Dear Parents

[Text is difficult to read due to the condition of the document.]

[The text is partially legible and appears to discuss the writer's experiences and thoughts, mentioning someone named "John", and the importance of health and personal well-being.]

[The letter ends with a few final remarks and a signature.]
[Handwritten text not legible]
Dear Parent,

We received your last letter yesterday evening about the last night I saw you and you are coming to see us so i feel I will be coming in every town for you and I am sure I will not be deceived. Dear me you answered and said I had in my last letters about the weather. I hope that the bad weather is not too bad as you say in your letter and I don't know what Weather relating to the coming and for I should you would thank me not want to see you but as for such a thought Vere enter all my clothes if I should be guilty of such a thing I would be extremely happy that the weather was not too bad as you say. I have been very cold and not going to give him a new blanket coat. I have not the only one that I have been told that we are going very long and the house is very cold and the beds are very cold and the sheets are very bad. And to your letter it is to very cold and the snow is very heavy and the wind is very strong. The snow is very heavy and the wind is very strong and the snow is very heavy and the wind is very strong and the snow is very heavy and the wind is very strong.
Lunenburg, May 10 1st 1840

My Dear Parents - you must forgive me for not writing sooner. I have writ to you often as I possibly could. I placed me almost to death so that I am going to see my dear parents so soon - but if I don't want you to come here on my account by the post I am going to stay with them by all possibility at least 1 do not know what you were writing about all this time I know now I suppose now I can get a letter from you soon no more than they have acted a great deal within, well they treat me much better they found out that I was going to leave now they want to keep me. We will stay as long as they will keep me. I will stay as long as they will keep me for your sake as my best. Please let me know how things stand.
Dear sir,

Yesterday we received your letter dated the 15th of April, and in the same tenor you stated that you were in great haste to have your bond signed. It has always been my custom to act with dispatch in all cases, but I must say that your letter gives me an opportunity to attend to the business. I have been in the office all day, and I am ready to sign the bond. Please come to the office at your earliest convenience, and we will sign the bond.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
Dear Parents,

I must excuse me for not writing sooner last week. I was up most all the night in barracks to I could not write then. Now you are very anxious to know what my intentions are. I can tell them in a few words. I thought you Pa could take the hint that I wanted to leave you so you would let me come on to Washington. That were my intentions. I think if you would have known you would have taken the hint but I must quite honest I don’t believe you must not be tired that I judge buy deed I told it to Tom in a joke, though the Poor devil did come pretty near kicking the bucket the other week on twelv two big dogs. I understand the whole.

Very rough the other day, you must not think I want any money. Mr. I told you that I lived so here it was a little thing I got hire which I would not ask the help of for such as tooth powder & Brush to keep my teeth from rotting out my head. The dollar you framed of course I got paid. If I wonder at you saying unsuccessful. Not Pa the smartest men in the universe has hard help it here an unsucees full but I think I can think it out till you come or at least – Oh Pa I have a favor to ask of you. I am almost afraid to ask it. It is mean in one to think of such a thing, but to live any way decent I must do the favor for you. He left me get a pair of pants & a shoe or a shoe & socks. I must have my shoes to go to church every Sunday a see people above you within you inch of them I want them for summer. I will get them as cheap as possible all the exercise I get is going to my pecau, that is not enough for me now. I need. I can not getting most pleasant home lived here just to think that I can only a very lousy sum of money from old Eto. That may happen 500 Dollars can’t take some, there is lots of fun here being the people falling back from the boat. First getting a shocking. I saw the Natives drinking from boat yet. There was an old gaud named boy had money where a tried to run. He got Holding of a boat the Constable went down to the boat but he was not willing to come of. The Constable got him close to the side of the boat. He thrown him right overboard they both gone head first in the river then they both tumble in the water. We both laugh ourselves to tears since.

Portsmouth 1845 22 Feb 1845
Dear Parents,

I read your kind letter dated 28th with much pleasure. I read the one also that you sent to me by Mr. Russell. Oh, my Parents, you cannot imagine what joy it gave me to see what party presents you sent us. To you, thought by me telling you the kind of a vest I wanted one to be made was a hint for you to send one by Mr. Russell.

