babe untravelled. I would like a good oil lamp because I could save $2 or $3 a month by its use but I have not yet developed a taste for oil speculations.

I hardly know what to write about such matters for I have not thought enough of them to form any opinion. I hope you may do well, though I suppose you are aware (your letter indicates it) that for some of us speculation is a dangerous road to travel. It is full of risks to any one, though a good judgment in business is doubtless a great help. If you can get $5000 you may feel that you have done a good thing even if $1000 would not come amiss.

I am engaged at present looking to the interests of colored schools in this state—a business that [Mr. Pastington] would say was more disturbing to the oilfactories (olfactories) than any other. However we do not hear so much of the "stinking negroes" as we once did, and as they get more used to freedom, probably we shall cease to hear of them. I inclose a slip of newspaper that will let you know something of the extent of my field. There are really but four points yet open in the state, and they are a great way apart. This point, Pine Bluff 50 miles below on the Arkansas river, DuVall's Bluff 45 miles east on the White River, and Helena on the Mississippi. At these points we have now schools with <*1300*> 1267 pupils. Probably the number will be tripled before another year.

I have had a severe and dangerous attack of Pneumonia this winter. It came upon me Jan 24, and when I escaped the crisis left me with a very bad cough, from which I have scarcely recovered yet, though I am much better. The weather is pleasant now, except the frequent rains. Peach trees are in blossom and garden vegetables will soon be in season. The worst of it is, that where soldiers are, none of these can be safely raised.

Every thing here would remind you of California prices. Butter 90c & $1 a pound, eggs $1 a doz., flour $25 to $35 a bbl. &c.

Abby is at Cairo in Soldiers' Home; John, our son, is at Beloit, and at last news was well; Willie (poor boy) is at Lockport, and thus, as a family, we are scattered and broken. It seems best at present, but I hope a more desirable state of things will be developed ere long. While the war lasts I want to be a part of it, if in reason I can.

My Reg. is with Sherman, I cannot tell where. I left it just as they started from Atlanta on the grand move to Savannah. Wondrous things have been done since then.

Remember me to Caroline when you write, as I presume you often do, and write me often even though but briefly, especially when you change your P.O. or meet with any good or bad luck. If you make a thousand dollars let me know, if you lose all, or a part, of what you risk, let me know. Direct as below,

Your aff. brother
Chaplain J. Grant
care of Major W. G. Sargent
Little Rock, Ark.

P.S. Did you know that the pop of Titusville in 1850 was only 243. I have just seen it in the Census. I presume it has more than that of oil hunters and speculators now. Happening to lay my hands on the Compendium of the Census for 1860, I find a few items respecting Titusville, Oil City, &c. the former of which is stated to be on Oil Creek. It says that Mssrs. Bowditch and Drake of New Haven commenced operations there in 1857, and in Aug. 1859 , a fountain was reached at 71 feet that yielded 400 gallons daily. Before the close of 1860, these were about 2000 wells and borings yielding daily 1165 bbls. of crude oil &c.

Mrs. Caroline Grant

Dear Sister,

I did not notice until I had written the above, hastily, that Daniel requested me to write through you at Flemington [*New Jersey*]. <*I hope*> It is not too late to make the correction. I received one week since a very pleasant letter from Marcus, telling me of the state of affairs at home, of Father's and Mother's condition &c. I shall answer it soon.

I have just made out the full returns from our scattered colored schools in Ark. for the month of January. They number 11 with 22 teachers and 1267 pupils who paid during that month about $650 for tuition. After meeting all expenses for rent, fuel, school furniture &c. there remains net income $440. This is the day of small things but it is a good beginning and highly encouraging. Remember me to Mr. Hill and Mary, and let me have another of your valued letters.

Your aff. brother

Joel Grant.

[*Newspaper article from Arkansas Journal, March 8, 1865, clipped to letter: "Colored Schools in Arkansas." It closes: "The above facts are gathered from Chaplain J. Grant, who is appointed Superintendent of these schools, but whose plans have been much interrupted by a serious illness that came upon him while visiting the schools at Pine Bluff."*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Envelope return address*]
Soldier's Letter
J. Grant
Chaplain 12th Ill Inf.

[*Addressed to*]
Mr. Daniel Grant
Charleston
Kanawah Co
W. Virginia

Little Rock, Ark.
May 29, 1865

Dear Brother,

Your letters of April 4th (Flemington) and May 20th (Parkersburg) are in my hands – the last recd to day. Thank you for the information they contain. The last seems to imply that you are about to buy a farm at the rate of $5 an acre. Of course I can form no opinion as to its value, though I would prefer a country not so hilly and rough as you represent that to be. But even this decides nothing – land may be smooth and worth nothing and so the other way.

