

Respected son of Tack my Dear is hand to let you know that
your friends here are in a common state of health except James
and my self James has been confined to his bed mostley for three
months & set out for Vermont on the first Day of July and was
gone 46 Days and was as well as I ever was so long in my life
But within one week after I got home was taken with my
old Complaint but am got better I should stay six weeks
longer the season has been wet here and five Crops Smith has
filled our Barn and both the scabbles and over the beams of it
soon he has not moved it & have been looking for a line from
you but found none as to your Leitch matters Lillibridge and
Zephaniah have wrote to him twice or three times & ask but
got no answer the News is now that the man they are at work
for has Brock if so you and Zephaniah will have to face the
Water I should think you had better come home and set to the
matter if want you should write soon as you get this and say
when we may look for you there is fine crop of Clover seed
and they are getting it of Smith has got of both you & of oxen
and got 5 tons Smith is moulding in the old furnace they
have got the horse matter in a Cash line Gay has and
tack it I think you can now settle here now then where
you are my fingers begin to cramp and I must conclude
Being your kind and Gracious Father J. Thresher

Stafford September 1st 1823
James Thresher

Essexes Thosher Senior, to
James. d. 1823

Stafford Springs / N. Y.

Wm James Thosher

Care of Nicholas
Nichols — Onondaga
New York



Clayton & James Theaker,
just after entering Columbian
College. April 1824.

College Hill D. C. April 9th 1824

Appetionate brother, through a pressure of business, I have
delayed writing a few days later, than I proposed in my
last. I received your pleasing communication of December date,
a few days previous to my journey; informing me that I might
receive \$200 of the Grants; however, I received only one, agree-
ably to my last statement. On reflection I considered this sum
sufficient to defray my necessary expenses, until I could receive
a second sum from my parents at a time more to your accommoda-
tion. I left D. the last day, Dec. 29 and friends were then in
general health, from whom you have probably since heard.
My journey to this place was pleasant; from New Haven I had the
quick passage of three days. Probably there are not so good accom-
modations for travelling in any section of our country, the
same distance of way, as from Washington to Boston.
With the exception of a few miles of land carriage, there is a
steamboat communication from Baltimore to W. G. City, thence
to D. C. And I understand that a boat is expected to run the
winter season from Hartford to W. G. In the winter season, travel-
ling is much more expensive. My expenses in getting on to these
thirty dollars. At my arrival, I was kindly received at the
College and after examination was admitted into the freshman
class, for which I offered myself. There enjoy every possible
facility for acquiring a good education. The climate is
considered healthy. The College is situated upon a delightful
eminence two miles from the capital, having a commanding
prospect of the whole city, of the broad waters of the Potomack

1824
to Mr. W. G. C. C.
5 April
Mr. James Theaker
Dorchester N. J.

down as far as Georgia towns, and even to attempt to view the miserable
state of "the father of our country," whose name is embalm'd
for generation yet so soon, which - The state of society in
this place, as well as in the southern states generally, is in my
opinion ~~not~~ by no means equal to the state of society in the
New England states, but till a European visit he could ease you
- the people at the South, have many prejudices against the Yankees,
as you very well know, and make much ridicule of them; at
the same time, the more enlightened part, possess the fullest conviction
that Yankees are their superiors - The people in this place are
a medley from almost every civilized nation upon the earth, &
and form a society in many respects favorable to the truth,
not. The people are easy of access, generous and many of them
well informed. The females are quite shrewd, but in my opin-
ion, they make miserable companions for a poor man.
I could write you many things relative to Daniel Lane's dispe-
ntment, but must delay them until my next. In general,
the departments of War and State &c. are such as do, no
more to win me than - I cannot conclude this commu-
nication without expressing my earnest wish for a more inte-
imate correspondence with you, than I have ever yet enjoyed.
I am aware that your battles of life, have been such as not to offer
that familiarity with the pen, which is necessary to render the
task of writing a pleasure; still, upon the first of the just stated
circumstances, it is impossible, that the oftener we write the more
pleasant the task. Life is short and every source of real enjoyment
it becomes us to cultivate. Such are our situations in life as render
it probable, that we shall enjoy each others society but seldom; still by writing
we can enjoy great intimacy and frequent interviews.

