



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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Feb. 9th 1852.

My dear Horatio and Charlotte

I really am very much afraid I am in your debt, and although I long and long to hear from you, I know I do not deserve it. For three months (would you believe it) I have had paper lying out to write to you and one or two more friends, but am constantly hindered. Perhaps you know, and perhaps you do not, that I have a little boy, named Horace Phillips, about seven months old. He is a sweet child, as all babies are to their mothers, but he has a wonderful knack of engrossing the constant attention of his nurse, and as that is generally myself, he leaves me but little time for other employments. It distresses me sadly, when I think how little time I have to write to my friends - my health has been so wretched for the last two years, that every duty almost has been a burden, but I am much improved in general health, and hope to do better in future. We have now cheap postage, and can obtain small sheets of paper, and our consciences need not smite us, if we do not write 25 cents worth as formerly, we can write 3 cents worth in a few minutes, and hear from each other often.

It seems so very long since I have heard from Michigan, no one writes to me, but your family. John "semi-occasionally" drops a few hasty lines. When you write, tell me particularly of John's family; what he designs to do with his boys? and how many has he? Charlie was the last when I was there. Willie must be as tall as his father, does he spend much time in making fire-works? He seemed to be an amiable lad, but very desultory in his habits. A recent letter from Dayton, informs me that Mary is there, attending school. What is John himself doing, and what news from Alfred?

And now of Houston, is he still in Ann Arbor, and how is Mrs. V. or sister Ann? (which must I say?) and dear little Archy - and the rest of the children?

And now let me hear all about your doings; tell me of every member of the family - Dear Charlotte, it seems very hard to be thus entirely separated from you and Horatio, if I could but be near you I would be satisfied I think a great deal of you, of your many cares, and wonder how you get along? Horatio said your health was delicate, being afflicted with Bronchitis. I hope it is not serious nor dangerous - tell me particularly of your health. I also want to know all about the children, how far Malcolm is in his studies? how Anna's health is? how Lizzie and the dear little boys are? How also are the little Black-foot boys? are they really your brother Malcolm's own children, or did he just bring them here for curiosity? Where is their mother - and where is your brother now? Tell me of the improvements on the farm whether you have yet paid for it? where is Richard Brower and the old gentleman.

I think I might pass for a Yankee asking questions, but still I would like an answer to each one.

There is one subject dear Horatio upon which I need your advice. You know that government has given a bounty to all who were out in the various Indian wars, among others the Black Hawk war, in which you and Mr. Davis were out. Have you ever applied for yours? if not you ought to do so. I want to make application for Mr. Davis' claim for the benefit of my children; but I must look to you for all particulars. I do not know how long you were out, the nature of your service nor indeed any thing upon which to make a requisition upon government. I suppose you have attended to your own claim, and can give me a form, and all necessary particulars with regard to Mr. Davis' service. All that I do know is, that Mr. D. was Comptroller, I want it to be drawn in favor of my children, I do not wish any benefit from it myself. I feel anxious to attend to it as soon as possible, as I am afraid Congress may get tired, and rescind the law. Be so kind dear brother as to give me the necessary information as soon as possible. I have been so bad a correspondent I do not deserve it, but forgive and forget.

My health generally has been better this winter than it has for the last two years. My cough has still lingered along sometimes better, and some-

times worse; but still has not been very troublesome until the last week, or two, during which time I have suffered severely with it. I am taking the Cod-liver oil, and think I derive much benefit from it. When my cough is severe I am obliged to blister my breast until it is mitigated; as soon as one heals I draw another. I have become so accustomed to them that they do not annoy me much.

My children are well, and improving somewhat I hope. Willie is at school in LaGrange under the charge of the Rev. Mr. Whipple, he has a flourishing school, but takes only two boarders, Willie and a nephew of Mr. Gannett. He is in an excellent place, and will I hope improve his advantages. Mary studies at home, I will soon however be obliged to send her from home, as she is interrupted too much to make much progress. My little boy now eight months old enjoys fine health, but requires a great deal of nursing, he is sadly spoiled - much to my sorrow. All want to play and romp with him, and he has become very restless. I call him Horace Philip. I would have preferred to have called him "Rash" - but I know he would always be called "Rash". Mrs. Gannett's family are well; Mr. Gannett had a long spell of sickness this fall, he became very low spirited and almost determined to leave Mr. H. said then he intended spending part of the summer in traveling through Michigan visiting you of course; he has now recovered and may give up his notion of moving. They have seven children, the youngest a little boy, nearly three years old, named Willie, the prettiest child in the family; this boy is subject to spasms, something they fear like epileptic fits, it is of course a great distress to them. Richard is nearly grown, and is now in Kentucky at school. Mrs. Browning's family are well, she has been living at her old home, but is about removing to LaGrange. Her oldest daughter is a young lady, quite as large as her mother.

Our neighborhood improves slowly, there is so much apathy in the cause of education it becomes disheartened. Let me hear particularly of the progress Malcolm has made in his studies, I do not want him to get too far ahead of Willie, who has lost so much time from sickness, that he is far

* I find that I have before spoken of my baby. I am greatly vexed at this repetition. I really did not remember that I had spoken of him before, my letter had said so long unfrankly -

behind his age in his studies - What does John intend to make of Willie, who must now be nearly grown, he was an amiable boy, but seemed to have no marked character - he was more fond of making fireworks, and keeping post-office than he was of reading and study - Do you take the Youth's Cabinet for your children - it is a monthly periodical of great interest published in N. York - I have been taking it four years, and feel more interest in it every year - Sister sent it to me a long time - before I subscribed for it. It cost one dollar a year, by forming a club of seven - it can be procured for 72 cents, and the one forming the club obtains one number gratis.

I intend getting some very sensible paper, and do ~~intend~~ ^{mean} to try to be, a better correspondent. won't you do the same?

Give much love to the children - Mary sends her love to Annie, and wishes her to write to her - she sends a kiss to Lizzie - Do let Malcolm write to Willie, I do not want our children to be strangers - Mary says tell aunt to tell me how old her little boys ^{are}, what are their names, and all about them - she feels great interest in little boys, since her brother was born - But I must stop, as Mr. Tate will have to wait on me -

Do write soon, I long to hear from you - feel anxious to do something about that land bounty, &c. - Ever your affectionate sister -

Louisa A. Tate -

Cum gratia Dec. 15th 1853

Dear Brantatto

Enclosed is twenty five dollars
money in advance for Malcolm as you
desire. I think that you will find no trouble
with the ~~exchange~~ bills. The demands are
not to send Ohio or Michigan debt Michigan
or Eastern bills. The fact is that our banks
do not take Michigan bills, so I have to
send you Eastern. They are good. I am sure
before this reaches you. Miss Clarke and
Eliza will be in debt. I am sure that I
have sent you a set of pins and a clock
I have no doubt that they are very pretty
I have never seen them. I hope that
they will please Miss Eliza. Belle told
me that she was waiting to day to you &
so I am sure you will hear all the news
of the family here. I am pleased to
hear that Malcolm ~~with~~ is doing well and
is endeavoring to learn to be a good
Engineer. It is a good, healthy action here
esp. if well & ^{en}thusiastically followed. Please
acknowledge the receipt of this, and remem-
ber me to all

Yours &c. J. S. Lincoln

N.Y. Jan 1. 6. 1853

Dear Brother,

Your letter was rec'd. last
evening.

I remembered my letter in
regard to John's interest and in-
tended to send it on to him my-
self within a week after rec'g it,
in case he had his order, and still
found it inconvenient to do with-
out it.

