at home & you had left my family & gone in Search of another Farmi' Whether the dream was one of my own, - Whether it was Suggested from a good or bad spirit is to me a matter of uncertainty, it however has awakened Some uneasy Sensations, about home So that I concluded I would try imediately to come flome but find I cannot at prejent. I wish you to do the best you can about my Family, for I mean to fulfil every contract I have made with you, & never wish you to be uneasy, & if you wish to throw up any agreement we have made, I do not wish you to be a loser in any thing. Let your mother know I am well. Tell The Children Gadd is alive & well, & longs to See them all. Let the Brethren & Sisters know if they enquire, that ald Tadd is in camben & that he has been there & in Thomaston als most two months & cannot get away yet But that he thinks about them & tries to pray for them every day. Tell them to knay for me - The Vituation of the Brethian here in this visinity is truly pitiable about 400 three years ago professed religion within 4 monthly Since that time they have put them Telves under human masters (or ministers) who like the Shepards of old that trad down the pastures, & fowled the water with their feet be to See their case read the 34 chapter

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by the Maine Historical Society

(Coll. 44 Box 1/1) Date: March 10, 1811

Description: Letter from Ephraim Stinchfield to Benjamin Clark, 1811

My Son

Saturday Night I dreamed "I was at home & you had left my Family & gone in Search of another Farm" Whether the dream was one of my own, -- whether it was Suggested from a good or bad Spirit is to me a matter of uncertainty, it however has awakened Some uneasy sensations, about home So that I concluded I would try imediately to come Home but find I cannot at present. I wish you to do the best you can about my Family, for I mean to fulfil every contract I have made with you, & never wish you to be uneasy, & if you wish to throw up any agreement we have made, I do not wish you to be a loser in any thing.

Let your mother know I am well. Tell the Children Dadd is alive & well, & longs to See them all. Let the Brethren & Sisters know if they inquire, that old Dadd is in Camden & that he has been there & in Thomaston al= =most two months & cannot get away yet But that he thinks about them & tries to pray for them every day. Tell them to pray for me — The Situation of the Brethren here in this vicinity is truly pitiable about 400 three years ago professed religion within 4 months Since that time they have put them -selves under human masters (or ministers) who like the Shepards of old that trod down the pastures, & fowled the water with their feet &c to see their case read the 34 chapter

of Esemiel & you will See the Situation of ministers & heaple. - There has been a good work principally among profes-: ors & the work is still spreading. The first of this month we had a Qua. Meeting in Disemont, Since which time 28 have been brought out of darkeness into light & the work Still spreading when I hear from them last week I hope to get Liberty to come & See you before Longwif you should get this Letter Joon I think you may Some of you write to me in landen I should be very Glad to hear from you. I have not beard from you since ganuary I hope the Lord will bless you all that you will live in your have been & felt the awful effects of enoy, hatred & discord among Brethren that I wish to warn all to avoid it, and flee from even Sin as from a despent: for in the end it will string like a Serpent & bite like an adder, forwell may God preserve us from all Tin until we meet in this or a better world, where seperations will be known no more. This is the desire & prayeryour poor old dadd tintfield of Ezekiel & you will See the Situation of ministers & people. — There has been a good work principally among profes—ors & the work is still Spreading. The first of this month we had a Qua. Meeting in Dixmont, Since which time 28 have been brought out of darkness into light & the work Still Spreading when I heard from them last week.

I hope to get Liberty to come & see you before Long, if you should get this Letter Soon I think you may some of you write to me in Camden I should be very Glad to hear from you. I have not heard from you Since January I hope the Lord will bless you all that

Love

you will live in ^ I have Seen & felt the awful effects of envy, hatred & discord So

among Brethren ^ that I wish to warn all to avoid it, and flee from every Sin as from a Serpent: for in the end it will Sting like a Serpent & bite like

an adder. Farewell may God preserve

from

us from all ^ Sin until we meet in this or a better world, where seperations will be known no more. This is the desire

& prayer \(^{\) your poor old dadd.

Ephraim Stinchfield

Mr Bo Clark N. Gloucester.



Camden March 19

Mr Benjamin Clark

Newgloucester