Winter Quarters

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CHAPTER EIGHT

“Tis when I am Sick’ that I miss you the most”

The separation from Samuel grew more difficult for Mary as she watched other couples around her. Although she attended dancing parties and socials with a cheerful countenance and the dances and visiting were welcome diversions, she grieved. Continued ill health compounded her unhappiness. Rumors of Samuel’s imminent return intensified her preparations for the time she could take up housekeeping with him. Sewing, cutting quilt blocks, and boiling down pumpkin puree into butter helped to make the time pass more quickly.

Journal Five
Wednesday November 3, 1847, to Thursday March 30, 1848
Winter Quarters, Nebraska

A Journal. and Memorandom. of Mary H Richards. Commencing Nov 3rd 1847 at Uncles Willards
to day the weather was very pleasant and my health much improved. I took a walk into the Gardin with Jane Hall and went into Uncle Levis. I spent the day very pleasently, though Uncle willard was most of it in Council. just before Sun down Bro Cam[p]ball brought me home in the Waggon. felt in good Spirits and rested good through the Night
Thursday 4th the weather pleasanent felt pretty comfortable. sewed a little and was reading
Friday 5th the weather comfortable visited at Bro [Samuel] Woollys my next door Neighbor. and made me a Night Cap
Saturday 6th the weather pleasanent made me another Night Cap and read a little
Sunday 7th the weather rather cool Bro Godard’ who was one of the Pioneers came and spent the AM with us he told us many things. concerning
the valley and their journey which were very interesting. and sung us some of the Journeying Songs &C PM I walked over to Mrs Shimers with Miss Bolding. called to see Miss Dillworth who was sick. also Mrs Jones. evening was reading

Monday 8th this morning the ground was covered with Snow the first that we have had this fall AM I was writing in my journal PM I visited at Bro Mellons with Sister Luts [or Lnts]. Had a pleasant visit

Tuesday 9th the weather comfortable. was writing in my journal. eve Sisters [Elizabeth Haven] Brarlow & [Mary Ellen Haven] Palmer made us a call. they have lately arrived in the City. I had [not] seen either of them for a year and a half. I was much pleased to see them here. father and Mother being gone to meeting at Uncle Willards. I had a pleasant visit with them alone

Wednesday 10th the weather Moderate to day Henry was diging a Sellar under the floor. and to escape from taking cold. I went and sat with Mrs Coalflesh. stayed and took Supper Bro J Scott took Supper with us. had a pleasant visit. eve Bro Richmond came and spent the evening with us had a good time bracking Nuts &C

Thursday 11th the weather pleasant to day Mother and myself visited at Sister Lennards’ was sewing and reading in some News Papers. eve Mother turned home but Sister L prevailed with me to stay all night.

Friday 12th the weather comfortable stayed at Sister Lennards till 4 oclock in the PM then returned home had very pleasant visit indeed and enjoyed myself much. eve was sewing

Saturday 13th the weather pleasant AM I cleaned up the house PM I went to Bro Barrows had a pleasant visit

Sunday 14th the weather pleasant AM the family all went to meeting and Bro Richmond, one of Uncle Uncle willards boys visited with me he told me the history of his past life his sufferings in the Army (from whence he had just returned) & his present calculations. I perceived he was a fickle minded youth. and gave him some instructions in regard to his future conduct. which he kindly accepted’ and promised to benefit by it. I got dinner & he eat with us. Bro Rolf Douglass & his wife also called to see me I had not seen him before since he returned from the Army. PM Richmond went home’ came again and spent the Eve

Monday 15th weather rather cool was pressing the juice out of Pumpkins. and boiling it down to make Pumpkins Butter of or with it. I found it most to hard work for me’ Eve felt very tired. but this weariness was forgotten about 9 oclock at which time I had the unspeakable pleasure of receiving a kind of letter from my dear Husband. which made my heart swell with gratitude to my Heavly Father for all his goodness both to my Husband and me. Oh that his mercies may continu toward us’ so that we may be preserved to meet again. and enjoy the pleasure of knowing’ that
we have the his approbation in all we do and say. for oh Lord thou knowest it is my desire to do that which is pleassing in thy sight I read my letter. once to myself and once to the family. and retired to bed with a thankfull heart

Tuesday 16th the weather pleasent went to the Store and bought some Sugar &C called to see Uncle Willard and Levis folks. Amelia I found with the latter being very sick with the Measels. I had scarcely got into the house. (of the last mentioned place) befear Aunt Sarah told me that she had just been wishing I was there so as to tip her hair for haH: her as it was the old of the Moon. and asked me if I would do it for her. I told her I was very tired. if I got rested I would try to do it for her so she kept reminding me of my promis about every 5 minutes, but Aunt Rhoda took my part. I read them a part of my letter after which good furtune brought Uncle W there & so I got released from being teased' and tiping hair that night. Uncle W asked me to let him read my letter' which I did Then he asked me if I was willing that Samuel should stay were he was 5 years. I told him yes if he would take me to him after this he told me in his own house’ that he had no Idea that Samuel would cross the Mountains these 5 years. dont that comfort you said he. 'tis of a very comforting nature said I’ I should think it would have a tendency to comfort me. but shall I infer from this' that you intend to keep Samuel over there 4 or 5 years longer. O no said he I expect he will come home in the Spring I don’t intend to keep you seperated quite all your life. well said I’ do you intend to send me over the Mountains in the Spring’ oh no I guess I’ll let you stay were you can see Samuel every once in a while. do you want to go. No sir, said I’ I never want to go another mile west without Samuel. I think it is hard enough to be here alone’ were I can hear from [him] some times’ without going over the Mounts were I can’t have that privelige &C after this Aunt Sarah accompanied me to Sister Jennes were I took supper and spent the Eve with Bro [Henry B.] Jacobs folks. he told me many things about the Saints in my Native Country. how he had seen my sister Ellen & her family &C had a very pleaset visit and returned home

Wednesday 17th weather pleasent to day I commenced writing a letter to Samuel. Eve was reading

Thursday 18th the weather moderate. I washed of the Shelvs. put my Pumpkins Butter in jars and packed it away. eve took some with some other notions to Sister Jennes’ whose family was sick. evening writing in my letter

Friday 19th having rained in the night it was quite muddy. AM Was writing in my letter About 11 oclock Bros G A Smith Phinehas Young. and T Bullock came in on business. Bro S told me. that he had heard a good report from Bro Samuel. said Bro Hyd[e] told him in Council that he did not know the worth of him and Frankklin until he proved them. I told him I hoped he would soon return and report himself. then having previsouly been requested by father I left the house’ and went to Bro [Samuel] Woollys.
were I stayed about $\frac{1}{2}$ hour then commenced to Chill. came home again and took some hot drinks. and went to bed. was quite sick all day

Saturday 20\textsuperscript{th} weather moderate AM helped mother Clean house & commenced writing a letter to fathers folks. felt quite slim Eve was reading

Sunday 21\textsuperscript{st} the weather pleasant about 8 oclock in the morning I commenced to Chill. and continued to do so. till $\frac{1}{2}$ past 11 when the fever took me. the family all went to meeting. and Bro Rodybacks little Girl came and stayed with me. I was very sick indeed all day about 3 oclock Jane Hall came to see me. Bro Richmond came home with our folks from meeting

Monday 22\textsuperscript{nd} weather moderate felt some better. was writing in my letter. PM Uncle Willard came to see me had a sweet little visit with him' and lent him 3 Dollars. eve I was reading

Tuesday 23\textsuperscript{rd} the weather Moderate today I had another Chill and felt very sick all day eve Jane came to see me

Wednesday 24\textsuperscript{th} weather calm was quite unwell. all day. but sat up and read a little

Thursday 25\textsuperscript{th} weather cold to day I had another Chill and felt very Ill. when my fever was on me I composed quite a lengthy piece of Poetry but not being able to write them down I soon forgot them Eve I sat up and wrote a Scrap to my Samuel. sealed my letters to him and father. tho I felt very unable to do so

Friday 26\textsuperscript{th} weather windy to day I felt very low Spirited and Ill. Eve I had a very hard Chill. & fever

Saturday 27\textsuperscript{th} weather moderate to day I felt more comfortable. made some Pills of Quinine and took some of them eve Bro Richmond was here

Sunday 28\textsuperscript{th} weather moderate continued to feel more comfortable had several freinds call to see me.