My want is for Jan'y 31, and im-
mediately after that I shall be
in receipt of sufficient to release
John's interest, in case he had
sent his order, as Feb'y 1st will
bring in several hundred dollars.

As it is however I do not
know that I shall be convin-
ced by its non receipt, so
that John can do as he pleases
leave it as it is, for Wm Houston
to attend on to him, or send his
order and receive it from me.
It will be best and easiest to
leave it as it is, & he will re-
ceive his interest in due
course from Wm Houston.

There is no need of any
particular hurry for the
mortgage on the land in Wayne
Co. I only mentioned it to
let you know that I had
heard nothing of it, in case in N. H.

you had sent it and it
had miscarried.

When I last saw Mr Houston
Mr. Woodward had rec'd no letter
from John, and ^{therefore} had not waited
longer but had himself urged
the settlement of accounts.

They ^(the executors) have been urged forward
and have attempted some-
thing I believe, what it is
and when it will appear
I do not know.

Mr. Gibbs was at my
house for a day or two
a short time since.
They were all as usual
in N. H.

I am writing away
from home and cannot
therefore give any official
messages in return for ^{your} regards,
I remember to Mrs. Johnson
and the children.

With my kindest regards to
your family, and the hope
that we may someday be
able to meet.

I remain

Yours truly

Edw. Johnson

Please let me hear from you of
your success in disposing of your
barn

New York
Monday June 7. 1852

Dear Brother,

Your letter and one from your
brother Houston reached me last Saturday.
I should be very glad to have it in my
power to aid you in the matter of which
you write. On inquiring from your brother
John in regard to it when there, I was rather
surprised to find that it had not been satisfacto-
rily adjusted. I had had two or three interviews
with Mr. Nixon on the receipt of your for-
mer letter, and found that I could do
nothing, as he had refused the mother back
to Michigan, where I supposed you would
come directly into relation with him.
My subsequent sickness, and absence from
New York threw it far into the background, &
I had no more knowledge of the affair, till my
inquiries of John in regard to it.

The letter recd. on Saturday now
acquaints me with the state of the case,
and of its necessity. My purpose is to see
what I can do for your relief. In this view

I now write. If my impression is correct
one object which John had in view in his
coming East was to see if in Philadelphia he
could on Houston's, his own & your interest in
your uncle's estate make some provision for
your present emergency. I understood that he
& Houston were willing to aid you to the extent
of their ability from that source. Your
immediate want I find to be the sum of about
2100 dollars.

I wish to inquire whether in case
I can provide this amount, it would
come within the convenience of you
three to allow the joint interest on your
uncle's legacies, amounting I believe to 780 dollars
to come back to me in part payment
of my advances. I do not make this inquiry
because of any doubt of the security which the
two farms would give for the amount, but be-
cause, in order to aid you, I may have to borrow
more or less of any sum I may be able to ad-
vance, and should wish, in that case, to return it
with certainty on any required or stipulated day.
Another reason is that if it were convenient for
John or Houston singly or jointly to furnish you
with the sum you need, it would appear better
that they, living in the same state and neigh-
borhood, should hold the mortgages on the farms.

Another view is, if the wish is to redeem the farms in
order to avoid a sacrifice upon them, in stead of with a view to
hold & farm them, your brothers are jointly interested in
getting a purchaser at a fair value, which may help
to a speedier sale & on better terms, of the property.

My impression is that you wish to sell the farms if you
can get a reasonably fair offer for them, and that, if you can have
relief to the amount of 2100 dollars, you will be at liberty
to look for a purchaser without hindrance or difficulty for
a year or more, until at least the maturity of the pay-
ment which will fall due in Nov^r 1853. If at that
date they should remain unsold, it would be necessary
to advance 502 more dollars to complete the
redemption of the whole. So that, supposing this to be nec-
essary, the advance by me, if you together should allow
me the 780 dollars in Jan^y next, would at date of Nov^r
1853, including interest, be not far from 2000. So long
this sum by that time I could probably leave on investment
as long as it would be wanted, and you likewise might pay
it back as soon as you pleased.

Another inquiry - What is the present occupancy of the
improved farm and what does it bring you in? What
the amount of taxes on it & on the wild land?

I have written this at different places & with
several interruptions so that it will seem quite
disjointed. If you will let me hear from you with-
out delay, I will see what I can do and
write you again. I mail at the same time with

This is short letter to you and a similar
letter directed to yours for Boston:

Wishing that I could give myself the pleas-
ure of seeing you & yours, & hoping that
you may enjoy health & domestic happiness
Whatever clouds may hang around the hour
you are threatened to spend here, with the assur-
ance of heavenly treasure, though earthly riches
may fail,

I remain yours affectionately

Wm. Johnson

Please give my love to your wife & re-
mind your children that they have too
little Cousin here who would be glad to know
them.

If you direct to 114 West 13th St. your
letter will perhaps reach me more directly.

[Apr. 25, 1853]

ATTN

Q

H. P. VanCleve,

Care of H. P. VanCleve,

Ann Arbor

Michigan

But this we agree to do. Does he
 write those things with confidence
 in the Tribune they are splendid
 Hannes Huradate is there, or some
 last letter he does not say when
 he will be home in the one before
 the thought - he would be here
 of the 13th was received
 Saturday evening his back
 broken to go on this morning
 but - was taken sick in the
 evening and will be sick all
 night - and yesterday Dr
 Marshall is attending her
 & this morning she is much
 better. She has taken a little
 food but is again she
 will not be able to go home
 until the last of the week
 and back in ten days going
 to morrow the weather is getting
 so warm we will have to
 get the children back
 to our common carrier again.
 I have thought my experience

travelling with children & do
not think I will ever try
it again while I have any
senses when they go I will
stay at home & am almost
disconsolate with myself
and think I am a horrible
anxious man will have
to employ some one beside
me to bring up his lovely
little children when he wrote
last March 13th he was in
excellent health & spirits
his letter was dated from
Stockton where he was staying
a day or two on a collecting
tour for a house in
San Francisco he speaks of the
great beauty of the country
and that he should love
to live there if he was rich
he must not get hurt
of dear Belle's death as he
sent remembrances to her
& now I think it very uncer-

tain if he ever gets into
business with our brother
& am not afraid of this at
all exceeding along thank
goodness he is not one
of the milk and water
style if he falls ^{he will not}
take time to cry but
will pick himself up
~~again~~ & start on a new
in earnest - think
if he does meet with
misfortune in New York
& is as you say high spirited
& sensitive he is as brave
as Julius Caesar & every
inch a man he does not
mean to feel in the least
about his misfortune
except on my account & that
it will hurt off our marrow
if he only gets back alive
& well & is where I am
hear from him very truly
& see him some times I wish
he so much and while
he is getting started again

Strongsville, N. C. N.
Monroe, N. C. N.
I have not the paper of date. I have not the

Amherst, N. H. Sept 23rd 1853.

