



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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...for hunting, because it
...is a very good thing. I hope
...to be able to do it. I have
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The looking over what is written
in the preceding letters, which you
sent back, we have now to offer
that this letter was written in
haste, excepting the last paragraph
about attending school, which was
written in great haste. I hope
that this will be your last letter,
and that you will think good, to
write no more, but if you wish
to do so, I will be glad to receive
it.

Perhaps in doing so, you will
be able to say, that you are
not going to school, but I will
be glad to receive it. This
letter is written in haste, and
I am not sure if it is correct.
I think it will be better if you
will write to me, and I will
write back to you. I am
not sure if it is correct, but
I will be glad to receive it.
I am not sure if it is correct,
but I will be glad to receive it.
I am not sure if it is correct,
but I will be glad to receive it.

Chicago May 13th 1886

My own darling wife

My dear wife, I was at home on Sabbath evening
was rec^d this morning. I regret to learn that
you have been suffering again with head
ache, and wish that I could be with you to com-
fort you. If you lay your head on this form
it will relieve it much. — You heard D. S.
on the Sabbath. His sermons are very good,
not too metaphysical, but he does not put
the soul in a strait. You are conscious that
there is a world of feeling. I can sympa-
tize with you when you feel that you are
shabbily dressed & go out the back way. I know
what it is, I have had the feeling, have seated
myself on the back part of the church; make
my exit as soon as possible after the service
was over, & when on the street have turned the
first corner. You see I understand it. It is hor-
ribly disagreeable, but when I send you eleven
dollars, it is out of my first earnings. The Company
have paid me but a part of what I charged them
& as it may be some time before they pay the balance

it is necessary for me to hold on to some to meet
expenses. — I have gone to the extravagance of a
new hat & must also get a pair of pants. My ex-
penses when I was surveying the town were \$43.40
& I charged them for my services \$128, making \$171.40.
They have p^d on that \$70, leaving a balance due me of
\$96.00. — Of the 128 I had dedicated, a tenth (\$12.80)
to the service of my Maker of which I p^d \$5 yesterday.
I p^d \$28.75 which I owed on my expenses in the survey,
& \$4. for my hat. Must pay \$7 this week for 2 weeks
board and \$1. to my watchman. It will be ne-
cessary for me to purchase some instruments
to work with. Would spend in that way \$200
if I c^d afford it. — Now I have given you a sum
in addition & subtraction, can you work it out?
I hope that I may be so situated that
I can send you a larger amount. I said this
for you to get a dress. I fear it will not buy any
thing very nice. If the merchants do not like the
money send it back & I will try to get something
else. — I will try to get hold of Walter's book, & I like
much to see it. Hope it will do well. I want much
to see Anna & Mal. Write to Malcolm a few days

since. — Sunday being very warm, Yesterday I
found my overcoat comfortable, some were feet.
To day we have rain. Yesterday a man
was walking along the street, and a stone fell
from the top of the building & killed him instantly.
We are daily warned to live in preparation for
eternity. Now short a life at the best. — I want
very much to see Paul. You praise him so much
I think he must be a perfect beauty, & it trou-
bles me to think that he will not know me when
he first sees me. — By the time you receive this
you will be looking for Ellen & Mrs Mellen.
You must give my love to them. — I do not
think you need be under any anxiety about
the house. Mr Sedgwick said nothing about
our leaving yet. — I am anxious to pay for
my work I intend to pay him something.
The house of which I spoke to you a short time
since, five miles out of town, was sold a few
days since. It appears that it was not the will of
our Heavenly Father that we should go there & I feel per-
fectly satisfied. I trust he has something better
in store for us. — My father has not troubled me

Since the time I left you. — I wish you
to hear the news that I am today in good
health & good spirits. I fear you have
a hard time missing that great boy. If
W. T. Burnett calls again & praises him, tell
him to go and do likewise. — I sh^d like
to be with you when Mr. Mellen & Ellen are
at Ann Arbor. — I picked up Nialwatha a few
days since & have read it. I liked it very much.
— It is sad to think that a young girl like
Mary Lammie, is so rapidly sinking into the
grave & that too without any hope for the
future, and in the midst of a Christian com-
munity. I sh^d think her parents had have
some harder words to say.

~~Dear Mr. Brewster,~~
Tell Lizzy that I want to see that letter.
She must try to write well. Anna does not
take much pains with her handwriting, she
does not write to me often. — Good by my
darling. This is mixed up a little & I fear you
will not find it very interesting.

Your own dear husband H. W. Vauble



Mrs Charlotte D Van Buren

Ann Arbor

Michigan

Chicago, Saturday morning Apr 5: 58

My own darling wife

My Conscience smites me
for sending you such a blue letter yesterday,
in answer to your bright, cheerful epistles.
What distresses me the most about it, is that you
will receive it this evening I imagine
and spend a sad & gloomy Sabbath. To say less,
we in better spirits although we know nothing
particularly encouraging to write. I learned
this morning of two men engaged in the pro-
ducer commission business that they were glad
to take in a third partner who I believe should
put \$1500 into the concern & take care of the books,
but on further inquiry I learned that they
were not the right sort of men. I will tell
you more about them when I see you.
I feel encouraged however by this news, to
believe that I can get in a good concern
if I can raise a little Capital. There is the
rub however, where is this little Capital to
come from? I sometimes think it will be
best for me to come home soon and try to
raise the funds in some way. — I might
pledge the ancestral paring to me next winter, I
do something with the Huron lands. I know of
no other resources. There is nearly a man that
would take my property & raise \$2000, when

I do not receive \$500. Thank you for good message
my dear wife; forgive me for writing such
a gloomy letter yesterday. Trust in God, He
will take care of us.

I wrote a cheerful letter to her dear
Aunt this morning. May God bless the dear-
ling child. — I also rec'd a sweet encour-
aging letter from you, meant to cheer me through
another Sabbath. My darling wife, you do not
know much I love you & how much your letter
comfort & encourage me. But my precious
one I cannot live in this way, separated from
the best of wives & the loveliest of children. It is
not right. It must not be so. God will smile
upon our labors & bless us.

Tell Maria when she writes to me to enclose
her letters to you for the present, for I think I
shall be home soon, although my movements
are very uncertain, at present. I did not
say any thing about it in my letter to
her this morning. Did not think of it, & the letter
is now in the office.

Went to prayer meeting last evening held
at a private house; & on Wednesday evening
at the church. — Last Sabbath went Communion.

