



Mrs Caroline A Crane

Bainbridge

Indiana

Putnam Co

New Bedford Nov 9th 1853

Dear Caroline it has been so long since I wrote you or heard from you I hardly know how to begin but first of all we are all well & by letter from Abby not long since learned you were for which I am very thankful. She stated that the children ^{young} had been quite unwell but had recovered I believe our friends at Berkley are well. In reports Mr Nicholl today the Col C was here 3 or 4 days since said aunt Sophia was not so smart as usual this fall I should make some apology for not writing but I have ^{been} so much engaged that I could not find time or when not engaged so dull did not feel like writing as for news you know I never could write any and as to Berkley news do not hear any. It is now near our election and that is the all absorbing subject at present either old Constitution or new Constitution is about all we hear which has put the Russian & Turkish questions in the back ground but next Monday is our election and after that all will be again quiet my business has been very good this season much better than common as coal advanced about 1 1/2 dollars per ton and I had some 8 or 900 tons on hand when it advanced I am trying to get a little surplus of cash that I may some day take courage and visit Ohio & Indiana which I fully intended to do this fall but it is now too late

