



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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Flat Rock, July 27th 1844

My dear, dear sister,

Your letter of June 29th reached us a few days after we had committed to the dust the body of our dear little Margaret a precious babe of nearly four months old. She was very suddenly taken from us, and although our hearts were well nigh bursting, bleeding as they still were with our first loss, still we did not I trust murmur or struggle against our Heavenly Father's will, but were enabled to look upwards and find grace to help us in our time of need. Truly did we sympathize with you both when we heard of your affliction, and one should have written to you immediately had we not looked every mail for a letter from you. We thought how lonely you must feel, to have your first and only one taken from you, but we rejoiced to think that you could put your trust in God and feel that it was all for the best. Let us all pray that we may be more and more weaned from the earth and may we rejoice in the thought that "the Lord loveth whom he chasteneth and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth." And think my dear sister how closely these cords bound us down to earth, will they not now draw us as closely towards heaven, the home of our dear little one? When we think of them, free from all sorrow and sighing (of which this world is so full), arrayed in robes of spotless white, casting their glittering crowns at the feet of Immanuel and singing the praises of their Redeemer, surely we must feel that he

have not lived in vain, and rejoice that God has permitted us to be the parents of angels.

August 18th So long has my letter been on hand dear Margaret that I should begin another were I not fearful that another might meet with a similar fate, and I know you would excuse me if you knew how little time I have to write. Since I began this letter, the children have both been sick and Malcolm is now quite ill with the fever prevalent in this country at this season, I trust however he will soon be better. We have been on a visit of a week at Ipsilanti during which time I should have finished my letter to you had I not been sick most of the time with ague and fever. John and his family are very well and happy. William Hunter whom you have probably seen or this is to be married some time during this month to a Miss Pollard from Virginia a young lady whom he met at the Astor House and to whom he became engaged I believe before he came out to Michigan. He has purchased a house in Le Roy place where they will probably live in a style not surpassed by many in your city. I think Antoinette will probably make them a visit this fall, though she does not certainly know as yet what she may do about it.

Houston is very well Elizabeth is not well but not dangerously sick. She spent an afternoon at John's while we were there I was much pleased with her. I have no doubt she will make Houston an excellent wife.

You have of course heard that John has been to Chicago and that Louy has finally come to the conclusion to remove to Michigan probably next Spring. She will take her negro stock to Kentucky (by the bye she has bought Dan) and hire them out then I suppose her intention is to take a school in this part of the world and thus support herself and children. Her health now better than it had been ~~when~~ for some time, but John tells me that poor little Cammy is far from well. She has a swelling or lump of some kind growing on her back which gives her pain and prevents her running or playing with the other children. John says she lies about the house almost all the time and seems very dull and inactive. The Doctors who have seen it call it an affection of the spine and I very much fear she is destined to be a cripple. Poor Louy as you may suppose is in great trouble about it, and possibly that may be one reason for her wishing to leave Missouri that she may have the benefit of physicians should ~~any~~ it be found necessary to employ them.

Abraham's health is very good this summer, he is making arrangements to improve his farm and probably we shall move on to it next Spring. He has been nominated by the Whigs as representative to the Legislature but he does not expect to be elected as this county is Loco-foco. When I look over this letter it is such a scrawl that

I feel half inclined to burn it, but if I should
 it might be some time before I could properly
 write again, so I will send it with all its imper-
 fections, and beg of you as a favor to burn it as
 soon as you have read it as I am really ashamed
 of it. When you see sister give her much love from

Recd Aug. 29. 1844

20070

Prof. E. A. Johnson

for Mrs. M. F. Johnson

New Haven Ct

N. Y.

C.O.V.

RECEIVED
 AUG 23
 MICH

NEW HAVEN CT
 AUG 23 1844

us all. Write to us soon dear Maggie, you have more
 time than me, and tell us of all your friends and
 every thing that interests you, whether you have gone
 to housekeeping etc. You are a very dear sister
 to us and we talk of you very often, how it would
 delight us to have you make us a visit. Give
 much love from both of us to our dear brother
 and tell him a letter from him would be truly

gratifying to us, and even good days
 nearly our heavenly Father
 visit and protect you and yours
 and make us all finally to your
 friends and family

Stavies Prairie Oct. 17. 1843

My dear Sister

We are bound for Michigan, or rather expect to be the latter part of this week. To day I go to Palmyra on business, and have barely time before daylight to write notes to a few of my friends to let them know where they may find me. We return to Brownstown Michigan. We are all well

I am well. May God bless you & yours. Kiss the baby for us, I remember affectionately to Mr Johnson,

Your own brother
Nathan.

Sony sends love

Glaucois Prairie Mo.
Oct 17.

free
N. H. Vandewer
P.M.

Mrs M. L. Johnson
Care of Prof. E. A. Johnson
University
New York
N. Y.

After you write to Jerry, direct to
"Monticello Basin Co. Mo."



HPV - MPV

Llaveciss Prairie June 26. 43

My dear Sister

It is the afternoon for the mail to go down, and I am looking for it every moment and recollecting that I had not written to you for some time I thought it would be well to drop you a line, to let you know how we all are. We will commence with the youngest. Camilla is not very well and at the same time does not appear to be very sick. She runs about, but frets considerably, and at times has some fever. — Anna enjoys excellent health. follows me about continually, is getting sunburnt. I scold her constantly for going out without bonnet, does not good; hair curls all over her head; is the prettiest girl in the County, which may be and still she might not be very pretty. But she is indeed a pretty child in the eyes of her father. No doubt, the old bald headed fellow is in his dotage. — Mary, Malcolm, and Willie are all well. Malcolm & Willie spend much of their time out of doors, thereby keeping Lory in constant terror about Snake bites. This is Strawberry season. They do not appear to be very abundant this year, or we have not succeeded in finding their localities. We have had but few.

Charlotte's health is good; head ache now & then. Sometimes the perspiration stands in large drops on one half of her face, while the other half is apparent

ly. The division is so complete that as soon as I saw it, I concluded it must be a nervous affection. It has been so about two months.

Louy is somewhat troubled with a pain in the chest, side & shoulder; not very distressing, but she wishes it was not there. I think it must be a touch of liver complaint. — How do you support your eye? write with a little girl of Anna's size joggling your elbow constantly? would you not think it very pleasant? —

My general health is decidedly good; but my face is sorely marked by the Erysipelas. It is prominently displayed on my forehead, and you know I am not in the habit of brushing my hair over my face. So every one that sees me with my hat off, looks at my forehead instead of my eyes, giving me the impression, of course, that they squint. I have thought of writing to Sister to learn whether she has ever found any cure for this disease. It troubles me very much during the warm weather; and wearing a hat chafes & irritates it so much that I cannot go out in the heat of the day as much as I wish.