I must confess my inability to give advice even to this hour. There is no excitement about oil in this state as yet, and there could not be because war has been the business until quite recently and it has not been safe to travel out of military protection. Agriculture has languished. Now, however, it is beginning to revive and no doubt there will be a great stir in due time. I can only say at present that there are projects for colonies on foot, and as the state is large, and probably about a third fit good land, and room enough on that to accommodate several times the population the state ever had, there will be a great movement beyond all doubt. Two reasons (among several more) keep me from acting. First I have no money to render it possible. My expenses are great personally, for since I have been in Ark. [*Arkansas*], living has been higher than in any place I have ever before occupied – the cost of my two children is enormous for a man of little means, and I have mostly made up my mind that God does not intend I should ever have much if anything. He gives me a great deal – sums that are astonishing, but like a snow storm borne on the North wind to-day, and melted by the South wind to-morrow, it all vanishes in a little time, or melts as it falls. So I cannot do much if I would, Then I find it impossible to know the facts of a case in season to act. There have been sales in this place within the past month of some $800,000 worth of property – wh. in all scarce brought $50,000 – part of it under the act of Confiscation Act, and part of it under the Act for collecting taxes – in which had I had money in hand I could have put myself by the use of $2000 in probable possession of $10,000. But I have bought nothing, for the reasons already stated.

If you have not already purchased (and I know not whether to hope you have or not) perhaps you had better come to Ark. and see what can be done – or let me know what amount you would like to expend here, and I can select an agent who will expend it wisely – or not foolishly. For myself I shall leave the country after three or four weeks for a time at least.

If I were to determine to take any steps to make money I think I would take advantage of the Homestead Act, and take one of Uncle Sam's farms, go into the wilderness, and start anew. But I cannot make up my mind to do such a thing and deem it better (probably) to stick to my profession, to whose ills I am accustomed, and which has hitherto given me bread (not the best)

to eat, and clothes (not the finest) to wear than fly to <*all?*> untried ills. I am not in all things a coward, but in this I am, I confess.

I am glad to know that Dr. Patterson has traced the genealogy of our family & will send $10 to help him through. I am willing to do this in the hope that in some way we can find some way to link our family to the hero of the age. Lieut. Gen. Grant, though if the examination should prove there is no such connection, I still would like to promote the investigation & will send another $10 if necessary. I will send $10 to Marcus in a few days.

You will regret that I can do no more to promote your wishes -- but not more than I do.

We are doing a great work for the Freedman of Ark. I inclose a slip of a paper (*Christian Times* a Baptist paper of Chicago, May 11) containing one certificate of this. Others appear in the correspondence of visitors to this country, but I cannot now lay my hand upon them, and if I could you would not care to read them.

I am much better in health than at any time before since my illness in January.

I believe all your letters have come safely Hope this will reach you & that you will acknowledge at once. With love to all your household, I am,

Your aff brother
Joel Grant
care of Major W. G. Sargent
Little Rock, Ark.

[*Clipping headed "On the Arkansas River." is a letter from Chas. Hill Roe. It closes: "P.S. Capt. Mallory, at Pine Bluff, Maj. Sargent and the Rev. Joel Grant, at Little Rock are doing a noble work for the freedmen of Arkansas*."]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Susan Jenkins Boyd Grant to Caroline Burr Grant*]

Canton March 16, 1866.

My dear Sister

Through the Winsted Herald we some time since learned of the death of our dear mother, and have been waiting hoping to learn some particulars of her last illness but I can well see that among your many cares it would be no easy matter to find time to write to so many friends It is very sad to me to think that I shall never see her again. I feel that I am a better woman for the influence of her example and the many precepts which she has impressed upon my mind, but how far short I fall of what she would have me be and of what I might be How very very lonely father must be without her. I am very glad that Elizabeth has been permitted to spend this last winter with them. It must be a lasting satisfaction to her, a comfort to father and mother and I hope a relief to you with so many cares. I hope we all fully realize our obligations to you for all which you have done for our father and mother to make their last days comfortable and happy, and may you be rewarded both in this world and the world to come.

We often look back with pleasure to the pleasant visit which we had from Abbie and her cousins, and I hope we may see her here again at some future time. I am anxious to hear of the result of Daniels visit to Missouri. I hope when he comes west again you will accompany him to make us a visit.

We were much disappointed at not seeing Cousin Orville and Elizabeth. we looked for them for months thinking they must be on the reserve somewhere and would yet come to see us. I am afraid now that they will never come. How is Marcu's health. Poor Marcus how much he will miss mother.

Mary has at last returned home from the west came 180 mils by stage with the thermometer 26 below zero. was upset once and were obliged to lie by 2 nights and one day on account of the violence of the storm of wind & snow She however came very safely left Libbie well, with a daughter three weeks old. Mary will probably be married and go back there this spring or summer as Mr Wallace has settled at Omaha

Jennie is teaching some 18 little boys and girls and enjoys it well Boyd is studying at home this winter. He is not much inclined to study and I can keep at it better than his teacher

can. We have had a large family this winter but our boarders are all gone but one now. Mr Grant is very well indeed. I am truly glad that he was able to see his father and mother so recently. The visit was a very pleasant one to him, and he will always look back to it with satisfaction.

Our neighbors Mr & Mrs Lester have just buried a little daughter just the age of Boyd. they have been always playmates together and it is almost like losing one from our own family. Our pastor too, Mr Buckingham buried his wife on Sunday. She had been feeble for a long time. Julius Whiting is quite out of health and much depressed in spirits, we hope however that the return of warm weather will restore him to his usual health.

