



10-11-18

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Rev. J. J. Ward
Committee
Canaanaya Co. N.Y.



Utica July 17th 1844

Dear Brother & Sister

You will doubtless be surprised to receive a letter instead of seeing me and still more surprised when I tell you that Cousin H. has returned without visiting you but so it is and when I tell you how it happened I think you will not blame us we tried hard enough to come but Providence did not seem to favour our plans. We partly made our arrangements to go to C. on a boat of Franklin Wadsworth; it was to be here in a day or two. So Cousin H. went to Clinton and carried Frank to leave him while we were gone and I was to meet her at Maria's and start from there for C.

I should have gone with her to C. had it not been for a meeting at our house on Tuesday. She went on Monday and I started on Wednesday morning but never arrived at C. until evening. Mr. Root's people brought Cousin H. over on Thursday and we were to start for C. on Friday but Cousin H. was taken ill very suddenly with the nervous toothache and headache ^{and cold chills} occasioned as she supposed by over exertion and taking cold. We thought she was going to be sick and nursed her up as well as we could that night. She was some better the next morning but we all thought it not prudent for her to start for the west just it should prove too much for her as her health is very poor at the best and she must necessarily have much fatigue going home. She was very much disappointed and so was I. She intended visiting Auburn as she has many cousins on her Father's side there and she was very anxious we should get acquainted with them. Her cousin Jonathan Pond has bought him a farm, married, and settled there. We have had fine times I can assure you. While at Maria's we went

to Julia and spent one day and rambled in the meadows and picked
strawberries and berries looked about the old furnace and creek &c.
The creek and under John's meadows are about the only things that
look natural about the furnace neighborhood almost every thing
else is changed even the "old rustic built dome" "where of science
aye souls caught the first feeble ray" is changed, though a patch of
the better yet I cannot but feel as Cousin Bradford Symonds says
he does melancholly at the change old associations are lost in a great
measure by it. Julia's Kate is a fine child. I feel quite proud of my
little namesake. I know that you have seen ^{her} and can judge for yourself
in the face of things in W. because you was there before me.
Maria's folks have a great quantity of cherries and I eat all I wanted
although they were not quite ripe enough to be very sweet. We went to
Clinton on Saturday morn and staid untill afternoon and they brought
us home. Mr. Root's people have the finest cherries I ever saw and
the greatest quantities. We had as many white hearts as we could
eat and they gave us some to bring home. We are to have some
trees of them if we go after ^{them} on Wed. Cousin H. started for H. on
Monday. She stopped at Albany and New York but is home ere
this. I am off to New Hartford this afternoon. Shall probably go
to H. Clinton &c. I wish you had been here to visit with
us and I wish you were here to go with me today. I think I shall
have fine times if I do not go too fast. My health is very poor yet
though some better than when you left. Mother is not well. She has
been too smart. Mr. Smith's folks invited Mrs. Kendall and Aunt
and Mother to come down there to eat cherries they went Tuesday morn
on foot and stayed all day and they rambled about Mr. S. farm
picked cherries &c untill Mother was completely worn out they
brought them home but it was too much for Mother she has not
been well since. Mr. Smith's family are well Henry's wife has gone
home to help her mother this summer. I suppose you have heard
of the death of Judge James Dean of Utter. The next week after his
death Mr. Spencer Esq lost his son James by the scarlet fever.
William has been very sick they have not expected his life from one

on business had a very pleasant stay and the babe but both are better.
to another with the same complaint but is better. Esther is very ill
and a daughter of the Rev. Mr. Spencer brother of Esq. Spencer is then
lying at the point of death with the consumption - I am has gone
to nurse her. Jane Estlin Murrell has got the remitting fever
though lightly she has been sick a fortnight and Mrs. Hawkshurst
has got the fever and ague. She caught it the supper at the time
their drain was taken up. I suppose you have seen little Ben
Bradford ere this he is going to Ithaca and he said he should
visit you if he has not I presume he will. He and his wife
are to be up in August. He and Bradford have got the fever
& ague. Ben is better. Louise Seymour has returned I have not seen
her yet. John escaped being taken up for assault and battery
because he was taken off to Rome as a witness he was gone
several days and we did not know where he was but suppose
the constable had found him. Mother was almost crazy.
He has got into business at Butters cracker store and is steady
as far but has become so important that no one must touch
him on any wise he must have the best the house affords and
by far the greatest share. We tried very hard to get Mother off to
visit Cousin H. but she would not go. I expect she is
afraid John will not be well if she goes away I think he
would get trained some. Cousin H. says Grandmother is still quite
smart she is with Aunt Goodwin. All our eastern friends are
well. Cousin H. sent her best love to you. All send their love
to you Mrs. Parmelee called a few days after you left expecting to
see you she did not know you was gone. She sent her best regards
I am much obliged to you for your invitation to your picnic with
but different arrangements presented by complying with your
request please write particulars about it and also about the instatement.
We had a great parade on the fifth but I spent the day at shore
among the haking apparatus. The temperance folks had a parade
in the afternoon and evening I attended in the evening and got
soaking wet. Love to all. In haste your affectionate sister Susan