My dear Mother,

Your very welcome note of Sept 23rd

has just been rec'd and I am rejoiced to hear that
you shall probably see me in a few days. We are
expecting great news when Grand Ma comes. I only
fear that your worries and grandchildren will draw
you distracted. I trust the winter will not be too
severe for you but that shall be preserved in health
and safety. The children are at present all in excellent
health, and as happy as possible. You say Mr Van
Buren left a shirt in Cincinnati, you had better have
then as he will visit Mary & Abby before he comes
home. I hope all the visitors are well. How nice think
how you see my Sam, that he is a name such —
Nortimer Thomson will be in Cincinnati this week and
may call on you, he is an uncommonly talented
interesting young man, one to whom we can be much
attached and in whom we have perfect confidence.
He is now engaged in the same business as Sam Agnew
and is on a business tour through the middle states
that commands the entire confidence of his employers
and receives a very handsome salary. I have much
to tell you about him when I see you. Should he call,
I would take it as a special favor, if you would make
him welcome, and show him some little attention if
you please. In great haste and in the pleasant hope
seeing you soon, I am your affectionate daughter

L. C. Van Buren

miserable and say "It is the Lord
let him do as seemeth him
good" But while we would
not murmur we may
mourn, for the great grief at
the grave of Sagarus has not
forbidden us to weep. Oh woe
that I could weep. The fountain
of my tears is dried up my
eyelids are parched and hot
and my very tongue refuses
utterance. O ye dear ones
as the blow falls very heavily
the very light of your eyes your
"dear ones" child is taken from
you. She was very lovely, modest
of all the love you gave her, and
we all felt and acknowledge
that she deserved the largest
share of your affection. She was
always so kind and loving
to you, never selfish and con-

plaining, but was anxious
that her dear mother's wants
should be attended to. But
mother, while your poor stricken
heart is well nigh broken both
formed and improved, think
then, as a faithful angel before
her Father's throne, do not feel
that she is lost. Oh no! she has
only gone a few years before
you, and when you shall be
reunited home, I doubt not
she will be permitted to see
you, and you will see her. Oh
dear ones of mine and dear ones
but think of our far parting
of suffering and pain, and
think of that eternity when shall
be no more pain, no more
and when sorrow and sigh-
ing shall flee away. I who
would be strong, who wish

ing too much. I think a trip to England would do her good. I wish I could be near you to relieve you of some of your cares or share them with you. I think it would do us good to have a long talk over our trials and vexations. You ask me about Sam. He never writes to me now, and I never hear unless through you. He does not write to most either. This is very strange. I have written to him regularly until lately, but have concluded now to wait until I hear from him. According to the last news from him he ought to be home soon, but California people seem to be very uncertain. Some trials are severe and dear sister, and may God give you strength to bear them. Lean upon him for support. He will never fail you and if you do but secure him for your friend, nothing can harm you - even if your troubles should increase, he will stand by you, and comfort you. I shall hear through most as soon as Sam arrives in New York. Is Mr. Keller going to New York? tell him not to fail to see most - most's books are going ahead of all his expectations. He will so gradually be able to establish himself in his city.

not worthy to share prosperity with him, yet perhaps for his sake, I may be permitted to see brighter days with him even in this world as Job's wife did. If he ever should be prosperous, and become wealthy we should hear no more of his want of management ~~than~~ but he would be all right, to go the world. But there is a time coming, a time we cannot dodge, when most of wisdom will avail little, for that time says husband ~~will~~ be prepared ~~and~~ when we think how short a time a money-making talent can be of use to us, does it not seem as if it was almost valueless compared with that wisdom which will avail throughout eternity? I have been led to write thus because I have heard remarks that lead me to believe that by some of my family, perhaps

found it could not be entirely good
for nothing, and I cannot refrain
at times from saying what I really
think of him. In all our poverty, he
has been ever considerate of me, and
has always made my home happy.
He has never given me a harsh
word, but has come with my
many failings with the temper of
an angel. I believe he would willingly
die to save me pain or suffering,
and there have been times of trial,
when his great love has been made
to me more than all the treasures
of the world. Respecting him as
I do, and loving him with my
whole heart & I have done from
my early childhood, it cannot
but pain me to reflect that some
whom I hold very dear, have an
erroneous opinion of him. I think
that time will show them they are
wrong, and to that I leave it.
We hope that now he is in a fair way

to make a comfortable livelihood,
and with God's blessing we may
yet have some years of ease.
Tell dear Mr. Mellen that I want
to thank him for the sweet picture
of precious Belle, which he sent
me and cannot find words
to express my thanks aright.
It is a great satisfaction to me and
I value it more highly than anything
I own. The children will learn to
love it, and the sweet face of dear
"Aunt Belle" will exercise over them
a soft but salutary influence.
Dear Ellen this has been a selfish
letter, but I did not mean it
to be so, my feelings ran away
with my pen, and can you for-
give me? Tell dear mother, I do not
see how I can stand it if she
does not make me a visit this
fall. I wish she could arrange
to spend the winter with me
but I suppose that would be all

Peack Orchard Feb 10th 1853

Dear Charlotte,

I have so long delayed answering your last letter, hoping to be able to write positively if I should visit you this Spring or not—but as Belle has not yet returned from Cincinnati, have concluded to wait no longer—sometimes I think it would be pleasant for us all, should I put off my visit until Summer, when we hope Malcott will be here again and, (as he writes in his last letter) we have "a family party"—Heaven grant that he ~~will~~ return again in safety, and, if convenient ~~not with his party~~) be able to stay among us; it seems to me if my children could be so situated that I could see them often, and divide my time among them, the only wish of my heart this side the grave, would be fulfilled.—Am sorry my dear child that you have to encounter so many difficulties, and labor so hard; were it in my power, gladly would I lighten your burdens, strive to keep up your spirits, and unwavering trust in the all merciful Dispenser of all our blessings. I shall write again in a few days—Malcott will soon be able to aid his father, and Anna is I forget not already a great assistance and comfort to you—if you are all well with health, I trust that there is a bright

future before you - and that your dear children will
repay you by duty, ~~and~~ ^{fast} affection, for all your struggles
and anxieties - you will rejoice with me when I
tell you that Ellen is improving in every respect,
she has been here with me since last May, and great
comfort have I had in her - she divides her time between
sewing, studying German, reading history, needle, she
is quite an accomplished rider and touching.
Willis (who has been at home the last six months, as
his health was not very good) and, if we have
company, and any arrangements are to be made,
she is the very soul of order, propriety, ^{and} seeming
to have observed, and improved upon all the systems
which have come under her notice, and her past
itinerant life.

We hope Belle will be at home in about ten days,
all are very well, and hope the time is not distant
when Mr. Vanclive and you will be able to visit
your relations in this quarter, and the young cousins
will become known to each other, give my best love
to all the children, not forgetting your adopted ones -
I am very anxious to see them all - can write more
certainly next time - Belle's little boy is christened
Malcolm - am very glad to hear such a good
account of Mr. Thompson it must be such a comfort
to his good Mother, as well as to his other kind
friends - remember me to all -

Your Mother
with affect.
O. C. Clarke

Harbor, where we are now lying at anchor, on account of the wind; about 10 miles west is Eagle River and still farther on is Ontonagon.

Montreal River is the boundary between Wisconsin & Michigan, and that is as far west as we expect to go. We commenced operations there and took our way home. May God bless and prosper us, take care of us and keep us from harm and restore us to our homes in due time.

Direct your next letters to "Rockland Post office" "Minnesota Mine"; "Michigan". Do you think they will ever reach such a place? Well they may, and they may not. There is nothing like trying.

I hope soon to hear from you from some source, that you are all well and prospering, and living by yourselves. I cannot help it, but I will be in a continued fever until I learn this. Malcolm can tell you how anxious I am about it.

Love to all my dear children & Eliza Chick. I may God bless you my darlings.
Your own dear husband & P. O. Amble

(P. S. I may write more on another sheet but have this in readiness for the 1st opportunity that offers.)

Eagle Harbor May 29th 54

My dear wife.

I left the Scout on Saturday afternoon (the 27th). In the morning of that day we heard of the loss of the Detroit, a steamboat bound for the Scout, that left Detroit the day we did, and we were somewhat fearful that you might have heard of the accident, and have been alarmed on our account. I trust however that you rec^d a letter from me on Saturday informing you of our safe arrival at the Scout.

