

Letters 63-74 (May 6, 1847 to August 1, 1847)

Hall Letters 63. May 6, 1847; Lucy in New Haven to Rhodolph in Roxbury.

Dear Brother,

I like yourself have no very formidable excuses to render to your "Holiness" for not writing to you before excepting the simple one that we did not know to what port to direct; as your "Friend Ship" seems at present to be wafted here and there by every lucky wind of chance.

As to the "all important subjects of excitement," raging in your goodly "City of Notions," vis: "Love, Courtship, Marriage, Religion, War and Politics" none but the two latter seem to agitate our city to an extent to be visible.--and the former three i.e. Love & c. will sometimes produce a Clam whether Jonah swallows it or not! As to the divorcing part of the business, I have not experienced much in that line excepting in my grinders--after suffering with the toothache for about a week night and day--Monday morning I sent for the Dr. & had an everlasting divorce performed on two with cold iron. Oh heavens! though didn't I grunt? They were the first that I ever had extracted & the first took jaw & all i.e. a piece of it--they are confounded sore yet but are growing better. That A.M. I let S. keep school alone. The first time I have been absent from school since my stay in N. Haven.

There is nothing extra taking place here--the Election came off yesterday I suppose at Hartford--Gov. Bissel was excorted on his way there through this city by his Guards--they had no music but a drum & fife--he is a Whig & c. There is no band in N. Haven at present. At the "Junior Exhibition" Dodworth's Band played. I do not know who the Seniors think of having for Commencement at Yale. I think the "Boston Brigade Band" stands as good a chance as any one. Two of the graduating members boarded with us the last winter and on learning that you & D. belonged to Kendall's Band enquired for it--spoke of having it at Commencement. S. told them particulars & c. And as one of them (Hadley) is the best scholar in his class--getting a \$150 prize & the appointment to deliver the Valedictory it may have some influence.

One week ago last Sat. we took a horseback ride. There were six of us--sis & myself with four other boarders--mounted on white horses with the exception of two, sis & I & our partners having the handsomest white horses that New Haven affords. Oh we had a first rate time. It was a beautiful day & we bought us Dresses & Caps for the occasion and rode through the principal Sts. in the city. The Fire companies were out & others & such a gazing you never saw. We had many compliments paid us by good judges--said that they had seen none so good riders in N. Haven & c. Now we did look first rate & no mistake! and when we see you again, you may prepare your dear self for a horseback ride for we have all the materials. I have paid all your dues at the Lodge amounting in all to \$2.37 1/2. Your letter you sent to D. I sent on to Albany, as he had left before it arrived.

Wallace has a dancing school here this season--we attended an extra with D. when here--he is going to continue it till July--he lives in Academy St. Quinn is just gone with consumption. We have not decided for certainty whether to visit home in June--but

think in all probability we shall. Lydia thinks of going with us if we do. D. said Mrs. Cunningham thought of going; how will it do think you? write again and let us know the state of your mind on the subject. Mrs. Son is going to spend the summer in N.Haven & we shall give her an invite too. So prepare yourself to wait on the city ladies in June.

You did not write when you left home--nor how were the folks. I had a letter from E.T.S. stating how she saw your "pretty face" & heard your "Musical voice." I am thinking she is really smashed with you! How . It is now 2 o'clock: school time--the little Critters are coming in & I must wait till night to complete my yarn.

5 1/4 o'clock. P.M.

The urchins are gone except S's singing scholars & I hasten to spin out my yarn. Alfred Bixby has been in our school a part of the P.M. to look at us--he is as much as 2/3 "uncle Willard" except the lacking part--I rather guess he is sound therein--by appearances--he has taught school the past 5 months at Danbury Ct.--he looks better than when I saw him before. Then he appeared like an old soaker. Demick told me to tell you that his "Grace in St. John St. was all right &c." he with his lady send love to you & all. I wish you would write soon and give us particulars of home &c. Our love to all our friends in R. & to our own family a thundering portion L & S

Hall Letters 64. May 12, 1847; D.C. in Hudson, NY to Lucy & Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sisters,

I received your letter before I left Albany and accordingly correspond alltho have not much news to write unless I go into the particulars, and then I should have more then I could attend to and so I will leave it to your own imagination.

It is going on three weeks since we first left Albany to travel. I like it very much thus far. We have been on the east side of the Hudson River princely but now we are going to cross and go west. There is some talk of going into Ohio. The 26th inst. we are in Little Falls N.Y. I want you to write and direct there so that I can get it.

Last evening we serenaded Ex President Van Buren at his residence at Kenderhook, were warmly rec'd. I had the honor of grasping the hand of the old vetron, drinking wine with him & c.

Be sure and write my respects to all the people after aplenty for yourselves.

Yours in hast from your Brother D. Culver Hall

Hall Letters 65. May 19, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters,

It is, with all the pleasure of LETTER WRITING. (which is rather limeted with me) that I attempt the task, but more to OBLIGE, and answer YOUR REQUEST, than any extreme pleasure that I have yet found in it.

It is one month today since I left Lyme. The folks were then as comfortable as usual, and are now as far as I know. They are expecting to see "YOUR pretty faces" and to hear YOUR "Musical voices" I suppose, in a few weeks. You seem to think "She must be really SMASHED" WITH ME. I did not imagine myself Smashed at all. (if you please) But if you think she is Smashed WITH ME. I can asure you she is not Smashed BY ME. For the nearest I came to her was when she stood in CHURCH DOOR & I in the wagon she could not have been smashed BY ME that dist.c I cannot think she is any more than CRACKED a little, SOME WHARE. If she is as easy smashed as you think, I SHOULD be afraid, come to get NEAR enough to "produce a CLAM." that she would VAPORATE, or like Salt, or Sugar, or "GEES" GREES would all MELT AWAY. O!! Hush!

I recd. a letter from D. last Friday dated HUDSON N.Y. May 13th they are doing a tolerable busines. they SERENADED the Ex.PRESIDENT-VAN BUREN the night or two before. he is well he says with the exception of the d-m teeth-ache. TALK of taking a trip out to Ohio are now traveling up on this side of the Hudson River, &c. THEY ARE TO be at LITTLE FALLS N.Y. the 25th of MAY whare I am to send his SETT PIECE to his bugle. If you have any thing distressing to REVEAL to him, you can, by directing to-MEMBER of Ks- Band ACCOMPANING north American Circus &c.&c.

As it regards your journeying to N.Y.- I believe Sister N has pretty much concluded to go with you, and so return the last week in July with me, from COMMENSMENT, and Mrs. DOBIE talks of staying with, MARY untill I go to HANOVE. as I am expecting to play thare. this is the CALCULATION I believe NOW, as near as I can learn. N. says SHE WANTS to know what DAY or EVE she shall expect you, &c. with your invited guests. You said you wished to know my "mind on the subject." As my BUSINESS is such that I cannot leave, so as to VISIT HOME with you. I do not feel like saying any thing about it. If IT WERE SO THAT I COULD GO WITH YOU I should give Mr. & Mrs. C- an invitation to go too. WHETHER-OR-NO-. YOU know the CIRCUMSTANCE. they have , or SHE has lated a great deal on going to N.H., and was disappointed last year that she could not go, with me. &c. YOURSELVES LYDIA MORE. & Sister N- are all our own folks. So if Mrs. SON & MRS.C-BOTH WENT, there would be only two INVITED. the WORST of it IS, they could not call you a GANDER TEEM, but they might think you rather GEESEY lot. as you know it is time of year when BEAUS are scarce, or rather busy. You know, to, that BUSINES, before PLEASURE, &c.

Mrs. C. has been VERY KIND to D. & Myself. and if I were going with you I should want to please her as much, as to give her an INVITATION, and by exorting her. (if She would like to go.) as far as CIRCUMSTANCES would permit. If you would like to have her go, you must tell her the CIRCUMSTACES before STARTING or when you invite her, ie. I mean, your short stay she may think it would not pay to make so short

stop. &c.&c.

OUR FOLKS, ALL, want to see them N.Y. Ladies &c And have but ONE FEAR. ie. THAT THEY CAN NOT TREAT NICE ENOUGH. I should be in my elements if I could accomp. such a lusty looking lot of SAWED TIMBER as you big "FEMALE WIMIN" are. making the winds to HOWL, by the waving of your plumage, and causing a WHIRLWIND in every human imagination.

O!!! CRACKKEY!! what a Rush!

I have writen untill I am d-m hungry. All mistakes, to be ckorrected, after being understood &c. My OLD SPECT. to all such imaginations as can see in them, or to such as are inquisitive-after you and D & Wife have used them for looking over the past.

Misterious-----

N. Says "TELL THEM TO WRITE AS SOON AS THEY GET YOURS" &c.&c.&c.

Hall Letters 66. May 19, 1847; Lucy & Sarah in New Haven to D.C. in Little Falls, N.Y.

Very Dear Brother,

Last Saturday 15th inst. we received your long looked for letter which, although short, interested us much as does all intelligence of the health, prosperity and happiness of home friends! though we are not often made glad by information from them for the very good reason that it is seldom that we receive a letter from them.

We have received no communication from home since you came, therefore can give you no news from that quarter. I have, however, rec'd a letter from E.T.S. but no particulars but that they were well. Nearly 2 weeks since we rec'd a letter from R. He was then in R. boarding with N. and a member of the "Boston Brig. Band" "second to none" he says "but J.K.K." They are engaged to play at Dart. Commencement. They then had some engagement for "old Cambridge." He with N. thinks of going home in June with us if we go, but we are not decided. We went to Mr. D's the last of April-- we board ourselves & get along much cheaper. We first enquired what they would charge us for a room. They concluded that if they asked anything it was worth 50 cts per week. Well, we did not feel in a hurry to go for that as it would not be any cheaper than to board at \$1 per week. I suppose they were afraid that we should not come so he told us that they would not charge us anything for the room as it was of no use to them as it was. You need not think that we crept after them for we told them that it was worth 50 cts but we must do the cheapest way. They are very much pleased about it--no one knows but we board with them as we all sit at one table & we find 1/2 coffee & tea. Little Demick has run away to N. York so we have not his company. Mrs. Son is coming with her daughter to spend the summer with us. We have the west room--all nice.

We have been for a horseback ride--Sis. myself and Miss Wood--with our gents--Mr. Wheeler, Chester & Brusie. S's & my horse with our fellows were white & the handsomest I ever saw. We had new caps & dresses for the occasion--rode through Chapel & the other Sts. subject to the admiring gaze of the multitude. The Fire Companies were out & the Sts. lined--But we rec'd many compliments after it. They said they had seen none so good riding in N. Haven. Now we did look first rate & no mistake. You may fix yourself for a ride when you come again. We think of having mother soon--to Branford when the old gent & lady are going with us.

Last night Mr. Lines told Mr. Demick that he was going to Whiting St. School this morning & tell Miss Alling that her school would close with this term--so she is turned up. I do not know what is the trouble. Nor what is to be the order of the day--whether he is going to have a Girl's school or Boy's. Mr. D. mistrusts the latter. Perhaps he thinks of putting S. in there. I have always known that he did not fancy Miss A's management. He may turn us up & I do not care how soon except for "the---smell."! But we have heard of no complaint as yet. Last Sat. we took our school to a walk to Hillhouse Avenue & treated them to nuts & candy, had a first rate time--picked wild flowers & sung & all the nice things with which they were much pleased--something unusual to be treated to refreshments. George Coan has taken our miniatures--they are first rate--they are colored more than yours. S's is now exhibited in Chapel St. They do not look much like those taken in N.Y. We are going to purchase one or 2 or 3.

Now write soon. It is school time & I must close for I want you to get it in season. With love from your sisters Lucy & Sarah

P.S. Now for pity's sake, don't delay to write! Enter into particulars & give us a description of what you see. It will interest us--you have more time we -- L & S.

Hall Letters 67. June 26, 1847; Lucy & Sarah in New Haven to D.C. in Pittsburg.

Very Dear Brother.

THIS COMPOUND PERSONAL PRONOUN MYSELF with all the dignity incident to a SCHOOL MA'AM in the hand of steady habits," hastens a reply to your kind letter of June 12th, which by due course of Mail came, as usual laden with happy news of cheering prospects and success of your efforts on the stage of life, where you are winning laurels to deck your brow, in the sunny future. We are very happy to learn that you so well succeed, and with so little effort as EARLY RISING. Each "rose conceals a thorn" -- so the laurels of of Fame are won by persevering effort -- and with difficulty attained -- but you may think yourself happy if by MORNING LIGHT you can conquer that for which others, yea, many "have spent the MIDNIGHT-OIL"!

Oh! what looking writing! I can write no-how-for these very good reasons. It is so warm I am almost suffocated and some would be singers - across the way are MURDERING 'MUSIC Oh! how "AULD LANG SYIME" SCREAMS -- while old "ACQUEAINTANCE FORGETS" itself in Bedlam. "ALL IS WELL" is dying -- and "THE HAPPY LAND", one would think was peopled by Infernals. -- and just now a young-one sets up a squall -- Oh! the Land! -- of -- Nutmegs! -- I shall evaporate! But if possible it will be composed.

Now for news -- all I can muster. Well the "President ob dese United States" is expected here tomorrow on his way eastward -- "he is to come in the morning Boat from N. York -- and is to be met there by his honor, Mayor Peck: -- Is with his wife to pass in carriages up Water St. to Franklin -- up Franklin to Chapel -- from Chapel to Church St up that to Elm -- and up that to the North Gate of the Park" (Green) Where he is to receive a "salute FROM CAPT. HOLLISTER'S BATTERY"-- he then proceeds to the State-house -- and takes his stand in or beneath the Rotunda -- when all the schoolboys in procession are to shake hands with the Veteran as they pass through. They have engaged an Extra train of Cars to take him to Springfield the same night, otherwise he could not have stopped. He is going on to Concord, N.H. So much for the President we shall probably see him as we too have a holiday.

Now for the "4TH JULY - WHICH IS as GOOD AS ST. PATRICK'S DAY IN THE MORNING"-- any day! The New Havenes's are intending a swell on that day - (the 5th) - they thought of Celebrating the 3d giving as a reason that they could not have the Waterbury Band on the 5th as it is engaged at Litchfield. But some of the inhabitants blowed the Committee of arrangements through the papers -- saying they thought we in the city should patronize our own Amateurs and Musicians instead of those from the country &c. &c. -- others held that it would intrude upon the sabbath &c. so the committee recalled a meeting and put it off to the 5th we are very glad as it gives us a holiday again. They are to have great doings on that day -- processions of Military Companies -- Societies -- &c. and there has been some talk of a Floral procession -- composed of Teachers and scholars of the several schools -- having a wreath of flowers upon each head and laden with Boquets to be laid upon tables upon the Green. This has been sugested -- and a Committee appointed; but we have not learned their Report or Resolve yet. We are expecting something great. In the eve splendid fire-works are to be exhibited upon the "Square" Oh! how we want you here to beau us out. We have

had another Horseback ride lately -- sis. & I and Miss. Wood and Cheshire - the same that went before - we had all white horses this time-- and a beautiful ride too -- we were out an hour and rode as much as 6 miles. We have not heard from home only by your letter - nor from R. - had a letter from Lydia last night - she is coming to N. Haven to spend the 4th. She is "pretty well I thank you"

After mature deliberation we concluded to not visit home -- but gave father and mother an invite to visit us this Sept. -- so we had one week vacation and commenced and have taught 2 weeks in our Summer term. We offered to bear their Expenses from Boston to N. Haven as an inducement for them to come. We have not heard from them since offering the proposition -- and cannot tell as they will come. If they do not we shall go and see them.

I have not heard from Rhodolph in some time. I think he must be out of sorts. Mr. D. wrote a few lines to him and joked him about E. Shaw -- and I suppose he thinks I have been stuffing him -- which is not the case. D. wanted something to puff him up so he selected that subject.

When he wrote last he thought of coming there perhaps, on a visit -- and as N. was disappointed in not visiting home, I told him to take her along with him, and spend some little time with us; but they are as silent as the grave -- all round Jeffers & Mary I have heard a syllable from, for 6 months.

Now write to us every opportunity if it is but a few lines -- will now close to give S. a chance to speak for herself.

Affectionately - L. & S. Hall

Monday P.M. 6 o'clock

We have just returned from our view of the President & suite. We first went down to Water st. -- to Heady's place -- had a fine view of His Excellency -- and when he came opposite we arose and waved our hdkfs --he arose and bowed to us alone as there were none other near -- we than went up to the State house & after waiting a while went in and as we were squeezed along with the multitude some one caught hold of us and said "Here is Mr. Buchanan, Secretary of State, perhaps you would like to shake hands with him"! "OH! YES SAID MR. B. I ALWAYS LIKE TO SHAKE HANDS WITH THE LADIES" And the man said "HE IS IN MARKET TOO"! "Yes said B. I WISH some of the ladies would take pity on me" so I up with my boquet and threw at him & such a shout as there then was. I was a little back & he looked till he saw me -- & hapened to catch some of the flowers -- for they fell all around him. I expect to hear again from it for he was surrounded by Editors & Lawyers. We proceeded a little further & were introduced to the president by Mr. Peck. he said Miss Hall teaches of our Public Schools &c. He gave us a hearty shake of the hand as well as Mr. Buchanan - he is a tall spare man -- but noble looking -- something like Jackson. Mr. B. on the contrary is quite tall and fleshy -- fine very fine man both -- they made a great parade -- bells rang from the time he landed till he reached the State house - canons were fired for a long time - he proceeded next to the College Chapel & then in front of it they gave 3 times 3 cheers -- before entering it and there they sung to him & he then went into the picture

Gallery & then came out with 3 X 3 cheers again & then to Toutine to dine. As Mr. B. passed I saw a part of my Boquet in his hand. He may carry it to Washington. We then came home & I sat down & wrote some lines & sis. picked a nice boquet for the President -- but they passed on their way to the cars before it was quite ready & S. sent it by a man to give to the Mayor if the President had gone -- so I shall hear from that again. It has been a great day for N. Haven & one long to be remembered. But I think the Secretary of State will have nothing in his mind so vivid as the fate of my boquet in the State house.

We had no Music but a Fife & Drums. Ainsworth & Perkins & Barnes. I never saw so much enthusiasm in N.Haven before you know it takes something to start them. Mr. D & lady send much love. He says should like to hear from you -- & that his daughters (we) merit his unqualified aprobation. and are gaining laurels every day.

In haste Lucy & Sarah

Mrs. D. says "it is most too hot to dance now - but she shall be ready by the time King David with his Bugle gets along"

Now write often -- you know where to find US/

Hall Letters 68. June 29, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury, Mass. to D.C. in Pittsburg.

Distant Brother,

I recd. yours the 25th and hasten to answer. I have no news in particular. Except PREST. POLK is expected in Boston today. I am to appear on the Comon at 9 oclock in full uniform, and it is now most 7. I had to write card Music for to day. last night until 12 o clock and it has been so hot I have not slept much and am rather NERVAS, so excuse the writing.

