

East Hampton July 30, 1851

Dear Brother

I can tell you that I have been trying to begin a letter to you for some weeks but my time has been so much occupied that I have had no time & perhaps you will believe me when I inform you that we have planted 15 acres of corn & potatoes on the hill farm besides 1/4 at home. The piece that was planted on the hill is the one that we bought of Terlius Clark with some from that that we bought of ~~from~~ Mr Edwards the corn looks promising at present. Of course you must know that that it required a large amount of labour to prepare the land & tend the corn on that piece of land & hence our time has been more than usually taken up & then our crop of grass is large and these things with other matters have occupied my time so that I have found very little time for writing or any thing else and then another thing which I think has not weighed much if any with me but I think I will name it & it is this that you have directed nothing but an half sheet to <sup>our</sup> since you doubled Cape Horn. I do not by any means think of insinuating that there has been any intentional slight on your part but shall attribute it to forgetfulness the result of your many cares but it was to be very pleasant to receive a letter from Brother Horace but you must not think from what I have written that my attachment to has in any degree cooled or abated far from it for when we received the intelligence of your sickness it made my heart bleed as I thought

of the privations and ~~spring~~ <sup>spring</sup> that you had been called to  
pass through & when I thought of the great need that  
there is of the preservation of your health because the  
laborers are so few in Oregon as well as ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> care  
for the wants of you dear companion and ~~your~~ <sup>your</sup> sweet  
little babe it seemed to me that were it not for the  
thought that our kind heavenly Father orders every event  
in love you might with reason have complained of your  
lot as being a hard one but praised be the Lord every  
event in life his ordered by Him Who observes the  
falling of a sparrow to the ground and Who numbers  
the hairs of our head & it becomes us as <sup>his</sup> creatures of His care  
to resign ourselves to Him as dear children feeling that  
although this way is in the dark yet after all it is the  
best. I can imagine how pleasant it would have  
been for you in your sickness to have had a dear brother  
to send for as brother Josiah did for you at Genoa  
but that was impossible O how much your dear Mary  
must have suffered during those days of suspense when  
your life was hanging upon a single thread as it were  
expecting soon to be left desolate in that far off land  
of strangers but it pleased Him Who tempers the blast  
to the shorn lamb after causing her to taste as it  
were the bitter cup to remove it from her may  
it be that we shall so see the hand of God in all  
of these things that it will lead to devote our spared  
lives more intirely to His service than ever before  
else we may expect that if these ends are not answer  
ed that the chastisement will be repeated or some other  
one sent upon us

Sabbath eve Aug 17 You perceive that I do not get on  
nearly fast with my letter but the reason is want of time but I think  
we shall get it ready for the next steamer. With this letter we shall  
enclose a letter to Brother Henry <sup>Stearns</sup> & when you receive it to keep it  
till he arrives, he started from St Louis the 6th of May & from  
Council Bluffs about the last of the month we have had one letter  
from him dated July 5th he was then at fort Saramie Son 18<sup>th</sup>  
West from Washington or some whereabouts it may be that he will  
arrive before this reaches you I hope both for your sake & his that  
he will tarry with you in Portland or near there at least

There is a prospect at present that another church  
congregational will be formed here, the town has increased so  
much that our present house is too small & it seems necessary  
that something should & for several weeks the subject has been  
agitated whether to build a large house sufficiently large for the  
whole people & dispose of our present house the best way we can  
or build a smaller house & form another society, last Friday  
P.M. we had a final Parish meeting which I suppose has  
decided the matter in favor of two Societies, how we shall get  
along with the expense, <sup>I cannot tell</sup> Mr Williston & company will with  
the seminary have the 1st society, the whole matter has been  
kindly and pleasantly managed with little if any hard feeling  
so that it cannot be said that we have quarreled ourselves <sup>at</sup>

We have recently received a letter from brother Josiah which  
communicates the cheering news of a prospect that he will  
dispose of his telescope which he has been building, Prof Roger  
of Philadelphia & a Mr Lord have examined it and are much  
interested in it & a prospect is on foot (when it shall have been  
sufficiently tested to prove its quality) to buy it and give it to  
<sup>Amherst College</sup>

There is a Meeting in Albany the present week and he expects to carry the ~~thing~~ these for exhibition & if Prof Bond of Cambridge University decides in its favor it is probable that he will dispose of it in the way above spoken of. Prof Rogers says the more he asks for the better & Mr Lord thought that \$2000 would be a small price for it brother I thought that if he disposed of it in this way he should not realize less than \$1500. I hope that he will dispose of it to advantage for surely he much needs the avails of it.

There is a little news in the matrimonial though as the law now is we do not hear much about it till after marriage, Louisa Lyman to a Mr Wait of Hatfield in May & soon after cousin Sautus Lyman to a Miss Smith sister of cousin Caroline Clappers husband & there are some others but they would not interest you in particular. Cousin Faber Lyman arrived from the south I have not yet spoken with him and do not know how long he will stay. Mr Bemont was down at the exhibition and delivered the address he appeared about as formerly he yet feels so tender in regard to the people that he felt as if he could not preach to us and indeed he could not rest nights on account of old associations coming to mind.

As a consequence of the coalition of the free party with the beafore party we have as probably you know already, ~~that we have~~ a loco governor this year among the changes that have been made in county officers is the appointment of Mr C. C. Estroy of this town as high sheriff.

The new postage law will ~~get~~ so favorably for Oregon that I hope that we shall feel that the postage will be no objection to writing whenever we have any thing to write even if we do not fill more than half a sheet. Father was expecting to write some to send with this sheet, but he thinks he shall not be able to now, he says you are often on his mind & he means to write soon I was depending upon him to write in regard to mother who has been and is now sick though we hope she is better at present though she is quite feeble not being able to sit up yet she has been sick as much ten weeks though she has not been so feeble more than two or three <sup>her</sup> her disorder has been a derangement of the digestive organs with some congestion on the lungs with a morbid action of the system generally with some nervous affection as you of course must know we cannot tell whether she will get along or not but and ~~hope~~ she may, Brother & I will send a letter soon.

The family all well with the exception of the mother cough