

Vt, etc - 1850's-60's

7 letters x 20 =

140-

Stockholm July 2 1854

Dear Parents

Yours of the 12th June was,
dearly read and I trust that you would receive
an answer on this. it was certainly Melancholly
tidings to ^{hear} of the decease of our dear Cousin. I but
to learn that his last end was Peace and that
Jesus made his dying Bed toful soft and
that our loss is his gain. To be death of his thing
we must surely say in the midst of life we are
in death. I endeavor to sympathise with my
afflicted Relatives as I am aware it must
be a serious loss to his wife and children -
and a sad disappointment to his Father & Mother
which God alone can enable them bear and
make profitable not only to them but us who
are soon to follow the day. I recd your letter at
even I had been employed in appraising the
property of a deceased Brother (C. Hulburd) who
died his wife last January leaving him a
widower with 4 small children and now
he is laid beside her in the Grave and
these children are Father & Motherless but the
God of all will do right he sees the end
from the beginning but his ways are mysterious
to us short sighted beings who are but yester-
day and know nothing as we Ought

we are glad to hear that Mother is so much better than when I was with her Lung fever has prevailed some in this section not many deaths you mention the death of Chester I read which I believe leaves Rufus only to represent that family

4th I tho't Sabbath eve this would have been near you by this time but another Independence has nearly closed. C. & myself have remained at home our children have scattered here & there Gerrit & Ann to Pickmill will Isaac to Brasher Falls Francis to Ogdensburgh Asaph came home last night & has been about the neighborhood all usually well Mary I have not seen to day but think most likely she staid at her own home her health is rather improved she does her own work we have had two very hot days we have had two quite dry times this season and two wet ones quite wet last week no rain for 3 days past. One man by the name of Lock had both hands torn off by the accidental discharge of cannon at our Depot and I presume many others have lost their lives to day perhaps unprepared in view of all that's taking place in our country & the world this morn

ing rather a melancholly day to me yet I know we ought to be grateful to an all wise disposer of events for the Liberty we enjoy both Civil & Religious for we have it without merit of our own and how little do we appreciate the Merit bestowed upon us

Our crops except Hay look usually well Hay must be light yet we hope for an improvement I am sorry that you have been troubled with some or sick cows but I have no knowledge of the disease you describe Misfortune & disappointment appear to be entailed on us all I have some of it but will not detail them except I had 15 bushels of Wheat taken from the chamber in the shop at the Farm in May & had never heard from it since which almost broke me down but I guess we shall get along as we have plenty of Potatoes how does Gasp look with you and what is Wood fetching this season does Aunt Sylvia stop with you is her health good Reminds us to her Caroline has plenty of work she is teaching Boarding has 5 or 6 Men most of the time who work on the Stank Factory Cyrus Drake's Oldest Boy & Girl and one of his sister Polly or Mrs. Knight's daughter who is a quite a celebrated School Teacher now teaching at Fort Jackson those families were well then Mrs. Knight's Family live at Orem near Kirum Ayres

Does Solomon keep all his Colts yet
and are they doing well I am most sorry
I did not buy one of them to make my horse
but he can keep them this year better &
I want him to write me a long letter &
tell me what Cattle are worth sheep and
other Property Remember us to all Friends
and write when you feel able
A man is waiting for me so I will stop.

Affectionately Yours

J B Dwyer

Stockholm March 5th 1855

Dear Father

I have long neglected to write you. I received a letter from you a few days after I had written to you. I hope you have had a comfortable winter. We have except a few cold turns one especially was very cold even to the freezing of Mercury in this County its now good sleeping but shows fast to day about one foot of snow which is as much as we have had at any one time ^{this} winter it has been healthy in this section generally quite a number have dropped away. Old Mrs Gray was buried a few days since died in a fit we trust her change has been going to her though she will be much missed in our Family. Esqr Skinner wants to leave this section he has gone to look perhaps he will come home satisfied to stay here perhaps not his two boys are in Iowa in the section where Francis is Francis dont say much about the Country considers it good he wrote to Isaac telling him he saw the other day I was together while helping survey and saw where the Beaver cut timber and where an Otter crept himself along as there was about an inch of snow he dont talk of returning soon.

