



Horatio P. Van Cleve and  
family papers.

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I sat back Wednesday Evening, Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> 1838  
My dear wife. I was so intent, in my task, on  
telling you, of our losing Jack, that I forgot to men-  
tion, that I had rec<sup>d</sup> yours of Aug. 24<sup>th</sup> and it prepared  
me, not to look for one this week; still I could not help  
watching the Doctor as he was opening the mail. The  
mails are very tardy reaching here; if a letter or  
news at Upsalanti one day too late, it must be  
over a week. I hope, dearest, you are not  
straitened for want of funds, for the fact is there  
is but little prospect of my getting hold of any, at  
present. Now to raise the wind, to bring you here, is  
hard for me to tell. We must look to God for direc-  
tion and counsel. He suffers us to be tried in order that  
we may feel our need of him. Pray for me, dearest,  
Pray that I may not be led into temptation. — I am  
getting quite homesick, I assure you, and frequently  
dream of my precious darlings. I hope you spend your  
time pleasantly and profitably. I have, or imagine  
I have, enough to do, to keep me constantly occupied  
from morning till night, and when night comes can  
not see that much has been accomplished. I think  
it is well, that you and one precious boy have been  
away from here, this fall, it has <sup>been</sup> so sickly. In some  
families, every one has been sick, so that it has been  
difficult to get any one to take care of them. Mr. Grier  
was obliged to cook for his family, his wife, Kitty,  
Harriet Carter, and two hired men have been sick.  
His wife is strong well at present. Their boy weighed 7lb

I think Mrs. Soule told me, Woodruff (Henry) and his wife  
have been down here. They have another girl, it weighed 10 1/2 lbs.

I have said that I was getting homedick. That  
being the case, you must think it strange that I do  
not bring you back right away, seeing my mind is  
made up to spend the winter here. I must explain  
a little. In the first place I am afraid to have  
you and my little one here till the sickly sea-  
son is over; and I have business that must be at-  
tended to by me, for no one can attend to it for me  
properly. I hope that in the course of the next week  
I will have my accounts paid in some shape. The  
week after I expect to have enough to keep  
me constantly occupied. On or about the 8<sup>th</sup> of  
October, I hope and pray that I may be able to  
start for you, if my legs is spared; still it may  
be out of my power to leave here so soon, you  
must therefore, not be disappointed if you do  
not see me by the end of that week (that is by the  
13<sup>th</sup>). I may be detained here one or two weeks  
longer than I expect. - It is probable that I will  
have a law suit with old Gre, next week or  
the week after, about Jack. I hope I will be  
able to get the value of the horse from him, if  
he caused his death, but God forbid that I do  
wrong him. I thank God that I have no feelings  
of revenge or malice towards the man.

Sept. 16. How much I have this day, thought

of you & my little one, precious darlings. May our Hea-  
venly Father, bless & preserve you both, and soon return  
you to your husband & father, - wife and little one.

Sept. 17. It still continues somewhat sickly. Elder Barnes  
lost a son today about 18 years of age. Hammond's chil-  
dren are both quite sick. R. Wallaces child is sick, Eliza  
Beth Leighton has been sick & Kitty Gieren. The last  
two have had fits. Mrs. Abram Clark has a daugh-  
ter, born yesterday morning. I hear of one that are  
dangerously ill excepting Hammonds boy. There has  
been quite a drought here this season; It is now, I believe,  
four weeks since there has been any rain. The crops  
of wheat &c. have done remarkably well. Potatoes  
will be scarce. Pork & beef, we think, will be high.  
Ralph will make a fine porker, and I trust  
will gnaw his spars about Christmas.

Linah has a litter of pigs that will make  
some fine roasting by the time you come back. I feed  
them tomatoes. The Doctor and I think of purchasing  
a beef in partnership. - I understand that  
the Presbytery will meet here the latter part of this  
month. If possible I will give you an account of  
its proceedings. - You may hear of some expelled  
from the Church. - Give my love to Malatan, and tell  
him I hardly know what to say about Engi-

ing. My business is such that I will not be able  
to leave here this winter without a sacrifice of  
property, greater than would be justifiable. I presume

You returned to him the \$10. with many thanks. I found that I should have got to my journey's end without using it, but it was very convenient, and you know money never sticks in my pocket. — I felt very anxious that he should turn his attention to England, and not return to Texas, and I still hope he will do so.