It seems to me to be a long, very long time since
I left home. I cannot realize that it was but last
week. — It is pleasant to think that we may
see our dear boy before many more months pass.

Kiss all my dear children for me. I love
none that I love better.

Good bye my own darling wife.
Your own dear husband
J. P. Van Cleve



Chicago June 15th 1856.

My dear darling wife

I have been in a continual fever for the last few days, expecting our children & son. Daily and hourly I am looking for them. Every time I hear any of the family I feel they may call & not find me. I have had no work to do and have almost felt glad that it was so, fearing that I might see that case be out of town & not be ready to receive them. I am sure, I still think it not at all improbable that they may not be here for several days, not perhaps a week or more. You must also be labouring under the same anxiety, expecting them here, every train from the West. I am very anxious to see you all, but I am very impatient to see you all, and I hope that I may not be disappointed. I will not remain here for God will order all things right & well. He has taken me out of all that fear and we have much to be thankful for. I trust that I love him more & more & that every day I feel more willing to give up my cares and wants to him, believing that he will dispel my cares & supply my wants. He knows what is for our good, better than we do ourselves, and he has promised that all things shall work together for good to those who love Him.

I hope you rec^d. a letter from me this evening. I really thought I had mailed it on Monday, when

opening my post folder Tuesday being a teacher's rest; then
it lay unpublished. I have been to prayer meeting &
trust I felt it a privilege to meet with God's children to
worship Him and make known our hearts to Him; confess
our sins and implore His blessing.

I have been making some inquiries for a house, & have
as yet learned nothing definite, excepting that houses
to rent are scarce & rents high. I calculate to go to morning
to look at some the rents of which are \$300 & \$350 per year,
a pretty high figure for a place of this kind in this town.
It is said, we have telegraphic news this afternoon
that Edmund has been nominated as candidate for
the Presidency by the Republican party. I was in hopes
that Judge Maclean would have been the nomination, but
am willing to give my vote for Edmund. I do not know
whether I can vote at all next fall, unless I am in
Michigan, a man must be a resident of Illinois a
year before he is entitled to vote. I hope you may
succeed in training up our children to stand up
for what is right at all times, and not to be carried away
by party feeling, passion or prejudice.

Mrs Wadsworth started for the East last week, as
I told you in my last letter. She had heard last eve-
ning that Laura was with the train & so she went but
got on the wrong train, the Illinois Central, instead of
the Michigan Central, and was taken out two miles
before she found out her mistake. When she got back
the Michigan Central train with Mrs Wadsworth aboard, had
just left the Depot. Her baggage had gone & she is now waiting

for her bag. It is night now it is bed time, but I wanted
to have a little chat with you before retiring.

Thursday, Some time since the Democrats ratified
Buchanan, and today the Republicans are ratifying Far-
mont. I hear the Cannon boomers and I suppose
I must go during the evening to see what they are
doing & hear what is to be said.

I have been looking for the Thatchers all day
but they do not come. I have also been trying to raise
funds to take me home, but have not succeeded.
Think I can raise \$25 to-morrow, except paying
my travelling expenses. There is also one here
about \$145. and of course I have kept out of
debt here. I would feel better at night when I go
to bed, if I had the money in my pocket for when
Mallie comes the wife of James Mallie. I have
directly, and I will be unwilling to detain them
here any longer, for I know your anxiety & sur-
prise must be very great. —

I have nothing of interest to communicate
today, am very anxious to come home & very
impatient since I have made up my mind
to do. Give much love to my dear children
tell them how much I wish to see them. We
love to take them some presents but funds
are low just now. I have learned nothing
more about a reunion, have been very
busy today & had no time to look at those I hear
of yesterday. They are at least a mile from

My offer, perhaps a little more.

Good bye. God bless you & family.
Keep up good management.

Your own loving husband

Wm Van Cleave

M

I hope to be able to write in better
spirits. I know not whether I
shall find enough encouragement
in my business, to make it an
object to settle here. I have formed
no very strong attachments to the
place, & am ready to go anywhere
that offers sufficient inducement.
I do not suppose that I can endure
the hardships that I 2 years ago,
but may yet be able to do much
the Lord helping me. It appears
to me now that I sh^d be settled,
but I am not ready to say
see otherwise. I will soon be
sent all to you. I trust that I will
order all right & well. — I feel
this separation keenly & more than
ever when I have been laboring
under indisposition & not able
to work. May God take care of

Chicago Aug. 12th 1856

My darling wife

I was just now
preparing to go to "plank", but felt un-
willing to retire for the night before
saying a few words to you in answer
to the sweet letter I rec^d today, & bid-
ding you good night. When I told
you that I was not well, I was some-
what deficient that you might imagine
that I was more sick than I repre-
sented. I believe I gave you the real
state of the case without equivocation
or mental reservation. I am happy
now to tell you that I have felt
better to day than I have before during
the past three weeks. Am stronger &
more free from pain. Hope to be quite
well in a few days.

I went out this afternoon & pur-
chased some books for the children, that

They might be in readiness when Mr. & Ellen come back. I hesitated some what about purchasing them, thinking the money might be more acceptable to you just now, but concluded that as I was not able to assist you in governing & instructing the children, a little spent in useful & entertaining books might might be a help to you.

But it is now time for me to return to my "plank" so God night darling. May God bless you & my dear children.

Wednesday Aug 13th I have concluded not to purchase a transient at present. One dost cost \$120. and just now the prospect of getting work sufficient to warrant such an outlay, does not look very favorable. I have nothing to do at present. Do not feel well able to work if I had, but cannot afford to lie

idle. I know not what our Heavenly Father has in store for us, perhaps a few years more of trial to prepare us for a home where there shall be no pain, no sorrow.

I am glad to hear cheering news from our precious Anna. I have not written to her lately. Love mine, give her much love & tell her that father loves her dearly.

~~As~~ enclosed \$15. in my letter to you one Monday last. Did you receive it?

As I hear nothing of Cliff I conclude he has passed by, or is not going out this fall.