It will ever afford me high satisfaction to hear from you upon
any subject you may please to write, and in turn write you
upon any subject you may propose - I hope to receive some money from
you occasionally. I do not expect any however at present.
You are aware that the students, while in College, must
live in great obscurity; but his employment is truly
delightful, the very laborious. Perhaps there is nothing more
trying to the constitution than intense study.
When I shall return to visit my friends is uncertain -
I shall be happy to visit them as often as my circumstan-
ces will admit - I left Thomas to teaching school for
whom I have been unable to find suitable business. I hope you
will have an eye to him, and assist him in whatever way you
may be able - His parents were somewhat unreasonably to my
seeking an education so far from home, because they gave
him content. I find that they are becoming old and childish.
On a certain morning, I was filled with peculiar sensation at a
sight of James. I viewed him at a distance from the
ministry, through the house, which you will readily call to mind,
I saw him an old man leaning upon his staff. I reflected upon
his hard ships, his labors, and from this I reflected upon the tools
the hard ships and labors of the generally that we are af-
flicted I should hope - or at least, or thinking in
my grief - This seems to me a blessing. I received the
newsless delight that since my arrival have become ac-
quainted with the Mecons.
Write me a song, as you receive this and whenever
you remode - any place please inform me
Yours affectionately
James M. / George H. Parker Junr

Exchanged to James Chesnut
from Col. College
just after tour into Virginia
May 1825

College Hill May 13th 1825

Very dear brother, Having just returned from
a traveling tour into Virginia, was gratified
on my return to find yours of April 17, from
which I infer, that you have returned to Rappahannock, and
from which I infer also, that you are well.

The object of my tour into Va., was the improvement of
my health and other advantages resulting from an
excursion — My expenses were moderate. The dis-
tance I traveled was 150 miles, which carried me to
some of the most interesting spots in the whole state.
Among others, was Harpers ferry; a place which, perhaps
exhibits some of the grandest natural scenery in the whole
Union. And, while the grandeur of nature, is undiminished,
the pleasure of the beholder is greatly increased
by frequent intermingling of art, such as shops,
casals, bridges &c. I know not when I have felt impres-
sions more emphatically sublime, than when beholding
the celebrated spot. A description of this place you may
find in Mr Jeffersons notes on Virginia, a book I have
been lately perusing; a book too which I find contains much
valuable information — Had an opportunity to learn
the state of agriculture in Va.; much of their domestic economy
which by the way, is miserable; as well as much concern-
ing the manners and customs of the people.

25-

Living Hill &
May 16

Mr. James Chesnut

Rappahannock
St. Lawrence
Va.

You proposed in your last to afford me the necessary assistance I expect to need at home. This relieves me from considerable anxiety. I trust I have your confidence, that I am not extravagant, and I can assure you I ever intend to be decent; in this way poverty shall injure me least — During my stay at the north, I intend visiting several of our Colleges at their several commencements. This will be a source of improvement, desirable to the student — I have just received a letter from brother Alfred — all well at home —

In relation to publick affairs, I will only give you a single characteristic of our President. On the fourth sabbath in April, he walked from the City to Georgetown (8 miles) mingling promiscuously with the crowd, and attended a religious meeting, at which the new President of the College delivered a sermon for the benefit of sabbath schools.

His appearance was less pompous than that of many a country justice — The affairs of the College continue to prosper — A new building is now going up 71 1/2 feet by 55 feet — If you will have the goodness to answer this before the 25th of June I will write you again before I go the north. Yours Affectionately

James Frothingham

Obenoxer Thresher &c.

Respected son of sack this time to let you know that
through the goodness of providence your friends here are
all in a common state of health except my self
my health is much better than when you left home
I got the Gowder and began to get them on the first
Sunday in January but them on few weeks they
stop all the pain and kill all of the ingroffle
which has mostly come of the sore was larger than
a Dollar round then it left a piece of the cheek
bone stake it heal fast I think that three weeks
more will heal it all up if it keeps on as it is down
now I never find so true a winter being so warm
and the weather so dreadfull November it begins
to grow cold then common for the time of the year the
twenty first it snowed and not all got yet December
now I think the coldest of years yet I don't think
that was one first of winter there on the south side
of the bay the coldest till the tenth of January
since then it has bin mild and so so that the
spring birds begin to come as to hunting wood be has
got his thing ready on the ground for his I had
except the birds of all are going to get them gone
you should write and let me know what the doctor
charges for the Gowder and the writing you wrote that
you had sold out your furnace write I should think
you had better put your money in the bank for
them it will be safe and draws you seven or eight percent
if you should buy a farm and let it out or run out of
hand will much you save every year we have two
a half they come here this winter I had caught a kind
of small fox write me to come from the state of
New York and brought it here give it to this kind ways
family they had one child David was away left his
wife at it stay would have but they had got it in
the west just sold it got his last one child that
was bin several Dollars my Richard had one of his aldon
and a young willard washburn he died
with the same fever in there a number in town got it

Don't fail writing me how you is of course
think you had better get of them Gowders
and send them up I will keep them
I don't you should be careful I think them
to be a serious cure and quick don't apply in
season of must conclude being your servant
and well wishes
George J. J. J.