Brownstown Mich. 3  
Sept. 18. 1838. 3

1838/4  
Mr. A. Clarke

For Mrs. C. Van Cleave

Cincinnati

Ohio

My dear friend  
I have not yet received your letter of the 10th. I am sorry that I have not been able to write you more often. I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same. I am very truly  
Your friend  
J. W. Brown

The Gibraltar Comp. have determined to pay their debts, if they do no more. These dollars on I have have been called for, which will amount to \$12,000. I intend to present them with a bill for services, damages &c, which will amount to about \$650.00. The bill of A. P. Van Cleave & Co against them amounts to about \$1000. If it should all be paid, it will give me

Flat Rock Aug 15. '38

My precious wife. Perhaps you had better read this to yourself before you read it. I was sadly disappointed to day, in not receiving a letter from you, for I had no more doubt of ~~not~~ receiving one, than, I had of the coming of the mail. But the mail did come, and without any letter from my darling. Can it be, dearest, that you delayed writing, more than a week, or even as long as a week after I left you. I know you could not have done so, and I comfort myself by attributing my disappointment to the mails. I wish we had a daily mail, it wd be such a pleasure, to sit down every evening and write you a good long letter. — I have no news, of any account, to communicate. My letter this morning, contained every thing of importance, I enclosed in it a ~~ten~~ dollar bill which I hope you received safely. — My business moves at a dull rate; It will take me some time to secure what is due me, and leave my <sup>affairs</sup> well settled. The Gibraltar Company will cause me some trouble. If they will ensure the payment of what they owe us, ~~in~~ six months I will be satisfied. — And I expect as much trouble in arranging my affairs with the Store &c. I intend to discontinue all connection with the concern, as soon as they can come to any arrangement, as I do not wish to be connected with them.

I enclose ten dollars (\$10) on the Boreg, Bank, New York deposit. It has made me feel wretchedly poor. I think that you were in want of funds. I hope you may not feel this want any longer.

to a settlement. I wrote to Hous requesting him to ask Pegler, if I could take Isabella with me to Cincinnati. He has not yet sent an answer. I wonder what doubt whether Peg will be willing.

Aug 16. It is time for all honest folks to be in bed, but before retiring I must have a little chat with my precious one, and send a kiss to my darling babe. So you must feel as if you did like to see your husband again? If you not be almost willing to come back to the Rock, to be with him? I know you w<sup>d</sup>. But we must not be impatient, nor repine; but submit all our cares to our Heavenly Parent who careth for us, and will watch over us. He has not seen fit to prosper me in business here but he has not permitted us to suffer from want, and we have abundant reason to thank him for his goodness to us. And the blessings that he is daily bestowing upon us, in the health that we and our little one enjoy, and the comforts with which we are surrounded, sh<sup>d</sup> cause our hearts to be lifted towards him with gratitude and love. — Pray for me constantly.

Mr Clark returned from Whiteford this evening with his family, and brought Mrs Dearborn's sister. — I took tea with Mrs Givens a few evenings since, she laments losing you very much. She is as well as could be expected; as large as life, and ten times more natural. Mrs M<sup>r</sup> Northrop is ill. This is a great plague for children. — There is a great deal of sickness around us; not so much in the village as out of it. Dr Kear is quite sick & Mrs R. Wallcut is very ill. There are four more

sick in Northrop's family. — Did I mention to you that Patrick Deane lost his wife during my absence. — Sabbath evening. The Methodists had a "Conference meeting" today. I attended the morning services, after the "Love feast," and had the privilege of partaking of the communion with them. Three children were baptized; Ransom's, Strong's, and Aring's (Indian). They had no name for his child, and left it to the Minister to give him one, who called him "William". The services were solemn and interesting. Several Indians partook of the sacrament. — The clergyman who preached was a stranger to me, and pleased me much. — Mrs Givens is sick; and Reid, his wife & children. Mrs Dearborn's sister brought a quarrel with her. It is very sickly throughout the country. Report says, all throughout the Ohio & Ohio there are more sick, than there are well to take care of them. The prevailing diseases, "Chill fever" and "fever and ague", particularly the former. — Good night dearest, God's choicest blessings rest upon you and our darling babe. —

Aug. 20. I wish I could say, when, in all probability, I will be in Cincinnati; but it is impossible yet to tell. The great difficulty is the scarcity of money in these parts. There is scarcely any in circulation. The worst banks are about as bad as ever; up yesterday, down today. If we get a few paper dollars we do not know that they are worth any thing. As for disposing of any thing on credit, it is useless. If any one sh<sup>d</sup> buy, he sh<sup>d</sup> buy for cash, that he can

day. — It has been excessively hot today. I find it very comfortable this evening to live as Adair did when he was alone, sans cotte, sans chemise, and am obliged to keep my windows closed on account of the Mosquitos; which are very numerous. — Mrs. Hutchins came down here the other day to see if I had not some articles of kitchen furniture, that she was in need of: after looking

Mrs. Hutchins is now that better than ever, I hope.