You were not much surprised to hear of the marriage of ^{our} widowed Cousin at Dayton.

In one of your letters you spoke of sending ~~me~~ the Way of Life, by Dr. Hodge. I should love dearly to read it. If you could send it to Cincinnati

to "Mrs Charlotte A. Clark" by some trusty individual, I think she wd be able to send it to us, as she thinks of sending Ellen out, here to live with us. Although we wd be very happy to see the book, you must not put yourself to any trouble about it.

Farewell my dear Sister, May God bless you. Your husband. — All send love.

I had a letter from Sister Mary Anna some time since. — Your Brother Horatio.

P.S. I was just reminded that you were at New Haven. Give much love to Sister's family from all.

16
Lancaster Prairie Mo.

June 26

free

Rec. July 12 '43

H. V. Vanderveer Pk.

Mrs Margaret V. Johnson
care of R. E. Johnson

HPV.

New Haven
Conn.

Daneiss Prairie

March 15, 1843

My dear Sister

It was but a short time since that I sent you the tidings of the birth of a little daughter, and now I have the melancholy duty of telling you that she has been taken from us. She died on Sabbath morning (the 12th), about 4 o'clock. Our Heavenly Father lent her lovely darling to us but a short time & then took her to himself. He had prepared ^{for her} a happier home than she had here upon earth, and he removed her to it from this world of care & sorrow. It was hard, my dear sister, for us to part with her, and it caused a painful struggle. But the Lord I trust has taught us resignation to his holy will. I know that our little ^{one} is now in the enjoyment of perfect bliss with her Heavenly Father, but if she had remained here with us she w^d have been subject to ~~the same sorrow~~. We w^d gladly have kept her with us, but the Almighty ordered it otherwise, and her body resigned its breath, and her gentle, sweet spirit took its flight almost without a struggle. We weep not for her, but for ourselves, for although our loss is great, we know that her gain is infinite. —

Pray for us, my dear sister, that ^{this} affliction may

be blessed to us, both in this world & in the world to come

Our dear babe was sick about two weeks, but I did not dream of danger till the evening before her death when the doctor told us, he thought she could not recover. The doctor said her bowels were disordered, something like Cholera infantum. She did not appear to suffer much pain during her illness.

Our other children are well; The whole family enjoy good health.

Remember us to Mr Johnson. We were very glad to hear from you soon.

Your own dear & devoted Br. sister
Horatio.

Dear Maggy.

You will see from Horatio's letter that the Lord hath been pleased to afflict us very sorely, in taking from us the little treasure which he was pleased to lend us for a short time, but blessed be his great and glorious name, he has enabled us to see his hand in this stroke, and to feel that the affliction was sent to us in mercy. We trust that our chastisement has drawn us nearer to our Heavenly Father, pray for ~~our sister~~ that it may be abundantly blessed to us and our remaining children. What a comfort it is under such trials to feel that God supports us and gives us strength according to our day. Our little darling was very precious to us, but when we think of her as a glorified spirit turning her voice to the praise of her Redeemer, how can we wish her back to this world of sin and suffering? When I

looked at the remains of my darling, so peaceful and beautiful in death, I felt almost thankful to my Heavenly Parent that he had taken her to himself before "her little heart was riven" by the cares and sorrows, the trials and afflictions of this vain unsatisfying world, and my prayer was that when I had done and suffered what lay before me, I might be reunited to my darling never to be separated again, and God grant that all our dear family, may meet at his right hand to celebrate forever the praises of Him that loved us and gave himself for us. Write to us soon dear Margaret it gives us real pleasure to hear from you, tell us all about your affairs and do not be afraid, that any thing concerning you will not interest us.

I will write to you again as soon as I feel able, remember me affectionately to Mr Johnson and may God bless you both and keep you from harm, prays your affectionate sister
Charlotte.

Daveiss Prairie Mo.

free

March 20.

N.Y. Vanclan P.M.

Mrs W. V. Johnson

Care of Prof. E. A. Johnson

N.Y. University

H.P.V.

New York

Received M. 25

Davens Prairie

Feb 10th 1843

My dear sister

I sh^d have informed you a week since that we had another daughter, born on the 3rd inst. but procrastination kept saying; it will do as well, to write to-morrow. Charlotte and the baby are both well. We call her, Charlotte Seymour, after its grand mother. Charlotte looks as if she were not more than 17 or 18. And very handsome. The baby looks like the other children and bids fair to be almost as pretty as Anna. It is a great grunter, but does not cry. If our children are not the best. I can say, that there can't be better. I mean while they were babies; as they grow in years, they improve in badness; but with all their faults, I love them still.

Charlotte has been indefatigable in her exertions, to teach Malcolm. He begins to read tolerably well. Charlotte says quite well, more than tolerably. He is fond of his book, and is a bright boy. So says his father. So says Charlotte. Charlotte has all the management of the children; that I never punish them. The reason is; When they were young, I spared

not the rod, but brought them up in the way they sh^d go; & now ~~when~~ they are old they depart not from it.

I suppose you now feel disposed to ask me, whether I still am satisfied with the change I have made in relinquishing the occupation of pedagogue and resuming that of a farmer. — I have not yet regretted the change, although it is very doubtful whether it proves profitable to me. We enjoy good health and spirits, and can live very comfortably; but the farmers around us appear to make nothing, and I cannot expect to do better. I am obliged to be very industrious, and sometimes, perhaps, work harder than I sh^d. but I prefer this, to attempting to manage twenty or thirty girls, who had never known what it was to be governed, but had always been accustomed to rule their parents, and consequently expected to rule their teachers. When in Cincinnati, our children, were, often, much neglected, but now we are able to keep them constantly with us and can bestow upon all the care & attention that they require. — I trust that with "industry, perseverance & economy" (Uncle Phillips's motto) to be able at the end of five years to return to Michigan, and improve my own farm, if our lives & health are spared. — I prefer Michigan to this state, and do not wish my children to grow up in a slave state. It is almost as bad as a state of

Slavery. I think it is about as cold here as it is in Michigan, and the climate more changeable.

We have had a very cold winter, much more so than usual, and it came upon me, before I was prepared for it, but we have managed to get along thus far. I have no one but Tom to help me. ^{Frank} went off with his mother in the fall, and Willis was sold on the 2^d of January. I was happy to get rid of both, for they were of no use to me, but great pests, that did not earn their bread, much less their clothing. — Tom has taken to himself a wife; was married a week ago, to a girl belonging to the same man that Melinda's husband belongs to.