Monday 29\textsuperscript{th} weather cold was sewing to day. PM I went and sat a while with Sister Woolley

Tuesday 30\textsuperscript{th} weather cold AM at home sewing. PM visited at Bro Mellons with Sister Woolley had a pleasent visit

Wednesday December first. the weather rather windy. today I went [to] Sister Janes. called at Miss Spencers and rested awhile. at Sister Jennes and saw her little Child Brigham who had died but a few minutes before. here I found Sister Jane and went home with her’ and helped her make the Shroud. stayed all Night

Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} a very cold day commenced to cut out my Cloak. Jane & Philo went to the funeral. eve Henry came there. and we had a lively time

Friday 3\textsuperscript{rd} the weather cold to day sewed on my Cloak and helped Jane a little. eve we had a very pleasant Party Bro Jacobs played the Violin. I danced 3 or 4 times

Saturday 4\textsuperscript{th} weather cold sewed on my Cloak and helped Jane. eve Richmond & Henry was there
Sunday 5\textsuperscript{th} having Snowed during the Night. 'twas very cold today. Mother who had been to Uncle Levis’ to see little Levi who was very sick. called at Janes’ on her way home’ and took Supper with us Lovisa [Jenne] also was there and spent the day. as was also Henry. eve Henry and myself. and Philo and Jane went to Uncle Levis to see the little one. stayed about an hour and then went to J Youngs to see Melinda Wood who was afflicted with a fellon\textsuperscript{5} on her finger. spent a short time with her and returned to Janes &C

Monday 6\textsuperscript{th} a very cold day was sewing on my Cloak. eve went with Jane to see Olive Jenne who was sick

Tuesday 7\textsuperscript{th} the weather cold Evening there was a prayer meeting at Janes. for that Ward Bro Right [Jonathan C. Wright] spoke and gave us some good instructions. had a good Meeting

Wednesday 8\textsuperscript{th} a cold day went and visited at Mother Snyders’ and sewed for her. PM Sisters Lennard and Jane visited there also. eve the former sung some songs for us. had a very pleasant visit and I stayed Night

Thursday 9\textsuperscript{th} it snowed most all day. went to see Olive Jenne and returned to Janes. was sewing this eve Uncle W was here took supper

Friday 10\textsuperscript{th} the weather cold to day Robert Burton. and William Kimball called to see us. Jane was washing. I helped about the work &C Ellen Wilding called also & made me promis to go and stay with her awhile when she was sick which she soon expected to be. eve went to see Olive

Saturday 11\textsuperscript{th} the weather cold Jane washing again today. helped her again about the work & went to see Olive. attended a meeting at Bro Rights were Bro Benson Preached us a good sermon advizing the Saints to be faithfull in observing the Sacred Covnants and gave us much good instruction Uncle Leve spoke in an interesting maner for a short time. after which the meeting was dismissed this eve Jane was taken very sick with the face Ache.

Sunday 12\textsuperscript{th} very cold day Jane quite sick all day. took care of her and did the work

Monday 13\textsuperscript{th} weather more comfortable. Jane very sick did the work took care of her wrung out some Cloths. and put them out to dry. and had 2 visiters to supper. Mother & Henry came & spent the evening with [us] after 11 oclock we gave Jane a good steaming. this PM Uncle Willard was here & I combed his head for him for which he gave me a Kiss and the privelege of asking him as many questions as I pleased

Tuesday 14\textsuperscript{th} the weather moderate Jane much destressed. sent for Lovisa who came to help me. I cut out a dress for her & in the evening made the sleeves. went to meeting at Uncle Willards

Wednesday 15\textsuperscript{th} weather moderate Jane a little better. Lovica quite unwell. was in to see Sister Barns a short time did the work eve made the Sleevs of Lovisa dress
Thursday 16th the weather cold. Jane recovering. Lovisa most sick got breakfast &C AM had a Chill. PM went to bed wth a fever. eve Amelia and Jane Hall came to see us. latter part of the eve felt better.

Friday 17th the weather pleasant. Jane better. myself very sick with the Chill and fever evening Bro Dalton had a party at Janes house I sat up and before the party was out I danced 2 or 3 times. they had a good time.

Saturday 18th the weather moderate. Lovisa sick with the measels and me with the Chill and fever. when in the Midst of the fever Henry came and took me home on seated on a load of Wood. evening took some quinine.

Sunday 19th the weather cold about 8 oclock in the morn Mr Tutle MP [Postmaster] from Austin PO called and brought me a letter from my Husband. I read about half a page and then Chilled so that I was obliged to leave off reading and go to bed. were I remained unable to read any more until 4 oclock PM then I read my letter. and felt myself revived by it. O how sweet it is to hear from those we love and espacially to hear that they are well. the Lord be prased for this and every other blessing’ that he has bestowed upon me’ and my dear Companion. and may he ever continue his goodness toward us. to day I was very sick with my chill & fever.

Monday 20th the weather cold.

Tuesday 21st do do [ditto] my Chills broke felt better did some sewing.

Wednesday 22nd weather moderate was sewing reading &C my health improving.

Thursday 23rd the weather Pleasent AM went up to Sister Janes’ and got her to fit and cut the lining to my dress. of tartin. had a pleasent visit Eve Bro Richmond came to see Jane and Jane anxious to have me stay the evening. Asked him if he would see me safe home which he kindly ofered to do. I accepted the ofer and at ½ past 9 arrived home.

Friday 24th the weather moderate to day Sister Jane came down and went with Mother and myself to make a Christamus visit at Sister Orsers We had a firstrate Supper. spent the eve was again treated with pye &C eve I called in to see Bro Fieldings folks as they lived near by Sister Os. found him confined to the house on account of having his foot Crushed by a log falling onto it. had a pleasent little chatt with the family. then came back to Mrs Os and from thence home we had quite a pleasent visit.

Saturday 25th the weather cold spent Christmas at home. was sewing reading &C.

Sunday 26th the weather moderate was at home reading. the family all went to meeting.

Monday 27th the weather pleasent went to Janes sewed on my Tarting dress had a pleasent visit.

Tuesday 28th weather pleasent to day I went to Bro E D Woolleys. to spend a few days. and assist in taking care of Ellen who had got a little Daughter [Sarah Woolley]. Eve Uncle Willard came on purpose he said to
scolded me for not letting him read my letter. I knelt down by his side & told him that I had’ had no opportunity to let him read it. as yet, for he was gone to conferance when I first got it. and since that I had been sick. and I thought if he wanted to hear it very much he would have comed to hear it. that I was willing he should hear from Samuel’ but was not so anxious to have him read my letters’ as to cause me to send them up there to be read. for I thought [they] were worth walking one ½ Mile to hear them read. &C he then told me that I might arise & he would forgive me’ if I would do better for the future &C &C this night I did not sleep one hour the whole care of Ellen and her babe being left to me (though unexpectedly) & the latter fretted all night.

Wednesday 29th weather warm was busy all day waiting upon Ellen and her babe. Eve went to Uncle Willards were I met with Sisters Fielding & Wilding. Uncle W was very socible. had a pleasant visit. slept little to night again.

Thursday 30th pleasant weather took care of Ellen and the babe and night night never slept till after 8 oclock.

Friday 31th beauty full weather I worked hard until 4 oclock tending upon Ellen and the babe. then went home to fathers’ and dressed myself and Henry waited upon me to a party at Sister Janes. were there was a very agreeable Company assembled Uncle Willard among the rest. the Bishop presided over the party and all things was done in order had a good supper past arround. the dance went of pleasently. I danced 4 or 5 times. danced the Old Year out’ and New Year in with Henry. he then waited upon me to Brother Woolleys. I found the babe quite sick and was up all night with it. felt quite unwell myself on account of being missing my rest.

Saturday January first 1848 the weather pleasant was waiting on Ellen and the babe. night the babe better. but Ellen nervous & figity kept me awake untill after 2 oclock. when worn out I went to sleep.

Sunday 2nd the weather pleasant was kept busy all day. had a slight Chill and felt sick. eve I went to uncles Willards’ with Sister Jane who had called to see me and spent about ½ an hour Slept little.

Monday 3rd fine weather tending to Ellen and the babe as usual. felt quite unwell. night slept but little.

Tuesday 4th pleasant weather morn I helped to take care of Ellen & the babe. about 10 oclock I commenced Chilling and was very sick all day with Chill and fever.

Wednesday 5th weather pleasant morn dressed the babe and tended to her. got Ellen’s &C breakfast &C at the usual time had a very hard Chill. followed by a burning fever I suffered much pain. Night I rested tollerable good.

Thursday 6th the weather pleasant morning I dressed the babe &C &C had another Chill & fever was very sick all day. eve brother Godard called to see me. night I rested pretty good.
Friday 7th, a pleasant day this morning father called to see me. AM Bro Young & Uncle Willard came to bless Ellen’s babe. after which I asked them to pray for me’ which they did Uncle W being mouth. they gave me a good blessing and a promis of health &C &C

I was then Chilling. PM I had a high fever and when in the midst of it Uncle Willard brought a Carrige to take me home. I had often wished to go home within the last 4 days but was not about to walk’ and they was not willing to have me go. but now I got up out of bed and was assisted to the Carrige by Samuel Woolley. Jane Hall and Sister E Woolley being on the same seat with me I learned my head on Janes shoulder and so rode home in great speed. when assisting me out of the Carrige Uncle W asked me if I knew that I had come near fainting. I told him that I did. but the frest air I had received through our quick ride had prevented it. he replied that was all that you [got] from it. he then assisted me into the house’ and on to the bed and told henry to make me some Composisiun father & Mother being gone to Bro S Woolleys next door to a party. were was all the Twelve with their wives. being left alone I got into a sleep and awoke quite refreshed. Sister B Young then came in with Mother and spent an hour with me which I enjoyed much Uncle W was in 3 times to see me and wished several times that I could take an Emetic that night. as my stomach he said was roiley. having thrown off every thing I had Eat the last four days. this night Uncle W was taken sick.