Sturbridge
March 18th
Mr. James Smith
Sturbridge

Sturbridge
to James Smith -
1838



Call to Portland.
1828.

Portland Oct. 16th 1828.

Dear Sir,

The Baptist Church, in this town, after due deliberation and solemn prayer, on Monday evening last, unanimously, voted, that Mr. Ebenezer Thrasher be requested to receive ordination, and take the Pastoral charge of this Church, and thus to continue so long as we shall be mutually beneficial to each other.

Deacons, S^r. W. Cook & A. Richardson & 13th John W. Smith were appointed a committee to inform you of the foregoing vote.

At a legal meeting of the members of the first Baptist Society, in Portland, held Oct. 15, 1828, it was voted, to concur and unite with the Church, in their request to Mr. Ebenezer Thrasher to receive ordination and become their Pastor, and request him to take the charge of this Society as their Minister & Teacher.

Voted, that the salary for Mr. Thrasher be seven hundred & fifty dollars per annum.

Voted, that the Executive Committee be authorized to draw on the Treasurer

Mr. Ebenezer Thrasher Jr.

Present

for such a sum of money, as shall be necessary to
defray the expense of removing Mr Threshers
Family and goods to this place."

Mess^{rs} Joseph Noble, Charles Staples, and
Thomas Weston were chosen a Committee
to join the Committee from the Church,
to communicate to you the doings of the
Church & Society.

Very respectfully & affectionately yours

Alford Richardson, pro or deo
of Committee of the Church
Joseph Noble per order of the
Committee of the Society

Mrs Eben^r Thresher

Granville Jan 2 1850

Dear Father

I am expelled from College.
You have heard the particulars from Pres Bailey
& I need not repeat. It is in most respects just.
I have not the heart to write a long letter,
I would like to come home, for a short time
at least.

I have been boarding at Prof C 2 weeks
next Sat I will owe him \$3.00

I owe a washing bill — — — 3.00 on a little over
& 1 or 2 little bills besides. To pay these I need 10 or 12

\$ besides 6 to come home or if you will accept

I have now my own way to make in the world
from yesterday I begin a new life. & so long
as life shall last I will never taste another
drop of liquor, throw another card or frame
a deliberate. I do not write this as a promise
but as my resolution. I am waiting at times
by to hear from you.

I need not express my sorrow & expressions of
penitence or regret — would be superfluous. I have
been blind blind and have caused you much
sorrow I dare not ask your forgiveness. Life is
now before ~~me~~ me begun in sorrow to end
I know not how as the beginning of my future
course is directed

Your son Thomas H. Mesher

We welcome ~~you~~ home my son as a married man. We cordially welcome ~~you~~ my daughter to our family circle, who have here assembled ~~to~~ this evening to receive you as one of their number. We welcome you to the pleasures and cares, to the joys and to the sorrows of conjugal, and domestic, and social life. Life hath its cares as well as its pleasures, but these ~~are~~ rightly regarded only administered to our happiness, as the poet has expressed it "Life's cares are but comforts
He that hath them not must make them ~~to~~ wretched"

Life hath also its sorrows and when they come as come they will we hope you may always look upon the sunny side, and if you do, you will not fail to see a ~~bow~~ in the cloud. In such an hour we trust your husband may be a light in your path - may be to you as the sturdy oak is to the soft vine as it entwines itself around it. ~~And~~ especially do we hope that in the hour of affliction you may learn to lean on the arm of your Redeemer. You will love your husband we doubt not, and you will love your friends, and we hope also, you will be a lover of good men - a lover of Christian hospitality; that in this respect you will imitate the virtues of Lydia of Thyatira whose heart the Lord opened to attend unto the things spoken by Paul, and who winced her attachment to the cause of her Redeemer by receiving Paul and Timothy into her house at the ministrals of Christ.

Dayton Aug. 24, 1864

The first regular Baptist Church of Dayton
to the Miami Union Association, send the greeting
Beloved Brethren.

The facts of our history during the past year are of more than ordinary interest. God has visited us in his mercy, and established the work of our hands upon us in wondrous goodness. The leading events in our history are:—The completion of our new house of worship; The settlement of a pastor; and a precious revival of religion, which continued for ~~a period of more than~~ ^{several} months. Of these events, it is proper that we should speak in a few words.

