

weather are you having now in N.S.? I think you must have had
a very bad storm some where that way, for there has no mail
come from the east, in about a week, the ^{reason} supposed to be
snow at the east, so that the cars cannot come through. I
received your letter last Mon. but suppose it came to Danvers
the Friday or Sat. before. I expect I shall look in vain for
a letter, for several days or perhaps a week to come, but
I shall try not to grumble at the weather, for He that ruleth
the storm & sunshine "doeth all things well". I hope when
the mail does come I shall get lots of letters &c. Our
newspapers for last week have not come of course, so we
have no news, only what we find in the Danvers paper.
By the way I will tell you our list of weekly & monthly
news, (I mean Jesse's folks & us) Jesse has D. Gazette, & S.
Tribune, ^{at Nelson's} American Union. Samuel, Ballou's Dollar
monthly magazine. & we the Star Spangled Banner.
Nelson & I sent to-gather for our papers & we get the 2
for three dollars. They are both printed at the same office
but not a piece ~~at~~ in theme. But enough of snake
matters. We are well, hope you are all well about Kingston.
I think you must have had a very severe storm in N.S.
by your accounts. I believe the wind has blown down some
houses at the west this winter. The Windmill about half
a mile south of us, had the ~~shaft~~ & every arm & part of the
roof blown off week before last. I will describe this mill to
you for I think it will please you to hear. It is about such a building

as your crib, perhaps a little higher. One end of it rests on a large
spile driven in the ground, which serves for a pivot for the
mill to turn on, under the other end, there is attached an
axle & two wheels & there is a "track" laid for them to run on
when the mill is turning, (the whole building turns) the turn-
ing power is a set of smaller arms on opposite end of the mill
from the larger ones, & there is some kind of gearing attached
to the wheels under the mill & to these little arms, so that
the wind turns the building as the wind changes, & so
brings the large arms right for grinding. The large arms are
ten in number, & the sails are of boards, & of course cannot
be taken off at pleasure. I have described it now as well
as I can, but don't know as you can understand it. It is
what I call a "Science" Windmill, what say you, & all
the folks? I think your lawsuit is a funny one, but much
like all their doing of the kind in Ct. 4. I don't see why
they give Mr. Chappell any office, he never held one
honorably yet, did he? I guess Morse has not Baldwin's spunk
has he? If I had been in Morse's place I would have spit
in Chappell's & Baker's face before I left the court room.
The teacher in this district (I told you they had hired an English
man, as he asked for it, a long time ago) is turned off, but they allowed him the use
of the school house, so he teaches two days in a week gratis.
I don't know all the reasons they had for turning him off,
but one I heard was, that he called his scholars "ignorant devils".

I am going to send you a piece of this shirt, It is 1/2 of a yard wide price 15 cents per yd.

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in the schoolroom & he told the scholars they did not know their
"how & he's & he's." I guess had no government in his school. I don't
suppose he was ever fit to teach anything; for he don't know
much himself I guess. He is a married man about 35 years old
I should think; He lives near the schoolhouse. I have seen him
several times. He has worked for Jesse by the day some since I came
to Iowa. I don't like his appearance at all. Iowa is a little
"ahead of you yet I think. The schools in the country districts
here are of but little value, for they need good strict
teachers. All the people that I have talked with say,
"if we could only get such good teachers as they have
at the east; we would hire them at their own prices."
If you see any that want to come west, just speak a good
word for Iowa. Horace says you better not be making fuss
of his "corn husk," says give his love to all inquiring friends, keeping
a share for J. Giff's family. I don't know as there is much more
so tell you this time, Oyes! I like to forget to tell you about
our having some Indian meal, well we have got a bush, at last
but such meal, it coarser than common chicken meal. I have
tried to make some pony cakes of it & we eat a little of them
for the sake of having some pony cake & butter. I think you
would laugh to see us eating such meal. They say the stones in
this country are not hard enough to grind corn fine, but
I guess they don't know how, for the corn is a deal softer than
eastern corn. Horace says it is much better to feed in the
grain, than N. S. corn; on account of it's being so soft.

I think I shall not mail this untill Wednes. for I don't
know as it will go there but maybe the mail will get