

East Readfield March 19th 1856
My Dear Sarah
I have just received your
letter of 17th inst. and was pleased to hear
from you - You must try & be as cheerful
and contented as you are able, you ask me
to cheer you up Alas! my dear girl I
am wholly unable to school myself into any
thing like a cheerful state of mind. It seems
to me entirely impossible to feel as I used to
feel when your dear brother George was with
us; his image is almost constantly before
my eyes and whatever else occupies my mind
he appears uppermost - I do not wish ever
to forget him but do hope I may not
always feel as I have since his dangerous
sickness & death - I need no one to tell
me he has left a world of trouble and sorrow
and for him there is no cause to mourn
on his own account, but how can I ever
cease to regret the loss of his sunny smile
and his beaming intelligent & surpassingly
beautiful eyes - his silvery voice and all
that was ever lovely in a child of his years
But Oh his memory is all that remains
to us of him. We have one tie less on this
earth & we can hope to meet him in a happier world.

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society

(Coll. 362, Box 1/1)

Date: March, 19, 1856

Description: Peter F. Sanborn letter to daughter

I laid last night upon my bed and thought of him for hours. It seems as if every act and saying of his life passed before me daily. Oh my God it never occurred to me before his death I was capable of enduring the anguish I have felt on account of his removal by death — But it is said earth has no sorrows which heaven cannot heal —

Your mother is quite sick so much so she has sat up but very little if any to day. I hope and think she will be better in a day or two — We were up to Davis's yesterday although your mother was quite unwell but was anxious to go as she heard her mother was not expected to get well again by the doctor — We found her tolerable comfortable but should not think strange if she did not live a great while —

Your Grandmother Sanborn I think is some better than she was when you left although she is quite feeble and I greatly fear Sarah she may not be spared to us a great while, and should live to loose her I shall loose the best friend I ever had on earth — I hope God may spare her to us some years at least but all earthly friends are passing away and I have found there is but little satisfaction in earthly things — We love our friends

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and when they are taken from us it fill us with ang
uish. I hope you will seek happiness in something
more lasting than things of earth.

In regard to your
studies I am perfectly willing you should pursue
such a course of studies as Mr. Lory thinks best
and proper for you I hope you will try and
improve your time to good advantage but do not
desire you to study so hard as to make your
self sick for that would be a very poor economy —

Tell Emery that Gussy has gone
to day with a horse and slea to Winthrop
Village for a load of Glue Stock — ask
him what he thinks of that.

Your trunk
key was slipped on to one of the straps
where I presume you will have no diffic
ulty in finding it if you look where it is

Your mother sent up your band box
by William Holmes and I suppose you
have received it ere this. How came
off or rather wore off Lizzies bonnet and
your mother would send yours as she
thought it likely Lizzie might want one
to wear before you would get hers
home — How do you get along in writing
in your journal? Don't neglect that —
write home as often as you feel like it — At
present I don't feel like writing or anything else
Tom Aff father P. F. Sanborn

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