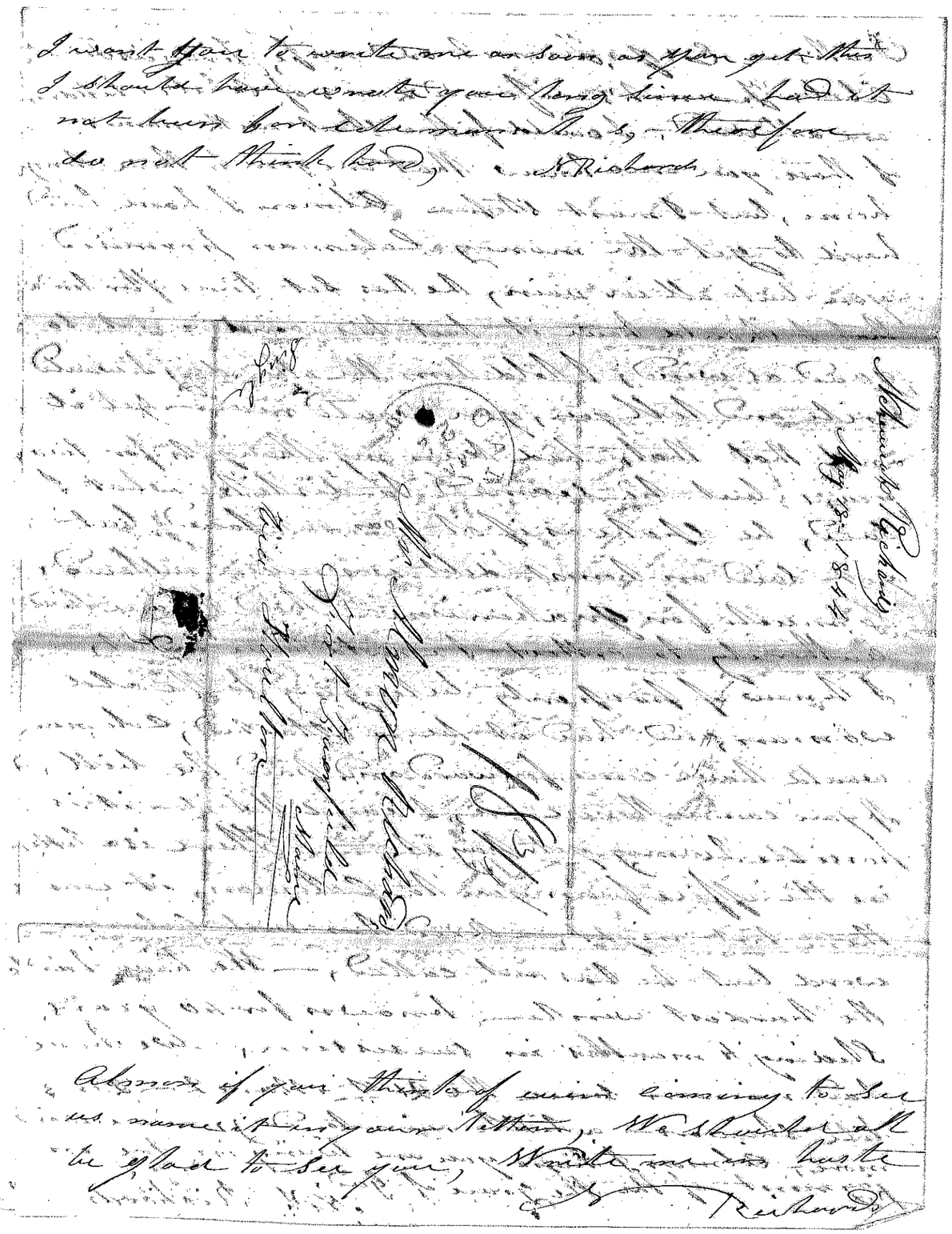

5/18/44
2/4

Lincolnville May 18 – 1844

Dear Son – I received your letter of Dec. 31st, rather warm in politics and political men, Farnham received yours of March 10th. We were all glad to hear from you, and hope these lines will find you and your new made friend, in the enjoyment of good health. I am as well as usual, (the most blind in our eye) your Mother, health is not very good, – Farnham has got married, wedding day April 24th, he is at Thomaston to work, his wife is at her father, – so goes the world; Mary is at home, her health is very poor, She has thought of getting married but is most discouraged on account of her ill health, – Nancy is in Boston, went there 5th last octobr, was taken sick first of January, was carried to the Hospital 12th, was there 8 weeks; She lost 15 weeks of her time by her illness, – owed 12 dollars when she resumed her labours. 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 waite 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 Nancy, is yet there has enjoyed good health, has 7/6 per week.

5/18/44
3/4

Phebe (the infant) is not in first rate health but is very fleshy, is the heaviest of the family was 11 years old last February; she is a very steady Girl, has tried to maintain her religious profession for the last three years; Van Buren has got 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 hopes her oldest brother is a praying man, Darius is a very smart active, little boy, Huldah is rather a slim feeble 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, will old folks have no objections — only 4 boys and 10 girls —

James Adams, that old friend is well; he owns the place where Daniel Fletcher lives, the Rankins place above the road, the John young place that joins me; John & family have moved to the town of Burnham James Adams has a Girl in Lowell, it is Abner Dunton's Daughter, or a Moody Girl. James is a very steady man and a good Christian; will be Baptised 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

5/18/44
4/4

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 know 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 outlawed, but
yet said an honest debt was never outlawed;
So much for quakerism — had I have had
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 authorise me, I can collect it — it is
possible he may yet pay it — There is a letter
in the office from you to Coleman, it was
there last night — Reed has sent Colman
word but he has not called, — We have had
the hardest winter known for 40 years,
Sleding 4 months in succession, We have
had no rain since the 21st March — 2 or 3
lite showers — a little rain to day, — one word
more, Almon I hope you are living in the en-
joyment of the the grace of God.
Neh Richards