

1/2  
12/4/56

write to me as soon as you  
get this, tell me how you are  
getting along, kiss the children  
for me, my respect to you  
all, so good night,

direct your letters  
to  
Beth Ann Richards  
No 8 eight newton  
place

Boston

Mass

from your  
Sister

No 8 No

Dec 17/56

Mary  
Richards

Boston, Dec. 14<sup>th</sup> 1856.

Dear Brother & Sister.

permit me to write  
to you after along - long silence,  
dear brother I think it is 16 years & six  
months to day, since I saw you last, but  
I still remember your countenance almost  
as well as if it were but yesterday, but  
the time seems long, that we are separated  
from each other, sixteen years has made  
many changes in our fathers family -  
one sister has been born into the family  
and grown up to womanhood, and one  
has been taken from us, and our dear  
mother, ~~she~~ has been taken from our  
circle, to be with us no more on earth.

2/2

12/4/50

and another woman <sup>has</sup> come in and taken her from them since I left there, I have place, but she does not seem like our own, dear mother, although she is very kind to us, and we all like her very much, two Brothers & two sisters at home, have been married and have families of their own, and those that were so young to remember you, are grown up, to men, and, women, too, Muddah and Brances are either of them larger than myself Brances is the tallest of us three and I am the shortest of the family. But I must begin anew subject, I came to Boston four weeks ago, I'm kind to stop here this winter life and health permitting, the folks were all well as usual when I left home, I have sent them one letter, but have not heard and a nother woman <sup>has</sup> come in and taken her from them since I left there, I have place, but she does not seem like our own, dear mother, although she is very kind to us, and we all like her very much, two Brothers & two sisters at home, have been married and have families of their own, and those that were so young to remember you, are grown up, to men, and, women, too, Muddah and Brances are either of them larger than myself Brances is the tallest of us three and I am the shortest of the family. But I must begin anew subject, I came to Boston four weeks ago, I'm kind to stop here this winter life and health permitting, the folks were all well as usual when I left home, I have sent them one letter, but have not heard

also written another letter to day, and shall send it to the P O with this, Mary had a little girl born. Now third, and, Martin had a little son born Sep first, The talk is that Nancy is a going to be married this winter to Charles, C Porter, I think I do not know any news to write. I want to see you all very much, and if we all live till spring, and you do not come home I have some thoughts of coming to see you, but if you could come I would send you forty or fifty dollars to wards paying your expences, but I must close, &