

7/20/49

Lincolnton July the 24th 1849

Dear Children

It is a long time since we heard from you, I expect you begin to think we have all forgotten you, but not so - we often think of you! and should be glad to see you all, I want you to write as soon as you get this, - and let us know if you are sick or well, and I want to know if I can have a hope of ever seeing you again in this life, - your Pa and I do not enjoy very good health this summer, - I made Farmham a visit about three weeks since - he, and wife, little son and daughter were all well, - Farmham said he should write you ^{soon}, Richard and ^{Mary} are well now, - Mary does not enjoy very good health, - Mary is well and works to Mrs Halls, but where is dear Louis? alas! she is in gonders grave yard - we never shall see her dear face, nor hear her dear voice again, - she was mild and lovely and beautiful, - she was a blessing here below, a loving kind and faithful child, - Mary thought much of her death, and for many days would not be comforted, it is a great affliction to us all, but we must try to bear it patiently, - we got a letter from Joel and Phebe last Friday, they were both well, they want you to write them, they live in hallowell Vanburen - Ruth, Darius Gliddan, and Jennings are all well,

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In your last letter you said you thought you should sell and go to the Illinois or Wisconsin, why not come to Lincolnville or Hallowell, I think you would do well here, every thing is cheap and plenty one cord of bark will almost pay for a barrel of flour - Corn molasses, Tea and Sugar are cheap Calicoes and Sheetings are from seven cents to ninepence, per yard

Dear Frances I want you to write to us if Abner is in such a hurry that he cannot - I know it is a busy time of the year

I wish you well, if I never see you
but I hope I shall

you must excuse this scroll

I shall enclose a lock of Lois hair

[Redacted]

I must close, and now I bid you good by

I remaine your affectionate mother

Nancy Richards

My Mother
July 24th 1849

Mr. Abner S. Richards
Hart Springfield
Maine

Lincolnville
July 25th 1849

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