The reason I told you this was that I wanted you to know it; I did not want you to spend so much money for a vest as you cannot imagine how much joy it gave me. My dear Ma, I am so well pleased with my Bozom, you could not have pleased me better. I thank you both one hundred times. I cannot be satisfied than anything I want to help you both that many times. So I don't see what you want me to go to Mr. Russell's for when he has another.

Chase besides how much one clt. would be sufficient besides Mr. Russell has just started up. I can't support so many Clek's as I would prefer not going. So I wish that you would write 4 days old or more at once, for I am coming to hear...
...I have made up my mind what to do. I am very sorry that it will not stay here till I am kicked out of the store. I see you are still bound for the Military Building. I think myself that it would be better for your health riding about on your gun.
Portsmouth, March 24th

My Dear Parents,

you must scold me for not writing sooner. I have been thinking a long time about what has passed and concluded at last what to do if it would be to your pleasure to do. I have been thinking that it would be best for you not to leave Washington to come here. I was just going to say if you would let me come on there I would help you in the office all that I could in enjoying your letters and the chances to me you could get me in business; there if not so I could spend my time in study and reading. I have all my Latin & Greek books in my trunk and I will promise you tacitly that I will improve my time and besides I have formed reading habits I never knew before. What a great interest it is to a prisoner in reading. My Dear Pa & Ma, I knew what a great favour it gave you in reading my last letter but I felt known to tell you how I was treated. Oh that I was situated in as good a place as I am I would never think of leaving me I would take a pleasure in staying. you could not.

most of the Democrats are finding that they are on the wrong side and several have turned already and there is no telling how many more but it is certain that Harrison will be elected.

For my love to Mary & Grandpa and all the boys, write as soon as you can for 6th of January; anxious to know your desires. P.S. Credit.
Dear [Name],

It is very nice for me to say that your letter was received with joy when you wrote. Mrs. Russell had not come, but I suppose she had long before this. I am glad to know that you have seen our friends. They have come to visit us, and I am sure the letters are enjoyed very much. We have a good deal of winter weather, and it is quite certain that we shall have it for a long time. It is very rainy, and we are longing for the sun to come out. I will try to write every day, and to more letters to you. If you think that I will take it with patience, you can hardly imagine the difference in our feelings towards each other since you have left us. We have found out what a brother is, and I hope I never will give the money that he wanted, and I would do much to disinterested as

Therefore, I was as much disappointed as you were by the letter that you received in the morning. If you have been more convenient this winter than I was before, I have only spent what you gave me and that was for postage. I was taken with a cold and coughed more, and it would be dangerous to let you see this. I have slept very soundly and have not had any of the spell that followed. I have not been as well as in the last few years. I am not feeling as well as in the last few years. I am not feeling as well as in the last few years.

I hope that you are well. I am very glad you went to the city. When you see me, you know that I have not visited my friends. I am sure that you will see them, and that I have visited them. I have not seen them often, and I have not seen them often.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
Dear parents,

We received your letter dated the 15th of last month, before yesterday. I suppose you are very glad to hear from me.

The health of all is good, and I am very happy in the few things I have to write to you about, and I am not at all disposed to offer any reasons for taking this liberty. There are so many other addresses and directions that I could mention, but I am not sure if you appear to be anxious that I may get along well, although you are so far off, and if this does not complaining about what I shall do a letter from such kind words as you are. But you say we must not think you are lecturing as I consider lecturing in this manner that I would like to have as much more of it as you can spare, so I shall consider myself wise and experienced, as not to comply with anything you would wish, and I will do anything you wish to have as much more of it as you can spare, so I shall consider myself wise and experienced, as not to comply with anything you would wish, and I will do anything you wish to have as much more of it as you can spare, so I shall consider myself wise and experienced, as not to comply with anything you would wish, and I will do anything you wish.

