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I want you to write me as soon as you get this
I should have wrote you long since had it
not been for the summer, therefore
do not think hard,
S. Richards

John A. Richards
May 18-1844
Mrs. Anne Richards
John A. Richards
Miss Anne
S. Richards

Alonso if you think of ever coming to see
us name it in your letter, We should all
be glad to see you, Write me in haste
S. Richards

Lincolnton May 18-1844
Dear Son - I received your letter of Dec 31,
rather warm as politicks and political men,
Farrham received yours of March 10th
We were all glad to hear from you, and hope
these lines will find you and your new made
friends, in the enjoyment of good health
I am as well as usual; (the mist blind in
one eye); your Mother's health is not very
good, John's has got married; wedding
day April 24th, he is at Barnston to
be with, his wife is at her father's - so
goes the world; Mary is at home, her
health is very poor, she has thought
of getting married but is most discourag'd
on account of her ill health - Harry is
in Boston; went there 5th last - October
was taken sick first of January, was carried
to the Hospital 12th, was there 6 weeks;
she lost 15 weeks of her time by her illness,
and rec'd 14 dollars when she resumed her labors
she thinks she shall stay another year,
this Hospital is a first rate place; it is a charitable
institution; she had a first rate physician, and
two first rate nurses to wait upon her; this
was all free; her debt was for before and
after being at the hospital; Lois went
to Boston at the ^{same} time with Harry, is yet there
has enjoyed good health; has 7/6 been well

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Phoebe (the infant) is not in first rate health but is very fleshy, is the heaviest of the family was 16 years old last February; she is a very steady girl; has tried to maintain her religious professions for the last three years; Fann Burren has yet to be quite a boy; was it not for him I know not what I should do; little Ruth is a smart girl; she loves to pray; she has her own altar - her mother is a praying man, Davias is a very smart, active, little boy; Thudah is rather a skimpy little girl; Little Frances is well was one year old the 14th of this month; Doubtless you will think old folks had better rest a while, and give young people a chance; well old folks have no objections - only 4 boys and 10 girls.

James Adams, that old friend, is well; he owns the place where Daniel Whitaker lives, the Cassina place above the road, the John young place that joins me; John & family have moved to the town of Burrougham James Adams has a girl in Lowell, it is Abner's daughter, a steady girl; James is a very steady man and a good Christian; will be Baptized 3 weeks from tomorrow if the Lord will; your Grand Mother Richards died the 21st of last January, had not walked a step for 15 weeks at the time of her death she was with me at the time

Death's - Esq. French and wife, Francis French Abel's French's wife and 2 or 3 of Abel's children are all dead - I could fill a sheet with names of those you once knew that are gone to their long home, but I must stop - Almon I have tried hard to get the money Coleman promised you but all in vain, he has set time after time that I should have it but his word is not so good as wind; I told him the other day I would write and tell you, you would never get it and that that, had been my thoughts for two years but he seemed to dislike what I said, he spoke as if it was out of the way, but yet said an honest debt was never out of the way so much for spoken iron - had I had the authority to collect I would have had it, I know of property belonging to the old woman, and had it been attached, Coleman would have come forward and paid the bill, if you can authorize me, I can collect it - it is possible he may get pay it - There is a letter in the office from you to Coleman, it was there last night, Reid has sent Coleman word but he has not called, - We have had the hardest winter known for 40 years, shedding 4 months in succession, we have had no rain since the 21st March - 2 or 3 late showers - a little rain today, - one word more, Almon I hope you are living in the enjoyment of the the grace of God, N.H. Richards