Give much love from us to father Marcus Elizabeth, your family the cousins, and kind remembrances to any friends who may inquire for us. Hoping to hear from you soon I remain

Your aff sister

S B Grant

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to*:] Mrs. Caroline Grant
Flemington
Hunterdon Co.
N. Jersey

Arkansas City June 4 1872

My Dear Wife

It is but few days since I wrote but will write again as yours of May 12 is. rec'd, I am not in connection with any books or papers that give any missionary intelligence and know nothing of the doings in that line except what I can learn without the aid of printing and conducted by government, principally as I understand by the secretary of the interior and wh. is well explained by some lines wh. I read in a news paper recently. The first verse I wrote in my last but will reproduce it. The first verse should be read simply as it is and taken without comment. It expresses the simple truth.

I want to be an Indian
An Arapahoe or Ute
I'm tired of being a white man
An unprotected brute
I want to be an Indian
A ward of the Government
Its the bigist thing in America
Except the President.

The second verse shows how well the business is conducted and there are white men who would like to be Indians for the reasons here given

I want to be an Indian
A warior of the plains
I want to wield a tomahawk
And scoop out people's brains
I want to build a camp fire
On a human beings breast
And watch his writhing agony
With a noble savage zest

The third, fourth and fifth verses may be read same as second. Of course no honest white man wants to be an Indian for these reasons.

3

I want to be an Indian
With tall commanding form
And a lousy U.S. blanket
To protect one from the storm
I want to be an Indian
And learn the scalping art

And then dear Vincent Colyer
Will come and take my part

4

I want to be an Indian
And beg and lie and steal
With that placid sense of safety
A white man never feels
I want to be assured too
That in the worst event
Im a pet of Vincent Colyer
And a ward of Government

5

I want to be an Indian
An Apache or Cheyenne
I want to bid defiance
To the comon laws of man
When I do a bit of arson
Murder tragedy or rape
I want to know I have a friend
At Washington -- Red Tape

6

I want to be an Indian
And have an agent too
One who's honest like the rest
And pure and good and true
So when I do my devilment
He may be there to tell
Vincent Colyer all about it
And Horace G. as well

This sixth verse is a reflection on the agents Who without exception are dishonest. The seventh verse needs no comment.

But alas! I'm not an Indian
And my name is only Bent
So I till the soil by honest toil
And sware I'm content
But still I think an Indian
A ward of Government
Is the bigest thing in America
Except the President

These verses exactly explain the policy of Government toward the Indians and this <*poll*> policy is applawded and sustaned by almost the whole east. They say it is wrong to crowd upon the Indian. Give him the Country to roam over it is his. Let him alone they say. <*have it.*> If this had been the policy in years gone by where would be our country now Why did the Almighty sweep a tribe out of existence by a pestilence just in time to make room for our forefathers on the shores of Mass? and why have the Indians been continually killed off and driven back ever since until</> the white man has nearly the whole country under control and the Indian nearly become extinct. It will be argued that our policy should be more humane as the race becomes less and of course more easily controled

Well let us admit that this is so is it a reason why <*that*> they should be protected in crime? Is it a reason why they should be huddled together in this Territory <*wh*> with the plea that they are to be civilized when they choose to remain on their present reservations where they will be surrounded by whites and <*of*> by civilizing influences?

Most if not all the Indians (all as far as I know) wish if they are to be removed from their present reservations <*choose*> to go farther west but for some reason I cannot understand Gov over rules them in that and we hear the cry there is no west for them. But there is yet a west where there is room where they choose to go and where they can be civilized quicker and easier

than to be huddled in this Ter. where most of them will never come if they can possibly avoid it. And better still to let most of them remain where they are. The whole area of the U.S. & Ter. is said to be 3,010,000 sq. miles equivelent to 1928,400,000 acres The population is estimated at 40,000,000 This <*480*> gives 48 acres and a small fraction to each inhabitant of the country; Now why claim for the Indian 200 or 300 acres where there is so little for him and claim that a white child or a married woman shall not have any land. The Indian will not cultivate 10 acres in 1000 while if women and children could have it I have no doubt that in a very short time 300 acres in 1000 would be cultivated. The Indian must have a large amount of land and then fed at government expense and many whites forbidden to get a living at their own expense. What folly. But "so mote it be"

This poem rather waked me up to the Indian policy but I donot expect to bother myself about it. I could not effect anything if I should.

I am going to try yet to get my claim and as I have the Indian policy to fight I am naturally rather sensitive on that point. While waiting to get a foot hold there I propose to take another claim in the state of Kan. not a very good one but the best I know of that is vacant. It has some timber and a fine small stream of durable water. Perhaps I will only enter 40 acres but will see about that. The price is $2, per acre, I am staying now with a family whose claim joins mine. They have been married little more than a year have a babe. I don't like the little squaller not but what it is pretty but you know I never could bear babies.

The nuptial knot was tied by my own delicate hands while acting as justice of the peace. Tom as I call him will I think fill the place I was anxious for Ed. to fill that is in a measure. Of course he cannot fill the place of a dutiful son. I know nothing of Edward. You inquire about ague. I know of two cases only in this vicinity. They had it last fall and still have it some There is very little of it here

[*written across first page*] Am sorry for your ill health. guess you will have to come here for a cure.

Give my love to Wm. & Mary and the children. Write occasionally
It appears from your statement that you have written a letter I have not rec'd
As Ever Thine
D. Grant [*Daniel Grant*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Silver Dale Sp. Cowley Co. Kan
Jan. 17, 1874

My Dear Wife

The above heading I found on this sheet and concluded to let it remain. It is the name of the Tp. Township in which I live and I suppose I wrote it sometime. There is a post office called Silver Dale between two and three miles from me but they have a mail but once a week, and it is a point I seldom visit so it is not as convenient as Ark. City altho the latter is 10 miles distant.