You must not let my dismal letters discourage you. Not feeling very well in body, my mind has been somewhat depressed & my spirits depressed. As I now begin to feel better & stronger,

Chicago Wed. eve. July 30. 1856

My own darling wife

I rec^d yours of yesterday
this morning, as I was going out to survey
the land owned by Mr. Williams, I got back
to the city in time for supper & now have
just time to say a few words before
the mail closes. Do not be discouraged
darling. I have not yet succeeded
here as well as I wish, & as well as
is necessary for the payment of debts &
the support of my family, - but have
labored under great disadvantages
from the want of funds to purchase the
table instruments. I have earned
now nearly enough, but have not
been paid for my work. I hope to
be paid for my first work soon, &
for what I have done for J. Woodbridge
as soon as he returns. I bore true delay
yesterday & gladly send you five, with

I was sending you five hundred.
You write soberly, fear you are not
in good spirits, & that my last letters
were not well calculated to cheer you
up. We must keep looking to that
higher source from whence comes all
our blessing. — Rec'd a letter from
Willie Davis this M. — He is in low
spirits, wants comfort, talks of starting
soon for Missouri to make a living.
Will send you his letter soon. Have
hardly had time to glance at it.

Give much love to my darling &
may God bless, cheer & comfort you
& take care of you all. He will
show us what we must do. I trust
to him

Love our loving best friend
H. P. Van Cleave



Mrs Charlotte R. Van Schoon

Ann Arbor

Michigan

Chicago July 24th 1856.

My precious wife.

Yours of Monday night arrived yesterday, but as I went out of town at 7^{1/2} P.M. I did not return till evening I did not get it till this morning. This hot weather, hard work & the drinking of a great quantity of fluid to supply the constant drain by perspiration, - have not exactly used me up, but have made me feel very unfit for labor. If I were in circumstances to afford it, I should rest for a week or so. But necessity is laid upon me & labor I must. I am lying upon my oars to-day however, for I have been so uncomfortable (not sick, but not well) for some days past and have spent the nights in restlessness so (When I was interrupted in writing; was called upon by a gentleman to ride out in the country, that I might show him some land I had been surveying. ^{Mr John Woodbridge} returned in time for supper; since then have been at the depot watching for the arrival of the Detroit train. But they did not bring Malcolm. & it is now past 9 o'clock) notwithstanding that I

have almost, if not quite, wished myself safely by
your side. You may call this a singular wish,
but I have sometimes, when weary & faint, thought
it to be very pleasant, to be in such circum-
stances that I would be obliged to work very
hard when the weather was so oppressively hot,
& that I might afford to spend the leisure hours
with my precious wife & children. Although
I work for such a state of things, I try not to com-
plain & trust that in my heart I do not murmur
because God has placed a burden of toil &
pain upon me, for some wise purpose. My dear
wife, it is necessary that we should be separated
from this earth, & it is not this the way it must be
accomplished. — I am what I have said,
you must not conclude that I am really
sick. I calculate to resume my labors to-
morrow, but I do prefer rest & your society.

I rec^d your Sunday Letter in due time, & as is the case
with all your letters, it cheered & comforted me
much. I am glad you have written to William,
urging him to make you a visit. Poor boy I know
you can comfort him much. — I do not think it

necessary to try to find out who opened the dropped letter.
It was a mean affair & the one who did it, did not
learn or earn much. — You need not fear
that any handsome face here can ever eclipse
the lovely face that shines so brightly across
Lake Michigan. — If Ed brings Anna's likeness, I
suppose you will send it to me by Malinda.
You must give Lizzie many kisses for the
one she sent me, & kiss all my darlings.

I ^{tried} to write you a good long letter ^{on}
Saturday. I feel sort of weary & must go
to bed. I read the Book in the A.M.

Good night my darling, may God
bless & keep you & the dear children.

Your own loving husband.

A. A. Muldoon

25th Feel quite well this morning. In pretty good
spirits, but lonesome. Wish you were here to cheer
me in my labors. I see nothing of Malinda yet.
Believe I am growing old. Why can we not
spend the remainder of our lives together.
May God enable us to bear this separation with
becoming resignation.

Expect to finish survey of J. Wood bridges land to-
day; wd have finished before, if the original sur-
vey had been correct. Wish people to do their
work properly. I cannot brag much on my own
work, but try to do my best.

I am glad to learn that Matt is doing
so well. He deserves much praise. Remem-
ber me to him when you write. Also to
Ed when you see him. Take good care of
yourself. Your mind is all right, only too
rich & full of care & anxiety. We must
not let this world trouble us too much.
It wd trouble me less if I loved my darling
more. Oh that my heart was wholly his.

Pray for me my darling; he has many a
straw for each other. Remember me to
all. Kiss my precious darlings. Hope Paul
will get along comfortably cutting his
teeth, even if he shd not cut them in
an orthodox manner. Much love to
dear Anna when you write. Ill try to
write to her soon. Love over dear hap-
py ones H. W. Van Buren

APR 3 1850
C
Mrs Charlotte D. Van Buren
Ann Arbor
Michigan

Chicago Friday Apr. 4th 1886

My own darling wife

Your very sweet letter reached me yesterday. I am sorry to say it found me somewhat depressed in spirits, cast down, but not despondent. I have not yet learned of any business here that I could engage in with any prospect of success, excepting the commission business, of which I have spoken to you; and to engage in that without being acquainted with any one acquainted with the business, as it is absolutely necessary on my part, to engage a Capital of from 15 to 2500 dollars. How I know even I to raise this? I do willingly sell the Home land as a sacrifice, but the question is, could it be sold for cash on any terms? At present there are no buyers in market. It is not the right season. I thought seriously yesterday of returning to Chicago. But then the question arises, what shall I do there? I have endeavored faithfully to commit my ways to my Heavenly Father & to ask counsel of him. When all looks dark & discouraging, I feel encouraged by God's

Command to Moses: Speak to the children of Israel that they go forward.

Which way, my dear wife, can I look to raise money? Can any thing be done with your portion of the St. Clair land? Can you borrow any thing, say 500 dollars more or less of any of your family. The Commission business is one that does not involve any risk, as we make no purchases; but it requires money on hand to pay freight & charges, storage, charges &c.

Now do not feel down hearted, my precious one, at this discouraging state of affairs. It is true that all looks dark at present, but we have friends. ~~He~~ ^{He} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~St. Louis~~ ^{St. Louis} who can turn darkness into light, our trust is in him. So cheer up & let me see your face looking bright & cheering as usual. May God bless you daily. You have seen the joy I have & I have encouraged me when down cast. I intend to persevere in what, you may say. Persevere in walking the way & means of supporting my family honestly. Do not think that I am desheartened & am happy. I am not, & you will not be.

I spent last evening at Mr. Willicent's. Your Cousin Rebecca inquired very affectionately about you & sends much love.

All your Cousins & friends send love.