Brownstown, Mich. ~~Aug 21~~ 1838

My dear Mr. A. A. A.

to Mr. A. A. A.

Enclosure

Ohio

from Mrs. Hutchins

in all the closets and by places, and taking some things, examining every thing minutely, (she expressed particular interest about my bedding) she took a few things which I felt she have very cheap. She went away, apparently very well satisfied. By the bye, if she is a man, she is a very good one, I perceive. She sent her husband after some that she found out, some she carried with her. You must think of me, saying a long story about nothing, particularly when you can



Nov 5th

Dr Sir - I took this letter out of the office  
this morning - you are undoubtedly astonished  
as well as I. That Sam. May I shall be  
be appointed to the army soon. He says  
you had better come back - for you will  
certainly go on to assist in Michigan -  
Let Malcolm to follow closely <sup>in</sup> the  
footsteps of his illustrious namesake -

Your affectionate & brief  
brother Malcolm

P.S. Mrs. Weston sends love also Miss. Morris -

Dear Child

I told Malcolm to write a line to you but  
he is so full of nonsense that I might as well have  
written at once. It is getting so late in the season  
that I should think it not best for you to return  
home this fall. I would Mr. Van Cleve, and let me  
know, I shall be very glad to have you with me this  
winter if you can feel contented to remain - the  
children are very well. Send love to sister -  
Mr. Hume mentioned that he spent an evening with you  
and that little Malcolm was well.

Do not give way to low spirits all will be ordered  
for the best - my remembrance to Mrs and Miss Phillips -  
My little Malcolm for me - Mrs Staughton and family  
expect to leave this week, all desire their love -  
Your Affectionate Mother

C. A. Clark

7  
E OCT 27  
Mich

1840  
10

Wm. H. Phillips  
Care of Mr. H. Phillips  
Dayton

Decy line a few c 22<sup>o</sup>/837

I have given to the yesterday  
 the money has been unable to procure  
 a draft on the Bank at Cleveland  
 for an Eastern Draft which you could  
 have negotiated without loss. but now enable  
 you the Eastern Certificate for \$2630 <sup>4</sup>/<sub>100</sub>  
 the proceeds of your stock. I was fortunate  
 in getting it I can now buy it at par  
 the Eastern Certificate include your  
 can have no difficulty in negotiating  
 it with the Bank by any of the Banks in the  
 East of the United States and can be made  
 and your purpose if not in time  
 may be at Cleveland. supposing that in  
 the exchange with any of the Banks for  
 the purpose of the Eastern Certificate Company  
 is. I am sure. which is paper is a  
 advantage. It is off of paper is  
 and it only. But we are affectionately  
 to your wife and children. I shall be  
 pleased to hear from you an delegate  
 what doing purposes for. take care

numerous responsibilities The Speculation  
 of the country is a to go by the Board  
 many in my season here they who are in debt  
 are trembling. and a fear on the cutbacks  
 that as good as exist. an attempt to make  
 to and your purpose is to be without  
 a life  
 your affectionate  
 M. H. P. Tancleu  
 Wm. Phillips

M. H. P. Tancleu  
 Michigan  
 1837

Wm. Phillips  
 1837

(Museum) have given to the country  
 as being a great deal. they have given  
 all sorts of things. and they have  
 from you a great deal. but we have

Dorchester Nov 25 1837

Dear Horatio

I received your letter of the 2<sup>nd</sup> inst  
a few days ago, and am gratified  
to learn that you are all well and  
engaged I hope in a pleasant and  
profitable business. I sat late last  
evening on the machine and wrote a letter  
for the purpose of making you a visit  
accrued part of 2 days and had no prospect  
of a Boat direct to Monroe and  
abandoned the trip. I intended if able  
to make another visit to the machine  
in the Spring. you and wife accompany  
me. and thus we could arrange on  
time so as to have men cleared  
and break all our friends in the  
north part of the country.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> inst. of your  
message I learned you had better  
visit the night before last yourself.  
it may be worth much more than you  
are disposed to take for it. I suppose  
very. and as I find of mine who live  
near it will give you any information  
you may want and assist you  
in selling it. I will be here and as  
my name. from the representations of  
James Phillips. I have no doubt it  
is a good purchase. It is a bad time  
to sell property for cash. but you  
can better determine as to its value  
after seeing it. I should you be  
unable to effect a sale to suit  
and still disposed to sell it for cash  
when I get through my speculations  
engagements and can spare the money

may wish

If it is since since a happened  
all the rest of your time

In the last year of your Campaign  
I wrote you a long time since stating  
that Mr Browning had written me with  
an account of my opinions as to the receipt  
of an offer which he had for it. I have  
no knowledge or discussion in placing a  
value on it. I hope you would have done  
so yourself long before this. It seemed  
him to be over in the summer then as a  
bad decision to sell that kind of property  
if you have not. write him your wish  
and he will attend to them

