



Westport August 5 1838

Dear absent and much esteemed Sister Sarah.
 With pleasure I sit down this pleasant morning
 to answer your letter We received your letter last
 eav and was pleased to hear that you was well.
 but before I proceed any farher -----
 -- I will inform you the reason that I have
 not written to you before I have been waiting
 for Susan to write but she thought that
 she could not and I was in such a hurry
 doing house work that I could not. so I
 hope that this will surface for the present
 as I did not attend church to day I thought
 I would write you the reason that I did not
 attend meeting was that I looked so homely
 that I would not go and also that I have got
 a great cat bite on the side of my face. there
 has not anything especial took place since you
 went away that I recollect of at present -----
 We heard from the Fishermen last week they were
 all well. Mr G sent his love to you. I expect that
 you can guess witch way. he expects to be at
 home the 10 of September about the time that
 you will get home ----- Wilmot dont come
 down so often as he did when you was at home.
 Silvester said that he should like to see
 you very much. Franklin and Valentine

(written along the side of the page:

I have got Dinner (? - hole in paper) and done doing work and come
 up to finish my
 letter L and (? -hole in paper) gohne home I shall have to go to
 milking very soon
 I wish that you was hear to healp I am here in my Chamber alone and
 so good afternoon Dear Sarah)

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Westport Island Historical
 Society
 MMN # 79530

Date: August 5, 1838
 Description: A letter to Sarah Tarbox while she is attending Mrs. Elizabeth
 Fields School in Topsham from two of her sisters and her brother-in-law.

has been around me all the time that I have been
a writing they have plagued me almost to death
they said that I must give their love to you V
said that you must not learn to much French for
he said that you will be to much of a Frenchmen
Your two little children stands it compleat they
have got almost as big as the geese Your little
Turkes has got almost feathered out. we have made
considerable butter we have not ben to Bath but
once since you went away Ma talks of going
again this week. we shal finish spinning week
after next. we heard from Mary last week and
they stated that she had got a young son
about a fortnite old Susan went a visiting to
day up to Jason Webbers. Manson D past by the
house to day he looked quite smart we have got
done english heying I have not raked any since
they commenced it is a great drouth here we are
afraid that everything will dry up I watered
your flower garden this morning everything
has gone to seed your scarlicnacness has turned
out to be a London pride your mulin pinks had blos
omed they look very pretty I grow very fat espe
scially on one side of my face do you se any hogs
and pigs up your way if you do not I will assure
you that I do and git real mad with them some
times. I have lugged so much swill this Summer that I have
held my neck out so long that I am afraid that I
shal have it out of joint aint you affraid of it I
se that I have written my sheet full I wrote you
one side as you se on the next page
on the top of the fourth page
my dear Sarah and if anything to good
especial occurs this week I wil write on another sheet. Ma will write
A.P. Tarbox

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My very Dear Sister

Sunday afternoon we
 have had no preaching today. It has been very warm today. Abaline
 has gone down to cook dinner. I have taken her pen and paper in her
 absence to write you a few lines because I love you and want to see you very
 much. I want you to learn to work beed work nicely you know
 what for. I should like to have been a little mouse when you was on
 the dance floor at Puringtons did you command yourself or did
 you blush behind the ear. Wm and I are here. I think I shall
 not bring A.M. up till you get home she is so heavy to carry when
 I began to get ready this morning she wanted to come. Mother
 was down to see me last Thursday went over to Mrs Hodgdon
 had a good time they have been a quilting Mrs Hodgdon says
 she does want to see that. Em said at other times I want
 to see that child dreadfully. I dreamt a dream about
 E. she dreamt that she got home and was so cross and ---?--hated
 you and all of the scholars and she scolded terribly. I trust
 that you and E. gets along nicely. O got disapointed this morning
 she got a letter from Samuel and Stephen. (Missing section) mail Samuel
 was well but lo spirited. What am I (missing) have filled
 out most this page. What will A. say to me. I wished I had
 some paper I would write a whole sheet to come home soon as your
 time is out so that I can ask you forty clever questions. Billy as you
 call him has got drove out of the kitchen it was so warm and has come
 up stairs he says he must write a line to you good bye Sarah
 L.M.G. (Louisa M. Greenleaf)

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L.M.G. (Louisa M. Greenleaf)

Dear Sarah I thought it best to fill up the sheet
 I have ben on a fishing cruse for my
 health engaged myself very well I suppose you like to see A.
 this afternoon but you cannot so I will kiss her for
 you and bid you goodbye for the present

Wm G.