

My dear Friends, in answer to you

I think I mentioned in my last letter that you might expect another in the course of the summer. That has now passed, and part of Autumn, until now I have seen no convenient opportunity for writing to you. My time during the past summer has been very differently occupied from what it ever before has been. You recollect we used to think it hard to work at dress-making all summer, but now I think it was quite easy to what I had to do last summer. I think I now know something about being sick. I have not been to meeting since last Sabbath - until last Sabbath. To think of it, would seem a long time to stay at home, but it has passed rapidly away. I think I shall now more highly appreciate the privilege of meeting to worship with the people of God than ever before. I did not hear Mr. Whiting preach last Sabbath we had a Minister from Greenfield. To day I have not attended meeting - thus morning there was a funeral of a young lady at the Baptist house she died of the typhus fever in Nashua, that fever prevails to a considerable extent in this vicinity. Three interesting little girls, have died during the past year in this little village, and three little boys and one girl have been added to our number. Perhaps you may be somewhat surprised if I tell you my little one is almost six months. Should you ask why I have not written ere this, I must answer that it is negligence in part. Last summer I did not feel able, such a task as it then seemed to be and since that time I have had a plenty of business to occupy all of my time.

My babe was born the 16<sup>th</sup> of June. I was quite sick at the time, but got along comfortably for two or three weeks, and then I suppose I took a little cold and it went to my breast. a very time I had I assure you, until after I had it opened. then I began slowly to regain my health for three or four ~~the~~ weeks, and I thought my troubles were all over, (but not so it proved again, and I had a worse time than before if possible, it seemed so at least, I have had no punishment in that breast since.

In three months I was able to ride to Milford, and spent about a week, since that, my health has been tolerable good, for the most part of the time, I have been somewhat troubled with the ergaspedas. Sister H came the first of last June, thinking of spending the summer with me, which she did, and is still with me, I do not think I could have done my work alone, at least so long as long as he had a kind man to board, I expect she will remain through the winter, I feel as though I should be quite lonely without her company, although I have a lovely little boy to occupy my attention, would not sister Abby like to stop in and see her little nephews? perhaps by this time you could take your little one with you, I should like very much to hear how you have prospered since you commenced the married life, I shall expect to hear from you as soon as convenient after you receive this, sister C, mentioned she should be so very happy to receive a letter from you. she still remains in Boston, she came the last of an winter and spent a few weeks with us, Uncle, & Aunt, & Sister, visited us about that time.

Brothers W & C are yet at Cambridge Brother J in Lowell, they have given up house-keeping for this winter and board with Mother Jones,

I rather mistrust Harriet bears a spite upon this winter but cannot learn for certainty whether it is so or not, the last time they wrote to us they thought they should visit us this winter, she was confined last March but her child was not living at the time.

I have never seen you since you left the country. I expect you are in the country. I have never seen you since you left the country. I expect you are in the country. I have never seen you since you left the country. I expect you are in the country.

She was quite unwell for some time she had a sore breast. which  
from about weeks in gathering, they thought there was occasioned by  
immersion, as was probably a benefit to her health.  
I expect father will move to Nashville soon he has bought a house  
there. expect sister Annette spends the winter at Fattress,  
I have not seen her from Lowell so write you if probably you have friends  
there that write often to you, Miss H. visited Temple in the fall  
but did not call and make us a visit. I was very sorry indeed  
she was not home only about two week. and her Brother Martin was  
at the time. she spent all of the time with Ann she possibly  
visited. Sister H. was at the Court Village not long since she made  
a visit. her little boy is nearly two years. the probability  
that she will have more family soon. the name of our little boy  
is Ebenzer. he is a jolly little fellow as ever I saw.  
I sometimes fear I love him so well. but try to feel that he is  
a great blessing, not our own. I feel as though we needed much  
the grace of God to do by him as we ought, a great responsibility to  
have even our precious soul committed to our care.  
regards the state of Religion in this vicinity I have heard of nothing  
to write you. how long such the present state of things  
I know not. but for one I feel that it is high time for  
us to be up and doing. While the day last for the night of  
soon overtake us. I feel that I have for a long time been  
in the same condition. I sometimes wonder I can live on so from day  
to day. know such important interests are at stake,  
I shall expect to hear from you soon. I presume you have more  
than now news and do not wait for me to write  
I hear from you every opportunity and also your Father's family.  
presume that Sarah and Elizabeth are married long before this

10.



G. C. Hartman  
Dec 18.

Mrs. Abby H. Shepard,  
Denmark,  
Iowa.