

Orion Feb 13 1842

My Dear Aunt,

You will think me an ungrateful niece, that I have so long neglected to answer your kind letters, and ^{thank you for your} acceptable presents. I write a little that writing has become quite a task and I really have little time as Susan goes to school and Mother has no help between the work and the baby we are kept quite busy. Father is at Detroit and will remain a few days to make some arrangements in regard to our leaving in the spring he will bring Fanny back if the riding permits only ~~it~~ it has been a year this month since ~~we~~ we have seen her. We have been looking for her every week this winter. We have not seen Aunt Susan since she returned from the east she has been waiting for snow there has been none at Detroit this winter and but very little here so little that the first day of sunshine melted it away. I never knew such delightful weather in the winter. It is much more mild and pleasant than the two preceding winters we have spent in Michigan. I am quite ashamed of myself dear Aunt for not having thanked you long ago for the book you sent me in the box. The children were delighted with theirs. I read my own with great pleasure and I hope not without some improvement. A book is the most acceptable present you could make me.

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by an individual through
Maine Historical Society
MMN #28443
Date: Feb. 13, 1842
Description: Harriet Pierce of Michigan to her aunt, Hannah Pierce

as we have none new except those sent us by our friends. I wish you could see dear little Clara she is almost as fat and chubby as Lucky French was. She is learning to talk very fast and can say many words. We have got a carpet down this winter and it is a great deal more comfortable than it has ever been before. They have formed a society in this district and is called the Orion Lyceum. The meetings are held Thursday evenings the question last Thursday evening was Which has caused the most destruction of human life ardent Spirits or the sword. It was decided that the sword was most destructive. you would laugh to see the scuffling there is got Father on both sides he being the only one that can make a decent speech. They have some curious question the next is which has the most influence over men the desire of wealth or women and the next to that is. Which has the most influence over young men married or unmarried lady's. Is it not ridiculous. These are not questions of Father's proposals I assure you. There has been a great reform here within the last month. two hundred persons signed the pledge in Pontiac and over twenty here. They have temperance meetings in the school house once a week. I have let my letter lay by for more than a week and I will tell you why I told you that Father had gone to Detroit and that we expected him back in a few days he came Tuesday evening and with him

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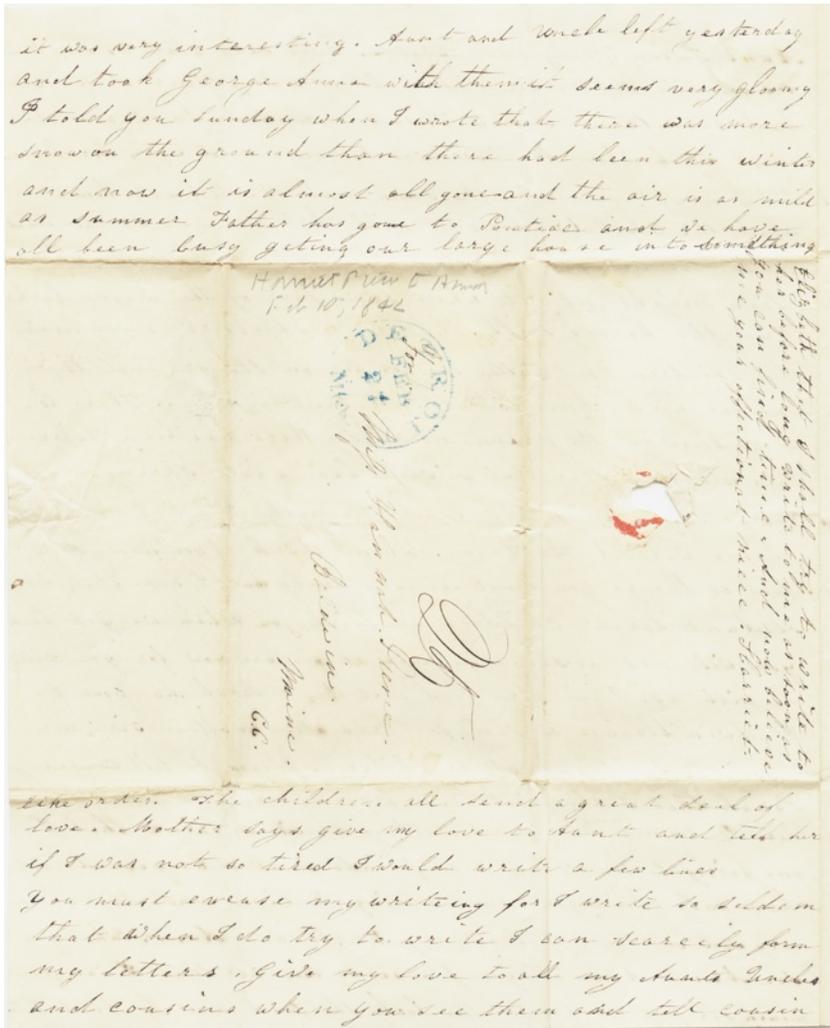
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Aunt Susan Fanny and Lewis we were very glad to see them as you will suppose for it had been a long time since we had seen them. Aunt Susan concluded to stay until next week when Mr Dorr was to come and carry her home. The next morning the coach man started for home and the children went with him as far as the school house. he was going to stop the horses that the children might get out when some part of the wagon broke and the horses with. the front wheels ran away leaving the children and father in the box on the ground there was no harm done to father or the children. There is more snow on the ground now than there has been before this winter I fear that we shall have a late spring. George Anne says tell Aunt Hannah that I am y^o home with Aunt Susan. When I think of you dear Aunt I feel as though you must be very lonely but I hope that some of Aunt Sarah's children are with you when we get back you will not be alone as much as you are now for you will be with us. I am very glad that Aunt Sarah has gone to Baldwin because we shall see each other & often give my love to Aunt and all the children. please to tell Cousin Sarah that I should be very happy to receive a letter from her. It seems ^{more} like a dream than reality to think that I am going to see all my dear friends in New England we have only one regret in leaving Michigan and that is a very sad one. that of leaving Uncle and Aunt. When you see Aunt Anne will you please to tell her that I was very much obliged to her for the book she sent me by Aunt Susa

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it was very interesting. Aunt and Uncle left yesterday and took George Anne with them it seemed very gloomy I told you Sunday when I wrote that there was more snow on the ground than there had been this winter and now it is almost all gone and the air is as mild as summer Father has gone to Pontiac and we have all been busy getting our large house into something

Elizabeth that I shall try to write to her before long Write to me as soon as you can find time. And now believe me your affectionate niece. Harriet.

Miss Hannah Pierce -
Baldwin.
Maine.
C.C.

like order. The children all send a great deal of love. Mother says you give my love to Aunt and tell her if I was not so tired I would write a few lines You must excuse my writing for I write so seldom that when I do try to write I can scarcely form my letters . Give my love to all my Aunts Uncles and cousins when you see them and tell cousin