

Cleveland Apr 6<sup>th</sup>, 1862

Dear Sister,

It is the Sabbath and a most beautiful day it is and having attended church this morning I thought I would devote a part of this afternoon in writing to you. I received your letter of the 26 and was very glad to hear from you we had felt quite anxious about you because we had not heard from you we thought very likely you were sick and was very sorry to hear that it you had been but I hope that you are better now. Colds seem to go very hard with people this spring. I have escaped thus far but all of the rest of the family have had severe colds. Samuel came home sick with a very bad cold in fact there has been some one of us sick ever since Grandma died, of course you have heard of her death. [??] was taken sick two weeks ago last Friday and has been confined to the house ever since and under the Doc care he requires all of her mothers attention. I cannot tell you what is the matter with him there seems to be two or three different things but he has suffered a great deal. Roxanna and I have been confined to the house most of the time all winter and spring so far. It seems as though we never should get settled again.

Jim[?] carried the two girls out to Chatham last Thursday to stay through vacation it seems as though half of the house was gone. Samuel goes east tomorrow. He will be gone until next week sometime so you see we shall be quite alone. I wish you could come and see us again while we are alone for we shall be very lonely. Hermes was here one day last week to dinner. How I do pity that poor boy. I tell you he is hard up. I do wonder what they are going to do. I tell you I had the blues after he went away. He was after a job I believe he did not succeed in getting one that suited him. I could not refrain from weeping when I looked at him. I pity him and those poor children but I have not much for [??]. Mrs. Burgess called here last Friday. She is up on a visit. She said that Sarah was very well if she did not go home yesterday she is coming here to make a visit this week. She said that Sarah received a letter from you stating that you thought of going back to Ellington to live with Mrs. [??]. Do you think of it, write and let me know.

Samuels oldest sister Lavinia buried her husband about three weeks ago. He has been unwell a number of years so you see one goes after another. How have you enjoyed yourself since you went from here. Have you found any place that seems like home. I should like very much to come out and see you. Tell Anna I thank her very much for her kind invitation and I would be very happy to avail myself of that privilege if it were possible for me to do so. I am as much confined at home as though I had a family of my own to take care of. When Hermes was here he had a letter in his packet that he had received from Newton a day or two before. Samuel read it aloud. It was a very interesting letter, how glad I shall be when war is over when those that are not killed can be united with their families once more. I shall have to close for it will soon be tea time. Remember me to all of your friends. Kiss Ada for me and tell her I want to see her very much and that I have not forgotten the time when she dropped her muff. Write soon we all send our love.

From your affectionate sister

Mary