Learyville, Jan. 29, 1852

Dear Sir,

I have made up my mind to do something for you, other than farming. I have already been for some time acquainted with the money department, and I am now going to learn the details of it. I am going to take some of the railroads in hand, if my work is wanted, and to procure for you the information you require.

I think you will be surprised if you find, when you visit the place, that the situation is not as you expected. I shall be glad to give every assistance in my power, and if you should find it necessary to use my information, oh the subject, you will take the trouble to write me.

Respectfully yours,

[Signature]
Dear Sir,

Upon long tedious confinement I more than a month of my dearly beloved Henry departed from us! He has suffered much of death and woe.

Kensington, May 26, 1761.

This is the sixth week among the fever.

I have been confined to the house since 12th. with the influenza—have never been in bed since, except to cough and a high fever.

May 18th. I am convalescent in body. God grant it may be so. From an old friend,

The aging Williams
[Handwritten text not legible]
Richmond Feb 24, 1833.

Dear Sir,

A resolution has been passed by the House of Delegates on the 13th instant to instruct the Board of Public Works to have a survey made and an examination of the most practicable route for a canal from the North River in the county of Prince Edward to the Elizabeth River, and an estimate of the advantages and disadvantages of said canal, and the practicability and costs thereof. As the latter has no engineer at present, Mr. Crozet having resigned, I have taken the liberty to ask you if you can spare so much time as will enable you to make the survey and estimate. The distance is short and will not require much of your time.
you will grant this favour, I am very respectful, your obt. servant.

[Signature]

Col. Baldwin

[Note: The handwriting is difficult to decipher, with many smudges and corrections.]
Dear Mother,

The letter of 12 January reached me yesterday. As I read it, I was very much moved by the contents. You have mentioned your concern about my health and your love for me. I am glad to hear that you are doing well. I have been feeling better myself.

I am writing to you today to express my gratitude for your concern. I have been thinking a lot about my future and what I want to do. I am considering some options and will keep you updated on my decisions.

I miss you all very much and wish I could be there with you. I hope to visit soon and see all of you again.

With love,
[Signature]
My loving friend,

There are several more than forty letters to you; not to let you see one more. I know that the whole as has been the letter. I beg you to hear every time it was heard. It was a very dear mother - It has been a dear mother. Sometimes it was too hard to listen to; - It has been sickly too: do that as little as possible. Your health is better, and it does you a world of good. - Let time be a short visit, but a very pleasant one to us. This is good ad. That I knew every one of your family were really sorry when we went away. Of lettuce, we had only 20 or 30 pounds, as well as money. Seems to be in good health.
Matter and things in general, have gone not uneventful with us in Charleston this winter. Conflicts with the social circle of the previous season and Christmas reigned as the principal event. Except a small number, who preferred Gunther's, the weather was not favorable for any social gathering. A few of our nearest friends were present on this occasion, and the circulation of a pleasant flow of conversation seemed to renew the feelings of old acquaintances.

A letter was sent to one of our friends in N. Orleans, and a rather sad letter from M. S. Newell to the others. We have had a few days of rest, which is much needed after the long and busy season. The hall, so quiet, filled with the voices of the children, before the letters came to the close.

We had a fine day on the 28th, and a President was found at the town hall, and provided with a band of music to the New Orleans. When the Newell gave a very handsomely adorned, very pleasing, and was unusually acceptable. In the evening, the President of the Institute was present, and the occasion was quite enjoyable by its sober spirit.

The girls of the town, especially the younger ones, were very much affected by the music, and some of the older ones, who were in attendance, were heard to remark that it was the best concert they had ever heard.

In conclusion, the President of the Institute expressed his approval of the performance, and the audience was much pleased with the concert. The music was very pleasant, and the audience was much pleased with the performance.
Berlin March 31, 1832

I have called at Nagy Agent Office to find your bill included your Travelling Expenses (91.05) I should have got a rather thanks for this amount but for an error in the distance which should have been 607 Miles instead of 665 as charged in your bill — 607 Miles is the shortest land route as shown by the plan. I am further told to Nagy Agent I he cannot pay any more than that allows him.

I have been erased this item in your account now stands for 1000 for services only if you will send on your bill with your name at the bottom I can get the paper for travelling 607 Miles 815 Tens of 91.05 — This you had better forward above it settled when the money is paid in the name of the Agent. — We have nothing new — no letter from George by yesterday.

Yours affectionate brother G. B. Madison.
Boston May 10, 1833.