Mrs Dale has married off two of her daughters since you were here, Martha & Kitty. The cross-eyed one comes next.

Louy has appeared to enjoy good spirits since her return. She and ~~the~~ children are all well. Malcolm will be five years ^{day after} tomorrow. We weighed the children today. Malcolm weighed 51 lbs, Willie 43, Mary 33 & Anna 31.

We w^l like much to have a long letter from you soon. Remember us to Mr Johnston.

Your devoted brother
Horatio.

7 1/2
Darius Prairie Mo free
Feb 10. Recd. Feb. 28. '43 A.P. Duncan Phil

Prof. E. A. Johnson
University N. Y. city
for Mrs M. V. Johnson

New York

Davis Prairie Dec 16. 42

My dear Sister Maggie

What does my dear sister find to occupy all her time, in her present home that she does not spare a moment to write to her friends at Davis Prairie, — That German Dictionary, that German Dictionary, "Lusa Klina Suesten" That's Slutch, is it not? Perhaps you have not got that far yet. You must come down the Rhine and learn a little of the honest Slutchmen. It may be, that some of your neighbors may teach you. Alas I fear there are now comparatively few pure blooded Hollanders, in the fair city of New Amsterdam, of which they were once the sole proprietors. Now the times have changed since the good old Slutch ladies might be seen sitting in their doors, down on Pearl St. Smoking their pipes, and talking with their neighbors across the street; while some of the pretty belles, in the neat Holland costume, of that gown & petticoat, (red) might be seen down Broadway, hand by the little cow sheds, that gracefully ornamented the side walks, milking the cows that had just returned from their pastures. These were older times, and they have altered mightily since England took possession of the fair city and called it New York. — In the mean time while you are poring over the German Dictionary I suppose Mr Johnson is preparing his lecture for tomorrow.

We are differently occupied. Charlotte & Sony are making clothing for the family. By the bye these blacks consume an immense deal of cloth. I say consume, and stand to it, for it is downright consumption. Big Willis out, with a new suit and in a short time it disappears; in about a month the remnants of it appear as they had formed the scanty covering of some poverty stricken rick, for a year or more.

Mr. Frazer was here to day, and inquired about you. He is said to be looking out for a young wife. You were too old for him. There was also a man making some inquiries about Willis, who is to be sold. Would you not like to buy a handsome, likely, active black boy for a house servant?

Sony had a letter from Epsilanti a short time since, & was still there. not married, no question popped. He rises in the morning, breathes, eats; lies down at night, breathes, sleeps. I hope he enjoys good health. Now & it be otherwise, he does nothing to make himself sick.

I have almost written two pages and have not said a word about that important passage, the winter. My health is excellent; my appetite, powerful. It appears to me that I can ^{eat} enough for two, & then want more. We murdered some hogs last week, and I have been trying my powers on "spare ribs" & sausages. They disappear from the breakfast table like a morning mist. I do not mean an Ohio river fog.

Two pages are as much as I can write to night so farewell. Remember me to the Johnston. Sony &

Charlotte send much love. They would have add something to this charming epistle, but cannot leave their work. Farewell, may God bless you & yours.

The children are well.

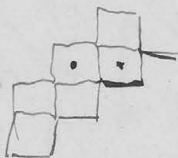
Your brother Aratio

St Louis Prairie Mo
Dec 16.

free
H. P. Van Cleave
P.M.

H P V

Prof E. A. Johnson
University N. Y. city
for Mrs M. F. Johnson
New York
N.Y.



Davies Prairie Sept 22^d 1842

My dear Sister

I rec^d a paper from Dayton a short time since containing a notice of your marriage. Our prayers are for your happiness & welfare dear sister. And may God bless you and your husband.

We reached this place in safety in six days from Cincinnati. The children enjoy a country life much. We have been here about a month, and think we already see an improvement in them. - ~~Ressie~~ I think is somewhat sunburnt, but not as much as I expected she would be. We are careful to keep her head covered when she goes out.

I rec^d a letter from Kentucky on Saturday last containing the mournful intelligence of the death of our brother, C.C. Davies Poor Lory, sad was the blow, and it must have come sooner than she expected. He declined very rapidly after I saw him. Of course you have heard from Kentucky before we did. I had but a line from Mr. Bell informing me of the event.

Charlotte we have written, but as we have not yet succeeded in getting a servant woman she has not been able to sit down to write.

I applied for the Post office about

a week since. I presume there will be no doubt
about my getting it.

Charlotte sends much love. Give
our warmest remembrance to your husband.
We regret exceedingly that we ~~could~~ not see him
in Cincinnati.

Your own brother Horatio

La Grange ms
Sept 24th Recd Oct. 11. 1842

Sept 27th 1842
H.P.V.

Prof. E. A. Johnston
N.Y. City University
For Mrs M. V. Johnston

New York

Cincinnati Feb 9. 1842

My dear Sister Maggy

Cousin Dick leaves tomorrow for Dayton. He will tell you that our dear little boy has recovered from his sickness, and that we are all well. His attack was not very severe for the scarlet fever, although we considered him very sick. — You need not dread contagion in this letter for it is almost a week since he has been convalescent. I have some doubts about its being very contagious, for he slept with me all the time he was sick, and spent most of the day in my arms; his mother too was constantly with him and little Anna was never kept from him till none of us have taken it. He found it in the atmosphere, for he never was in any way exposed to it to our knowledge. — I fear from what you say in your letter & also from what Dick says, that it will some time yet before you pay us a visit; you must make it up by paying a good long visit when you do come. I am glad to learn that you are spending your time pleasantly, & hope when you return home that you may give a good account of the best and best of people.

I wish you wd write frequently. Charlotte sends much love, and hopes that you will be able to pay her a good long visit soon. — Fare well dear Sister
May God bless you is the constant prayer of your brother
Rash

Feb 9 '42

Rash

Miss M. F. Vancleave

Dayton

Ohio

L. D. Phillips Esq.

St Louis Prairie

Aug 22^d. 1843

My dear brother

I rec^d your letter about a week since, informing us of the birth of a daughter, and sh^d have answered it immediately had it come at any other time; but I was in the midst of my harvest, and after working all day in the hot sun was too weary at night to sit down to write. While I was thus hard at work we were visited by a tremendous storm of hail, accompanied with high wind, that prostrated our fences, overturned our stacks of grain, and consequently gave me a great deal of ^{extra} labor. The hail did considerable damage to the corn and demolished the window glass without ceremony. You Professors of Philosophy may speculate on these storms, and consider ^{them} as objects of great interest, but we poor farmers must speculate on the damage we sustain, and the time it will require to repair it.