It is a rather unpleasant day today and I have concluded to sit in the house and write a while. We have had a very pleasant winter thus far. Now it is threatening a storm and I fear our pleasant weather is at an end but hope not.

When I last wrote fore part Dec. it was stormy. That storm lasted 10 day gradually growing warmer every day till it cleared off and we have had fine weather ever since.

Your letter dated Dec. 8 came in due time, I perceived by it that I must direct Clayton instead East Sheffield. Quite an improvement. Glad you enjoyed thanksgiving day. I enjoyed it same as other days. Nothing but health to be thankful for.

I can give no idea when I shall conclude best to go east. Uncle must lay his plans and make his arrangements same as tho he did not expect me. I have several irons in the fire and cannot now tell when it is likely I will be ready to go. It may be a year or perhaps two of them.

I am at a loss at present what I will do with my claim. My time for entry is up on the 14th of April and if I do not enter then unless Government gives an extention of time I will have to run my risk of getting it at a land sale to come off when Gov, advertises it. There is now a probability that the time will be extended. If I can find a chance to get money at 15 per ct. I will enter but I

think if I must pay 25 per ct. I better run the risk. The mistake made in the [Po.?] of one of the 40s is not yet rectified. If that is not done before my time expires I shall not enter the rest at present. I <*can*> claim three 40s or 120 acres. This is the principal cause of delay and I can't tell how long it will take to get it out of the way. There are two parties who want the place but money is scarce and the mistake is in the way. I am in a way now of getting a little start and if I was located, there seems to be good reason to think I might go slowly ahead but I suppose something unforeseen will thwart me yet. The worst drawback that is visible is I am alone I cannot go away from home without a good deal of trouble and if I should be sick there would be trouble indeed. I have six head of cattle two of them are last years calves.

The man Mr. Hager who I expected would be a help is not quite the man I expected I expect you will say "I thought as much" He is honest clever and a right good fellow but lacks energy. He don't take care of what is his own I promised in my last to send newspapers but they got left. I will send them.

Rec'd, three Winsted Heralds. Glad to get them but they make me feel bad.

They have news I would get in no other way. It seems C.B. Phelps is dead also Beng. Welch and others I know. Wm Phelps could not live without a wife. "So [mote?] it be"

You see my half sheet is full. Some time or other I will get this to the P.O.

Remember me aff. to Uncle an aunt and all inquiring friends

Ever Thine
D. Grant

I enclose a little slip paper wh. gives my idea of what a man should be rather better than I can tell it myself. The man who has no ambition and will sit down contented with poverty ought not to live even when like me every move has been a failure

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Hallowell, Me.
Monday Dec 2, 1875.

My dear Mother,

We are all pretty well. I feel the cold very much not that I really feel very cold. but I feel the effects of the cold. The thermometer showed 18 [*degrees*] below 0 here on the 30th of Nov. and 22 [*degrees*] below 0 this morning. during this month for the most of the time we have had very pleasant winter weather. We have had snow ever since the first of Thanksgiving week. Our rooms are beginning to look quite pleasant and homelike as we add our little things after another to them. We fear that Mr. McCully our minister here is going to leave us, as he has a very urgent call to Callis in this State. We shall be very sorry if he goes for besides being an excellent man and good preacher, he was here very kind to us. I was glad to hear from Edward, but sorry to know that he could find no work. It seems to be here just as it is in the rest of the country almost impossible for one out of work to find anything to do. Almon does not seem to think that the farm land is situated just right for raising things for market but I suppose he has told Edward all about it. I think that if cousin Samantha does not find her four subscribers easily that I will join with you in one number. I will pay a dollar I do not think that I want the engraving, better give that to someone else. I dont know much about the magazine but think it is sure like Godey. dont imagine that I shall care much about it except perhaps the pictures in it. Halley has been pretty freful for a few days. think he is hardly as well as usual. Pet seems very well. and her disposition seems much improved. she is most of the time a very good child. I received the letter which you sent with ribbons in it but the package never came It was too bad when you took so much pains to sent there the sugar. I keep myself very busy but do not overwork as I used to. Almon went to Boston during vacation saw Prof. Shurtleff there and. will [Boston?] I suppose that Minnie is home now and employing herself very much. I will try to write again before long -- With much love to yourself and Edward. I am

Your aff. daug.
Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Attached envelope with printed return address*: “Return to Hallowell Classical and Scientific Academy, Hallowell, Me.if not delivered within 10 days” Addressed to:]

Hallowell Maine
Feb 18th 1876

My dear Mother,

Thank you very much for the pretty little book that you sent us, it is very nice and we like it very much.

I think about both you and Edward [*Edward Burr*] a great deal. Has Edward found any employment yet? and is he still in Winsted [*Connecticut*]? How are you enduring the winter? Is your work as hard as it has been all along?

We see no prospect of getting to housekeeping very soon, it is very difficult to find a suitable place or indeed any place at all and indeed we get along so slowly paying our debts that the wherewithall to furnish one will not be forthcoming right away. I feel very sorry about Uncle Williams being thrown out of employment. I do hope things wont be in this bad state very long. Almon says that he dont see now how we can possibly help Minnie this next term, but if it does come so that we can, we certainly will.