We are now on board of the Steamer Baltimore, and are bound for Montreal River; we may be obliged however to land at Ontonagon, and hire a small boat there to take us up, which will be somewhat tedious. We may be up in that region some three or four weeks, and I cannot

expect to hear from you till we re-
turn to Ontonagon. You may sup-
pose that I will be a little anxious to
hear from you.

Yesterday I was sea sick in
consequence of the constant motion
of the boat. We had no storm, but
the waves rolled just enough to
make many of us sick. Our party
consists of six, and four of us
were sick, (There are probably
two hundred people on the boat) I
could eat neither breakfast nor din-
ner, but managed to swallow a
little supper.

This is a rugged looking coun-
try. Very much broken and the
hills covered with pine & cedar.
Presenting nothing encouraging to
the agriculturist, but, like the
Sandy, inviting none but the
miner and lumberman. The
climate you know is cold, bristly
long, summers short. It is quite
cold & uncomfortable to day.

I met here today, Mr Britchard
son of the blacksmith that lived near
the Bogardus school house in Pittsfield.
He is a nephew of Charles Woodard.
Tell Malcolin that he told me, Cha?
Woodard has married Miss Emery
of Houghton. He is now at Michigan
city, not engaged at present on any
Rail Road. — When I was in De-
troit last Tuesday I called at Mr
Highams office, but did not find him.
When I was at the Law I wrote him
a note telling him of my movements,
and that I wd like a situation on
the Oak. & St. R. Road on my return
in October, if it was to be had. In the
mean while you keep me ad-
vised of anything you can learn.

If you can borrow a map of
Michigan (Farmers), look on the Lower
West shore, and you will see Kee-
wenaw Point, following the coast about
ten miles you see Copper Harbor; on
about 12 miles farther west is Eagle

VILLI

La Point May 31st

The wind blew so hard yesterday we could not land at Ontonagon, or Montreal River. We reached this place during the night. It is a town on a point about 30 miles west of Montreal River. There is a fine harbor here and the place looks lovely this bright morning after the tossing we had yesterday. In fact Lake Superior is no small sea and it can give one a considerable rocking, when disposed to do so. We have not had a storm but the wind blew pretty strong and steady for three days, and ruffled the surface of the Lake considerably. We will take a Macinac boat here and coast back to Montreal or Mack River. I will write to you whenever an opportunity

[May 29, 1854]

offers, but when I can hear from you is more than I can tell; perhaps it may be a month from this time. — In the mean time I don't hope that you are all well and doing well. — We are well and in good spirits.

The weather continues very cold. — Good bye dearest. May God bless & keep you all is my constant prayer.

Love our devoted husband

H. P. Van Cleve

P.S. I left some Corrosive sublimate hanging in my room. You had better see it on the bed, and have that bottle & another, that is in the bureau in Anna's room, washed perfectly clean for the stuff is dangerous.

Quine Arbo, Tuesday, Apr. 11. 1854

My dear wife

I wrote to you yesterday, and this morning, and the enclosed letter from Everett, which I have thought best to send, that you may consult with Mr. Mellen and write the result of your deliberations to Everett, that he may know what to do. If you should write to me, I might possibly not be here, & he could not hear as soon as by a letter directed to him, and it would also be a gratification to the boy to hear from you. If Mr. Mellen needs any more assistance in his store I do not know where he could find one more competent & more faithful as a Salesman, or bookkeeper, &c.

Last night was a week since I parted with you on the Steamboat. It appeared like a long, very long week, to me. I trust however it has been a pleasant and profitable one to you. I expected a letter from Pittsburgh this morning, but not receiving one, have concluded that you had not made any stay there, but immediately took a boat for the Month. Hope the funds held out. I have all the time felt badly that you started with so short an allowance.

But I am sure I shall do all that was in
my power. We have got along very well thus
far. I have determined to buy nothing more
on credit if it can possibly be avoided. I have
not run at debt for one cent since you left.
Set us down on that principle and we will get
out of debt, and I will again be able to
stand erect. May God enable us so to live,
for that I consider with us is the only honest way.

I called last evening with Mr. Bailey and
Prof. Williams (formerly) on our return home we
witnessed a beautiful display of fireworks
in the Northern Heavens. The Aurora Borealis
was very brilliant. The weather was quite
cold, that morning the ground was frozen hard.

I have missed Scrimie's silver cup.
Did you take it with you? If not where did
you put it for safe keeping?

In my letter yesterday I wrote "wolfen" with
one l, then altered it by adding another l, which
of course you observed and made a mark
against me. I hope I will recollect it here-
after. Nevertheless the dictionaries are wrong & it
should be spelled with two ls.

It has been very quiet in the house this
morning. The children all at school and the
cows off, fishing, all the round I hear an
occasional rattling of pots & kettles about the
stove or Susanna walking about the kitchen.

I see some signs of a new winter however
for there is a spider on the window by me that
is amusing himself by letting himself swing
by his invisible thread from the sash very leisurely
as he almost reaches the bottom of the win-
dow, and then climbing up again. From his
maneuvers I took upon him as a pretty sure
spider, and I am inclined to think that he
is of the same opinion.

I have written to Everett, and gave what
I told him he will expect a letter from you.

Mr. Bailey is still with us and is very well.
He is waiting for the opening of navigation on Lake
Superior. He wrote to Ellen yesterday, and sends
his love to all to day.

I am getting very impatient to hear from you
but believing that our Heavenly Father who has
you in his care will ever watch over you and
keep you, I feel no anxiety about your welfare.

May God bless you and my dear chil-
dren. Give my love to all. Tell Anna to
write to me. Kiss the children for me, and
always think of me as your own loving husband.
A. P. Van Cleave.

Tell Sophy that her folks are all well.
Susanna wants to see little Sam, and you
all.



Mr. J. H. [illegible]
17 [illegible]

9.50
40
22

10.12

10.18

all around me again. The young and handsome
your last letter to me, I read the whole the history
of Joseph, which of course interested them very much.
Little Sam seemed as attentive as any of them and
looked as wise as if he knew all about it. I wish
if he is pretty. The little Rochers think he looks just
as Malcom did. I think the chief point of resemblance
is his size. I call him at all times a very little
looking baby, and every one who sees him exclaims
what a sweet baby! But if he may be thoroughly
appearance, his good gentle disposition would make
him appear beautiful, and if you could open a
week with him you would be apt to think that there
were few such little babies. When you shall see him
and he is just high enough to play with and he will
be very much interested in everything. He is very
fond of any thing that is new. He is very fond of his
parents to be sure, but he is very fond of his
grandmother that no one named him after him and do
you know I feel as if this very thing would have
a good influence over him? I think I will try
to keep him from ever to think that a child of par
ents whom he loves so well, bears his name. Good
night darling, I think perhaps you will think Rose
often writing to me, or reading Eliza. I must conclude
a while with this dear old friend before I retire. He will
Kip Malcom for me, and let us both ask God to
impress upon his mind the importance of embracing
the truth as it is revealed. God bless you. Tuesday
A cold cleaning has prevented my writing to you
before, since Sunday, and now I shall have to be very

concise. My visit to York was very pleasant. The people
all delighted to see me, and very anxious to hear
about you. I think they are rather improving than other
times, and if they get a road through that neighborhood
I have no doubt that they will amount to something yet.
There has been and still is a very extensive fire on
the prairie, the smoke was so dense this morning we were
then that we could not see half way across the street.
Your farm of course was burned over. Brownson's
farm near Elk destroyed, several houses have been
burned and for the time lost in trying to save
property. John has been to day and says that the smoke
was so thick as to shut out one morning last week that
you could not see the horses when standing on the
couch. Alas! - John & Rose called to see me after my
arrival. I think they are very much improved.
I feel just as before myself, and I am glad to hear
and perhaps he thinks he has had a little too
much, no more. I am so much of their nature
that they have thought me hard on feeling. I treated
John as usual. I shall continue to do so, but if on
occasions offer I will tell him calmly and plainly
what I think of his conduct. It doesn't trouble me at all
now, and in fact nothing troubles me much. Your
and the children are all well, and we have so many
blessings that I cannot think of finding fault with
things. As Mr. Brown told us, Christians must have
trials, but they have to look upon these trials as among
their richest blessings, for since he, and I wish you could
have heard him. I am of the sweetest music. It is in
the winter hymns. The sweet thought, it seems to me

