

Letters 180-219 (August 14, 1852 to January 23, 1855)

Hall Letters 180. Aug. 14, 1852; Rhodolph in Lowell to Samuel in New Haven.

Dear Brother

It is so long since I have heard from you that I cannot remember whether I am indebted to you for a Letter, or you to me for the same.

However I will not be ceremonious about that, but tell you what little nonsense I have on hand for I have not much of anything else, to write at present. I Recd. a line from Lucy & Kate day before yesterday. they were having fine times I should think going fishing and Riding occasionally together, etc. improving their health and opportunities of Sumer enjoyment. I should like much to be with them, but "business before Pleasure" is the old saying, though we are engaged at Norwich Vt. for Commensment next Thursday, but expect to return to Manchester Friday for an excursion of Firemen. We Returned to the city yesterday from a Successful Concert tour to White Mts. We leave Lowell next Wednesday for Norwich and Montpelier Burlington Vt. for a two week Concert Ture in Vermont, etc. etc. Expect to give a Concert week from Monday or Tuesday at Lyme N.H.

Prospects in our Business never were so promising as the now are. I have had an offer to Play this Winter and wifes Board and Traveling expences. By Mr. Farr of Brandon Vt. But the Business in Lowell will pay me still Better then he offers. We Play twice at week here for Dancing Wednesday & Saturday evenings when not otherwise engaged.

How do get along with that new House. Driving it along in a hurry I suppose. Please let me know when you Dedicate it. for I intend to Come and help do it. I should return to New-Haven with your "better Half" if business would permit, and may any how perhaps.

I should like to have you meet us at White River Junction Vt. next Wednesday if your Business would allow. as Wm Morey & Wife are at Lyme and you are the only Brother that will be absent when D & I arrive at Lyme, of a large Family, it is seldom as many Brothers and Sisters meet together.

Please remember me to those that inquire for me, etc. Yours Truly Rhodolph Hall

P.S. Write me. Direct to White River Junction Vt.

If Sarah or Lucy did not fetch my Military Coat. Please send, or fetch it to White River Junction, by Express.

If you fetch it, I will give you twice the Express charge on it, etc. I have not heard whether they Girls fetched it or not. R.H.

Hall Letters 181. Aug. 20, 1852; Lucy in Lyme to D. C. in Lowell.

Dear Brother

Yesterday morning I filled out 12 of your Posters for a concert at "Lyme Meeting House on Tuesday Aug. 24th" and made the wherewithal to stick them to the fence in the shape of paste without knowing whether we could have the said house, being as you know saving of horseflesh and the like. Well William and father took them out and succeeded finely in procuring the church. No one had the least objection, but all seemed mightily pleased. -- So Posters were put up -- 2 at the meeting house -- one at East Village -- 1 down by Kent's toward Hanover -- one at Depot -- 1 at Thetford hill -- 1 at Post Mills -- 1 down at [Shaubad] Dimicks -- 1 on our Horse Barn.

In the P.M. Wm & Thomas went to Orford. [Beal] thought he could get a full house for you at Orford Mills -- Stuck a Bill there -- Then went to Orford S. put up 2 there and left 1 with Dayton. He is tremendously pleased. Says if you will come there he will ride 2 days but you shall have a full house.

He thinks you would do well too at Haverhill. You are promised better success in this region than in your other town and may flatter yourselves thereupon. J. thought and S. and Kt. that it was Monday 23d -- But suppose you made arrangements with Wm. afterwards. So Tuesday 24th is the day posted for your Concert.

We are in usual health, babies & all -- Love to Rhodolph -- Tell him he owes me one -- and you two.. too.

N. sends her love saying she expects to hear you shout! Kt. sends her love done up in a paper -- and Sarah as much as I can do up in a rag -- Guess I will let them wait and give it personally.

In haste for the Office, I remain, Yours, L.F.H. Johnson

Hall Letters 183. Aug. 26, 1852; Rhodolph at Union House, Montpelier to Lucy in Lyme.

Dear Sister

In remembrance of past favors, Confidence in future ones, I inforce the present opportunity of paying your last Letter Recd. at Merideth Bridge, etc. I have no very exciting Yarn to Spin you having very recently seperated. We ar this Moment through our concert here given in the -- Church to an audience of very little short of two Hundred at 25 cts. per Ticket. All of hoom appears Very well satisfied as usual, and eargent that we repeat the Concert tomorow evening. But our Agent Mr. Farr having made arrangements to hold forth at Burlington tomorow night, we leave first Train 5 A.M. We shall be in Burlington Vt. over Sunday being advertised, or arrangements Made for two nights in Burlington. Monday we are Posted at Rutland, where we Play Monday, and Tuesday nights, and our Engagement is then up, but is talked of Giving concert Wednesday Night there if a room can be procured suitable as a Co. Called Amphians have secured the room we occupy Monday and Tuesday, for Wednesday & Thursday so we intend to look the Fair over Wednesday and give a Concert Wednesday eve. if a suitable room can be procured. Mr. Farr thinks the Amphians will want to go in Co. with us etc. Mr. Farr has talked favorable of furthering the engagement with us, but Tomorow night may Frighten him, if success does not attend his labors, etc. which I think it will, from appearance, satisfactions, etc. given.

The Dr. Adams, Boards at this house as usual, the author and Donor of the Book "Criticisms on Theology" very glad to see me, remembers me well, since I played here with Pushee 1845, etc.

