



Wisconsin territorial letters--1845. Box 1

Folder 9

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Plattville Grant Co W. Va.
Dec 8/45

Friend Church,

It is not my intentions to trouble you with a long letter at present, as I wrote you only a few days since but as Mrs Laughton in the interim has seen fit to increase the census of our village by adding a very fine boy to the number, I deemed it so important a matter that you & the church ought to be made acquainted with it directly. Frederick George is, as the old ladies say, a handsome, healthy child. Dark hair, dark blue eyes, good forehead, & very sprightly & active; Mother & boy both doing as well as can be expected, that is, very comfortably. I assure you the happy manner in which her confinement has resulted is a great burthen off my mind as many causes led me to fear the result exceedingly one of which was her own nervousness disposing her to think she should not live thro' it; however it is all happily through with & I know you will congratulate us.

I have been somewhat surprised in not hearing from ~~England~~ but once since I returned home this summer, then Mother had ~~so~~ been very ill & am somewhat fearful that her malady (~~epilepsy~~) has returned upon her, Father however was enjoying tolerably good health, & as usual pretty

full of John Bull Jonathan, Oregon, British fleets
burn cities &c as Newman Hogg would say, talks
about the probability of war if we claim all of Oregon
which by the bye there may be some property in
but as Mr. Talleyrand says we shall soon see the
beginning of the end.

William this lady are still at her father's
we see them every day or two, Will. is quite proud
of his little nephew says for a baby his pretty enough
he is intending to go to Chrystal Lake early in the
spring.

I am not yet "through" with blasting
at that hole one of the men engaged with me has
been sick & that has kept us idle a week but we
are now at it & quite strong in the faith fully
expecting by Saturday next to have good signs
either ~~pro~~ or ^{now} we are now 32 feet & have come at
last to quite a change ~~&~~ which should it prove for the
better will be a great streak of luck to me, we keep
finding a little mineral, tending of course to cheer
up our spirits for I can assure you it needs no little
courage, hope, patience & perseverance to put down a
rock shaft 35 feet deep this time of year. If I am
successful you shall hear it speedily, if not, it is
only so much time & labor lost & some little money;
in the spring if I can get my means together
I intend following the plough for if I can only

keep my head out of water for a couple of years
the rest appears now to be very smooth sailing & I
assure you a load as we call it of 3 or 4 thousands dollars,
would set me off extremely well; still I am glad
that I am not selling goods, for although I know
it would be profitable to me, yet I am most heartily
desire the picayune trade of a country store in a
little village, it is difficult whence once engaged in it
to get out when you wish to, without loss.

I wrote to Prince last week a pretty long
letter very plain so that Tom could read it.

I cannot but feel rather tired of this
of the country, & as soon as I can, shall move more
Eastward near the Lake, the fact is, society is too mixed
with too little of really good to make the mixture worth
anything, we have no Episcopal Church & no likelihood
of one unless a Minister will come & live on air, & as I
grow older I not only feel the want of it more, but
also of being permanently settled. If I could sell my
house tomorrow, next week should see me in Chicago
add to this, a vast deal of real poverty in the mines,
for those who make anything at mining generally go away
& you may form a tolerable idea of this region.

With kindest regards to Mr Church George by yourself
not forgetting the members both of your family & Mr Church,
with whom it is my happiness to be acquainted, Mr G
cordially unites with me in subscribing myself as ever,

Yours sincerely W R Daugherty

Dear Mr. John Wilson
Montague Dec 9th 1845

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Mr. G. Church Esq/
63 Canal Street
Providence R. I.

I must beg you to excuse the erasures to in this letter
for Mr. Frederick woke up while I was writing & what
with the nursing & talking about me it is only a matter
of wonder I made out to write at all.

Fort Atkinson

July 2^d / 1845

My dear Brother

I did not write to you last
by the last mail thinking that Father & Mother
might be on their way here. They have not arrived
and I hope they have not been detained by
the illness of any of the family. Mother wrote
that Elias's baby had been sick and she seemed
to feel anxious about him. I hope he has
entirely recovered. This is dreadful weather for
the poor children. We have looked most anx-
iously for Mother for Satty has been quite
ill for two weeks with the summer complaint
he is no better. Dr King evidently does not know
what to do for him and we have no confidence
in him and he seems to have none in himself
I wrote for Aunt Charlotte to come and we
expect her today - that is if the last boat took
my letter from the Prairie she will certainly
be here to day. She wrote us last week that
the warm weather had made her so weak that
she could not even get ready to leave there
or she would have been here four weeks since