5

Horatio P. Van Hook
H



Forwarded

Aubertou

Michigan

Horatio F. Van Cleave

Ann Arbor

Michigan



San Antonio Tex 10th 1850

Dear Mother

Mother please father letter
this morning. And I ~~was~~^{am} so glad to learn that
~~you are coming home so soon~~ what good things
we shall have. Aunt Ellen is fine and I
like her a great deal better than I ever did
before and I am sure of it. Little Sammy
does not creep yet but he
is a very smart baby I think and a very
pretty baby too and I am sure you and father
both of you will eat him up as soon as
you see him. Aunt Bet sent me a very
pretty book ~~book~~ and one I think you will
like to read I hope you come home tell
father that I commenced Napoleon Bonaparte
yesterday I think I shall like it very much
I wish you would history dear (now don't think
I am going to preach to you I am only going
to talk to you) you can't think how much

it would please our dear father to have
you and I am quite sure you would like
it after you once come ad. and even
if you do not like it much you will
read it and try to win some thing from
it for his sake would you dear try it and
I think you will like it father does love
you so much Malcolm. But I think I have
written enough as you are coming home
so soon so good bye dear brother and much
love for my dear father and yourself Your own
sister Annie

Malcolm

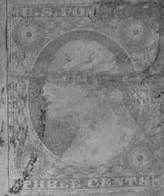
Ans. Above Nov 11th 1853

Dear Husband

a few persons of religious principle in the
 world the kingdom of heaven is at hand
 your time to do good is now. The
 blessed influence of the Holy Spirit
 and the power of the Holy Spirit
 your Christian character. It is the
 work and then continuing the work
 account of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 might be the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 may be the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 my letter to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 correspond to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 chief cause of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 are the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 believe that God is the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 believe that the Holy Spirit is the Holy Spirit
 all the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 about the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 not find any of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 you have found the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 you have so deeply. The Holy Spirit
 to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 when he goes to the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit
 himself. Let him for me, tell the Holy Spirit
 any of us when he comes. The Holy Spirit
 may be tempted. The Holy Spirit
 with a heart full of the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit



July 29, 1854



Horatio P. Van Cleave
Portage Lake
Lake Superior
Houghton Co
Mich.

Malcolm is very steady - the children were all much
pleased with your letters to them - they all send love.

Ann Arbor July 24th 1854.

My dear Husband,

Last week was an eventful week
and although I tried most faithfully to snatch a moment
to write to you I was unable to do so. Malcolm arrived
a week ago last ~~Wednesday~~^{Friday}, and intended to leave on
the following Thursday for Cincinnati and Kentucky
with his children. I went out ^{on Monday} and purchased clothing
for them to the amount of 20 dollars, brought it home
and with the help of all I could preppare the service
head every thing done by Wednesday morning, trunks
packed and all, car time arrived and with it came
Mary Lincoln baby and nurse. She had started as
soon as she heard that Malcolm was here and sup-
posed that he was going to spend several weeks
here, came to be with him as much as possible.
Mr Lincoln had been absent from Cincinnati
for two weeks, having been summoned to attend
his father's death bed. Malcolm, having made his
plans to go, and being anxious to see Mr Lincoln
(who was expected home on Saturday night) concluded
to leave here on Saturday morning expecting to
reach Cincinnati by 10 o'clock at night. So away
they all went on Saturday at 4 o'clock, children and
all, and I just got ready to write and tell you
all about it when who should drive up but
Mr Lincoln himself! Here was a state of things

He had heard at Niagara that Mary was here and thought she would remain two or three weeks of course. You may suppose we all felt disappointed, but we concluded to make the best of it and enjoy ourselves. So after tea we walked round the University Square, and passed a delightful time. In the evening Horstova called, and yesterday Mr Lincoln took tea with him. They that is Malcolm, Mary and Mrs Lincoln, are delighted with Anne Arbor. Mary is going to come here when Malcolm does, (1st of September) and will spend three or four weeks with me. Mr L. will be here a part of the time, and we shall be very happy, but shall miss you as we did all last week when we were together. Mary says she would like to spend her summers here and is going to try and make arrangements to do so. We all took tea at Horstova's on Friday evening and went from there to a little party at Mrs Hawkins' given for Mary & Malcolm, who I assure you rec'd great & very marked attention. Malcolm was dressed handsomely, and looked as I have not seen him for years. He enjoyed himself much. Mary was dressed in white, and looked like a queen. People seemed to be all taken aback by her beauty, as my mother spoke to me about it. Mr Lincoln and Mrs Maloney told me they could not keep their

eyes off of her. The party was very select made up principally of literary people, and Mary had a fine opportunity of showing off her very superior education in conversing with the Chancellor and the professors. When she comes next fall, she will be fitted to her heart's content. Only one thing besides your absence made me sad that night. I mothered Anne having on my dear brother's arm, and felt so proud and happy to have him with me, he said to me "Sister I have felt to night that Anne is like a thrown myself away in cutting myself off from all these social enjoyments, and when I look at those beautiful forms, I felt as if I was in the presence of superior beings, and felt that my lot was a hard one as I can never expect to have a home like the one we visited nor be surrounded as we have been to night by intelligent and cultivated men and women." My heart sunk, as I felt the truth of this, but I endeavored to cheer him up and told him we had much happiness in store for him in the discharge of his duty. He talked a long while and I pray God the dear boy may yet find true and lasting happiness in his various labors. Write him a letter to meet him here when he returns. He will give you very much, but not glad you were in business. I never heard Malcolm

so well as I do now, and he seemed to be so grate-
ful to me for the care I had taken of the chil-
dren, and acted so much like our dear fa-
ther, that I shall mark his late visit in white
and shall, ^{along with} think of it with real pleasure.
He seems to idolize his children especially Ellen
and you can't think how glad they were
to see him. You see by the papers that Nebraska
includes Fort Benton, so that Malcolm is in the State
as it is called; his plan is to purchase a large
tract of land at government price, and stock
it with cows and horses, then when he feels
as if he would afford it, he will take his family and
take his family to his plantation. He will have
Ellen and Chick with him there during vacation
~~time. I am that may be many happy days.~~
He is much astonished at the improvement of
both the children, and feels as if he had discharged his
duty faithfully. He brought down with him \$3800.00
his dividend, which Mr Lincoln says he can put
out immediately at 10 per cent, and he will have
home nearly or quite \$6000.00 ^{at interest}. Besides
his dividend, he receives a salary of \$500.00
so that he is quite independent and can pay
by a large sum yearly. I rec'd a letter from
you at Lepton and forwarded them by
J. C. P. It was from Mr Houston and state
that he will send you a draft for \$925.00
as soon as he finds out where you are.

