

Lincolnville Jan. 30<sup>th</sup> 1860

My Dear Son

I take a leave of the passing moments to write you a few lines. First I will state that Fannie's feet were this day bad her right hand and arm ruined by the catching of a hook of a chain while he was in <sup>the</sup> midst of a team of three yoke of cattle, since then he has been very near his end, (if the grace is the grace of us) I have reference to mortification. But I will not go in to particulars, but will say his hand is doing better than was expected it would. The pain and distress he has passed through were distressing the hearts of all those who have seen and heard him, but as three days ago he stepped out doors but has not returned since nor is it safe for him to, if his hand and arm should get well, it will be several months before he can do any thing with it, it is not likely his arm and hand will ever have their proper shape again, My right leg is almost useless, it is swelling up from the sore of my toes to my hip joint, my right arm is not much better than that, My wife's health is very poor, Mary is in very poor health, and the devil has thrown <sup>her</sup> into (what may call) a state of despondency, Richard feels very bad on account of <sup>his</sup> state of mind, she can't reason with any one, nor no one with her, Mary is at Chickpee Mill, she is in a very bad state of health, Sharnham has moved his family to Rockland, have not heard from Dede and family since Bet's last, Ruth was married 24<sup>th</sup> Novemb. past. She was home on Saturday, returned yesterday. <sup>if</sup> ~~there~~ was but one clew follow in manure, she has caught him.

Jan 30, 1860

Count young, widow of Uncle Stephen young, died Dec 20<sup>th</sup>  
Uncle others that died 7<sup>th</sup> December

Phile Hassie died 19<sup>th</sup> December — this was Charles young  
wife's mother, Isaac Richards died Jan. 18<sup>th</sup>  
this brood was a brother of old Garrison Joseph Richards

an old lady a Mrs. Wood has lately died in town,  
Mr Benjamin Garrison at dusk has lately died.

Miss Thomas only son has at death's door or is dead.  
James Adams's wife died Jan. 7<sup>th</sup> — lived in Rockland

I have received 3 and 3 papers from you  
all came safe,

Last Saturday evening I left 4 papers  
at the post office to go into the mail this morning  
for you, I hope they may go safe — please tell if  
they do, and I will send more often than from you,  
When I commence thought of killing a sheet,  
but it is proving foolish, and I shall lose,

Madach is at home Thomas is with Mary  
and goes to school, Bottwell.

W.F. Richards

Nehemiah  
Richards  
Jan 30-1860

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