The gentleman who had engaged to purchase Mr. Richardson's house has backed out of his bargain. — I expected opposition to Mr. Root from the quarter I on the grounds you mentioned and was aware it would have considerable influence over many. — I expect to commence house keeping to day or tomorrow, I would like very much to have my precious Sizzie to sweep my room & make my bed. That however is impossible at present. Kiss the precious child for me. He has been much better lately. I hope Seymour's fever is better & that he does not suffer from it. Tell Martin that I will invest his five cents for him before I return. Tell our mischievous Sam he must be a good boy & learn to read. — I think Paul weighs enough. I judge his mother thinks so too. Tell Horace that Uncle Love him dearly & is not forgotten kind.

May God bless you my precious one.

Your own dear husband.

A. P. Van Cleave

I will purchase what bedding I need, which will not be much.



Mrs Charlotte D. Van Allen

Ann Arbor

Michigan.

Chicago, Friday night, Apr 11th 1856.

My own darling wife (See fourth page)

I have just returned from a prayer meeting, held at a private house, but which I am sorry to say was but thinly attended: But three were there besides the gentleman & lady of the house. Since my return I have been trying to pray for my precious wife & darling children. It is a great comfort to me, to be able to commit you to the care of a Heavenly Parent who is abundantly able to protect you. I feel that you are in a very trying situation; left with the charge of a large family of children with nothing for their support. One thing you well know: your trials are mine, I share them with you, as far as I know them, & I hope you let me know all, that I may share them with you. May God bless you my own darling. I am writing to night for my own comfort. As I am debarred the privilege of conversing with you face to face, it is a great comfort to write to you, & I know you are always glad to read ^{my} poor comfortless epistles, for my sake.

When you letter with Hannah take a good night.

I write to our poor boy to day as you requested, but know not when or where it will reach him, if it does at all. If I am here when he returns I sh^d like him to know it, and where to find me. Dear child, how anxious I am to see him. When may I look for him? — I have nothing encouraging to say to you to night. I have not been sitting idle since I last wrote; have been looking about & making inquiries for employment, but as yet have found none. I feel willing, however to leave all to the care of our Heavenly Father. If it is his will that I may be established in business here, he will ~~show~~ ^{open} a way. If not he will frustrate my plans. Which ever way it may be I am ready to say: His will be done. I am willing to go any where or engage in any occupation by which I can pay my debts & support my family. — Do not think I am discouraged, from what I have been saying. I have talked somewhat soberly. Perhaps your husband feels a little lonesome. Perhaps he loves his wife & children too dearly, too ten-

dly, to feel perfectly happy when separated from them. It seems a long, very long time that I have been absent from you. I believe I am generally cheerful here & in good spirits, but when I come up into my room at night & sit down all alone, I cannot but feel that I am far from all that I hold most dear upon earth. There are chairs here, but they are unoccupied. There stands my unpretending bed just wide enough for my single self. I have no need to spread it out for two; you cannot share it with me. There is life enough in the streets. Carriages & footmen are passing continually, even now, though it is past 10 o'clock. My room is over a clothing store on the block west of the Tremont House & on the same side of the street. I do not calculate to finish this precious epistle till the Sabbath, for if I sh^d put it in the office to morrow it w^d not go off till Monday to good night. May God watch over you & take care of you my own darling wife & my own darling children. Now I long to press you all to my bosom.

Saturday Ap. 12th I called on several individuals this morning to see what I could learn encouraging about business matters. I heard nothing particularly interesting. Returned towards my quarters as I have frequently done before with a feeling of indefiniteness, if you know what that is. As I was in front of my house I met a gentleman who asked me if I could undertake to lay out a town about 40 miles from here. I told him I would do it. I soon retired & very soon I thanked my Heavenly Father for his goodness to me. In his infinite goodness he had answered my poor, sinful, but earnest prayer. — This work may occupy me a week or ten days, more or less. I do not expect any thing extravagant from it, for the town will be small, but it is something to do; it is a beginning.

I rec^d your letter today & right glad was I for your letters are a great comfort to me. I read them over & over again.

With regard to Hannah, I know not what

[Apr. 11, 1856]

to say, I consider her charge a perfect swindle. If a lawyer, who I make \$30 per day sh^d engage to live with me, he w^d not expect a lawyer's fees, but a fair board. I w^d enquire of different ladies what they are in the habit of giving girls for watching their children & taking care of them, during their absence from home, and w^d pay her accordingly. Pay her the highest price they tell you & I do not believe she can collect any more. Be sure to offer her the money before some competent witness. It might be well to ask Mr Bourke's advice, he is a sensible business man, or any one else that you prefer. You did not hire Hannah as a sewing girl, but as one to take care of your children.

Your mother's letter made me feel sad. I know of no one so well able to comfort her as you, & I am glad you have written a comforting letter to her. - I trust you were careful of what you said for the letter might be seen sometime by others. I feel sorry for Ellen. Poor girl she has seen much affliction.

This morning, when I went to breakfast it was quite warm & my great coat was too warm. Soon after breakfast I found it uncomfortable without it; it has been growing colder ever since & now I am uncomfortably cold with my great coat on. There is no fire in my room & the wind is blowing a tempest. Lake Michigan is considerably ruffled by it, in fact quite excited. Good night. I believe I must go to bed to see, or rather feel if I can get warm. If I were home I might have some hopes of success. — Again I say Good night. Pray for me my darling & thank our Heavenly Father for his kindness to us. Kiss my dear children for me. May God bless them & you, my precious ones.

I see your dear old bed looks. Write to me as usual. Your letters always cheer & encourage me. I have not willfully forsaken your bed & board I assure you.

Sabbath evening, I have just returned from church. Have heard two good sermons to day, by the Rev Mr Lindsley, who has been engaged to supply the pulpit in the North Church for a

time. Mr Richardson has rec^d his dismission from the Presbytery now sitting at Rockford (I believe) and the pulpit was declared vacant this morning. I saw Mr Wells a few days since. He was attending the New School Presbytery that met here last week.

My thoughts have been with you all day my darling wife & with my dear children. I cannot help feeling much anxiety about you all. You have many cares and difficulties to contend with at home, & then are obliged to write cheerful letters to your husband to encourage & comfort him. I wish that I were able to write as comforting letters to you as you do to me; but the talent is not in me. I do the best I can & I hope you will take the will for the deed. We will trust in our God & all will end well. "All things shall work together for good to them who love the Lord." Let us love, trust, honor & obey him, whether in a adversity or prosperity. He will not forsake us. It is a sore trial to me to be separated from wife & children, but it is God's will & I do not murmur.

