

Orion. October. 4th 1846.

My Dear Father.

Here I am, comfortably domiciled in Uncle Daniels farmhouse, in good health and fat condition. Charles and myself left Detroit for this place, last Monday morning in the Pontiac cars. From Pontiac, we took a sort of conveyance which might, in the unsophisticated age of Adam, have been called a ~~carryall~~ ^{carriage}. and after more jolting and other personal inconveniences than we had experienced during all the rest of our journey, we were safely disembarked, and received with much joy (on both sides) by our kind relatives. We found them looking well & doing well in all mental & bodily respects with the exception of Uncle, who is however only slightly troubled with an occasional pain in his side, caused by his having been run over, some time since, as you will remember, by a cart. Aunt Fanny appears in better health than she used to enjoy, if my memory serves me right, and my Wolverine cousins are nice, strong, hearty looking children. Though so far up in the country, Time has by no means hung heavily on our hands, while here.

We have made some visits, to the neighbors. (all people who live within twenty miles of each other, in Michigan, are considered neighbors) and found them as far as we have become acquainted, a much more refined

Orion. October. 4th 1846.

My Dear Father.

Here I am comfortably domiciled in Uncle Daniels farm house in good health and fat condition.

Charles and myself left Detroit for this place, last Monday morning in the Pontiac cars. From Pontiac we took a sort of conveyance which might, in the unsophisticated age of Adam, have been called a carryall. And after more jolting and other personal inconveniences that we had experienced during all the rest of our journey, we were safely disembarked, and received with much joy (on both sides) by our kind relatives. We found them looking well & doing well in all mental & bodily respects with the exception of Uncle, who is however only slightly troubled with an occasional pain in his side caused by his having been run over, sometime since, as you will remember, by a cart. Aunt Fanny appears in better health than she used to enjoy, if my memory serves me right, and my Wolverine cousins are nice, strong, hearty-looking "childers"—Though so far up in the country. Time has by no means hung heavily on our lands, while here.

We have made some visits to "the neighbors." (all people who live within twenty miles of each other, in Michigan, are considered neighbors) and found them as far as we have become acquainted, a much more refined

class of people, than those of the same relative standing with regard to property in Maine. I rode 5 miles, on the back of a blind horse, day before yesterday, in company with Harriet on the pony, to make a short call, i.e. to take a dinner of pork and potatoes, stop ten minutes, and return. What I have seen of the country, pleases me much. The vast fields, the fine oak trees, the rich soil, needing no manure, and huge stacks of grain much higher often than the log-houses by whose side they stand are as interesting as they are novel to the denizen of Maine accustomed to the half-acre lots enclosing a two-story building of shingles surrounded by old apple-trees, with one or two patches of marigolds and bachelors-buttons in the front for show. Uncle's farm looks as if it might in a few years, when thoroughly subjected to agricultural skill, become very productive and valuable.

George Dorr, a young man, and a nephew of Mr. I. R. Dorrs, withal a good fellow, came out here on Friday, to carry all of our band of travellers to Detroit on Tuesday - but as Uncle insists that we shall not start so soon, I think we cannot expect to leave finally for Maine before Oct. 12th. If we remain here more than a week longer, I will write again - if not I will send a paper to announce the day of our departure. As I could probably talk to you as well about all other matters of interest after my return, as now, I will with much love to all, conclude for the present.

Yr. aff. son. Josiah -

class of people, than those of the same relative standing with regard to property in Maine. I rode 5 miles, on the back of a blind horse, day before yesterday, in company with Harriet on the pony, to make a short call, i.e. to take a dinner of pork and potatoes, stop ten minutes, and return. What I have seen of the country, pleases me much. The vast fields, the fine oak trees, the rich soil, needing no manure, and huge stacks of grain much higher, often, than the log-houses by whose side they stand are as interesting as they are novel to a denizen of Maine accustomed to the half-acre lots enclosing a two-story building of shingles surrounded by old apple-trees, with one or two patches of marigolds and bachelors-buttons in the front for show.

Uncle's farm looks as if it might in a few years, when thoroughly subjected to agricultural skill, become very productive and valuable.

George Dorr, a young man, and a nephew of Mr. I. R. Dorrs, withal a good fellow, came out here on Friday, to carry all of our band of travellers to Detroit on Tuesday - but as Uncle insists that we shall not start so soon, I think we cannot expect to leave finally for Maine before Oct. 12th. If we remain here much more than a week longer, I will write again, if not I will send a paper to announce the day of our departure. As I could probably talk to you as well about all the other matters of interest after my return, as now, I will with much love to all, conclude for the present.