But I had almost forgotten to congratulate you and my dear sister, on the birth of a daughter. We were all highly gratified with the intelligence; and as she looks like her mother, she must be very pretty, for I

used to think my little sister Maggie, the prettiest child in the county. May God bless parents and child.

We expect to return to Michigan next Summer, and I hope when we get there, that we may have ^{the pleasure of} seeing you during some of your vacations. Margaret may be surprised to hear of my intention to return to Michigan so soon, but I find that I can do but little here towards supporting my family, and have concluded that it would be better for me to improve my property in Michigan.

All are well. Charlotte sends her love & best wishes.

Farewell. Your brother

J. H. VanCleave

Dear Sister Margaret

We were all happy to hear of the birth of your daughter, and join in congratulating you & your husband on this joyful event. I hope that you will be enabled to bring it up in the way it should go, and remember that by sparing the rod you may spoil the child. What say you. Whip my baby, my precious baby! I can't think of such a thing.

Sony wishes me to tell you that she w^d have answered your letter before this, but she has been very much occupied and now is still more so than ever, as Malinda has a baby a few days old, and of course cannot assist her at present. - She says she will write soon.

Farewell my dear sister May God bless you & yours
Your brother Rask

Illinois Prairie Mo.

Aug. 26.

Recd. Sept. 18th. 1843

free

Bossey

H. P. Vanclave P^{ke}

Prof. E. Alfred Johnson
N. Y. University

Rich of
aunt Fanny

New York

N.Y.

Cincinnati June 6.th 1842.

Dear Sir

I am happy to learn that it is your intention to visit Ohio this summer. When you arrive in our city, you must come directly to my house and make it your home. Mrs Vauclere & myself would, both, be much gratified to have you spend some time with us. Our city has but few of the attractions of New York, but I trust we could manage to make ~~your~~ time pass pleasantly.

Sincerely your friend

H. T. Vauclere

We reside on the North West corner of Broadway
& 4th St.



Recd June 15. 1842

J. G.

Prof. E. Johnson
At the University

New York City

HPV

Cincinnati Jan. 22. 1842.

My dear Sister

You paid us a flying visit, and gave us not time to write a word to you. All we could do, was to send word, praying you to come soon and pay us a good long visit.

Jan 24. This was commenced on Saturday but being interrupted I was obliged to defer it till today. This afternoon your letter was brought, but we have neither seen nor heard of Mr Ester. — I hope dear Sister, it will not be many more weeks before you will be ready to pay us your "long visit," for we are waiting anxiously to see you. Your room is prepared for you, and we expect you to occupy it a good long time. I suppose you have changed so much since I last saw you, that I should hardly recognize you. You may rest assured however, that you are the same dear Sister to me, that you were, when little Maggy. You will not find me much changed in appearance, save the loss of a goodly quantity of hair from the top of my cranium. Charlotte has altered but little. Our little ones are said to resemble me, which, I trust will make them not less dear to their aunt Maggy. — You speak of going to see Douglass & Davies as early in the Spring as practicable. There is a gentleman boarding at Mrs Clarke's with his family, who is building a boat to run on the Upper

Mississippi. He expects to leave here about the 4th of March. His wife, who is a very sweet woman, accompanies him as far as St Louis, with her family. He will remain in St Louis about a day, and will then go on up the river, and would land you at Sagrange which is seven miles from Davess' house. — If you would like to go at that time let me ^{know} and I will write to Davess that he may make arrangements to have you sent to his house, for he could not calculate on meeting you there with any certainty. He has friends there that would send you up. — If you make up your mind to go then, you must not forget those here to whom you are very dear, and you must calculate on spending some time with us, both before you go & after your return. Charlotte sends much love. As she has been very much engaged for some days past in making some clothes for the children in addition to her ordinary duties, she has not been able to find time to write.

May God Bless & preserve you my dear sister

Your Brother Horatio.

I am 25th David Este called to day & I consequently embrace the opportunity of sending this by him.

HPV

Jan 22 142

David Este Esqr
for Miss M. F. Vanclue
Dayton
Ohio

St Louis July 28. 1842
on board of Boat Fame

My dear wife

We came a board of this Steamer this morning, expecting to leave for the Ohio by noon. But this however we have been disappointed of the prospect now before us to find. "Mort-gentor" at the St Louis levee, one more night, and then start perhaps by 9 o'clock tomorrow. - As I calculate to accompany Mary to Plainville, Maggie will see you before I do, and tell you all about our journey. In the mean time I wish you to be making all preparations for our journey, even to the making of yeast cakes. When I return I will have a great deal to do, and wish to accomplish it in as short a time as possible. How to raise the means to pay our little debt and to travel with, I know not. I hope you will be able to collect something. We should settle with Mena, & we must refund to Catharine whatever was advanced on our account. I hope in the course of the winter, or by an early day in the spring to raise enough to pay off all.

I trust, dear Charlotte, that you were not only satisfied, but pleased with my determination to accept of Leaviss' offer. I did not make up my mind hastily, but after mature deliberation, after having examined well, on all sides, our prospects in Cincinnati, if we remained there, and in Missouri if we should take the journey. As far as money making is concerned, I consider our prospects alike in either place. When I look upon the state of Society in Missouri, I do not hesitate to say that our opportunities of doing good are as fair here, as at Cincinnati. After weighing these things fairly, and finding them nearly equal.

by balanced, I throw on inclinations, the health & enjoyments of our precious little ones, our own health in the school, - when the game immediately preponderated, & Cincinnati ~~is~~ ~~and~~ ~~soon~~ kicked the beam.

You will, of course embrace every opportunity to collect seeds of different kinds: peach, plum, melon &c. &c. But I do not wish you to buy any. We will have no money to spare. If we can get any strawberry, & raspberry plants, we must take them. It is said to be a good time to plant the former, & I think it probable, it is ~~as~~ ~~well~~ as well with the latter.

I went to the warehouse of the Am. Fur Co. this morning I learned that they were expecting a boat, daily & hourly, from the Falls of the Missouri. When it arrives we may expect to hear from Malcom, if we do not see him. Mr. Calhoun is expected down.