I saw the bill of the concert (or a copy of it) that we give at DARTMOUTH yesterday. K & Bartlet have put me in as FOLLOWS; viz. SOLO ERO CORNO RODOLPHUS HALL. (&c) all but the &c. Now I want you to send me that solo that I PRACTICED WHILE we WERE going out to Buffalo last winter. I practiced it on the CORNETT. you recollect. It goes first rate on the Ebro CORNO. I REMEMBER the most of the air and variations. I want it just as it STANDS in E-flat. write the ACOMPANAMENTS so I can distribute them in the Band with out copying again. the theme I will write a piece of. that you may know the one I want.

(Here is a bar of music)

I want all parts. I believ I can make it go good &c. I want you to send them as soon as possible. And JIM,, wants me to play a DUETT with him on the E-flat OPH. & E.CORNO. he mentioned it several times But has no duetts that suit him wanted to know if I had not one. he mentioned that one from NORMA. he has it aranged for an Orcastra. said he wished he had it for two instruments. Said it would be very PRETTY. I want you should send it as GRAFULEA ara. it for us. with the rest of the Music if you have not sent it. Send it as soon as posible, if you have to put your self to a little INCONVENIENCE. I have myself for you. be sure and not fail to send them, now. the duett I suppose you have with you.

The folks are all smart as usual I have not heard from Home since I wrote before. N. talks of going to Lyme with me when I go to Hanover. I donot expect it will be so that I can go to Lyme however as we are to give concerts on the way &c. Mrs. Dobie is here yet we think she is not any worse, but rather on the gain slowly. Mary is here. She may go Home with N. & MYSELF the rest are pretty well & send the RESPECTS. We played the 17 of June at Charlstown for the procession and free works AND HOWED the rest all out that came a long &c. We play the 4th of JULIA We have had two aplications to go to Troy Albany & N.Y. City with fire Comps. two different Comps. to stop 2 days in Each place &c. I thik we will make sure of one if not both of them. We have got the job for playing for the COMMENCEMENT at CAMBRIDGE COLL. also with 14 men beside a number of Military Comps. have spoken for the Band to go on Excurs. Hancocks for one. playe for them 17 June to Escort procession at Charlestown &c.

I am in a devil of a hurry. So I FORGET what I WOULD lik to say I SUPPOSE. But I can write you again if you let me know whare you are to be after the procession today we are warned at 5 o clock to take & play a PRESDTIAL dinner at the REVERE HOUSE &c. and tonight we have to play for a Serenade

Excuse mistakes. & my Respects to such as inquire &c.

and take care of yourself Yours in F. L. & T. R. Hall

P.S. SIG. BOTESINI the Bass SOLO PLAYER of the Italian Opera and one or two more of their Company were in to hear us rehearse one day. He said we played the Bes of any Band he had heard since he CAME to this COUNTRY OR SINCE HE HAD LEFT LEGHORN What do you think of that.

Hall Letters 69.1. July 1, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Sisters CHEAP.

I improve this opportunity, (though a limited one.) of letting you know I am yet alive &c. Time and Tide waits for no MAN, (or woman) And it continues to rain upon the just and unjust, I can sware to the latter, as it rained on POLK as well as MYSELF yesterday and day before. But I had little the nastiest time of it, as I had to march in the mud and make music, while he rode, under an umberilla and listened to it. Our Band done the ESCORT DUTY, LED the PROCESSION, Except the LANCERS, a HORSE COMPY. POLK, the next in the REAR of US. We not only had to march in the MUD but the Horces in FRONT Spatered mud and watter all over us. our WHITE PANTS were a sweet looking thing of coarse. We played for the DINNER at the REVERE HOUSE, did not get through untill 1/2 past 10 o clock in the eve. went to CHARLESTOWN to Escort the Prest. yesterday. He went to Lowell in the afternoon. I went to the BOSTON THEATER last night, having a Complimentary invite from KENDALL (as he Plays thare) sat with him saw the VIONIECE Virgins dance for the first time, they are a splendid sight, no mistake.

I had a letter from Brother D. last week. He is in Pittsburg P.A. 4th.5th.&6th &c. travelling agrees with him first rate he says. they are going on South or west of South through Ohio. D is in my debt only about \$60'00 now for Instruments I have sent him. What I have payed for him and myself, Uniform & Expences has left me almost SHORT, with the Exception of a little Coin, that I wish to spend in EUROPE next Season &c. If you could accomodate me with a little that little will be very acceptabale as I am want to get me some RAGS to ware to DARTMOUTH. You know VERY SOON. We play for the CAMBRIDGE COMMENCEMENT, also. WE have not heard from YALE yet, who is engaged? thare. WE ARE BOTH READ AND BRASS BAND now. and CANT be BEAT. no how. I am indebted to Friend Dimock for a Letter which I shall try and pay soon after the Excitement of National 4th &c.

What has got a fowl of YOU, Sarah? You are as mute as a CLAM (Calm) Other ATTRACTIONS, I presume, though I am deprived of the privaledge of talking with you, aloud. I will not forget to do like old Mother CRACK LOUSE ie. with my fingers. I will wiggle the little "SPLIT POINT" Excuse MISTAKES, as I am in a Devil of a HURY. besides a LITTLE NERVAS MAM.

Respectfully yours Rhodolph

MEMBER of Boston BRIGADE BAND &c.

Hall Letters 70. July 8, 1847; Lucy & Sarah in New Haven to Rhodolph in Roxbury, Mass.

DITTO. Brother, (picture of person thumbing nose) NO YOU CAN'T! Deary Brother,
NO I SHA'NT!!

The Glorious 4th has come and thank my stars, it has also gone, with a vast amount of evaporation of animal matter, as well as Fire Crackers, squibs, Gunpowder and Bomb shells. As for ourselves there is scarcely anything left but net work -- all else having passed into a state of evaporation -- but we have one consolation -- i.e. what went that way "DIDN'T GO ANY WHERE ELSE" -- but it is most too much like shutting up the barn door and peeping through a crack. However, on the whole it came off nicely -- as far as exertion is concerned. Some of the b'hoys commenced burning crackers about 9 o'clock sunday eve -- and kept it (CONFOUND MY PEN! - it is writing on a cat's back with a fine tooth comb) till about dawn, when the booming of cannons and ringing of bells aroused us to view the general uproar. Well at 10 o'clock we went to the Green to gape & gase at wonders. -- there the Mayor & other officers of state were assembled, with fire companies (one from Albany & Hartford with our own -- and Military & Odd Fellows -- Rechabites Sons of Temperance & Hibernians formed themselves into a Procession and marched through the principal Sts. and back to the Green where in Temple St. in front of Centre & North churches Mr. Howell had prepared a Dinner. there they partook lustily \$0.75 worth of filling for their bread Baskets. They then had several Toasts. And an Ode by C. Ives -- sung by the "Glee Club" -- Coans & Jones. We did not hear it THEREFORE could not vouch for the SINGING but the Ode was first rate. I wrote a toast for the Dinner while looking at the procession -- but as I could not have a chance to hand it in -- And as they had no voluntary ones I dropped it in the office & it came out this morn. in the Journal -- I will send it to you in this letter -- you know his name is Peck. I suspect they would have let off a big gun if they had heard it at the dinner table -- well after dinner They had a "Floral Procession," -- consisting of all the Sunday School children dressed the girls in white & boys with white pants each one carrying a boquet or basket of flowers with wreaths of flowers on their head. There were over 1500 of them & they did look beautiful -- most of our school were in it & we had an invite to join it but we were too independent to be tied to a lot of young ones on the "National Fourth." -- after they had marched round some time they went to the table & on it laid their flowere to be sold -- & the proceeds went for the benefit of the Orphan Asylum -- \$100.

In the eve we had FIRE WORKS -- some parts of which were very good so we were going home down Chapel St. just as we passed Waterman's store an alarm of fire was given we went up front of Chapel St. Church & had a first rate view of it it was about as good as any of the works of the eve. Lydia came down on sat, & left again tuesday morn. -- she is doing very well now & in good spirits.

Tues. eve we spent out -- had an invite to Mrs. Dudley's - a school teacher - where we met Mr. Benham & sister -- & had a fine sup. His sis. has a long nose like him -- so she never need fear of knocking out her teeth so long as "DAT NOSE" holds on! About 2 o'clock we were awaked by a Serenade from him - Lyon Moon &c. It was a long time ere we could bite off our dream enough to know what & where it was. But we finally

succeeded & seized each a bouquet that had been presented to us to send at them but they had gone. So in the morn, I wrote some lines to him accompanying the bouquet with which he was very much pleased -- I was told by the barer Mr. Dudley. He rec'd it just in time as in 1/2 hour he was to leave for Bristol where he spends the summer. We were made very glad by your letter -- which we received tuesday 6th inst.

I will enclose a V in this letter to you -- last fall I paid \$1,37 1/2 last Spring \$1,00 - and this week \$1, more which with this makes \$8,37 1/2 -- and I now owe you \$1,62 1/2. - In Sept. the Lodge will expect another payment & I will look after it if you wish. You must not fall in arrears! -- if you do -- if you are sick you cannot draw from the treasurer for 13 weeks. Now do not fail to write often -- write Sundays if no other time permits. Our love to all the family. Respects to all. Mr. H. & wife - uncle R. & wife - F. & his Bird -- tell them it is about time of year to make the nest -- to make it strong so as not to fall through ha! When you go home must take father & mother along back with you. I will take good care of them for 2 months if they will come here. I know it would do them both good to come to the Salt water & bathe &c. In haste -- but affectionately

Sara & Lucy

Brother R, N. & W. with M. you all know I am famous for writing, & going into particularly when there is no one else to do so; S. has performed the pleasing task while I have been engaged in other affairs; so excuse me if you please & I will talk the faster when face to face. R. do be sure to fix father & mother to come back with you from get home to keep house for mother & you come to N. Haven with them we will pay the expense from Boston & Back there we enjoy ourselves first rate except when I think of them it flings a damper over the pleasure which is not pleasant father nor mother has not written us a word. Brother T writes a few words once in a great while - with love to you all S.

Hall Letters 70.1. July 8, 1847; Lucy & Sarah in New Haven to Nancy in Roxbury.

Dear Sister

You KNOW I am always made happy by hearing from & writing TO you -- so I need not tell you of it every time. Well here we are in George St. School-room. It is noon & as we have two hours intermission I write to you while Sis. sits near making me a Visette: so I write her part -- for what concerns her does me & I can tell all about her &c. You spoke of the time with the President. You could not begin to shine with us in that line I tell you. He came in the Boat at 11 in morning we went to Water St. there we individually had a bow from him as he passed in procession. He then passed to the State House where he shook hands with the citizens -- but he became so tired that it was decided that the ladies only should have that privilege. Well as we were passing along -- I tell you we had some fun. -- some one caught hold of the arm and said -- "LADIES, HERE IS MR. BUCHANAN - SECRETARY OF STATE PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE AN INTRODUCTION TO HIM" -- he Mr. B. Said -- Oh! YES! I ALWAYS LIKE TO SHAKE HANDS WITH THE LADIES"! -- and the man said -- He is in the market too! Yes said Mr. B. I wish some of the ladies would take pity on me - well just as he spoke I had passed a little - I up with my boquet of white pionies & roses & threw at him hitting him on his bosom & they scattered in all directions -- & such a shout. It was the impulse of the moment & to carry out the joke that I did it & it had the desired effect -- causing a hearty laugh. He caught some of them & looked through the crowd till his eye rested on me. I did not intend to let him know who it was but he read it. The next day it was in the papers that "ONE OF OUR SCHOOL MISTRESSES WAS INTRODUCED TO MR. BUCHANAN WITH A W_____". I saw him just before he left the city & he still held the withered flowers in his hand. Well we passed on & were introduced by Mayor Peck - as "MISS HALLS OUR SCHOOL TEACHERS" -- & the old president gave us a double shake of the paw. The Mayor is one of our Comm. & a first rate fellow too. I wrote some lines & sis made a nice boquet of roses to give the pres. but he had passed & so we missed it.

I wrote to you I believe that Whiting St. School -- was closed by the Committee. Last night Mr. Sines(?) come to our house & wants S. to teach in that school -- offering her \$45.00 per term. She has not concluded yet whether to go or not. I think however that the price will be some inducement. So I shall again be alone in school which I shall not like much. They want to commence in 2 weeks when our term will be half out. About that horseback ride it came off as anticipated -- and a nice time we had of it though I was obliged to sit down very graceful for a week afterward -- we shall have another soon. We are to go tomorrow out into the country 12 miles to Branford & eat cherries -- & ride round upon the sea shore -- how I wish you were here to go with us. Tell W. we will sometime call on him & tax his generosity in the bran line -- but should prefer to have the bran & ginger - prop separate for fear it would cause us to be freckled - ha. We have not heard from home yet only by you & D. -- now do not for pity's sake neglect to long to write -- write often. How is it with M. is she going home to stay? Write & let me know. I would write more -- but have no time. Kisses for the children. In love L. & S.

Hall Letters 71. July 22, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury to D.C. in Cincinnati.

Dear Brother,

I rec'd your letter the 20th glad to learn that you were well, and enjoying yourself & c.

I got the music last Saturday. We have rehersed the half of it. It pleases the Band very well the Solo & Duett more espetially. The Music is rather easy. & not quite parts enough for our Band. K. & I rehersed the Duett in the presence of the Band, it pleased them very much- went first rate. I played the first part as the 2d was to low down for my mouth piece. We intend to play it at the Concert, or in Church at Hanover, or both, Jim says. He thinks it will please the people better than any thing else we can play, as they can appreciate it. I am verry sorry you did not send the other Medley and Love Not. they were what I wanted most, had to pay \$1.50 for freight of what I got & c.

We have not concluded to give Concerts on the way to Hanover, yet. I think we shall not. I intend to start next Monday for Lyme, one day before the Band, as Mary is going with me. Fathers health is much better than it has been so we learned by a line from Brother Jeffers. Mrs. Dobie arive home safe about two weeks since & c. as I had a letter from him & c.

I had a letter from the Girls a few days since. they are well, and enjoying themselves first rate, I should judge by their particulars. Introduction to the President Polk & Secretary of State Bucannon and Boquets & Serenades & c. & c. & c. By the way we have to Serenade often. Night before last had a nice Supper at 12 o'clock than had to Serenade to about 8 or 10 places, among them were the United States Hotell whare we had to go in and take some Death preventatives just to keep the Soul & Body together & c. The last place was the Revere House whare Polk stoped thare we had a Band Brekfast about daylight with Champaigne Accompanaments & c. High old time, shouldn't wonder, they were some of the Bo Ho Hoy Hoys that had the Do.

I got home to Roxbury at 1/2 past 5 o'clock in the morn. We have 8 in our Serenade Band (more when we like) And the way we play is not to be beaten. or very easy imitated. Jims Cadenzas on the B Clarionett are not to be sneezed at. He makes me play consiterable melody. Dialogues and Responces with him, and he gives me now and then a solo. I think he little partial to my instrument, as well as myself. By By the By I think I can play it nearly as well (or make it fart as well) as D.L.D. after ones return from Buffalo last winter Ha!! ha! and not make quite so Laborious piec of Business as he did a playing that Obligato of Dagas at Ks Complimentary Concert At Albany.

We are going on an Excursion with the Hancocks Down East to Bangor an Portland, the 15th I believe or the Middle of Aug. for one week & c. 14 of us play at Harvard Commensment at Cambridge the 25 of Aug. We have played thare for two Class Exhibition \$5.00 each the last was, from 9 o'clock to 1/2 past 12 in Church in the afternoon they had a Ball in one of the Coll. in the eve. we had to play for a Levee at the Presidents House of Coll.

We have done very good business so far and prospects yet good. Our Quick Steps ar by Keurek most of them, and are first rate, and Dam hard. My part espesially, the same

that Jim use to play on his E flat Opheclide. I play the part of the Fagotto Primo in the Ouvertires and Printed Collections, makes a good deal for my Instrument which sticks rite out. I intend to stop at Lyme one week after commensment. I am coming out in a new suit of "rags" at Hanover, Coat and pants of very nice German Broadcloth \$4.00 per Yd. They were to be done today, As it is My Birth Day you know. But they are not yet. I have tried on the Coat, it is a Beauty no mistake setts first Best. & c. Dress Coat Mr. Aden Pushee is in Veva Indiana you ought to call and see him. Unkle Abrams Son, he is a Merchant thare. It is rite on your way from Cincinnati to Louisville, about half way, on the west side the Ohio River. I must wind off my yarn, for want of Room Excuse all mistakes.

N- would like to write a little but is rather slim this hot weather, & c. besides the little necessary eviles are whining about her. & c. And Wm and Mary as well as Myself send our most "Particular Regards" & c. & c.

Aunt Hannah Morey sends her (Shaking) Respects. Mrs. Hastings says "tell D. if he will come and see her this fall she will give him the Best Piece of her Chicken Pie. & Make him a Boquet of Sun flowers as she is raising a plenty of them this season" & c.

Aaron Jeffers has got Back from Mexico. is in Boston now in first rate health & c. Mrs. Jenks, she that was Eliza Cutting is dead & c.

While I have been writing this page there has come up a thunder-shower. and lightning has struck Mr. Coopers Indiaruber Factory just below here and burned the roof and upper story. The rest is saved with difficulty I have been. & c.

Remember my Compliments to Kned & c. such of your Band as trouble themselves to speak of me. & c. Also to Mr. Aden Pushee & Lady, if you see them, as they know me & c. they will be pleased to see you I think.

Please accept the Best wishes of Rhodolphus Hall

P.S. My health is rather poor as it usually is at this season of the year. I have faint dizzy turns like the one in Troy last summer with the Band. Let me know whare to direct & I send you a Bill of the Concert at Hanover when I get one & c. write

Hall Letters 72. July 26, 1847; D.C. in Columbus, Ohio to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters

I recd your letter at Pittsburg in due season and improve the present time in writing a line or two. I have no news to write as I can think of. My health is first rate at present and nothing troubles me much except the d_n flees which are thick as h_l and bite ME like the d_l here in Ohio. I never was troubled with bed bugs or musqueetoes half as much. It has been very warm this way so far this summer. People have got almost done their harvesting out this way, and our Company has done the best and made the most money of any Company that ever traveled in the U.S. the same length of time. The Great lady Equestrian MADAME MACARTIE joined our company also Lupman and Monsure Macartie which makes our company first rate. We are going to Cincinnati shall be there till the 8th or 9th of Aug. if you get this in season, write me there, if you do not direct to Lewisville Kentucky. we shall be there in a week after. The company think some of going to New Orleans to winter but is not certain yet. I will write you again we find out. I shall expect a letter from you in Cincinnati let me here from all the folk in New Haven and York by the way if any goes to N.Y. or if you should to Cunningham folk I wish you would mention to them about my uniform coat and not let the flies eat it &c. give respects to all the folk &c. I recd. in an envelop a code of oddfelows bylaws from Mr. Dimick in Pittsburg &c. I have not heard from home since I was in Utica. recd a letter from R in Pittsburg also he was enjoying himself in Boston. I suppose he is in N.H. at Hanover. I should like to be with him.

I must leave I here the Bugle call to business. Yours in hast excuse mistakes if you please

dont fail to write David Hall

Hall Letters 73. Aug. 1, 1847; Lucy & Sarah in New Haven to D.C. in Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Brother,

Last evening we were favored with a letter from yourself -- that it was cordially received I need not tell you: for you KNOW that any information from you, is always interesting to us.