William Brown has come out  
to spend the winter in Leeds by Leeds  
in Judge Brewer's office. Says that  
all our Sunday friends were well  
as we are here. Maria Anna and  
her babies think this many to make  
Elizabeth a visit at Concord  
while her husband is negotiating  
for us at Concord.

As an all over and here  
as my household names of humanity  
the little political changes in St  
York. you are more cheerful  
aspects. I wish you a day and  
Baptist which will give you the  
evidence of our feelings here on  
the very interesting event.

Remember me to your wife  
Hocoma to her of friends  
and believe me very truly

Wm H. P. Vanecko Yours  
H. G. Phillips

I am unable to collect money as  
I could accommodate your wants  
in ordinary times. I could do so at that  
moment but at present I am so pressed that  
where I have not no paper or ink to  
be better understood in the Spring  
of the year.

Dickinson and Lucy have been in a  
boat at Concord for the last  
few days. They have a fine interest  
all the day. (Kate)



Mr. H. Bates. Teacher  
Brooklyn  
New York

Chas. Phelps  
Nov 28 1857

Day Tue Jan 24. 1837

Dear Aunt's

I have just received  
from the messenger and found  
a letter from Mr. Browning on  
the subject of your carriage  
he says that he thinks you  
cannot afford one too high  
you can see where you are  
discouraged and will have to  
the subject. He sends to you  
attention of the 12th inst. recd. this  
morning. I fear it will work  
of my power to give you the  
account of the same you wish  
I would I mention to you the  
difficultly that I had had with  
my penman & when I finally  
I have written the last few words

known as one of his secretaries  
to the U. S. Senator, the least of  
the thousands of dollars which  
under the present antislavery  
condition of the country has  
enriched me to much uncommon  
and permits an ability to gratify  
my disposition to see you

Let me again admonish  
you against going into debt  
and extend your speculating  
views beyond your present means

You have more duties and  
less wishes for your money  
on what are your many undertakings  
I have expenses with Hope profits  
you both. Remember me affectionately  
to her. Harriet and Charlotte  
Dr. Ransom is going out to  
the mountains in a few days

And if he conceals some secret  
of the Bible so long my dearest  
his journey to Michigan and

Where he plans to have  
four years open and will chiefly  
pay the passage. In the fall  
I may be able to spend year  
at home in my uncertain  
the society close together with my  
purchaser last fall. has my  
sister crippled my action means  
and come now replaced  
Thine  
very sincerely

H. G. Phillips

H. P. Ransom

On Bank Kings Lp. and a note  
 contain to do so. your certificate was  
 Lp. and had your Rife & L. and had  
 your against any L. and had  
 your 900th

H. G. Phillips

Aug 20 1837

Mr H. P. Kendall

Wilmington

Weymouth

Proctor and

H. G. Phillips

1837

Columbus, July 28<sup>th</sup> 1838

My dear wife,

Thus far have I penetrated into the bowels of the land without impediment. The weathering too is with me. We leave this morning for Sandusky. Since we left Dayton I have not been troubled with the sickness of which I complained in Cincinnati. Yesterday we travelled from Springfield to this place (45 miles) on top of the stage. The weather since I left C. in. has been excessively hot & today hotter than ever. I wish much to see my precious wife & darling boy. I know you will avoid every thing that you think may possibly injure him. Recollect that Mrs Brooke (at Green Bay) attributed the death of her boy, to her eating ice cream. Kiss our darling a thousand times for me. Does he miss me in the morning.

Huron (Monday) July 30. 1838.

I arrived here last evening after a weary and dusty ride. We concluded to, come here for a boat instead of going to Sandusky. It has been a most pleasant good and I am very anxious to get home with my children and my dear wife to my dear home.

I have seen no such bright eyes as one boy  
once left me. Can he talk any about his  
gettin' off at a boat comes here bound  
from Detroit, I shall go there first, then <sup>take</sup> a boat  
for Gibraltar, and from Gibraltar walk  
home, I wish to sell my horses in Gib-  
raltar & Detroit (You perceive) from the mistakes  
I am constantly making that I have par-  
tially lost my senses.)-

I met Mr. Leavenworth this morning, he  
says his wife is in Detroit.

