

Worthington, Mass.

Copley July 22 1853

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as I have a few leisure moments to spare and as I have thought of you
 more or less this week I finally concluded to write a letter to you thinking
 that I shall get one in return it is a long time since I have had any
 communication with a dear aunt by writing we are all well and are
 enjoying innumerable blessings and hope these lines will find you and
 family enjoying the same one thing that has made me think of you
 so much is because Aunt Lois Nody is here with me Julia has gone
 on a visit to see her children and that got me to take care of her and
 I esteem it a great privilege she is quite smart she can walk around
 the house and I think as essential as ever now but cannot do any work
 she dont seem to have the yoke of her hands to work but that is no
 matter I think she has done her part all I wish is that she can be ^{comfortable} ~~conf~~
 the few remaining days she has to stay she says you wished to know where her
 boys was Jra has gone to Illinois and was all well when I last heard from her
 and was doing well Ethan has gone to Michigan and so you see Aunt is left
 with Julia & Ethan has bin gone about six years Aunt was taken ^(aged) ~~som~~ ^{der}
 that winter and continued so until about a year ago she was a good deal ~~of~~
 of trouble that was a good while that she had to keep her confined
 for fear that she would stray away but now she seems to have her senses
 perfectly well but her nerves appear to be weak she appears to be
 contented here she gets to worrying about Julia's youngest boy but I talk to
 her and she soon gets over it and says she will not worry about him for
 she knows she cant take care of him I believe I have ~~it~~ all that is necessary
 I wish that you could come and see her it would do her so much good I will
 tell you about our friends at Wellington that are all well there I will
 tell you about Uncle James family as far as I know I do not know but
 that you have heard from them of late ~~they~~ appear ago last winter
 that lost their youngest son he died very sudden with the fever last winter
 that lost their second daughter Mary Hutchinson she left two children
 Uncle and aunt was living with them what they do now I have not heard
 whether they stay there or have gone to live with their youngest daughter
 Mr Hutchinson is married again Mary's death was a heavy ~~ble~~ ^{blow} to them for
 they intended to live with them while they lived but you see the young
 will be taken and the old left we cannot order things it is the hand
 of the Lord that orders all things I think that I have writ all that ^{is} ~~is~~
 I know of

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Now I will give you a little sketch of my family although I do not know as
it will be ~~very~~ interesting we live here in Copley alone not a child with
me only when they com to make me a visit I have eight Children ~~with three boys~~
and five girls my two oldest boys Orville and James live close by me and my
oldest girl Sally the next Mariah she has gone to Wisconsin this Spring
she has three Children the oldest is 13 Mary ~~has~~ lives in Indiana she has
bin gone this 12 years she has seven Children Jane lives in Wellington
she has bin married this eight years she has no Children Ransom is
not married he was one and twenty last Nov he lives with James this
summer Amarell lives in Ohio about eighty miles from here she
is married is about twenty and and so you see they are scattered all over
the world sometimes it does not seem possible that a family of Children
could be separated from home and each other but it is so I did not tell you
how many Children the three oldest have Chas fore J has two Julia
has fore I think sometimes it is rather hard to raise such a family and
then be left alone but we are both able to earn our living as yet
we have a little harne and plenty of work we held the post office untill
we got pearst he holds the Justice of the peace offis that helps some
as he is not able to do a large daywork I think that I have writ enou^{gh}
more than you will want to read and so I will draw to a close I would be
very much pleased if you would answer this soon for I should like to
get alone before aunt went home it would do her so much good I thin^k
she will be here some three weeks longer to Sally Stevens
from her Peace Shebe Arnold

I for got to tell you that my youngest sister lays dangeres with a Cancer on
scorfular which is very bad it is on her stomach it has eat about half of
one breast of and has got clear across to the other I went to see her
last week do not think that I ever shall see her again it is about
forty miles from here she has two Children she seems quite
resined it is Lucinda she married aman by the name of Green

aunt I sends her best respects to you give mine to all
inquiring friends