

Dear Deborah

Weybridge Friday Dec 8 1788

I have looked in vain for another letter from ^{you} but have not yet seen it. One for Uncle S arrived on Tuesday eve with a line for me, it seems you had ^{received} a letter from us at that time, I think you must have received it ere this unless it is lodged ^{in some} crack or crevice of Uncle Sams storehouse, which may possibly be the case, for I think letters are much longer on the road than they were when mailed at Og. One Thanksgiving came off yesterday very quietly in the storm, we went to Grandpa's to supper, it has been one continuous storm since last Friday eve, rain and snow alternately, yesterday the buildings and trees were covered with ice and the ground with snow, this morn the ice and most of ^{the} snow has disappeared, the sun has shone a few moments this afternoon, but since I commenced writing clouds have again spread over sky, it seems like a "peevish April day," we are alone. Uncle Fordyce came in a few moments but has gone again, by the bye they arrived at Grandpa's last Saturday there are no attractions here, where they will stop this winter I do not know I have invited them to accept a part of our habitation, but that does not seem to be exactly the thing, perhaps they will decide before I finish this communication. I have not seen Mrs Thurd since you left and of course have not given her the letters, it is said she makes some strange remarks. I do not know but she will lose her reason or her health. I have not copied the letters and I have scarce resolution enough to undertake it. I have not been out of the neighbourhood since you left. Cheor came here one afternoon last week and staid until after breakfast next morning seems quite well was anticipating J's return with a great deal of pleasure, and I suppose he has come she was intending to go to Newhaven directly after his return to spend

now Debra I am going tell you a few things and ask
(Mrs Walker has washed for me twice the rest I have done)
a few questions ~~and~~ first how many times has Geier
since ^{you} ~~parent~~ there? and did he cry right smart when
he saw you first? have you found an instrument
which you can detain the use off to practice on?
have you commenced drawing yet? these things
should be attended to, now you have time, or
you will regret it here after, set apart a time
for each, and do each in its time, and it will all
be done, I see you have left your telemyque and
Abby's fan, there is another Mr Sciver unless he happens
to be the same person age, who left a wife and several
children in Troy, and went off with another woman

one lest you get into trouble
supposed he went to Canada his family have
heard the woman is dead and left one child
he had been a Merchant and failed had all the
property of his wife's Mother in his hands, and left
them all destitute, having sold all the furniture
except a few necessaries, and carried off the wares
his wife now washes for a living, did the washing
for the lady with whom Aunt Shaw boarded
and she had a brother and wife boarding in
the same family. Aunt P said she had heard him
described as uncommonly large. so you may be
on your guard, and not recommend any such
to Aunt S as I do not think she would fancy the

you must tell this to no

article

Thursday 14th Uncle F brought your letter last night from the office and we were very glad to hear that you were well and contented, you say you were about writing a letter of enquiry, did you not tell some one you had heard from us? now I think you had better tell me how you heard. I do think there is no necessity for letters being so long on the way, I hope James will not help by boys to any more liquor, good or bad, if he gave them such as would break them of their bad habits I think it would have been a good deed, I am very much pleased to hear of Mrs Younys prosperity hope she will have health to enjoy it, give my love to her when you see her. Harol did well to send you a catalogue and not bring us one. And so you have had an imitation to a whig jubilee from Essexin L. N. did you honor it. or did you think ^{it} too far away. you do not seem to take much fancy to your neighbors, what is the trouble, are they too far above, or below lest I shall follow your example, and that you would not like Jo has come in with a line for pa and myself to go to Grandpas Uncle, & I with aunts P & M are there. perhaps I shall finish this when I come home well I have got back safe, although it is very dark and rainy, pa, would not go with me and when I came home I found him pouring over the presidents Message. maybe he will start for California to dig for Golob you need not be surprised should you hear he was gone, by a few lines he has read aloud I should think the Message about equal to newspaper burlesque, on ~~the~~ that subject, by ^{the} way how do you come on with your Geological studies, you have not told a word about it. the newspapers say they are digging up lots of curiosities in Mount Polly some in the shape of bones &c. Aunt Mary Isaac wished me to give her love to you, will you please help yourself if you have any strange people in your place than we have here, I do not know what they can be they say Lovi has become quite excited about the report that he had been refused at Mr Foote, so much so that he has been writing ^{something} and left it on their table ~~about~~, I do not know, you wish to know how you can take active exercise I should think it would be very easy to ascertain that, your washing was answer for one day, your ironing for another, and the rest of the time if there is no other way to come at it take a brisk walk on the pier in morn and evening, or jump the rope, or get George to learn you to Dance, or practice Calisthenics or almost any thing else that will bring all the muscles into action. Now George if I is like to make a farraine among your parts perhaps the best thing you can do is to send her to me, and I will take care keeping her, it will be too bad to have the poodies starved while they have to dig so hard making R R, and I fear it wold not be finished very soon, we would be very happy to accept your invitation & make you a visit this winter but under existing circumstances think we shall not be able to do so please accept the love and best wishes of Father and Mother

