

W Norton March 1th of 1845

Dear Sister I have begun to answer your
y^e letter which I received it being my Birth day
to day I thought to begin I am Sixty nine
I have been thinking about writing all winter
for I have wanted to hear from you and your
family and sister Moore and her family I have
been reading a letter to day that she wrote some
some years ago I wish she would write another
and I have wanted to hear from Roxanas family
I expected that they had gone back for Mr
Samuel Picket and his wife were here last
fall he said he was at Northbury and they told
him that Roxanas girl was keeping school and
so you see I hear from Sandisfield for some of
our friends are out most every year I wish you
had wrote more particular about B's children
and how old a child it was that died and where he
died but I shall hear some time I see there is a great
alteration in your family since you was here
as is the case with all families but you appear
to ^{enjoy} yourself in your new connection which is all we can
desire
the recent calamity in your Husbards family -
was ^{so} very distressing I fancy I see you frequently going
there to witness scenes of distress but they have had their
day of prosperity and says the wise man ~~say~~ we must
remember the days of ~~the~~ Darkness for they are many
we to was visited with that distress in Disorder but
no Deaths in our neighbourhood our family had none of it
but the townships of ~~Madison~~ was stricken of its
wretched inhabitants the disorder seemed to baffel
all medical skill for a time the disorder seemed to go
the hardest with females ten for Mothers were
swept of in a short time bearing their children

some of them small to be ~~be~~ taken care of by other hands
one man lost his wife and three children one girl about
twenty all in about one week it is not quite a year
and nearly all the men are married again some men die
some of the women that died were some of my most intimate
friends and members of the church

You want to know about our family there has been
no particular alteration Charlotte is not married
I think she was gone to the south when I wrote she was
^{gone} ¹⁷ fifteen months before she returned she has been at home
most of the time since her health is very good now
Samuel started for the West last October he went to
Illinois to Rock Island you may find it on the map and
from there he went with a surveying party one
hundred ~~and~~ ninety miles ~~to~~ further into an unsettled
country and camped out in ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~west~~ ^{west} Illinois after three months and winter that he is
well and is going to see his wife Mary and I took
a sudden start I could hardly feel reconcile to have
him go but he has done well and is contented they
are in a healthy place they write they have not
employed a physician since they have been there with
a family of nine children we talked of going there
last summer but talk did not carry us there and I
guess it never will I could journey as well as I ever
could on account of my health but there is always something
to hinder I have thought a great deal of coming to see
you once but for the want of company and change I
always give up I was at wellington one year ago last
October Brother James ~~and~~ was well but his wife
was almost helpless she could not dress herself and has
been so for four years Henry is married and has
lived with his father for a year or two but I expect he
has gone into a house by himself by this time on his fathers
farm it is very difficult for any body to live with here
and I dont know what they will do Harriet and Mary
live pretty near to them they are married still
and Harriet has a large family and was able to
take care of it herself when I was there Mary has
no children Luisa has one

Marchth 20 we have had a very warm winter and no snow
to make any sleighing at all it has been very cold for
ten ~~or~~ days back but we do not have as cold weather as you
~~we~~ have there but we have just as much mud tell Aaron
that we have not moved but three times since he was
here and have lost his writings he must come again we
~~we~~ live on a good farm now and it does not look as
dry we have thirty acres of wheat in sight of the
house that has been green all winter & have not heard
from Nathan since I wrote Mary's family are all doing
well Martha Eunice and Emily made me a visit
last fall and Daniel and his wife and Mrs. Anold they
seem very near to me Ethan's family are all well they have
three children I saw them five weeks last January he has a
good wife I must write a little more about our family and con-
fide we have Eileen in our family our youngest is three years old
Julia's health has been very good for a year or two we live in
a small house and have enough to do I expect we shall have
seven or eight cows this summer and you will know what we
about Mrs. Pickens's health is not very good tell Mrs. Cooley
I remember her well she was among my early acquaintances
& wonder if she has escaped the troubles of this world remember
me to Mrs. Bush tell Mrs. Libbel if she wants to direct a letter
to brother James to direct it to Wellington Lorain county
you may direct your letters as you wish the one you wrote
it is but six miles and we are often there we go to meeting
there when we can we have never removed our relations
from that church there being none in Karkon where we
now live but Methodist there is a great many protracted
meetings of all denominations whether they advance the
cause of religion or not is more than I can tell
tell your children they must not laugh at the small
if they try to read it for I have not wrote so much
before since I wrote to you last

but I must conclude subscribing myself your sister

To Mrs Sarah Stevens Lois Moody

My love to Mr Stephens tell him I should be glad to see him once
more in this country Mr Hawley is still
living and was here with Mr Dicket and so
was Lemina her health was very poor but I
hear she is better Lucys husband is Maurice again
Julia and Charlotte send their respects to you
and your family

~~211~~

248

808
9

MAY 12 1961
Worthington Historical Society, Inc.
Worthington, Mass.

Dorton Centre Co
Mar-Apr 1st

25

Mrs Sarah Stevens
Worthington
Massachusetts

Single