I assure you, I am becoming impatient to see you, my darling, & the precious little ones. For it seems an age since I have been separated from you. Still the days & weeks have flown around rapidly. I know my darlings have not forgotten me. I can fancy you talking to the little ones of father, Malcolm speaks of the pleasure he will enjoy on seeing father, and of riding on the horses, for you have rec'd my letter and have told him that we were going home on the farm. I can hear poor little Anna say "Papa", and when asked if she loves papa, say: "ya". Kiss the darlings over & over for me. And now while, I trust, they are soundly sleeping, and while, perhaps you are preparing to retire to rest I pray, that our Heavenly Father may watch over you and preserve you from all harm. Pray for me, my dear wife, that I may be directed

in the path of duty, and that I at least I do may be for the glory of our Heavenly King. Pray that I may be restored to you all in health.

On leaving Cin. it will be proper for us to take a letter of dismission from the Church, do not let me forget it.

Before I made up my mind to leave Cincinnati my mind was very much harassed, and if it had not made me sick. I was in the same state in Cincinnati, doubting, hesitating. Since I have decided on taking the farm, my mind has been at ease. And now the idea of returning to my former occupation at Cincinnati fills me with horror (almost), and I can feel a shudder pass over me when I think of the many assurances to which we have been subjected, and to which we shall still be subjected, were we to continue our professional duties in Cin. - With regard to separating from our friends; with the exception of your mother's family, I expect it will cause you but few pangs. I regret to leave our many religious privileges; but the many social privileges, - how can I refer to these without the deepest emotion? - I have spoken as if I were the only one who had a voice on this subject. Let the influence now be with Dea. Wey for an idea. You are as much interested in this, as I am, and I know, I have consulted your feelings on the subject, more than my own. Still my feelings, in respect to the change, coincide with yours, fully. - I must now bid you good night and lie down, if I do not retire to rest. We have a Fox river gang on board that appear determined to draw our life's blood. Maggie is sitting up attempting to keep the wanderers from the children. - Good night, dearest

Mrs L. V. Anderson
Lawrence

union what is due her, to pay me some other debts. —
 I suppose we can get nothing of Mr Smith. If he should
 pay what he owes (about \$34.) it helps considerably.
 We are now steaming up the Ohio and expect to
 see Piedmont the far famed city, of grindstone memory,
 in a few hours. — I have said nothing of Sony to
 the children, for Maggie will tell you all. — With
 the exception of the Mortgagee war at St Louis, we have
 had as pleasant a trip thus far, as we could have ex-
 pected. Mr Kennedy's father has been as well
 far from all harm.

Ilwaco Prairie July 11. 42

My dear wife

We arrived here last evening before dawn, exactly five days from Cincinnati. We had a very pleasant trip. All that I wanted to make it more pleasant, was the company of my wife & little ones. From St Louis to Egg Harbor, Maggie had all the ladies take of herself, and it was a very comfortable boat.

We found Tony & her little ones very well. Maggie's letter to Tony, has not yet reached here, and of course we took her by surprise. I am sorry to see Tony preparing to break up and leave here, she has every thing about her so comfortable. I am again in the same state of suspense that was last Monday, just one week ago. When I look around and see every thing so comfortable, I cannot bear to think that in a few years it may go to ruin for want of proper care. It is a delightful season, and every thing now looks bright & cheering, and I, at times, feel almost tempted to accept of Danie's offer, and bring you & the little ones here. I hope to hear from you by the next mail; that I may learn how you all are, and how you get along, and all about matters & things. I also wish to know, what are the prospects of the school. I believe, if I were certain the prospect was fair, I would not hesitate about taking the same. — Have you written to Aunt? — Poor Tony is quite low spirited. I wish you were here to assist her, in making preparations to go to Kentucky. — I hope you got through with moving the furniture without any trouble. It caused me a great deal of anxiety to think that I had left you with so much to do. I hope little Anna, showing

Thursday morning, 12th. I feel strongly inclined this morning to take the train. I will write again (but will not) next Friday and let you know my determination. Perhaps you had better defer advertising the school. —

No more symptoms of the summer complaint. Tell Malcolm he must be a good boy. Precious darlings, how much I wish to see them all, and to see you my love. — If you think best to advertise the school I guess you will do so. Put it in the Gazette to the amount of about three dollars.

"Mr & Mrs Vanclough School for young ladies.

The exercises in this institution will be resumed in this city, on the 1st of Sept.

Terms made known, on application to the principal, at present at Mrs Clarke's, Pike St. opposite Mr Sargent's."

Cincinnati July —th 1842

An advertisement, something like the above I suppose will answer our purpose. — If we could be certain of 15 or 20 to go out in the country at day go, and I would bring on Peter & Martin. But I suppose we could not reckon with certainty on the half of fifteen. We should start with at least fifteen, for we might calculate that some will drop off. — It is possible that we may get through with our business here somewhat sooner than we expected. I expect to write again next Monday. I hope to be home in time. Please write me to hear what to do. Take good care of yourself, the boys and of the children. Kiss them for me. — Did you go to the office of the water works I have the water stopped from our hydrant? The office is on 3rd St upper side, between Main & Walnut.

Your own affectionate husband
H P Vanclough

Monday evening

Dear Charlotte —

I thought it a pity that such a nice large page should go entirely blank. So I determined to add my word. — We have at last arrived quickly, safely, & pleasantly as Rachel has written to you. That is, we had a pleasant journey but I cannot but feel much troubled to see poor Lucy look so sad. She had been so delighted & encouraged with the previous intelligence which she had rec^d from Daisy that she can now hardly bear the disappointment. Things look as when I left, all looks natural except the absence of poor Davie.

I hope you are enjoying yourself in your pleasant room. — Living away. I am very busily employed in the same occupation in the West, some distance from Prairie. I should enjoy it very much if Lucy were not so depressed. Rachel has been wishing all day that you & the children were here. I wish you were indeed but I think it would be advisable as far as any I am just as much in haste as ever & so is Rachel, whose anxiety is more than I can express at this time.

Oh how fast I am, & writing too fast for I have been very busy all day. In two or three weeks I hope again to see you. On the present good bye & love to all —

Affectionately yours
Maggie

Lawrence Prairie July 12

paid

Raid 25-

Mrs Charlotte A. Vancleave

Cincinnati

Ohio

Saturday July 30th 1842
On board of the Great Western
bound up to Ohio

My dear wife

I have filled one sheet and have ventured
on the second, trusting that you will have a sufficient
store of patience to wade through both, if you should
find them particularly interesting. We are now on our trip down
the river we are in company with a gentleman
from Virginia, whose society we found very agreeable
and from whom we regretted exceedingly to be
separated at St. Louis. He was bound for Jeff^r City
and we for Daviess Prairie. He thanks of bidding
us and may possibly pay us a visit at Daviess
P. We miss him now very much. We have
on board however some pleasant company. There
is an old gentleman from Tennessee, who amuses us con-
siderably with his droll humor. For & then a discussion
on politics, or a conversation on matters & things in general tends
to drive away ennui, and to relieve the dull monotony
of steamboat traveling.