We have had an Ordination last week at our Church the services were very interesting. S. F. Pettibone is the only Son of Sea Dorus. Pettibone (who moved from this place to Illinois about 4 years since) and has grown up among us and he has always been a lovely Boy and good scholar he has been assigned to the Armenian Mission will leave in a few days for Constantinople Mr. Rankin is a friend of Pettibone's is the Reason why he was Ordained here he is Preaching in Potsdam and will remain in this Country I enclose to you the Order of Exercise young Pettibone is a Member of Our Church and will remain so so if his life should be spared we shall have one to share Our Sympathies among the heathen whose life thus far ^{has} been familiar to us and makes us feel ^{as} the Church that we are more nearly allied to ^{the} Cause of Missions we dont seem to be doing much now as a Church nothing flattering among us we are all usually well now I have neglected to write you but I have thought much of you the winter past and I reflect that age has pains to soothe and need ^{ought} to have the care and sympathy of their friends and certainly of children I do venture that you are Lamenting unless the Great - Capt of our Salvation is your present help which I trust and hope he is do write me Father and when the Crop grows come and visit us My Respect to S. S. & to all Aempt of my thanks for all favors your affectionate Son D. B. D. D. D.



Stockholm December 30th 1856

Dear Father

Your very welcome letter of the 17th Inst was received more than a week since and I have been a going to answer it every day since and no letter is mailed yet its evening now and I have been pretty busy yesterday and to day doing chores and drawing hay from the farm as we now have sleighing which is the first we could call good doing business Our wells are dry yet Isaac and Ann attend school Isaac's arm is not well but he can go about with it in a sling the wound appears to be healing though there is a sore of 5 inches long and 1 inch wide on the inner side of the arm and a small one on the upper side we hope he will have the use of his hand but it will take a long time for it to get strong & sound and we very much fear he never will have much use of his fingers but hope he may we have not heard from Francis & Solomon since you leave we heard from Harriet last week she was well and we hope doing well its a time of general health in this section but one falls here and an other there and we soon shall pass away and we all want a preparation for an eternal state of happiness we certainly have no continuing city or abiding place here and its of little use to lay up treasure on earth where moth & Rust are continually ^{our work} destroying

Father I wish you would hire your wood cut
I dont pretend to cut mine and I dont want to have
you cut do me in that line

Cousin Achse you say has gone in the triumph
of faith which is above all price and to be had
only by the gift of God who giveth liberally to
all those that ask him what a blessing to have
such faith in a dying hour what a comfort to
mourning friends how soon we shall all
need such faith as we must all soon pass away
how many have gone since we commenced
this ^{year} and how many will go before it closes
although its so near its end. Old Dea Hubbard
is thought to be near his end is not able to
converse much his children think him prepared
to go. and it will be all of grace if he is as
of every other human being who is prepared
for an exchange of worlds.

Mr Luther Hubbard was married to his
1st wife about a year since she was taken
diseased in the month of October and contin-
ues so no material alteration which is a great
affliction to them both and a loss to the neighborhood
what a blessing to have our reason and the
possession of our natural faculties you will see
that I am destitute of news but I want to see
you and Sylvia very much as well as other
friends we are rather lonely our old neighbors
mostly gone and our family reduced to
4 no effective ones among us all invalids
but we have all the necessities of life and
some of the luxuries I thank you for your
letter and hope you will write again as
soon as you can find time Accept our
best wishes and love our love to all
affectionately yours D B, D W R