I am feeling pretty well most of the time, this is quite a mild winter all over the country I believe. the “ice men” upon the Kennebec are expecting to reap quite a profit on their ice next summer. The winter with us is what we would call a very cold one in Ohio or New Jersey, but it is very mild for this place is a constant astonishment to the inhabitants.

We have the *Congregationalist* here but I did not notice the article of which you spoke and it goes from here to the boys boarding house, so that I could not look it up.

Cousin William Burton was here when your last letter was received. he staid with us for several days. He intends to visit in Conn. before he goes west midsummer. I hope that it will be so that you can see him. He is studying in the Institute of Technology in Boston. I hadly know what for, and he seems to be quite undecided what he shall do. He says that Auntie is about the same as usual, has had a very severe attach of lameness this winter, but is better of it now. Mr. Shurtleff was in Ohio not very long since. I dont know anything of his success raising funds.

The children seem very well. The winter here has been remarkably healthy, there has been but one death in town within the last three months. Mr. McCully left for Calais yesterday.

Our parlor looks quite cheerful now. My plants are growing nicely, and I take a great deal of pleasure in a pan of things which we brought from the woods in the fall, moss and ferns, so many little wood plants come up out of the moss it is very interesting to watch it. The house is so completely warmed that we feel the cold very little. Do you hear from father lately, and how is he getting on. I had a nice long letter from Linn a few days ago. I think from her letter that she must be much better than she used to be her father and mother are both very feeble. How are Uncle and Aunt now. Please give my love to them. I remember that your birthday comes soon. Almon is in Augusta at a meeting of teachers. I expect him home in a few minutes.

With much love,
Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Addressed to:*] Mrs. Caroline Grant.

9 Dwight St <*Clayton*>.
New Haven Conn <*Mass*>.
<*Collar*?>

[*Note on envelope:*]
Apr. 1878
Speaks of debt
of their School &c.

Hallowell Me. [*Maine*]
Apr. 9th 1878.

My dear Mother,

I am surprised that you did not receive the papers. I sent them at the same time that I sent the letter. They must have been lost. If you wish to send for another *Congregationalist* of

that date, I will pay for it – if you will let me know how much. Harold does not wear pants yet, and am not sure whether he will for another year. He wears kilt-skirts with breton jackets now.

Almon [*Almon Burr*] has endured pretty well until now. But he is getting pretty well worn out now, and sees no time for rest. The extra labor and anxiety<*y*> on account of the financial condition of things wears upon him much. You are not very much behind others in learning of it. I have only just begun to tell any one. Edward was the first one to whom I said any thing about it, and I only told father Burr's people in my last letter. I hardly think that the school will be allowed to die, but we cannot tell yet. We have a good number of students and the school stands in the front [yard?]. But no</> school of this grade can be kept<*p*> up on tuition fees, and at the same time carry a debt of $20,000 or more. It seems that the school began burdened with a heavy debt, which has been increasing by the interest & other means. But I would try to explain it to you in this letter. Almon has been writing a circular which the Graduates have signed, as soon as it is printed I will send you a copy. I will also send some "Christian Mirrors<...>" in which are some articles by Graduates & friends of the school. The *Christian Mirror* is the state paper of the Congregationalists "edited by the <*Mr*> Dr. Warren who was a class mate of Uncle [Burrs?]. One article by Dr. [Glasston?] I do not find, but he is to write another, and I will try to send that. [Flag?] money may not be raised, or they may reduce Salarys or teaching force so that we shall not wish to stay. We have no idea yet how things will turn out.

Rev. Mr. Parsons is not coming here, it was to our church that he was called, but it seemed best for him to withdraw.

I had a letter from Mary Shurtleff not long since. She reported herself as much better this year than she was last, says that Mr Shurtleff has gone to New York on the financial agency again. She said that Auntie was with Lavinia found, and that Lavinia would not let her [do?] any work about the house, [since?] so she says "Mother had become a great letter writer" I am glad that Auntie is having some rest. She speaks of William as being in California with the intention of the china [...]

I am glad that Uncle John is unfavorably. With much love to you all

Your aff daughter
Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

[*Faded writing along margins*]
I know nothing about [Christmas...,] children going Ct [...] daughter Betsy is [...] Sister & [...] so <...> [next to nothing?] to him about it, because I think he now wishes he had said that he in [...] much of a [...] [*end of faded writing on salutation side of letter*]
I will send this [...] all [...]. I would like this letter returned sometime. This [...]. Send Congregationalist containing [...] and [...] with [...] both [...] and the missing [of Congregationalists?] Herald who [...] holy [...] just [...] about [...] she stayed [...] but I will send [...] those [Christmas?...] please let me know. [*end of faded writing on other side of letter*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*Printed:* Water Color Work Studio of Benton & Rogers, Artistic Photographers. Large Work a Specialty.] Crayon & Ink Work

Hoosac Falls [*New York*] July 23 1880

Dear Aunt

I have just finished reading your letter and was much pleased to get it. Now to business first and chat afterward. If after what I tell you you still want Ed's photo copied I will be glad to do it and give you 4 or 5 The picture is considerably faded. It was a good one, I think, when first taken, but now being faded I am afraid it would loose in the copying. I think you could get Ed to sit for a 1/2 doz which would be more satisfactory, though it may be you want them like this one for associations connected with it. Now please dont think by what I have said that I dont wish to do it for you. It will really give me pleasure and may be I can get a better one than I think. At any rate if it will not be convenient to have him sit for more please send me word right a way and I'll

see what I can do. We are not yet very busy so I'll have the time plenty. I dont think I'll need that money, if I do I'll let you know