He has been over some fine coun-  
try and through many villages, but  
not yet found a place in which  
to live, this side of Dayton.

I told you to be much pleased with  
the visit of Betty the next fall - he came  
Mama told me many things about  
him that will astonish you  
a little. He told his mother many  
things concerning us in which there was not  
a word of truth. I was surprised that he  
should have fabricated falsehoods reflecting  
calculated to injure us, without benefiting  
himself. Poor boy he is young, and I  
hope he died in sincere penitence.

It is strange but I have been injured  
more by those who call me my friends than  
by any of the rest of my fellow men. When

even I assist me, I am sure to be hurt.  
How necessary that we should make  
friends not only for our happiness in this world  
but in this life. I am sure that  
God, that I may put my trust in him and  
live in his fear.

I wish you to write to sister Maryanna  
and Louisa often. I think we should have  
more frequent correspondence with them than we have  
heretofore. There is nothing that tends more to keep  
up a warm affection between friends than  
frequent correspondence. I shall  
write to them often. I shall have to go to  
Detroit to visit them, but I cannot leave the  
city. My feelings are very tender  
towards them, and I wish to see them  
no more than at present.

I am much alone to all, and your name  
is a source of joy to me.  
Your friend  
Vernon



PAID

*183*

*Mr. C. L. Clark*  
*per Mr. [illegible]*  
*care of*  
*Ohio*

Flack Aug 22. '88

Dear sweet letter, dated Aug  
20th, and although it grieved me to  
hear that you had been sick, yet I thank you  
that you and our precious babe were well  
and you wrote, May he continue his goodness to  
us and to each other and in  
length I was glad to hear that Louisa had been  
well and that she was about to spend some  
time with her mother. If our lives are  
long I may yet hear the happy news  
and I am sure you will write to me from Dayton  
and I will receive a letter from me written at  
Dayton. If you did I must scold you for not  
speaking to me. I shall always make it a rule  
to mention what letters you have rec'd from me.  
I am glad you got your ring from Louisa. I wish  
you would send her a card from Dayton. Note she is there. Louisa  
wrote me to send a card from you.  
I hardly know what to say about money in these  
times. It appears to be growing worse and more  
so. Now I hear we hear of a Bank go-  
ing down, leaving some of its bills back on our  
hands. I hope it will be all the difference.

I am obliged to lay down my pen frequently, to go  
round and sing the Mosquito songs for they bother  
me exceedingly. Do you not like to be here and see  
me displaying my skill? You know I am quite an  
adept. 23<sup>d</sup> Clark says he expects to leave this place  
in about two months. His father in law (Mr. White) has  
given him a fine farm, in the neighborhood of Whitewater  
and he is going there to live. There is nothing going on  
here, but quarreling and lawsuits. It is sickening  
to see so much contention among neighbors. John Van  
Riper, & some others, have been engaged in a foolish  
sue, against Bacon (injuring some property) that came  
near sending them to jail. In this Bacon was not to  
blame. Have I told you that during my absence from  
Clark J<sup>r</sup> <sup>goods</sup> been sold, at auction. He has been cut-  
ting some really capital. Almost every one who at-  
tempted to assist him, by loaning him money, has  
been injured by him. It is hard to be obliged to  
say such things of one who is a member of the  
Church. Such conduct certainly can not be expected  
from a sincere and humble disciple of our Sa-  
vior. This Church is in a deplorable condition  
at present, and we all, instead of blaming our  
neighbors, sh<sup>d</sup> humble ourselves before God  
on account of our own sins, and labor diligently  
to bring about a better state of things.

The latter part of last week we had some

cool weather, and the sickness almost disappeared  
to a ~~little~~ <sup>small</sup> extent. Some what; but this week it appears to  
be more hot and sultry than ever, and there  
is still much sickness. Dr. Henderson has  
his hands full. Yesterday he appeared to be  
considerably alarmed about J<sup>r</sup>, but he  
is better today. Dr. J<sup>r</sup> has still got a very anxious  
situation.

about Mrs. Green. I think her time cannot be  
I sh<sup>d</sup> think her time cannot be so long. Clark  
child is somewhat sick, but not very bad. I  
saw as. He is the only child that is sick enough, to  
remove one of our precious babes. I sh<sup>d</sup> not need  
anything, however, to put me in a bad humor, for  
the precious babe is never long out of his father's  
mind. You must always remember that

his mark, when you write, for I sh<sup>d</sup> like to see  
it. By this time he must almost be gone. When I see  
him again I expect he will be looking all over  
the room in his hands & knees. Bless his darling for  
me.