Saturday 8th a very stormey cold day. had a hard shake and fever suffered much pain. PM I got Henry to go and get me some Quinine and make me some pills. Eve I took 4 of them. and rested pretty good. to day Sister Woolly brought me some Turkey. Cake. Pye. &C

Sunday 9th the weather cold to day I missed my Chill and felt more comfortable. Bro Woodruff preached close by’ and the family all went to meeting. and I was alone

Monday 10th the weather cold missed the Chill and felt better was reading

Tuesday 11th and Wednesday 12th the weather cold my health improving was reading, sewing &C

Thursday 13th and Friday 14 the weather moderate and my health still improving was sewing on my dress reading &C

Saturday 15th weather moderate was writing in my journal. sewing reading &C. PM Uncle Willard sent Ellen [Marie Partington]. with an invitation from him for me to go with his folks next morn at to the Jubilee 8 oclock to the Jubilee with a desire that I send back word wither I would go or not. I sent back word that I should love to go’ but was afraid my health was not sofisint and my thanks for the invetation

Sunday 16th weather moderate ½ past 8 oclock Uncle Ws folks stoped on their way to the Jubilee to see if I was ready. and to tell me that Uncle
Willard said I must not go was sorry to learn from them that he was still very sick. this AM I went to meeting with father there were but six women and him and me there. he read 2 of O Spencers letters to Croel [Rev. W. Crowel] and gave us some instructions &C after meeting I called to see Sister Coal. also sister who was Sick also Sister Barlow. for whom I sewed a little on a dress she was going to wear to the Jubilee. about 4 oclock to Bros Grant. & Philo. & Sisters Jane. Grant. Lennard. and Lovisa called on their way to the Jubilee Eve Sisters E Davis and Boly came in to see us. about 7 oclock Philo returned back sick with a Collick. I got him some Composision. Pepper. hot drops. Tea. &C and doctored him according to the best of my abbility. about 10 oclock the whole Company returned back not knowing what was become of Philo and concluded to take a new start in the morning. Philo staid all night and the rest made quite a visit

Monday 17th the weather cold was sewing on my dress. reading &C

Tuesday 18th moderate weather father went to the Jubilee. I helped mother about the work. and finished making my Tartin dress. Eve I went to a Party at Bro [David] Brintons. one of our Neighbors father waited upon me then because I complained that I had no husband to wait upon me &C as soon as I got there’ Mr burns asked me to dance with him but when we had danced through the first Change’ the Poliece came in and told the Company that the Party was not according to Order that they had aught to have a Bishop to preside over them. and without one they must not dance &C some unpleasent words past between the poliece and the Company. but a Bishop was soon obtained and the party went on in order for a time. then the PO came again by order of by Bishop Knight (the Bishop of this ward) to break up the party (the latter had been asked to come and preside but refused because they were not willing to give him 3 Bits a Couple) and also to inform Bishop Clark that he was out of place (as this party was not in his ward. the Company was then dismised by Bishop Clark with good feelings toward him. whom they gave some reward for his service after which we had a good supper past arround in Stile. with warm sling &C. Bro Danial Cahoon waited upon me home & stayed a short time’ talking about my husband. and Andrew his brother

Monday–19th Wednesday 19th another cold yet pleasent. day was sewing. reading &C

Thursday 20th weather moderate AM Mother was washing. I wash for myself 2 or 3 garments some handkerchiefs Caps &C while doing this’ Bro Godard came and brought a letter he had just received from Sister Everett in the valley’ half of wich was writton to me. he prest me very hard to go and make them a visit’ which I promised to do the first oppertunity. PM Sister Jane and her Company returned from the jublee I had been wanting to go to Uncle Willards for some time. and so I wrode with them. found him still very sick. I called to see Sister Haven afew minutes. after which Uncle
W kept me’ by his bed side untill after one oclock next AM. I had a very intersting visit with him indeed he got Sarah [Langstroth Richards] to get his blessings for me to read to him. also Aunt Jennitas. Hebers Js. Rhoda Anns. Ellens [Ellen Marie Partington]. Sarahs &C which I did excepting one or 2 which he read himself. after which I retired to bed but could not sleep

Friday 21st weather pleasant while at Breakfast father came to inform me that Bro Barlow & his wife were going over the river to Br Godards. and if I wished to go I [could] ride with them soon after Henry came in to let me know they had come. so I bid good morning to the folks. Uncle W was yet asleep we had a fine ride across the River on the ice. and was wellcomed by Br Godards folks. but in the PM I had the Chill and fever. and was quite sick all the rest of the day about 9 oclock Evening Br & Sister Barlow went home. but they would not let me go so I stayed all night

Saturday 22nd the weather pleasant to day I felt better. and had a pleasant visit all day. with Br & Sister Godard

Sunday 23rd pleasant weather to day I had another Chill. felt very sick all day. PM Henry came over to see me. and brought some Composition. B G was over in the City till 10 oclock eve. when he brought with him some sweet Cake and a Box of Pills for me. wich he said would break the Chills. said he had once broke the Chills with that kind him self & they had never returned. this night I rested pretty good. Br G prayed for me

Monday 24th weather pleasant to day Br Godard started to Mo to get a fitout. and see his freinds after assuring me that [I was] wellcome to stay as long as I wished and charging me to take the Pills and get well. I had to take the one every two hours. took six of them to day. was reading and visiting

Tuesday 25th the weather pleasant to day I had a kind of dumb Ague and and felt sick. Eve the Sisters had a prayer meeting on my account. one of them sung in tongues. but we only got part of the interpitation. we had a good little meeting’ and I felt that the spirit of the Lord was with us.11

Wednesday 26th the weather pleasant to day I felt better and was reading and had an interesting Chatt with sister Godard whom I found to be a very Intilegent’ interesting Woman

Thursday 27th a pleasant day was not so well as yesterday was reading. and Cut out a dress for Sister Godard & sewed some upon it

Friday 28th a pleasant day felt bitter [better] was sewing on sister Godards dress. and reading

Saturday 29th a pleasant day and the 2nd Anniversary of my Wedding Day. both of which have been past in the absence of my Husband. who has now been gone One Year. Eight Months & Six days. Preaching the Everlasting Gospil in the Kingdom of Great Britton. Six Thousand Miles from me. Oh may he ever find favor in the Eyes of his Master Jesus Christ and be blessed of him continually. and be preserved from every evil and danger and from death and the grave. may he do a mighty work in these
last days. and his name be handed down to future generations’ spotless and pure. is the prayer of his Mary H

My bosim yearns
To see his face again
But he is labouring’ in a good Cause
And I must not complain

Then grant me patience Gracious Lord
That I may wait till he doth come
In all thing’ may I faithfull be
And never murmer against thee

this PM I went with Sister Godard to Sister Janes on a visit eve we had a prayer meeting there and I stayed all night were no Brethren at the meeting.
today father came to see me. I stayed all night and slept with Sister Tomson
Sunday 30th a very cold Stormy day. Snowing all day. was at sister Godards reading and talking on the principles of the Gospil
Monday 31st a cold day and deep snow. I cut and made the waist of a dress for Emmy Godard

Tuesday February first weather moderate I fitted and nearly made the Waist of a dress for Arquly Godard and read a little

Wednesday 2nd the weather pleasant AM I fitted a dress for Sister Louis and sewed upon it. PM I made a visit at William Mosss. when I got there Sister M was getting ready to come and see me afraid I was not going to visit her having heard I was sick. I had a very pleasant visit indeed. eve returned to Sister Godards and was sick all night. having taken a cold. tho was very carefull

Thursday 3rd weather moderate felt better. finished the waist of Sister Louis dress and was reading.

Friday 4th the weather pleasant about Noon to day I left Sister Godards for home. having spent 2 weeks with her and never was I more kindly treated. it seemed to me that the good Spirit of the Lord continualy dwelt under that Roof. and blest us with its cheering presence I was contented and happy for all arround me seemed happy and I could not be otherwise.

