

January 11, 1859. To Mrs. Lucinda Hubbell, Bennington Centre, VT.

My dear Mother,

Your letter of Jan. 4 was received last evening and I hasten to answer it with all possible speed-I own to my everlasting shame and disgrace that I read your after it was mailed-and not a day has passed over my head since then but I have said, "I must write to mother." So you may be sure when I received your second letter, I lost no time in making up my mind what to do—and now in the first place I will thank you for both your first and last letters for they were excelent (sic)-You hold out wonderfully—No letters that I receive give me so much heartfelt satisfaction as yours. When I open the envelope and see the old familiar hand writing, I can hardly wait till I get it unfolded and read the contents-You need not trouble ourself about reading it-it is plain as print.

(Written in the margin and OVER the first paragraph.)

Hollis was very much pleased that you should remember him, poor fellow, he has one green spot in his desert. Little Charlie is a noble boy and handsome and smart and what is better, he has a good disposition. Aaron's three little girls are all well and bright as diamonds. I do not lack for granddaughters. Well, the more the better. Maybe some of them will cheer my old age. It will depend upon how they are brought up. They will love me if left to their own instincts.

Affectionately, Adelia

My children and myself talk of you often—your visit to Michigan will always be remembered with a great deal of interest. We wish you would come again and stay—you would not be alone much. (?) get together pretty often and each one of has our say whether we agree or disagree—and the beauty of it is none of us take dudgeon at the independence of with which another asserts their opinion. You would be amused to say the least of it. We have had a great number of neighborhood parties this winter. Each one has taken their turn until we have all got around.

There has (been) some very funny things happened in our little community-among the rest Mr. Colton's brother has married Mrs. Ellis's hired girl for his third wife. He is twenty-three years the eldest. She is only 18. He has built a nice house and furnished it-and lately, they have had two house warmings: one for old folks and one for young folks. There was (sic) fifty each time (a?) Very fine rake was used in collecting the

company and if I had time and space, I should like to give you a description of it. Everything for the table was got up in the nicest kind of style-but some of the company was a curiosity.

I have never had such a winter as this-without having anything in particular to do-I have been drove (sic) all the time-There are so many claims upon my time-I have not done anything yet that I was expecting to do this winter. I have had no small chore in knitting and preparing yarn for various purposes-and thought I had them all stockinged, socked and mittened-But Rosa came home from school with Georgie last night and this morning when she started off she said, "Grandma, I do wish you would knit me a pair of long socks to wear to school." I told her I would do it. Last night, she beset me to make her a rag doll—and I promised to do it. She wants it made with legs and have stockings, shoes and pantalettes, a white skirt and a pink basque (? bouquet) and hair on her head.

So Hubble Conklin is married again. He has my best wishes for his happiness. I am sorry to hear Lucinda is so poorly. And so you have seen Mrs. Stark, glad to hear she is in such a thriving condition if she lives, she promises fair to rival her grandfather.

I have just received a letter from Charles. Their child is gaining in health but is very backward-his wife is on the road to Boston again. He wants to have me come out to Muskegon this winter-But I don't think I shall go-it is very difficult to leave home; I cannot go with out George and he does not think he can be gone even one night—We have a new milk cow and a great many other things that must be looked after every day.

We have not had good sleighing yet though thought sleighs are used more than wagons, just at present. There is not snow enough. We have had some awful cold weather yesterday and the day before was dreadful cold. Today, (Tuesday) is quite mild-

The measles are all around us-George has never had them yet I have always kept him away from them and now I dread them worse than ever but he must take his chance.

Notes: Some punctuation has been added. A great many sentences ended with a dash. The underlinings are presented as they are in the original letter.

JAC November 23, 2022.

