

my work you want to try at home by me who
knows you well enough to support you.

Wabash April 5th 1855

Dear Phoebe

I received your letter this afternoon and
right glad was I to hear from you for I was calculating
it would be a long time before I should hear from you.
I have felt guilty every day for weeks when I have thought
of your unanswered letter but thanks to your forgetfulness
I have got ahead of you this time and you may do so every time.

We are all in moving trim, but father has
a bad cold and mother is not very well spring time does
not agree very well with her.

There has been a great deal of sickness
in these parts this winter and spring and a number of
deaths, among old people principally. Your uncle Eli
died three weeks ago last Sunday. He was unusually smart
the fore part of winter but he took a heavy cold that took
him down very fast. Aunt Betty is as well as can be expected
for a person of her age although she was very miserable a
few weeks ago. Your uncle Jacob & family have been
sick all winter he and Nancy very sick she has been
confined to the bed mostly for three months. Fanny has
been sick too but he is so that his wife has gone home she
heard her mother was in very poor health.

Femina Sweet was buried to-day we heard
nothing of it till after the funeral she has been sick some
time with the inflammation of the lungs but appeared to be

gaining gradually when she was taken bleeding at the nose that
reduced her very fast. Beriah Swift died yesterday morning
and George Tabory wife died a week ago last Sunday her
husband was a fever of ~~one~~ ^{one} day. So it is thought after another few
days he will be all right. Be ye also ready.

You will have late spring but if you had been
in Old Dutchess ~~they~~ you would have been homesick for
we have had but three or four spring-like days then the wind
would get around to the west and blow hard enough to
dry and freeze everything like vegetation up but now it is raining
delightfully something that we have not had in a long long time.
I believe people generally think wheat is killed by the dry cold
weather but I hope they will ^{be} agreeably disappointed when warm
wet weather comes.

April 6th. It rained all night and cleared off warm and
pleasant. You are wrong in supposing I have seen cousin Harland's
~~lady~~ did you expect he would bring her out to show her his mystic
relations, not he and if he wanted to his mother would not let
him for I understand she says the daughter-in-law is of high blood
but ~~what~~ from what I have heard of both families I would
rather risk Miss Ver Tulin pedigree. Harland's father-in-law
was opposed to the match I have heard so he did not consider him
a high blooded man I suppose, but undoubtedly more stories
have been told than are true for Har has rendered himself
quite a conspicuous character within the past year or so.

Sam Sloane is married to a Miss Sherman from
Dover, Alonso's folly. It is an expensive party for him and
they had a regular joyful of it Sam turned the key
when he retired but one of the company was so stout for the

so walked in and separated them but finally drank friendly with
them ~~by~~^{out} of a bottle they had in their pocketz, they were
some of the Herbankites, & do not seem to reprent that they
were all of a piece for some
others that would not do so well
we of course was not there
cool as a cucumber in a

It is better for a thing of
when I meet her.

There has been quite a commotion at Mabb's Hill yesterday
and today caused by the burning of Benjamin Smart's barn with
ten or twelve tons of hay a horse and a calf, night before last and
last night or rather this morning about daylight Phoebe Long took
carriage house was burned. Russel was taken up, but the evidence
was so circumstantial that the justices could not find it in their
hearts to send him to jail so let him go but this morning they were
hunting him up again but had not found him the last I heard
from there. If they have found him and do not commit to-day
the people will almost be tempted to play Judge Lynch with
him for scarcely a man can be found but that believes it was him
that set them on fire and that it was his intention to burn the
house too but for good luck the wind was unfavorable to carry it
towards Smart's house if it had been the other way nothing could
have save it. Russel has been almost at swords points with
his brother and sisters for years. if anyone has gone up and
down in this life the Professor has, if he goes to Sing Sing
several cutture will not be much needed there.

I saw your mother and George at your Uncle
Elias' funeral they were all well then I told her you wanted
I should inquire if they live in ~~the~~ party she said they
did neglect the poor child and ~~the~~ Elisabeth would write
soon

gaining gradually when she was taken bleeding at the nose that
reduced her very fast. Beriah Swift died yesterday morning
and George Babory died a week ago last Sunday, his
disease was a fever of some sort. So it is that after another few
days we should it is thought all be gone also ready.

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