

August 12, 1851

B. Wether
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It has been a long time since I have written to you I fear that your patience has by this time become almost exhausted. As an excuse I will say that my time has been very much taken up and my family claim much of my time and attention. You will find enclosed a sheet written by Parson and Daniel in the spring and fore part of the summer they have been wishing to have me write this long time. I hope now to be able soon to gratify them by sending this away. I fear that you will be troubled to read it as it is not written very plain but I think you will be pleased with the information that it gives if it is old news. I received a paper from you last Saturday that was printed in Portland I was very thankful for it as it gave an account of the dedication of the meeting house in Portland also of the part which you took in the exercises this was the more gratifying as we had received no intelligence from you since Mr. Atkins account of your sickness in the home Missionary. I hope that the next that we shall hear will be that your health is restored and that you are able to go on with your labors, but you must use a great deal of prudence for life and health is not to be trifled with.

The last of May I went out to Northington with Almendra and all of the children. We left home about a little after noon on Wednesday got out to sister Bethias between sun down and dark the next day it rained and we stayed there all day. Friday it was still cloudy and some misty, we however went over to father Smiths. The next day I took Parson Daniel and Alfred and started for Senox to make Josiah a visit we rode through Middlefield Becket and Washington and had hills rocks and mud enough. We arrived at Josiahs about 5 o'clock PM they were all well and very much rejoiced to see us. We had a pleasant visit staying there till about 4 o'clock in the afternoon on Monday when we rode to see to see an uncle of Almendas who resides there we spent the night there and started for Northington the next morning arriving there about 8 o'clock in the evening. The next day we got safely home feeling that we had a prosperous journey. Our children have grown a great deal since you were in Easthampton Horace has got to be a great stout boy Parson Daniel and Alfred go to school and have thus far made good improvement They have a much better chance of to make improv^{ment} than we had when we were children.

Nov. 13 You will think it straining that we have kept this letter so long after commencing it. I intended to have sent it soon after I wrote 3 months ago but Addison and Lauren had sent letters and I thought you would like it better. If I waited a while and I have waited til this time. In the mean time a considerable amount of news

accumulated. We have just finished harvesting our corn
we had an excellent good crop I should think that we
might have a few bushels over 4 hundred. we had
a frost about the middle of Sept. which did a good
deal of damage to late corn a few days before
the frost it was very warm and continued so for
more than a week. Saturday towards night we
had a slight rain accompanied with a blow
off Sabbath day was cold and Monday morning
the corn was killed and we had some frost for 4 nights
so that corn that was not cut up grew worse very
fast there was not a great deal cut up before
the frost. We had commenced cutting ours and
had got nearly one third cut up before the frost
and we increased it to about one half the day
after. Our corn was the most of it ripe that
the frost did not injure it very much what was
green grew in the bunch. Some corn was very bad
by injured especially that which was in Northampton
and down. We have had some exciting times in the political
affairs of our state this fall. Last fall the Locofoco and free soil
united and carried the state. Consequently we lost
our good Gov. Briggs and had a Loco Gov. in his room. This
year the coalition had become more complete and they had
become quite confident of success. There was
a general delirium among the whigs that they should
not. They accordingly rallied under the banner
of Robert C. Winthrop for Gov. and the result was warm on
all sides the result has been that there is no election
but the people. The whole number of votes cast was
137,000 Winthrop had 65,000 which left him about
7,000 short of an election. In the Senate the whigs had
11 and the coalition 15. In the house, the whigs had
at the last accounts from 25 to 30 majority which
is believed by the whigs to be enough to secure the
election to the whigs. If this should prove to be the
result it will be gratifying to the whigs. As the coalition
had done their utmost to destroy the whigs. The Rev Mr
Manord of Casleton Vermont. staid with us over
night a little more than a week since. He was getting
subscribers for the Independent. He seemed anxious
that you should have the reading of it. He said that
if some one would pay for half of it he would pay for the
rest. He is quite strong Anti Slavery a good deal more
it. It is quite strong Anti Slavery a good deal more
so than the puritan. I think when Lauren wrote last
Mother was quite sick. She has since been a good deal
better although she is not now very well. She is not
able to do much work. Father is afraid that she is
not a going to get along very much. I do not know how
it will turn out but it dose not look very encourage
ing at present. We know that our trials and changes
await us in this world and that in a little while we
shall have done with earth and all things below.
happy will it be for us if when we have done with this
world we are prepared for that better world above
where peace and joy shall forever reign. We have
for the most part enjoyed comfortable health. Daniel
is not very well. His stomach is out of order
he has had a number of times of vomiting of bile
that it will be any thing lasting and that he will soon
get over it. With much affection I remain
your ever dear brother
Daniel F. Lyman

offer if you receive you letter last spring I talked much of sending you a barrel of dried

When I received your letter last evening I felt as if I ought to write to you at once. I have not yet done so, but I have been thinking of it ever since. I have been in Oregon before, but here it is said to be the worst of the state every year. I have taken my little ones, and have gone to the children here, and have had a very rough time. I have heard that you must have many times thought of dear absent friends, with thrilling interest, and could they have stood around your bed to administer to your wants & provide you with the most comfortable and comfortable things, it would have been an inexpressible comfort. But it does us good to learn that though absent from us, you were surrounded still by friends that were ready to do what they could for you. We received your letter last evening and read with deep interest Atkinson's account of your sickness, we would tender to all those dear friends that so kindly ministered to you in those dark days, our warmest gratitude, but they would not, that God who thus raised up help for you among those that were so short time since strangers, bestowed on them (I don't not) that satisfaction they would be unwilling to part with. I think I can appreciate their feelings, & to have stood around the sick & dying bed of those far from the home of their friends, it is sweet to that we are adding so much business to the cup so full of sorrow. I hope from being so much interested in you they will be so much the more benefited by your labors among them. Oh Sister you did need great support thus to stand by the feet of your beloved dying husband, yet that arm on which I trust you were able to lean even in that dark hour

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is mighty ^{the} he bears the earth, & fills it up
And spreads the heavens & abroad. And while he
gives dying grace to one he can as easily give sustaining grace
to the other so that you could say from the heart - "Though
the fig tree should not blossom & yet will I rejoice in
the Lord and joy in the God of my & salvation; you
had a long discouraging time after your little Sarah
was born we often thought and spoke of you, the more
so, as Sister C was so sick her Mother was with her
much her Sister was with her nine weeks or more
we used to say poor Mary has no Mother & Sister
were they can go to her we hoped you would not need
them so much as you did I hope should you again
be in like circumstances, you would try putting the
babe to the breast soon as drest let it draw out all
these is in them; (that will be but little I know but it
will be some) be careful that none of it gets on the
outside then dry the nipple with a cloth every time
it nurses for a week or more and I think you will
not be troubled with sore nipples, I have great ^{confidence} in this
1st as being the direction of one a physician in
whom I place great confidence & I have known of its
being tried with great success; I have never known what
it was to have mine peell tender except when Thora was
ten months old they were shudly cracked I thought that was
as much as I could well endure. But how do you do
now I have talked long enough of times long since gone
by, how does little Sarah get along does run about has she
been a quiet child; if she has has it not been more to take
care of her than you had anticipated even when you
have both been well do tell me how you have found
that, and how you find it now how did you get milk for
her We have had a bottle for our little Eunice, Annemie
I have nursed her what I could that has not been though
I thought that little a great help night, my health has been much
better than when she was a baby, from first to last

Mother Sympson is quite sick I hope Lambertin will write soon