

P.S. Will you forward
this note to Caroline
soon you will see
why. I guess you
ought to visit her
soon - this time.
I haven't any more
stamps this morning
& I haven't time
to only say a
word to her -

1861?

Mon. morning - Mar 18.

Dear brother J. J.

I designed writing you
quite a little letter last evening - even tho' it
was Sabbath evening telling you something about
our Sab. school - church &c - but I had such a
sneezing cold, I couldn't open my eyes & I muddled
my hands to attend on my nose. This morning
I feel some better & altho tis only twenty nine -
before the unwelcome bill will begin to bang
ahang, I will try to say something to you by
way of thanks for my nice present. Henry
has told you that the man Bell really
came & also that the bundle was immediately
forwarded to us. The letters we devoured eager-
ly - the daguerrestypes I kept open for several
days, before I could feel that I had seen
them half enough - Floy danced & clapped
her hands at the sight of the book & boots - &
to make the matter short we had a general
jubille all the evening. The book Floy read

tho' before she could go to bed - her boots had outgrown her a little, as she says, on their long journey - so I exchanged them for a size larger & she sends many thanks & kisses to both the uncles so far away for their kind remembrances of her. My boots I was delighted with - they fit like a glove & are the nicest boots I ever had.

I like the thick soles much & have shown them to all the cullers I have had. To say "thank you" for them sounds lame - & Henry has told you that my gratitude wd be in proportion to the size of the boot - if that was true it would be small in comparison to some people - say Mrs. Bell for example - but some time when your wife is in the land of poor goods & high prices, I will remember her in a similar manner -

I was sorry to hear that she or Abby had run back so as to give up her school - tho' you said she was well or nearly so when you wrote, I am afraid she ought not to try to teach again, if it is so hard for her. Will she persist in trying once more? A summer school will be easier in some respects than a winter one & may be the warm weather is beneficial to her. You

did not tell us the matter with her. Why not?

I wish Jory B. could be realising more money but I suppose he has the best thing he could get & he can trust Providence implicitly for the future. It's good that he can have Emma's company amid his troubles. My best-love to him & tell him he must answer our letter as soon as possible. We had a letter from Pauline two weeks since telling us of some things there.

We are pretty well & hard at work - Having 45 scholars each, in regular attendance beside a few more stray ones. Mon eve. we wash. Tues, eve H. attends his debating club while I iron - Wed eve we both go to the prayer meeting Thurs, eve Kirke has a spelling school, while I bake & Friday evening we have the unspeakable felicity of remaining at home, but some one always comes in, so that Henry can't read or write, tho' I saw. Sat morning we brew, bake, sweep & clean & dust generally & in the afternoon if Henry can get up stairs before some one comes in, he writes, but often he gets caught below & is detained for hours. In the evening he attends a rehearsal & I go to the

ministers & learn my Sab. school lesson.
Sunday Henry sings bass in a quartette choir -
in the morning - goes again at quarter before two
& sings with the scholars half an hour while I
play - he then takes his charge as Supt. of the
Sab. sch & I have a class of young ladies - Mr.
Pond left me on his departure. He has to
stay until nearly five to make up the acct's
in the books & at seven go again to church -
So you see we have to keep the watch before
us & work by minutes. Henry is not very
well - last week he had a kind of bilious colic
& had the Dr. several days. Indoor work gives
him a kind of dyspepsia & he has had a colic
more or less for a year. Then his monetary affairs
trouble him so much, he gets no peace.

My health is remarkably good & has been all
winter - I am as hungry as a bear every meal
& have very little sick headache -

My people are well - I lately heard from
all. The famous melodeon is expected today
Henry had not money to pay charges for a long
time. Excuse haste. With heaps upon heaps
of love & good wishes - I am as ever
Yrs affect
Sister - Jennie Bent.