It is past 10 o'clock & not particularly warm
in my room, so I must bid you good night.
May God bless you all, take care of you & prosper you.

Monday Morning. Apr. 14. Well & in good spirits.
Rising. Hope it extends far enough East to help
your Cister. — Sleep soundly, but when I
wake do not find you by my side & cannot
take hold of Paul's feet. Dear little fellow
how I sh^d like to take him in my arms. D^r
Annie's wife & children are flourishing. The D^r
wishes to be remembered. Have not yet called
on his wife. — Have learned nothing new
or interesting since yesterday. Tell Seymour
Elder & Horace that I was waked up last
night by the noise of the fire engines run-
ning through the streets, & the shouts of the fire-
men, ^{& the rattling of bells}. I suppose there was a fire somewhere
but as they went by, I concluded it was
not near enough to hurt me so I went to
sleep again. Kiss all my dear children
for me. Remember to Betty. Hope she has
not left you. — My job of surveying will
be but a small affair & will take but
two or three days to accomplish it. Of course
the pay will not amount to much.

Good by. Your own loving husband
H. B. Paulsen

Since April 10th to Wednesday

My dear Darling wife

I did hope to have been here this evening, but our weather was too bad, and I was lying on my back doing nothing. I had my umbrella open on the way ready to shut it, but just as they were starting, the threatening aspect of the heavens and the sound of thunder, led me to think it would be wisdom to stay where I could find shelter. The car had not left two minutes before it commenced to rain. I am impatient to get back to Chicago, for expecting to be there last Saturday evening, I had not left directions to have your letters forwarded to me after Thursday last, possibly there might be at least two letters for me there now, perhaps, three, I was not able to see them till I returned there. I find my work very tedious just a little fatiguing. But I sleep well at night & awake in the morning quite refreshed. My health is very good, & I have every reason to thank my Heavenly Father for his continued goodness to me. I feel a great deal of anxiety about my business, but wondering how you can get along without any funds, I do not know what I will be able to realize from the job. But must change the customary Chicago price. I have had considerable difficulty, especially far from my place of work, that I could do better than I am in the

unhappy and has delayed. I leave off about 10 o'clock
to the day. There are evils that cannot be
medicated. I do not complain, but it must be
taken into account in the settlement. I have lost
2 1/2 days by the cholera, and were it not for the cause
I do not think I have been able to write this dull epistle to
to-day. I am well as usual, I trust you will be glad
to hear from me. I am trying to make you
best, yet I cannot much to see my dear wife, and
my precious little ones, but I cannot tell when I
be in my power. The journey costs more than I can af-
ford to spend just now, & I must forego the pleasure of
seeing you very soon. What I am to do when I finish
this job, I know not, I try not to be over anxious about
it, but to leave all in the hands of my Heavenly Father
and to trust that he will order all things well. I daily
endeavour to commit my cares & the ordering of my business
truly to my God, & I never before have felt such an as-
surance that he will provide for our wants. I do not de-
serve that he should send me with the least favour, for all that
I do is sinful even my prayers. I require a desperate
struggle to keep my thoughts entirely on my Saviour and
my dear friends. Oftentimes I am compelled to ask forgiveness
for going through a form of prayer, when my thoughts are
wandering, or my anxiety, or business, or some worldly
objection. I am now watching the daily papers
to see if they contain any news of arrivals from the west.
I am very anxious to hear of the safety
of our friends. We should be too thankful to hear of them.

safe in our arms. May God be with you. I have not
yet been home to see my dear wife & children. I have
hoped that we may be settled in the west by the close of
summer, & then I wish much to see you & my dear child-
ren with us. We have but a short time before
I must spend as much of my time as I can together &
with our dear children. I think of the separation of
this separation from my family. I have a fixed expression of
countenance a fixed expression of my mind. I always try
to be cheerful, or at least to look so, for I do not wish to
wish to make all around me try to be so. No one
loves a gloomy companion. I hope to hear from you
when I return to Chicago. I write to you before I leave
out here. It is true that my letter should be long, I
am sorry that she has not been able to attend school as
the term she has been absent from school. She has
been striving to improve her time. It is true I am
not able to send her any money at present. I have
not when I will be able to remit any. But I try not to
let these cares distract me. I am exerting myself to the
utmost of my abilities & I must leave the result with my
God. My dear wife I know you will pray for me. I want my
dear children to remember their father in their prayers.
Do not think that I am too spoiled, but I have
written. I trust to God, that all will be well. But at
the same time I cannot help feeling that my dear
wife & children, & I will not be able to see you
when I am absent from you. I have no hope that it
will be a fortnight to be away from home. I have no doubt

a friend told me that he thought it was
time to go to Chicago. If so, Mrs. H. no doubt
will be glad to go. The weather is favorable to me
hope to go back and return to Chicago by
the 1st of Nov. I may not be able to go
I am feeling better in residence for you this
Evening. I am a better I fear that I will have
that you will give up the house you are
Now we are paying the rent that is now due on it. You
will say, but I am about this. But how can I help
shall the children that I saw. I saw fifteen
on the 1st of Nov. In the morning, we saw one
and the afternoon a herd of about forty. I saw
had been with his cow. I saw what they?
It was a pretty sight. I was not glad to have
about the house. Malcolm is dead, but I think
no more. I hope this winter, that he will think
not make him when he comes back. On Malcolm's
account, I like much to engage in the pro-
duction of business. Malcolm has some time to take
charge of it. I know he will like it. He might occa-
sionally go out along the Rail Roads to pick up customers.
I make for him. That part of the business
is a good deal. It is pleasant to think of what
we might do. I hope it does us harm. Good bye
my dear friends. May God bless you very dear. I am
Gives me a lot of many kisses to them. Take a good
care of yourself. I am, I do not be over anxious
about me. Your loving husband
H. H. Van Cleave

Chicago, Sabbath, Apr. 20th 1856.

My dear Sotty.