I am sorry I cannot come over that spring, although some very serious illness interrupted our plans. I am indeed glad you have had in this place to big enough to know that you can do with half as much, and you have more in the garden. Oh! I am sure this to be a part, look at the hundred dollars or upwards your receive very much cash, and you look at the lawyers here. The whole page of them has not got that this winter, although I know you can do better than any of them. Still I would not expect the office you now hold for an uncertain one, and not so good in money. But I don't believe this would be to make what he earns next year for a residence, there are several other reasons. But I have just time to state them. Mr. Darrow will start in the first boat, and you may expect him very soon. I am now a collector and I must be back tomorrow when you see him. I hope you will like.
I converse with him a great deal and especially about that money he lost. I could not have you to prosper that we write for anything in the world. He has always treated one kind men younger than his father, and treat them just as you would. Nothing is lost and you will come the very next week. The people here think there is to be another Flood this season even larger than the other. It has been a very severe winter here, where ice was never known before. The river and the water in the river you need not be a proof of anything on the ice. I have no means to go on the ice. Here, snow has always gone here and there is no snow, and if there was I should have time to play. If this have any chance of succeeding in your work I have a hundred of men all ready and have a fine chance of knowing when or glad you have sent me a present and all the will bless me if you continue ever. I am very low coming to a close. My last letter to you I have sent up and call him. I hope he will get well and also any one of your family. You have dear parents as soon as you get this write as soon as you can. Your obedient serv. I shall make it a rule to get a letter from you every month. But there is some little things that I want which I would not ask them for. My dear parents.

My dear Parents,

I received your kind letter dated 20th. I read it with great pleasure indeed. I have delayed writing this most too long. I need a letter to write in a manner line to open it. I found that it was written to Matthew. I am getting worse home sick want to see you. This is the only time I ever saw nothing doing at all I never knew what I mean till now all the恩 is lead times wrote a coming. My dear Patsy. I would advise you to hold on to your office till times get better you must not think that I do not want to see you both Pa. If I was your you would never think of making Portsmouth a place of residence if it was me I would hold on to my office as long as I can. I think making 1000 dollars a year is better than anything long which is more than a case one. May be in two months I then have to be for it to pay costs. And then you know you would not be doing it now. It is close of the way. I will go the Best I can with the affirm to stay with the the long as possible they are going to go a Closer in the spring which is not uncommon thing they make it a rule to get a letter from you every month. As this is the only time I had a letter from you. I am sorry to hear he is not well. I am not sure what to say to you. The Patsy says that he does not want any more and want to get out of the post office. But to say that he don't want to get any letters out. Charge it to him. There is some little things that I want which I would not ask them for. Mr. Russell gives me some money (that I do not yet) I am now lecturing you both all that time I have been with for want of exercise took Calominal. It relieves my self slightly but I am now as well as ever a little better. I will well as the rest. Patsy. If you do not mention any thing about my little girl you promised me on a Boat. Recall for fear you will forget me. I will put you in mind of it. My Dear Patsy. I said that I must never think about going a hunting but if I did it would be all the good. It would come. I am coming to a Closer please my dear parents to blame.
[Text from the image]
New Year's Day, 1840

My Beloved parents,

I have received your letter dated 27th. December last and am glad to hear from you. I have no news to give you of any particular interest. I am still in the same situation as I was last year. I have not been able to earn much money and have been living very sparingly. I am working hard and hoping for better days. I am glad to hear that you are all well and that health is running high.

I have been working hard on my farm and have been able to earn a little money. I am hoping to have enough to support myself and my family. I am working hard to save some money for the future.

I am looking forward to the New Year with hope and confidence. I am hoping for better days and am sure that they will come. I am working hard to make a good living and to support my family.

Please write and let me know how you are and what is happening in your lives. I am looking forward to hearing from you.