We are very happy that you have no greater trouble than the intrusion of fleas on your mortal body -- they may be quite troublesome and annoying to your flesh, but you can shake them off rather easier than fleas in human shape -- therefore look out for suckers out West there!

We have not heard from home yet since I wrote before -- we are getting desperate. We suppose they are (or were) waiting for R. in order to have some advice or some one to write regarding their coming to N. Haven this fall. I suppose he is home about these times -- and we shall soon hear from them. I wrote to father & T. too, if they could find one quill in the goose-pasture to WRITE: if they were obliged to dip it in the dye-pot for ink. But no letter yet.

As I predicted in a former letter - S. has had the offer and accepted of the situation in Whiting St. School commenced last week with a Salary of \$45,00 per term. She commenced for 1/2 term in order to have our vacations correspond. I think she is doing ABOUT as well as she could in the country--nearly \$3,00 per week beside paying her board. I have a little more to do but I have to go it notwithstanding. We think of visiting home in Sept. if father & mother do not come here. Our vacation comes in 5 weeks - about the 10th Sept.

At the 4th we had processions & a Dinner on the Green as I told you. In the evening a show of Fireworks they called it. It all passed off however very well. Lydia came & spent a few days with us -- her health is not very good. We had a ride out to Branford 3 weeks since to eat cherries - we were treated to currant wine & cherry a cake & cherry pie at Mrs. D's brothers - & then went to a watering place at Double beach - there we strolled about sis. & I & Mr. & Mrs. D. & had some Lemonade then went to Mrs. D's. nieces & had a first rate meal of cherries & supper & then home - we went in a double carriage - & had a first rate time.

Mrs. Cunningham's family have been here here a week boarding - & he came last night. They seem to be in their usual good spirits. That part relating to your uniform in your letter we read to her. She says, tell him that I shook his tail for him - relative to your coat I suppose.

Mrs. Son has not made her appearance yet - there is something mysterious about affairs. Mrs. C. said today she thought Mrs. S. would live with him within two years. Demick B came back to live last night & Charles is here to attend school again. Thus we go it changing about. There is nothing great here going on. Miss Iulice Northall of Grace church N.Y. gives a Concert accompanied by Mr. Ayling Pianist & Mr. Kagle I believe, flutist at Smith's Hall tomorrow evening.

There is no Band here now - they escorted the president with a fife & drum and I presume they will have nothing greater at present. How I wish you were here to ride with us on horseback this week - as we intend going all hands.

Now I will leave a space for S. to speak for herself - do not fail to write often - & if I hear from home in season I will write again when you are in Louisville

Affectionately your sis. Lucy

Dear Brother D.

Is it possible you are so far from us, & all the rest of our friends? I can scarcely realize that you are so far away, & still think of going father & tarring a much longer time than we had expected. We anticipated your return this fall to winter in some of the Eastern States but, you write you think of going to New Orleans to spend the winter. We dont like to have it so; for fear some disease may attack you & then you would be so far from home. Hope the com. will think it best to return to New York. At any rate I hope you will be inspired to write oftener it seams as though you might pencil as you travel some lines a few would be acceptable if often, you write very brief at any rate - sis has told you about matters & things that I have been turne OUT & turned in again -- "BUT AM MISTRESS OF MY OWN HOUSE" you know. I like very well thus far in my new location. I engaged only for six weeks & if I do not like can leave. I have no news to write you will perceive -- the New Haven boys inquire after you occasionally. Mr. Barnum he inquired the other morn as we were going to school said it was TOO bad the New Haven peable did not keep you here thought they might have had a band here without sending to a country vill for one. Mr. Benham has left town & the night (or the morn) before he left he gave us a Serenade with Sion Moor & a Mr. Gerome -- it was very good or it sounded very well being waked from a sound sleep -- he favoured us with only one tune. Oft in the stilly night we had some splendid Boquets presented us that night by our scholars -- they took their stand in front of the window to the room you occupied & that we occupy now -- & by we got fairly waked up & stepped to the window to see from whence the noise proceeded & back for our Boquets in the wash bowl they left & were in the St. & soon heard them in another place -- the next morn sis sent some lines accompanying the boquet half an hour before he left -- since then We have had another-but was so unfortunate as not to hear it. Mrs. O. told us the next day that she had a serenade all to herself -- said there were 2 gents & 2 ladies in the yard under the windows where we used to sleep that side next to Mr. Bs said she had 3 songs & never waked us if it had been on this side we should have heard it - in a few days after we called to Mr. Hattersbys & they had one the same night from Mr. Neal Mr. Moore & wife & another lady so we learned from whence it came. Mr. Neal left town the next day & is to return in a few weeks - & then must send him something to let him know we missed it for I think it must have been very good, never ladies voices in we mad enough at Mrs. D. for not letting us know of it - but we did not let them know when B came back out time(?). Mrs. D. thought she paid us in our own coin but we had not time before they were off she is the same old creature

I have been so angry at my pen, that I have been on the point of sending it out of the window & give up writing thinking would not have time or patience to read it but excuse me in love S

Hall Letters 74. Aug. 1, 1847; Rhodolph in Lyme to D.C. in Louisville, Ky.

Dear Brother,

Your Letter of the 26th we Recd Aug 5th I believe. I was at the office when it arrived, was expecting a letter from Kendall or Bartlett of our Band, as they were to write when they had Business &c. By the way, COMMENSMENT came off with a RUSH no mistake. Gave the Best of Satisfaction. It was said by MUSICIANS & Best judges & every one that had any thing to say about it, that, they neve had so GOOD MUSIC, in Hanove, Before. And how could it be otherwise. 12 of us had rehersed 6 times by our selves on purpos for the occasion. It did go fine, no mistake. We all done our d-mdest. The CONCERT was a PERFECT RUSH. the students said they never had done so well in any Concert before there was \$180'00 in the House at 25cts. a ticket so you can judge wheher the old Gospel Shop was cramed or not. their concerts had usually everaged them \$80'0 or 100' each before. the Band started for Boston the Friday morning after Com. I came to Lyme on an Extra. got home friday noon. Expect to leave as soon as I heare from Boston which may be this eve. and perhaps not this week, yet. I dip into haying when it is hay weather. which rather scarce these days. Father has got more than half done now, which is more than they everage. has put a new sill in the old barn and shingled the west side with half inch boards & layed new stable floors &c. Father recd. Between 86'00 & a \$100'00 for his wool since I got home And sold about \$100'00 worth of Hay last Spring &c. for the cash, cash, cash.

I wrote to you, in answer to your last, while I was in Roxbury Directed to Cincinnati but it seems you had not got thare when you wrote. I will send a bill of our Concert at Hanover by the way, My SOLO came of very fine JIM said it was first rate &c. that I got it off in good shape, much better than he was Expecting And the BAND all hit me on the Back and Shoulder saying, "GOOD OLD BOY" "THEMS UM" "THATS THE WAY TO HIT UM" &c" And the Audience gave me the CLAP first rate. Cheered me more than they did T. Ryan. My Solo was more Conspicuous as I did not have so heavy accompnymnt. Pleased first rate &c. JIM gave me a seat in a chair By the side of him in the church and was very sociable all the time. which would go a great way, among the criticks, and those that were acquainted with me, which were more then I could recollect. After the Concert the last day of Com. I could occasionally hear them inquire, "which is Hall" &c. We did not play the duett, as we did not have it in season to put in the bill, &c. I have got tired of writing and will close. Marinda says "send my Respects to him. tell him I should like to see him" so says the Rest of the folks. My compliments to Kned. & all that inquire, in F.L.&T

Rhodolph

Letters 75-87 (August 10, 1847 to July, 1848)

Hall Letters 75. Aug. 10, 1847; Rhodolph in Lyme to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters

I improve the opportunity of writing a word or two. With Regard to Father & Mother Coming to Conn. I have sounded them on the subject. but they do not hardly sound either, the only "HUM" "Look like going a journey DOUTER". is about all I can get out of them for for a reply. Father gives his concent for Mother to go if she WANTS to, & Mother gives her consent for Father to go if he is a MIND to &c. Father says his CROPS would have to lay on the ground and ROT. if he should go off, &c I suppose it would be like starting a 74 gun ship a voyage around the World, to get either of them started. You can guess how it is, a DAM SIGHT SOONER than I can write it, for I am rather nervas.

I shall try however to take Mother along with me. and let Father come after Harvest. And then I have got to go on so short notice and so early in the morning that I have not faith enough to move a grain of Mustard seed. I am expecting a letter from Kendall every time the Mail comes from Boston as he was to write to me when they had business. I got home safe and sound, WIND, LIM---&c Friday noon after Com. By the way we had the Best Commensment that I ever attended it was said by the best judges to be the best Music they ever had in Hanover. \$180'00 Concert at '25 a ticket, more than double their usual amount. House church cram jam full. My SOLO they CLAPED amasingly, no mistake. I will send you a bill of it. I visited at Prof. Dickeys the other after noon, her Brother Came from Haverhill on no other errand than to see me. Called here, I was absent, he left word to have me call, &c. SHE is as nice as GEES GREESE, since her return & every body inquires for the GIRLS &c. Miss E.T.S. called with a MRS. Robins from WASHINGTON the CAPITOL, while I was at Mr. D. Y.YES. silk, and silk WORMS. George Page went home the same eve, Came Sat. eve. went Monday eve &c.

I am dipping into haying in earnest, when it is weather to hay. Mr. Dickeys is the only place I have called. I guess I should not thare had it not been that Page took so much panes to Come from Haverhill &c. We got a Letter from Brother D. the 5th he was expecting to be in LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY in about 3 weeks. You will have time to get a letter to him if you like. his letter came from Columbus Ohio in 5 days. his health never was better, he says. My respects to every Body you like &c. Mr. & Mrs. D. more particular
in F. L. &T. in haste

Rhodolphus Hall

Hall Letters 76. Sept. 26, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury to D.C. in Vincennes, Ind. (forwarded from Indianapolis).

Distant Brother,

It was with a great degree of pleasure that I recd. your letter, LAST EVE. and with still greater degree- to learn of your good health, &c. and prosperity. I should have got yours sooner had I been in Roxbury. the circumstances I will relate. the GIRLS ie. Sarah & Lucy having 3 weeks vacation snatched the opportunity to visit Lyme. Came to Roxbury stayed from thursday eve. untill the next Monday morn, when they with SISTER N. and the children started for Lyme. I could not go with them on account of business. I stoped and played for Brigade Muster on the Common which was the 15th I started for Lyme the morn. of the 16th found the folks all enjoying themselves very well as usual.

Bartlett wrote for me before I had been home a week to come and play for a Military Encampment with the cadetts, which came off last friday. S. & L. returned with me. & started for N-Haven yesterday morning, as their time is up to morow morn.&c. I was at N. Hampshire when your letter arrived I suppose. I think it is too late for you to get this at Indianapolice. however I will do my part but it seems a dam long time since you wrote. You might have written if you had not known the decision of the com. with regard to wintering, &c. You wished to know my opinion with regard to going to N.O. & traveling next Season &c. And about your coming to Boston this winter. WELL, to make a long story short I will try, and give you my mind on the sub. which you will perhaps Consider rather weak but that is all the same as you prefer it &c.- If you CAN GET \$25'00 a week I SHOULD THINK IT WORTH NOTICING, even twenty is not very bad to take. But I do not know what the expence of living is in N.O. but should not think that decent Board would be \$5'00 per week any how.

NOW, IF YOU ARE HOME SICK, (though I think you ARE NOT) you can come home, But if you are only LONELY OCCASIONLY, when you think of the relations, and think that my PRESENCE would be a HELP for you, why! THEN YOU HAVE ONLY TO GET ME A SITUATION, and I am with you. I am not engaged yet for the winter or any length of time. I have been wating to hear from you before I engaged for the winter. I can do very well here this winter I suppose judging from talk, among the band. THERE IS THIS ABOUT IT. if I stop in Boston this winter, I shall another Summer too. without doubt, it being PRESIDETIAL ELECTION. And if the Band do well by me this winter I shall not be mean enough to leave them in the Spring after being wintered, YOU KNOW. I am thinking now that is their ideah to give me business this winter so as to be sure of me another summer &c. I have given first rate satisfaction and answered their expectation, &c. the reccommend in which I came in on. I have howed out all of the instruments of the kind in Boston. I have been COARTED by members of Flags Band and of the cornett also, to join their Band. I prefer the BRIGADE to any of them. And if I play with this winter I shall feel under obligation to play with them another summer. and SHALL I think UNLESS SPALDING SHOULD MAKE ME a decent offer to come to NEW-ORLEANS with you this fall. What is your opinion on the subject. just drop me a line and let me know. And an other to Spalding, let him know I am not engaged yet, to make me an offer what he will give, &c.

I have no doubt you could do very well here this winter. BUT YOU COULD NOT DO ANY BETTER THAN MYSELF I THINK. AND I DO NOT CONSIDER MY INCOURAGEMENT QUITE AS GOOD AS \$20'00 A WEEK IF it is in NEW-ORLEANS. Although Jim told me that AMASA WHITE the Leader of the Best Quadrille Band in B- was expecting him to play the Clart. with him, but he should Leave the Theatre that I could have the chance If I wanted to stop in B &c. And, FIELD another Leader of Quadrille Band wanted to engage me. came to the Revere House night before last whare we were playing, on purport to engage me for the winter to play Clart. &c. If you come I will do all in my power to assist you in every shape. But I would not reject a good offer if I were you. for my part I would like to spend the winter, with you in N.-O. And if Spalding is Enough of a Yankey to make me ANY THING of a decent offer I am thare thats all. I SHALL EXPECT to to hear from you AS SOON AS POSSIBLE AFTER YOU GET THIS. Do not fail now to write. We had \$25'00 each, for playing at YALE COLL. COM. N-HAVEN what do you think of that. 12 of us. I stoped one week thare we were found after we got thare &c. &c.

Commensment was only one day, GAVE THEM a concert in the eve, for their benefit, only about \$50'00 house however. Our folks are all pretty well. want us to come home to thanksgiving &c. My compliments to Kendall and to the WIDOW MAHONEY, and all that inquire &c.
in haste Respects of all Yours in F.L.&T.

Rhodolphus Hall

Hall Letters 77. Oct. 10, 1847; D.C. in Mt. Pleasant, Ind. to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Sister Sarah & Lucy,

Dreading the task of writing as much as I do have made one final attempt and have succeeded in commencing one more letter however GOOD or BAD that as it may be. I will leave it to your own judgement. I should have written before but various reasons TO numerous to MENTION. I recd your letter in Cincinnati in due season since than I have been in Louisville and several of the large towns in Kentucky then back and through Ohio a second time. also Indiana day after tomorrow is our last stand in Ind. we are on our direct rout to St. Louis through Illinois, shall be there in about two weeks or more, the Company is going to winter in New Orleans and I have nearly made up my mind to go with them. Dr. Spalding has offered me \$20,00 per week do not think I can do much better than to go if he will give me 25,00 which is my price.

When I was in Cincinnati I saw Reuben Hews he appeared very well and doing well said he was married two or three children owned a house &c it was the last day we were in C. and did not go and see his folks. he appeared very cheerful wished me to send his respects &c when I wrote. I recd. a letter from R. one week to day when we were in Indianapolis by which recd. news from you and from home. it appears that you are all doing well and so I will try to do likewise. I saw Benjamin Gilbert FRANKS boy in Cincinnati he looked well and appeared to be doing well said he was going home this fall.

My health has been very good since I wrote to you before. I should be happy in the extreme to receive a letter from you in St. Louis Mo. I wish you would not fail in making as much of an attempt at as I have at the PRESENT JUNCTURE. let me know how all the people are in Lyme Boston Roxbury also New Haven &c tell Lum & Perkins if they inquire for me that \$25,00 per week in N.O. is better then what I was doing there.

— What else shall I write my stalk for writing is nearly runout therefore I will close.

My compliments to Mr. & Mrs. Dimick and reserve a quantity for yourselves.
Yours Respectfully

David C. Hall

P.S. This company has met with unbounded success this season at one performance in Louisville Ky. the receipts were upwards of \$1500,00 we were there three days.

Hall Letters 78. Oct. 10, 1847; Rhodolph in New Haven to D.C. in St. Louis.

Dear Brother,

I wrote you at Indianaplice, but do not think it had time to reach that place in time for you to get it, as I did not receive yours in due time. but it may be forwarded to you therefore shall not write the particulars. There has nothing transpired in this region that is very amusing or alarming. You would like to know the cause of my being here in the land of wooden CUCUMBER seed, I suppose. well I wanted an A Clarionett for myself to play this winter, and Dayton of Orford wanted me to get him one they were not to be got in Boston, and as I were to go to N.Y. for them, I thought I would make Albany in my way. So last Monday morn. started for Albany, thinking I should see SPALDING there, as you wrote he had started for Albany the morn. you wrote. I saw his wife, (as you may learn). HE had been thare and gone again. I believe did not make a long stop &c. I stoped two nights in Albany. saw Miss Wheeler thare, as wide a wake as ever, inquired for you particularly, sent her best compliments &c.&c. Came to N.Y. wednesday eve, found Unkle David, went and took Dinner with him. his store is 150 Fulton St. he is doing a thundering Business he says. He would like YOU & myself to come and work with him I think, by his talk. I arrive in New-York early in the morning, went and saw RONBERG. he had no A Clarionetts good for any thing, did not get suited, did not order any as I had not heard from you about going to N.O. &c. thought if I went South I might not kneed it, you may write on the sub. what you think of it, and what are the prospects of of my being with you this winter, and what instruments do you think I had better practice &c. By the way I can play my Ebrocorno LIKE A CUS, they say. If you go to N. Orleans this winter, I would like to go with you, if the prospects are rather FAINT with regard to money making. I may hear from you before you get this, presume I shall. But I want you to WRITE when you GET THIS ANY HOW, and let me know what your conclusions are. Mrs. Spalding thought my intension was to get you back to Boston and I did not UNDECEIVE her made her think I was doing a thundering Business &c.&c. She thinks of going to spend the winter with the COMPANY. If I should make an ingagement to go with you, I might accompany here, &c.

RANDLETT of Concord N.H. wants me to play the clt. for him this winter. His headquarters are to be at MANCHESTER. And the BOSTON FELOWS INTEND to KEEP me THIS WINTER, for the sake of me, ANOTHER SUMMER. But it would be sad news to some of them when they hear of my intended departure to the South &c. if I do not go South. shall play with Randlett.

I forgot to say any thing about your set pieces & shanks to your cornett when I wrote before and came pretty near it this time, WRIGHT said he would keep them untill he saw you, the last time that I saw him about it. I can fetch them to you if I should come &c. write soon. Yours in F.L.&T. IN HASTE

Rhodolph Hall

I leave for ROXBURY today. Should have gone Saturday had I not got left &c.

Hall Letters 78.1. Oct. 10, 1847; Lucy In New Haven to D.C. in St. Louis. (Enclosed with letter of same date from Rhodolph to D.C.)

Dear Brother,

Having an opportunity to write you & one minute to do it in. I make haste to tell you I or we want you to write to us. We learn by R. that you think of going south -- now we do want you should come home & spend the winter - if you can make it any way agreeable with the profitable. I should think you would be about tired of jaunting soon.

