

Lincolnvill February 25-1855

My Dear son

We have received yours of January 30th were truly glad to hear that you and your family were well, I am better of my lameness than I was, but expect to have a lame ankle what little time I may live, and I think that will be but a short time, I have begged of Sharnham time after time to write you, and I wonder he does not, I believe Mary's family are well, Huldah lives with them this winter, I think I told you in my last that Jeremiah Hads worth was dead, and that the widow was quite ~~as~~ well, she is now dead and buried, Nancy was there before Jer^h died and remains there as yet, I hear that Ruth has come into town, and is with Nancy to day, they may both be here to night at least Ruth will be here to night or ^{to} tomorrow perhaps she may poke a line into this letter,

Darius is about the same stature you were of when you left Lincolnvill, He was at Camden yesterday with a team (have to go with wheels,) he had a cold sore, We have had some of the most remarkable cold weather here since ^{years} February Commenced there has been for 20 or 30

C. Richards

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But with all our cold weather we have not had a day's sleiding since the latter part of december, Every thing that is eatable, drinkable, (tea, coffee, molasses, & chocolate) Wearable or burnable, are extremely high, Small second, or even third, growth wood will fetch $4\frac{1}{2}$ and 5 dollars per cord - must have it or freeze, Sarsaparilla sold for five yesterday Flour is from 12 to 14 doll, Corn about 1,25 cents, other things in proportion.

As I have spoken of several of the family, I will here say that I mailed a letter yesterday for the Renobee, to see if I could get track of Phoebe, so you must excuse me for not answering your inquiries at this time, Frances lives at home, she is quite a smart little girl, do you think you shall ever see her - I wish you might, My Wife is very poorly does not expect she will ever enjoy good health, she often says she should like much to see you, she thinks a great deal of Martin V. B. and he as much of her, I think I will take a sheet before long, and make out a list of Marriages and deaths and send you, It might stir up your mind a little by way of

remembrance, You say Sebastopol will not be taken by the French and English this winter, I think that, to be the worst affair England had since my remembrance, The sufferings of the British army, are truly lamentable, of 54,000 that have reached that place only 14,000 remain, and but 5,000 of them fit for service, The French, are more fortunate, but the Turks, are more unfortunate still, the plague sweeps them off terribly, I get much news from the seat of war by the papers I take, I have taken 4 till within 3 weeks, I now take but three, One week this morning, we had a shock of an earthquake here, With the pains, and aches of body, and a trembling hand, I shall have to close, Can you, or can you not manage so as to come and see us, I should be glad to see you, but it must be soon, if ever come if you can - If you are intending to, tell us when, I don't know when I shall send this, May send something more with it, would send you much for reading, if it would go safe - Yours ever - A. B. Richards
B. H. Richards

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