I rode home with Bro. Perry. We crossed the River on the Ice which cracked’ and was broken in many places. but through the goodness of God we arrived home in safty and found the folks all well. eve I was sick with the dumb Ague but rested pretty good after 12 oclock

Saturday 5th pleasant weather to day I commenced writing a letter to my Husband. to send to New Orleans by Bro Scovil. felt quite unwell. eve was reading

Sunday 6th the weather pleasant was writing in my letter. Bro Woodruff preached at the scool house close by and and came home with our folks and
took dinner with us. we had a very Interesting visit with him. he told us a
good deal about what he had seen in London’ and other parts of England.
before he left us I told him’ if he would pray for me. I felt the Ague would
leave me. this he did’ and gave me a good blessing said the Angles watched
over me &C and that I should recover and enjoy health. Eve was reading.

Monday 7th weather moderate AM sewing PM went to Br Barlows’ with
father & Mother. were we met with Sisters Palmer. Ellen W. & [Mary Ann
Huntley] Burnum. Eve Br [Joseph F.] Palmer came. we had an Excellant
Supper’ set out in fine order. had a pleasant visit’ altho I was not very well

Tuesday 8th Weather rather cold AM Sister [Betsy Asenath Davis] Boaly
came with 2 children and made us a visit. PM I visited at Sister Shimers’
with Ellen W Woolly and had a good visit. spent the Eve

Wednesday 9th comfortable weather to day Mother visited visited at
Mother Snyders. was writing sewing &C Eve Ellen W called to see me and
we had quite a Chatt together

Thursday 10th weather rather cold was binding one of my bed quilts.
finished it. Eve I rode up with Bro Barlows folks’ to Bro Snyders party at
Sister Janes house. I danced with Bros Jacobs. D Cahoon. & Dalton had
quite a pleasant time. rode back with Bro B

Friday 11th the weather moderate to day Olive Smith visited with us. I
felt quite unwell. was sewing & reading

Saturday 12th weather somewhat cold commenced writing a letter to
my father. Eve was sewing & reading

Sunday 13th pleasent Weather to day there was a meeting out doors at
the Stand’ the first since last fall. Br Kimball preached. I was at home all day
reading and writing. Eve father & Mother went to see Uncle Willard who is
still very sick. and Amelia & Jane came to see me. and spent a short time
with me which I enjoyed much

Monday 14 weather pleasent was writing in my journal. eve sewing and
reading

Tuesday 15 pleasent weather to day Mother was washing. I washed a few
things for my self. and helped Mother about the work’ but was quite unwell

Wednesday 16th weather moderate AM I Ironed PM I visited at Miss
Ellen Spencers. and had a very pleasent visit. Eve I called to see Sister
Bullock. after which I returned home. were I was alone all the Evening our
folks having gone to meeting was reading

Thursday 17th weather comfortable AM was sewing. PM writing in my
journal. Jane and Amelia came in the Evening and brought me 2 letters. one
from My Husband. and the other from my Brother Roger in PA whom I
had not heard from’ for more than 2 years. he wrote me a real Sectarian
letter’ inviting me to go back there’ and live &C &C

but twas not so with my husbands letter. this breathing nothing but
faithfullness love and desire to do good. I read it to the family and Amelia
read Janes. and they were truly cheering and reviving. I think we all enjoyed a real feast before I retired I read my letters again and returned my sincere thanks to my Heavnly Father who had again permited me to hear from my dearest friends. and for all his kindness and unseacing goodness toward them’ and me

Friday 18th  wet mom but pleasent PM to day was writing in my journal by fathers request I read my letter to Bros Pulcipher and Camball. also read it to Sister Rhodyback. Eve was reading

Saturday 19th weather pleasent mom I rode with Bro Barlow’ up to Uncle Willards. on a hay rack found Uncle W still very sick and unable to talk much. I went to Uncle Levis. with Aunt Rhoda’ and took dinner. came back and took supper & spent the Eve at Uncles Ws. slept with Aunt Rhoda

Sunday 20th weather pleasent took breakfast at Uncles Levis. AM visited with 2 familys. PM I went to see Francis Swan’ and tell her of the death of her mother’ as my husband had requested me in his letter. this news grieved her much. O how much rather would I have been the bearer of more cheering tidings. after this I called to see Emaline Haris [Emmeline B. Wells] at Bishop Whitneys and got a Book of Poetry’ her own Composition to read. with permision to write off a piece on true freindship. here I saw Brother Kimball and presented my husbands respects to him. as he had desired me to in his letter. I then called at Br E Woolleys were I Eat some Walnuts and my supper. after which I returned to Uncles Ws were I spent the Eve. slept with Aunt Rhoda

Monday 21st the weather pleasent was at Uncle Levis sewing for Aunt Sarah. had them [L & S] cite their lessons in Greek. to Br Phelps’ who trancelated these words’ and he received from God the Father honer Glory. which afterwards read’ and he recived in presence of Gods’ Father honer and Glory. Eve I took supper at Uncle Willards. while eating sister Jane came in. and she and Amelia and myself’ went up to Br J Youngs’ to see Melinda Wood. we stayed about an hour and then came back. after this I had a visit with Uncle W and Combed his head. slept Aunt Rhoda

Tuesday 22nd fine weather AM took breakfast at Uncle Levis. took Miss [Emmeline] Haris book home & called at E Woollys. were I eat some bread & butter with Ellen. Sister Swan called to see me at Uncle Levis. PM I left Uncles. and visited at Sister Bensons’ with Sisters PP and O Pratt. whom Sister B had invited to visit with me. I had a very pleasent visit indeed enjoyed it very much. after which I called at Br Scovils’ to see Emmy who
was sick' with the Lung fever I then went to Janes were I spent the Eve’ and Night. enjoyed it much.

Thursday 24\textsuperscript{th} weather moderate to day Sister Jane and I went to Sister Lennards & made a visit I stayed all night’ and in the Eve Sister L and I was reading

Friday 25\textsuperscript{th} the weather pleasent AM I returned home’ havind [having] enjoyed my visits all arround. PM I commenced writing a letter to my Husband. Eve was binding me another bed quilt

Saturday 26\textsuperscript{th} weather fair AM I helped Mother clean house. PM I visited with her and and Sister Green’ at Bro Rhodybacks’ and went with the latter and made a call at Br Barlows’ where I saw Br Candland & his wife [Mary Ann Barton Candland]. Eve was sewing

Sunday 27\textsuperscript{th} weather moderate AM the folks all went to meeting. PM I was reading’ PM was writing in my letter. Eve was in Br Rhodybacks alittle while. after which I was reading

Monday 28\textsuperscript{th} the weather pleasent Mother washed and Ironed and I did the house work. and sewed Eve I was at a party at Br Mellons were we had some music and some good Singing. also refreshments past arround. this Eve I became acquainted with Br [John Streeter] Gleeson and his Wife [Desdemonia Chase Gleason]. was often asked if I had heard from my Husband lately and when he was coming home. I enjoyed myself pretty well although I always feel lonely at a party were I can see almost every Woman Woman enjoying the Sociaty of her Husband except myself

Tuesday 29\textsuperscript{th} weather cold AM I helped Mother clean the house and Cook PM Sisters Ess and Green came and made us a visit. I entertained them’ by reading them parts of my husbands letters I told them it was evident that my husband and I were One’ from the fact’ that I could not even entertain Company’ without his assistance &C altho so far away. eve was in Samuel Woolleys writing off some Poetry\textsuperscript{12}

Wednesday 30\textsuperscript{th} March first. cold day AM was writing in my journal. PM Mother and myself visited with Brother Moses. their house smooked some which caused me to take cold we were treated very kindly. had a good supper. I received an invitation to visit at Sister Swans Eve I was at home’ sewing & reading

Thursday 2\textsuperscript{nd} it snowed alday. and was very cold. was was writin in my Journal. I had a confab with father who undertook to make me beleve’ that Adam never transgressed. but Eve had. and that the Woman alone’ was under transgression. but the man was not. I then asked him why it was that Man was Cursed if he had not trangressed. he said man was not coursed but the Woman was. I then asked him why it was. that the Earth was coursed for mans sake and that he was to Eat of it in sorrow all the days of his life’ and get his bread by the sweat of his face. he then read me a line from the Prophesy of Enock’ were it says. the Man was not deceived’ but the woman
being deceived was in the tracegression. this says I does not prove to me that the Man was not under transgression. if you should tell me I must not Eat a sertin thing and I should go and eat that thing’ would I not have transgressed your commands &C &C

I mean says I to ast Uncle W about these maters’ he is always telling me to ask him questions.

you will remember (then) said he I did not tell you that man was not under transgression &C

I most certinly understood you so said I. Mother then Asked him a question’ but instead of Answering her. he told her she had aught to ask Mary. that says I’ is the same as to say. Mary seems to know everything ask her. but says I have made no pretentions. to knowledge that I am aware of. and I feer that I have merited no such Insinuation

I told you said he to Mother’ to get Mary to ask Uncle W. as she was going to ask him some questions it seems said I. to be the hardest thing in the World’ for us to understand one another’ when we talk &C &C (This he acknowledged) this I said because I knew I was not mistaken. but he would have considered me impertant impertinant had I told him so. our debate lasted More than an hour. Eve was sewing

Friday 3rd the snow very deep but the weather moderate was writing in my Journal. Eve spent an hour in Br Rodybacks. talking about the Gospil &C. finished binding my Quilt

Saturday 4th the weather cold I helped Mother Clean house. then wrote in my Journal Eve I riped the waist of my white dress apart with the intention to alter it. more fasionable.

