

Barre, Vt., Jan. 28. 1848.

Respected Brother, -

I received your kind and obliging letter of the 8th inst., yesterday, and though I have not again permitted, as you requested, to return an answer the same day, it was received, yet, it being the day after, it is with the greatest cheerfulness that I dictate these lines to you.

I am very glad to hear of your health and prospects, and that of our friends in Pennsylvania. I supposed, however, you would stay at home and take care of Father, Mother, and Alice; and was some what surprised to find you away from home, and rather desirous to try your fortune in the far West. I certainly think, from what I gain from your letters, that you have some considerable tact for business; yet I should think, in view for you to become a finished Yankee School Master, at best, - I do not know what your other acquirements are, you needed a little more taste in your writing, your spelling is good, but your writing is bad, and as to your punctuation in your letters, there is hardly a point in the whole letter. You will pardon these observations, for, I presume that they will not destroy your importance among the "Barkskins of Pennsylvania."

We have had, thus far, the mildest winter for Vermont, ever known by the oldest inhabitants. We have no sleighing at all this season, and weather as warm as April, with the exception of a few days. I rode down to Montpelier yesterday, and I never trod the road, when a waggon ran so freely. We had a little snow last evening,

say two inches, but the sun shines out this morning warm,
and it will soon disappear.

Since I wrote you in Aug. last, I have not heard from
Nannah and family, notwithstanding I have written to them;
indeed, Nanny, you are the only one in our family who will
write me, without costing me time and degrading them
their letters are worth, I do most sincerely hope you will
continue in this good way. I have not learned anything
in particular from our Father and Stockbridge friends, since you
heard from me. Father and Mother Wheat, and informed you
are at Ralph Wards; we have received two letters from them
lately, declaring that the old gentleman is quite out of health,
and the prospects are quite unfavorable as to his recovery.

On the 31st of last Oct. we had a fine son born. He
continued to grow finely, and weighs about 15 lbs. We call him
Richard Edgar. Mrs. Richards has been very poorly, however,
at present she has regained her health. Mary during the fall has
been very much afflicted with her humors, yet at present she is
quite well, and matters ahead, and is looking finely. In
summing up the blessings of Divine Providence, I trust we
are thankful for the past, and are ready with confidence to
trust ourselves in the hands of God for the present and future.
We may rest assured that, however much this world may
sparkle and glitter, it never did, nor can it meet our
whole condition; we need something on which we can stand
with exulting hope, when this world is laid low, or
when we must depart from it forever. But something is

the personal enjoyment of the religion of Christ. We should identify our selves with piety and virtues; this is the duty of all men without limitations.

In reference to my journey to Perry, Iuanin, and so on to the South or West, I shall design to start sometime in the latter part of Aug, or the beginning of Sept, next. If things should render favorable, you may expect me at that time; however, I wish you to write me, which will be the best road for me to take.

1. To go by the way of Albany and New York City and so on the Erie Rail Road to the waters of the Susqueanna; or 2. To Albany, and to Utica and so on the Chenango canal; or 3. To keep on West of Utica to the lakes, and then turn South to the waters of the Susqueanna.

Our conference will hold its next session at our Chapel in this place, on the 5th day of July next, and immediately after that I will write again, and inform you more definitely about the business. I wish you to write me again in course of a month or two, at least.

You will present our affectionate regards and good wishes to Father, Mother, Alice, and to Franklin and his family.

Mr. Verdy Bedford.

I remain as ever,
Most Affectionately yours,
V. Bedford.

D.O. K Feb. 13 1848

Lycoming County, Pa.

Henry Charles

Charles

Received Sunday 15 February