but my letter will bring her and I think she
will know what we should do for Sally -
Over this went two days time to the Prairie he
promised if he met Count C. G May to send
them him in his carriage - that would save
expense - Rodney Mc Donough has been here
to see us - his visit was an event to me but
I can scarcely say whether seeing him gave
me most pain or pleasure - it reminded me
so strongly of home - and of days which though
often troubled were happy compared with
those I have known since - we think alike
about the westeran world and he feels as
much like an exile as I do - he has
become a resident of St Louis has been there
two years and says that he is doing as well
in his profession as he could desire - how
often I have heard his friends say that his
natty fine mind would be gathered away
in trifles that he was caressed and admired
in society too much to make him willing to
earn a name - fortunately he will disappoint
them - Joe has done what ambition alone
would not have effected - it has made him
a patient plodding Lawyer willing to work
for money and fame which comes slowly -

He told me that he was engaged to Miss Webster
but must wait some time yet as they are
both poor. He says that Mr. Moorhouse has
as much hair and as little brains as ever.
Mr Hogan died the year after he married it
was a runaway match - Tragedy Comedy and
farce in one year - Mrs. Kenon has become
slender and economical - Mr. Dougherty was
to leave for Utica on his return to St Louis &
he was lamenting that instead of talking of
Sentiment, to his old friends he would have
to discuss the merits of their respective babies
and compliment their dinners. Mr. Bedlow
is fluttering his wings over the surface of Par-
Society - by the way Rodney told me a good story
about him - he was sitting one day in the Hall
of the house on Broad Street the front door open
arrayed in his oriental dusting gown and
playing on the guitar a man from the country
passed the door and said to Mrs. Bedlow in
a very compassionate tone - pray madam how
long has he been so - John Miller has turned
too attention to trade - he is I hear as mean
as his Uncle John and as coarse & unrefined
as his brother Rutgers. I hope Eliza has
a Servant and has not to stow herself over
the fire this warm weather. We sent you

Seat to off Peter's facing many might not come
but you will get it in time and if Miss Strong
admires you in question what will she think
when she sees you in Broad Cloth - for has
been absent three weeks we miss him very much
but we are not selfish enough to regret that
he went aside from his duty to his Mother
it will do him good to leave this dull place
for a time - If Mother is coming she will

much closer for want of room to go
more. We send money to you to
order some more than you require

Cosima Clark
Sept. 18th

Spouse
July 29th 1845



4th Att'mon

Sunday 29th 1845

Mr. George Clark
Lector

This concerns

Miss Anna Clark

12⁵⁰

have left home before you can receive this
but should she be there if you can avoid it
it she had better not know of Satty's illness
she would be needlessly worried. And I'll not
be so long on the way that he may be well
before you see this. I hope for most sincerely
I wish Mother could bring Ruddy with her.
I want to see her so much and hear her talk.

Dr Sir

Illawall Park Augt 19th 1845
Re 1st Septemr

Enclosed I send you three of the five receipts
which I promised you, the other two more I have
not yet been able to work, but I was in a few
days and as I have to answer Mr Coopers letter
in relation to some lands in Dane County, I will
then send them, I have rec'd his answer to
my letter respecting the answer to the bill in
Chancery to vacate the entry in Grant Co.
~~I also rec'd~~ your favor from Milwaukee
and showed it to Mr Dunn he says he is
in hopes he will have the Landley matter
settled at our next Court (October) if not
then the Term following certainly, I will
attend strictly to the leasing of the ground
provided they do any thing with Hubbard
which I am afraid they cannot for which
they offered him his first price \$1000 he
backed out and refused to sell for less
than \$1500, if they get his they will go
on, and if that is proved yours will
be, without an extensive lease, Dunn is
of the opinion that the evidence I can furnish
him here in relation to the Davis Case ^{if} can
get along with it if there is any wanted
in your City it will be brought out by
their testimony and then it can be taken

J Staats Taylor Esq
Philadelphia

Yours truly
John Bracken



100

Paid

10
J. H. Davis May 10 1863
Copy of Sherman's Report
on the Business of the Banks
Bank of the U. States
Philadelphia

Southport. Sept. 16th 1845.

Dr Sir.

I recd Your last letter by the course of mail
and have just time to say to You that I leave in
about two hours for New York. And expect to make such
arrangements for acceptance as will satisfy me. ^{If you} should
I. I will come home by Indianapolis. I shall be back,
in about four weeks.

