

Baldwin, Sept. 19th, 1814

My Very Dear Brother,

Always happy when I have an opportunity of writing to you, yet this delightful task is at this time doubly so; for happiness is never felt so sensibly as when contrasted with sorrow; nor our friends never so dear as when we are apprehensive of losing them. Last Monday I was informed that you had gone to Portland. Had news been brought to me that you had been dead I think I could not have been more sensibly affected. I gave you up for lost and myself to immediate grief. If I was afflicted at hearing of your departure for Portland, I was not less overjoyed on hearing by the Post that you were gone to Bridgeton: Surely I have great reason to be grateful that while thousands are exposed to the dangers and hardships of the camp: That my dear and much loved Josiah is quietly pursuing his studies under the direction of the best and heart most amiable of Men. And while my [^] offers a prayer of gratitude to that beneficent Being, who has hitherto graciously protected you I will fervently supplicate the same divine Being to continue His blessings to my beloved brother Your kind Parents ever anxious for your wellfare

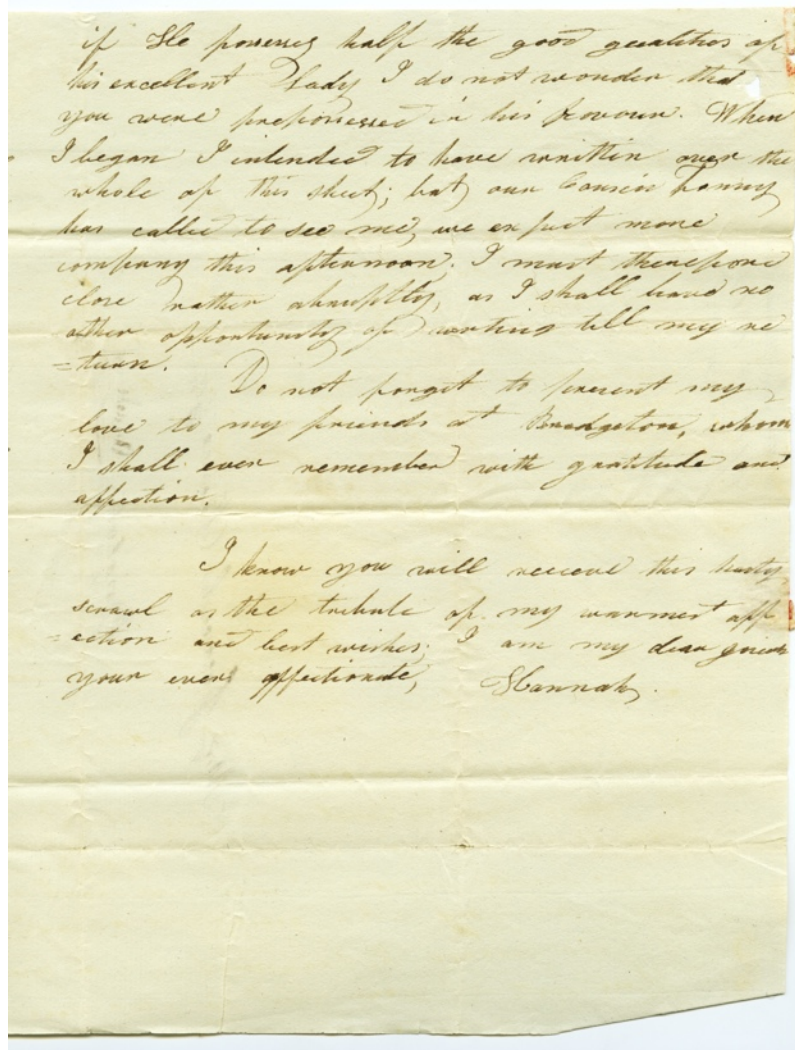
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Maine Historical Society

Date: Sept. 19, 1814

Description: Hannah Pierce to Josiah Pierce

with your fondly affectionate Sisters and Brothers
desire their love to you: your good Mother in
particular observes that she does not close her
eyes at night, nor open them in the morning
without thinking of you, for she thinks she
cannot be thankful enough for your safety.
John, Josiah and Thompson Pierce marched last
Wednesday. I called at Uncle's last Saturday
I found them very much dejected. Aunt in
particular was very much afflicted. But
why should I attempt to describe the distress
which now prevails? Doubtless you witness
your share for the calamity is not confined
to families or towns; but is general. How
true it is that when the wicked bear rule
the People mourn. But leaving this gloomy
subject, I will now proceed to inform
our own family; finally then we are all
in good health. I came home last Saturday
now you will be surprised when I inform
you that I returned tomorrow indeed I am
fairly sick of Pedagoguing; but they so anxious
to have their school continue that I have
reluctantly engaged to instruct six weeks
or two months longer. I will now thank you
for your good letter giving me an account
of your journey to Brunswick. You were
pleased with your visit at Esq Barrow's

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if he possesses half the good qualities of his excellent Lady I do not wonder that you were prepossessed in his favour. When I began I intended to have written over the whole of this sheet; but our Cousin Tenny[?] has called to see me, we expect more company this afternoon; I must therefore close rather abruptly, as I shall have no other opportunity of writing till my return,

Do not forget to present my love to my friends at Bridgeton, whom I shall ever remember with gratitude and affection.

I know you will receive this hasty scrawl as the tribute of my warmest affection and best wishes; I am my dear Josiah your ever affectionate,

Hannah