It is so warm this evening that I am ob-  
liged to wrap paper around the bundle to keep  
it warm. I expect to go to bed with my  
knees next Monday. Jack has had a cold  
lying under this week, and I thought it best to  
wait till that sh<sup>d</sup> disappear. They are now  
in quite a good condition, and I hope I  
will be able to tell them. With regard to  
your visiting Clayton, you must use your judgment,



Cincinnati. Sept. 16. <sup>Mo.</sup> 1838

I am seated in the little room  
 which was occupied when you were here, watching  
 the hummers of our baby boy, and have thought it  
 not improper to devote a part of this, God's holy day  
 in conversing with my absent husband, if you were  
 here we should most probably be engaged in this  
 way, and most probably too our thoughts and  
 conversation would wander from profitable and  
 useful subjects, but let us continually and ear-  
 nestly beseech God to grant that we may have  
 hearts pure & devoted to his service.

Your letter dated in the first few days of this  
 month was rec'd yesterday and did not give  
 me much encouragement as to your return, but  
 I endeavor with God's help to be patient and  
 I trust that I am thankful for his great mercies  
 towards us in preserving us both in safety during  
 our separation. Our little darling (I sometimes fear  
 he is our idol) is very well with the exception of a  
 slight cold every one has been afflicted in this way ow-  
 ing probably to the sudden change of weather, and  
 he is now getting well rapidly. I can assure he has

not decreased in size on account of it; Sleep what  
he weighed yesterday — 25 pretty good for 7 months  
but he is no good natured as he is heavy, he certainly  
is the mildest child I ever saw, this disposition he inherits  
from you, I do not claim it at all. Just let me  
describe him to you as he lies before me, he has on a light  
frook and a little blue long-sleeved apron he is lying  
with his face towards me one little arm extended on  
the bed and the other lying across his breast, one little  
foot or rather those pretty little norm with creeping is  
visible from underneath his frook. I am afraid  
you will get wearied from him, if you do not come  
home soon, is there any danger? do you remember  
how he looks? but he is altered very much, come  
home and judge for yourself. Are you waiting  
for money to return home with? what is it that de-  
tains you? let me know when you write.

I feel the more anxious to have you return now  
that I know I am to go back again, you know  
I must be at home to make arrangements for our  
comfort this winter, but then I know you are as  
anxious to come as I am, to have you come, I only  
want to know what detains you that I may  
form some opinion as to when I am to expect you  
I have formed a good many plans for our com-  
fort and happiness this winter, and indeed I feel  
quite happy at the thought of returning, I am very

much attached to two or three persons in Felt  
Rock, ~~and~~ particularly Mrs Dearborn, with you  
for friends we can be very happy, and besides  
you know things will probably be very different  
this winter from what they were last, you know  
our family will be all alone and many things  
will be different. What has become of Charlotte?  
you do not mention her, do you know I have  
been thinking that if I am well I can do with  
out a girl this winter? just as you say however  
tell Isabella to be a good girl till I come home I shall  
want her to take good care of ~~Madison~~ and the sick  
find he has learned a great many new little  
I am glad she makes herself useful. We have  
invitation to a very large party (400 invitations)  
at Mr Taylor's next Wednesday, given in honour of the  
bride whose wedding I mentioned in a former  
letter, I shall not go I think, there will probably  
be several given, to which I shall be invited and  
if I begin I must go through, it is a kind of  
dissipation in which it is rather dangerous to  
indulge. Mrs <sup>Northampton</sup> ~~has~~ understand has re-  
turned, and is probably entirely restored to  
health for I am told she was the handsomest wo-  
man in the room at a large wedding which  
took place last week, I shall of course call and  
see her this week. I attended church this morning

and heard an excellent sermon from Mr Brook  
 who changed with Mr John, for the morning.  
 I wish you had been with me, how have you  
 spent your day? well, I hope, have you any thing  
 like a minister yet? Poor mother is quite sick to  
 day with a cold, but she has taken medicine and

gone to Portsmouth. Write me when  
 you intend to take that I may  
 know which way to look for you.  
 Give your strictest regards to the

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 13  
 H. P. Van Lee  
 Brownstown  
 Mich.

I hope she will soon be well. The weather is  
 very delightful but the streets are extremely dusty.  
 Owing to the great drought, it is really quite  
 serious, vegetation is dying up for want of rain  
 and every thing is very dear, do not think of descend-  
 ing the river, unless you hear of a sudden rise  
 of the water. I do not know that boats run at  
 all now, a week ago they were three days going from

Minimata Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Dear husband

Another week and I do not see my darling, nor even a letter from him, what am I to think? it is now almost the middle of the month and I certainly thought you would have been here by the first. I must conclude that you are now on your way and that is the reason I do not hear from you. I do hope that I shall see you as this letter reaches Great Rock, nevertheless I will write in case you do not leave till next week.