After Extracting the inards of those Fish last night I washed my knife and stuck it in the Pole over the stove Pipe to dry. I told William about it. Please keep it, or have my best half, untill I come. I miss it much.

We think, or have thought of returning by way of Carleton Vt. White Hall Troy Albany, Hostonic Rail Road to Bridge Port, New Haven, etc. if we do, Kate may return with you to New-Haven, but uncertain yet.

Tell Kate I will try and make her grin by Next Mail.

My Love to Friends and eternal wrath to Enemys, for I will let them alone severly. Remember my to Samie Yours Certainly Rhodolph Hall

Easy to Beat, but hard to kill Got my share of Applause tonight as Usual Having but an Hour or two to sleep I adjourn twenty four hours. R.H.

P.S. Will you & Kate Please write to me at Rutland Vt. Shall be there untill Wednesday Morn, certain, etc.

Hall Letters 184. Sept. 10, 1852; Rhodolph in Nashua to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister

Our Muster comes off Monday and Tuesday -- two days sooner then I expected, Consequently for the Uniform to be of use to me I ought to have it Saturday eve. at Lowell ie. Tomorrow. I believe the Mail has not left this place for New-Haven yet, so but that you can get this, this evening, and if you do please send my things as directed to American House Lowell by first Express tomorrow. and should you not Receive this in time for the first Express train tomorrow, (or the 11 o'clock train for Boston which I think you will.) you may Send them to me at Groton Junction so I can have them Monday there, on our way to Muster Ground, etc. the last train, or 6 o'clock P.M. train will be in time for them to come to Groton Junction and perhaps to come to Lowell. it would be well to inquire of express agent at N. Haven about the time they get into Lowell I want the Military Coat and stripes to Pants, (in my old Carpet Bag. at 6 or 7 o'clock Monday morning, if I can get them, as I fear I shall be unable to borrow for the occasion it being a full Band job of 18 etc. Please send them in the Carpet Bag as I directed when I saw you.

We gave a Concert at Milford last eve. had a full House. Goodwin disappointed us in non attendance. the Hutchinson Family sang 3 pieces and I Played Clarionett Solo instead of Goodwins Solo with Great Applause, etc. Please write.

I shall be through Muster Tuesday eve. I expect. Yours Ever Rhodolph

P.S. With due regard to Sarah & Brother S. R.H.

Hall Letters 185. Oct. 15, 1852; D.C. in Lowell to Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sister

I did not get out to New Haven had so short time to go & get back that I had a hard time to do the little business that was oblige to do in N.York

Unkle D. told me that Mother thought of going to Lyme with Johnson &c Now you must not let her be so homesick as to go back without going to Boston and Lowell. Let me hear from you and if it is her wish and Father does not come after her I will come on purpose week after next and see her in B. or Roxbury. Am engaged all of the time or would come next week.

I recd. a notice from the Sect. of the Lodge, for dues &c up to date. How long did you pay them for I was thinking until Jan. (maybe mistaken) if you paid him only for one quarter. I wish would pay him to Jan. and I will make it right with you.

Do not fail to write me immediately on the receipt of this and much oblige your brother & friend. Give my respects to all, Yours as ever, D. C. Hall

Hall Letters 186. Oct. 24, 1852; Rhodolph in Lowell to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister

Your favor was duly Recd. for which I feel very greatfull for. I have no news of importance. I this moment learn that Daniel Webster Died at 22 mt past 3 o'clock this A.M. There are little or no Excitement in the Political line here, to what might be expected. I Led L.B.B. on Excursion for the Scott Club of this City, to a Mass meeting at Stoneham while D was at N.Y. I had Capital success was hily Complimented on good Leadership and playing I saw David Hill & Lady (she that was Laura Morison) at Stoneham seemed ticled to Death to see some old acquaintance, &c.

I suppose father is with you this Eve. I should be happy to be one of your family just now, but Circumstances forbid it. the past week Tuesday Eve. 19th City Guards Anniversary Ball Recd. \$5.00 Thursday 21st Dedication Ball at Wilton N.H. Recd \$6.80 Friday 22d Wamaset Light Guards Aniversary Ball & Parade \$7.00 Last night Party at Appleton Hall Lowell \$2.00 making \$20.80 for my weeks work. and this week we Play as follows, tomorow (Monday) we Play for the Free Mason Celebration at Groton for \$3.00 each and Expenses Tuesday 26th for a Dedication Ball at Wolfboro N.H. (where we Cross Lake Winepesoge to get there) have \$8.00 each.(after expences). Thursday 28th the 1st of six parties at North Reading for which we have \$4.00 each & expences Saturday night 30th at Appleton Hall for \$2.00 each (Party) which will amount to \$17.00 for the Coming weeks work if nothing ill hapens, &c. I only mention my engagements that you may Consider how easy it would be for me to Come and see you, much easier then to do all these hard nights Puffings and do you not think I would enjoy it. Better than Playing were it not for the "Mighty Dollar" (Indeed I should.) not alltogether for the Dollars, but jus to see how the old Maids of our Quadrille BAnd would fizz, (ie. Conant & D.C.H) Were I to furnish a substitute. Please consider my self obligation, and give me a longer time to full fill my promise to visit you, &c. I hope Brother Johnson will find a little leisure to take Father & Mother about a little, for it is not an Every day occurance of theirs, if they come to Lowell I'll spare no panes to make their visit a Pleasant one here. I hope to be keeping house by the time they come, althoug the Engagements, and my being absent so much is a "cooler" on the Idea, as Kate will as a Widower, Except Saturdays & Sundays the Cold winter in a tenement by herself. I rather think Boarding would be preferable and more Economical too, as Pensylvania bids fair to be my Place of "desperation" in the Spring. Housekeeping impliments will be a sacrifice.