Stockholm April 28ⁿ 1857

Dear Father

Your welcome letter was received last Saturday and we were glad to learn once more of your comfortable health. You say you would like to step in and see us I can assure you it would be as gratifying to us as it could be to you. Why cant you and Sylvia get on the land and come & see us. Once more we will meet you at the depot any day you say. Isaac's arm is healed but his hand looks very emaciated he can shut his fingers partly up, we hope its improving yet its very slow he has now Hooping Cough which most likely keeps him back some we hope for the best its a great Mercy that its as well as it is we have a cold spring an excellent sugar season the best for several years Hay is getting quite short in this section a good many are looking for grass but the weather is rather against them we have about enough I think & thats all I thought likely you would have sold the Colt. ere this. I believe I desire to you sell him if you had a chance to suit you. I had made my calculation to have gone after him in February but in February we were all in the mill Feb 7 was really the warmest month we have had since November I think now I will go after him about the first of June but you need not keep him for me if you have a chance to sell. Only let me know if our springs work is now on hand and I have only a Boy about 14 years old to help me just to make Isaac's place good so you see if I-

because nothing will be done we had a letter
from Harriet a few days since since she
was well and doing well of course shelling
the pidge. which is gratifying to us. and I
doubt not will be to you her wages to the 22^d
Instant Amount to \$82.50 six months besides Board
we Received a letter from Francis last night
dated the 8th Inst he said all well Solomon was
shelling seed corn they have sold most of the grain
they had to spare wheat at \$1.25 Corn one dollar
Oats One dollar Pr. Bushel their corn did not
shell out what they estimated they had
some their wheat and it was froze in I could
— de their spring is similar to our as he said
it snowed & we had a hard snow that
day the 8th we have had a cold April
this 30th day the ground is frozen hard this
morning and we have had a cold air
for several days the sun looks warmer
this morning if Isaac's hand was well I think
I would send him after the colt but his mother
thinks it wont be safe and I fear so too
I will be after the colt as soon as I can
leave Reasonably I requested Caroline to write
Sylvia for me as I am rather busy just now
I hope you and Sylvia will try to write
us pretty often Give my respects to all
its usually healthy here but one drops
here and another there every five days
which shows us that we are fast passing
away pray that we may all be ready
when called Affectionately Yours
A. Drake W. B. Drake

Stockholm April 7th 1863

Dear Father and friends

I arrived home about one P.M. today without any serious accident except some rogue took my Buckskin Gloves from my coat pocket hanging in the hall of the St Albans House last night. But the Landlond remunerated me for my loss so I will prosecute him. This is the third loss of the kind in ut viz one P. Wooling Mittens at Colchester Point some years since taken from coat same as the Gloves and Bot Coat taken from the Coy between Middlebury + Brandon. and I hope I am thankful that no greater evils than these have befallen me. After leaving Brother Seth to whom I am under many obligations for kind office. The ^{Coys} arrived about on time in which I left the home of childhood & youth. and before proceeding for we met a snow storm arrived at St Albans about 8 P.M. where we stopped for the night leaving again this morning nearly $\frac{1}{2}$ past 6 snow 5 or 6 inches deep and the storm increasing and continued to grow more severe until we got to the Summit beyond Chateauguey corner. Coming up those hills the Old Iron Horse backed twice and backed up and ran down the hill quite a piece. and they had to try him a number of times before he would start and once they had to take shovels and dig the snow out before the Old fellow would go. he came on very well after he got up the hill. there not much of a snow at Malone or here people have ^{been} on wheels some

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The sick in this community are all well or better
so that they are considered comfortable
the freshet my wife mentioned was of short duration
the water rising very fast and ice being very strong
blocked up and raised the water so that when
the ice moved it took the Bachelor Bridge and
some small one off but the Bachelor Bridge is the
only one of account in this neighborhood

8 O'clock AM I have been to Mr Crans found them
quite smart and don't hear of any new cases
of fever now if I ~~if~~ could know Brother Isaac
to be convalescent and the rest of you well I could
go quietly to my rest but this I hope to hear
and try to commend you all into the hands
of him who is able to keep you all safe and
no one is able to pluck any of you out of his hand
and now let me thank you all for the many
steps I have caused you on my account and
may we all be truly grateful to the great giver
of mercies for so many friendly interviews. I
hope Brother Sherrill will not get sick.