(P. past 4) We have passed Paducah & the old
gentleman has left us. We are now lying at Smithland
a place that you have not yet forgotten. Fruit - peaches, pears
& apples, in abundance are brought aboard by the little peddlars.
I suppose you have abundance now in Cincinnati, and
Malcolm I suppose occasionally eats an apple or so. -
Again we are wending our way up the river and Smith-
land will soon fade from our sight. Maggie, Louy & the
Children all in good spirits. I am sorry that you will
miss seeing Louy & the Children - What shall we do to keep

against a sand bar, how much better to go with sudden
bumps than with a gradual slide, for be ~~an~~ off again in
a gully. Some children are dailing cunions. They all
appear to love uncle Rask. Willie loves to walk with
me, and stay of me to ask questions. Mary loves to sit in
my lap, and call me, and little Corney frequently comes
from her mother to have uncle Rask carry her in his arms.
I am very anxious to get started on our long journey, for
the river appears to be getting low, and I do not wish to
meet with any detentions after we are under weigh.
I think the Missouri people will be glad to see you back
although we cannot expect to supply the place of Daniel
any more. Both of them stand high in the estimation of their
neighbors. Chas. Wright in Missouri means ~~to take~~
~~any one~~ within twenty or thirty miles.

Aug 1st We expect to reach Louisville this evening, and
I hope to be in Cincinnati by Saturday morning. I wish you
would get every thing ready that you can, by the time I come, in or
der that we may start as early as the 12th. If you ^{or} see
Mrs Reader, Mrs Smith (Lemias's mother) and any one else
that owes us, tell them that we wish to leave in a few
days, and get what you can, I will be glad. Settling our
business, ~~with~~ ~~for~~ ~~all~~ that will be all that will
detain us, for we have but little to pack. I fear
what furniture we have will go but a little ways
towards paying any of our debts, and we are mean ^{for}
besides what is due dandy Fales. We must do the
best we can and trust to Providence, he has taken
care of us thus far. Do not forget me in your prayers
my dear wife.

I have read Eliza with a good deal of interest,
and hope, if I am spared to settle down in a quiet life

to read it again. Yesterday I took up some
lines the Centurion, and was much pleased with it.

I should like to purchase a few books & some
other things in Cincinnati, but fear I will not be
able. If G. Brown should send me three or four
hundred just now, it would come very ⁱⁿ proper. But
that is out of the question, & I must ~~be~~ ^{be} trying to
please my family with such donations.

I am sure my darlings, Mary & Corney will tell you
all about our journey and all that we have done
seen & heard, and will interest you more than I can
on this sheet. Still I love to talk to you, even if you
are at a distance. Take good care of the little ones,
Kiss them, over & over again, for their father. Get all
their clothes ready for the journey.

Love your dear husband

A. Smith

Cincinnati July 15. 42.

My dear wife

I was disappointed in not receiving a letter from you this morning, and I was anxious to hear how you were getting along and how you & the little ones were. — I have made up my mind to take the farm & give up teaching, trusting that in so doing, I would please you, please my dear & dear ones, please the children & I trust please myself. We must expect some little trouble about getting away from Cincinnati, inasmuch as we have some debts to pay. If you raise any money I wish you to pay Langman \$10. I tell him he must not charge more than that for Kate's music per quarter. — I feel a good deal troubled about Catherine & hardly know what to do. — I have been making a calculation and find that we took her to board at \$2.31 $\frac{7}{12}$ per week while at school and \$2.50 during vacation. If she will go to Mr. Van Doren from the 1st of Aug (when I believe his school commences) and board with your mother for one quarter (that is 11 weeks) I can arrange it pretty well in my mind. But I do not know that your mother will be willing to take her while at school 11 weeks at \$2.31 $\frac{7}{12}$ per week. If she would do so, then my account with Catherine would stand thus:

To us for board & tuition	12.55
" your mother	35.00
" Mr. Martin	8.00
" Langman. 4 yrs	40.00
" Use of piano. 2 yrs	10.00
" Van Doren 1 yr	12.00
" " " Music 1 yr	10.05
Cash. (I do not know the amt.)	

Now to raise the money to pay your mother, Langman & Smith for the piano & Van Doren, I know not. But as Mr. Deemore advanced the cash, it must be refunded. We will want about \$30. to provide some groceries, shoes, &c. & as much more for travel & expenses &c.

Your best comfort you had better return to your mother; ~~and your business~~
~~if she wants it~~. I think Mary would need the bureau, & we can give it to
her in exchange for some of her furniture. I should like also to send her your
dining set. But I can talk of all this when I see you. I expect
to return in about 5 weeks from the time I left Cincinnati.
We will want to buy our ~~new~~ Kitchen furniture, bed & bedding.
(Mattresses if transportation is not too high.) 1 day chairs & the two settles.
At the breaking up of our school will benefit Mr. Van Doren, per-
haps he will take some of our desks. I wish he would take
1 day of them. They cost as something between two & three dollars.
We are all well here. Mary has not yet heard from David.
Give much love to all. — I think we will have no difficulty
in getting a white girl to work for you.

If Catharine goes to Mr. Van Doren, I should like him to take
his pay in thirteen Hensie in desks. He could cover the
desks & make them look like his own I suppose.
I should like you to see Judge Hall & tell him what ar-
rangement I wish to make about Catharine. To go
to school to Mr. V.D. and board with your mother one
quarter. After I return to Cincinnati I will write to her
father. — May the Lord bless & preserve you all. So my little
girl well. Kiss the darlings, my precious one.
Your own dear M.

If Mr. Van Doren has chairs like ours perhaps he would
also take some of them.
We will want the wash stand.

Davidson Prairie Mo.
July 16.

Paid 25

Mrs. C. V. Hancock
Cincinnati
Ohio

Massachusetts, Sep 4 1844

Amos P. Mudgett Esq

Dear A.

I am at the present time
so immersed in business & politics, that
I cannot make this any more than
a business letter. I often regret that
we are so far separated, for I often
you I have more found any persons
to fill the void caused by the separation
of your family & mine. To write to me
by return of mail & tell me some
thing of yourself & family & business.
To mix business with this, do not forget
to say when I may address a letter to
Carrin Louisa Davis. I have some
money for her & do not know when

to send it.

The Enclosed you have a draft of
the Cashier of the Prudential Bk upon
the Bank of New York for \$120⁰⁰
It is your proportion of rents in part and
in part of proceeds of sale of four
shares of Prudential Bk Stock.