I forwarded your letter to Katie sat's Mail. I suppose she writes the news in full, to you. It seems Eliza D. has discouraged Ben Newell in the Kemp Farm at the Pond, Swering she never will live on it. he tells Kemp that, Hall may have it to \$50, or \$75.00 for his Bargain, I think of letting him make about that amount of improvements on it first ha! ha! What say you? I believe my life among the Quakers much easier. will see in the Spring or wait untill the first day of Apr. &c.

I hope Father will not fail of visiting Unkle David and Big City. I know he would be pleased to have him Come you could write to Unkle when to meet them at the Depot, 'c. or Father Could get a Hack to take them to 49 Cliff Street where they Live. and Unkel Could come to Boston with them after they get visit out, or could see them to the Boat

for Norwich, Worcester to Lowell, in Case they conclude not to visit Roxbury. I may get time to go to Lyme, from here with them, after Kate. unless she gets Lonesome before. We Play at Concord N.H. the 10th of Nov. the night before Thanksgiving in that State. and have an application to Play at Manchester N.H. for the 11th or Thanksgiving, &c. &c. Tell Brother J & S. I can Excuse them for not writing me "more fast and more frequent" as their business like my own may be Driving them, Consequently I will not lay anythin up against them.

Tell Johnson if I do go to Pa. another season I want to Engage him six month at some reasonable rate to worke for, & With, me, &c. Brother Geisse promises to visit us next Season, when I some Expect to return with him, for good, unless a more flatering Chance illumins my course of Life, &c. &c.

I hope you & Mrs. C. may come on favorable terms again, after she gets rid of some of her Eye water, and the Doctor weighs here, or she weighs him, & guesses as correctly as once, you recolect when I hope this will satisfy for your last favor, and that I may be lucky enough to get four Pages more at you Earliest Leisure, &c. Mrs. Benett is so she is about but had a hard fall yesterday morn, by the wood step of the Back Door turning over with her, she falling on her side across it. She is hoping to get Cousin Lydia to keep hous fore her. from Hartford.

To yourself & Family of five accept all Due Regard write soon
Rhodolph

Hall Letters 187. Oct. 27, 1852; Rhodolph in Lowell to Parents, Sisters & Brother in New Haven.

Dear Parents & Sisters, Brother

I perceive you had not Recd. my last letter last evening, judging from the Dispatch, Recd. this P.M. on our return from @UXWoolfboro N.H. as I should not have supposed you to Telegraph to us after learning from my letter that we were to be out of town at that time, &c. I know not what word you got in answer, though Mrs. Benett told the Message Boy she thought we should not be able to accompany Father & Mother to N.Y. City at present. so it is. Although nothing would be a greater Pleasure to me than to escort them there, and accompany their return. But Business will not permit, as my letter has ere this told you. Monday I Recd. \$4.00 and expences Last night \$8.00 Tomorrow 28th we have \$4.00 each and expences, Saturday night \$2.00 which amount to \$18.00 for my weeks work. next week we are engaged one day and four nights. D did not stop at Lowell today on account of an engagement with the Boston B.B. to Lead in Kendalls place, &c also Friday night with the Same. He not having seen your Dispatch, being absent, I cannot answer for him, but as for me, I would come, could I think it any way Advisable to do so. We had rather Pay your Time & Expences to go with our Beloved Parents, then to Forfit our Engagements at this early part of our Best Season.

Consequently do not feel at all hard of us. But Come this Way, and let our treatment to you express such as my Pen is unable to express.

We saw A.S. Marshall and Accompanied Franklin Pierce from Concord to Manchester N.H. in the Cars, this day.

I should be glad of those boots you mentioned, but do not fit Father to any inconvenience with them, &c. From Stoneham I shall call at Roxbury on Friday night. [page torn]..... your Dear Brother

Rhodolph

Hall Letters 188. Nov. 28, 1852; Rhodolph in Lowell to Brother & Sisters in New Haven.

Dear Brother & Sisters

Your well appreciated favor was Duly Recd. and would have been answered sooner had I not been engaged every night the past week. I am very glad to learn of your good health, &c. I have but very little news to tell you. Wednesday night we played for a Party for the Light Guards at Mr. Frenches new Hall, having never played there except for the dedication I lost the points of cumpass, and While Playing the last dance we herd the Fire Bells, supposing it the Clock Bells chiming 4 o'clock it being that hour of the Morn, did not hurry got through the dance and found it was a Fire. I looked at the light thought it was over the Merimac River in Dracut, but went up another flight of Stairs, and the Point of Cumpass that the Fire was in the Direction of my home, and didn't I Fly? When I got home Katie had got one Trunk Packed with her silks Watch & Jewelry, had got my Bugle & Bird, and was about leaving Housekeeping. When I got into my rooms my Sofa sitting by the window was so hott I could not hold my hand on it. I moved every thing possible towards the Enterence, but would not have a thing taken into the Street, but with D. & Mr. Benett, Kate & Myself worked lively Packing Trunks Boxes & Kittles. While others in the same house. (it being a large one) Tore up Carpets Beds and cleared their rooms of every thing, and took all their doors on the other side of the street. It was though allmost impossible to save our house or the next one to ours. The Fire originated in an old Flanell Mill of Factory Satcherated with Wool oil, &c. It was falling when I got to my rooms and the Building nearest, it, was a Bedsted Factory of wood three story'es high full of shavings and very dry, and was completely one mass of fire when I got to it, and was exactly in the rear of our house, and only about 15 yards from our window, it Burned our "Ceminary" and Blistered the Paint on the Casing of our windows inside our room. The watchman of the Building was Burned alive, (supposed to have been intocicate the night before.) but was found draped in some of their best Flanells supposed by some to have been fighting Fire and fell or got hurt. his head, arms & Legs was all Burned, nothing left but his Body part and that Bakeded. Left a wife three children. The ruins are still smoking, thousands of visitors every day since to look at it. there were 4 large Buildings Burned besides the ruins of Last Years Fire, the Bedstead Factory being on the same spot where it Burned a year since, &c.