8th 7 AM after breakfast for which till Sylvia we had
excellent Beef Steak which has hung up since the first
days of December. its 35 years to day since I came
into this town to make a home. and Blessed be God
I have ever had a place to be. and pleased to
eat. Caroline has had letters from Isaac and
Francis. all well. a sled will go this morning as
very cold. I hope Aunt Sylvia is well again she will
please accept many thanks for her kindness & bounty to me
C. wishes Remembrance to all with many good wishes
I shall expect a letter on Monday. Good Morning
to you all. Affectionately Yours D. B. Drake

Stockholm Feb 25th 1868

Dear Father & Dear Family

I Recd your or Rather Dearest
letter of 15th on the 19th it was miscom-
informing Me of the death of our
beloved Aunt. I had previously
learned of the decease of Mrs Parker
thus three of my Dear Relations are
laid in the Grave since my
Return from Vt only 6 Months
I should have been glad to have
attended Aunts funeral but
my health will not allow of
your from home at Present
I have nearly been confined to the House
for some weeks cold in the head
is my worst trouble at present
and it seems to keep about the
same from day to day yet
I hope I am some better but
what ^{will} bring forth none can
tell —

I am well aware that you
will all miss our dear Aunt
and especially Father and
there is only one who can
make her ^{loves} feel up and that
the Deaconess of the world he
can supply every lack and
make all loves good may
he be ^{to} you and each of you
more than any earthly friend
26th

I thought I would write last
night but did not this morning
my head felt so heavy that it
was difficult I feel more comfort
able this afternoon and hope
you are all well its not quite
cold out of doors to day
I got a line from Solomon
dated the 19th saying he was
at home and all usually
well I am glad he is with
you and wish you all a good
visit

I would be glad to be with
^{you} myself but health will prevent
at present and I shall intend
to go to Burlington next week
to attend Medical Lectures
from 16 weeks which will be
long weeks to me as I find
I am leaning on my children
I hope I shall remember the
Giver of them and cast all
burdens in the right place
I hear you are having a
great Refreshing from the presence
of the Lord. I hope all my
dear friends may have a part
in it.

Leura Hagar came here last
with J. Ruppel he left on Saturday
for VT and I suppose you have
seen him before this
Harriet is here this evening
Ann is now at home
and all usually well

27th I thought would finish this
to day but now almost dark
it has snowed to day Isaac
has gone to Parrishville to
see Ann Pierce where she
designs to spend the summer
so you see I shall be quite
lonely.

Tell Brother Solomon I rec^d his
note and want him to write
me again and tell me when
I may expect him here as I
want and expect he will
here before he returns to Iowa

28th Stormy all about the
same we have ^{no} Minister and
of course we are in a low
state pray for us we need
a blessing please write often
I will try to do better when I
feel better Good Morning
Love to all affectionately
Yours D B Dark

Stockholm Jan 21st 1869

Dear Father & Mother
and the dear one at home
I wish you all a happy
New Year and may the
Blessing of the Lord make
it so to each of you & the
your welcome letter last
night and was quite
pleas'd to hear that my
friends were in the enjoy-
ment of comfortable health
I am here alone to night
except the little Dickinsson
which I have just got to
sleep and laid on the bed
Ann and Minnie are gone
to hear Hon C. J. Hulburg
lecture on till about his
70 days in Europe and
Easter supper after

12 o'clock Ann & came and
I have holding the Babe
for the last hour hoping
they would come to Believe
so now good night

2 quite cool this morning
and I don't feel very bright
hope to feel better soon
afternoon

Mr & Mrs Crane came in
and made me a pleasant
visit Preparatory Lecture
this afternoon it snows
and I don't go out
I warmer and I went
to meeting My Grandson
George & holding Smith
and his father also
C. N. Burnap and wife
were admitted to the
Church May they all
be true disciples of the
Lord Jesus

4th to day its warm and
pleasant snow melts

5th it still thaws and
the Roofs Bare in spots
starrts here to day she
is not very strong about
a Melita for Me but I
hope she will be well soon
Others usually well
these Apples did not
freeze much were bursell
some but better than I
expected they could be
The girls promised to
write you and think they
will. I think you owe
my part

