

Be sure you have  
your pay 2000  
if you have for  
the Butters men  
I'll of course you  
will make them  
certain, It is  
getting very late  
and I might not  
writing & am willing  
wonder if you do  
not get tired of  
reading it all -  
me please and  
I will try and  
cut with a  
little shorter  
the church in  
join me in  
saying, twice  
to John, B. B. B.  
I'll do our own  
knowing with  
Mary W

Home Farm Feb 12 1899  
(1896)

Dear Husband

Yours of the 9<sup>th</sup> reached me today  
Ever since reading it I have been trying to wake  
up my mind to write and tell you to stay there  
and work on Butters papers I suppose it would  
take at least a month longer to straighten  
up his business, that of course means that  
you would not be home when I am sick  
for I feel sure I will be sick by the middle  
of March now I have gone through it once  
without you and can do so again if you  
think best and it does seem foolish for you  
to give up a good job like that just to be home  
with me when you cannot lessen the pain  
in the least, I presume you would charge  
them the same for your services as you  
have Duckys Bonds men I would not touch  
it for them for less than one hundred per  
month you cannot afford to for there is really

nothing being made at home, and our expenses  
next month will be heavy I have Mrs Lutton en-  
aged to stay with me I will have to pay her five  
dollars per week she thought it was worth that  
I will likely have to keep her two weeks and perhaps  
longer if you are not at home. If you should  
get word any time that you were appointed Agent I  
would say come home when you are through with  
Lucy's business, could you not take the latter matter  
in hand after you were agent, if I was well I would  
feel very different about your being away. I was not  
disappointed because you could not be home by  
the 15<sup>th</sup> as I had already written to you to stay  
untill the 22<sup>nd</sup> or untill you were entirely  
through Dear Papa you know it grieves me  
so because we are so behind and cannot  
meet our obligations that I feel as tho I can  
endure almost any thing in order to see  
some way out of our present condition.

George has been feeding carrots to the cows  
now for some time he told me this evening  
that there was only enough to last untill  
Saturday I suppose we will have to go to  
buying feed again for them I do so dislike  
to buy feed for them for I am sure if we were  
to take every cent that we get from the  
Creamery now it would not pay for feed we  
only have betwene 25 and 30 lbs of milk per day  
from the three cows we are still milking Nancy but

have to keep her shut up in the barn  
all the time whenever she is turned out  
it is just almost impossible to get her  
back into the barn again she gives about one  
half gal- at a milking Pa was out yesterday  
and I asked him to look at the dry cows  
and see if he thought they would come in  
soon he did so and said he thought 2 of  
them would have calves in about two  
weeks, I think those are the 2 that you said  
would come in about the same time  
that I did. Shall I buy feed for the cows  
when the carrots are all gone. I presume you  
are at Summasho tonight. You had better look  
out for Butter or he will step in as Agent  
a head of you. Clifford has never been to SS  
since you left we have spent a great many  
of our Sabbaths in town since you left  
Alvin thinks he will know you all right when  
you get home. Clifford wants me to tell you  
that he will be through his second Reader to  
morrow of course he will have to go through  
it again for there is much of it that he has  
never read having been out of school so many  
days this term he is very anxious for you  
to get home he did not like it much to  
night when I told him you might stay a long

time yet. Oh Papa my heart aches to right  
you can never know how hard it has been  
for me to bring myself to think and say  
it is best for you to remain out there  
when I know so well what is before me but  
you know how earnestly we have prayed for  
some way to be opened to us that we might  
be able to meet our obligations to others - is  
not this an answer to our prayers I think so, and  
I cannot help feeling that it would be very  
wrong not to take up the work if God will. But  
spare our lives nuzzle we meet again we will  
no doubt be all the more happy in the future  
how I long for your sweet kisses and a  
little petting as I call it if there was ever  
a time that I could appreciate it. it is  
now when I am feeling so poorly Papa I do  
love you and when you remember my faults  
~~Remember that my love I said to night~~ but  
the worst is over and I will feel all right in  
the morning, do not let any thing that I have  
written influence you in the least against  
staying out there just as long as you think  
best and as long as you see any money in  
it for you. Papa do not let this letter make you  
feel sad I promise you that I will be more careful  
in the future to hide my feelings tonight I could not help it