Inclosed I send you Twenty dollars. I will send by Express the last of the week what I can spare, which will be one hundred Thirty more if I can collect what is due me. I should send more in this but is in Gold & Small Bills, &c.

I will only cost you three cents Postage to imform me of this safe arrival. do not fail to write on the moment you receive this, and believe me yours respectfully. Tell Sarah I will answer hers soon, &c. Kate sends her compliments to all So do I. Write Rhodolph

We have an application to Play at Wentworth N.H. the 15th of Dec. &c. R.H.

Hall Letters 189. Dec. 25, 1852; Marinda in Lyme to Lucy in New Haven.

My dear aunt Lucy

It is with much pleasure that I now seat myself to answer your very welcome letter which I received -- Friday last with much pleasure and you see I am on hand to answer it should have written to you before but have been going to school and have not had any time only sundays and could not seem to get time then yesterday was Christmas and what do you guess I did I washed all day and washed the floor in the evening so you see it must have been a merry Christmas for me do you not.

one week ago today Deacon Morey died he was as well as he had been until about 4 o'clock died between 11 and 12 in the night it was a disease of the heart that caused his death Aunt Emily is about the same that she has been she thinks she is failing fast does not eat much of any thing. Jane goes to school. her grandmother is there now I have a letter from Kate last monday night she said she was enjoying life first rate I should like to go and see her should not you she wrote she had to live alone most of the time. Grandmother did not tell me anything about the glasses you spoke of in your letters. you wrote that aunt Sarah had gone to Hartford and Ellington I suppose she has got back before this Grandmother wants her to write all about her visit and how she found Aunt Lydia and Lydia and the rest of the people how she enjoyed herself We looked for her home some O how I should like to come in and see you this morning I get very lonesome sometimes I can tell you, I have not been any where to spend an evening since school began we have had one spelling school and I spelled them down there were those that were older than me, there are several in school that are older but I wont give up to the best of them My studies are Arithmetic Algebra Grammer and passing spelling and defining and writing.

there is not another schollar in school that studies algebra I did not miss a word in spelling last winter all winter nor have not this winter so far there is not another schollar in school that can say that We have the same teacher we had last winter her name is susan Fisher is a pretty good teacher I think It is very good sleighing here now I have not been in a sleig but 4 times this winter and then did not ride but a very short distance am in hopes to have a good long ride before a great while & how I wish you were here I guess we would have some sleighrides would not we I should have more than one if there was any body here to go with me but I hate to go alone Tell Mr. Johnson we shall be very happy to see him here

Aunt Lucy Frank kitty is in my lap and has been most of the time since I commenced this letter he does not get a chance very often and when he does improves it. Kates two kittens are here Nellie is as smart as ever and as white as the snow. Grandmother and Grandfather have been very well since they got home Grandmothers feet have not swelled any since they got home nor troubled her in the least is not that good news. Grandsir does his chores himself he did not want to take a boy.

Aunt Lucy when do you expect to get into your new house I shall want to come and see you when you do how do you and Mrs. Chamberlain get along now does she come to see you yet. I have not had but one letter from Fathers people since they left and that was last week I have answered it. Mary Bixby has just come in says she and Jane have

got each of them a Christmas cake Mrs Dimmick sent them to them I suppose they are very nice it is very good in her I think wish I had somebody to make me a christmas present but never mind it will be all the same a thousand years hence wont it. it is something new for Mrs. Dimick Mr. Dimick and his wife were down here wednesday evening and spent the evening they have not been here together for a long time before.

I have been combing my head to see if I could not stir up up some new ideas but have not succeeded very well I guess I shall have to come to the conclusion that I have written all of the news. I think I have written you a long letter. Jane has just gone from here wanted I should give her love to you all Grandmam says tell them she is smart since she got over her [shair] wants to know how Mr Johnsons toe is Grandsir has killed his old pig it weighed 290 pounds was not that pretty good I should like to send you a piece of it and some chicken you wrote you should do something serious if you had not already I hope you have not if you have not this will save you doing any thing very serious I hope ha ha. I must close for it is supper time now write me soon and I will do the same by you. We all send our love to you all From your Affectionate Niece Marinda H. Jeffers

I wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year

Hall Letters 191.5. Jan. 27, 1853; Rhodolph in Lowell to Lucy and Samuel in New Haven.

In haste I must say some things, although the opportunity is very small. We intend to help you warm that House, as it will kneed much fire such weather as this. you better be making Chips for it, and get the Back log ready. D. has got an Idea of Land Speculating and only waiting for a favorable Letter on the Subject from Brother Sam. Tell Samuel, he must write about it. And we will make our appearance the 1st Four days leisure, &c. &c.