We think too that father would like some chance to dispose of matters & things with you & R.

When we were home I made mother a solemn promise to come home at the close of this term which will be soon - in Dec. I wish you would come & go with me. Mother fails I can see & I think that one of us should be with her - & other reasons I will tell you of when I write again prompt me to go home. It is now 8 o'clock monday morn & I have got to fix & go to school so excuse all mistakes. Sarah & Mr. D's folks send much love -- NOW WRITE SOON if it is no more than 3 words. In haste & love

L. F. Hall

Hall Letters 79. Oct. 19, 1847; L.E. Risley in Brighton to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Friend Lucy,

Yours was duly Received. I was pleased to find that you had a pleasant journey to the Home Land & returned in improved health & Spirits. Glad that you found friends well & prospering - & nothing, save the closing scenes to mar your gratifications. You went home at a very good time - if any thing it was not late enough. Now) is the time to visit the country. The season of the (leav) is the season of "Beauty". How rich is a New England scene in Autumn. How lovely one's Home appears at this time after an absence of some length from it. I have been at school & from Home - this (the fall) quarter: & when I returned how much more lovely looked the old familiar haunts! - Oh! How unpleasant then to break the spell and turn reluctantly then away - & sadly - lingeringly - leave the loved place! But you are well situated as a Teacher can be & I doubt not enjoy yourself very well: & if you leave & go Home next season as contemplated I doubt not that 'Ere long you will sigh for restoration in The Land of Wooden Nutmegs & in the half hated Writing School Hours! "Such is Life." Such was the nature of your prediction to me a year since: such mine to you now! We are always seeking Happiness in Change - or at least imagining it & hoping for it. The Youth of 20 - (from 18 @ 25 the "Lover's Scene"). Dreams of Bliss in Wedlock. He of 30 (in the "Scene of Manhood") recounts the pleasures of his youthful Days & would that he were free as then! Since Happiness is a fantom that floats before the minds Eye & is seldom seized upon. Once I grasped it & for a brief span retained it. Twas all a delusion but it filled my measure! Twas Love's Young Dream fulfilled - twas the Longed for terminus of a season of painful (suspense). And this is the unalloyed Happiness we Mortals Enjoy to illumine our path for a moment with heavenly light only to leave us in Darkness that may be felt. But I have no fault to find with this world - it's as good an one as I ever see & for aught I know as good as any there is!

Nothing of much interest has occurred to me since I saw you - I have been well & in good spirits. I have once or twice heard from home. Well & tolerably prosperous there. I have had my pretty face taken & sent it home by Geo. Skinner. If he gets drunk & looses it I shall curse him always. It was a very faithful picture. It is now a very busy season with us & I have little opportunity to read or write. I have nearly given up keeping a journal, much as I favor the plan & notwithstanding the pleasure I have Derived from so doing. In my present situation I cannot concentrate my thoughts & Embody them on paper. I can with difficulty _____ a letter even to a Friend whom I would address the most familiarly. Excitement ruins a Man. is a constant Dwelling amongst it. My thoughts are constantly centered upon the pleasant _____ of my Country Home - My own place among the Green Hills of our New Hampshire & I look forward to the time (now not far distant) when I shall return to it to Enjoy the quiet of "Maples Street". Then will I resume my "Diary". When I say that I am in good spirits & Enjoy myself here, I say truly - but) it is not because I like my situashun or my society. There is a pleasure in being absent from the object of one's affections, & contemplating its duties from the Distance! Feeling at the time that the seperashun is but temporary - & Dwelling upon the return scene. But enough of this.

I have just read confirmation of the Deth of Col. Truman B. Ransom 2nd in Command of the N.E. Reg. in Mexico. Some 2 or 3 weeks since I saw the Report of his deth but

soon saw it contradicted. But in a later Battle he has fallen! Nothing in the course of the war has so shoked my feelings as this Event. I knew him well - have trained under him. & I even admired him. Nay - I almost adored him. He was the pattern of a noble Man. He has fallen covered with Glory as (excited) patriots will say while _____ Bird perched upon our victorious Banners. But curse the War! I am a Democrat & will stand by the administration. I thought very well of Mr. Tylor while others denounced him, but from the first I disliked the annexation of Texas. I have hated the War as its consequents. That we shall be victorious I have no doubt, tho there will yet be hard fighting & streams of blood will flow to buy it. But I believe the influences will be Injureous & we shall be all the worse for the whole affair. But Time will Determine.

Lucy, I have been from Tuesday Evening til this (Friday) evening in writing this crazy Epistle. Do you see how busy I am & how much time I have to keep a journal. You have more time than I have. Please write soon.

Remember me to Sis Sarah and other Friends. Take good care of yourself - & believe am ever your True & Sincere Friend.

May Fortune smile upon & contentment crown your life. May hope gleam brightly on your path. &. no illusions. _____ . Ever & C. L.E.
Risley

Hall Letters 80. Oct. 24, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury to D.C. in St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Brother,

I recd. yours last eve. dated Vincennes 12th- that you were to be at St. Lewis the 25th rather short notice to get a Letter to you, however I write not knowing how long you may) stop there. I wrote you at Vandalia Illinois which it seems you had not got when you wrote. And I might have been mistaken in the places that Mrs. Spalding told me you were a going to be at the 11th & 19th But it is of but little cosequence any how. I doubt very much whether you get this. But I write acording to your request. Having not much news. Business is rather dull in the Music line at present in Boston. now and then a Serendade I have thought for some time if I did not go to New Orleans with you this winter, I should go home an stop through the winter. I might Play occasionally, to pas the time with Cantfield & Wheeler or Densmore). The latter) takes Pushees) place at Lebanon. Pushee is at Lowell. Bond does his Clart. Playing this winter.

The folks would like to have us both come home this winter I think. And we might Pass the time very pleasant, But) I would rather go farther South), even if I did not make quite as much. When I wrote about going to N.O. with you it was not with an ideah of making more) money, or even as much. It was to get out of the long winter just to see how it would seem once, and to see the Country down South all the way, &c.&c. the novelty of it, to be sure, If I did not more than pay expenses) as I went along, what of it). I might as well stay), in one place as the other, for I shall only stay) at Lyme) this winter. I have made up my mind not to stay in Boston any how). As I said I had no news, But Russ Gardner) has inlisted during) the War) with Mexico what you think, of that). He was on Governors Island New-York the last we heard of him. His folks are in Boston yet. 7\$ per month & Rost Beef) (Horse Beef) I guess.

Wm. had a letter his wife yesterday. Our folks are all well as usuall. Wm. Bisby was but just alive), Crazy most of the time &c. Rather dull times. Money Rather hard, &c. Father talks of coming to Boston with Sister N. next week.

I do not think you can do better than to accept of Spaldings) offer. If you come home, how the Hell you going to work to get up a Band) without either Men or Instruments, there is but 1 or 2 chaps that would think of starting.

I think you would be rather uneasy this winter at Lyme after a week or two. But do just as you think best. I should like to see you very much, And if you engage to go down the River I would come, if there the least assurance of it's paying the expences) from the time I left. let it be a pleasure excursion if nothing else. Concluded upon when you get this if you Please &c. Also, the best that Spalding will do, any how, for me.

Please excuse Mistakes &c. In Haste Yours in F.L.&T.

R. Hall

Respects to the Band. & Eniet)!!

Write)

Wm. & Frank send their unlimited Respects to have you come to Thanksgiving) &c.&c.

Hall Letters 81. Nov. 7, 1847; Rhodolph in Roxbury to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters,

It is with a mixture of pain and pleasure, and most every sort of feeling that I attempt to write, under these circumstances, which are as follows. Saturday eve. last, I recd. a letter from Brother D. He is well as usuall, as to health. He was in St. Lewis, arrived there the 25 of Nov. Dated his Letter the 27th. He has engaged to go to New Orleans), gets his price which is \$25.00 per week for 10 week at any rate, all over 10 weeks \$20.00 per week. He talked with Spalding about my coming, and has got an opportunity where I can have \$60.00 per month. They go to Memphis Ten.) the middle of this month, where D. wishes me to meet him on or before the 20th as they leave there the 20th of Nov. for N.Orleans).

I think I shall start on Friday at any rate). Father and Mother & sister N., etc. were to have met me at Concord N.H.) last Friday (as I played for a Ball there on Thursday night & one at Manchaester Wednesday night) But they put off comeing untill Saturday next) for to make Cider), etc. I have written for them to come Wednesday. If they do- sibito.

I shall start on Thursday, my journey, as it will take me nearly 2 weeks to get to Memphis, Tennessee). I shall go by New York Pheledelphia to Wheeling Va. and down the Ohio River) as D. thought that the quickest rout, I could come. If I can get away on Thursday) I think I shall stay over one night in New Haven. But if I should not start untill Friday, shall go direct to N.Y. unless you wish to come to the carrs to send a kiss), a Letter) accompanied with a good wish, or something of the like. I am rather sorry I cannot make you longer call) but you know, I done it up brown) when I was there last. (By the way that company did not perade nor has it yet.) I lost a Serenade in Boston that night. We ran into a freight train of carrs, the eve I left N.Haven. Smashed a freight carr all to splinters fine enought for tooth pricks). Did not get into Boston untill about 10 o'clock. No very cerious damage, except galling the things) the Ladies ware their Stockings on.) Pardon me for not having written before, as I have been excited in every manner you can name allmost).

Now Should it be your extreme desire to have me come through New-Haven on Friday I will do so, but shall not have time to go up town, as the Boat starts as soon as they can get the Bagage aboard. It will only about a dollars difference in the fare), But I will come that way if you say the word. Write immediatly) on the reception of this.

Father Mother & N. may come on Wednesday, as I wrote yesterday to have them come then. But Friday as soon as I expect them.

It is not very likely D. & Myself will return before 1 year from this fall, unless we are sick or some thing happens.

I shall look for a Letter on Wednesday eve. Direct) to Boston) (as I shall be in town) the Mail does not come out here untill the Morning after it arrives in Boston. I will call at the P.O.

My Best Regards to the Mr. & Mrs. D. also to the Wooden Lady.

Miss Bird says, "give them my Love." The rest would say the same, were they present. I asked Catherine what she had to send. She say "I dont no (know) he he."

Excuse mistakes as I have written in haste. It is 6 o'clock dark and rainy and I am off for Boston with this. Yours untill Death

Rhodolph Hall
Member of Boston Brigade Band

Hall Letters 82. Dec. 13, 1847; Rhodolph in New Orleans, La. to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters,

It seems a long time since I saw you, and equally long since I heard from you. I believe, yes, I am sure I have not heard from you since I saw you at New Haven. When I was at New Haven I expected if I came South, that I should have come that way. But, circumstances would not permit - as - Father, Sister N. & children) did not arrive in Boston untill the eve). of the 11th of Nov. I left Boston the Afternoon of the 12th at 5 o'clock. Passed through Providence to Stonington to N.Y. to Pheledelphia, Baltimore to Cumberland Me. to Wheeling Va.) There took Steam Boat to Cincinnati) there shifted Boats for Memphis Ten.) Did not find the company) there as I expected, they had left 3 days previous for Vexburg) Miss. where I found them at 11 o'clock night the 23d of Nov. after a journey of 11 days and having rode all night), and day every) night. By the change of Watter) & Diet), gave me such a Back Door) looseness, that I felt rather Frail). Taking the holl together with the fatigues of the journey was enough to make any one feel dam Stale). But I looked full as good order as Brother D. did, for he had just got Better of the Fever-Agre), had shaken) all his meet off, looked as though he had been fed on Magnetic telegraph wire). He is very hearty now, getting fleshey. We were in Natches, Mis.) when Gen Quitman of the U.S.Army arrived, it is his native place, is home on a furlow or visit. We played for the procession, and Reception) of the venerable gent. Recd. \$7.25 each, only 3 hours on duty either.

Gen Shields) arrived there also, while we were there. Gen. Shield) is the Man that was shot), through the Lungs) if you recollect), at the Battle of Bunavista). And has been shot through the arm, his arm) he has to have slung up with a handkerchief now. He and Quitman are smart looking Men. It is one week yesterday morn, since we arrived in New-Orleans. Gen. Shield) came to New Orleans the same time we did, in the same Boat. It was Sunday morn Dec. 5th that we arrive here. The first we saw that excited our curiosity was Gen. Taylor), coming down St. Escorted by Military of the City led by a Band of Music. (Reed Band). Came on Board the Steamer Missouri) that lay along side of us as we had not gone a shore. We had a quising view of the old Rough & Ready) himself. It was well worth a V to me. He is as old looking as Unkle Simonds used to be, nearly, or quite, but does not stand up so straight as he used to, though. He took the Boat for his plantation) and Residence) up the River). We were near enough to the old fellow to count his eye winkers), most. After he was off, we went a shore. Took a walk about town. We met J. Albert Lum) from New-Haven. The next sight we saw that amused us, was our walk through the Catholic Buring Place), or whare they put them in Brick holes built up like a Brick @UXC(Oven) all above) the surface it being Mud and watter Beneath.

It amused me very much to see the toombs all ornamented) with artificial flower). ha!ha! The Priests are lighted day and night with wax candles the year round. This was Sunday you may recollect, but it seemed more like 4 of July to me, as it was warm. The stores pretty much all were open and doing a Big Business. There were also horse Races & Bull fights. But we did not attend them. But this was the Opening night of the National Ampatheatrr). We attended there, as Spalding) is one of the proprietors). Apart of our company performed. Theaters are open just as much Sunday night here as

they are 4th of July or any other night. the Amphitheatre was cram jam full the first night. about 12 or 1500 people if it was Sunday night, the fullest attended Conference) that ever I went any where. It is too dark now to follow the lines therefore I will go for my Tea and then to the performance. &c. "Mr. President) as unaccustomed) as I am to Public Speaking as I am, I adjourn".

Dec. 14th

I have been considerably out of order since we got here, there has been 4 or 5 days that I have been down with a kind of Billious Fever) or Colery). Such as every one is subject to that comes here from the North), they say. There was a day or two, that I did not know what the D--I to do with myself. I now feel quite well. We have all sorts of weather here. One day very fine the next two or 3 rain like (hell) then cold enough to freeze it over, although I have not seen any ice here. I do not think much of New-Orleans), yet. I don't know how I shall like it. come to get in with the French Customs) . The people are French principal part, Negroes and all, of all colors.

We expect to go to Mobeal, in about 5 or 6 weeks to perform a few weeks, then here again, and start early in the Spring for St. Lewis. Spalding has left his horses a part of them thare and wagons, commences traveling from thare in the Spring, travells up by Steemboat), will perform along in the principal towns, I expect, from St. Lewis will travel East). Intends wintering in Montreall next winter, that is the talk. It is possible that I may travel with them, but not certain. We commenced performing last Sat. Saturday eve. Dec. 11th Under our Monster Pavillion, on Congo Sqr. We have to perform Seven days in the week here. Last Sunday eve. we had nearly 2000 people in our canvas.

We Boarded at the Tremont House) for a week after we came, at \$5.00 per week each, But our room did not suit us.

We now pay \$25.00 per Month for the use) of a furnished) Room. It is a nice parlor on the second floor, large enough for 3 of us. Our room mate is a Member of our Band, only 19 years of age, But he plays the violin)as much better than Jim Hubbard), tell Hattersly, as he can better than myself. We have high old times. Our room is kept clean. We furnish our own lights, wine &c. get our Meals at the Restorater.

We stop now at 82. Philippa St. but you kneed not direct with the street & No. for we may be at Mobeal. Just say Members of Kendalls Band, and it will be sufficient. We call at the ofice very often. Tell sister Lucy I keep the pencill yet, have not had an opportunity to sell it yet for more than what I paid. I want you to keep my dues paid in the Lodge) and when I come home I will make it all right &c.

I must close for want of room. My Best Compliments) to Brother Demock) & Wife), and Hatersley) and such as inquire.

An immeasurable quantity of Love to your-Selves.
Rhodolph Hall

Hall Letters 84. Mar. 5, 1848; Rhodolph Hall in New Orleans to Sarah and Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters,

I will not attempt an appology for not having written before, although methinks you are not aware of extreem swiftness of time) & tide), and the way People dash on) to keep up with the times and fashon) of this Greate Cressent) City of N.O. Perhaps you are not aware of our being engaged every night) in the week, Sundays Accepted). Besides, all the Prize Fights) Bull Fights Cock Fights) and other amusements that are constantly coming off by day and nights. My time in which to write is limited, therefore excuse particulars.

We arrived in New-Orleans) from Mobile Jan. 26 and Recd your very kind letter), also one from Father and Brother T. which had been advertised. Commenses Performing here Jan. 30th have not been idle but 2 or three nights since. This evening was our last Show in this City for the present, or untill next winter. The Contract) is made for all hands to be on board the Steemer) Gen. Jones at 2 o'clock) P.M. Tomorrow), for Natchez Miss.) commencing our journey up the River to St. Lewis) Mo although we expect to stop at Natchez) & Vixburg) Mis. Memphis) and Nashville Te. Lewisville) Ky. and Cincinati Ohio. By Steem Boat the Above) name Places) we are to pay a visit, before we reach St. Lewis) which will take about 5 weeks. Stop in St. Lewis a week or more before we commense Traveling.

We shall expect to get a Letter from you by that time. Now do not disappoint us. Write as soon) as you get this.

We Performed in Mobile) 3 weeks and 4 days) done a much better business that what we did before we went there. Since we returned we have been doing first rate, have performed 4 weeks and 3 days. My winters Salery amounts to \$155. We have Played for Celebrations), &c. to the amount of \$60.00 each beside our Regular) Salery. Yesterday was the Fire Mens) Grand Celebration) here. For which we have \$150.00 for 12 Men), had to march in procession about the City the distance of 6 miles or more, the most of the way, very Mudy). And the 22nd of Feb. Played for the Sons) of Temperance), Grand Procession and Played in church). Recd. \$10.00 each, &c. New-Years) eve \$10.00 each for a torch light Proc. in Mobile, &c.&c.

I have sold the Ebrocorno that Paid \$25.00 for, sold it for \$28.00, have Purchased the) \$75.00 Silver Cornett) that I sent to D. last Sumer from Boston. I have Engaged to Travel) for only \$50.00) per Month and Expences) which would be as good as 50.00 Per Month and Board & Clothes) as Spalding has got the Band a Splendid New Uniform Throughout, Coat Cap) and Pants). Kendall is engaged to Travel) So there is Three Silver instruments along sid by Sid. Cut a mighty swath, I assure you.

I have been engaged one week. I was offered \$40.00 Per Month to travel by two different Proprietors of Circuses) both the same day. One to travel through Georgia, Alabama) Ten. Ky, a part of N.C. & S.C. and so up by the Natural Bridge, Va.) The other in the South) and west). The rest for D. to write as I am tired fingers lame &c.

R. Hall

N.O. March 6th 1848

Dear Sisters,

You say in some of your letters, write if not more then three words. Now is the time. What shall I write. I have no time to write and what is worse no news. The wether are the season and &c.

The trees are in blossom here now and leeving out. Plumb trees were in full bloom the 22nd of Feb. The wether is like summer. It does not seem as if we had had winter at all.