Sunday 5th weather quite cold AM father and Mother went to meeting and stayed till 4 oclcock PM I was writing until 2 PM in my Memerandom Sister Jane then came and spent the PM I got supper for her and me and we had an agreeable visit together. Eve I read the life of General Z Taylor in a Almanac and an account of the war in Mexico

Monday 6th weather Pleasent helped mother do up the work and was writing in my Journal. eve Bro Candland was here’ and spent one hour. I was sewing & reading

Tuesday 7th AM weather warm PM windy was altering my white dress. Bro Joseph Fielding’ was here & made quite a visit’ is just recovering from a severe fit of sickness. we was talking about the Resurrection Melleneum &C Eve I visited at Br Woolleys’ and had a good supper. was heming me a table Cloth

Wednesday 8th weather moderate was sewing on my dress. Eve father and Mother went to prayer meeting I was at home sewing and reading Sister Rollins called to see me.

Thursday 9th weather cold yet pleasent was sewing on my white dress Eve PM I visited at Sister Mellon’ and enjoyed my visit much Eve Bro
Cnadland spent one hour with us talking about the affairs I spent the twilight with Sister Rhodyback.

Friday 10th the weather pleasant AM I helped mother about the work. PM I visited with Sister Mellon’ and enjoyed myself much’ had a good supper finished altering my dress. today Henry returned home from Brigham’s farm with 15 Bushels of corn. well and in good spirits. Eve a report reached our hears that Frankin & Samuel had arrived in New Orleans’ and although we did not learn from whence it originated’ yet and could only hope it was true. yet it seemed as tho it put new life with us’ and caused our hearts to rejoice in the prospect of so soon being permitted to enjoy the Society. of those we so dearly love. Oh! Lord grant that the news may be true’ and we soon see their much loved faces again in peace’ and enjoy thy smiles.

Saturday 11th weather pleasant till night then windy. AM Was cleaning house. cooking &C PM Sisters Hartwell and Slaid came and made us a visit with their 2 Babes. I enjoyed their Company much was sewing on my Scotch Calico dress eve I was reading in the St Louis Organ.

Sunday 12th weather cold & windy AM the family all went to meeting. and I was at home writing in my journal PM Sister Orcer came home with the folks and took dinner with us. the two Sisters Bullocks [Henrietta Rushton Bullock and Lucy Caroline Clayton Bullock] was also here and drank a Cup of Coffee’ and eat some pye. I had another dumb Ague and after their departure I went to bed’ and was afflicted with the fever till Eve

Monday 13th weather cold yet pleasant. felt pretty slim all day. mended me a couple of dresses. Eve went into Sis Woolleys and borrowed me a book to read. and was sewing and writing journal

Tuesday 14th weather pleasant AM was reading and sewing. PM 12 oclock father brought in a Star just from England belonging to Sister Jane. I read it nearly through. then went and made a visit at Bro W Millers. I felt quite unwell with the Ague before I started from home and thought I would try for a change what affect a walk would have upon me. the Ague however kept pace with me. sister M prevailed with upon me to lay down on her bed and rest after which I felt much better. Eve I walked up to Sister Jennes’ and spent the Night with her. had a good long talk with her

Wednesday 15th weather pleasant tho somewhat windy. was at Sister Jennes until 11 oclock AM then went to see Uncle Willard’ found him much better. I took dinner [with] him alone. he gave me a News Papper to read a story that was in it. which I did. I remained there until 3 PM. then left and came to Sister Janes. were I remained till Sun down’ and had a very pleasant Conversation with her then returned home. on my way thither I called to see Sister Jenne who was upon the bed sick. when I got home I found the house alone the family being gone to Meeting. to day they had killed the Pig. Eve I was sewing.
this night a Young Bro by the name of Row. stayed with us. he was one of our dear Brother Joseph’s Mess Mates’ in whose Arms he lay’ when his gentle Spirit took its departure to that being who gave it. he spoke much in praise of our dear departed Brother’ said he was one of the best young Men he ever saw &C &C

Thursday 16th weather very warm I was quite unwell all day. father was Cutting up’ and Salting down his Meat Mother was trying [frying] out the Lard &C &C I helped about the work all I was able. today the house was thronged by about ½ a dossen Indians. we had also several of the Bre call to see us’ as well as 2 or 3 sisters. PM Sister Jane came to see us and spent the Eve I enjoyed her visit much H[enry] went home with her. today I got a letter from Fathers folks

Friday 17th weather very warm yet windy by spells. was helping Mother do the work. today Melinda Wood visited with us. I enjoyed her very much. altho she seemed somewhat low Spirited. I entertained her as well as I was able gave her some Poetry to read’ also read to her some parts of my husbands letters. and had a pleasant tete tete with her. to day I commenced to turn Henrys Cap. Eve Brother Barlow was here and spent one hour. was sewing

Saturday 18th the weather pleasant was helping about the work. and finished turning Henrys Cap. PM Br Mellen & Ormas Bates was in and spent some time talking on Prinsaples &C Eve I was cutting out Pieces’ in the form of a Star for a Bed quilt

Sunday 19th weather pleasant until Eve when we had some thunder. Lightning. and rain at 12 oclock I went to meeting at the Stand where we were addrest by Bro O Pratt upon the Plurality of Gods he proved from Scripture that we are the Sons & Daughters of God (and that Jesus Christ was our Elder Brother’ who through his birth right has become our Savour and our God) and as a Child grows up and be comes like his father. so we grow up like our Heavenly Father and pertake of all his Attributes’ and in time shall become just like him Even Gods. he said that God himself was once Man like unto us. who was ameanable to a higher Power for his conduct. and had a Father &C &C the question said he will naturally arise in your mind’ were did the first God come from’ and how was he Created. The Christian world in geen general’ admit that he existed from all Eternity and there is only 2 ways he must either have existed’ from all Eternity. or otherwise have had a creation. and how could he have been Created as there was no living being. or Spirit in Existence. this would naturally be supposed to be imposable I will tell you what my Cogitations are’ but do not wish to consider that I teach it as doctring or believe it as such.

he then gave us a view of what the World must have been E’er the Earth, &C &C was formed said the matter then Existed out of which all things were made that now exist. and he suposed that there was a kind of Intelligent
Matter' that had the Power of self Movement. and as Intelegence cleaveth to Intelegence' so one particle of intellegent Matter cleaveth to another' and at last a combination of this Matter' formed an Intelegent Spirit &C &C Bro Woodruff said he beleived what Bro Pratt had said was true. and that he had been well pleased with his remarks &C &C after which a Hymn was sung. and he dismissed the meeting. I then went to see Sister Jenne who was sick' and told her what I could remember about what had been Preached. also read her the Epistle of the Twelve to all Nations.

then agreeable to Mother Snyders urgent request I went home with her and took Tea &C had quite a pleasant chatt with her' then returned home amidst drops of rain. Eve I was in Br Rodybacks alittle while after which I was reading and writing talking &C &C

Monday 20th weather lowery and cold. was Making my Scotch dress of Blue. and helping Mother about her work’ Who was making a Sociges. Eve was Cutting out Pieces. for a quilt

Tuesday 21st weather moderate AM was preparing to receive Company and at 12 oclock I had the unspeakable pleasure of receiving a letter from my Husband. Br Bullock brought it to me’ and read it (the first time I ever permitted any one to read one of my letter before reading it myself) then carried it back to Uncle Willard who was very impatiant to hear it. it gave me great joy as it always does to hear once more from my dearest freind’ and espacially to hear that he was soon to return. Oh! Our Father in Heaven do thou be pleased to preserve him as in the hollow of thy hand’ from all danger both on Sea and Land and bring him speedly and safely to my Arms’ for thou knowest that my Bosom yearns to see him once more and enjoy his sweet sociaty PM 3 of Wm Millers Ladys came and Made us a visit’ also Sisters Barlow. and S Woolly. and very unexpectedly Jane Hall. or Richards. we got them as good a supper as we possabley could and was glad to see that they appeared to enjoy it. Eve father brought in Br [William P.] Mcantire (and his wife [Anna Patterson McIntire]) to play afew tunes for us on his violin these put the Spirit of dance into the company. and finely we danced 4 French 4s. after which a part of the company took their leave appearing well satisfied with their visit &C. Br Mcantire and his wife stayed longer and took some refreshments’ talked about Br Joseph Smiths death and the results &C &C

