

Geneseo Henry Co. Ill. Apr. 21st 1852

My dear brother Horace,

I have long intended to write you but have hitherto failed for the plain reason, that my time has been very much occupied. Since my return from the east, now more than six months, I have received but one letter from you and that came, in Dec. or January. I have however read a letter written by yourself sometime in January to the home friends. It came in the Gazette. This was better than nothing but I should like to get more than one letter a year from my dear brother Horace. I see by your letter that you continue to hold the country of your residence almost a Paradise to the farmer. Well I hope it will prove to be so, but you should not be too positive without a longer sojourn where you are, lest there should be developments which will materially change your own opinions in regard to the matter as well as those of your contemporaries in that far off land. I came to Ill. during a sickly season and it continued so for more than a year after my arrival hence we began to call Ill. a very sickly climate.

but my own experience for the last five years has convinced me that sickness here is periodical as well as elsewhere and not much more frequent than in N. England in such situations as the one in which Providence has cast my lot. So, possibly it may be in Oregon. Past experience has shown that the most of those countries which are distinguished by a wet season and a dry are not among the most healthy that are found in the same latitude. I am aware that your latitude is favorable for health, as well as an equable temperature. I say not this because I do not desire that your climate may prove the most healthy in the world, but from a conviction that you need a longer time to make a deduction which may be relied upon as substantially correct.

I am very anxious to hear from you and from your family. How is sister Mary? How the little daughter Sarah? I should should rejoice to see you all and learn all your movements how you busy yourselves from day to day. My time has been peculiarly occupied since my return from the East in October.

May 6th I have waited thus long before sealing this letter not because I did wish to send it sooner but my various calls have prevented.

I have to pleasure to announce to you the arrival by mail your very acceptable letter dated March 2nd and 5th. You introduce by excusing yourself for not writing often. I don't doubt you have been in a great pressure especially the year previous to one year ago. You doubtless took upon yourself more than almost any one man can endure and I believe more than prudence would dictate though I am aware of the pressure of a Home Missionary in a new field situated as you were. But I must beg of you to be very cautious not to take so much upon your hands again, lest your life should be sacrificed in the effort.

I have some experience in reference to pressure of business and have been quite as full the past winter as ever before. Perhaps I could ^{not} enumerate as large a number of items on hand as you do, but if not I have been so full that I am obliged to look upon a large amount of that which loudly calls upon me for action which I am not able to touch. I have had a school of a hundred scholars on hand to direct besides the strenuous effort both at home and abroad to

ruin funds to enable us to put up our young Ladies boarding house. It seems to fall to our lot to labor with mind and body, which I doubt not we can do to much better advantage than we could do were not we ^{not} blessed with a good Constitution.

Our subscription for the boarding house amounts now to near \$700 at home and some \$400 abroad. One abroad owning land here has given us a site worth some \$200, two acres. The value of property has much increased here within one year, my own real estate is common with that of those around me. We have now got nearly ready to go forward with building, the site fixed upon some of the lumber engaged and more to be engaged soon. We only need the blessing of our heavenly Father to enable us to go forward with alacrity and with success in our work. And this one thing I can with cheerfulness and truth declare, that ^{if} it had not been the Lord that had been on our side, the work would not have come to its present importance & influence. For the Opposition in certain quarters has not been insignificant. But the Lord has overruled it all and shows that he is above all, in this matter. Our seminary was dedicated on Christ.