Our pet lamb was 7 months old yesterday and he certainly is all that a parents heart could wish, he is certainly very precious, he has been able to get up on his feet by taking hold of the different articles in the room for as much as a week he is very strong and looks like a child of a year old. he wears shoes and stockings and has really altered so much that you will hardly know him, what a comfort the darling is to me I am really very impatient to show him to you but dearest why is it that you prolong your absence? I should be sorry to think that it was because you feared I would not be willing to go back with you, if I could but hear from you and look forward to some time when I might

He would come to you

reasonably expect you, it would be bearable  
but this suspense is dreadful, darling husband  
nearly 8 weeks separation only think of it!  
do dearest bring it to a close as soon as possible.  
I try not to be impatient but I am afraid  
I sometimes am. But God is very kind and  
merciful to us in sparing us alive and well  
and permitting us to enjoy so many privileges.  
I try to thank him and I hope He accepts my  
thanks, pray to him for me dearest, and may  
He speedily restore us to one another in health  
and safety. I do think that I shall feel better  
contented at Flat Rock, than I ever was before.  
I feel quite happy in the idea of going back  
when I really want to see my old friends and  
I think I shall not complain if every thing is  
not quite so nice and convenient as it is here  
with thankful contented minds we can be happy  
any where. Maj. Gwynne and family have  
returned, Abram will return to New Haven in a  
day or two and by him I will send ~~him~~ charges  
for a letter. Maj. G. is making some exertions to  
get Malcolm into the army whether he will suc-  
ceed or not I cannot say. I have hardly time  
to write a word it is 10 o'clock and I am  
afraid the baby will wake. I am very much in  
hopes you will receive this letter, that is that

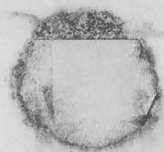
you will be here before this letter reaches Flat  
Rock. Baby sends dear father a kiss and to all  
Take care of yourself and come home to see baby.  
I have rec'd \$25 since you left all right  
I believe. Good night, God bless you and  
keep you from harm.

Yours dear darling wife  
Lotty.



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*Horatio P. Vanderve.*  
*Brownstown*  
*Mich.*



Cincinnati Sept 20<sup>th</sup> 1838.

Dear Husband,

Yours of the 11<sup>th</sup> inst, reached me to-day and I hasten to answer it, I was distressed to hear of the death of our old fellow sufferer Jack and that he should have come to his end in so tragical a manner is certainly most trying to our feelings. Did God bear you any ill-will, or what was the occasion of his sending your poor horse? probably for trespassing on his fields of grass and grain. I am really distressed about it, for I know it must have made you feel very uncomfortably. Never mind darling, do not let the troubles and ills of this life make you repine or murmur, for remember that however your fellow-men may treat you, he can ~~not~~ thrust you permanently, God is still your friend and to him you can look with certainty for help and succour. I am very glad to hear that Mr Green has ~~an~~ <sup>his</sup> but very sorry to learn that Mrs Green is so sick although by this time I suppose she has entirely recovered. Our little boy takes the lead, I know in age, size wit, and so on, of all the boys, although you need not tell their mothers, How is little Henry Hobart and family? I should like much to see all my friends.

Now to business, You speak in your letter as if it were doubtful about your getting us home this winter, now this I cannot bear, and do you know that I have serious thoughts of coming to you, whether you want me or no? I can do it I think and will want you to assist me so to do by advice and directions, I am not at all afraid to come alone, although it would be a difficult job with my 25 pounder, nevertheless if such a thing be possible I must come, Now why could I not borrow money from Uncle or some body ~~you~~ who is able and willing to lend it and turn that note over to him, which will soon be due to you, from Indianapolis? That amount would more than take me home and I should think that would be no difficulty in borrowing it, if you wrote, and sent the promissory note, but I have another and a pleasanter plan in view but it is conditional, Charles is waiting to hear from Washington concerning this appointment in the army, in case he obtains it he will go directly to the East, but if his <sup>answer be</sup> unfavorable he will want to go to Michigan and try to get on some of the public works there as engineer, or indeed if he does not hear from the East before I hear from you in answer to this and if you are in favor of my plan he will be well willing to go with me as a

