

I should like to have one more letter from you before
I am done with earth — will you write one —
my eyesight is so poor, you can write three,
to my one, will you do it? NR

Mr. Nehemiah Richards

April 1. 1848

Lincolnville
Mr. A. E. B.

Mr. Almon S. Richards

Fort Fairfield

Maine

I hope this will find you all, in the enjoyment
of good health — please pass my imperfections
bye — don't know when this will be mailed
NR

4/1/48
1/2

Lincolnville April 1st 1848

My Dear Childrens — I have not forgotten you, tho
my neglecting for so long a time to write, may seem
strange to you, I received your letter of Sept 10 - 1847
in which you spoke of your own health, as poor, and that
Frances was quite sick at the time of your writing,
you likewise spok of your little Mary — said it was
almost impossible to find time to write, — spoke of hot
weather just before haying — hay crop abundant —
grain crop good — wheat & rye injured a little —
potatoes a failure — no frost to injure — put in no
crop in '46 — sowed 6 acres, of Rye, Barley & Oats, in '47,
put on 12 doll. worth grass seed — thought to get near
3 hundred Bushels — not quite all reaped — corn and
Beans done well — Beans ripe 1st Sept. — corn forward,
could not write much at present — must write a
few lines to Sarnham — glad Nancy & Lois were
safe home — hoped we were all well — pen bad,
light worse, writing worst! — asked me to write
soon — happy to hear from Brothers or sisters —
expected the little boys had grown quite large —
wished them to be good ^{boys} & mind parents, then
closed, — Almost 4 months have past since then,
and I am yet on this sin-cursed earth, for about
two years, I have been afflicted with a disorder on
the brain, not one day, free from pain, have I
had the past winter — your Mother's health is poor,

4/11/48
7/2

have not seen Farnham very lately, but expect they
(he and family) are well, I know not what his future
prospects are, last fall he went onto a piece of land
has a house and barn on the same, (he built the
house) but I fear he will have to leave it, Mary
Maddox's health is very poor, and she, very unfortunate,
circumstances being very untimely, twice has she
had ill luck, losing three male children, I think
her days, will not number many years, Nancy is
in Camden to work at Eatons tavern (or boarding house)
Lois works in Camden, at George Pendlletons -
Two days since, I had a letter from Joel & Phoebe,
they are in very poor health, both of them,
Joel is a first rate boot maker, had he good
health he might do well in Kenbee, -
his brother David is fitting himself to be ranked among
the great ones in future time, his next brother
works in the great Saythe factory in the town
of Wayne, - Van Buren works in a shingle
and saw mill, with his cousin Mansfield, - Angelica
Boggs husband, the mill stands on that brook near
Moses Youngs lime kiln, I believe there are 6
if not 7 shingle mills in our town, - Ruth,
Darius, Huldah B. and Frances E. (your parents)
keep with us - 4 remaining of 14. -

Benjamin Dear that you have so often spoke
of in your letters, died, the first part of the winter,
complaint, Consumption, Old Sam! Bussey is dead,
yesterday I had numbered 56 years - I know not
what a day may bring forth, - do you think to see me ^{again?}

I feel it duty to say a few words, on another subject,
and let me ask, do you children fear God? the fear of
God is the beginning of wisdom, are you aware that the time
will soon come when you and I shall have to appear
before the tribunal of God? do you believe God will
bring every work into judgment, whether it be good
or bad, and you and I be rewarded according as our
works have been? If you do believe, let me ask, are
you prepared, or preparing to meet such solemn
events, or are you living as sin? are you sleeping
on, remaining careless, stupid, altogether unconscious
as to the future? May God help you, dear children, to
make your way well out, of this world, - there is
another world yet in the future, and I believe the
time is near where the Lord himself will descend
from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the
archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in
Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and
remain, shall be caught up together with them in the
clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever
be with the Lord, again, when the Lord Jesus shall be
revealed from heaven with his mighty angels, in flam-
ing fire, taking avengeance ~~on~~ on them that know not
God, and that obey not the gospel of our Lord Jesus
Christ, who shall be punished with everlasting destruc-
tion from the presence of the Lord, and from the glory
of his power; when he shall come to be glorified in his
saints, and to be admired in all them that believe in
that day, God help us, to prepare for the events that await
this ungodly world, Nehemiah Richards