remember to write dont fail

South Malden April 15/58

Dear Grandfather

I was very glad
to receive your kind letter of March
24th & thought I would write a few
lines this evening to thank you for
it and the advice & instruction contain-
ed in it; I was pained to hear that
your old foe, the Rheumatism had
again attacked you, & sincerely hope
that ere this you are recovered from it-
We were, we were very sorry to hear that
there was a prospect of anything preventing
your coming to see us this spring &
we hope that Providence will still
provide a way of means so that we
may not be disappointed for we want
to see you here very much. I know
Uncle S, is not & cannot soon be very strong
after such an illness but hope he will

be, well when he does give it -
I have not been to church to-day as
it was my day to take care of Baby
Ella goes to Sabbath school & so do I when
I can I hear to-day that my Teacher Dr
Kimball is ill. I am very sorry he is an
excellent teacher I should think almost
as old as you are liberally educated &
we all love to hear him dearly - but for
as year or two he has occasionally been
subject to a sort of monomaniacal fits
& I suppose that is the trouble now -

What you say with regard to reading
books indiscriminately is no doubt true
& I have since heard a sermon which
quite confirmed your remarks -

There is so much sin in my heart - that
no such book can in the least present
any companions to my case, that clergy
man in his sermon said that he had
read many such memoirs & his experience
was like that you mention said he had
no idea of the cause, how these people

were so good, but said, he, since I have
been older, I have known some good
men or women who have died & their
memoirs have been written & said he
I found that all their joys & precious
exercises were written but their sorrows
& temptations & buffetings of satan were
left ~~to~~ out - & gathered that he thought
no one of Gods children were exempt
from trial in this world although
the author of their memoirs might not
have deemed it judicious to write of
them

I thought of dear Grandmother to-day
as I love to think of her, as having done
with all doubt & sin as having entered
into that rest prepared for the people
of God, no more pain no more parting
no more sin, no more doubt, but perfect
joy forever more. what a happy thing
death ought to be to the Christian
it seems to me if one was perfectly
sure he would have no fear of that
mere change of bodies called death but so



Sunday Eve -
Christmas / 59 -

My own dear George,

I wish you were here that I might talk to you and tell you how much we thank you for your beautiful gifts - I had not once thought of a Christmas from you, for it seemed as though you had had no time to think of or prepare one - We were out nearly all the day yesterday, I for the first time since you left - and when I came

home your boy was waiting
me in my room - Emily
had put it there as a surprise -
Mother & Dale were highly
delighted with their presents -
Mother says when she shows
it that it was sent her by
her "son" - Dale intends writ-
ting you soon - My desk
is lovely, too beautiful to use
now - I meant you should
have had for your gift some-
thing of my own work, but I have
been too busy to accomplish
it, but someday you shall
have it - for the present all
I can give is a heart full of
love and were you here
some kisses should go with
it - This night a week, we

were very happy, were we not?
God grant all the days we
pass ^{together} may be as happy and
as free from care -

I must ask you dear
George not to call me that
favorite pet name of yours,
any more - I am so full of faults
which if you do not see
now, you will in the future,
that I can not bear to be so
misnamed - I have it in
my heart to be what is good
and right - proper in the sight
of God and man, but we
all have our depraved natures
to contend with, aside from
the temptations and machina-
tions of the Evil one - and
very very far below ~~the~~ even

our own standard of per-
fection do we come with
our best efforts - I would
I were better, that I might
guide you ~~to~~ to a higher
and nobler life - but - this
we can do, together we can
strive for that which is pure
and holy and for the love
and favor of our Heavenly
Father - And now my dear
George call me no more
your "angel" - I will be your
own "darling", that is a very
sweet name to me and
doubly so when coming from
you - I was very wot to be able
to write you last evening -
but - we were out until dark
shopping and were engaged

To Aunt Sylvia

Friday night

After you left Uncle Isaac stood off and on between Grandpa & Mr. J. arranging farm matters for some time. I sent the magazines by Tim. Mother staid until night, Marie went over there & spent the eve. Father came back with her & brought the clothes to be Ironed Saturday, Marie left for home this morning we rose at 15 minutes past five and breakfasted at half past six, folded my clothes before dinner and Ironed after dinner Grandpa seems as well and I think a little better than he did yesterday, is very tired to night Sunday made a fire at 15 minutes past five & breakfasted at half past six

Grandpa got ready & went to meeting he seems pretty well. Talked some about the bunch on his arm to night is going to examine it in the morn it rained to night, I helped Grandpa