I have engaged to travel again this season. My salery is \$65. per month. I think that I shall make some eastern coast next fall if nought hapens. The ship fever has raged here considerable if not more. The people kill one another also. Rogasi an Italian one that was trombone player in our band last season got married) here this winter and got jealous of his wife and murdered her as he thought, but she would not die after being stabled several times, but got well. They have not done any thing with him and have agreed not to &c. Thats the way to raise an excitement.

My respects to D. Wife and all the friends. Yours truly
David C. Hall

N.O. Mar.6, 1848

Dear Sisters,

I will try and finish this one Page, although I ought to look about and do some little traiding for Myself before I commence my Summers journeying. L. the Pencil) I keep yet. It is one of um), no mistake. It has wore holes through my vest on both sides, beside making Corns) on my Ribs). Ha!! ha! I wish you had the Big thing. I came near selling it once for \$10.00 I guess I should) if I had had and offer. I shall Purchase a Gold Pen & Pencil if I have time. It is now 11 o'clock A.M. and I have got to Pack up and get aboard the Boat, and settle for the Rent of Room &c. &c. Do not forget) my Best Compliments) to Brother Demok) & Wife and all inquiring Friends.)

I think Ainsworths) has taken in consideration)
To change his situation)
For the good of The Nation
Thereby lay a sure Foundation)
For another) Generation

Ha!!! ha!! ha!

We are well or feel so any how. Rather weak, from the effects of the climate I suppose. My old Humor is out in my hands pretty Bad but my fase looks tolerable decent yet. Feels very comfortable except when I perspire. My compliments to the- the- Miss Woods or the young Forest, &c. Write). I am off

R. Hall Excuse mistakes.

Hall letters 85. April 2, 1848; John Hall in Lyme to D.C. and Rhodolph in St. Louis.

D.C. & [Lhh]

We received your the last of March and were glad hear of your health and prosperity. We are in usual health and prosperity. It is a general time of health in this vicinity not much news of importance except the war and now a treaty for peace sent on to Mexico to see if Mexico will consent to negotiate and settle the controversy and the effusion of blood and money it is said. Money is getting scarce in the cities and if they do not have peace the whole nation may turn bankrupt. You wrote money was plenty at the south pleasant weather. Weather snow all gone the last of March might plow grass ground well but may have snow and cold weather yet before grass grows. We had a letter from Wm. and Nancy of late all well as usual had a letter from the girls the same time we yours out of the post office. They were well and doing well at there vacation. They went to Hartford to see aunt Lydia and Lydia. All well. Aunt Lydia tells of going to New Haven to keep a boarding house and if she should the girls will board with her and some others of the school. I attended the funeral of Otis Winslow about the 20 of March. Old Mr. Hascal is much as Major Gilbert was taken not able to get about. Mills Converse has sold out to Dexter Converse for one thousand dollars. Has moved in with Simeon Whipple. Dexter married a girl below and lives with widow. Some think the widow has jumped out of the frying pan into the fire. Mills is thought to be a likely young man. John Dimick and family move this week for Manchester to keep a boarding house. James Dimick takes his farm. Mr. Jeffers and family are preparing to move to White River the first of May and he is expecting keep boarders. He is expecting to work in the machine shop making [patrons]. The depot at White River will be the most central place for business in these parts. The rail roads go on rapidly git up to Wells River next fall. Some men at work at Norwich a week since dug into a hill and it caved down upon them and killed one dead. Your Mother and myself went Mr. Dahes and attended the funeral at Mr. Ransom quite a large gathering of people.

I have hired Mr. Reed this season for \$10.50 pr month. He is to begin the first Monday of April and five months. I have wintered twenty head of horned cattle and sixty sheep two horses and fine colt. The mare is with foal again. We have received a letter from Wm and Nancy they said in their letter if we write to you to tell you to write to them without fail. Mr. John Allen died a few day since. John [Thent] married the youngest daughter of George Perkins. Mr. Byer Lathom wife is sick of the consumption as thought. Likely C. Bartholomew lives in Geneva in Wisconsin. You will have to go through Milwaukee to get there. If you go to see them find how they are doing. You wrote you had received but one letter from us. We have always written as soon as we could. Can't you agree with some one to take out your letter and send it after you as for instance suppose you had agreed with George Heins to take out your letter and send it after you you paying the postage you directing where to send it. Suppose you should agree with the post master to send it where you should direct. I see nothing suppose you should send to New Orleans for the post master to send you letter to St. Louis and send the postage in the letter. I think it would come on but perhaps you know more about it than I do. It will want to be mailed over.

Horace Cutting has another daughter lay dead in his house funeral tomorrow or next day. He has but one daughter left about fifteen years old. They have lost three

daughters and one son since last August. David [Gittent] has put the whole bit of an ax through his foot up to his ankle from the top to the bottom of his foot. Bled powerfully. Salmon Bixby cut his foot much in the same place but not so large a gash. It sat him into a fever has him laid up about all winter. When you get this letter write what states you are going to travel through this season & had others. You wrote something about your brother musician that you read music better than he could and got to the head of him. I think you chose the wisest part. The best is to keep calm and pleasant. Fair play and smooth words kill the devil. You wrote you should be at home next November. So I must draw to a close by subscribing myself and well wishes your father
John Hall

Hall Letters 86. Apr. 15, 1848; Rhodolph in Cincinnati, Ohio to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sisters,

It has been some time since we wrote you, but I do not feel like appologising for not having written before, as we have not heard from you. It is with the belief, that a Letter would be very acceptable by this time, that prompts me to write. As the time in which I must write is limited, and as I do not feel very Eloquent), please excuse me from Ceremony), &c. &c.

I believe I Mailed my last, the 6th of March. The same day I purchased me a \$16.00 Gold Pen, Stalk, & Pencil) also a fine Brest Pin) (as I had none before, you know) We left N.O. on the evening of the 6th of March, the 7th passed Baton Rouge) La. and Played Hail-Columbia) & Yankee Doodle) to Gen. Taylor) while passing, the old Gen. came out and listened to us, &c. &c.

We did not stop at Natchez Mis. and Vixburg as we expected, but came direct to Memphis) Tenn. arrived there the 11th in the evening. Performed there one week, then, took Boat for Nashville Tenn. arrived there March 23d Played there one week. Spalding Purchased) a Steem Boat at Nashville. Paid between \$2 & 3000 for her, for the purpose of conveying his company to this place and to St. Lewis and to travel by watter in Spring and fall while it is Mudy traveling by land. Left Nashville March 31st on Board the Steemer Alegheny Mail Capt. G.R.) Spalding for Clarksville Tenn. 64 miles below Nashville on the Cumberland River. By the by the Cumberland is the most beautifull River I have seen in all my travels. Played at Clarksville two days & eves. April 4th left Clarksville for Cincinnati. Arrived here Sunday morn 9th at day light. Tonights performance will make one week that we have played in Cincinnati). We go on Board Our Steemboat) after the Performance this eve. and leave as soon as they can get the Canvas), and things, on Board for Louisville) Ky. whare we expect to Play one week &c. from thare, shall make our way to St. Lewis Mo. by making only(?) few stops of one, or two days in a place along &c. We shall have plenty of time to get an answer from you), before we leave St. Louis. ie. if write immediately after geting this. Now do not fail to write without delay) for if we do not get a letter from you at St. Lewis the D-I knows when when we can.

Reuben Hews) has jus called at our Room to see us. I had given up the Ideah of seeing him as we leave very early in the morn. He appeared exceding glad to see us &c. did not expect to see me. He looks natural and healthy, doing a good business. Should have made him a call had we known whare to have found him. Has now gone down town, is coming to take tea with us and attend the circus this eve.

There may be a cord) of Letters at St. Lewis when we get thare if not now. But we have not heard from home, nor from you since the 26th) of Jan). and then the letters were 3 weeks after date, never heard from Brother Morey and family since I lef Roxbury Except what you wrote in Jan. Do not fail to write to us at St. L. on the reception of this. Write all about home &c. I have not written home since the 12 of March more than a month, you might write home after answering this and let the folks know about us &c. as I do not know when I shall get at letter writing again &c. I put the old Pencil that I had of

you L. up to Raffle as we were coming to Memphis on the Boat. I Recd. \$10'00 there is \$2'00 more due that I never expect to get. D. L. Downing won it. \$1'00 tickets.

Louisville Ky. April 17th 1848

I intended that D. should have written this page, but he says he has nothing to write &c. and wont write. I should have finished this at Cincinnati. But Mr. R. Hews was so glad to see us that he kept with us from the time he found us untill we came on board the Boat. We sat up all nigh on saturday night chating of old times &c. We were expecting to leave some time the night, but they did not get the things aBoard, so Hews had a gred many inquiries to make about old Lyme and the People. He left us at day break, and we left for this place. arrive he about midnight last night. We saw Bill Starks of New-Haven, one that used to play with us in the Band. Saw him at this place as we were on our to Cincinnati. had a quite a chat with him. Saw him again yesterday as we passed Madison Ia. he is traveling with Rockwell & Co. Circus Co. He was very glad to see us &c from appearance. L. I am greatly obliged to you for settleing my dues in the Lodge. I want you to keep them squared up, untill I come to N.H. and I will make every thing) right. By, the by, I have been Dam) sick, since I wrote before), with Billious Fever). But I lived through it, and wore it out. I did not lose but one performance) however as we were traveling by steem Boat from Nashville to Cincinnati, which took nearly two weeks, but some of the time in Nashville I was not fit for business, and felt some of the time as though I should fall off my seat in the Auchastra. at Clarksville I got a little rained on, took Cold, a low fever) took me and I thought I should flumux) for a few day. Rather poor accomodations on board a steem Boat for a sick man but tuft it as well as possible. I was my own doctor, as I had a Box of Pills that Mrs. Piersons Prescribed for me. I grew poor as a snake. I took pills etc. D. was my nurse; he fetched tea and crackers to my state room when I was not able to sit up &c. and persuaded me to put on my clothes and walk, when I did not feel as though I could stand. My sickness was on account of having a foul Billious) stomach and, when I took cold I had been troubled with a Back Door rot for a week or two. D. health is first rate. He is as fat as a hog. I never saw him so fleshy before. But I do not weigh as much by 10 lbs as when I was in New Haven. I had simptoms of Fever & Ague. It is out of the season or I think should had it. The Sout, and west, I think does not agree with my health at all. I have not space to write all I wish therefore allow me to Splice &c. R.H.

Hall Letters 87.1 W. June 13, 1848; Rhodolph in Indian Territory (Kansas) to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Western or Indian) Territory. Longitude 17 2/3 W. Latitude 39. In the Forest shaded by a wild Apple tree, alone, laying upon the grass, on my left side, feet west, head resting upon hand and elbow. My Travelling guide and map of the U.S. in front of me &c, &c, &c. Tuesday 10 o'clock A.M.

Dear Sisters,

It is not to surprise you that I have chosen this Romantic situation, inhabited by Shawnees scarce half civilised. Traversed by Buffalos & Woolfs, Black & Rattle Snakes, Massasoggas Lizards and other venomous vermins too Numerous to mention. I say it is not to surprise, or instruct, that I have chosen these accomodations of Addressing you, in these few moments) of leisure, Rather more to answer your very kind request) and at the same time Amuse you a bit if possible.

Yours of the ---- was Rec'd on May -- morn, and served as a wreath of Affection, and its contents as a Prompter, or Milestone to the Imagination. Will not attempt to mention a few of the principal places that we have visited since I wrote you before. Played at Evensville, Ky. whare we saw Aden Pushee) Son of Prof. Pushee. Arrived at St. Louis Sunday eve. Apr. 30th while thare rec'd. a letter from Father & Brother T., one from Friend Hatersby, and one from a Brother Musician of N.Y. We played for the Firemen's Annual Celebration while thare. Left St. Louis Sabath morn May 21st for St. Charles 22 ms and have Played at St. Charles, Cottleville, Pawldy Ville, Warenton, Danville, Williamsburg, Fullton, Millersburg, Columbia, Rocheport, Fayett, Boonvill) our canvas) Blowed down in a Thunderstorm) in the Eve. Awfull) catastrophe, and loss of Bonetts), Hats, Umbarills &c. no bones broken) --- from thare on Sunday 26 ms to Arrow) Rock, Marshall, Grand Pass, Lexington), two days then on a six mile Peraria, whare thar was only a tavern. And yester at Independence, Mo. This morn left Independence) at sunrise and arrived at Westport) only 1/2 mile to the State line and line Boundry of the United States of America) at 9 o'clock and put up at a Log tavern), though that is not a rare occurence with us. D. lay himself down to sleep while I ventured on this excursion. I am Betwene 2 & 3 miles from the ville of hutts) whare we are to perform and about the same distance from the banks of the Kanzas River, thinking it time for me to be on the march to town as the Indians I heer and see occasionly passing Briskly in to see the show and feeling some what Carniverous), and you will judge from this scribling) not a little nervous. And "Mr. President, as unaccostomed as I am to this kind of center table or secretary; I adjourn)"

Platte City. Clinton Clay County) Thursday A.M. June 15th '48

Distant Sisters,

I have asked D. twice to fill out this letter & have awaited two days for him, but he says he has nothing in particular to write, and is pretty cross, because I asked him to write, &c. So I think I shall not teeze him again. I will try and fill it out with something if not so cunning. Our Audience at West Port) was numerous) and "Chiefly" Indians.) There were portions of 5 different Tribes, so said by the People that were acquainted and such manouvers as they went through far surpassed my imagination. Some got Intoxicated, both Squaws) and Indians. And all sorts of Fighting and "Squawking"). Yesterday crossed the Missouri River in Ferry 1/4th of a mile from the mouth of the Kansas, at a ville called Kansas. And just in plain sight of a settlement) of the Wiandot) Tribe of Indians of only 600. We proceded to a place that has no name). The man's name that entertained us was Campbel.) Private house and none other in sight or for miles of poor road. It was 11 ms. from West Port. We have come 22 miles this morning, part of the way very bad road. This is a small ville with a Court House) &c, two churches in it, P.O., Blacksmith shop, Gristmill & Sawmill). Tomorrow) we perform at Weston) 7 ms. Saturday make St. Joseph, which is our most westerly point. Thare we tack for Quincy, Ill. whare we expect) to be on the 4th July. We shall be at Chicago, Ill. in about 5 or 6 weeks, if we do not loose any more horses) from sickness. That is as fast as you can get a Letter thare if you answer immediately on the reception of this. So please allow me to jog your punctuality, ie. if you wish to corespond &c. We are going to Milwaukee, Wis. shall travel some in that state. Expect to go to Geneva whare we hope to find our Nephew Cutler. There has been talk of our traveling through Mishigan to Detroit through Canada to Buffalo, and winter in Montreal). And, to, there has been talk of going South again in the fall, that Wheeling Va. was the fartherest East that we were going. But it is only talk, though we shall, or the Company will) (go some whare.) I intend to give you a call on my way to Montreall should we go thare by way of Boston and Lyme, the last of November).

It is 2 o'clock P.M. and I must go to the Monster) Pavillion and Feed the gredy ears of the People). &c. -- D. had forgotten that he has something to write. Wishes me to ask you L. to pay his dues in the Lodge and he will settle with you when he sees you. I wish you would do the same by me. I guess I am good for it. I have had a term of the wild Ax handles) for about three weeks. Aside from that, I have been very well since I wrote you before. I did not get an answer) to my Last, as I requested, from the simple reason that you did not write to me &c. I suppose.)

Please excuse mistakes, baring in mind they are from an illiterate mind, shalow of understanding and slow of apprehension whos education has been very much neglected &c. Did you get a paper from me at St. Louis?

I would like to see you face to face and give you the particulars of my travels, as they are too varied to supply punctuation &c. Never mind, the time will come, I hope, to meet again. In haste,

Rhodolph.

Do not forget our best compliments to Brother Dimock and his better Half, to Hatersby

and others that trouble themselves to inquire, After a sufficient quantity served with "bread and 'lases)" to yourselves and "Kate") (if acceptable). from Rhodolphus Hall.

Hall Letters 87.2 W. July, 1848; Rhodolph near Chicago to Lucy & Sarah in New Haven.

The show is out for the Afternoon, I commence spinning more yarn to you. It is very warm here and has been for a week. One week today since we have had any rain. Dusty, very.

Now with regard to kicking boards off the pig pen, I think it not a bad Ideah. But I shall be careful and AUX(kick one that is clean if I can. I think myself if I could find a straight grained one that is not too wavey edged or slaby, I shall kick it off. "I don't care a --- if it has got Knot Holes in it." But I would not like a very wormy one, or one that is ring rotten; (Espetially circus ring). I am sure there is not much danger of my snapping my toe nails off around a sharp corner at present, For I can hardly make it seem that I am Twenty-one years old in July. Just remember my birthday, "and keep it holy," i.e. you S. both, all three, both together call a few of your Friends together to an account over a basin of toddy and Oysters &c to your own liking, and please charge the same to my account, and when I come, I (will) Discharge it. you know. I mean, on our birthday just have a gay time, to suit yourselves, and I will settle the Expence when I come, i.e.if you will at the time consider me inn.

L. I was very much interested in your discription of Miss K. I judge from it, that she must be possessed in no small degre, of a Strawberry Modesty, and Hot Corn affection or should, had you not wound up with her being a ---- to bett. Now with regard to being Enamored with a likeness that is what is called Noncensical Nonsense. Just tell her, there are two other kinds of Nonsense, the hard and soft. The hard is that of sawing wood with a hammer. And the soft is what I call Soft Noncense is For a young Man getting Married very early in the Evening, And sitting up the balance of the night courting his wife Ha!! Ha!!

Tell her also I think it a heep more effectual to get "Enamored" with the Original. Perhaps if she was to see me instead of thinking a ----, she might think me one of those Mamoth Rabbits.

If you remedy the snapping off of your ten nails, there may be danger of their gingling, I am afraid.

Our company consists of 66 men & a boy, 4 Ladies of which 3 are Married, the other Lady would be if she could get the one she has tried to bate &c. I think she rides a very good act. We have now 70 horses I believe and Thirty cariages. The Band Cariage is drawn by 6 Jet Black horses with Beautifull harnesses, an Omnibus with 4 horses, a two-horse Buggy for the Ladies, and three single-horse Bugies and I know not how many wagons. There is a side show of a deformed Bear with but two legs that is along with us now.

Our Band Carr. has a top to it with tarpolin curtains so we are protected from the weather when it is unpleasant. D. and myself have the pleasantest seat in the cariage. Kendall rides with the Driver. We are in the center whare we can get out and in while moving, it being 5 feet btwene forward and hind wheels and perminent steps to get in and out upon. Write us at Chicago, Ill. on the reception of this without fail &c. I must stop scratching as the chickens have gone to Tea. Excuse mistakes, if you please, while I

remain your Brother in Heart -- Rhodolphus

Letters 88-105 (August 6, 1848 to June 11, 1849)

Hall Letters 88. Aug. 6, 1848; Rhodolph in Lancaster, Wis. to Sarah & Lucy in New Haven.

Distant (but not the less) Dear Sisters, (Sun. A.M.)

Judging from my present Wreckless feelings, I think were I to let myself loos over this sheet of paper, I might produce as vulgar a composition, perhaps, as ever drizzled from a Diamond Point. More so, I think, than would please your Delicate Sense of feeling, &c.