Love,

[Signature]

Portsmouth, January 5, 1840
Dear Mr. A,

We received your kind letter dated the twelfth with great joy and read it with much greater. It is impossible for me to tell you how it pleases me to get a letter from you. I would rather read one of your letters than all the novels in the world. Nothing has occurred of any consequence this week, but there was a steamboat on a trip of a flat boat and it came in about five minutes. I did not see the trip, but I saw the boat with its working out and saw the flat working there was about six men on board and the every they screamed was not down until some boats came to their assistance there was a lot of at least 50 or 60. And there was a fire here on Monday at 12 o'clock, on said day in the morning there was a fire broke out in a row of small brick building back of Kendall’s store the very of several was burnt but no furniture or any thing of value was destroyed excepting a tailor who had to shift his quarters very quickly. By all means be sure to keep that letter from Daniel by for he was the best fellow I ever know and I am sorry the poor fellow caught the yellow fever. I forgot to tell you in any last letter that I received a letter from Henry Brown. That is not written to Daniel but I expect to earn for the last week or two we have had a good deal of rain and the corn roasting very hard steamboats of all sizes are passing all the time business is pretty poor and very thing is turning for the best. Cash is about the dearest thing in market now and everybody complaining of hard times. Particularly the farmers country produce is unreasonably low corn 31/2

wheat 50. oats 25 cents, first rate flour 4.50 a barrel of

450 apples 75 cents a barrel of potatoes 25 cents bushel 8 to 10
Mr. Kendall came in here yesterday and said that he had done more business in the last week than he had even done having taken in forty dollars a day. If this is the case he cannot shine for we have taken in an average this week at least 160 dollars every day, and it has been very dull at that, so you see the difference. I am very sorry I am coming to a close as soon but however I will try and tell you how I live. A steamer generally wakes me up at daylight. I get up and have the owner out and stores about on a sieve sometime and every thing being done I am ready to sell goods. There is nothing like getting up early. This morning I left until breakfast and have felt bad ever since. I went up to my aunt this morning and stayed until dinner time. I am coming to a close in case a train fails. Mr. Russell himself gets along very well and I would wish better. I go to church generally with my aunt and sometimes with Mr. Russell. I'll be a jilted girl if there is no mistake in that. So give my love respects to everybody—farewell my dear parents. L. Flaxton

My Dear Ma + Pa

We received your most kind letter dated the twelfth if you only knew how I want to see your both. I know you would come instantly nothing going on here worth writing paid except a fire broke out here at McDowell & Davises place. House which came some near of burning the whole square which don't suit you but did not give you the particulars— which I will with great pleasure when they had no horses of putting it out but the women which were looking on went at it like horses. And I tell once they gummed themselves especially Rebecca Peebles and Miss Davis there was an old drunkard there

Portsmouth Nov. 26th. 1829
who was in the way Mr. Davis picked up a stick & gave him a lick across the face & said the next would be across his face so it was time for him to desert it would have done you good to see the women & men strong down to the plains & Mr. Pickle shot Mr. Newcomb the women & men together but put the fire.

Our schooners have not come yet--I think it is time for them to be coming. Boats of most all sizes are running now I received goods off of the boat that Mr. Dillman got on when the moon off--most all night was receiving goods one & hand I expect to get along very well.

I wish that you would send me the country when you read it it would not be much trouble I began to like this place some better than I did every once and again I see an old friend which keeps up my spirits.

George Church is still here & he expects to stay here the Winter. I never was away from my dear mother so long in my life. If I get sick I have not a dear mother to watch over me. My dear Papa you must not think I am partial for it is an old story to be away from you help my time which I have not used to but my mother.

There was money a day before in my life--the whole family sends their love to you both Mary know poor
give my love to Mrs. Davis & Granpa the Gran
Pa. I go to Church 2 times as regular as Sunday.
Come she have not heard anything from Athens since
I wrote you last. Our Clerk has left & went into a
strong store next door. John Dement I liked him
better than most any body I ever saw. He was born
and raised in Washington. City. Advice My Dear Ma
& Papa. Your most affectionate Son, C. S. Fletcher

Ms. & P. Fletcher
David & Helen
Washington City
20