

Saratoga Springs April 23rd 1864

Dear Uncle Seth

It is with great pleasure that I now read my self to answer your ever kind and welcome letter which I received last wednesday the 19th it found us all enjoying our usual good health but we did not feel very cheerful on account of our great national calamity and the day I got your letter our little village too looked very gloomy and mournful draped as it was in sombre mourning drapery drapery there was service at every church and a very great many were draped in black and every one had some badge of mourning about them

Mother went to greenfield wednesday and came home yesterday afternoon Grandmother is not very well but is some better than she was some time ago she thinks she will come down here week after next if she is well enough Fred wrote to her that he thought of enlisting in the regular service and that almost killed her

Oh how I do hope you may be spared to see the end of your enlistment for Grandmother is not safe to stay there alone I do not think

I have not seen Carrie since I wrote to you but I got a letter from her the other day she was well then I got a letter from Minnie Avery the other day she was well and sent her best respects to you she says she saves all of her love for one in particular a certain young gent whose initials are, E. G. so it seems your case is all dough but I guess you do not care much do you Uncle

I got a letter from Uncle Theadore Friday the 21st he was well and he had seen Uncle Christopher and he was well also.

I had a letter from uncle John the 14th he was well too but had seen some pretty tough times as well as the rest of you

We are having rather disagreeable weather up at Doratoga now it rains half of the time and the wind

blow like sakes the other half and
when the wind does not blow and it
does not rain it is cold as greenland
to day the wind blows and it is
rather cold I wish it would be
pleasant part of the time so I can
have a bean but things always chide
go against me and I guess they always
will but I do not care very much anyway
well I guess I have written foolishness
enough for this time don't you

I will now close by bidding
you an affectionate goodbye
hoping to hear from you soon

I Remain as Ever
Yours Very Truly
Nettie H. Coltham

write soon

Box 5-85
S.