Please excuse the customary, lengthy, Introduction, as I do not feel much like putting on "airs". And I will commense in Misery (Missouri) whare I wrote you before, and give you the out line of our journey. Our most western stand, was St. Joseph, on old Maps you may find it by the name of Owen's Landing. It is a beautifull little ville, on Missouri River near the Mouth of the Nodaway River. the ville is only 4 years old, one of the most north westerly settlements of the U.S. from thare took a sort of zigzag rout to Brunswick on the Missouri to Paris, & Palmyra and Quincy Illinois, whare we celebrated Our National 4th of July, by Making a Grand^o Procession, at 9 oclock A.M. at 10 gave a performance, another at 2 1/2 oclock P.M. and at 7 1/2. Quincy is one of the finest little Cities in the Great West, situated on the East Bank of the upper Missippi on a Bluff 30 or 40 feet above low watter mark, has a beautifull Park resembling N.H. lower Green, which no other City has, that we have visited this side the Alleghanies, except Mobile & N.O. and those, not half so beautifull. Its streets, yards, & style of Cottages alone, is sufficient to convinse the visiter that they are people from the East, beside their Customes &c.

From Quincy to Warsaw then crooking here and thare to Peoria on Illinois River then back north west to Stephenson at the mouth of Rock River. Played at Davenport Iowa, then to Como & Dixon on Rock River, from Dixon to Oregon City we passed through Grandetour. Inquired and found J.M Goold & Z. Howard. They were astonished at seeing us. They came on to Oregon City, spent the P.M. with us, and all four of us slept in the same Bed, as the house and ville, was so crowded. There never was two fellows seemed more pleased to see us then they were. Goold spoke in the highest terms of Brother Jeffers, said there was no man on Earth, he would give more to see than him. He was in good spirits, sociable & chearfull, doing a good business, &c. Three weeks today, we traveled 46 ms. from Peoria. Two weeks today 45 ms. from Port Byron to Como. We there wrote to the P.M. at Chicago to forward our letters to Galena as we see them advertised. one week today arrived in Galena Ill. Your letter & one from Sister N. another from Father & Brother T. all arived the same eve at Galena. They were truly interesting. Although Fathers, had the news of the death of Cousins Rusel Gardner & Mandy Winslow.

I am verry sorry to learn, of your being slanderously treated, I hope it will terminate in your victory, and pease soon be declared.

We went within 12 miles of Nauvoo and Performed at Carthage whare Joe Smith was shot, and whare the Mormon war was the warmest. Our canvas was in a few roods of

the jail. We saw ball holes in the window where he fell out, dead, after being wounded, &c. inside. On the hool, our excursion is rather exciting through these United States. If it were not, we should hardly be able to withstand it. We are now winding our way through the Mineral Country. There are some very Rich Mines of Led here. The Ore yields 95 per cent, the earth seems full of it, allmost.

This is the first Sunday, since June 18th but what we have had to travel. Our longest routes have been on a Sunday. I ought to have answered Sister N.'s letter today, as I have writen to you since I have to her. But I write you thinking you will answee immediately, so as I shall receive it at Chicago, as we are not there so soon by a number of weeks, as we were expecting.

We are Advertised to be in Milwaukie the 17th 18th & 19th, three days. From there, we take a tour back in the country as far as Rockford on Rock River Ill. and shall be about 9 or 10 days going Milwaukie Wis. to Chicago. Shall not be there much before the 1st of Sept. Shall perform there 4 or 5 days I think. Now Sisters I have a Proposition to make. If you receive this as soon as the 19th or even the 20th (which I think you will) you will have sufficient time to sit for your Dagereotype Likenessess. all three of you both together on one plate, (should it please your friend Kate) have it bound Strong no matter about any case, as I can get one put on at Chicago (or as you like about that, however) the bare plate & glass would come safer, nicely folded in a Pocket Rag, than it would in a case, or any other way, and then it would be convenient to wipe my Probosus with, before kissing the Picture, besides, ha!! ha!

You may think it an incomon burden for "Unkle Sams Wallet" but I have seen them sent in like manner myself. Inclose it in one your nice long letters, and it will be my greatest pleasure to Pay the Freight of it. Mail it as soon as the 21st if you can. 22d whetherno. In addition to your direction, please say Accompaying N.A. Circus and the P.M. will then forward them without our addressing him. There will be sufficient time for you to answer this before we leave Chicago, as the Mail is only 5 days in going from Chicago to Buffalo, and only 3 days from Buffalo to Boston- or N-Haven. By Railroad through Michigan now, you know.

I have fortunately made a raise of an article you said you were standing in kneed of, although an Eastern Bank Bill is a rare article in These Digings, especially as far East as the Bay State. Gold & Silver is the currency here and scarce any Bills of any kind. There is hardly enough silver to make change with. Emigrants fetch their value in gold most allways, &c. If you find this, quick Sale, just informe me if you please.

Tomorow we go to Wingville, Tuesday to Mineral Pt.. We do not go to Madison the Capital, but keep farther South. Intend to find John Palmer if possible. He is in the east part of State. We shall pass through Geneva Wis. where Bartholomew lives. Do no know but we show there, yet. Shall try to have Cutter return East with us, if we can find him, &c. Although it is rather uncertain when we get there. The talk is that we Breake up at Cincinnati Ohio in November and those that like, to go South again, &c.

You must judge from my Scratches that Time & Space is equally Precious, and to amuse or vex you more I mist Refresh, and splice.

Aug. 6, 1848 (Sun. eve.) Band Car.

Dear Sisters,

The sun is just disappearing at my Right. I have just been to tea, now repair to our Carriage, to finish my yarn, as the Hotell is so crowded with our company, there is no room for to write. I tried to have D. write, but he says he has nothing to write, more than his compliments, and that I can write them. As for our health, I came near forgetting that I had the article, though I can not say that mine was ever better, with the exception of being put in motion by the use of Green Cucumbers and being propelled by Green Corn. ha! ha!

As for D. he is very well now. But has had some shaking times since I wrote before. Some of the time has been unable to do his usual business, for one or two performances. Has not lost any time though. The Fever Ague is not thought dangerous at all here.

We expect to be at Detroit Mi. some time I know not when. But I want you to be smart now galls, and send your Likenesses sure. I shall write to Sister N. at Milwaukee and have her send Rathers Mineature that he left there for me, as soon as I can learn where we arto be a head of the time. I want you to write to our Parents, let them know, we are well. D. often speaks of spending the winter at Lyme. I think I would like to astonish you with my presence about this time of eve. but no go. There is time and Distance seperating us and perhaps old "Bones & Cythe" is lurking on our track. You have but a fancied Ideah of the South and West. Neither can you have untill you explore it. Our business is a sort of sameness to us every day, so much as to make it seem monotonous like a wagon wheel greesed with \$50 & \$65 per month. Its tyre (attire) a brilliant uniform. Imagine us in a strange land, among strange people, among Animals and vegetables that we are unable to call the name of. We have traveled over many Praries whare we have been out of sight of Land (as they call it) or out of sight of trees. Nothing to be seen but grass and weeds.

One day traveled 22 ms. a straight line, and just as level as a Pond. the most of the Prarias are rooling Land or lay in swells like the Ocean and to look off on them reminds me of the Ocean. I would like to give you a discription of the Miss. Sissippi River. But I could not say much as to her virtues, (from the immense number of "Snags" stuck in her "Botom" I should judge her wonderfully Impregnated with Steem Boats, with but little hope of their Safe Delivery.) ha! ha!! ha!!!

Tell Friend Hatersly if he wishes me to cross the Atlantic with him next season to Escort his wife home, just let me know. Give him my pure regards. Remember my Looove to Aunt & Cousin Lydia. Tell your friend Kate, that the Dutch girls, here, are so Sweet that they have to wear a double veil, to keep honey bees from sucking their Lips. ha!! ha! (it canot be for want of their sufficient quantity of Sower Crout, however Tell her to be carefull not to get in such a way. Remember our best compliments to all, who manifest an interest in our health and Happiness. Do not delay answering this and I will as soon answer your next. Direct to Chicago Ill. Our living is principally Pork. Will you have a piece of pork, shote, ham, or bacon for breakfast, Dinner, & tea, all the same. Praria hogs fatted upon Rattle snakes.

R.

Hall Letters 90. Nov.18, 1848; Lucy in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sis Sarah,

Your last, which you intended I should receive sat. eve, I came in possession of on monday after it was written. In it you seem very much inclined to scold. Now, I think I am the one to claim that privilege (if so it may be called) for I wrote you last -- and, perhaps, had done my share of scolding before receiving yours that you did not write before. -- You know I am not backward in writing after receiving a letter, and I think you had that in mind when you wrote. -- Now it is a settled matter. if you want to hear from me you must answer mine, for I am particular in that respect, as you very well know -- your calling out other correspondents notwithstanding.

Regarding E.T.S. on whose condition you seem to moralise, I called on her the eve of the same day that she mailed her letter to you, after a horseback ride to Orford; Via. Orfordville, Street -- Lyme lower bridge and intervening Cities. We had a splendid ride, and a beautiful Indian Summer day if you recollect it. We called there in our Riding dresses, and she has not returned it. so it will be your turn to sentimentalise with her neglect.-- I have not seen Mrs. Dickey nor E. since you wrote -- the former has called here several times.

Perhaps you would like to know my whereabouts -- well I am in brother T's kitchen where (or rather in the parlor) we have been visiting this P.M. -- Sis Mary sits by my side knitting with glasses astride her nose, casting occasional glances at the Card Table, where T.E. (Kt.) and Marinda are raising Duce and "turning up Joek. Mother has just gone home to listen to some Music discoursed by Mr. Pushee - bass viol & A. Claflin - violin, with brother R. -- D. having gone to -- or started on his tour to Albany. He and R. went to play for a Ball Thanksgiving at Lebanon and D. kept on, the next day, to Whitehall to see our niece Mary -- from there he intends proceeding to Albany -- thence to New York -- and in one week from this eve. he thought he should be with you. -- He would not take my Melodeon as he did not take a trunk only a Valise.-- I will send it, however, by Express if you wish it for I can not do much with it as it is.--You may have it for \$30.00 -- or you may sell it for \$35.00.-- I think it would be very nice, fixed after the approved method.--Nancy returned Wednesday, the day previous to Thanksgiving-- we tried very hard to keep her till after but could not; she had got all packed up to go over a week before but was taken sick the night before and was obliged to stay--And she was afraid if she staid any longer she might be worse--and it would be colder--so she went-- We had a letter from her tonight--she got home well, and found Wm. at the Depot, ready to receive her. --She was tired she said when she wrote:--and Wm. was most "down sick". -- Uncle Reuben is worse -- has got the (Eyresyfrelas) (I believe that is the way to spell it) & Aunt H. has had a turn of bleeding at the Lungs-bled 2 quarts they said--I should not think the old cuckoo had as much in her.

Frank is published, and is to be married on Thanksgiving -- Father and mother talk of spending it in Roxbury -- I think they will accomplish it if mother is as well as now.-- She has had the headache but a very little, since she commenced taking her medicine.-- Now for Thanksgiving with us: Brother Alvah -Sis. Mary Ellen & Frank came on Wednesday and were much disappointed in not finding N. here. T. and E. took Supper with us with those above mentioned. --We had a good time though we missed those

away very much.--We had a Turkey gobbler, Gosling, Chicken Pie, &c.&c. &c. &c. But D. R. & Ellen started as soon as supper was over for the Ball -- and Alvah went yesterday -- Sis Mary & Frank stop till next week. Merry staid home and kept house for her mother. -- You may look on the middle sheet for I do not like to write here, fearing it may be exposed.

L.

Continued

Yesterday, aunt Emily and Mary Ann Hastings visited at our house.--She and her husband are up on a visit and spent Thanksgiving at Grandfather's and returned to-day -- They did not go to her father's; on account of some difficulty between them. -- Peters & wife came to Grandfather's Wednesday on their way to her fathers: to spend Thanks-- --Thus much for them--We are now all eating apples--T. says tell Sarah "I should like to give her some if I could."--Your note I should like to help you to eat and to "crack your jokes"--If I could not crack them I could, at least, split them between my teeth--ie. upper and under.

Tell Miss Wood if she pleases, just to open her Clam and spout it not a little at me. I will promise to do the same if possible;--I think she owes me one.

Tell my little flock, when you see them, that I am coming to see them in the Spring.--I should like to know your calculations as to the future; if you will allow me the inquiry.- -Kate wants me to tell you to keep her "Pussy-cat" and keep it fat--and to know if it has had any babies --ha!-- Mr. G. wrote that you had found her Pencil.--She wants you to send it by David--also her Rubbers.

Kate is very contented--She hears from her sis often. She had a bundle from her a week since containing a splendid Silk dress.- black--two hoods--one for her & one for myself-- I had my choice-- mine is changable orange and blue, lined with pale blue & lace (black) round the front--"Kiss me quick" on opera -- Kt's is blue and red - lined with red- lace round the crown - they turn over in front and are quilted -- very nice indeed splendid.-- We are going to wear them to church --Kt. had a beautiful cape with black fringe a collar bosom pin - a neat ring with stone tied up in the corner of a pocket handkerchief - - 2 of the latter & some cloth for patchwork-- and when she completes her quilt she is to have another silk dress - and choose the color herself--I have not been visiting much. Have only been to Austin Palmer's and to Quinntown and Mr. A. Dimick's. They with Alf's folks Jim's and a host of others have been to our house. It has been company all the time. I enjoy myself very well indeed -- should like to have you here to spend the Winter and enjoy it too. I have not been to church but 1/2 day since you left. Do you see Mrs. Collins? I have written to her, but do not hear from her. I think you cannot do without me to keep school there you do not seem to succeed well without me -- tell Mr. Sines so -- and ask him if he does not wish me back & what he would give. I think I shall go to Roxbury to Christmas and New Years -- I think it will be about your Va(cation) I should like to meet you there. D. will tell you all that I miss and I have made you out a very long letter -- If you wish to hear from me once a week you must write to me as often and you shall have it.

It is as I expected with Mrs. S. & D's wife -- Do you not wish to board with them longer? Kate wants you to ask Fanny if she has received her letter -- also Almedia She wants

you to send those lines to her "The night is all lonely & drear love" L.
Mary sends with T. E. Marinda love and Mary would thank you for a line -- Now write soon. Give my love to Miss W. & Aunt and all who inquire for me. Your affectionate sis

Lucy

You have more time to write than I so you have no excuse. L.

Hall Letters 94. Fall, 1848; Rhodolph & D.C. to Sarah & Lucy.

Now girls, if you can manage to have a vacation this winter it would be very pleasant for me, as I am Determined to be at home this winter any how, and make the best I can thare. Intend to purchase a fine new sleigh and harnice and take a little comfort, when I do not have an engagement. And I would like to have you Both at home for company and I think our Dear parents would enjoy our company for a winter season if no more. D thinks he canot tell whare he shall go as he expects Spalding will want him to Lead for him this winter. I must close, as, I have got to Perade on horsback ritee off &c
Excuse mistakes and accept of

Rhodolph Hall

Respects to all. Am now pretty well.

DC

Hall Letters 93. Dec. 18, 1848; David, Lucy & Rhodolph in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sister

According to your request I improve this opportunity of writing not thinking of telling you any news however, news is out of the question in these diggings. not somuch as a bit of snow to look at say nothing of slaying (except for man and beast. for beasts & fowl sufer unto death no mistake.)

I arrived at White River Tuesday evening after I lef N.H. not stopping in Boston only over night. saw Father & Mother in Roxbury they were in good spirits I expected to have gon back to Boston before now. think that I shall the Last of this week. We rec. a letter from Father and Nancy that told us that you were going to be there about that time.

Tell Mr. Chamberlin that I did not see Mr. Right about an instrument for him did not have time. Played for a ball in Winsor Vt. thanksgiving in Woodstock night after.

As Lucy is going to wind up this she will put on the climax I suppose of coarse I will wind up. Yours Respectfully

D.C. Hall

Monday 3o'clock P.M. Dec. 18th

Very Dear Sis.

It is washing day -- And I just sat down before the stove in the kitchen to write as usual, with my materials in my lap. When lo and behold! if you can - I turned over the confounded old inkstand into my lap and into my music book too -- If I am not a pretty looking subject, I would not say it. and my took too -- But my troubles I need not tell you.

We are all in jumping order -- if we happen to have a cold or cough all we have to do is to pull a tap-- (Now don't laugh and put a vulgar meaning to my words -- I only mean a cider tap and then --darn my pen (and it is gold too) there's produced the handsomest stream you ever saw -- and you had better believe it is good too. Why do you not come and get some?

I had calculated to go to B. to Christmas but father and mother are going to knock it all in head -- they have the staff in their own hands and I am going to let them use it as long as they choose (___ did you ever see a oo before or behind either, that beat that?) for the very good reason I cannot help myself.

There is nothing here of importance -- only we have nothing but sundays for holidays--

Hurrah! for 3 months of sundays in succession -- you can't beat that! -- I do not see Mrs. D. or Miss E. once in a dog's age -- When you write them again give them my love and tell them I am not in New Haven yet.

I should like to see you here or there and the good people with whom you associate. I do not mean the Musical Asso &c. But Miss Wood the Commodore Aunt L. and yourself and you all may be as musical about it as you please. You may consider me present when you crack nuts & jokes -- meanwhile I will drink your very good healths on New Cider.

Give my love to Miss Wood -- tell her I prize her gift very highly and will remember her gift when "I come into my kingdom". -- and will write her about it sometime--

N. tells me you think of coming to B. to Christmas -- if you think it practicable, I should like to have you bring on one of those Melodeons and I will send mine by D. -- I know I should like one if the maker will allow me a reasonable price for mine. I can play and sing several songs on mine now -- "G. forget me" -- "Thou hast learned to love another" & "Blue eyed Mary" &c. &c.

I got tea -- now -- what do you guess it is? Why beans and cider -- Now you will not hear the report till you write. -- My love to aunt & all who inquire for me, if they deserve it -- Goodbye --

Lucy

Kate sends her love to you all -- forget not to bring her pencil when you come -- Don't let anyone see or hear this -- for an uglier letter never flowed from a gold pen -- I mean in looks -- Your loving sis. L.

Marinda has just returned from school and sends her love to you and says she wants to see you very much-- L.

("I never thought you wanted to write") And so no room for me. with love Rhodolph

Hall Letters 95. Jan. 10, 1849; Lucy in Hartford to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sis,

Why do you not write to me? I have been waiting very patiently for the last month, thinking you would, sometime let loose your rusty pen, opening that long closed clam of yours, spouting volumes of news up here into N. Hampshire. Perhaps you have, and it has frozen on the way. as we have had no snow at Lyme, since Thursday, last, -- Uncle Sam's children being so outrageous that, for correction we have to do without like dogs or naughty children sent to bed without Supper.

I am now at sis Mary's -- came down on Monday with the boys and Kate. They played at Bridgewater and Barnet that eve (the 8th) D. at the former place & R. at the latter -- opposition -- \$10 each. D. came back yesterday (Tuesday). Kate went home with him -- R. is coming back tomorrow (Thursday) and I shall return with him. He has played or is to play these three first evenings of the week -- at Barnet, Weatherfield and Windsor -- They do nothing for amusement, here but dance -- and that they have to do in order to keep warm. We have had first rate sleighing for some time past.