I have just returned from
a fair. As I was returning leisurely from dinner
I heard the alarm, I saw a dense black smoke
ascending from the Central R.R. depot. I went
with the crowd & saw a building on fire
that was used for a fork packing house, I was
told ^{It did not belong to the R.R. Company} & remembered crowd of people some collected
& perhaps some were disappointed. I hope
not; but some people appear to be great a-
mateurs of conflagrations, -

I have commenced my work. It is laying out
a town, 40 miles from here on the Ill. Cen. R.R. I
boarded at a town on the road, named Monaca,
and go out in the morning at 9 on the Car,
& return in the evening at 6. I have had
two & three men the days I have been at work.
I came in yesterday as it had the appear-
ance of being an unfavorable day for work
and I did not wish to spend the Sabbath
there without hearing from home. Not know-
ing where or how long I sh^d stay, I had

not left any directions about my letter.
On my arrival here I found two sweet
letters to welcome me. — I am sorry to learn
from one of these letters, that Mr Platt has
returned from Lansing so ill, although I have
been expecting to hear it. I am very sorry
for his wife. She is a fine woman & is
much attached to her husband.
I regret too, to learn that Netsey is about
to leave you. I know she must have
been a great comfort to you. I hear
are my regrets. — I am glad to learn that
you are all well, that the children are
improving in general & Paul in particu-
lar. How I sh^d love to see them and
take them in my arms. Dear children,
did you ever see any so lovely? What
shall I say about the mother? Do you
think I w^d like to see her? May God bless
you my own precious one. I may be granted
that we may before long be restored to
each other. I sh^d love dearly to have you
rest your darling head on my bosom &

tell me all your cares & troubles & joys, I love
for me. I sincerely hope the house you
occupy will not be sold while you are
in it, or rather that I may be able to
move you here or elsewhere before it
is sold. I do not know what the pros-
pect is at present. I know not what
the Almighty has in store for us. I try
to commit my ways to him, trust-
ing that he will order all things right.
It is my intention to exert myself
to the utmost, to labor diligently &
faithfully when I can find work to
do & leave the result with God. My
greatest trial at present is my wicked
heart, my next this separation from
my beloved wife & children. I am
glad to hear that Anna is getting along
well & pleasantly. Intend to write to
her today. Hear nothing of Mother's book
has it been published? — It appears
that you are not likely to have a pastor
soon. I heard an excellent sermon this

morning from Mrs. Endoley, who is supple-
ing Mr. Richardsons place. W. R. has
not left town yet, he was in church
this morning. — Love say you to love to
me by you & let you I tell you how
much I love you. I C^d let you I love
dearly & do so; But cannot tell you how
much I love you. — With regard to my
sleeping, I get along quite well, but not
as well as when I am at home. I have
more blessings & comforts there I believe.
Love ask me how I spent the last Sab-
bath, and if I thought of home any. If you
could see my heart, you w^d see it with you
all the time. I sh^d all the time.

I have been to Mr. Wolcotts office to see if
there were any letters for me to day, as I expect to
leave town in the morning; found none but a
young man that is studying law with the firm^t
Sleight in the office was there, & as he had a correspon-
dence for me I sat down & wrote a good long letter
to our darling Anna. May God bless her.

I must now close this and write a few
lines to the little pets at home. Good bye darling
Love ever dear husband A. P. Van Allen

-The less, if I can do any business at
Chicago by which I can support my
family there I will be perfectly willing
to live there. - If I have some trials,
I feel conscious that I have far more
comforts than I deserve, & I endeavor
to thank my God for all his goodness
to me. I know you sympathize with
me in all my troubles, & at the same
time have troubles of your own that
are enough to weigh down many.
Notwithstanding my poverty, I have
yet to find the man with whom I'd
be willing to change places. It is
my greatest trial to feel conscious
that you are compelled to support
us with me. May God bless
you, my darling, precious wife, for
your patience & your unwavering love
for me. Kiss my precious children for
me & tell them how much their father loves
them. Good night. Your own dear hus-
band, H. B. Van Cleave

Thursday March 8. Well & quite expected by my sleep. Hope you are all
well & prospering.

AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Lansing,

185

Wednesday Evening
Monroe Apr. 23^d 1856

My own dear wife,

I am not at Lansing,
but at Monroe Illinois, and feel pretty
tired this evening. I left Chicago Mon-
day morning but not knowing how
long I would be here, I did not leave
any directions about your letter
& as a consequence I must wait
till tomorrow evening before I
can hear from home. I wrote yes-
terday to have your letters for-
warded. I am well and in good
spirits, but considerably weary.
I fear I must be here a week
longer. I cannot expect that this
job will be very profitable,
but am not at all discouraged.
It may be a stepping stone to

Something better.

Illinois is an extensive country & you can see a great deal of it in a day. As far as the eye can reach you can see land & nothing but land. No wood, no timber, excepting some little grove that might last us for firewood one winter. But it is not necessary to tell you any thing about these prairies you are well acquainted with them, have crossed them often enough. This is from the grand prairie that we crossed in travelling from Joliet to Ottawa & I also crossed when we left Winnipeg. It has become somewhat more populated than it was when we last traversed over it. I learned on the way on Monday that Mr Wells was preaching at Manteno, a town that I see from where I work. It is on the R. Road, but six miles south of my wanderings.

It is comforting to me to have something to do after so long a time of idleness. But it at the same time a very uncomfortable way to live. Here I am, boarding at a station house on an Illinois Prairie, at a town occupied principally by Germans, a town of about a dozen houses. It boasts of a store, tavern, blacksmith house, school house, saddler's shop & a small lumber yard, 4 or 5 dwellings & the depot buildings. The station house is calculated to accommodate travelers. & is quite a comfortable stopping place, for which I sh^d be very thankful. But my dear wife it is not home & it is hard for me to feel reconciled to this kind of life. As it is necessary at present I must I submit without a murmur, but I hope & pray that I may some day be able to live at home, wherever that may be. I have one objection to Chicago; that is, you have many relations there & they are all rich. We cannot live as they do. A man

^{July}
Mans April 26



Mrs Charlotte D Van Cleve

Ann Arbor

Michigan

I send this off till Saturday.

I was obliged to take off boots & stockings to day I made a little pond that was in my way while surveying my feet felt quite comfortable after a good cool bath. Oh what holes in the heels of my stockings!

Friday evening. My work does not make as rapid progress as I sh^d wish. Owing to the distance from my field of labor, I am obliged to wait for the morning train which does not leave here till 9 o'clock & I must quit work by 1/2 past 5 P.M. to catch the evening train to bring me to my boarding place. I cannot tell until it is completed what I can realize from it. Although I have labored under many difficulties I am not discouraged. — I know not what our Heavenly Father has in store for us but I know he will order all things right. I pray that he may soon restore me to my precious family. Oh that I were able to get into some business by which I sh^d support my family & have you
(see page 6.)

AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Lansing,

185

Apr. 24, 1856

Monce Thursday evening

My own darling wife

When I returned from my labors this evening I was greeted by a letter from you that had arrived this morning. It was a welcome friend I assure you, and although it grieves me to learn that you are sometimes low spirited I am happy, it do^es grieve me still more if you did not tell me & let me share your sorrows with you. I do sincerely sympathize with you my precious one & know well how to feel for you. I know full well that it is to feel "all alone" even when surrounded by friends. But that is a feeling that I have when separated from my own precious wife. I wish that I sh^d have been with you when you were suffering pain in your side I sh^d have been able to help you & that I sh^d have been of some comfort. — My dear

well this morning. God bless you always, I expect to spend the Sabbath here. I can read the Bible, & meditate & pray for you & my dear children & for my poor sinful self. Perhaps you may have something to say to me.

wife, I feel that I have imposed a
serious task upon you, in leaving to you
the care of all the dear children & with
nothing to support yourself & them. It
causes me many a sharp pang, & how
to help you I know not. I am not only
willing to toil for a support, but I delight
in doing any thing, although it may bring
sorrow to thy ^{heart}, when I think it may be
the means of enabling me once more to
bring around me, my darling wife & precious
children. — I cultivate a cheerful dis-
position, so far as it is in my power, that
I may never cast a gloom over those with
whom I may associate, by my sad con-
temning, but my heart is oftentimes sad &
bowed down, thinking of my absent ones &
the uncertainty of our soon being restored to
each other, when others think that I am
cheerful; I will not say gay, for I do not
aspire to gaiety. — I think with you re-
specting our dear Anna & wish we could have
some other home than A.C. when she returns

to us. — But my precious one, we must
leave all our cares to our God. Let us
seek first his Glory, and an interest in
his Kingdom, then all that is necessary
will be bestowed upon us. Our Heavenly
Father has promised, & He never fails to
fulfill his promises, that "All things shall
work together for good to those who love Him."
Our trials are sent to us to humble & bring
us nearer to our Savior. I trust that I
can already see that they have been bene-
ficial to me. I feel that I am a poor,
miserable sinner, but I hope I am daily
drawn nearer to my God. Pray for me
my precious one, I need your constant
prayers. — Your sweet letter has been
thrice read since I returned this evening
& once prayed over. I have endeavored
to thank my God for his kindness to us
& to our dear children. I have entreated
Him to watch over you all & to comfort &
support you in all your trials. —
Good night darling, I cannot finish

ness to me, I do not love & honor him as I
sh^d. I am a poor, miserable weak sinner
and were it not for his grace & long-suffer-
ing mercy I w^d be lost. Pray for me, my
dear wife. Oh for that Faith that work-
eth patience & experience, & giveth a hope
that maketh not ashamed.

You must miss Patsy very much.
I hope she will remember her visit
to you with pleasure. — It is a great
comfort to me to hear from you frequently
to learn that you are all well, & that you
are not completely disheartened with the
dismal prospect before us. — Give much
love to my dear children. Tell them they
must not go down to the depot unless you
are with them. A little boy about Eddie's
age was run over by a locomotive in Chi-
cago, a few days ago, & killed instantly.
Kiss my dear children. I think it proba-
ble that our dear little Paul was reminded
of me by seeing his uncle. I want to take
the precious Lamb in my arms & fold him to my
bosom. Good by, May God bless you all. Your loving
husband H. W. Van Allen

AUDITOR GENERAL'S OFFICE.

Lansing,

1856

Monce Apr. 25th 1856

My dear Little George, Seymour & Horace, Eddie
& Sam & Paul.

I wrote to Lizzie a short time
since and must now say a few words
to you. Although I am far from home I
think of you all a great deal, & in fact
never forget you. I wish much that I w^d
have you all near me, for when evening
comes, after my day's labor, I feel quite
lonely, and it w^d be a great comfort to have
you round me, to tell you of the long legged
cranes that I have seen, & the rattlesnakes
we have killed, of the prairies I have seen
burning, which look beautiful at night. Yes-
terday & today I was obliged to pull off boots
& socks & wash small punds. That w^d have
been sport for you, but the stubble of the
burnt prairie grass, hurt my feet, & I did
not relish it much. We have killed three

rattlesnakes in these days, one each day.
The weather is so hot that they are not
very lively, & do not shake their rattles till
we give them a tap. We also see prairie hens
& flocks of wild geese. — The cars pass us
every day & we see them taking a great
many cattle to Chicago, & many of them are
sent eastward to New York; and no doubt
Anna frequently has for dinner a slice of
Illinois beef. — I suppose you are all
hoping to see Neal soon & no doubt Horace
is looking forward with pleasure to
the time when he expects to see his father.
You must all be good children
and learn as much as possible while
you have an opportunity, for you
know how long the opportunity may last.
I hope Seymour has not forgotten what
he knew of arithmetic when I was
home. I want you all to be good
children & remember your father in your
prayers, & Horace must not forget his uncle.
Good bye, may God bless you all.
Your devoted Father, H. W. Williams

Page 37

all near me. I feel that I am rapidly
growing old, and it's daily becoming
more & more painful to me to live in this
way, separated from my family. When
evening comes I want you to sit by me
& comfort me; & I want to see my dear
children around me, or to feel conscious
that they are sleeping sweetly near me.
All that reconciles me to my lot, is, that
I feel conscious that I am in the path
of duty & doing right. But I want to
be near you to comfort you in your
trials, & to share with you the charge
of our dear children. I know that it
is too heavy a burden for you; But even
were it light, I w^d love to share it with
you. And perhaps I want you near me
to comfort me sometimes, & to encourage
me. Were it not for my trust in God, I w^d
not be completely disheartened, but when
I look to Him I feel assured that all will
be well. Yet, notwithstanding all his good



Mrs. Charlotte B. M. M. M.