Will send you at same time as this letter one of side view of our house, that I took when home last winter. Would also send one to Uncle & Aunt Collar only I have but one more, and unfortunately the negative was broken when we moved so that no more can be printed. Will send them one of front view which is not so good however, that is of the house though it shows the grounds to better advantage, and on that account I like it. When first I looked at it through the stereoscope it made me feel a little homesick it seemed as though any minute I might see Father or one of the girls go up the path.

In Bennington I had become acquainted with several very nice people and hated to leave but then we cant always do as we wish. And another thing: There we had a nice reading room and library to go to. Here there is a small library but there is no reading room where we can see the papers, and what to me is of more consequence the magazines. You ask how we prosper. I think in a little while we will do pretty well. We are beginning to get work from a nice class of people. One Gentle man who took home some photo's of himself last night this morning came in and ordered some more saying they were all pleased at home and he thought we would get some more work on account of the way his were done. Of course commendation from a customer can not help but please us. My health is generally very fair and by care I hope to keep it so.

Whe[*n*] I was at home I used to wonder a little when I heard people talk of christians being drawn toward each other so much. Then I did not understand it. Now that I am among strangers I do for I feel it myself. I meet so many scoffers and rough irreligious men that it does one good to get among christians, especially as it is with some I meet whose lives bear out their professions.

I have been wondering for some time if Mary Burr is married, and now from what you say in your letter I conclud she is. Am glad to hear that Ralph has such a nice wife. If I can so arrange it, when I go home next time I will stop a day or two in Norfolk to see them all. It is now almost six years since I was there. Is Ed any where near getting married; but then I'll write to him in a few days and put the question to himself, though I doubt getting as much satisfaction from him as I would from you. I knew you were to spend a short time in New H. and it may be that I had heard that you did. Nellie had some very sweet traits, and toward the last she was (so they have told me) more drawn toward her Heavenly Father than ever before. It is pleasant for me to think of. Fannies husband wrote me a day or two ago that Cousins Mills, Cornelia Raymond & Bessie are going west next week, Where I don't know.

Thank Uncle & Aunt for their regard for both Lewis & myself. Lewis says he remembers with great pleasure his visit there and told me to say he <u>may</u> go again sometime He expects to go home in the fall and if I remember right he spoke of stopping there on his way; That was several days ago. If it is possible should like very much to stop myself. Now don't forget to let me know if you wish that copy made; If you have not time to write letter a card will answer.

Love to yourself Uncle & Aunt

Your aff nephew
S. R. Hill

Hoosac Falls
N.Y.

July 18, 1880

My dear sister.

The switch arrived all right -- it is very nice & good -- Suppose it must have cost two or three dollars -- which I will try to remember -- cannot very well spare the money just not now if not actually obliged to. Have had to get new napkins, towels, pillow cases &c. Am using <*three yr.*> some old linen sheets to be washed once around, thus saving the necessity for more than a pr. or so of new cotton ones.

Wm [*William Hill*] read D's [*Daniel Grant*] letters -- says it is impossible to advise him at this distance As to stock-raising -- he supposes that D. would of course have to invest money & he would have to depend upon others for much of the work in it" -- But it seems that is the one thing he <u>has never tried</u> but <u>always</u> <u>wanted</u> to try -- when he has lost every cent in the business -- he will probably be ready to come East & be taken care of -- though if he does go into it -- it would of course be best to <u>hope</u> <u>for</u> better things. In the light of the past it looks as though more money

would be made by putting what he has left at interest & earning his board at house work if he could not do it any other way -- He might go to Leadville & set up a laundry. But all must be left to Infinite Wisdom I think D ought to contrive to do something at which he could earn his board, but it may not be possible.

I have a new lawn dress -- black ground with small white figure -- material cost about 1.50 the making two dollars -- the girls would have me get it -- & I suppose I really did need it -- We did nothing whatever to my last summer's hat but to take off the flowers I had worn 2 years & put on new ones & put on last winter's bonnet strings -- Carrie has my old flowers on her hat

Carrie seems about the same in health as before -- but we dont allow her to sweep nor iron -- she does light work. I have very little more idea of Abbie & the family than before she came home -- Have had very little opportunity to question,

Love to Uncle & Aunt

Your aff. sister

Mary B. Hill.

Carrie says she did not work much at Abbie's. [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*]

Will send next time D's letter in which he tells you to live in your income & that he is going to Indian Ter [*Territory*] & one of Abbies saying perhaps they will not stay & asking you again to come, i.e. if you wish them.

You would better at once put in a sure place this letter of D's telling his affairs & with whom to communicate.

Wed. 21 Wm says that this additional sheet will make the letter double postage -- so opened it to put in the other letters & have them off my hands -- Am going riding Wm & I with Mrs Lukens this morning.