There is nothing of importance coming off in these parts -- father and mother returned New Year's day -- Mother was sick all day after, with Headache, so as to keep her bed most of the time -- but is smarter now. She was better than father when away; and I told her that she grew fat upon it. I presume she would have a long yarn to tell you did she know that I was writing. I have just been reading your letter to sis M. I think you are very particular about your letters home. I am not obliged to show my letters unless I choose to -- Beside if you have anything for my exclusive reading, just write it upon a separate slip and enclose it with the one for general reading. -- Miss E.T.S. has not called yet. I saw her at Dr. D's Thursday eve. where we called & spent the eve. I think she has shown herself to be extremely silly in many respects, between you and I. and I shall not call on her till she does on me, at any rate. We had a very pleasant call at the Drs. however. There is, manifestly a dish cooking for Rhodolph in that quarter; and I must confess that I do not care about being called in merely for a toast-dish or frying-pan. Let them cook their own Pole-cats and eat them all to themselves -- I want neither a taste or smell -- Oh! Pshaw! - (Shaw) yourself.

West Gould was buried last Sunday -- he has been unwell for some time, but took cold and died suddenly (Consumption) -- Has left much property for his wife & sisters -- Martha is to have \$1000 for her share -- most of the remainder \$6 or \$7000 to his sisters after his wife has done with it.

Mrs. Latham is failing fast -- Mrs. Hamilton is in a decline -- beside old Mrs. Southard & Mrs. Pashara who has had a shock of Palsy.

Father has had an offer of \$300 for the Oak in "Hard Scrabble" but declines -- what a sickness! Has sold his wool for \$70. -- Why!!

Now, Sarah, I should like to know, candidly, when you think about coming home this spring. -- I do not like to leave mother alone -- still, I think I am not doing justice to myself in staying -- you know father is able to have a hired girl -- yet he does not even

think that I need any thing. -- and I may work as long as I can, and yet some one else receive the profit. -- I think, therefore, I shall get a good girl (Hannah Chandler) if I can, and leave in the Spring -- I shall not advise you to come, (unless you choose to rest) for any one can take more comfort to come and make a visit, than to stay -- and if they have a good girl, mother can have as well as if I were there -- beside I can be earning as much as 3 or 4 girls would ask here -- I think I shall write Mr. Lines as soon as I hear from you (if I ever do) and tell him if he has any employment for me in the Spring, I shall be in the Market -- Mary, the Younger sends her love, and says you "are smart that you do not write to her." she had received a paper from you. Mary (Mrs.) sends her respects, -- says she "is wetting up nut-cakes (what a word) and wishes you had one" -- Tell her to write!! -- Ellen says "give my love and tell her to write me a letter!" she has sent Mary a paper.

Mrs. D. & E. said give my love to Sarah when you write -- so here it is -- "Love" a tail to it -- My Love to Miss Wood & aunt -- In love
Lucy

Hall Letters 96. Jan. 21, 1849; Lucy in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

Sarah, Dear Sis,

I suppose you have been waiting a reply to your last letter, but I have not found any very convenient time till the present; and it being Sunday evening and not having any beau, I have "nothing else to do." Oh glorious privilege! "nothing else to do!" So I will give you about 100 yds. of long yarn.

There has nothing of import transpired in our quiet town, since my last except the ravages of the rider of the "Pale Horse." Mrs. Latham died last week and was interred, and the funeral Sermon was preached today. Mrs. Storrs (she that was a Haskell) was buried too, last week. I do not know her disease. She has been ailing more than a year.

We are all well now except colds: Mother has a bad one - but went to church today, and has not yet returned; they (she and father) I suppose have gone to grandfathers as mother brought a letter from Uncle George's wife to aunt Emily.

You may look for my Melodeon about these times. I shall not be willing to discount much on it. I had rather have it fixed with the patent action than discount a great deal: for it is as good as ever and perhaps better and may need a little more wish to make it sell. I shall want it now soon - so if you will pay the difference for me I will pay you the first opportunity.

You can send it by Express as it comes right into town now.

Have you said what you intended to Mr. Lines? You may say to him what you think proper - at the same time giving him my best respects.

The "Musician's Ball" comes off this week Friday at Lebanon. I think we shall all hands go.

I shall enclose mother's picture in the trunk with the Melodeon - she had four & fathers one taken, I think they are first rate.

D. says you will "see him at N. Haven when he goes." Kate, that "you must take good care of his Pussy Cat." Frank J. that I must send her love - Marinda, the same.

There has a Dauguereotypist been at T's and taken their pictures. I had two & K. one M. one -- mine in my riding dress &c. you would laugh to see it. I had but little to say, and have said it. I will leave room for some one else. Write soon affectionately

Lucy

P.S. My love to Miss Wood and aunt - Respects to Com. & friends L

P.S. We have not been to B. yet. It is rather doubtful about our going by way of N. Haven - Please sent K's pencil with that Melodeon - L.

Hall Letters 97. Feb. 17, 1849; Lucy in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

Mountain Home, "Valentine Week" Sat. eve. 9 o'clock.

Dear Sis,

What a great Valentine you are! Here have I been waiting for the last three days expecting something from you but, not a thing as yet. Why did you not send me one so that I could have had the pleasure of answering it! But I had rather have a good letter at any time. So it will answer better to send me a letter now. By the way I have written but two and one of them was to a certain Capt. in N. Haven - so if you hear any thing from that quarter please inform me, for it was one of the greatest I ever wrote - and you may hear from it.

Since I wrote you I (or we) have attended the "Musician"s Ball" and several other dances - at all of which we had a first rate time - at the first in particular. It was a nice affair I assure you. There were 22 Musicians and they all played the first time. There were over a hundred couple - and a fine company too. Kate and I dressed in white - and I made me a head-dress of that silver gimp that Kate gave me in the form of a crown and put it round my comb and hair - and I tell you it was the prettiest in the company and I was not the only one that thought so.

The boys have just returned from a tour of 4 days in Vt. playing for Balls &c. They are doing a snug little business their usual price \$10 per night. R. has got him a splendid sleigh and D. a beautiful horse - \$100 worth a fine black pony. I have not rode after it yet, but they think it the best extant.

We are all well as usual - mother's cold is better now. She wishes me to say to you that she will change pictures with you if you will bring that one home - she has one first rate one - but R. claims it. You might take it and get one to Miss Wood if it had been good but as it is I must wait till I go to the city.

Kate wishes you to send hers with my Melodeon - she wishes it very much - so please send it.

When are you going to send the Melodeon? I am rather impatient for it for I miss my old one very much - can't you send it soon.

I have not been to Boston yet - but shall one of these days. But D. & R. have been there. They played at a ball (Railroad Celebration) at Winsor when the cars commenced running to White River they had a free pass for Boston and back from the agents and improved it - R. came back the next day having an engagement that eve - but D. remained several days. N. is about as usual - little Mary is not very well - she is lame - they have been afraid of an abcess in her back - she was better when I left. Aunt H. is with them now very feeble.

Hastings is going to California the first steamer. His employer finds him every thing - gets his life insured for \$2000 finds his family while he is gone and is to receive one half the profits. Burrison has gone leaving his wife with his fathers people. He fits Sam out.

Marinda sends much love to you and wishes you to send her some cards with my

melodeon. I received a letter from Mr. Jeffers this week - they are getting on finely. M. thinks she has a fine beau a Mr. Lund - machinst. He boards there - is from Boston - 19 years of age.

There is nothing here of importance. If you want any thing of the kind you must find it yourself. Oh! yes - Mrs. Elim Gilbert has found a gal-baby - Oh!
That is all I can scare up any how. Now give my love to Miss Wood - tell her I think she might send me a Valentine - to aunt also give my love. Kate says "tell her to take good care of my pussy cat - that the one she has here has burnt off her whiskers."

I think there must be some interest on the part of Mrs. Mansfield - though I think it will not amount to much in the end - and I do not care if it dont. I enjoy myself first rate here at home - and have not so many to please. As for George St. school - I do not crave it again - though say nothing of it. They have got something to do to keep it popular in my mind. Though I should like to see my scholars there first rate. R. Says he has been thinking of writing to you but has no news - Says he "should like to come to New Haven another Summer for a good Salary". It must be a good one to correspond with this Winter for he has received \$31 for 4 evenings this week. The clock is just striking 11. I must go to bed for I am tired and sick most with a cold & my lips are so sore that I can scarcely shut them - You would like to kiss them I guess.

Now do write soon and believe me ever
Your affectionate sis
Lucy

P.S. I want you should find my Magazine and send it. I have not yet received the Feb. No. . Perhaps Mr. G. has given up the idea of forwarding it.

Hall Letters 98. Mar. 10, 1849; Samuel Johnson in Wentworth to Lucy in Lyme.

To Cate Clara,

Dear friend I write a few lines in answer to yours which was duly received I choose to be plain and free. Perhaps you have some advantage of me in knowing my name but as you wished me to guess yours I will say where I think I have seen you.

It is at White River at your Sisters or at the Depo in West Lebanon. I think I have passed by that neet mountain cottage a number of times. I think that the first letter of your Sir name is H, if I have hit wright I shall expect you to write if not I will try again.

I think that you are some mistaken about seeing me friday Eve at that ball for I was not their but I am well acquainted with that gentlemen you saw perhaps by the good opinion that you had of him you would like to have me pass over those presents to him if so I will most cheerfully do.

But if not and I have hit wright on the name I shall most cheerfully receive a letter from you again and at some time if agreeable to you we shall have the pleasure of meeting.

You will see that I have been plain and put confidence in you trusting in your cultivated mind for the result you may be assured whatever confidence you put in me it shall not be misplaced.

I shall expect to hear from you again soon and hear your name Yours &c Saml. J

May the roses of life secrete every thorn
And flowers unnumbered thy pathway adorn
May health and contentment their influence shed
Rich blessings profusely to heap on thy hed
Wentworth March 10, 1849 S. J.

Hall Letters 99. Apr. 19, 1849; Lucy in Roxbury to Samuel Johnson in Wentworth.

My Dear Friend,

I have just received yours of 15th inst. which I have noticed tarried long on its way to our goodly city.

I had imagined that you were away from home and all kinds of excuses that you did not write me but the welcome "white winged Messenger" told its own story, leaving all excuses unnecessary.

I have enjoyed myself first rate since I came, being in fine health and spirits (not ardent). Took a ride into the "City of Notions" yesterday, with Kate, and saw all the Lions, Elephants and Goats in the place and did some shopping of course. I have purchased a fine Bracelet and today have sit for a Daguereotype likeness of my pretty face to put in it - and, tonight have brought it home - it is an excellent likeness so far as correctness is concerned - it is intended as a present for my friend Kate. She is getting one of the same kind for me. And when you come, I will tell you what I would like.

We intend going to the Museum tomorrow evening - The "Forty Thieves" is playing there now, said to be very interesting - I wish very much that you were here to accompany us.

My brother is going to play with the "Cornet Band" at the same place, Sat. eve for a "Complimentary Concert."

Miss Kate sends her compliments in return and says she should like to see you here - says she has a fine time getting pictures.

My sis also wishes to be remembered to you, and would like to see you here. Brother R. says "give Mr. Johnson a Complimentary Ticket to attend the Museum sat eve."

I should like to see you here at any time your business will permit. I think we shall stay in the city till the middle of next week. R. says if you will come Monday eve he will stay till Wednesday. so please come if it is convenient - if not write me. You will find an "Hourly" at the Depot that will convey you to State St. - also at 31 Washington St you can get into one coming to the "Norfolk House". It says "Norfolk House" on the coach - you can ride to this place and it is opposite our place - across the churchyard. You will find on either side of the alley leading to our house a sign reading the "W. Morey Roxbury & Boston Express." Now I think you will find it without trouble - you can ride from B. to this place (3 miles) for 6 1/4 cts ie. if you buy 25 cts worth (4 tickets) and they come handy to ride back & forth.

It is very late after 11 - I have written in a great hurry, beside my pen is like a torrent, and please excuse what needs it and let me see you soon, believing me As ever Your friend sincere

L. F. Hall

I'll think of thee at day's decline;

When fades the rosy light.
I'll think of thee at early dawn
And witching hour of night
L. C.
Highlands Thursday eve 11 1/2 o'clock

Hall Letters 100. Apr. 25, 1849; Lucy in Roxbury to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sis,

I am now near the city of notions and have been thinking every day of writing you but you know by experience how much any ones time is occupied and excitement renders any one almost entirely unfit for writing. We have been here two weeks; and intended to have gone home today but W. has gone to N.H. on business and is going to remain through the week, and Aunty would be very lonely if we should leave her now. R. Thinks he shall start tomorrow for home, but we shall stay till the first of the week & be here over "May Day". Brother D. has gone to New York to lead the Brass Band - I suppose you have seen him - so I can tell you no news from home.

We are all very well - though N. has had a very serious cold in her face, hand & eyes - a kind of ague in it, but is better now.

We have been to the Museum twice - two nights in succesion. N & W went with us both times. The first night was played the Forty Thieves & Fairy of the Lake - the best play & scenery I ever saw the second night. Now is not that blot nice? Don't you think - I was going to turn over my sheet & to avoid blotting I thought to put on some sand & took up the Ink bottle & poured it on without thinking or noticing till I had done it. Is not that what you would call absence of mind? N & K have hardly done laughing yet & you may laugh too tomorrow.

Now to my thread - The second night R. played with the Cornet Band for a concert & we had Complimentary Tickets. He led in 2 of the principal pieces - he is going to send you a bill in some papers. We had beside some good songs.

I have met with one sad loss since I came - That Bracelet you gave me has walked off strangely - Last Thursday eve I laid it off & Friday morn forgot to put it on & we all went to the Museum in the eve - on sat. I tried to find it to put on but could not - where I left it in a little basket in the bedroom - but being in a hurry to take the Coach to go to the Museum I did not succeed in finding it - & Sunday we had a general search but it was no where to be found. Thus much for my luck. I feel very bad about it, but it comes not again.

Kate had just that day got me a beautiful one with a picture of herself in the clasp & I was congratulating myself with being well off having two - but was not permitted to wear them together - as ill luck would have it.

I got her one just like it (hers) with my pretty face - and some of my hair- the braid is very nice - over an inch wide. I did not intend to take her Tuition, but she insisting upon it, I got this & gave her. I have got a picture for Miss Wood but do not know when I can send it unless by Mail or Express. Give her much love from me. Have you seen Mr. G of late? K had had 3 or 4 letters from him of late. He says in one that "Mrs. H. gave a much better account of you than I expected" Kate wants to know what it means. She says she is waiting for that picture you promised her.

Aunty sends her love wants you to write her and come & see her the first opportunity.

R. has gone to the city for his uniform which he left a great while ago.

I should like to see you here very much or at home. Ellen is with mother I expect & will stay till my return.

I know little of cousins in the city - having seen not one. Mrs. Hastings was here yesterday with her accompaniment - & in the eve we had quite a collection - singing that you should have heard in order to appreciate. We were mostly m-u-m. Write me soon here & I will tell you an interesting yarn in my next. Your loving
Lucy

Hall Letters 100.5. Apr. 26, 1849; Rhodolph in Roxbury to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sister,

Having a convenient opportunity of writing a Line or two I cannot refuse, it being some time since I have written you. I have nothing of importance however. I suppose you have seen Brother D. on his way to N.Y. city ere this as he was to start Monday last for that place, to take charge of the N.Y. Brass Band the coming season. I should have been home to see him off, had I got his Letter in season. did not get it until Monday last. I should like to see you very much and if I go to N.Y. I shall make it in my way to call and see you. I am not decided what to do yet. The Boston Cornett Band are determined not to take no for an answer for my being with them and the old Brigad are anxious to have me play with them again. I have not seen any of Flags yet. &c. I played for a concert Saturday eve. last at the Museum with the Cornett Band very good House Recd \$5.00 Would like to come and raise a Band at N. H. if they could make it an object for me. We shall be at home Sat. eve. at least I shall.

I have not heard from you concerning that watch yet. Please write very soon. Direct to Lyme N.H. I have writen this far without knowing what Lucy has written so excuse a Repetition also mistakes as I am in a hurry. If you Please inquire of Mr. A. Lines Jr. and Pay this small bill inclosed and I will send the same soon as I have no small bills now in a day or two. Please excuse mistakes

Rhodolph

keep the bill

Hall Letters 101. Apr. 29, 1849; Rhodolph in Lyme to D.C. in N.Y.

Dear Brother

I take this opportunity of writing, as you desired, although I have nothing of importance. Yours of the 18th was not duly Recd. the cause of my not being at home at the time of your departure &c did not Receive it untill Monday, the day you started.

Brother Wm. left Roxbury Monday 23d on business to Lyme & Orford & Canaan, stoped one night at Jeffers two at Lyme one at Orford and one at Canaan and Returned on Saturday.

The Concert at the Museum one week last night Come off with a rush, and success &c paid me \$5.00. I took the Lead on two pieces, where Bond had to give the discription of sley Ride. & Railroad Jim Kendall was at the Concert and some others of the Brigade but did not know me. Did not see Jim, or only one of the Old Band. Got my old Uniform &c they want me to play with them this season I see by the Times that the Brigade are to furnish Music for Dartmouth Com. this season. you wrote that you thought you would get the job. that is settled I suppose now.

About coming to N.Y. this season. I do not know what to do with myself. they are anxious that I should Come to Boston. but I would rather go to Either N.Y. or Lowell or N. Haven or whare I can do the best. If you can get a job on board of some of the Boats, so as not have too much lost time, it would do to spend the Summer in N.Y. again. How is it about Lowell is it settled yet about you going thare Please write and let me know. I arived home night before last. all well. Father is a waiting for this so Excuse haste and particulars. Kate & Lucy are at Roxbury yet. I Expect to play at Lebanon May 1st with Pushee. Do not fail to write. My best Respects to Densmores and the rest of the Band.

Yours in haste in F.L.& T.

Rhodolphus Hall

Betsy is all well &c. tige to.

Hall Letters 102. May 8, 1849; Rhodolph in Lyme to D.C. in Lowell.

Dear Brother

According to your request I hasten to answer by Return of Mail just as I wish you to do by me as I am in hast to find out what to do this season.

As you have been to New Haven and seen the people, Played for the Blues, and seen them, you can tell very near what they are expecting to give. if I should go there or about what is best to charge them, as you have had some talk with them, likely on the subject. If they, or the People (I don't know who else except the Blues) are willing to give me. so as to make "a live of it" I would sooner go there than to Boston and unless they do something pretty fair - why I had better be where there is more doing - but I think I can do more [] either in N. Haven, or Boston than at Lowell. don't you think so [] Notwithstanding we think you will [] in Lowell as you could have done [] Please write by return of Mail, Excuse haste [] Best Respects to Densmores. Are they with you. []

Hall Letters 103. May 9, 1849; Lucy in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

My dear Sis,

I have again arrived our own sweet home and have the pleasure of writing you. We left Boston one week today and came to West Lebanon, where we stopped till Friday. Left our friends all well at both places. Nancy thinks some of spending the warmest weather of the season with us - can you not be our company? We should be exceedingly glad to see you. It is just getting to be pretty here now - R. has planted so that we have green corn and cucumbers now - very green indeed, you will say - They grew in a hot bed. D. brought home some grape vines & peach trees & prairie roses some of each, are doing well. He also fixed a thing - a special frame for one of the vines at the south end of the house - but I am afraid it will die for the dogs all use it for a - Tavern. Thus much for out-of-doors appearances. In the house we are all the same as ever - we have a spice of all the good of life except oysters and baker's bread.

