

Brunswick, January 25th 1845.

Dear Father,

Mr. Emery dropped your letter out of the stage today while passing through my district. I should have answered your other letter before, had it not been that I sent word to you by Uncle Crocker who passed through B- a week ago last Thursday, and told me he should probably see you.

He called at my schoolhouse again on his return, and informed me that he did not. He wears one of those great buffalo robes, and looks twice as large as ever.

I am still well and prosperous - have had no trouble, and have given, I believe pretty good satisfaction. A schoolmasters popularity depends I think much more on his deportment out of school, than on his conduct in the schoolroom: at any rate in such a district as this, where almost all the people differ in regard to religion, politics, and all other such debatable matters.

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The agent is a Democrat, and a strong Universalist, though he always finds something 'which would have been much better, if he had had the managing of it,' in every act of his party or of his sect. There are besides - Strong Whigs, Native Americans, Liberty Party, Conservatives - Congregationalists, Freewill Baptists, Methodists, and one or two of no religion at all. Colonizationists, furious Abolitionists, and men in favor of Slavery, and each, when I am at their houses, begin upon their favorite topics and ask my opinion. I say as little as possible, or if I have to say something, agree with them on those points in their belief, which every body else approves, or tell stories, I have seen in their papers. And yet, I never saw people better disposed towards each other, or kinder neighbors. Charles's school ends one week from today: and mine in two weeks. I would end on Friday, if I could, but I should have to keep all day next Saturday, and the agent said he wished me never to do so - tis one of his whims. I think though if you would come after me, we could go home very well on Saturday afternoon, even if we should be obliged to ride in the evening. It has rained very hard, all last night & today, and the snow has fell away a great deal: the "slosh"

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and water is half boot deep. I walked out to the village notwithstanding: for the good people are so irregular about doing my washing, that there was no other way of getting a clean shirt. — — — — —

Sunday afternoon.

It has been snowing today, & as I was not very well, I did not go to meeting. We have had bad weather enough I should think for the last two weeks, to last for a month to come.

You ask me what I have read — I have found so much else to do with my time, that I have read very little ~~at all~~, and indeed some of the folks would not have liked it at all.

I have read only Bracebridge Hall & a few little things picked up here & there —

I think like enough this may be the last letter I shall write before the close of my school.

I hope I shall find a letter from you next Saturday at the office — With love to all, I must close again, assuring you that I am,

your affectionate son
Josiah

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