

VICTOR

Newport Mar. 8 - 1865.

My Dear Aunt,

I received your kind letter dated Jan. 30, about a week after it was written. I was very glad indeed to hear from you, and I thought then I would answer it immediately and really I am ashamed that I have waited so long, but it has not been because I have forgotten you. I think of you very often and wish I could see you. I am glad that so many of your ~~sons~~ Sons have been home to see you during the past year and that they are all living yet and my prayer is that they may all be spared to return home in safety when this wicked war is over, and that your own life and health may be preserved to enjoy their company yet for many years.

Amos has been out of the service  
for several months he is well

We are all well and trying to enjoy  
life as well as we can. I am  
very sorry to hear that Mr Latham  
is sick. I hope his health is  
restored by this time. Please  
remember me to him and his  
family when you see them and  
also to Cousin Sallyam.

We have had a cold winter  
here though not a great deal of  
snow. Our winter set in early  
and continued steady cold until  
the latter part of February.

For something over a week it  
has been pleasant. The frost is  
all out of the ground and has  
been for several days. I saw a man  
plowing up a piece of sod a week  
ago. Some are preparing for gardening  
such as putting out peas, onions  
early potatoes. &c.

(VICTOR)  
I have not seen Erastus for several weeks, I believe he is well. I expect him up here in a day or two. Our Daughter was home today her little daughter is growing finely. she is now 18 months old. she make a good deal of company for us when she comes to see us and that is pretty often for they only live about a mile from us. We see them every week.

It is a time of general health here there is no prevailing sickness, though there was a death in the place today from consumption.

We have had rather a large family this winter than usual. We have had from 2 to 4 babies all winter. We expect them to leave in a few days and then we will be reduced to our old number again. For the present I will close. Write soon if you have your affectionate  
Stephen Isaac L. Atkins