John Fletcher Esq

Yrs very prof. & truly
George S. Willard

Sept 24/45
Gro & Miller says
he ~~had~~ has ~~donate~~
an arrengt by which
he can fit the b. sales



W. A. D.

John Fletcher Esq.
One Madison Randolph
Chowan and

756

Bro Will. This is an application for aid, made as directed by your rules, in behalf of the Bap. church in East Troy, Walworth Co. W. I. Post office address East Troy. Number of inhabitants in the village & immediate vicinity about 200. Number of communicants in the church 45. Average number of congregation on Sundays 75. Minister James Delany. Post office East Troy. Age 45 years. Number of family 8. Regularly ordained. Appointment commencing 1st March 1845. Half the time to be devoted ^{to} them \$25 dollars. \$135 pledged on this field. None of this furnished by an auxiliary or any other body. \$50 the least from the Board. No other Bap. chh. One Congregational & one Methodist chh. - The location of this village is beautiful & attractive, - sufficiently so at least to induce mechanics & others to settle here. There ^{are} good gristmill, a sawmill, 2 stores, 2 taverns, several mechanics shops & private dwellings; besides some important public & private buildings that are to be put up the coming season. The surrounding country is rich, & pretty thickly settled. There are some back-sliders, and many in the bonds of infidelity. There is no ultra or anti-slavery spirit in the chh. Nothing exists to mar their union. They number more now than influence than the other two churches. They have recently secured a beautiful site for a meeting ^{house}, but are yet unable to build. They feel grateful for past aid, and hope in long not only to support their own ministry, but to do something for the precious cause of missions. - These in facts without varnish or flourish.

The Bap. Church in East Troy W. I. concur in the foregoing application to the ~~American~~ Executive Board of the American Baptist Home Mission Society to appoint Elder James Delany as their Missionary - Done by order & in behalf of the chh.

East Troy
March 29. 1845. }

^{yours be} Agnes Delany
Gaylord Graves. Chh. Clerk

This is another application in behalf of the Bap. chh. in ~~the town~~
Palmyra, town of Sullivan Jefferson Co. W. Va. My P. O. address East
Frigg Wallworth Co. that of this chh. Palmyra. My labors here have
a bearing on a population of about 400. Number of communicants
in the chh 36. Average number of attendants on public worship 130.
Missionaries name, number of family &c. as in the other application.—
Ordained.— Appointment to commence 1st March 1845. Half the
time devoted to them, i.e. 2 sabbaths in ~~4~~. Amount of salary re-
quired 325 dollars. \$15. of that sum pledged on this field. None
furnished by auxiliaries &c. The least amount requested from
the Society \$50. There are 2 classes of Episcopal, & 1 class of Wes-
leyan Methodists. A few Congregationalists, but no chh.

Please refer to my last report for an account of this
field. It is enough here to say that it bears all the
characteristics of interest & importance.

These two churches are poor, & tell me it is almost
most stretch of their ability to raise what they have ~~pledged~~.
In Friggy the subscriptions, in bond of the chh., are liberal. They
never pretended to raise but little more than half the amount
for any former year & their anxiety that I should live with them
has influenced them to pledge so much now. The places of
worship are 15 or 16 miles apart. & I have no horse. It may not
always be able to go over the ground on foot. No man ~~East~~
would be expected to do so I expect therefore sometime to
use hired horses which will be expensive. Whatever loss the
denomination might sustain by patronizing me, I think none can
be suffered by aiding these churches, for they are of the old
Fashioned stamp.— Your compliance will ever be felt
with grateful emotions.

James Delany

The Bap. chh. in Palmyra W. Va concur in the for-
going application to ^{the Am.} Executive Board of Bap. Home Mission
Soc. to appoint Elder James Delany as their missionary
(Done by order on behalf of the chh.)

Sullivan
April 6th 1845

Nehemiah R. G. Brown Chh. Elk

Mukwonago, Wis. April 10. 1845

Rev. Benjamin M. Hill.

Dear Brother,

At a meeting held by your Wisconsin Agency at this place to day the foregoing application for aid was approved and recommended to the Board

Yours in behalf the Agency

Peter Conrad Seig.

P.S. There is an application before the Agency from Mr. Brand of the Racine Co. Wis. for \$60. The Agency recommended it, & then subsequently we heard that he could not obtain a letter from the Church at Southport. we have therefore deferred sending the application until we shall obtain further information. Yours to P. Conrad.

Dear Br. Hill,

As the missionary of the Wis. Convention, I have explored some of the new parts of the territory. I find encouragement in my labor. There are many destitute places and some brethren & sisters I have found who have been years in the territory and had never before during their residence here seen a Bap. Minister. And many I have found in the wilderness who read no religious news-paper, and were not aware that there were churches and ministers in the territory.

