

Union Falls Nov 2 1834

My Dear Sister

Your letter was a long looked for prize and I did not intend to delay so long answering it but I have a multiplicity of hindrances of which I could not if I should try give you any idea. My sympathies are fully awakened I assure you by your letter and I do not at all wonder that you find it difficult to find time and strength to write letters but it has greatly relieved me to hear that you are again settled and I hope your prospects for usefulness are brighter than before, and you probably had opportunity by those severe trials which I know you must have ^{had} during your stay in Portland to learn much that will fit you for greater usefulness in your future course. But I must haste to tell you something of passing events. Perhaps I shall tell of some things you have already heard — you have most like had letters from Castleton since Father and Solo Lucy made us that pleasant visit of near three weeks — Father had just begun to recover from a severe illness and improved rapidly during his visit here Sister was very

feble when she started from home and
was attacked by cholera morbus at Leesville
so that William who also accompanied them
said he greatly feared at one time she would
not be able to get here but when Brother J
came for her he pronounced her better - I wish
you could see her - She seems to be the vic-
tim of great depression of spirits at times
arising probably from disease of body - Mr Duncan
returning from Troy called at Castleton a week ago
last night staid at Fathers. started for home next
afternoon found them well -

Friday Nov 17 - You see my dear sister that
my letter has paused two weeks - I have
in this deep recess some very sudden calls
to attend ~~to~~ from strangers and among
others since I ~~last~~ commenced this we had
~~one~~ from two gentlemen from New York one of
whom was here with another gent - one mon-
day morning while you was here - he was
here with his son four years ago and
last summer the son in company with
two other young men one of whom was a
son of ^{bro} Dr James W Alexander of New York They
come as many others do on hunting expeditions
since last mail brought Margaret a
letter from Elisabeth Post which was a rare treat

she writes they are in as good health as
usual Henry is yet as I suppose at Holland
and Charles I with him Robert and Hoyt
still at their stations at Grand Haven
you have little idea yet what it is to have
children scattering about as mine do—John
and James yet stay in Boston—And John
was married the 6th of Oct— to one of whom
had never heard until we heard the announce^{ment}
and James had his first introduction to her
at the wedding— I fear it was rather a hasty
union but hope it is a good one her name
Joanna Sears the daughter of a Sea Captain
and her brother also a sea Captain I wish
you would write to them soon they are
had in South Boston to which we direct— They
of have become acquainted with uncle and
aunt Dear Edward Purdy and John Denison
and Denison Dana— I suppose you have heard
that uncle and Aunt Purdy and Lucius
are dead— ^{uncle Henry Denison too} and Ma I heard in Costa
of the death of Aunt Cross so Uncle Hugley
is the last of his family— I must close
Francis Margaret Charley and Eliza would
be exceedingly glad to hear from you soon
much love to Brother L and you your sister
dear children
Fanny

Union Falls Nov 17th 1854

My dear Bro. & Sister

As is usually the
case this comes to me just as the
mail is expected along and must
be ready in a few minutes or lay
over another week which is my
excuse for not writing more
with best wishes for your health
and prosperity I am truly yours

John J. Duncan