Ann Arbor

Michigan

Chicago June 8th 1856, Sabbath.
My dear wife,
I received from the care of my labor
on Friday evening, with fair good spirits, in time
to get from the post office a letter from you
I was from business by me in time to write to you
before the closing of the mail. If I had written
yesterday the letter would have mailed until 9 or
clock this evening. And I was drawing a map
of my work yesterday, thought best to defer
writing till today. You shall have see my last
letter of the Monday evening, but it is
possible that it was not mailed, as I did not
get into the post office till about 10 minutes
past 4 o'clock in the evening, that is 10 minutes
before the closing of the evening mail. I have been
then they were not mailed. Yesterday morning
I was writing a letter to you and mailed in
Friday. I have also received one from Anna Gibbs.
Anna's letter says that she just 1st & 3rd and her
cousin was in company of the women in the church.
I am much gratified with her letter, and
am happy that she is getting along so well with her

her studies, and is enjoying herself so much.
Dear girl I sh^d like much to see her. I do not
know whether it will be best for her to come home
this vacation or not. I sh^d like her to make a visit
to New Haven. But we can talk of that when
I come home. I was much pleased with Anna
Gibbs' letter, and am glad that you have answered
it. I cannot account for John's conduct in not
calling on Anna. I am sure it has given me
some bitter feelings. My father is a strange man,
and I regret much that at our age, my thing sh^d
come to strangers as far as each other. I feel that
John has been grossly misused by them. If they wish
me to have no intercourse with my family,
they are at liberty to keep their distance. The way
is to be kept. They are not to be so intimate
on my part. When they treat my children in this
manner, they have no right to be in our
family affairs. We are old enough to manage our own
children without their help. I fear I am a little
trusting a very good spirit to take with me to China
this morning. No doubt it will be better to drop this
subject and take up some other interesting.

The good accounts you send me of my dear
little ones, Lizzie, Seymour, Horace, Eddie, Sam,
& Paul, always cheer me. If they did know how
happy it made me, they would never let you have
cause to send other than good reports. Dear
children may God bless them & keep them from harm.
Tell Lizzie that I thank her for the keep sake
she sent me, and that I will take good care
of it for her sake. Tell Seymour & Horace & Maria
and Sam that I saw in the street yesterday, a
little pony that was not taller than Sam. The
boy had him on the side walk by a saddle, & was
getting on & down for him. I thought my little boys
to have seen sport of this & have such a pony.
After noon, I have been to church where I
heard a very good sermon by a stranger, a son of God,
from a stranger. I did not
admire the preacher's delivery. The sermon, though
good was not extraordinary.
I had quite a laborious time in my sewing
that I have just completed. I worked
from morning till night for 15 days; but
our Heavenly Father took good care of me, & I have

retained to my present quarters (I do not like
to call it home where you tiny little ones are not
here) in good health & spirits. The scratch on
my foot still troubles me slightly, but
will be well in a day or two.

This is a delightful day. How thankful we
should be for such Sabbaths. Although the Sabbath
is generally kept in Chicago, and the
Churches, I believe, are attended, still there
are a great many spirit stalls, drinking so-
cias, cigar & bar-rooms open for the accom-
modation of passers by and the whistle of the steam-
trains is constantly heard on the river, towing vessels
up and down the harbor. The whistle does not
come from the harbor, but from the river. The whistle is not
the same as the one from the harbor. The whistle is not
the same as the one from the harbor.

I should be glad to see the book in the
It is an old book, I believe, written by one of
the disciples of Christ, and has been
republished of late years by the Am. Tract So-
ciety. We have had many crises in our
lot, darling, all sent by our Heavenly Father
for our good, and we should ever pray for Grace

[June 6, 1856]

to bear our cross, rather than pray for its removal; God has promised us peace according to our day. I can sincerely ask it. When I look back upon our afflictions, I now see them as blessings, and thank God for them. God grant that they may even be sanctified to us: & to our children.

I see from Anna Gibbs letter that she has heard that my health was not good. I hope you set her right on that point. My health never was better. I endure hard labor much better than I anticipated, at the same time do not feel as young as I did twenty years ago. I found myself much more active in the woods than the men I had with me. They were about 30 years of age and always appeared to me with a very sublime force. — I expect, expecting to learn that Anna Gibbs has poor health and hope that she may soon be restored to strength. — If I had time I would write her & perhaps may do so, I was so much pleased with her letter.

I intend to answer our own dear child
better today.

I am now anxiously waiting & looking ^{for}
expecting our dear boy. Whenever I see
a boy in the street about his size I fear
I think of Malcolin, and take a close ob-
servation to make sure that it is not. Do
you not now look for him daily?

I wd welcome him any time, even if he
sh^d come on tomorrow day.

I think it very strange that you do not
hear from Dea. Richard. You probably
appear to be very negligent, or very much
engaged in preparing for coming country.
His appearance is the most exciting
theme for conversation here at present.
Some look for his return. I pray that
this may be avoided, from which I think
all these troubles may be overruled for
good to our nation. I do not feel quite
certain about his coming, however, as I was told
but think it is 141. Well direct to 141 John
was here I at a distance. You can hear him
at 141 on 6 Ave.

time. He is a beautiful child,
4 so sweet. All the children
had improved. I missed my
Nannie & Malcolms. May God
bless you both.

I will try to write again soon.
I must also write to Daggie
& the children at home.

Mother says she will be
back in about ten days. Do
you not think she had better
have said, fifteen or twenty?

I love you
darling, darling.

Your devoted father

H. P. Olin & Co.

Standing Oct 17th 1885.

My dear daughter

This morning I went to the Post Office
expecting to bring from dear Mrs
Olin, father's letter. The Post Master
handed me two, one from my
blessed wife & one from my dar-
ling daughter. I was right glad
to hear from you my precious
child, & to learn that you were
getting along well with your
studies. And that you appeared
happy & contented & happy, & to be
well in general.

You speak of my denying my-
self on your account. My dear
child, God has given us nine
lovely children. Three he has taken
to himself to educate; six he has
left with us, and all our care

gies are directed towards bringing
them up in his fear, & giving them
such an education as shall tend
to make them useful members of
Society. A good education will
give you influence, and a good
heart will lead you to exert
that influence in the cause of
your Heavenly Father. You know
how I have failed in setting
you a good example & how negli-
gent I have been in instruct-
ing you in those truths which are
the foundation of Wisdom. But my
prayers are that your Heavenly Father
may instruct you by his Holy
Spirit & give you a heart to love
him above all earthly treasures.

I trust, my dear child, you
think of these things. Do not pursue
the cares or the pleasures of this life

to cause you to forget your Savior & your
God.

Give much love to Sophie. Tell
her to be a good girl & I will give her
a kiss when I see her.

I was much pleased with the
reason you gave for the leaves chan-
ging their color in Autumn; it was
somewhat different from the one I had
in my mind.

Mother writes that she was per-
mitted to start for Tuesday afternoon
for Cincinnati. I pray that she
may have a safe journey & soon
return. Her absence
from home makes me wish much
to be there, not with Hannah, but
with my precious children.

The children were all delighted
to see me when I was here. Sam-
uel is growing handsomer all the