There is but little remaining of the
estate of your Father but the Mansion
House. I have held it for sale two years
at \$4000. without having an offer for it.
I think it would be for the advantage
of you all that it should be sold
now at a sacrifice. Real estate has
fallen very much in price, now it
would not bring perhaps more than
\$2000. or \$2500. Say in your letter
what authority you will give me if
an opportunity occurs to sell, i.e.
what is the lowest price you would say

for it. It rents for \$225. Tax, insurance
& repairs, which have been heavy, to come
out. so that it does not ~~will not~~
realize the interest of \$3000.

In the ancient meaning of
the word as understood by the law, I am
yours Aff: friend & house

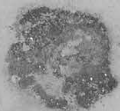
J. H. Brown

P.S. I am still practicing law
for the last two years have mixed
with it a good sprinkling of politics.
I look for the election of May with
much anxiety I shall then leave
the political field (together).

I have but one child as yet -
(a sweet little girl) there is no telling
how soon what 2 or 3 months may
bring forth, by way of addition to
my family. My kind regards to your family
Yours

TO J. J.

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Sept. 1844

Geo. H. Brown

Princeton Feb. 12. 1842

Dear B.

I have just concluded a little
matter of the estate of your father with
the executor of his executor, in pursuance
of which there will be due to you \$945.89
if the real estate should bring what I
bought it for as agent for all the heirs
to wit. \$3475. It is considered worth
\$5000. but I shall sell it the first oppor-
-tunity for less (unless instructed to keep it)
for real estate in this place having years
back been here & sold at speculating prices
is now proportionally depressed: & I shall
now require time to recover

I enclose a draft for \$154.90
which includes your proportion of cash in
hand of us & that of Mr Davis. \$77.45
each. Please acknowledge receipt
of \$77.45 from Davis through me
and \$77.45 for yourself. I have instruc-
-tions from Mr Davis to pay you \$250.
out of any moneys coming to him & shall
do so when received

It is now late at night & I have
been engaged since 3 P.M. examining acc-
-ts & feel fatigued - will therefore defer a
detailed account of the business to another
opportunity

Yours affly

Wm. B. Brown

25
Geo. H. Morrison
Horatio P. Vander Esq
Cincinnati
Ohio



Samuel J. Lee 31. 1845

Dear Anath

Yours has just come to hand
dated the 17th instant. I have to give you
information respecting your Father's estate of which
I think you proposed I will go into some particulars,
so that you may judge of the probable value of
your remaining interest therein.

I settled with the executor of Robert
Lee on the 13th of February 1842

At that time Houston Red rec^d. \$4218²⁴/₁₀₀

Man Anna 3614⁷/₁₀₀

John Louisa & you each 3500⁰⁰

Margaret in trust & 3812⁰⁸/₁₀₀

At & since that time I have forwarded
to Louisa John & you each \$197.45 = 592.35

Man Anna & Margaret each 94.00 = 188.00

Amount sent to him - \$780.35

I rec^d of the executor upon the
Settlement as to amounting to \$943.52

Of which then remains due upon
a judgment against the Executor 241.71

Amount rec^d in cash from estate - \$701.81

Don't send him but can

#780.35

Cash from estate but on #701.81

Set in the Mansion House at

Shiff's Sale upon foreclosure of a

Mortgage given by Mrs. Gibson to

the ex. (there being no actual trade)

at #3475⁰⁰. Paid the Costs

of foreclosure & Sale viz - 113.21

Not net in cash from estate viz #588.60

minus of rents

580.60

#191.75

This balance of #191⁷⁵ has accrued from the
rent of the Mansion House since I let it in at the
Sale. I found the house very much out of repair
and the expenses have been considerable to put it in
tenantable condition. Out of the rents received I have
paid all other expenses in settling the estate, taxes, insurance
&c. The statement of this account would embrace many
items & prove tedious, if it were entirely adjusted, which
is not the case as to the last year. I will therefore
omit it for the present. Hereafter as the rent must
(#225⁰⁰) I think the property will yield annually
#165 to #175⁰⁰. When this year's rent is received
I intend to forward it to you & Mr. & Mrs. Adams as
before, together with any payments which may be
received from Barton. I do not yet feel prepared

to have anything in hand before April next.

From the foregoing statement you will
perceive, that the estate now held consists (besides the
rents accruing) of the House valued at \$4000. when
I let it in - property has since been much depre-
ciated in price. - Say value now \$3500.

Barton paid \$280. now about \$3780.

In this your interest I should think without
making any calculation about \$5. Even Houston
may yet receive something, but not much.

I have been anxious for 2 years past to
sell the house, so as to make a final settlement
of the whole matter, but have not had an offer
for it. It would be better for all I think to sell
at \$3000, if no better price can be had. I
think I have this extraordinary person from all of you
upon this subject. I as at present advised should
not refuse \$3000.

I have understood that the bill case
would be heard this month or next. The Court of
the exors feel sure of sustaining it, & from
what I know of the facts, I am satisfied it
ought to be sustained. I will write you as soon
as I hear anything coming on the subject.

I am sorry to hear of your domestic misfortunes - I
can sympathize with you, tho. I have not as yet made
no actual bereavement. Both my children are well
My youngest, a sweet little boy, a year old, hangs
roundly so. I can seldom see the mamma, tho. I hope ere
this time it. I very much regret also your want of
money at this time I wish it was in my power to
relieve you by advancing upon your property here -
but my success though above my hopes, has been far
from brilliant - I manage to get on by hard work
and no play and ^{with} no surplus. It would have
been otherwise with me, if, in the time of speculation
I had not made haste to be rich. If I had not
set money hoarding, I got experience & that is worth
something. Remember me affectionately to the whole
family when you meet them, & to your wife whose
acquaintance I should be happy to make. I should
like the above statement to show I should when op-
portunity occurs. They may be in want of the same
information. I often regret, that we have been
so far apart - have found no friends, & follow
I esteem so highly as those who were far from
me and near Boston when we were boys. If I
ever leave the practice of law, I shall be tempted
to come to you & sit at your feet & bring up my cousin
J. H. Brown

R D Brown & Co
to
Narrative Pkaleline
of the
Dad and 7th Street
Vapor \$900 clump at end
then out 1 Bump pay out out
No paying out same amount
A pay B. Simple int in \$1600 annually
pay \$100 simple a year

1100 3 arrival papers coming April 1 1853

all the excess of interest can 8 percent paid to the bank
to apply toward the \$600 as principal when paid.

