

Gorham April 11. 1866

My dear Sister Hannah

I do not feel able to write a long letter. But I want to assure you of my undiminished love, for you & all my kindred, and fervently & sincerely, implore the blessing of God upon all of them. I cannot do any thing for them now. I must therefore say that I must give up the little business I have been accustomed to do for you, & P. Elizabeth & Mrs Hall. I have no doubt but Lewis will willingly collect Dividends & bank coupons for you & Elizabeth & transmit the same to Baldwin, with regard to your Ducker property at Saccarappa, for some years they have only paid the interest on the notes, & the taxes on the place but have made no repairs of buildings or fences. You have a mortgage on the property. The last time I saw them (last summer) they said they would re-deed to you, & pay rent & taxes, as they are now doing, on your giving up the mortgage & notes, this I think would be the best arrangement for you. Mrs Ducker said she would sign the deed giving up her right of Dower, which she might now claim, if Mr Ducker should die before her. I think I could get Lewis to do this business, if you consent to it.

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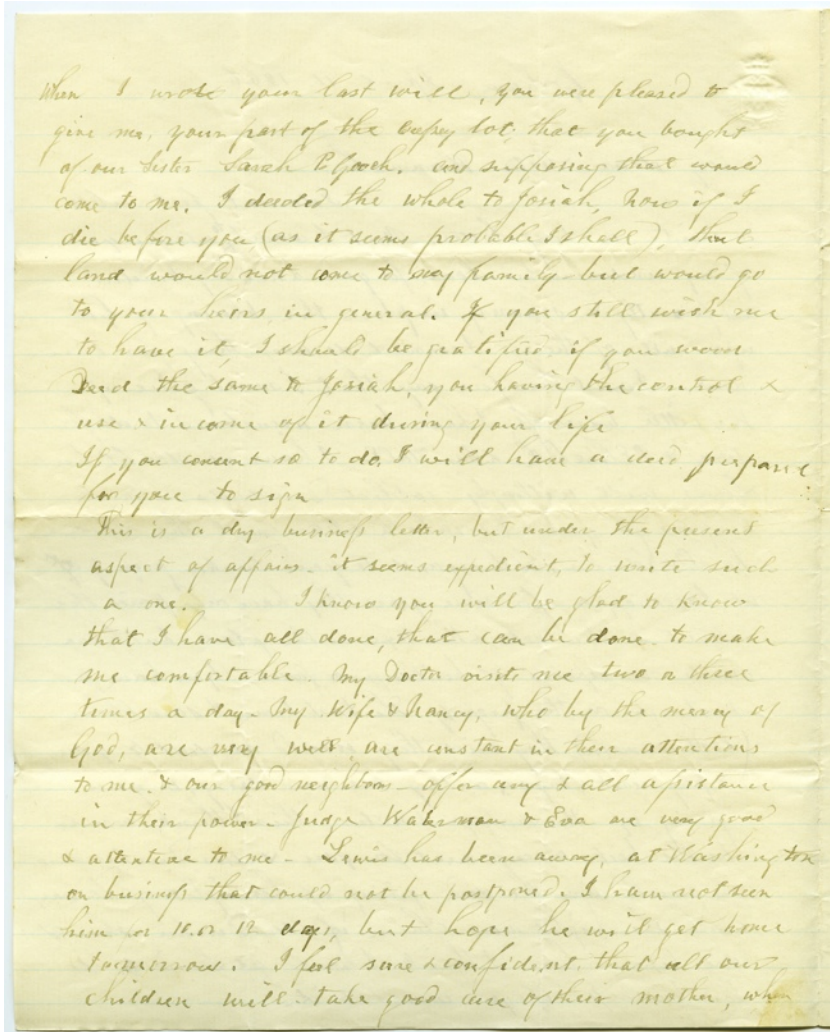
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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
Date: April 11, 1866
Description: Josiah Pierce to sister



When I wrote your last will, you were pleased to give me, your part of the Cressy lot, that you bought of our Sister Sarah P. Gooch, and supposing that would come to me, I deeded the whole to Josiah, how if I die before you (as it seems probable I shall), that land would not come to my family but would go to your heirs in general. If you still wish me to have it, I should be gratified if you would Deed the same to Josiah, you having the control & use & income of it during your life. If you consent so to do, I will have a deed prepared for you to sign.

This is a dry business letter, but under the present aspect of affairs, it seems expedient, to write such a one. I know you will be glad to know that I have all done, that can be done to make me comfortable. My Doctor visits me two or three times a day. My Wife & Nancy, who by the mercy of God, are very well, are constant in their attentions to me, & our good neighbors offer any & all assistance in their power. Judge Waterman & Eva are very good & attentive to me - Lewis has been away, at Washington on business that could not be postponed. I have not seen him for 10 or 12 days, but hope he will get home tomorrow. I feel sure & confident, that all our children will take good care of their mother, when

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I shall be gone. It is also a comfort to me
to know that all my children love each other,
& will all be kind to & help one another.
Their characters are good & all are respectable
in society - Am I not blessed in my family?
I am blessed also myself in my own person,
for though I suffer severe pains - my mind, my
memory, & my sight remain clear & good. I will praise
the Lord for his great & unmerited favors to me.
I get but little sleep except by opium & even by
the use of that, not more than 30- to 50 minutes
at a time. I slept about an hour in all last
night - I began this letter this morning, it is now
late in the afternoon - I have laid down 5 times
since I began to write this. I am tired & very
weary. With love to yourself - Elizabeth, & Charles &
Nancy S. I end by wishing you all comfort
& happiness. Your sick but affectionate brother
Josiah Pierce.

Mrs Pierce & Nancy send much love to all
Martha & little Eliza came to see me yesterday.

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