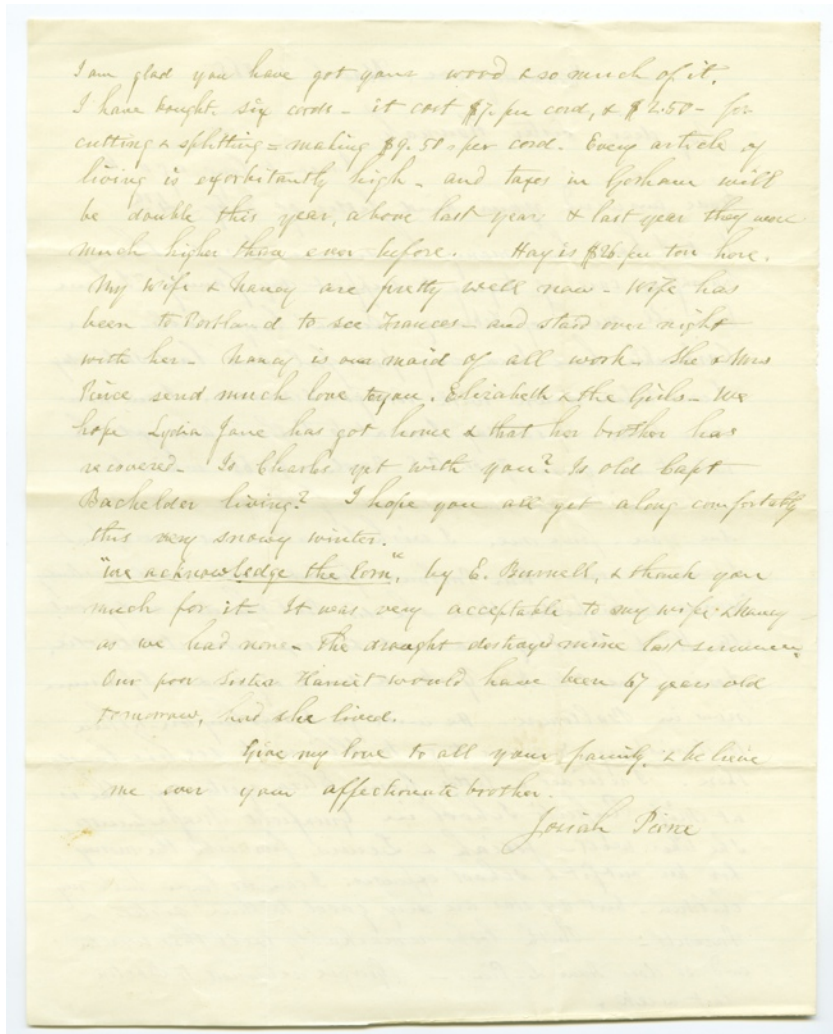


Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through  
Maine Historical Society  
Date: March 1, 1865  
Description: Josiah Pierce to sister Hannah about rising prices

Wednesday eve. March 1. 1865

My dear Sister Hannah

I meant long ago to have answered your kind letter of Feb'y. 4<sup>th</sup> but I have had many hindrances – besides the harrassing care of trying to support my family – I have been ill much of February. Several large boils - & one Carbunkle have been very painful- and last Saturday I was taken down with Vertigo & nausea. I am now some better. Yesterday I went to Portland and got the interest on your 7-30 U.S. Bond - \$3.65 which I now inclose. with \$5. on account of the \$30 - interest due you from me. I wish I could send more, but I cannot now – Our Portland friends were well yesterday Frances looks better than she did. But she does not go out. Mr Wm E Bradley – cannot sit up & must soon die. Josiah went to New York a week ago & is I presume now in Baltimore – He will go to Washington - & then to Harrisburg - & means to go to Illinois to see his lands there. I received a letter from Eliza yesterday. She is at Miss Russell's School in Greenfield Massachusetts, She likes well – Josiah & Lewis, furnished the money for her outfit & school expenses. I can no longer help my children – but my sons are very good to their sisters, & Parents – Ruth looks remarkably well this winter and so does Anne L. Pierce – Georgie returned to Boston last week.



I am glad you have got your wood & so much of it.  
I have bought six cords - it cost \$7. per cord, & \$2.50 - for  
cutting & splitting = making \$9.50 per cord. Every article of  
living is exorbitantly high - and taxes in Gorham will  
be double this year, above last year & last year they were  
much higher than ever before. Hay is \$26. per ton here.  
My wife & Nancy are pretty well now - Wife has  
been to Portland to see Frances - and staid over night  
with her - Nancy is our maid of all work - She & Mrs  
Pierce send much love to you, Elisabeth & the Girls - We  
hope Lydia Jane has got home & that her brother has  
recovered - Is Charles yet with you? Is old Capt  
Bachelder living? I hope you all get along comfortably  
this very snowy winter.  
"we acknowledge the Corn," by E. Burnell, & thank you  
much for it - It was very acceptable to my wife & Nancy  
as we had none - The drought destroyed mine last summer.  
Our poor Sister Harriet would have been 67 years old  
tomorrow, had she lived.  
Give my love to all your family, & believe  
me ever your affectionate brother.  
Josiah Pierce

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