Tell Sarah, she owes me a Letter and I have no security, and I believe I am not in your debt L. except for the cuning little Present you sent me. I have only room to thank, and tell you such little favors, remind us of the Store rooms we have in Each other's Hearts. &c.

Please write often, all Particulars. &c. and believe me a true Friend Rhodolph (on back of letter from Kate to Lucy)

Hall Letters 192. Feb. 2, 1853; Samuel in New Haven to David in Lowell.

Brother David

Perhaps you have expected to here from me ere this about that land speculation. Their was a large Snowstorm soon after my return home and the weather being colde I did not do any thing about it untill now. I think their is a chance to make somthing in the speculation I can have the land for \$4.00 per foot now I should like to have you come and see what you think of it I will take \$1500 worth of it with you and R -- if you think best. I should like to have you come soon because I have got to decide whether I have it or not

The girls are well sends their best compliments Pleas write soon Yours &c Samuel Johnson

Hall Letters 192.3. Feb. 2, 1853; Lucy in New Haven to D.C. in Lowell.

Dear Brother

S. has occupied but a small space in this letter so I can speak a word with you.

He is on hand for that land and I think there is something to be made in it at any rate there can be no great risk as the land will probably never be any less -- and a good house put up there will always rent or sell.

I shall expect to see you at that house warming if not before -- You will excuse me for brevity for I am most sick every bone in my body aches.-- beside it is rest time and I have to roust up early. I will leave a space for Sarah to speak. Please write or come soon. Yours truly Lucie

Hall Letters 192.5. Feb. 2, 1853; Sarah in New Haven to D.C. in Lowell.

Dear brother D

So I owe you a letter "or do I not?" I proceed without an ans. I have recently made another engagement not such an one as you may suppose, by what Johnson poured into your noddle. It is an engagement to sing at the South church for \$100 per year just as the chappel St. people were consulting about giving that price & they dont know that I am engaged there & I have not been, for any particular time until Monday morn Sabbath noon the Saxton told Mr. Hallock that I was going to leave & he met me at the door of the church & extended his hand & said I must [not] leave & if more Salary was wanting I should have it & that I must break off from any agreement with chapel St. people & Monday morn he was to leave for N.Y. where he spends his time except sundays, sent the Organist to my school room to engage me & I did so. & after that Mr. Whitsley then came at chapel St. sent for me to come to his store but I did not go & have not seen them I suppose there will be a muss for they thought they were sure of me as I was not engaged for any length of time & have dismissed their leader as he did not please & were to have miss Hall to help the Organist lead & would get along very well I understand -- but they are too late & too long consulting.

Did you think that picture a good likeness? You gave the heart to the wrong [James], I meant it for [James] Hall for I thought J.C. was married and gone somewhere but it is all the same don't tell now, I have another for J.H. are you coming soon? if not I hope you will open your mouth & speak forth to me on paper -- pour forth all the particulars -- remember me to Mrs. B. & [James] & all the rest --

My school is prospering as usual, full & more than full & I get very weary some days but soon get rested & into it again -- come so as to stop over the Sabath & I will go to N.Y. if you are a mind too.-- excuse me for this bad looking letter for it is late & and I am very tired & sleepy. take good care of yourself & get a chance to see father & mother & believe your affectionate Sis Sarah

Hall Letters 195. Apr. 3, 1853; Rhodolph in Lowell to Lucy & Samuel in New Haven.

My Dear Sis Lucy & better Half

We have this moment drank your health's to Brandy and Watter, &c. please pardon my long silence I having had many things to excite my attention since your last letter reached us, as accompnaying it was a Dispatch to meet Katie's Celia in N.Y. City We accordingly done so but went one night and returned the next by Boat from Boston stoping, myself in N.Y. City from 8 A.M. untill 5 o'clock Boat P.M. the same day Kate visited Phila. but I was obliged to return for my business again.

I think this week will close our Dancing business. Kitteredge, our Caller, is in N.Y. today, sails for California next Tuesday. We are, or D. and the Boston B.B. are rehersing every week Conant & Benett are both members of it, and I am Complimented with 2nd or, assistant Leadership. David and Conant are anxous that I should keep House in Boston, and Board them, but I dare not undertake it. on account of Katies health, as she is at present, I regret to say it, in a critical situation. Havin Spit Blood nearly every day for the last two weeks, and this is the first time I have ever written it, for it blinds my eyes to do so. I do not wish to frighten you about her, for I have tried to flatter myself that it is from her throat, or Stomach, and if it be from the latter ther is danger, the Doctor say. Katie says the first she saw it was in Phialadelphia about two weeks since.

I am in Comfortable health, now though have been troubled with a very bad Cold, and sore Lungs, so that it hurt me to Cough. My Cough is not bad now as it is loose, and I raise Considerable and that easier than I have done, so I think I shall wear it off after a while.

Katie wishes you not to think hard of her for not wwriting sooner or more as she is in rather low spirits most of the time, and says she does not like to send her little blue D-ls away from home, &c.

It being Bed time, excuse further particulars. If we keep house in Boston will you not come and see us. Will send you our Card, if we decide to do so. As ever your
Affectionate Brother Rhodolph

Hall Letters 197. May 10, 1853; John Hall in Lyme to D.C. in Boston.