Barfue Du Du to the line when a foul
 (perhaps) much & about to reach

in School Term 7/2 purchase many to be deducted from school
when given + B to pay int till then If unable pay, int shall
be apply as int

Shall be for a mile

Extending about 100

Extending 100

Extending 100 feet higher

Corner at 100

South 100

100

[July 17, 1845]

Dear Mr. Bates

Was gratified to receive yours of the 9th inst
and to learn that you were all well. As regards
myself I have been too prostrated by my health & illness
for the present you I have been very rough and for the
last few months unable to attend to business. Confined
a considerable part of the time to the House - at
present I am better and as the Canal is now
completed hope soon to be able to get out onto
the business which my business has been neglected for
the last 2 or 3 years. It shall after October be
my intention then to extend my journey out on the
Lake and may get to see you before we accept
me. As regards your application my business has
been so neglected for my time - which is
not in my power to accommodate you
have you ever talked with the Education of your
Father & Mother

My situation has compelled me to neglect
business since I must report as we did
before but I am now in a
better state. I put my mind & hand of myself
that I have not been able to do. It is not that
I have forgotten him; you may readily suppose
my feelings. I am now able to get
about. I have a fork of Bendis back. After
a long life of active service - but I am old
and can't hope even to regain my health
the way of another year as the past and
find me an old worn out man.

With the exception of myself - all are
well. Please me to your care
and believe me as ever yours
Most sincerely

Wm H P. Van Allen
17 July 1845

H. G. Phillips



Postpaid 20
5
15-

Mr H. P. Van Cleave
Flat Rock
Ypsilanti
Michigan

[July 4, 1845.]

Ann Arden Sp. of July 4, 1845. 5 P.M.

My very dear Husband,

I have just mailed
a letter to Mary informing of our welfare, but I
was obliged to write so hurriedly, that I thought
best to write one immediately to you, hoping that
this would reach you in Cincinnati. I have had
a curious day. The children were not the first place
to be fitted out to go and see the processions, and
some of them taking the address. Then of course
the ladies in the kitchen had to go and see the
processions. I was not at home
until after 4 o'clock. For the evening, I had a
meal on the table which was accomplished
through much tribulation. I should have
but Sophie Bell and Miss Wing from Monroe.
They made a call of about one hour and then
left to join their family at the Exchange. They re-
turn to night. I had just had a long letter
from Sophie in which she says she is going to give
up teaching this fall, and is not young or
naïve. If you should form any conclusion
as to what she is going to do, you need not
give it a name. She was in company today
with a Mr. Winton from Monroe, Uncle of Ste-
ling's, a widower with two children. Poor man

I should not wonder if he wanted a
mother for them. Sophia is going to make
me a good visit in the fall, and I am delight-
ed at the idea I assure you, for I do believe the
girl loves you and me as well as the doctor
own parents. Will after that visit visit our
Franklin Cottenden around with his wife and
some girls whose names I did not hear.
Then Mr. ^{Leff} Howard who has brought the young
sters up to see the fireworks this evening. But
it is tea time now and probably there will be
no one else. But how could I omit to say that
the Honorable C. H. Fairbanks and family Mr.
Fid and Mr. de laalle on their way from the
city!! They are here full of the joy of being
with us and will be here to see. They are all well.
Houston has a need on his hat. I wish you would
put one on yours. I enclose a letter from sister
I enclosed one from Johnston which you rec'd
supper. Have you rec'd my second letter
directed Mr. Vernon? The children have all been
ed happy to day except Malcolm, he, I think, is
suspicious to be doing something to make money
and I have thought it best to let him get em-
ployment if he can on some farm where he
is acquainted, during harvest, say Mr. Clark
or Mr. Howard's. The latter will want him in
a week, and he will go there if Mr. Clark
does not want him.

Tuesday morning Two weeks since you left us dear heart
and it seems like two months at least.
Everett went home for good last night and I shall
miss him very much. I still think Malcolm had
better go to work. I know he would trouble me great-
ly by staying down town when I wanted him and
never being on hand at the right time. I fear too
he would contract idle habits which he would not
do at Mr. Howard's. He is anxious to learn trad-
e but of course that is not what we want of him, all
I want him to do is to be earning something
towards clothing himself and to be out of danger
from bad associates. Besides all that his clothes
are quite shabby and if he stays here he will
have to get them which at present he can not do.
I want him to get out of town and get a job
and stay a few weeks longer. I am going to discharge Ma-
ry and Anne, hire a boy to milk morning
and evening and run wood when necessary
and do my own work with the help of the child.
Don't think it impossible and preposterous
I shall have none to cost for but the little folks
and soon get along very well with the meat
a day. I can get Sophia to do one day's work
a week for me, and as for the rest I shall
not have to work harder if at hand as I do
now. I can place no dependence at all upon
Anne and Mary. I have to see to the getting of
every meal, and then I shall have less to

to cook for the room. I shall save at least half
their wages in fuel, and their board is quite an
object. Besides I shall be relieved from a thousand
perplexities which I now have. Don't think I am attempt-
ing too much if I get tired of it I will hire a girl, but it is high
time I made a change in domestics. If I am able to do all
this, and I will earnestly beseech God to give me strength to
do it, I will save considerable for you, and I know you feel
unable to be paying wages when you are receiving nothing.
I shall have the left time to "gaze" too and the neighbours
will not have so much reason to be concerned for their
poor neglected children. I don't mean however to trouble
myself about those foolish rumours and now I am much
inclined to think that they have influenced few if any of my
friends against me, for I have had call after call from
the very ones whom I feared had had their minds poison-
ed against me. I heard something the other day which quite
cheered me. Sam, our son told Mary Sinclair to confide
in me in all her troubles and only in one of all the women
in A. A. for her aid. I need the only one to be trusted and
told by at the same time that he depicted me in a way
which would have been a ruin to any body for that matter. I don't
on the broad road to destruction when his advice and
influence turned his course. That could tell the same
story and perhaps others too. Now I don't tell this in a brag-
ging way, my husband knows me better than that. I
merely wish to show that for the very things for which I have been
blamed by others who may for aught I know be far better
than I, I have been owned and blessed of God to the
good of others. Now should I care for what is said? No
and I will not. Eagerly will disclose secrets which will
astonish all, and I am willing to bear blame now if
I can then and then see that my mistresses and advisers
have been approved by God. I am glad that you have
not yet obtained bedquies, but hope for better news the next
time I hear from you. I will do all I can dear husband
to aid and comfort you, and you need not fear for
us. God who hears the young ravens cry will bestow
when we ask his protection and he will bless you in
your endeavours too although for his own nice purposes
he may see fit to try you forth somewhat. Tell me