Wednesday 22nd a pleasent day Mother visited at Sister Jennes. I made a loaf of Bread. cooked Beans. scuched coffee. fed the Calf. washed dishes. cleaned the house. and eve sewed on my dress. Eve Sister Rollins came to see me about coming to work for me. made her Eat Supper with me after which I was writing in my Journal read my letter to Sister Rodyback. also Sister Rolins by Fathers request to day father told me a secret on purpose he said’ to try or prove me wither I could keep one or not. said if he could find one who could keep one he would consider that person a prize &C
Thursday 23rd a cold windy day AM Aunt [Fanny Young] Murry. Sister Benson &C stoped in their Carrige to see us’ and said they would come next Thursday and make us a visit. at 12 oclock Sister Haven came and spent the day with us. enjoyed her visit much’ in my estimation she is one of the Choisest of Women’ eve I walked with her as far as Sister Janes. she then invited Jane and myself to go and spend the next day with her. I spent the night with Jane very agreeably we talked until after midnight

Friday 24th weather pleasant AM went with Jane to see Sister Jenne. at noon went with her to Sister Havens’ agreeable to former ingagements. and assisted Miss Sarah Hill to quilt a Quilt. (she being living with Sister Haven) Sister [Almira Merrill] Lamb also visited with us we had a very Plesant visit indeed. from there we went to dancing Scool (about 5 oclock) were I took a number among the rest’ and danced several times. a few of the Brethren then hired the fid’ler to play a while longer’ and Jane ane me accepted an Invetation from Br R Camball and stayed until 12 oclock’ he and Henry then accompanied us home to night I injoyed tollerable well. danced just as much as I wanted. and stayed all night with Jane

Saturday 25th weather rather windy stayed with Jane till noon. then took leave of her and called to see Sister Jenne. from there I came to Sister Maces and spent the PM. with her and Elizabeth [Lydia Taft] Webb. enjoyed my visit much’ and in the Eve returned home and Quilled [Quilted] a Cap for Mother. to day I hemmed some Insersion for Aunt Sarah

Sunday 26th weather pleasent was at home all day writing a letter to my Father. Eve Jane and Amelia came and spent the evening with us. was much pleased with their visit

Monday 27th weather very pleasant AM I assisted Mother do the work and cleard out my red Chest. and and put my things back in order again. filled up some Cracks in the floor’ with Earth to prevent things from falling through. Moped [mopped] under my Bed &C PM was sewing on my new dress in Br Rodybacks. and spent the eve in Br Woolleys sewing.

Tuesday 28th a cold windy day AM I finished making my dress. PM I made a visit to Br Fielding in company with Sisters Cobb [or Coal] and E Wilding’ saw Sister Hyrum Smith and enjoyed my visit much’ was knitting Edging. Eve home writing journal.

Wednesday 29th AM weather pleasant PM windy. to day Sister Rollins did a large washing for us. I helped about the work allday and got so tired that I had a high fever. PM Amelia and Ellen Richards [Partington] came and made us a visit. Evening was cutting out Stars for quilt

Thursday 30th weather windy & cold AM was cleaning house’ and preparing for Company. PM expecting Sisters Benson and [Fanny] Morrey but they did not come. I commenced to make me a new night dress. Evening was cutting out pieces
Letters to Samuel Richards, November 1847 to February 1848

Camp of Israel. Winter Quarters. Omaha Nation. November 17th 1847

My Dearest Friend and beloved Husband.

I am once more seated with my desk upon my lap and pen in hand to write with the intention of writing a few more lines to you. which I sincerely pray may reach you safely and find you in the enjoyment of health and all other needfull blessings. my health is tolerable good at present father Mother & Henry are tolerable well also. the Lord be praised for this and every other blessing. for I think we have experienced enough ill health this Sommer to make us know how to appriciate a day of health when it pleases our Heavenly father to bestow that blessing upon us. Mother and I have been taking turns in being sick all Sommer. but have been so fortunate as not to be sick both at a time except once. and that only for 2 or 3 days. I have just recoverd from a very severe attact of the Chills and fever (the first time I ever was afflicted with that disease) had the first Chill on Sunday Oct 23rd in the evening soaked my feet. took composision and retired. had a very high fever through the night. Monday had another and was very sick all day evening at my own request I went through a course of medicine in hopes that would have a tendency to retart the progress of my desease but every day this week found me worse and worse I have never endured so high a fever since in this Country. I sufferd a great deal though. I have seen the time that I sufferd more (viz just before we left Nauvoo.) but I sufferd all I wanted too I assure you. Oh Samuel ’tis when I am Sick that I miss you the most when on a hard and narrow bed. alone and sleepless here I lay. No friend to ease my Pillow for my head. or moist my lips when parched and dry. O Samuel dear it was not so. when thou was by my side. for thou didst seek my wants to know. and hasten to supply.

On Sunday the 30th Uncle Willard and the rest of the Twelve (PPP & Taylor excepted) arrived in the City. with the Pioneers. the former sent me his blessing (having heard that I was sick.) and said I should get well. next day the family all received an invitiation and went and visited at Uncle Ws and Lovica Jenne came and stayed with me. eve Amelia came home home with them to see me. Uncle W sent me word that he should expect to see me at his house the next day. said he wanted to see me very much but was not able to come and see me. next morn Bro Cambell came to invite the family to a family meeting at uncle Ws in the eve said that uncle W said he should expect to see me among the rest and he knew he was in earnest from the manner in which he spoke. I could not help smiling at the Idea that he
could expect one who had not left her bed for Six days and nights. except while it was made. to come a $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to see him. and said in a joke to Bro C will you bring a weelbarrow and take me there. he said he would do any thing that I wished that was in his power if I would go. well said I if you will I will go. Mother seemed quite Shocked at my presumption and asked if I would think of such a thing after being so closely confind. I told her if Uncle W said I could go I was willing to try. so he came at the apointed time with a Carrige and I went. Bro C carrid me into the house. and uncle W received me from his arms and led me into his bed room were I lay down on his bed. he then kneeled down by the bedside. and I had a sweet little viset with him. he told me I should be blessed for coming and be made whole. he kissed me for you and Asked me if twas not just as good as though I had got it from you. I told him it would answer very well for a substitute in the meeting he uncle Levi and father laid hands upon me and Uncle W blessed and prayed for me. Oh he offerd up such a sweet prayer for you there was just every thing included in it that my fond heart could wish you to enjoy and I might say the same in regard to that part of it that was ofer’d up in my behalf. we enjoyed a very interesting meeting I stayed all night. and the next day went into Uncle Ls and took a walk in the Gardin. had a good viset. and in the eve’ bro C brought me home again in the Carrige. Since that I have been recovering’ have had no Chills since and I pray God I may never have another. but I think I have writon enough on that strain and as much as you will want to hear.

last Monday I worked hard all day making Pumkin Butter. in hopes that you would be here this fall or winter to help me eat it. but I sopose there is no sic good luck for mary. about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 Oclock in the evening I received a letter from you which I can assure you was more than wellcome. althou it did say that I had got to live alone another winter. It was dated Sep 8th on that day I often wonderd if you rimemberd that ’twas my birth day did not know you had chosen it as a day to communicate your thoughts to me. you wonder if I remembre the 9th of Aug to convince you that I did. I will extract a few lines from my dayley journal writon on that day.

This day 23 years ago  
My Husband dear was born  
O may he live with joy to hail  
A thousand Anniversary morns  
Live to Thy praise O heavenly King  
Upright and pure without a stain.  
To do the work that thou assigns  
And in thy Presence favor find.  
O may he as a Husband Act ’ere  
In love and wisdom Act his part
The failings of his Mary bear
For true he clings around my heart. &C & so on.

yes Samuel I rememrberd it and like you contemplated the many and various scenes through which we both have been called to pass. since that day one year ago. and rejoiced to think that it was past even in the way it has. and the recollection that we both have been endeavering to obey Council and do the will of our Heavenly Father caused a feeling of satisfaction to thrill through my bosem. and I felt to pray unto him that the end of every Year might find us both as earnestly engaged in the Path of our duty. although I cannot wish’ that every year’ should find us under the same circumstances’ for there is so much selfishness about me’ that I think I should want to spend some of our birth days in your Sociaty. but go daft ’twill be few that I shall [have] the privaledge to enjoy