David -- We are all well as usual and hope these Lines will find you all in your helth as for news nothing of importance more than the Distruction of the Lives [Lost] in new york Doct [Smorily] is Supposed to be Lost as he has not returned home as yet ashocking affair in Deed we have not heard of the particulars as yet Thomas and Jane Start for Boston at the noon traine I wish you would send me Barrel filed with Salt and half ahundred of Sugar and a kid of Mackerel and twenty five pounds of Cod fish place the articles in the Barrel and fill it around with the Salt so as it will come Safe You May think strange I should Send for thes articles but Sugar is from Seven to nine cents per pound fish five Cent per pound I think it will well Pay the frate Levi is a good hand to work. he will Eat no Pork at all So I thout it mite be well to Send for these articles if you Send them Pleas to Send me a line when and whare I may find them. Thomas has Sent ten barels of potatoes to Mr. Burrison and Mr Jeffers So you Can get a Barrel of them So I will clos this by subscribing my self your father and well wishes give our respect to all John Hall all Children and friends

Hall Letters 199. Nov. 3, 1853; Thomas In Lyme to D.C. in Boston.

Dear Brother David

I write you a few lines to inform you of our healths which are all verry good. Also of the safe arrival of the Barrel of Onions Sledge &c. the sledge was not what he wanted & has sent it back in a barrel of Potatoes to day he wants a regular stone Sledge one to knock the rocks with in his mowing one about the same heft or a little heavyer will do he has sent you a Barrel of Potatoes & a few Beans they will get to Boston this week if nothing happens.

Father & Mothers health is quite good Father never was heartier to eat

There is no particular news to write you we are verry anxious to see you & the rest of the children there Give our Respects to them all when you see them Write to us if you do not come up soon all the particulars I will close wishing you health & Happiness & a long life to enjoy it in.

From your Brother T. P.S. Says Father if you will send him a Barrel of Salt he will pay you in Beans or Potatoes. Potatoes fetch 40 cts here & salt is 67 he wants some to Salt his meat he thinks his sledge ought to weigh eleven lbs

Hall Letters 200. Dec. 22, 1853; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy and Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sister

your favor of 18th ins. Called me out of bed this A.M. as we do our sleep in the morning, being engaged every 6 nights of the week the rest of our Quadrille band only 5 nights of the week. I having to hold forth at So. Boston for a School at \$50.00 per twelve lessons, &c. Engaged at South Boston Saturday nights regular All other nights for Balls and assemblies. The last week in 1853 we are engaged as follows viz.

Monday 26 at Manchester NH. for \$7.00 per man and expences
 Tuesday 27th Goffstown N.H. \$8.00 and expences
 Wednesday 28th Roxbury Mass \$5.00 " "
 Thursday 29th Spy Pond Mass \$5.00 " "
 Friday 30th Ball So. Boston \$5.00 " "
 Saturday 31 School at So. Boston \$4.16 and expences

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Jan 2d Manchester N.H. \$7.00 and expences
 J " 3d Roxbury Mass \$5.00 and expences
 " 4th Pantheon Hall Boston \$5.00 and expences
 " 5th Waltham Mass. \$5.00 and expences
 Jan 6 we are Engaged at Concord N.H. for \$10.00 per man and Expences, &c.

I do not write the list of our Engagements because I think they will interest you. but to let you know it is not easy for us to get to Your Home, which I very much desire to at this time of year, ie. to stop at all, for we canot get substitutes as every one in our business is very busy at this time, and were we to send substitutes it would create great dissattisfaction to the Co. that imploy, and we might as well disappoint alltogether. As for coming to New-Haven the third of Jan. we canot, if the appointed time was Jan. 1st Sunday we could be there. But, had rather you would excuse us then. Please for a moment imagine Yourselves in our Shoes to Play five nights for Balls (traveling days) then from Boston to your place, to stop only twenty four hours. (for we must be at Manchester Jan 2d) and what would we look like, or feel like.

Dear Sis Sarah, I can assure you no one would be more happy to be present to Witness the Happy Ceremony, then Rhodolph & Kate -- Could it be in Happy, or Convenient Circumstances.

D.C. says he canot come unless it comes off Sunday Jan 1st

We are as anxous to be present as you are to have us. Could you appreciate our anxieties, and know our responsibilities as regards Engagements you would not blame us for being discouraged at comeing.

Should you depend on us, as to Change the time, do not fail of inform us in seasonable time for extensive preparations. also that we may extend the Compliments to the Cousins, &c. Please remember us to Monsieur Spear. Johonson and others.

Rhodolph to Sister L. and S

Hall Letters 205. Jan. 28, 1854; Sarah in Baltimore to D. C. in Lowell.

Dear brother D.