I have been to Prairie du Sac, the county seat of Sauk Co. on the west side of Wisconsin River, where Br. Miner constituted a church of 10 members a little more than a year ago, & baptized five. I crossed the Wisconsin on the ice intending to spend 3 or four days. During that time the ice became unsafe to cross, and regarding myself shut up to the work of the Lord in this place I preached several successive evenings the interest soon became general among Christians and others. I spent in all a month here during which time some fifteen cases of hopeful conversion occurred and I baptized eight persons while there. And delivered a Temperance address and formed a Soc. of 47 members. The scenery in this region is exceedingly wild and romantic. The people are mostly from the State of New York. there are some from Europe. Count Harrasthey from Hungary has taken up his residence & he was bred a papist but says he has no prejudice in favor of that religion. He came to hear me preach and when I left him he said shaking my hand most cordially, "Now Mr. Conrad, I promised you I will search the scriptures honestly and thoroughly and when you

come again I will tell you." I cherish the hope that while the
Count is searching the Scriptures, God will open his eyes that he may
behold wondrous things out of his Law. During the later session of our
Wisconsin Board a resolution was offered by Br. Steeney, seconded by
Dra. Stetson, advocated by Br. Matthews - to instruct me as the Missionary
of the Convention to endeavor to secure on behalf of our brethren
in bonds the prayers and votes of all Christians. After long discussion
the three above named voted for the resolution & voted against it. I told
the brethren frankly I was willing whenever it seemed to me desirable, to advocate
the cause of the oppressed, that I had repeatedly done & would continue to do,
but if they intended to send me into the field as a political partisan, I should
resign my commission. The time of my present engagement will close
in July when our Anniversary will occur I think I shall then decline to

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(1843)

Virginia Hill Esq.
Cap. Ward Mission Society
85½ Broome Street
City of New York.

S. & Delury East Hove M.R.Y.
Re March 29. 1868
Rec May 2.
Ans 17.20
for replacement
the collection & Concord

an other appointment and go into the most depths of the wilderness
and do what I may be able for my Master in some new and import-
ant part of the field. Perhaps at Prairie du Sac, I am intending soon to visit
all the northern settlements in the territory except those on the upper Wisconsin.

I suppose ere this reaches you the Crisis will have come and the Home Mission Soc. will have chosen the ground of its future operations. I do not know what course will be best, but I hope such ground will be taken that all our brethren at the north and south can co-operate upon, but I would not for my right hand wish it or approve the institution of slavery. I apprehend the North and South ^{will} separate till the storm is past and the sun can look forth upon a land whose inhabitants are all free.

Most affectionately your brother Peter Conrad.

Point Bosh Feb 15 1845.

Dear Sir

I received a letter a few days ago from father informing me that he had heard from you lately. He also makes known what he emphatically styles the news, referring to your promise to continue your favor to him and his family. I wish dear sir I had the command of language requisite to express my feelings towards you, but suffice it to say I am not insensible of the indulgence of our heavenly Father in providing us with such a friend as you. Father writes that he thinks I had better write to you soon for now say he is your chance. If you and father equally wish me well, then I think you and he will have about the same idea of my hopes and calculations by the time you get this read through.

In reading father's letter I first arose myself and with some reason I conjecture why should I be in want. And having seen a small beginning, my want cannot be by any means great nor many, I conclude moreover the object of greatest concern, the settlement of my father's family in a house on his place which seemed I have commenced on quite a considerable plan. And perhaps I might be accused, not without some foundation, of

selfishness, in that particular, seeing, father
encourages me to expect to have more or less
room ~~the~~ (according to circumstances) in the house.

Please, we'd be glad to see it well filled.

As for me, however, my necessities are
~~as I said before, unless I shall marry, and that~~
I can not think of at the present, undifectionable
as it perhaps would otherwise be to all parties,
until pecuniary circumstance shall warrant it.

I have had my eye on two lots of land
one for the cutting of grass, and the other for a
flour field, the latter joining onto fallers, which
I should be glad to own for those purposes.

If they should be bought before I can buy
them, I have other places looked out, that are
very good, embracing the advantages of timber, way
etc. If I had a few hundred dollars
now, I could invest it in a very profitable
manner and it would be repaid me exceeding-
ly. So

If you will manage to send me
some money (amount and condition, entirely
at your discretion,) you will confer a favor
upon me, and cause essential ^{gaining} to
of whom I count most highly.