Carrie does not seem to know that they had surely decided to go back to the Hall -- Thinks it very probable that they will stay in house the year out. Carrie is very useful. There is much she can do without doing hard work.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

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.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Flemington N.J *[New Jersey]*
Jan 4th 1891

Dear Auntie [*Caroline Burr Grant*]

It is too bad that your kind letter with enclosure has not been acknowledged before, But we have been so busy & sometime too tired to write that we have put off writing from time to time. I was so sorry that I could not send you anything for Christmas this year, but I could not nor to Sam either, so resolved that I would write you each a letter, I am writing to you first Sams letter has not yet been started, you were very good to remember us, but I wish you would not do it, for I know you can ill spare it. Minnie has come and gone, went back Friday eve. was home three weeks. We were very busy while she was at home doing necessary sewing. It takes a great many stitches to keep three children in cloths. We turned Sophie's best coat -- which she has worn for three winters -- that was quite a job and we had a woman to help. Then we had two night drawers to make for her and a new waist to make for her school coat and a new flannel skirt. I did not want Minnie to sew so much while she was at home, but I think she thought it was her last chance to do much for us, and she wished to improve the opportunity She sews very little while at Oberlin, so in way it was not a rest. She went out some, had a new cloth dress made for herself at dressmakers All the sewing done was not for Sophie, some was done for Carrie and for Minnie herself. Aunt Hettie is making Minnie some new underwaists she has done a great deal of sewing for M. which saves much expense. Minnie will not be married until sometime next Summer, time not fixed yet. I doubt if we home folks see much of her after she is married If Mr. Wrights work calls him East in Summer she may come with him, but I do not know how it will be. Chalmer's father is here now making us a little visit, he goes home to morrow. He and Chalmers have gone out to church this evening. All the children are in bed and asleep, they go to bed early, and usually waken early. Mary is a dear little baby. She is fifteen months old, walks all around & has for two months, but talks very little, She is a very happy little thing and full of fun. Sophie goes to school and gets along very nicely, reads very well & does well in arithmetic, She is seven years old this 15th of Jan. Will is an active, restless boy, likes to be out of doors with his father & grandfather he does not go to school yet and we shall not send him this

winter, he is a little over five We all think him quite bright -- very observing and quick to understand things, There is a strong affection between him & his father. Minnie <*say*> said she would write to you after she got back to O. but you need not expect a letter soon, as the first few days there are very busy ones. Aunt Hettie sends her love. says she often thinks of you, spoke so nicely of you to night Carrie and I belong to a reading circle Chautaugua, so that takes some time. We get behind sometimes and then have to make desperate efforts to catch up. We have English History English Literature, and articles in the Chautauguana Magazine <*bup*> published by the Society Carrie and I read aloud to each other. We have a local circle in F. about 33 members. Of course while one stops to read, we do not get along quite so fast with any sewing we may have to do.

Father sends love, says he will write sometime. he is well now, but was sick about a week after he came from Mass. took a heavy cold. I was away at the time, up at Bloomsbury, father's sickness and Mrs. Hulsizer's death, put us back with house cleaning, so we did not finish until after Thanksgiving, Carrie and I did most of housecleaning ourselves, the girl helped some.

I thought I answered about Ladies Home Journal, they came & we enjoyed them very much. Carrie says she thought she had acknowledged the calendar, she is very sorry, if she did not do so. There are some very good things in it.

The children received a package of little papers from Lucy, please thank her for them, Sophie enjoys them very much, Will does not care so much for reading as Sophie <*does*> Mrs. East came back to this country the first of November. At Christmas -- She is in Philadelphia -- she sent the children a box of candy, and afterwards sent a bundle of things for us all, which she had bought in Paris.

Minnie received a half dozen pair of beautiful kid gloves, Father a handsome knife -- Jack knife with twelve different attachments or blades, for instance a corkscrew tweezers, a saw, screw driver & a lance &c. Carrie had two pins, one, Caroline in silver letters and a round one set with small pearls. Aunt Hettie had a silver bracelet. Sophie, a silver pin like Carries -- Sophie in silver -- Chalmers a little writing tablet to carry with one when traveling and I had a beautiful fairy lamp, gilt set with glass, cut in imitation of stones, blue, red, yellow, &c when a light is inside the effect is most lovely. Then I had beside a Russian Icon, which is really a picture set in silver and gilt, which is very handsome. Wasn't it kind in her to send us so much and think of us while in Paris, she has been there for three or four years. Aunt Hettie gave a Christmas present to the house this year of lace curtains for the parlor. She had quite set her heart on our having them, she thought they would add so much to the parlor, which they certainly do, and she wishes it to look pretty for Minnie's wedding, They are Madras light yellow ground -- which does not show much -- with white sprigs of leaves over them, a very pretty pattern. They cost ten dollars for the two windows. Carrie and Minnie gave father a flannel wrapper, grey with stripes of red on bottom, something [*end of page*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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 <u>typhoid fever</u>. 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 <u>very</u> <u>weak</u>, 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.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Bittersweet [*New Jersey*]

9 -- 11 -- 87

Dear Aunty,

It is a long time since I have written you The days have been so full with housecleaning, sewing and the thousand and one nameless things that after all must be looked to if the house machinery is to run smoothly.