You wished me to drop you a line. & this is the first opportunity I have had to inform you of my wherabouts We stoped at the St. Nicholas hotel in N.Y. & then next day Mr. S. purchased me a new cloak, price \$50, at Stewarts, & a new bonnet, white, paid 12 dollars, & 2 pairs of gloves 87 1/2 a piece, & in the eve left N.Y. for [Philadelphia] we arrived at 9 in the eve. took tea. stoped 3/4 of an hour, & thought best to go on to B. & we arrived here 1/2 past 4 in the Morn. I found the night cars very comfortable could sleep in them, but crossing the Susquehanah I was afraid the boat would sink, it being so very large & with a train of cars on the top & so many passengers & freight. The river was frozen over except the path where they had plowed through the day & that was packed full so much so the bell would ring every 5 minutes for a back ward force, the ice being so powerful & such a crashing & jarring of it was frightful. & I think I was thankful to reach land, for it was like the frog jumping out of the well. Write me & direct to Washington National Hotel -- as we leave this P.M. for that place. I attended Julians concert last eve & will send R. the program in co. with this -- It was a magnificent affair & the ladies beat the Bostonians &c. [no asking] as to dress & beauty. I assure you I should like to have had you & R. here & heard & seen for yourself heard Jordon as you will see by the program & the association with Boston guards. & knowing of your playing it to him at the Winthrop House made it all the more interesting. as I told Mr. S. while they were playing it. Mad. [Kiver] sang to my liking - - better than when in Boston Now dont forget to write if no more than a line apiece Mr. S. has gone down to attend to business & I am left to be waited on by niggers. he told me any thing I wanted to ring & have it brought & I have done so & they are to carry this. & many others to the office This hotel takes up a whole block very fashionable over 300 stoping here. The battle monument is in front & the museum on the next corner. Illumined in the eve like Boston [same] on the outside. I had no idea it was so large a place. a gent. & his wife acquaintances of Mr. S. called with their carraige yesterday Morn & took us a riding down to see one of his brigs that was in here & past Washington Coll. & Washington Monument which is over 200 feet high, visited the cathedral a beautiful building, & then home to dinner at 3. & Mr. Patterson & wife took dinner with us, & are to accompany us to Washington or come visit next while we are there. I shall expect you & R. to write me there all that you think will interest me -- from your affectionate Sis Sarah

Hall Letters 214. Sept. 24, 1854; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister

Excuse me please for not having answered your favor ere this, having been to my eyes in choars of all sorts. I was called from Lyme much sooner then I anticipated when I last saw you. Your letter was forwarded to me, and this is the first Letter (or scribble) since I saw you, except on business. Our Business is becoming thicker every day, have had several applications to go to N.Y. we were at Springfield to the Fire mens Muster. We go to Rutland Vt. for the Fair Tuesday M. or Wednesday A.M. train 26th & 27th this week at \$10.00 per man and all Sundry Expences. Ten of us. Also 6 of us Engaged for a Ball at Watterbury Vt. Oct. 12th which is 12 miles below Montpelier, you recollect, on Onion River We have \$10.00 each and Expences too & fro & there. I intend call at Lyme on Return unless business elsewhere &c. We have several engagements too numerous to mention. -- You had a grand visit at W. no doubt. how I wished to be with you. How is Brothers Johnson & Morey Sis N. Ellen, Aunt & Cousin L's. tell some of them to write. I have no news. Mary B. boards at 4 Elm Place is making Pants. lodged with us once, after going to New Theatre. Dined with us a week ago today. -- Why did you not come this way home, & make us a visit, when will you come. we expect to keep house, but some other Rent if I can get it. - Mary & Mark are present. Mary says "tell her, I'm here" Kate say tell them "I am Kicking about as usual" sends her love wishes to know how "Louise baby" does &c. Please Excuse haste having Co. Write Soon. with Love Rhodolph 121 Pleasant St.

Hall Letters 215. Oct. 25, 1854; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven. (on D.L. Downing stationery)

Dear Sister

Yours was duly Recd. it being a pleasure to answer, I hasten it although I have no news. Except I have been afflicted (as I told you in my last) with Jobes Comforters the last of which is on the back of my little finger. My old humor seem to show itself in the edges causing it to Spread like a ring worm, spread over the back of my little finger bigger then a ninepence, soarer then the D--I being on my right hand canot put my hand in pocket (to pay any bills &c) some like Fathers Shin does not like to heal, blisters round the edges remaining raw with severe stinging like Cancer. I have felt some of the time fearfull I should have to have it "Amputated" (a good word). Mary B. was here last Sat. for a call with Neice of Dr. C's did not take hats off. Expect she is in good apetite as ever. Kate says she thinks she knew what She was before going to N. Haven tryed to make a quarell between Kate & Mrs. Jeffers to my knowledge. I was with Father & Mother 14th-15th left the A.M. of the 16th ins. they with all the rest of acquaintances were well, I believe. Miss. Ann Jeffer was married to a Mr. Allen of Concord N.H. 16th ins. -- Recd. a letter from Sister Spear this morn. she is at Brunswic well with Exception of Severe homesickness I guess by her writing. first I have recd. from her for years, independent of some other message Urging a Call from us, but I fear business will prevent, although we were at Saco, Me. last week two thirds the way to Brunswic but could not get excused from the Co. &c.

Kate wishes me to tell you she attends Mr. Browns Academy of Dancing, has learned to Waltz, Schottisch, Waltz Quadrille, &c. We play for Mr. Brown this season again. Dancing has commensed very lively for so Early in season. We recd. \$26.00 for the 12th & 13th ins. at Waterbury & Montpeeliar Vt.

We play at Cambridge this eve. at Salem tomorow Afternoon, Ball in Eve Friday Parade & Ball at Waltham, City Guards Boston Monday next -- Ball at Weymouth Landing Nov. 2nd &c. &c. Engaged at Abington thanksgiving at \$15.00 per man 6 men. Pantheon night \$10.00 per man. Aplication at Concord N.H. two nights, offer us \$20.00 each if the thanksgiving does not come the same day of ours, &c. Excuse me for giving you particulars of our business of which you take so little interest in.

Marinda Jeffers has a beau trying to step up to her, from Wentworth N.H. by the name of James H. Stanyan Can you or Johnson tell me who he is and what he is, and will you.