Yr. Aff. Son. Josiah —

Dear Brother

As your Son thinks he has written all that occurs to him at this present & offers the remainder of the sheet to any one that can collect ideas enough to fill the same. I thought it a good opportunity to say how much we all rejoiced at the consummation of our long anticipated pleasure by the arrival of our Nephews & cousins as Josiah has stated the time of his arrival with us I shall omit that & say we are all enjoying their visit very much the visits of our relatives this season has really seemed to contract the distance which has so long separated us from all our relatives & early friends. I have been so much engaged since their arrival that I hardly realize the fact of their presence I have just finished sewing my winter coat & as they came I have sowed about 22 Acres and most of it is up & looks well I have threshed 210 Bushels of wheat & have I think about as much more to thresh. I do hope the young men will enjoy their selves while they tarry with us & if a most cordial welcome & sincere pleasure in their company can produce that enjoyment it will be theirs I intend devoting the coming week to them & hope to be able to show them some of the beauties of Michigan (that is) the natural ones I hope to be able to keep them at least all next week it will doubtless be just as pleasant crossing the lake 2 or 3 weeks hence as now I do hope they will both receive much pleasure & profit from their journey & in good time be restored to their friends in perfect health & safety. My children all join me in much love to you & yours

Yours affectionate brother
D. T. Pierce

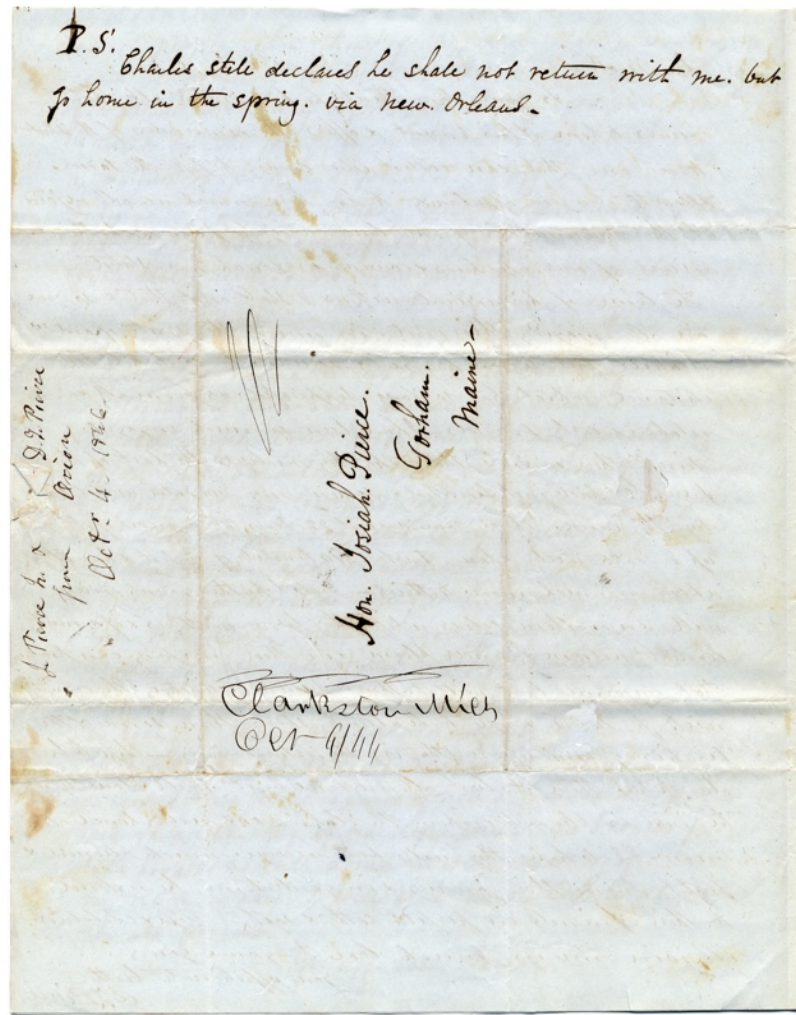
Dear Brother

As your Son thinks he has written all that occurs to him at this present & offers the remainder of the sheet to any one that can collect ideas enough to fill the same I thought it a good opportunity to say how much we all rejoiced at the consummation of our long anticipated pleasure by the arrival of our Nephews & cousins as Josiah has stated the time of his arrival with us I shall omit that & say we are all enjoying their visit very much the visits of our relatives this season has really seemed to contract the distance which has so long separated us from all our relatives & early friends – I have been so much engaged since their arrival that I hardly realize the fact of their presence [page torn] I had just finished sowing my winter wheat t[page torn]

day they came I have sowed about 22 Acres and most of it [page torn] up & looks well I have threshed 210 Bushels of wheat & have I think about as much more to thresh – I do hope the young men will enjoy them selves while they tarry with us & if a most cordial welcome & sincere pleasure in their company can produce that enjoyment it will be theirs I intend devoting the coming week to them & hope to be able to show them some of the beauties of Michigan (that is) the natural ones – I hope to be able to keep them at least all next week it will doubtless be just as pleasant crossing the lake 2 or 3 weeks hence as now I do hope they will both receive much pleasure & profit from their journey & in good time be restored to their friends in perfect health & safety – Wife & children all join me in much love to you & yours

Your affectionate brother

D. T. Pierce



P. S.

Charles still declares he shall not return with me, but go home in the spring, via New Orleans.

[written sideways]

Hon. Josiah. Pierce.
Gorham.
Maine-

[written sideways next to address]

Clarkston Mich
Oct 9/46