

Lenox, Jan. 20. 1860.

My Precious Brother + Sister,

Your choice letter mailed

Nov. 30. as well as the previous one was duly received. The former I received at E. Hampton via Bangs. The latter came a few days since while I was absent on the trip to obtain the accompanying very satisfactory recommendations of my new instrument + book on Land Surveying which I ~~have~~ completed a few weeks since; + which I have got Albert to copy on purpose for you.

The sequel will show ^{no trace} my overwhelming cares labors, anxieties, embarrassments + sickness have so sadly delayed my writing.

In June last we all left home. Mary + Sarah went to Cornwall + remained till the 1st of Dec. Albert stayed at E. H. attending ^{school} most of the time at the Williston Sem. I spent 10 weeks at Brattleboro' overseeing the manufacture of my machinery, working a good deal myself + writing my book. Two weeks before I left through my anxious + exciting labors + a fever atmosphere I was taken with typhoid or brain fever. But by keeping wholly clear of all drugs, bathing my head thoroughly, + very frequently in the coldest water, + walking from 2 to 6 miles every

day, + by the blessing of our kind heavenly Father I kept off
from the bed the whole time except seven hours every
night. Being constantly weighed down however with
~~anxiety~~ terrific anxiety lest the great delay of begin-
ning the work of sale occasioned by the slowness of my
workmen in getting the machinery ready, writing my
book, (an indispensable labor) + my sickness, should
occasion me so serious embarrassment as to throw
me + my enterprise all overboard together, it was
wonderful that I had any reason left, or made
any progress at all in recovery. I at length (i.e. after
two weeks sickness) left all, went to Easthampton
+ stayed at Mr. Larrin's. After about a week, making
19 days of sickness, my fever suddenly relinquish-
ed its hold + I was immediately well, except
weakness + loss of flesh. I then very cautiously
commenced writing again in my book. At the
end of two weeks more I seemed better than I had
been before in a year. I then had had a trial
that almost crushed me in endeavoring through
my kind friend W. G. Knight + my brother to
obtain the loan of \$1000 at the savings bank in
N. Hampton. Mr. L. declined giving his name en-
tirely + through Aschbach's nervousness James was
obliged to decline. At last however, when I had
nearly despaired, Larrin said he would be re-
sponsible for James' part of the matter, if till
Addison could be written to + give him secur-
ity, if James would sign his name to the note,
to which he + Aschbach finally consented. Thus
I obtained the \$1000. But the effort almost
killed me. Now then, just when I was thus
overwhelmed I found myself sick with the
Varioloid!!! Where it came from no mortal can tell.
This laid me by nearly 2 weeks more; + made
half E. Hampton nearly crazy, of whom Mr.
B's wife stood in the front rank. I had it so
light however that I should never ^{have} suspected it,
had there not been a case of small pox in town
~~about the 1st of Dec. I went~~ But the Lord carried me
through it all, made it ~~mean~~ means, of through its influ-
ence upon me, of bringing about as I must believe into
the enjoyment of peace in the Saviour, + I now see that all
has turned out for the best. Do God our Saviour be all the glory.
We all reached Levant in health about the mid-
dle of Dec. praising God's trust for all the way in which
he has led us. The past 8 months after all have been
the happiest of my life. Never before have I so de-
lightfully enjoyed the presence of my Saviour, or so
seen the preciousness of his promises. See next sheet.