Thursday 18th 2 Oclock PM. I again resume my Pen. I wonder how my Samuel is today. I was sorry to hear that your health was not so good. my dear do try and be as carefull of your health as possable’ and favour your self all you can and live for my sake’ for in you is reposed all my hopes of happiness. forever. I never saw the time in all my life that I had so much ambision about living. if I get sick I must be prayed for’ take medicine or some thing must be done to hasten my recovery. ’tis all for your sake and for your comfort and happiness that I wish to live. Oh! that I may ever be blessed with Patiance and with the Spirit of the Lord. that I may ever find favour in your sight' and answer all your expectations. you say you hope I will not feel cast down’ because I cannot see you as soon as I expeced &C I had fondly hoped to have seen you this winter but as it is as it is. I sopose I can possabley say as much as Bro P P P said his wife said-if-I must-! I can-! (endure your absence another Winter) I should have been very very happy I can assure you it could have been otherwish. but it is no [illegible] thing for me to be disapointed I have no doubt my love’ but it will be for our best good. and I pray that you may be blessed with means sofisint to take us over the Mountains (altho I should not be muckle soprised if you and I should not see the Mountains for some years yet. but say nothing to anyone) but I have found out to my satisfactions that some one14 (who thinks he has a right to I suppose) is looking some years into the future’ and planning out work for you. twill all be right Samuel dear. but for my sake keep this within your own bosem! beleve me Samuel I do not want to do any thing that is wrong if I can help it. so if I should write you short sentences or even leave out something that you might think I could write just as well as not do not think it strange. (in that which follows as well as that wich is past.) I saw a Map of the Great Salt Lake City a few days ago I think there will not be mutch crowding there as there is an Achre & quarter alowed to each person for building spot and gardin. I saw writon on 3 Lots joining to one another’
“Tis when I am Sick’ that I miss you the most” 201

Phinehas R. F D R. and Samuel W Richards. so you can see that some one looks to your Intrest when you are not here to look to it your self. I have permission to write all I know about the City. (you may judge how far my knowledge extends) but as the Twelve are about to Publish a burcler [brochure], you will excuse me if I for bear to write any thing about it. and when you come I will tell you all I have heard. a word to the wise tis not nessasary that the world should know all our prospects

[page 3] I am very sorry that Br Littlefield has done as he has. (but should be more sorry if it had been my Samuel. but thank heaven I have no trubule on that score) I should not be sorprised if he gets a repreamand from the 12 and called home into the bargin. me thinks if he had done as he was expected to do’ I should have had my husband at home this Winter.15 I have not bought a house’ and the reason why I made mension of it in my letter was because that bros Willey (who you once took care off when sick) and Sheets had just sold their houses for six dollers each and they were very comportable ones and such as would just have suted me for this Place. and I thought how pleasent it would seem to go and keep house for you should you return this fall. and that to before you was abliged to build one for I dreaded the thought of having to live in with another family. and I hoped ’twould be the desire. of my Samuel to live along [alone] also.I received your letters by Bro Scovil on the 3rd of Oct the next day I received [hole] 3 pounds you sent by him. which were very acceptable as I had [hole] one dollar remaining. plenty of calls for that. but the letters [hole] was what was the most wellcome that night we all feasted upon [hole] I assure you. the Money you sent by Candland. I have not received I beleve I wrote you an account of his trials when coming [hole] on a Scrap that I put in a letter that father wrote. on rather I beleve in one that Jane wrote. to F. Bro C I expect is in rather poor sircumstances’ would I beleve be glad to pay me if he had the means. I rejoice to hear that the work of God God is still prospering among the Nations of the Earth and I feel to praise his holy name for all the blessings’ werewith he has blessed you in that he has made you instrumental in his hand in bringing many Souls unto a knowledge of the truth. oh may you be blessed & prosperd in all your in all your [sic] endeavers to do good. and ever be enabled to live with an Eye single to the Glory of God. is the sincere prayer of your Mary. I was very glad to hear that my freinds in Eng were all well. have you seen sister Ann. I should much [like] to hear from her please remember me very kindly to them all. I should hope to see some of them with you when you come. May the Lord bless them all. I have received all your letters as far as I have had any knowledge of them the letter dated July 5th was I beleve the last letter [washed out] rote you. but I expect you will have learned by this time that it is [washed out] the last time that I have writon to you or that you have had theprivelige of hearing from me. father wrote 2 letters to you & F in July on the 26th I wrote you a Scrap which he enclosed
in one of them. in September I wrote a letter to my folks in Eng. on the 28th
I wrote a half sheet to you which I sealed and enclosed in the former. on the
4th of Oct I wrot another letter to Brothers & Sisters in order that you might
hear from me should you still be there. on the 17th I wrote another Scrap to
you. which Sister Jane who started on that day for St Joseph Mo. took with
her’ and I expect enclosed in a letter to F. F. if you should happen to hear
from me by the above wont you then give me the credit of writing to you
once in 3 Months Oh Samuel my dear you need not upbraid me if I did say
I would write again in 3 months for I think there is scribling enough in one
of [tear] letters to last that long or at least to weary your patience (as I should
think it would.) so that you would be glad to have a intervall at least of 3
months. ’tis 10 Oclock here so I must bid you a good night. or rather wish
you a good Morning for I supose ’tis morning with you.

Friday morn 19th Good morn to you my love’ and may you this morn
enjoy health. Peace. and plenty. Mother has just returned from Uncle Levis
were she has been watching all night with with Amelia who is very sick with
the Measles’ Heber John & Rhoda Ann have just recoverd from the Measles.
little willard has now got them. Uncles Willard & Levi and the rest of the
family are as well as usual for them. Aunt Rhoda is some what tried and
worn out with taking care of Amelia.

evening since writing the above. I have had a Chill. after which I was
very much afflicted with Pain for a short time. got father to lay hands on me
and got immediate relefe. feel quite comfortable this eve. I broke them the
last time with Quinine. and Uncle W. and my freinds put on the climax of
faith and prayer. I shall try them again if my case requires it. but I pray my
heavenly father that he will grant that the past may sofise

[page 4] if I was only permited to look into’ the future and know of a
certainty that I should be no worse’ I would not write tonight. but lest it should
be otherwise I will endeavour to write a few lines. last Tuesday eve I had a
first rate visit with Bro H B Jacobs and his wife’ he arrived here about a week
ago. his health is quite pour. he wishes me to give his love to you’ and tell you
he is still troubled with bleeding at the lungs. he speeks very highly of the
English Bre Sisters and often prays the lord to bless them. he says he said
something to you about bringing him a Cap. he wishes you to bring him a
Plaid also and he will pay you Bro Scovil seems very healthy. the other bre I
belive have not yet arrived. Mother wishes me to write her love to you and
Franklin. says she is waiting very impatiantly to see you return’ but will try &
be as patiant and [as] posable. she has just reminded me that it is the
Anniversary of the Night that Brother Joseph died there was a couple of the
Brethren who helped take care of him when Sick and bury him when dead.
stayed with us one night ashort time ago. from whom we learned the
particulars of his illness and death. he was able to walk about more or less
unto the day of his death. he talked much about and was very anxious to return
home we were all much pleased with the Poetry you wrote on his death think it is very appropriate and worthy a peace in print Henry sends his love (Mother says he is sitting in the Corner Cracking Hazle nuts) he says he has only gathered one Bushel but if you will come home this winter he will give you some to pay for that Candy that you are going to bring him I think he merits it pretty well so you may venture to bring him some. he asks me every once and again if it can comfort my heart any—if he will do something or other for me. I have not heard from Maria of late. expect to hear from her when Jane returns. who we are now expecting daily. and my anxiety to see her makes the time seem very long I assure you. Jane seems very dear to me’ the more so I supose because we have [sic] been together in hours of affliction and sorrow and because our situations are some what similar and we can sympathize with each other. Bro Fs letter accompanied by the 17th and 18th Numbers of the Star. came in the same Mail with you[r]s. so we are Ignorant of what he has writon as yet. wish Jane was here to enjoy them.

Saturday 20th feel as well as usual. this morn’ how are you my love. hope you are well. Maria was well when we last heard from her. Wolter had gone to St Louis to get a fit out. will I expect stay till Spring. Mother wants you to bring her a woolen lincy dress when you come she will need one very much by another winter. you will also remember that she needs Muslin for a Cap to wear at certain times. &C if you bring any dresses for me’ I need dark ones for every day wear the worst. I would bring me a pair of Slippers No. 3 large or 3 & ½. Mother I expect would be glad of a pair also. the same size would fit her also. we shall need considerable Cotten Cloth before we go to the mountains’ I have usued one of the waggon Covers to line a couple of quilts with this Summer. you will remember my dear that there is a good deal to be done preparatory to our journey’ should we go West next Spring. you will also have heard that we have no Waggons or Oxen. and only one cow Cow. and as the Companyes will start much earlyer next Spring’ it will be nessasary that you should start at least (and latest) by the first of January. as my sheet is full I must draw to a Close the Lord bless and preserve you love. from your wife Mary H Richards

Aunt Rhoda Amelia Uncle Willard & Levi wish a remembrance to you and F. with many of our freinds please remember me very kindly to Brother Franklin tell him Jane was well with the exception of a cold when we last heard from her. which was about 2 weeks ago. I saw Brother Spencers family on Thursday eve. were all well except his 2nd Daughter who is just recovering from the Measles. and she is doing well are sweet girls