6th this a nice morning
the sun looks warm and
the days are longer & the
nights shorter but it don't
make much difference with
my work

I am glad Brother Shaw
is able to do his Chooos if
he does have to be busy
I have not many to do
and I keep a Boy to do
what few there is kenaps
it would be better for
me to stir more but I dont
feel like it. So I stay in
the House most of the time
I wish I could step in and
not with you all today
I should enjoy it much
I am glad you can see
each other and enjoy your
elves first rate Please
write often if you do get
poor pay it does me good
Love to all

Affectionately Yours
D. W. Drake

Stockholm Feb^y March 3 1869
Dear Father Delana & friends
its just one month since the
date of your very welcome letter
and I was a going to answer
it right off but the month
has passed and a stormy one
too our folks all say the snow is
4 feet deep in woods and we
have been almost shut in for
days I think likely you have
seen something of it in your section
this is 4th day without storm
and people begin to stir some
it will be warm soon so that
I can get out of doors I went to
Harriets yesterday which ^{is} the only
time I have been from the house
in ten days out if it gets warm
I hope to get on the Road

Isaac came home last week
and returns this week he seems
to be in good health & spirits
and I hope ^{will} succeed in his under-
taking. Mrs. C. Hagar came here
one week last Saturday and
left yesterday we had a good
visit. Laura was ~~was~~ at
Agdenburg unwell but came
back to the Junction the 1st and
her mother could not stay
with us any longer I believe
she thinks ^{of} teaching a silent
school in Agdenburg but
her ^{mother} wants her to return to Vt.
with her home she will do I
cant tell but it will be the
best way. ^{shake} Dear family
are pretty well Harriet does
her work and Ann pretends
to take care of me I am rather
poorly this winter

Saturday and my letter not
gone but Isaac left to day for
Burlington Ann went away
on Thursday to Ferrisville
with her friends the Cobby
children where she stayed
last summer. hence we are
almost alone now but
it has not stormed much
this week but has been cold
I had a letter from Brother
Cyrus written March 1st says
Mercury 20° below the thermom-
eter I have ^{nothing} to measure with
out I think night before last
was much colder but its
more mild to day but good
fair winter I had a letter
from Francis which says
they had had a great
storm of snow which stops
the cars for some time

Sabbath eve

A very pleasant cold day I
attended meeting today had
a good sermon from Bishop
we are the poor in spirit and an
Agent for American M. I was
there so we had a chance to
give which come pretty often
I got another letter from Francis
last night dated March 2
says there was all gone and
it made plenty of mud and the
Rain made the ship look bad
all well Expt unless the he
said had not heard particularly
from Solomon but supposed
he was well or he should
heard of it. Sylvia wanted
I should tell about myself
I think I have said enough
to tell the whole I a real Dyspepsia
worse than I ever saw before
and a lung trouble besides
Please write often whether you
get burser or not love to all
Aff - yours D.B. Draby

Sept 25

Sylvia I wrote a line to Father last week but its not mailed now we had a great Rain or fall of water yesterday and its not down yet and I suppose you are well solaced with water. Asaph has gone to Totolton today I think he will find plenty of mud yesterday our folks were washing & about the 10 o'clock P.M. Mr Burnap & wife came in to get out of the Rain were on their way from Massena to Painesville so we had good visit without much trouble, they have just left for P. and I am intending to mail my letter to Father Isaac has got the Butter Churned Bill is busy about the House Ann dont feel well Cocoline & Harriet are doing the work no girl now —

Bless all them little Ones for me and may
we all fervently pray God to preserve & keep
them unto eternal life & that their dear Mother
may be enabled to guide into the straight &
narrow path all those lovely Babes

Excuse me to my numerous Relations on
whom I neglect to call for I certainly love
them all and ~~great~~ pray God to Bless
each & all of them

Sylvia do write often but we know of
your affairs and may we all be
prepared by Grace to give up our account
with joy

Affectionately Your Brother
in haste D.D. Drake