Dear Sir,

I intend to leave America in the middle of the month of May for Europe, there to spend a year or more in travelling through England, France, and other countries, the public works of which it is necessary for an engineer to become acquainted with. You having been in Europe, I shall consider it a great favor if you will render me any assistance, either by letting to me any of the works you became acquainted with when you became acquainted, or advice in respect to them, or works of similar improvements. I think it would be of advantage to me to visit. I am not acquainted with the time that you would be back from Norfolk, and for this reason I have been inclined to write you. Furthermore, if you can inform me how long your brother George intends staying in England, I shall be much obliged to you. Your old friend,

R.M. Balch.
E. P. Benjamin

Exeter House

June 14th 1802

Dear Sir,

I am happy to learn that the President is satisfied with the state of the negotiations, and that he has not been hurried into any arrangement by the necessities of the moment. I was, however, unwilling to repeat the mistake in refusing to purchase the necessary amount of flour. I was also pleased at hearing the details of the treaty with the Empire, and I feel assured that it will be favorable both to the interests of the country and to the government. I hope you will write me at once when it is necessary to your interests. I am sure that you will find the negotiations of the friendly nations of the world will give you every encouragement in this important matter.

Respectfully,

E. P. Benjamin

Exeter House
I will also endeavor to keep cool, just until you return, and that then you can harmonize the matter between us. It is without having to love and judge you what so pretty cut, if you were your heart, come in to the temperature of the climate, I still have not the same feelings. How I wish I could do, and now to the same extent, and be sure of you. I am now writing down language. I must be silent, and communicate nothing. In short, the same feelings, to buy a bottle of wine, I have seen, and not to be an ass, or get up of my bed, I am true to one, and to one, and thus, you have seen. Now, I must be quiet, come out with my heart, and refrain from high praise, or my heart's desire, must be said. Now take me all your words with the matter of the temperature. Some place and giving your words, just till the time, and thus, the air, it was possible to keep cool, or endure, for otherwise, and as to quiet I was nearer you, I felt the peace I felt, and a calmness of language, for which you know both are peace. I had been here the whole time, and I will not repeat, I have been, I have been here the whole time, you may think we had some storms on - I am sure your words, which were words I by turning to the usual words on the book, you will know.
L. Baldwin Co.  
Boston

Dear Sir,

Confirming an agreement of 19th inst., I have now to advise that in virtue of your instructions I applied for the amount of my investments on your account to Mr. W. W. Whipple who agreed to take my half in Timothy Williams Co. at $39.50 for $59.50, which amount is made up as follows:

$273.65  paid at the exchange of $9.

$59.50 at the exchange of 59.50.

Always much at your service. Remember truly,

Dear Sir,

Yours truly,

S. A. Whipple
Dear Tim,

I am about laying some stone work for my saw mill dam. It has been the practice to lay the wall, then apron it and cover it with gravel.

In 8 or 10 years the dam leaks too much for such a small stream as my mill is situated upon. Will it be tight (without gravel) to lay the rough stone in New York or cheap water line, or would it cost too much?

From a to b I propose to make it a 5 ft. thick and 20 ft. long also from c to d on the south side.

This is the old dam, repaired a squared both ends at the &.

Will you ask Mr. Cullinane to give you an answer to the above querys and send them to me? — Mark is the price of N. York line? What proportion of Water line to Bolton line, it must be used immediately. Would it answer to take away the gravel from the old dam i point the wall? (My name)

Mr. I have Virginia hard apples even to make you a 50 lbs. cider — the nett result are all on the grafts the coked on the tree


[Diagram with measurements and notes on the page]
My Dear Sir,

These few lines come to you now, since I foresaw they would reach you on Monday. I am about to leave for Baltimore and remain there three days, when I intend to visit Philadelphia. My expectations are that I shall have an opportunity to call on you, and if so, I shall do so.

I have been very busy, and have received many letters from friends in Philadelphia. I hope to return to Norfolk as soon as possible, and shall be happy to call on you then.

I am in good health, and shall be pleased to see you soon.

Yours truly,

[Signature]

Philadelphia, Thursday, Jan. 11th, 1832.
Dear Mother,

George in his last letter to London, April 25, says: "You in the last letter to London, April 25, says: "You now know about the great change in our lives as a result of the sale of the house. I am very much pleased with the letter you wrote yesterday about the account of the debts at the bank in Philadelphia. As I do not wish to be a burden to you, I am enclosing a note to pay the balance of the money. I am very sorry to have given you so much trouble."

I have been very busy lately, but I hope to return to Philadelphia soon. I am writing to you to tell you how much I miss you and how much I wish I could see you soon. I am enclosing a letter from Mr. Smith, who has been kind enough to write to me. He is in Philadelphia and says he will be here soon. I am very much looking forward to seeing him."

I hope this letter finds you well. Please write and let me know how you are."

Your loving son,

[Signature]

Boston May 6, 1855
has seen them. He has sent me a set of stories from Tennessee. If I would consent at it —

Carroll's face is so drawn. He does not seem to be ready to break out with a smile. He

Mr. Smith was in the course of a fortnight. I think —

All are all quite well. Your wife has arrived within a quarter day. Nothing is now

Mr. Dew Williams called at the noon hour to see us — We have nothing more. I think if we meet

I wish to say uncertain whether we or either of us can see you this winter. Mr. Bowden would like the journey you proposed but the settling with contractors

I was on the farm during most of the winter. The weather is uncommonly warm. It would have been since Election Day 2 

I think your head must have come up for it seems time to break ours.

Farewell. — Very affectionately yours,

J. H. Bellows.