I read him the verses you composed on Joseph’s death. to the 3rd he claped his hands’ and exclaimed Oh Glory. when I had finished he requested me to write him a copy which I agreed to do. good night love and the lord bless you
Oh! may the Bareque that bears you o’er
The ever restless Sea,
In safety reach’ its destined Shore.
And you’ your Native Country greet or see
O may no object intervene To stay you on your way.
But to your friends and kindred dear
May you soon in safety make your way.
O could I gaze upon thy Brow
And Print there on a kiss
on it recline and hear thy vows
’Twould be a source of bliss—

I composed the above lines a few minutes ago when recovering from a Chill you will be able to judge from their appearance

[left margin of page 3] I saw Bro G A Smith yesterday. he told me he heard good reports from you and F. said Bro Hyde said in Council’ that he did not know the worth of them Boys till he had proved them &c (need not feel vain) I told him I hoped you would soon be permitted to come home and report yourself. &c my dear I hope you will continue to write to me every opportunity. I should like to know when you expect to sail. Oh that you may have a swift and prosperous voyage. and that I may soon be permitted to embrace you. the Lord bless you forever is the prayer of your Mary

[left margin of page 1] Whisper; I have heard by the bye’ that there is quite a number of labourers going out soon to gether up the wh[heat]. and I should not wonder if Eng. & Cot [Scotland] gets a viset from [wax seal] if so they may be the bearers of a letter to you. you need not be sorprised either’ if you should see a [wax seal] from the Dozen among the rest. I have heard some hints on the subject. they say they have first rate meetings now [wax seal] Mary has not been able to attend them for 4 Sundays but she will [wax seal] must sacrifize in some degree. to retain a blessing so sweet to me as health.

[upside down on page 3] 22nd Uncle Willard has just been here and made us a sweet little visit. he sends much love to you and says he will write by the next mail if he can get time

[addressed to]
Mr. Samuel W. Richards
Star Office 39 Torbock St.
Liverpool.
England.
Care of Mr. Franklin D. Richards
Received Jan 18th 1848
Camp of Israel Winter Quarters
February 25th 1848 Noon

My Dear Samuel. 'Tis a beautyfull day. and I have just returned after spending Six days abroad visiting among my friends. and have taken up my Pen to spend this afternoon writing to you. Oh! how happy I should be' could I spend it in your presence. and have a real good tete’ tete with you all alone. I am antisapating such a visit before long. and rejoice in the prospect. I have of soon welcoming you. to your own. my health I am happy to say. is pretty good at present. have not had a Chill for near 4 weeks. nor the dumb Ague for about one week. hope we have declined partnership forever. which may the Lord grant and the glory shall be his own.

I was indeed made glad. on the eve of the 17th by receiving your kind letter dated at the Close of the of the Old Year. it gave me much joy to hear that you was well. but am sorry to hear that you had been sick. I rejoice to hear that the Lord has prospered your labours. and that you have been as an Instrument in his hand in bringing many to the knowledge of the Truth. but nothing can give me greater joy. than it does to learn that it is still your unchanging desire to do that which is right and well pleasing in the sight of God and those whom he has appointed to be our leaders here on the Earth. as well as all his Saints. Oh! that you may ever be blessed with wisdom and strenth to fortify you against every temptation and enable you to bid defiance to all the powers of the Evil one it gives me secret joy to hear my Brethren speak well of you. and learn that they have great confidance in you & F and my joy’ shall ever increase’ with the knowledge that you have not betrayed the Confidance that has or may be reposed in you. but have been faithfull in keeping all your sacred Covnants. and humble under all circumstancs’ wither in prosperity or adversity. followed by praise’ and flattery. or Evil spoken off. loved. or despised despised or what ever may be your lot

[left margin of page 1] I am told by many’ that Samuel will bring lots of money with him when he comes. I tell them I am perfectly willing it should be so though I have no such epectations myself. if it only pleases the Lord to return you to me in safty’ I care not if you have not a Cent left. if you are blest with your health and [wax seal] of Heaven we can live

[page 2] last Saturday I went to Uncle Willards’ and visited there and at Uncle Levi’s until Wednesday. the former has been very sick mostly confined to his bed for the last 2 months. I think he is now recovering. I had some good visits with him. wish I could write you all the particulars. but be patiant and I will tell you’ when you come home. one thing I have got the promis off. and that is. that it will be many years err you will be permited to settle down with the saints. and if you are permited to remain one year with them now’ twill be more than I expect. but this does not truble me much at present. I endeaver to bear as patiantly as possable my present sufferings.
without borrowing truble for the future. for I am aware that it will bring with it’ all that I shall want to endure. and my prayer is’ that we may have strenght according to our day to endure the trials of the same. and ever be found in the Path of our duty. and the Lord has promised if we love and put our trust in him. that all things shall work together for our good. and this is my desire I called on Francis Swan last Sunday and told her what you wished me to. she seems to take the death of her mother very hard. last wednesday I visited at Bro Benson’s with Sisters O & P P Pratt. spent the night with Sister Jane. and yesterday visited with her at Sister Lennards. from whence I returned this AM Sister Jane is well She with all the rest of our connections sends much love to you and F. we have just heard that Brother Wolter has returned from St Louis’ and taken Maria from St. Joseph to Westren’ [Weston] were they are now living’ and may remain there til you come. should be glad to see them come up with you. Uncle Levi and his Wife. Bro O Pratt and his Wife. and several others will start for England in the Spring. Aunt Rhoda is going to take little Levi into her charge expects to go West this Spring. her health is quite poor. tis now night most dark. and I must bid you a good night. so if now my dear your on the Sea may the winds and waves be fair for thee.

[ *left margin of page 2* ] I have contracted no debts as yet my dear for you to pay when you return. would I could say the same by or about another person who I could name. I should like to talk with you a while after you return. e’er you make all things pub lick in regard to what you possess. Not because I wish to influence your mind for or against any person. but that you may know what I think you had ought to know

[ *page 3* ] Sunday 27th 12 Oclock father and Mother are gone to meeting’ Henry is up to Brother Brighams farm. were he is gone to husk Corn on shares. and Mary is at home alone. trying to Scribble a line to you with a miserable Pen.

My dear husband’ me thinks by this time you are or et aught to be’ at or near’ New Orleans. would I knew were you now are and wither it be will with you’ or not. but why should I wish this’ for it may be you are in danger. and did I know this’ I should be miserable. but now that I do not know I will pray for your safty’ and hope for the best.

Eve Mother sends her kind love to you and Franklin she has just returned from Uncle Willards. she says he thinks he is getting better’ though he is confined to his bed most of the time. he has had a long siege of sickness’ but I trust he will soon be well. I send you a few lines by Brother Scovil to New Orleans. were I expect you will meet him. if you should not get them. I made mention of your bringing me a foot stove if you thought best I have had to beg all the letter Paper I have usued’ from father for a long time. but although he has plenty I do not like to beg. he told me when I asked him for this sheet. that I must write you to bring I dont know how much with you. I have bought
some for journals. and if you intend I should me to continu keeping one. I shall Need to have you bring me some Paper. I have now’ not more than 2 Teaspoons full of Ink. I fear ’twill not last me till you come you will please bring some with you. I have been bought me six Quills as many months ago. and have used them till there is no more use to them. I begin to think ’tis about time for my Husband to come so that I need not have to write so many letters. I am tired of this way of telling my thoughts and wishes with a Pen would much rather do it with my Tounge. I think you will see by this’ that I need a new soply before I write many many more letters.

[left margin of page 3] please give as much of my love as you can spare to fathers folks. I sent a letter to them last week in which I cuppyed one from Brother Roger. I have not had a line from them since the letter sent by Bro Phelps. my health I am happy to say is still improving hope I shall be healthy and rugged when you come home

[page 4] if you have not all ready got them’ I shall need much a soply of thread. Needles. Pins. Pens. &C I should also like 2 or 3 Pounds of cotten Batten. and a Pound or so of Cotten Yarn for stoc the Clock has just struck 10 this eve I have been reading a Star which Jane has received to day Publiced Dec first. I must now bid you a good night. praying the blessings of the Heaven to rest upon you do hast home as soon as you can I am as ever your unchanged and affectionate Wife

Mary H Richards

[addressed to]  
Mr. Samuel W Richards  
St. Louis Missouri  
Care of Mr. John Parker  
between Franklin Avenue and wash  
recd April 31st 1848
Valentine sent by Samuel from Scotland to Mary. Courtesy of Alton F. Richards Family, in possession of Rama Richards Buchanan, great-granddaughter of Samuel and Mary. A poem on the back of the valentine reads,

This Valentine sheet With love so replete  
In constancy to thee is sent  
The Offering receive, The giver believe  
Till him you receive as he went  
S.W.R. to M.H.R.