protector, in either of these last two cases, he has funds enough to take us there and would be very willing to oblige us in this way, you could then perhaps settle with him by means of your carriage debt, When you receive this letter do answer it and if possible send it off immediately, whether you think my plan a wild one or not, and let me know your ideas on the subject, also tell me the best and safest route, remember I dread steamboats and in fact unless the river rises a great deal it will be impossible to ascend it so that I could not go to Portsmouth, I think I could go pretty comfortably by stage and canal but you can think it over and let me know the result of your thoughts, I feel very anxious to see you to be with you and to comfort you in your little trials and vexations, I speak boldly and confidently when I say I should be a comfort to you, and mother says, when you see your boy you will call yourself a rich man. Not our milk dearest, but God's be done, but darling if it is consistent with his holy will may we soon meet, and then he must not be disappointed again if <sup>we can</sup> possibly be so visited, You may perhaps find means to come for us before this reaches you, if so I shall be thankful if not try and think favorably of my plans.

I dined Mrs. ~~Wetherington~~ last evening, her health is much improved by her journey, she certainly is a beautiful woman. The baby as usual when I write, is asleep, but I fear it will not be long, so I must close. Good night - dearest, God bless you your own darling  
Charlotte



W. Vandeventer  
H. H. H. H.  
H. H. H. H.  
H. H. H. H.

here we comes to make his  
mum - God bless his bright and  
happy face, how long he has

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> past the middle of the month and no storm yet every thing as dry as a chip. I am anxious I feel to be with you, just think how comfortable it would be to have us with you, to see a sweet smile on the sweet little face in the world at least every morning, think dearest quick, and let me know. Baby is creeping into all kinds of mischief

[July 31, 1838]

Quincy July 31<sup>st</sup> 1838

My dear dear Friend

Mr. Lincoln and Lucy have just left us. They have been with us since Sunday afternoon and we have had a very delightful visit. They are all very well and little Willie is a darling boy. I know his Uncle would have loved him very much if he had seen him. He is a very pretty baby. Though not so large as his cousins, he is very well and you would have been delighted to have seen them in a tub of water together. Mr. Lincoln says he will write to you from Dayton, and to ask you let you know whether he will say you immediately, of which he is now somewhat in doubt, as he has been appointed to the 10th Regiment and is sent to West Virginia which you know is a very pleasant station. He says as I know you will be very much disappointed that he did not see you, but he must think that for some wise reason it either is necessary or otherwise that he must not appear. I am sure you are having a little while with a very pretty little girl all of which baby will keep in good order to show to father. Dear Susan is the same dear girl that she always was. They feel anxious to see you

a week to Michigan, but I rather think that they will  
give up the idea owing to the extremely hot weather.  
I must now give you a short account of my own  
life since you left me. I was confined to my bed  
Tuesday and the Dr was sent for Wednesday, he  
gave me some powerful medicine and I did not  
let up at all until after I arrived Sunday.  
I have really been very sick or quite so for some  
but I feel today almost well, and if the weather  
would become a little cooler, I think I should recover  
my strength. Do not suppose that I am very well.  
Dear husband, I think my indisposition had been owing to  
my journey and I am now much better. Wednesday Aug. 14

Good morning dear, how and where did you pass the  
night? do you have such very hot weather at Flat  
Rock as we have here? I wish you would say all  
manner of good things for me to the good  
Mr. Clark and their families. Alice Malcom send  
love to Elizabeth and Abby. I think you had  
better pack up Ma's books and send them as  
soon as you can with safety, this seems to be a good  
season for transporting goods, and perhaps the sooner they  
get here the better. You had better also send the  
one which you know will have to be packed separat-  
ly, in the same box you might send the spice box  
and three bottles of spices that stood in the storeroom.

The papers also had better be sent, for I do not know  
that we shall ever have occasion for them and they  
had better be sent soon. That handsome table-  
cloth of Ma's had better be sent, she as we want  
of table-cloths and we can do very well without it.  
I believe we have never paid for it and we can  
easily dispense with it. I know you get anxious to  
know how I get along with Mary, the less said, the  
better. I say as little to her as possible, she is certainly  
very disagreeable. I have been more dependant upon  
her than is at all pleasant to me as she has been  
obliged to hold the baby some during my illness, but  
I am better now and that difficulty is in some  
wise obviated. When I allow myself to think of it, it  
not induce this separation, and dear baby misses  
father much, his dear mother is too weak to walk  
much with him and he does not get the exercise  
that he needs to, if I were able, I should take him  
into the country, his health, however, continues very  
good and we hope God will be merciful  
to us and continue this best of blessings. Mr. John  
lost his baby the day you left and our baby has died  
in this street of the same complaint. Mrs. May  
Larabee called here the day you left and urged  
me to spend a few weeks with her in Springfield  
where she says she is very pleasantly situated with