Mother is pretty smart - she and father went to church last Sunday - only they didn't go - in the forenoon - cause for - the wheel - It took them all the time to watch it, to see it run off when it didn't - but tried too - Like a certain critter in New Haven - what was in New York once.

I do not see how it happened that you paid so much rent. It seems it was not paid up for the previous quarter. Tell Miss Wood I should like to come and see that knot tied - and will if possible. The picture I will send by R. who thinks of going to your city next week. Tell her to come and visit me and spend the honey moon - I have no honey - but as good a moon & Molasses as any body - you can swear to that. That Melodeon - I suppose the money would do me as much good as any thing else - So you may get it if you can, allowing them a compensation for selling it. Or if they will not do that - find out what is the price they sold mine for and the difference between them and I will send the money.

My love to Miss Wood - tell her to write me. My respects to Mr. Lines Day & all friends. Mother says "give Sarah my love and respects" says "I cannot think of any thing tonight but perhaps I shall in the morning. Kate sends love to you - says she is not jealous in the least - that he sends her Magazines - Grahams. Marinda sends her love says she "wants to see you very much" I want you to write me all the news all about your school & the others. What has become of Mrs. Harrison? R. has gone to the P.C. when he comes home he will fill out the sheet so I resign - remaining as ever, Your loving sis

Lucy

Wednesday eve 9 o'clock

P.S. Sarah Hews was married last Sunday night to Alexander the Great Sam Perkins' devil - T. said he thought they would have some pulling [of] hair. R. said he thought they would have some parting of hair - ha!

Hall Letters 103.5. May 10, 1849; Rhodolph in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

Thursday P.M.

Dear Sis,

I have nothing of importance to write you just now, L having written a pretty good yarn. I have been working in the garden, and holding plow, so I do not feel very humorous. Sis has written that I was coming to N-Haven Well I only told of going as D. writes that the N.H. people wish to see, or hear from me about music affairs, and my stoping thare this season. I should prefer, their hearing from me, (if I knew who wishes to know about me) and save the journey, &c. I do not think the people of New Haven can make it an object for me to stay there, by the year, unless they are willing to pay pretty liberal. as I can make more in the country playing for dancing winters then they would be willing to pay me, by the year. I think now I may be in New Haven next week some time. If I am it will be but for a call, &c. I recd. a line from D. Monday. He is to spend the season in Lowell. A. Bond wishes to see me very much, he says about my playing in Boston this season, &c.

Give my best respects to Miss Wood. I would like very much to be present at her wedding, but I fear, I shall not be able to.

Please imagine this twisted off like a kiss, of Lasses Kandy.

As Ever Rhodolphus Hall

Hall Letters 105. June 11, 1849; Lucy in Lyme to D.C. in Lowell.

My Dear Brother

Having a few minutes to spend, after washing. I will write to you to inquire whether you are still in the land of the living - and yet on "preying ground"

We have not heard from you in a long time. I believe I wrote to you last and should now wait for one in return but that brother T. wishes to know what you intend doing with your "Miss Betsey" He says it is not well for her to stand in the barn on the hard floor - Thinks it injurious to her trotters. That is the horny portion of them, that they grow hard and dried up, and he fears they will grow out of shape - And what is still [more] alarming that she is in a "delicate situation" common to all the animals of like gender. Do not be alarmed as it is only an [inflammation] of the chest, and will probably terminate [in] dropsy about Sept. T. thinks if this [be not the] case, she has grown remarkably fat for [just a] few weeks. T. and father have been [thinking of] sending her to "hard Scrabble" to pasture; [but Thomas] thinks best to hear from you first - so we [will wait] patiently a few days for orders from her [owner]. So please write by return mail unless you [intend coming home].

We have been expecting you home soon for a long while - I wish you would come - I will make you some nice shirts if you will get the stuff and bring. We are all in good health and spirits - No news in particular only (Dea.) Hamilton's wife is dead of consumption - and is to be buried tomorrow - James Lewis Cook was married a few days since to Elder Cutting's oldest girl - that is all the news I can think of.

I have planted over 80 hills of Melons - so I think we shall have a plenty of the critters.

M. Says "give my love to uncle David" so here you have it. I have written all this in 1/2 hour so please excuse mistakes and write soon.

Now for uncle Sams Mail Bag in the far famed city of Lyme Bang!! Your sis Lucy Don't tell any body I wrote of Miss Betsey They will be jealous.

P.S. Mother says tell him to write if he is not coming [home] With her love - Kate also sends respects - L.

Letters 106-127 (June 21, 1849 to January 12, 1850)

Hall Letters 106. June 21, 1849; Rhodolph in Roxbury to D.C. in Lowell.

Dear Brother

You are doubtless a little disapointed at not seeing me yesterday according to our anticipation. However I think you will not blame me when you learn the particulars, which are as follows, According to agreement I paraded with the Cornett Band on Tuesday. It was extremely warm, so much so that it dried up our valves at first, very dusty also making it uncommonly unpleasant.

Went to Chelca to fire at Target. after, returned to the City, and Recd. the Manchester Co. at the Fitchburg Depot. Excorted them all about the City. Had a Complimentary Diner at the Pantheon at 9 o'clock Eve. after which played them to their Armory. played for tosts, &c.

The Reason of my not being at Lowell last P.M. was on account of having a job at Dorchester, to Play for the Ladies Fair from 5 o clock P.M. until 9 eve. for which I am to have \$3.00 Violin, Harp, Wins tuba & Myself I Played Clart. the Most of the time, &c.

The Roxbury Brass Band Called a Meeting last Monday Eve, to try the Minds, with Regard to Electing Me as Leader they were Unanimous, and a Commity of two Called me up, on tuesday morn. (I having been out on a Seranade) to know my terms which are, \$100.00 untill the middle of November, for only Rehersing, and being with them on important occasions, on which times I draw Leaders pay, &c. They wished me to Reherse with them last Eve. I engaged to, but could not get back from Dorchester untill near ten o'clock, but found them wide awake. Rehersed some 6 or 8 pice had good success more then answered their Expectation I think, the Band numbers about 16 or 17, but I don't want any thing but my Cornett, to wool all of their E b Bugle parts on, and Cast a shadow on the old Leaders performance either &c. the City have raised some thing \$200.00 and the Boarders of the Norfolk House have raised enough for to imploy the band one Eve. a week to play for their amusement which will make two Eve.s a week, one for the City, and the other for Norfolk House &c. we are not engaged 4th yet, it may be so that I can play for the Ball at Lowell if you should want, if we are not engaged that day. I will come if you say so, they are to let me off when I can get a good job Else where &c. as they have a pretty strong team all but the E b Buglar, Had a letter from home, T. thinks Betsy has not got the Dropsy now, think you might take her to L. if you wished &c. She is at Hardscrabble now. Excuse haste &c.

The Band have a week to let me know whither I suit them, I may be at lowell sat. eve. &c. Let me hear from you.

Yours in F.L.& T. R. Hall

Hall Letters 107. July 1, 1849; Rhodolph in Roxbury to D.C. in Lowell.

Dear Brother

According to your request I write, to inform you of my situation, as Regards the 4 of July. which is as follows The Roxbury Band have engaged to Play for a Fire Company, to escort them to Boston Comon for a Colation. Leave Roxbury at 4 oc' A.M. Return at 8 or 1/2 pas. morning - then Flags Band are anxious that I should go in with them to Play for the City of B. (which amounts to \$10.00) The play for the Floral Procession, they want me all day if I were not engaged, but, any time that I can meet them, they are suited to have me as Flag is not very strong yet. Wright was after me Thursday eve. And Wright & Burditt were on to me yesterday. (as I was in B.) And the Band Sent Weston to Roxbury to engage me, for just what part of the day (th) that I could be with them. So you see it is better for me to take the Chances, then to leave them, although I had rather Play with your Band then any in Boston, at the same price.

Now if you do not have an engagement the 4th please come to Roxbury and I will give you one if it is not so great. fetch Mr. Richardsons Ebrocorno, if he is willing.

I do not as the Cornett Band have an engagement yet, We have had an aplication to play for the Reception of Father Mathew, by a Society in Boston, &c. &c.

We are looking for some of the country People to the 4th. If you are not engaged come and see the Fire Works and Hear the different Band blow blow of their dead wind. - Come Tuesday if you can.

My compliments to all the Band. And the Rest of My Acquaintance.

If you have a job, when I am not engaged I would like to help you any time. So, Please write. soon. Excuse haste, &c. Yours in F.L. & T. Rhodolphus Hall

P.S. Sunday eve. Wright & Burditt have just left here. Want me to Parade with them tomorrow at 8 o'clock A.M. on Horseback for the Lancers, and tomorrow eve. for Vanamburge Manageris to Play Alternately, with their own Band. Flag does not Parade tomorrow &c.

Wright says, The Band are anxious that I should Become one of their Band Members &c. if I wish &c. &c.

I am just informed that Mr. Welch is wishing to engage me to travel with his Circus that was at Lowell may training. am told I can have \$30.00 per month. is going to see me tomorrow morn.

Hall Letters 108. July 1, 1849; Rhodolph in Roxbury to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sister

I improve a few moments in scratching a few words just to inform you that I am yet alive, and kicking. Although my health has not been such, as I could brag of, for the past ten days, owing to its being so confounded hot weather I suppose. I had very good luck in Hartford, on my way home, the Music was Complimented by a considerable number. After the Ball we had to go Serenading, with a "Hack & Two" - kept Serenading, with us untill Daylight, &c. I found Lydias in good Spirits. Cousin maid me a Present of Noah Websters Dictionary unabridged, Recd. \$3.50 for Playing at Hartford. Found the folks well, Roxbury, as usual.

Music Business, has been very dull so far, this season, have not had but 3 or 4 jobs yet. D. liked very much at Lowell. I played with them, week ago yesterday. The Papers gave him, and his band a great Puf, &c. of which they were all deserving. I left Lowell last Thursday. D. Was very well at that time. While at Lowell I had several fainting spells, Came near going off the R(?) ocks. It will be two weeks, Tuesday since I have heard from home. I wrote yesterday.

I have engaged to Lead the Roxbury Brass Band untill the middle of November, for which they are to Pay me \$100.00 And, when the Band Play for an engagement, I am to have Double Pay.

I think it much better then what I offered to stop with the Musicians at New-Haven for. The \$100.00 is only for Rehersing with them and Leading and giving directions. I have no writing to do for them. The Band is a new one but good, for the time it has been Playing. their Music is very easy, for me.

We are Playing one evening a week for the Boarders & Proprietor of the Norfolk House. And Commendse Playing one Eve. or two a week for the City in the Park. I have a chance occasionally to Play with the Boston Band so it fills up the Time very well.

D. and Myself. are engaged to Play at the Commensment Ball. at Burlinton Vt the first week in Aug. We are to have \$25.00 each. We shall call at Lyme on our Return, if nothing happens. We some expect Lucy & Kate. the 4th or some of our folks.

Wm. & N. send thier Love, with Mine. Say they would Like to see you the 4th very much if you can make it convenient to be with us.

Our Roxbury Band are engaged to Play the morning of the 4th for the Firemen to go to Boston after which, I am to Play with Flags Band of B. They Play for the Floral Procession and for the City. their days work amounts to, over \$17.00 The Play for the Fireworks on the Comon. Flags health is Poor, the Reason they came after me to help the, &c.

I have written all I can think of, and perhaps more, than will interest you.

Remember me, to Miss Hubbard and her Boarders, Miss Atwater, Miss Tyler, Miss Wood

Strawberry Modesty and the rest of my friends, in Treat Every Body to Cool Watter, and charge to the Pump. Finally do not mention me to any one except they inquire, now mind that.

Please excuse hasty mistakes, And if you can't Come Yourself, Why! send a Letter. thats all. Yours in F.L.& T. Rhodolphus Hall Leader of Roxbury Brass Band

P.S. Mr. Wright and Burditt, of Flags Brass Band have just called to engage me to Play with them tomorrow. Parade on Horseback for the Lancers of Boston and in the eve to Play at Vanamburge Managers to help his Band, to Play Alternately with them, tomorow eve.

I am also, informed that Mr. Welch wishes to see me, tomorrow morning to engage me to travel with his circus, &c. his Leader is going to quit. a Plenty of Business Now a felow is engaged &c. I am offered \$35.00 per Month to travel with Sands Lent & Co. Circus. Another season.

Sunday eve. Now for Boston P.O. R.H. Should the P.O. be closed, you will Please excuse Postage

Hall Letters 109. July 5, 1849; Lucy in Lyme to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sis,

I received your "long looked for" last evening - and true to my principle of promptness, I avail myself of my first leisure, to write you. I wish you would write me oftener, that I might know where I left off in my last. As I cannot remember, I shall have to begin at the present and work each way.

We - i.e. Kate, Miranda and myself have been Strawberrying this P.M. over in the South Lot. and had first rate Luck - getting over one quart each - and being gone only a little more than an hour - it was cloudy and cool - and we had a fine time - found a Night-hawk's nest with one young in it do you think - one Kingbirds nest and two of Ground bird's nest - Skip and Tige had some fun - Skip with this Bird's nest and Tige with Toads - he does love to play with them so well - and Skip to try to scratch the bird's nest over - he is so blind that he goes entirely by smell - rooting around after berries too - he is "one of the Dogs" I tell you.

Well we came home frisked over some of our berries and had a cake - you know how - we have had a good many - now don't your mouth water?

Well since tea I have worked over a whole pail full of butter for sale - nice - Don't you wish again.

Now for the Fourth July Day - what a Day !!! Not much like the other one - We had an invite to Wentworth to a Picnic - but declined - expected to go for a Ride but got disappointed . Well we tried to amuse ourselves - and did in some measure by card playing &c till the P.M. we grew tired with a spice of headache and laid down on the chamber bed - we slept I do not know how long - till mother aroused us by the Bell. I came down half asleep and who should be here but Israel Post and his sister Mindwell - Oh! dear - they remained till after tea - (he is going to California - gold seeking the 17 inst). Well after tea Obed Gage called at the door with your letter & Magazine for Kt. - I asked him if he paid the Postage - "yes" he said - well I went to get my purse and he stalked out to the road - I sent M. with ten cent bit - he said he could not change it - we went to the Office soon after where I found my letter charged - bang!! 4th July Gun - the only one I heard through the day - ha! State prison honesty! - That ended the Glorious 4th of 49.

On Sat. last had a letter from R. inviting us to celebrate with them in the "City of Notions" - but we all happened to have notions enough to keeping us at home - Uncle Thom. thought he had not however, and started - went as far as Tyler & heard of the Cholera in B. - and came home to enjoy his disagreeable notion - "Miss Betsey - "the [Satan]"

For health we are all smart except Mother - her health is very-very poor - she took a violent cold nearly 2 weeks since and has a bad cough - is pale and thin is troubled with pain in her bones - and head - she says she has no news to send you except that she has not picked the geese but once this summer.

About that Magazine - I had begun to think I never should receive them - why do you

not forward them by Mail? I had rather pay postage and have them in their season - forward them now - I think I shall not take them longer for they have come very irregularly since Mr. G. has left sending them.

That Melodeon - I should like - but in my present circumstances think the money would do me more good - if you want my share you can have it by sending me a little money from time to time - Can you not send an X or a V. soon?

My silk I have not yet got fitted. Lucinda told me 7 weeks since that she would come in 3 weeks - I have waited very patiently - and no come- she has now gone to Thetford. I think I shall send it to you by Express with my Gingham as a kind of measure - and have Miss Wood fit it if she can - if not get some one else - for I never shall get it made here - and if I do perhaps not in Fashion - you can make it a very little longer than my gingham. I will send it the first of the week - and pay postage - look out for it.

You can send it back by Mr. G. as he will come up here some time in July perhaps. I want Miss Wood to fit it very much - as she knows best my failings. Tell her I would like very much indeed to witness the ceremony of her Wedding - and shower Boquets and Blessings on her head - but as I cannot the former the latter shall be bountifully - I want to see her very much indeed can she not make me a call during the Honey moon?

I should be very happy to wait on you and as many as you see fit to take along with you in Sept. Is Mr. W. your intended? - I should think so by your offering the other one to me - for "charity generally begins at home first." Just write to me candidly all about it. I think you might write oftener. Take time as I do - I begin this letter at 7 this eve wrote as long as I could see - came to bed at 9 - and here I am sitting on one bed with my feet on another my paper in my lap writing - while every bone in my body aches - my back in particular. I almost forgot to tell you that Mr. P. was almost smashed with our Kate yesterday - wanted her picture to carry to California - if he could carry it - ha! Another man said "She looks like pictures I have seen in books". Mr. Carrier - bah! - What will Mr. G. Say? I should not blame him for being jealous.

When you see Mrs. D. & E.T.S. please give them my respects and tell them to call on me - if they are a mind to! They called at the door some weeks since - and I saw Mrs. D. to bow to her across the church last sunday - By the way I have got me a splendid Visette of the "Jenny Lind" style made in N.Y. - I have worn it but once.

There is nothing new going or coming now. T.E & I are the same as ever only a little more so - I would tell you more if I had room - but I will wait till I get cool - Mrs. B. is failing - has bled several times lately very badly - Mrs. Chamsay Cutting & Miss Morgan F called here Tuesday. Mrs. C said she has a letter from P. sunday - told of the sale of his house &c. that his wife was going to visit this season. She was very particular to inquire if I was going back this fall I thought she had been instructed to enquire perhaps.

Please write soon. It is getting late - my candle has burned to the socket and I must close for it is late - past 10 o'clock. So good night. Your loving sis Lucy

Kate says give my love - ask what has become of my Pussy - My love to Miss W.

Respects to Miss Wheeler and all friends.

Hall Letters 110. July 17, 1849; Rhodolph in Roxbury to D.C. in Lowell.

Dear Brother

My Circumstances are such, that I am under the necessity of asking if you would come down and fill my place on Thursday eve. The Roxbury Band want to Reherse, and Friday they are to Play on the Green in front of the Church, they have a Platform and have Lights. Flages Band want me to go with them. thursday & friday, and saturday, three days, and tomorow they play for the Lancers to Escort the Gov. to Cambridge for Commencement. Now I want you to come down so as to rehearse with the Band and stay and play with them on friday eve. and you will do me a favor. and the Band too. They do not like to have Bond, and I do not care for their having him either. The parts are easy, and do not have to play much, now do not fail to come. thursday is the Reherasl, and friday they play out. if you do not come, they will not be suited that is all, I suppose come if you Can any how I will send you the E b parts transpose them 4 notes lower and they will be right. You need not fear, having any trouble. No 5 & 6 are the old song Lodgins & hornpipe I will pay your fare both ways when I see you. in F.L. & T. Rhodolphus Hall

In Haste No. 15 is Yankee Doodle in E b No. 2 is an old March you are acquainted that Whitcomb and Pushee used to Play