This has been a rainy day and the house has seemed so very quiet as Allie took Sophie and Will to Bloomsbury on Thursday and yesterday Chalmers joined them

All coming home to-morrow. Aunt H. has been in Phila [*Philadelphia*] and is now in Vineland Returns next week

So you see our family numbers four Father, Carrie, Mr Warren, and myself

I received two “Woman’s Journals” from Aunt Jane yesterday I will try to acknowledge them soon

Hope we may soon hear from you Has Abbie [*Abigail E. Grant Burr*] returned to Beloit [*Wisconsin*]? We are all sorry that she has not come here

There is an item that I have had on my mind to tell you Think I have not mentioned it Aunt Hetty gave me her black silk for my birthday present It has been made over and in a very handsome dress and I think it was very good and kind of her to give it. Before Mrs [Sutphin?] left she insisted on giving Carrie and me Each five dollars with my five I helped to pay for the making of the silk Carrie puts hers into a new blue cashmere which Mr [Cornet?] is to buy this week I am glad to say that I need no new cloth or cashmere dress

We did not really finish cleaning until this last week because we needed sewing done and stopped to do it However we had only left Pantries and back porch, the rest all being finished before Thanksgiving

Chalmer’s Father and Mother spent that day with us and after they had gone home we went to an Entertainment in our Chapel given by the Mission Band to which we belong Tuesday Eve of this week the “Hill Memorial” Band (named for Mama) give a supper in the Chapel. We are going to give cream and we are to help Lizzie Anderson Hyde make cocoa nut kisses for them tomorrow A. M. So it is first one thing and then another

I do often wish you could see Sophie and Will but they are noisy and you would not like that children How are Eds little girls? Of course the baby walks and talks now Give my love to them all which means Ed & Lucy also.

What has been done about the acct book What has Mr. Cowles to say for himself? Rather strange for a banker to make so many mistakes Carrie wishes to use a little of her money

But would rather know how much she has in Savings Bank before sending for it So if it is convenient will you write her how matters stand very likely you have not been able to attend to it yet If so you could tell her on a Postal I must go to bed A busy day tomorrow Do write and let us know how you are getting on

With love to Uncle Daniel

Affectionately
Minnie H.
We still milk seven cows sell cream and butter get 30 cts for butter now
You may return this please

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*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*]

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

Boston, Mass
Jan 5, 1886,

Dear cousin Carrie,

We thank you for the Christmas card you sent us, we all think it is very pretty indeed and we like the one you sent grandpa and grandma. We had among us thirty five Christmas cards this year. When I promised to write to you before you went away from our house I did not think I should be two years in redeeming my promise but I hear of you from grandma and I am very sure you hear of us all from her. She says she has told you about the two Christmas entertainments here. I was very glad to be able to go to one of them. I am quite well now and Friday night went to a little reading at Mrs. Rud's and again last night. Saturday night I went to a Spelling Match at the Hall. Sue, Molly and I with some others go over to Mrs. Ruds once a fortnight to sew for destitute children in Boston, we work about three hours and each one gives five cents once a month. I am knitting a rug now for "take up work" I knit it with twine <*on*> and use two coarse steel needles— every other row I knit in little pieces of cloth. I have just finished the third strip and shall begin the border. I get on with it so slowly that they sometimes say they do laugh at me and say I shall never be out of "take up work" – it has been on hand a year but I really think we shall be using it before another year. We still belong to the Magazine Club here – there are five members and it only cost two dollars and seventy five cents to belong to the club – we have the Century, Harper's Monthly, Popular Science and St. Nicholas A <*gread*>great deal of good reading for that sum we

think. I am taking charge of the hens now. I began late this Fall—they have a better place than formerly and are doing unusually well. I get thirty three cents a dozen for eggs. I have not begun to pay for the food yet so of course it is very profitable for me—may not find it so when papa stops supplying. I have twenty one hens and two roosters and hope I can make it profitable as so many people say they do. I tried keeping them once before and got discouraged but perhaps I shall succeed this time as I think the conditions are rather more favorable. I suppose you know that Sam is away from home—we all miss him very much but are glad he is so favorably situated—he keeps in good health and spirits. We think of you very often and wish we could have another visit from you. If you are not too busy please write to me some time.

With much love from all and best wishes for a Happy New Year

Ever your aff. cousin

Bessy

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---

[*envelope addressed to*]

Mrs. Caroline Grant

New Marlboro

Berkshire Co.

Mass.

Bolton, Jan 5 ‘86

My Dear Niece, -- As Bessie has written you I will also write and thank you for the very pretty card you sent husband & myself. I intend to send you some Womans Journals before long. I lend them to Mrs. Reed & the Baptist Minister & he don’t return them as I have him liberty to pass them to any one he thought would read them.

I think this year I will have them returned me & I will send some to you if you would like them and perhaps you can get [so … thon?] to read them & get interested in the subject. There is not much enthusiasm on the subject but our two ministers & their families are in favor of Woman Suffrage as are many other<*s*> intelligent people of both sexes. We had a very interesting lecture in the Hall by a woman that very coldest night of the season thus far. I don’t blame you for not having that address read at your sociable as the cause is not popular in that section & the address would not have been appreciated by the many I presume. What I want is that women should have a better chance in the world & if suffrage will better her condition I am in favor of it. I cannot see why she should not have a voice in the making the laws she is obliged to obey as well as man.

How are the Flemington friends now Have they lost the Post Office?

It is quite late in the night & I must stop writing.

Affectionately,

S. J. W.

-~----------~----~----~----~------~----~------~--~---