Eau Claire, Aug 22nd, 1858

Dear Sister.

It is long since I have penned a line to you. I have had so much to do, & so many cares that it has seemed impossible to write; but Oh how much I have wanted to see you & unburden my whole heart. Shall I never have that privilege again?

My health has been good considering the family I have had to do for this summer. I have had two boarders most of the time untill a few weeks since they left. Since that time we have been alone except brother Erastus; this morning he left on the boat to go back east. It seems hard to part with him, but I suppose it is all for the best. He has never been well pleased with the place (there is nothing like Boston with him) & is so afraid to go into business that we could not encourage him to do so. Although we think he might do well, poor brother he is so downhearted & discouraged. I do not know what will become of him, how much he has failed since we left Mass. He seems like a broken down old man; how much he has reminded one of Father. There is nothing but farming that he dares to go into out here. He has been talking about buying one (may come back & buy it yet); if he should, would want us to carry if on for him.

Now Sarah, I want you to write me, tell me all about his wife. What do you think of her? Would I live with her? Tell me just what you think of her, do not be so afraid to say what you want to to me. His health has improved since coming here, & I am very confident it would be better for them to come here if they could only be contented, but if they cannot
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had rather they would never come. As for ourselves we like as well as ever & have not any desire to seek another home in this world.

I suppose you know Sister Almira was married last spring. It is now sometime since I have heard from her, or from Lysander. I must write them soon. We have had rather a wet season & a good deal of warm weather; so that wheat in many places has rusted. Corn looks well, but will not be out of their way of frost untill about two weeks more. Yesterday & today the weather is quite cool; we are almost afraid of a frost tonight.

Joseph H has been at Glen Haven ever since he first went there which was soon after he left Greenfield, is about well & will soon return home I suppose. We last week had a letter from Lemuel; his health is very poor, has some fears his lungs are diseased. The rest of the family are well as usual. Lydia has two children.

I do not remember of seeing that letter you speak of which was written to Sister. Let the past go. Could you see each other I think a satisfactory history of circumstances would be given, & both would view things in a different light. Of course both would feel different, but as that is uncertain as to seeing each other, I would advise you to write. I think you would get an answer, a correspondence ought to be kept up.

We have accounts of great revivals of religion in the eastern states. I have sometimes thought perhaps the Millenium was about commencing; God grant the good work may
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continue, & that we may share in its blessed fruits.

May thanks for all the papers you have sent. I would send you some but have none to send. I hear from cousin Parley occasionally. I have not heard from Mrs Haynes for sometime past, all well when I did. I believe I must close for this time as I have a number of letters to write having neglected all my correspondence. Please answer this immediately, & do not fail to give me a good description of all that I want to know. Do not keep this letter.

Our love to yourselves & all enquiring friends. L A Hastings