

Nov 15, 1857

Linncolnville Nov 15 - 1857

My Dear Son

Yours of the 10th ult. is now before me, I received it last evening, We were all glad to hear from you, and to learn that you and yours were well. Not having any news to write, I will fill up this sheet after the following manner:

It seems you do not get all the letters I send you, or you overlook them or forget them at the time of answering. I have therefore I note down the dates of answering my letters and I will here give the dates of reaching any letter to you for your part. Sept. 25th 1856.

Oct. 14th 1856, January 12th 1857 - Apr. 27 - 1857
June 4th 1857, July 6th 1857. I have been stopping and looking over your letters, I believe they have all been received, or spoken of except the one of the night 2th of June.

We have had the appearance of snow but only as yet thin fall, it is very pleasant to day, doubtless shall have snow soon, potatoes have rotted badly, some have none, others but a few, my white ones all with by the hand in ten days, after they were dug, have not raised much if a crop of any thing this season - have some hay,

C. Richards

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Stock Sold - I sold one Cow first day of April for \$5 dollars Cash - Same month, one Calf 3 doll Cash, In June one Calf 18 days old 3.50 cents, In Sept. one yoke of oxen \$130 cash, about the last of October 1 Cow for 32 dollars not cash. I now have pair of Steers in the spring, one cow, one yearling, & heifer that came in next summer, one that withered, & one spring, and a pair of Steers Calves.

Our Health - My wife is very poor by what she has kept in company, I have been a couple of years ago for three years come down, & have affected my whole leg to my hip joint I find that my leg begins to wither away, I have quite a distressing feeling in my head almost continually, my eyesight is very poor, I have many aches and pains in every part of my body, so you must not expect much more from me.

You say that you are more than 40 years of age, I was aware of that, how swift the moments fly, and it can't be all one of them, man's life is like the grass or like the morning flower, a sharp icicle over the field, it withers in an hour! It is truly so.

your Uncle Gideon Richards saw a man not long since who said he came from your section and was well acquainted with you. I did not learn his name, I wish I could have seen him, your Uncle is teaching School in Camden, a very large number of people have died in Camden lately, In Lincolnville, Old Mrs, and old Mr. Bernale (Mrs. Hill's parents) and Timothy Bernale oldest child (a little boy) have died lately - This Tim Bernale married Thomas Richards daughter. I believe her name was Abbi Jane. I hope this will find ^{you} and yours in the enjoyment of good health - write me as often as you can.

This sheet was cut before I began to write on it, so excuse.

This from your affectionate Father
 Nathaniel Richard

65 years old 31st last month