5
By Houston's advice, I wrote to him request-
ing to send the draft here to my order and
am now daily expecting it. Houston wrote to
him to the same effect. I mentioned in my letter
that he could use his own pleasure, about
retaining the three hundred which you are
willing to wait for it until January. Was that
right? Now you see your debts are as good as
paid so sleep easy, and eat with an appetite.
Of course I shall take Houston's advice and
home his assistance about making settlements.
The letter from William explains how it is that
you get this God-send, but I cannot really
understand it, and you can lie on further
until you see in the letter which I would
send if I supposed it would reach you.
Don't you see now that God will help those who
help themselves? Let us learn not to be discour-
aged nor faint by the way again, believing
that our bread and water shall be sure if
we trust in God. By next Sunday I expect
to be able to look Margaret and Mr Fisher
and all the rest of them in the face and think
I shall have a thanksgiving all to myself.
I am looking forward to brighter days now
to the time when you shall be established
near somewhere and be receiving a salary which

shall make us independent. I hope we shall
not forget, in our prosperity, to whom we owe
all. I called with Miss March on Mrs Curtis
the other day, and being caught in a shower
they made me stay to tea, & how pleasant and
polite they both were, is it possible that they are
both hypocrites, or do they indeed respect me?
They inquire particularly about you. I had a letter
from Peach Orchard on Saturday. They are well
and happy. Ellen says she has rec'd the strangest
letter in the world from Mr Hennessey apologi-
zing for his severe letters last winter and
asking our pardon from her. What do you
suppose is in the wind? ~~and~~? He is going to
try another tack now, and see if he can't
coax her back. I suppose Mr. Jones &c. shall
pay no attention whatever to the letter, and
that is just right. Mary feels like death about it
yet, gives Ellen no credit for sincerity, but Mr
Colin says he shall reconcile them yet. Mrs Fos-
ter and William F. are still anxious for Ellen
and Mary will try to bring ^{that match} about. She says
now that Sam is not a suitable husband
for Ellen, and you know how delighted she was
when she first heard she had accepted him.
Mary is a lonely woman, and I know her much
but her attachment to the heartiest woman, will not
let her be fair or consistent. I have ironed the
children out again this time. They shall certainly
write next week. Good bye darling. Good bye for you



Horatio J Van Cleave
Eagle Harbor
Lake Superior
Mich.

We have just returned from a visit
 to Upsalanti. I went down last week taking with
 me Anna and Lizzie, and the two Hawkins children.
 Mr. John was already there, we were to have remain-
 ed until Saturday but it was so pleasant and the
 children were so happy that I was prevailed on
 to stay over Sunday and returned on Monday
 better pleased with Upsalanti and its inhabitants
 than I ever was before; and the simple reason was
 that Mr. John and Antoinette treated us as if we
 were human beings and acted as if our visit was
 a favor done them rather than a great blessing
 conferred upon us. A little adversity has made
 a different woman of her, and I think that
 now she is guided by conscientious motives
 what she does. Our children did us credit
 and Antoinette expressed a wish that they should
 keep up an intimacy with each other. I showed you
 a former letter that Mr. Beech's health would
 not permit him to continue in the printing
 office. While he was in Upsalanti he had quite a
 bad cough, and Antoinette was very attentive
 to him so that by the time I got down there he
 was much relieved, although he still looks
 a worn-eyed and shabby. He is going to study

he says and got himself put to bed. He has come
around in good earnest but the weather is
so excessively hot that I do not think he can
study to much profit until there is a change.
Anna is busy this week taking lessons in Embroidery
on Muslin. A lady who does it very elegantly called
on me and requested me to introduce her to
some of the ladies in town and assist her to
get a class. I did so and she offered in return
to teach either myself or Anna. I thought it would
be a good thing for Anna and she is doing very
well at it. She is also making History and pay-
ing considerable attention to music. If you con-
clude to let her return to Cincinnati with Ma-
ry she can attend school in that place - but
if you object we must place her at school here
and Mr. Welsh of Spilantia informed me that
there was a very superior teacher coming here
from Monroe. So that we shall be some what
better off for educating our girls than we have
been for some time. Anna will learn well
and thoroughly whatever she sets about. I have
no fears for her and am glad we have not
suffered her more than we have done, for I
know her health would not have been equal
to close confinement in a school room. I trust
this fall she will be much stronger and then
she can study to some purpose. You recollect
Loring Clark of Spilantia. He is very well and

has been in the States and performed elegantly
on the Piano. But her nervous system is com-
pletely shattered. She has had a severe attack of
Hysterics and is so faint and delicate that
most of her friends think she will not live - the
year out or if she does not live in an invalid -
I wonder when her mother said her mother
and feeling among if she ever thinks of the
many years when she used to take lessons
of her bed at four o'clock in the morning and
after getting the poor child awake, used to
seat her at the Piano and keep her there
two long hours. That an unnatural way to
treat a child just for the sake of display. Poor
Mrs. Clark's mother is wretched. She looks very old
and "old clock" is older than ever. Her mother's
father died a few weeks ago and left him a rich
man. The whole family has gone into the very
deepest black, and I think they must be mourning
because he did not die sooner. The boys of mine
arrived safely and I did not intend to bring them
till you come home, but Malcolms thought he
must have a peep, and I gratified him. He only
took out a few and after looking at them put
them directly back for fear the labels might
get misplaced. When you come home you will
be in a nice time arranging them. Mrs. Brown
is boarding at Mrs. C. H. Williams very pre-
sently situated. Mr. Thomson says he shall start for

The Upper Lakes next week. His health is not
very good. This hot weather has greatly injured him. In
fact I never suffered with the heat as he
does. For a few days since this morning I was
not sleeping. I was full of the depen-
dence upon the Almighty in a sensible way when
we are suffering from drought. I thought of the
man distressed with us, and there is no way
to escape from his wrath. I trust his anger
will be turned aside soon, and that in our
prayer he may bless us with rain. The crops
are all suffering, some are ruined. The gar-
den will not amount to any thing and the
failure of grain and the war with Russia
will run up the price of all kinds of provisions.
He shall begin to look for rain about the 15th of
Sept. although I suppose you will hardly get
here before the 15th. I shall do my best to keep
Malcolm here till you come. I shall ^{have} the house
put in good order to receive him and all
of you. I hope Mary will not disappoint me.
Her son sailed on Monday for California.
God bless him and restore him to us soon.
He will be gone from one to two years, and then
expects to return and marry Ellen. Nothing but
his anxiety to be married and have a home
home induced him to go to California. The children
are all well and send love. The hot weather is hard on
Sammy he is growing thin. I do not really like
I am thankful the time is soon coming when I can tell

[Aug. 7, 1854]



Mr Horatio P. Van Cleave
Copper Harbor ~~Ontario Lake~~
Lake Superior
Houghton Co
Mich.

