

of my friends if
any inquire after us, not
unless they do.
That this may find you
all well & comparatively
happy is the wish of
your Sister,
Valley

No. A. E. Street
Hingham, Mass.

Elm Grove Nov. 2nd. 1854

My Sister Ann,

I wish you was here, so that I could
talk with you & see you, & see how much older you look, than you did
about 13 months ago, - but, it wain't wishing in these "hard times" I find; so
I will take the only way I have to express my thoughts to you.
The sun shines warm today, but the wind is N.W. & feels cold & chilly.
I am alone & have been ever since morning. It is now about half past 3 A.M. P.M.
The wind sounds mournfully as it whistles through the trees & the leaves are
falling & blowing thick & fast all around the house. It begins to look like winter
although it pleasant & warm for the season. I told Lucinda the name you sent
for her baby; she is going to name it that name, she says. Susan & she both
said they thought it the prettiest name they had heard of. L. says it is a
very pretty name & a very pretty baby & tell you that you will have to make
it a pretty present when you see it, she knows. She says that Phoebe is John's
girl & you may have this one if you want it, & as you both are school teachers you
can educate them to suit yourselves. For my part, I think you are having lots
of visitors & making lots of visits since I left home; wish I could see them all
out here, but am quite sure I never shall. Well, well, make them all promise
to come there again when I come home. I think Joel makes you a visit often.
I have seen Samuel, but not long enough to tell him what you wrote him.
I did not tell him last evening as I thought Jo's folks need not hear every
word that was written. By the way has Abby Miller heard from Henry
lately, & how is her baby getting along in these days? Give my love to
Grandmother when you see her, also to Uncle John & family.

Is it that school house near Leas. Wm. Tatters, that you are going to
teach in this winter? Are you going to board rounds? Is John going to
teach at Ussuepang this winter. Is the "School Report" printed yet? if it is
please send one if you have it to spare. I like to keep posted in the
school affairs of S. Ho. as well as every thing else, for before all states in
east or west, I like the state of "Rhody" best. & of course have the most
interest in the affairs there. I like this country well enough, - but - the
people O dear! at few exceptions however. I am going to put in some
flower seeds, that I want you or Chae to plant next spring. "Max Wicks" is the
name of it. I sent you & mother a paper last week, suppose you
have got them. Tell Chae I guess I will send her one next week.
Tell her I want her to come out & make butter for me, for I have got
the salt rheum in my hands now. I have not been troubled with it before
since last spring. Can't she better come out & eat a prairie chicken soup.
I would invite John, but expect he is too fat & lazy to come.
By the way I received a letter from Chary Frank. S. last week. Was pleased
to hear from her. Tell mother to keep my berries till I come, for I
expect I shall go to Bro. S. as soon as any one from here that I am
acquainted with. I would give a bit for a good huckleberry jammy cake for my
supper. I say like what John writes once in while, "I do love good things".
Ann. we was talking a while ago when I was down to Jess's, how long ago it
was since Thomas P. Wells second wife died & whether he lived at Kingston
or Wakefield when he married his last wife. I could not tell exactly about
either. I want you to stop some time when you are passing the Kingston
burying place & look on his wife's stone & write me when she died.
And tell where he lived when he was married last, if you or any of the
rest recollect. Can't see I have written you a long letter this time, so
you must write as long as one to me in answer, if you don't I shan't
speak a good word to Mrs. W. for you. My love to C. & Becca & the rest