

1/21/45

Lincolnville Jan 21st 1845 1/2

Dear Brother and sister  
 I take this opportunity to inform you that  
 I and my <sup>companion</sup> are both in the  
 enjoyment of tolerable health and hope  
 this will find you and yours <sup>companion</sup> the same  
 you must excuse my negligence not writing  
 you before as I have had to work days and  
 evenings on my house to make it fit to  
 live in this winter - last summer I tore  
 the old barn down and dug cellar where it  
 stood this fall I have built a good shed 14  
 by 28<sup>feet</sup> which keeps <sup>our</sup> cattle & feed very comfortable  
 besides in which we can store 6 or 7 tons of hay  
 I began to store my cellar calculated them to  
 put up my house this fall but I saw I could  
 not do it without getting badly in debt I then  
 considered it better for me only to put up  
 my porch and I did so - I put up a porch 12<sup>feet</sup> by 17<sup>feet</sup>  
 in which I now live - my <sup>all</sup> companion is not very  
 well to night - father's family are in the enjoy-  
 ment of tolerable health and we should all  
 as one be very happy to see you - and your  
 companion in life - unkle bogues folks  
 are well - unkle steven youngs folks are  
 all well - Brailier is married to Mr's George  
 Neal both of Lincolnville - married Mr's James  
 Adams to Miss Mary Ann Duntore Both of  
 Lincolnville John H. Young to Miss  
 Evaline Duntore Both of Lincolnville

Franklin Richards  
Jan 21-1845

Lincolnville  
Jan 24

Mr. Johnson Richards

Fort Fairfield

Me

Uncle Manningses folks are all  
well except Thomas he is just gone  
with the consumption I do not think  
he will live two months at longest  
Mrs. coatman's <sup>folks</sup> were all well when I  
saw them which was about two months  
ago - Heskiah Halls folks are all well  
Uncle James Richardses folks are all  
well - John and Benjamin Dean  
are both well they both work for  
William Monroe this winter John  
has twelve dollars and a half a month  
Ben has fourteen per month Benjamin  
shops John drives team. James & Harriet  
and wife are both well  
These would all be very glad  
to see you no mistake  
So here I must close Admon.  
you and Francis both if well  
both write me as soon as you  
get this

I am yours affectionately  
James Richards

Dear Son and Daughter  
I seize this opportunity to send you  
my love and best respects  
I should be very happy to see you both  
I wish you all the happiness there is  
in this life  
Lars came home in October from  
Boston and stayed five weeks  
has gone back again  
She has seven and six per week  
Nancy came home about the first  
of Dec she will stay til Spring  
and then return to Boston

So I must close good By  
Thomas and Francis  
until I shall hear from you  
I remain your  
affectionate Mother

James Richards

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