[With letter of Aug. 5, 1854]

Iron Creek R.R. Office

German town May 12th

My Old Friend

[18547]

I have been expecting to hear from you for sometime as I have not received any answer to my last letter. I hope you & your family are well & that you may be in business ere this. I have not forgotten you nor will I. But Rail Roading is very dull. I do not have enough to do to keep me busy & day in & night engineers are very plenty for I have applications almost daily. However Mr. Gunkle has gone east now & we shall commence laying iron soon between Carlisle & Germantown. The prospects for the Lehigh & Neversink R.R. brighten daily & I think there is no doubt but what we shall receive a grant of lands & then push the Road right forward. in case we do you will not

be forgotten. Mr McCabe our agent
at Washington took 16000 dollars
stock in the Penn Creek R.R. so
confident was he of success in the
C & M. R. R. project. We shall get the
interests of the Michigan Central R.R.
I think working for us by keeping
dark until the proper time comes
for they are deeply interested in lands
all along by the side of our road
& as we cross them first can obtain
all our Eastern business. Mr Woodard
who was with us last fall was married
on Tuesday last in Dayton to Miss
Lizzie Currier of that place she is a
very nice girl & will make him a
good wife so much for his coming
to Germantown. I was present at
the wedding & saw the thing done
up right. They were married in the
Episcopal church in the afternoon
& left for Indianapolis & Michigan
city immediately. How is Malcol
He is sending his way through

Triangles. Octagons & Polygons
now with that determined Energy
of his. it would like to see him
& hope to make a good Engineer
of him yet. Well I wish I knew
of a situation for you but at present
I cannot think of a place, but I
want you to continue corresponding
with me & I think something will
turn up ere long. Remember me kindly
to your family & believe me yours
(very truly)

Geo. F. Hollington

Ann Arbor August 5th 33
[1854?]

Dear father

I suppose you think I have entirely forgotten you but I have not I own that I had been a very bad boy indeed not to have written you before. I wrote you a letter and Mother intended to have sent it but when she came to look at it she thought ^{it} it was not written as well as it might be so she did not send it, it was written in such a hurry the bell was ringing for church, (and as I am so punctual) I thought it would be wrong to miss going. There has been some in fact is now a few cases of Cholera in town but not so much as might be expected but enough to put unprepared persons non-prepared to die in a day, and well it may. How do you like your business out there do you not get very home-sick and want to see your family very much I should think you would but do not let any of my gable make you ^{any} more so, we miss you very much indeed. Seymour is a darling boy and is learning very fast indeed. I went to Wilmor Lake yesterday and ^{had} had a very pleasant time indeed Susan is here and John May and Juley are here to John was not here in time and so he did not go when you come here you must come with the intention to go and take all the family oh it is a beautiful place yesterday it was a little windy

and the waves rolled Mountains high a man from N. Y. was there and said he had been on the ocean & knew all about a sail boat so no body went out with him except some young men and ladies and they went across the lake with the wind but when they wanted to come back they could not well so they put the girls ashore and sent to the house after a horse and buggy to take them home and this knowing young man and another smart gentle man said they would beat us to the house we walked around and it took us about half an hour and then about seven hours and so ended our days excursion

good bye your affectionate son

W. A. C.

My dear dear Husband,

This is Monday morning and I am more than usually busy but I must start to finish this sheet to you and am rejoiced that I can say that we are all well and happy. There have been some cases of Cholera but none positively originating in Free Arbor. The citizens do not feel alarmed and I think there is not the least cause of alarm. I know that God can protect us now as well as at any other time and

do not feel the least fear in fact set down. Think of it unless the subject is mentioned. I don't give yourself the least uneasiness about it. I trust you will continue in good health, and that we will be restored to each other in circumstances of comfort in God's own good time. You have probably read my last letter in which I give you an account of the way in which we have disposed of the money received. Besides what I mentioned as having paid, I have paid Holmes \$6. and some cents, and have taken up notes which amounted to \$51.59 so that I have not more than enough to pay taxes, and the interest on West's note without keeping any thing to live on, so that if it would be just as convenient or not, I should like you to make one more remittance that I may have all I need in the house when Malinda and Mary come in September. I assure you I have not been extravagant but have done the very best I could, and I think you will find it so when you come back. I should have had an abundance, if it had not been for one or two little debts that I did not know of, but they are paid off now, and I don't want to run in debt and then while I live, so I should like to be sure and have a little by me all the time. I see by your letter that you have not shared since you left the East. I hope before you return you will take of your mustache for

It seems to me you would not look like the right
man, if you do not. I longed heartily to think that
you are to need reminding when you return to in-
vite your friends to tea, and to think too that you
want them here to save you the trouble of telling
to me, and telling what you have been at all the
times! Really that is the greatest joke of the business.
I shall send to Kentucky I guess, and hire some one
to come here and tell you how I enjoyed my
visit and what I did and said - Of course
it will be a great pleasure to entertain the
young gentlemen and as you are going to hear
them here on purpose to talk to me, of course
you will not object to my making myself
particularly agreeable to them, and don't dare
to call me a flirt after placing such tempta-
tions in my way. Aunt Abby is looking beau-
tiful indeed. Mr Moloney is looking for a house
he intends purchasing, and will make this his
home, when he has made enough money.
Mrs Brignone has sold her house, and will of
course live with them. The Spilante children
are here visiting now. Mary and Julia at Aunt
and Gus, and Johny here. I must go down there
and spend a day or two next week. The children
are all doing well. Sam is large about mabbing
he began to stop alone some time ago, as I wrote to you
but had a bad bite on his knee for some time
and has not got along very fast. He is very willful.
I named him and is a very smart knowing child.
All send love, May God bless and keep you my own
dear sustainer, is my daily prayer. Your dear wife



Nov 25

[June 19, 1854]



Mr. H. P. Van Cleve
~~Portage Lake~~
~~Portland Post Office~~
~~Maine~~
Michigan

ing to it to come right home
and tell you all about it. I was
very miserable for eight or ten
hours, but feel much better
this morning, although the per-
formance has failed of its effect
for the more I think of the sermon
the less I like it. I went to church
in mind and body. I had
been working hard at the loom and
children's summer clothes due and
being the week and I hardly felt able
to go at all, but thought that if I could but
hear a good sermon one that would cheer and
strengthen and comfort me I should be
refreshed and strengthened. The text pleased me. It was
1st Corinthians 13:12 and seemed to me of itself enough
to encourage Christians to look above themselves
for comfort and to cheer them with
the hope that when this imperfect life
shall be at home with my trials and
care and weariness should be
laid down away, the perfect life
without end should dawn upon them
and I ten people in the house that
they should be freed from sin and all
its attendant evils. I looked and hoped
for some such application of the text
greatly and beautifully enlarged
upon as Mr Curtis is well able to do
but instead of this it was all scientific
by dissected, and each tribe was held
up and explained in the most learned
terms. Instead of the heaven of
rest that I love to think of
and that the dear Saviour told us
was the week and I hardly felt able
to go at all, but thought that if I could but
hear a good sermon one that would cheer and
strengthen and comfort me I should be
refreshed and strengthened. The text pleased me. It was
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the hope that when this imperfect life
shall be at home with my trials and
care and weariness should be
laid down away, the perfect life
without end should dawn upon them
and I ten people in the house that

note mouth to hear this Holy word
so desecrated, and to see his peo-
ple sent hungry away - I should
like to be with you in the woods
but that cannot be. I am glad
to hear that you are well and
that you stand the fatigue so well.
We are all well. (I shall be as well as usual
in a day or two). The children talk of you
daily. Maggie always with tears in
her beautiful eyes. Malcolm is doing
well, is steady and is getting much
smarter and affectionate. Ann is
just as usual, very much engaged
in history and remembers all the
best. I ^{think} he is preparing to stick you
on some questions when you get back.
Ellen and Chick are in statu quo, looking
somewhat anxiously for their father who
will probably be here in three or four weeks.
Leymon is the same, important but
precious child as ever. Malcolm says he
is going to be a minister. I more than half believe
it. He said to me the other day that he
wants to remember when I die that he
was my favorite. Edie is a darling child
bright but a ~~dilemma~~ ^{dilemma} and very sweet. Sam
is beginning to walk. Says several words
which is a lovely baby. Antoinette and
Miss Langdon visited me on Friday the
latter went into ecstasies over him.
I thought him perfectly beautiful and said
he was his uncle's ^{son} ~~son~~ over again. I am
sorry if it seems harsh. I speak to you just
as I feel. I know you will be perfectly
satisfied. Pray for me darling, and may God bless