On the 2d Sabbath in June 1863, we left our former place of worship on Jefferson Street, which had become too small to accommodate the congregation, and on the 4th Sabbath in June, we entered and worshiped in the Lecture room of our new house of worship on Main St. Here, all our religious services were conducted until the 25th of

as our messengers

We send to sit with you in Council our pastor
brother H. Harvey Deacon Wald Parker and brethren
E. Thresher & S.W. Leland For printing the minutes
we send \$5.00

Oct. following, on which day, our large and commodious house of worship was dedicated by appropriate services, conducted by our ~~former~~ ^{late} pastor Mr. S. Talbot Mr. St. Robinson of Rochester, ^{N.Y.} and Mr. E. F. Platt of Toledo.

On the 2^d of August last, our esteemed pastor, Mr. S. Talbot, who had served us with great acceptance in the gospel for more than seven years resigned the pastorate of the Church to accept the presidency of Sunnyside University. This was a great grief to us, but was cheerfully acquiesced in by the Church, when we became satisfied that our pastor in offering his resignation was actuated only by a conviction of duty.

On the 18th of Oct. last the Church extended a unanimous invitation to brother H. Harvey, Professor of Theology in Madison University N.Y. to become our pastor, which invitation was accepted on condition that he be allowed to defer entering on his duties as pastor, until the following April, which was acceded to by the Church. From August until April, we were dependant on occasion^{al}

(3)

Supplies, except Three Sabbaths, the two last Sabbaths in December and the 1st in Jan. which were occupied by the pastor died. In the mean time our Sabbath School and weekly prayer meetings were continued as usual. Our Sabbath School from our entrance into our new Lecture Room, was perceived to increase constantly, in interest and in the number of attendance.

The revival to which we have alluded first, developed itself in a special prayer meeting appointed for the Sabbath School and Bible Class. These meetings, which commenced the latter part of January, were held on Monday evening of each week and were continued for a period of more than four months. The presence of the Holy Spirit was manifested at the first meeting, both by the stillness and solemnity which pervaded it, and by the deep interest manifested by those who participated in the exercises. Being without a pastor, the Superintendent presided at these meetings, and the services were ^{singing prayer and} ~~the ordinary~~ ^{exhortation} ~~services~~, the ordinary exercises of a prayer

meeting, except, as the interest deepened, persons who desired to do so, were encouraged to arise and ask for the prayers of Christians. This opportunity was ordinarily embraced by some present, and seemed to be highly beneficial. It appeared to assist the inquirer in coming to the mercy seat to ask for himself. Additional interest was soon imparted to the Monday evening meeting by the attendance of other members of the church, who were not teachers in the Sabbath school, and by the experiences and exhortations of those who had recently indulged hopes. The ordinary prayer meetings of the church became increasingly interesting and other devotional meetings were appointed, among which, were meetings for inquirers, at which awakened persons and such as were indulging hopes were requested to be present and hold conversation with the more experienced Christians. At these and other devotional meetings, we were sometimes assisted by neighboring ministers, who came in to supply us on the Sabbath. Among those

(5)

who rendered valuable service in the enquiring meeting and in visiting from house to house, were brethren Whulock, Elder John Blodgett and brother Clatt of Toledo.

When our pastor came among us, though he found many things which had been neglected, he was permitted to meet more than twenty persons who ~~were~~ ^{were} desiring to receive from him the ordinance of Christian baptism. On the fourth Sabbath in April twenty two persons were received into membership of the Church by baptism; on the first Sabbath in May Ten; and, on the 1st Sabbath in June four, making in all received by baptism 36. All these, 15 males and 21 females, on their examination before the Church gave more than an ordinarily satisfactory account of the work of grace upon their hearts, and continued to give us reasons to hope that they were truly born of God. A large majority of those gathered in were from the Sabbath School and Bible classes, and were young persons from 15 to 25 years of age. The work extended however into the congregation generally, and embraced a

a few persons in the meridian of life. We do not suppose by any means, that the number who have made a profession of religion represent all the fruits of this gracious revival. We confidently believe that coming years will develop other fruits.

Our statistical record is as follows:—
 Added by baptism 36; by letter 11; died 3; dismissed 22; present number 287. We have on our records a few other names of whom we have at present, no certain knowledge. 287 is the actual, ascertained membership.

The departed ones ~~were~~^{are}:— Andrew Lutzinbeal, Eben Clark & Mrs Mary Ann Vermylee. Bro. Lutzinbeal fell in the battle at Cheeamaqua in the defence of his country; and he died also with his Christian armor on. Bro Clark was a great sufferer and through suffering ~~had been~~^{was} made perfect. Sister Vermylee, though she had much to bind her to this world, in her last hours expressed herself as being not only ready but willing to depart.

We send as our messengers to

Sit with you in council over Pastor, Bro H.
Harvey, Isaac Wald, Parker, and brethren E. Thresher
and L. W. Leland. We send five dollars for printing
The minutes (\$5.00)

Church rolls & the

Associations

paid by \$ 7