There are yet a good many good loca-
tions about the Prairie undisturbed but the place
is getting more expensively known lately, and
is filling up with corresponding rapidity.

Some ~~of~~^{our} neighbors who are my intimate acquaintances are intelligent, religious, and in good circumstances. Among my particular friends are the Rev. Mr. Slingerland and his family. He talks of going to the East in the spring, and if he should happen to go to Boston I hope you will let me know. Consider him the most useful man a comfort of the country. He has favored me some, and is sociable to me. So are his family, who are of Dutch descent, and possess the general characters of the Dutch (industry, carefulness, acquisitiveness, &c.)

I am now on Wisconsin river, ten miles from the Grand Rapids, where I lived last summer with Mr. H. I was at his house a few days ago and enjoyed a pleasure. He has let me have some cattle on a debt. I will close a school which I am teaching here in a day or two, and start for home with my cattle. I intend by spring to be ready ready to commence breaking on the prairie. Then I think my business here will be wound up, and I don't know what will call me away from home much afterward.

I had the happiness some time ago from a valuable acquaintance ~~to meet~~ ^a him. He does not need the name of his father to recommend him — P. C. Hale of Milwaukee; perhaps you know him.

Yours humbly,

Respectfully,

And affectionately,

Edward Knight.

J. L. Hale.

OK

John MacKnight
Feb 15 1888



JG

Mr. J. A. Hale,

Post Office
New York

A. D. G. City.

I last Sunday wrote you and Thomas and gave you an account of an individual instance of western viceitude. These descriptions may not be of much interest to you but as I have nothing of importance in other letter-writing subjects I shall continue them for a while, and at the same time of each perhaps inclose a few lines to some one else. From my last to Thomas you may learn about me and my welfare here.

I now purpose to give you a short account of another affair and how they do things in the West. During the ravages of the small-pox which carried off some fifty or sixty in this town a little more than a year ago, an Inn-keeper who was known by the name of A.... fell a victim to the disease, leaving a considerable amount of property to a widow and several children. The widow being well supplied with that remarkable quality of Charming of which the serpent is so highly gifted was ready in three weeks to take another husband in three weeks, being able to do the necessary mourning in that time which perhaps would employ an Eastern widow for a beloved - lost her husband in three years. Not long after this came a man from the East claiming the property on account of his at the East, who he said were children of Mr A and a previous wife who is now living in Vt. Advertising and endeavouring to prove that A's

real name was and that he absconded with this, his last wife from Vt some years ago. This or Similar Statement he attempted to prove by individuals now living in this vicinity but and who formerly knew Mr A. in Vt.

Against this claim of course firmly resisted the lost husband. I was for some time acquainted with the man from Vt who came on to recover the property and who was brother to the wife left in Vt. He seemed positive that the deceased Mr A. was the husband of his sister and determined to get the property for his and her children. The lost husband of the widow here was a stout, fierce looking western man and not easily beat off or inclined to give up the property he had come in possession of. After bearing with the Vermonter and trying to get rid of him for several weeks whether just or unjust I will not say, he resorted to this expedient. He procured a brace of Pistols walked into the Hotel where the shes annoyer was - walked up to him saying Mr -- we have had words enough about this business (and holding out to him for a choice of the two pistols according to etiquette of duelling) take one of these Sir, and step with me into the garden and we will have the business settled.

The Yankee was soon missing, nor has he been seen or heard of to my knowledge since. Not

that he deliberately walked into the garden
to stand up for a mock for the western man;
Oh no, but being dreadfully frightened was as
anxious to keep out of the way of the western
man as the latter was before to keep out of
the way of the former. For a long time it
was not publicly known what was become of
him. — Till he was safe among the green moun-
tains of his own Christian State it was not known
that some friends secreted and conducted him
beyond the danger of his foes. He too has now
moved away and a part of the property has
been sold by the administrator as a progress
of settling up the estate in behalf of the king
here.

This circumstance is but one of many I
intend to write which have come under my
own observation during the year of my re-
sidence in the west. They may serve to give
you an idea of the difference between the East
and West.

I have nothing from you or C. since I last
wrote, by a paper from that I see an account
of the death of Thomas Drew of Holifax - postum
He was a relative of the Drew of Westford.

The weather is very pleasant here - Farmers
are mostly through harvesting - the crops
are good - Plattsburg Aug 24/45 - E. S.
Edward -

My Respects to Rebecca, I have not heard any thing of her for a long time - and to J.C. if he could understand what it means. And to Thomas if he is there - but presume he is at Lowell

PAID



Mr Edward Dymond
Westford
Mass.

Paid }