5 [June 19, 1854]
call my children about me
and after asking God's blessing
and singing his praise would
read to them some of the Savior's
teachings his sermon on the mount
an account of his agony in the
garden, his crucifixion and
ascension and tell them in
simple language they were to
follow his example, to bear
as he did to forgive as he did
to love their Heavenly Father as
he did, to do good to others as
he did, and that when they
died they would go to heaven as
he did. This would be clear to
them and might do them some good.
But how do they understand of the
sermons they hear at church? Not ten
words. I do sincerely think that Mr Bur-
ton's sermons are directly calculated
to disgust young people with religious
teaching and I am afraid it is doing more harm

than good. I know our children
are not benefited, and I can
only hope and pray that they may
not be injured. I should be tempt-
ed to think that the fault lies
together in my sicked heart if
the text "by their fruits ye shall
know them" was not continually
recurring to me. If I have any
light God grant it may not
go out. He may be giving me
grace to read and pray more
attentively and with more fer-
vor, and to lean entirely upon
him for wisdom and for com-
fort. Now I feel better for I have
said to you what I would not
of course dare to say to any one
else, and my mind is more at ease.
It may have one good effect and
that is it may make you feel that
your not being able to go to church
is no great trial for with your

Bible in your hand you can
spend your Sabbath more profit-
ably in these grand old forests.
Which surpass you sensibly with
God's great power, and with
his immediate presence than
any room within four wooden walls ever
known by many who are there
to show themselves, and by others
who are there to show their piety
listening to a dry and transcend-
ental lecture of Mental Philoso-
phy. Positively the discourse I heard
yesterday night just as well have
been delivered by Socrates or Plato.
I do know Proctor, for the
name of our dear Lord was not
mentioned, nor was he directly re-
ferred to! Don't set me down for
the most ^{sick} woman in the world (you
would say so much ^{as I do} if you did)
I do love God and try to serve him
but I am not moving on him, fully

[July 28, 1854]



Mr Horatio P. Van Cleve
~~Portage Lake~~
Cape M Harbor Lake Superior
Houghton County
Mich.

July 26th 1854

date

Recd. of Wm C. Horton a check
~~a check~~ of the cashier of the Bank of Pennsylvania
on the Bank of Commerce New York for six hundred
fifteen dollars $27/100$ also a note for three hundred
dollars with interest from Feb 13th 1854 given by
H. and signed by myself O. C. H. Vancleave amount-
ing in all to nine hundred twenty five dollars
 $27/100$ being the same which said Horton
enclosed to my wife Charlotte O. Vancleave
for which she gave a receipt dated July 26th
1854

Of course you will copy this, and
I think you had better enclose your receipt
to me as it seems to me, it will be a sur-
way of getting it to Philadelphia -
C.O.V.

Ann Arbor July 27th 1854

My dear Husband,

I wrote you a six page letter this week but as there is a little matter of business just now I must take time to write a few lines to day. I rec'd ^{yesterday} a draft from Wm C. Houston for \$615.27 and I enclose a copy of a receipt which Wm Houston wants you to sign and send to him which will prevent any mistake and make all right. He retained the amount of your note with the interest as you will perceive and Houston and I are going to the best we can with the balance. I shall settle all the little debts such as Van Gieson, the tapers, the house rent, Holmes, etc and then let Hors take the balance and divide it between Back, Becker & Maynard. We will also pay the interest on Mrs Grant's note as Hors seems to think that will be safe and proper. We will dispose of it all this week and I will write to you on Saturday or Monday that you may know just what we have done. Now if you can manage to keep in business, you see that our former remittance will clear us all up, and then let us look out for breakers in future. I go entirely upon the Cash principle and shall

continue to do so. Our prospects certainly look
fair now, and let us praise God that he
has brought us up out of the pit and miry
slay. In your last letter you seemed quite
excited that I had not got rid of my board,
but you need not distress yourself about that.
Mrs T. did intend going to Rochester soon
after my return, but the Cholera broke out
and she was afraid to go there. They tried to
find a boarding place but did not succeed
and as I supposed she would soon leave
I did not distress her about it, for I could
not but feel grateful to her for taking
such good care of the children. I still felt
uneasy ~~and~~ as I knew you were not satis-
fied - but did not know just how to act
and at last I did, what I should have done
at first, I prayed to God to help me and
he answered my prayer, in a very pleasant
way too. viz. You know last week Mary and Mal-
colm were here, and were much delighted with
their visit so much so that Mary said that
if Mr Lincoln would consent she would have
him come back, and spend the month of
September with me. Mr Lincoln came on Sat-
urday and was just as much pleased as Mary
and said nothing would please him better
than to have Mary spend September with me
and said too that he would come up and

stay as long as he could. Now you see with-
out hurting any one's feelings I could tell
Mrs T. that I should need all the house, and
I added that after they were gone, you would
be back and would want this room for
a study. - Now you see she felt that it is
all right and will leave just as soon as
she can find a place. She had had an
invitation to go to Rochester as soon as the
lickup is over - and if her husband's health
will permit, she will go. He is very unwell
and I think will hardly see another winter.
Rest easy about Mrs. Mather, it will be
done to your satisfaction and without
making any enemies. - That she and Mary
were very much pleased with Mrs Thom-
son, while they were here. Mr T. went some-
where else, dropping in, only occasionally
and always behaving himself like a gentle-
man. - I arranged matters so that Mary and
Malcolm had abundance of room, Mary occu-
pying the upper front room, and Malcolm
the room down stairs with his children. They
enjoyed themselves much and thought the
house was delightful and the occupants
more so. - Now who would have done
any better, or more capitably but you
see God gets even do it whether she has the

means or not. You need not be fearful
about Cholera, there have been no cases here
except imported ones. The health of our people
is excellent except among those who eat
green stuff till they get all out of health and
then they are scared to death of a fear that
none the Cholera. The Doctor is out for
in a hurry administers something and the
next day the patient is at work again.
Had a letter from Sam yesterday. He had had
a bad time with his eye again. He is
now. He has been making some
arrangements in his business. He
says he will explain in another letter.
I think he is getting ready to be married and
I wish he was ready now, for poor Eliza will
have little peace until that great transpires.
The Gosters are eager to get her yet and will
not cease their endeavours until she has put
her out of their way. Humphrey has been writing
her a very queer letter begging pardon for his
silly letters of last month. What is he about now?
The more I see of Pomme Catholic is to give him
more I feel like becoming a "Know Nothing".
He great hostess and with much love I
am yours over true ~~and~~ but loving wife
C. L. C.

Can ^{to} July 4th 1834

Dear Charlotte

The weather is & has been very hot for some time. & I feel the want of my hat. Have you forwarded it? I have not rec'd it. If you have not purchased it I wish one with a ~~wide~~ crown & light top and a brim slightly wider than the one I've obtained for Mr. Weston. I wish a fine one. & if I did not give you money enough I will forward any amount which is required. I hope you will be able to forward it pronto. If you have no better means of forwarding it. The same can be sent by express. It need not cost more than \$1 & probably not so much. but even if more I prefer to pay it & have my hat. We are all quite well and are much annoyed & dismayed at the noisy patriotism, the inordinant power enjoyment. Remember me to all Love &c. J. L. Litch