Tell Brother Johnson or William that my horse Locomotive is forsale cheap. they can make money to buy him as I do not want him at present & Father grunts about being short for keeping. I left word with Thos. to Sell him at the first decent offer. He is a sound horse. warented sound good disposition 4 years old last Spring, has been once broke to a wagon. Will make one of the best family horses can be found. Tell Johnson if he, or Wm. does not want him to write to Webster of Wentworth if he knows of any one in want of one to send them to Lyme and look at him soon or he may be sold.

I have been offered \$95.00 by a good Judge, should like a hundred but will take the 95.00 if I can get it now, &c. &c. &c.

Tell Johnson & William to write me particulars relative to business & general topics of the day. Courtships, Mariages birth in Particular lest they forget how.

Do not forget to write lest you may loose the art. &c

Kate says she is having an Apple Puding with Suet Paste wonders if you would not like to pop in about now. Ha!

D. has his Portrait whol figure in uniform; I am sitting for mine. As above write soon, very.

Tell Johnson to write concerning the horse. Rhodolph Our Love to all Relatives understood &c. Rhodolph Hall 121 Pleasant St. Boston

Hall Letters 216. Oct. 29, 1854; Rhodolph in Boston to Sarah in Brunswick. (on D.L. Downing stationery)

Dear Sister

Yours of the 23d. ins was duly recd. and it being so seldom I receive a letter from you, it seems quite a pleasure to reply to it. As it regards Our Visiting you, we should have been very glad to have visited you before this time, had it not been for pressing Engagements. You well know it is Expensive traveling that distance but should not mind that were it not for the Sacrifice of Engagement. We appreciate your invitation in the highest terms and shall improve the first 3 days leisure.

You very well know I am obliged to support our selves without a Capital, and to do so comfortably must avoid long journeys when they conflict with business. We were on an Excursion with a Lynn Fire Co. to Saco, Me. the 19th ins. Played at Saco, or Bridgford for a Ball the Eve of the 19th but were obliged to return with the Co. the 20th so had no opportunity of visiting Brunswick as we very much would like to have done.

We Played at Watterbury Vt. the eve of the 12th at Montpeeliar the Eve of 13th (which we did not know of on leaving Boston) giving unbounded satisfaction in both places, as well as in many others since. Prof. Downing, whos Card you have on this sheet Plays our Bass now. he was a member of Julien's Orchestra at his Concerts in N.Y. & Boston.

I visited Lyme on my return from Montpeeliar Vt. the 14th ins. got home Saturday Eve, about 9 o'clock while it was pouring rain. Left the following Monday forenoon, to meet the B.B.B. at Manchester N.H. where we Played for the Boston "Vetran Assocation". Excursion there. &c

I found Father Mother and relatives all in usual health. Tried to persuade Mother to visit us, and accompany us to Brunswic, but think it doubtfull about their getting started unless some of us go after them to accompany them from home. It is now the best time of year for them to travel.

Marinda was onhand begining to feel some more reconsiled in her Love affairs, having had a proposal for her Co. and coraspondence by a Young Gent about 19 who seems largely smitten as they call it. &c. &c. &c. &c. He is said to be a fine "fellow" of good repute, &c. although stranger to "us" I did not see your friend Mrs. Dickey or my friend Eliza in fact no one out of the Family as I had not time. Marinda's Cousin, Ann Jeffers was Married the day I left, to a Mr. Allen of Concord N.H.

I have no more news and perhaps this I have written is stale with you.

Give my best regard to Brother Spear. tell him to Come to Boston and buy a House. I should like to rent a part of it. there are some I know of that may Purchased on a Mortgage Very reasonable from twenty five to thirty hundred. Should think it would make a better Depot in his Business then Brunswic. Boston being one of the Commercial Cities. Should support his business would be enough better here to more then pay the rent, or percent of a good House, &c. Tell Mr. Spear to think seriously of the matter. and try to make his mind to it. in Such case D. or myself might in time

render him some service by becoming acquainted with the business, or if no other advantage would be a place where you would feel more at home, or meet Friends, perhaps oftener.

With Our Love to Brother Spear. (Katie says "give her my Love" & to Mr. Spear") D.C. sends his best Respects.

Excuse mistakes, as I write in haste. I remain as ever with much Love Rhodolph
(write often)

Hall Letters 218. Dec. 24, 1854; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister

I believe you are one I am indebted to for a letter, but there are only a few I get indebted to that way as I have but a small coraspondence, you must excuse me for not having answered yours sooner, as may time never was so much occupyed at this season of the year. We are Playing 5 nights per week and have been for some time, for Dancing. I will say no more of business as that you have as much of as will interest you.

I recd. a nice long letter from Cutler O. Bartholomew mailed at Geneva Wis. Nov. 28th stating that Mary B. had not then arrived there. she left our place about the first of Nov. I think her Dear "Mark" will Prove a Black --- to her yet.

We had a letter from Thos. and Jane, about a week since they were all pretty smart, then at Lyme, or at the old home. Mother sent us an eargen invite to come to Christmass. by the way I wish you a "Merry Christmass" and a "Happy New Year" We have moved I believe since I wrote you. We now have much the pleasantest rent we have had since living in Boston. Our Parlor is a corner room windows on two sides, one window fronting the Hospital yard, and \$6.25 per month cheaper rent than befor which makes a difference. Please give my old specta to Friends Enquiring Kiss Miss Sarah Anah Loueser for me. Accept a due share of Love for Yourself, Please write soon. Excuse mistakes and haste, and I'll be yours more some other time.

Rhodolph Hall

Hall Letters 219. Jan 23, 1855; D.C. in Boston to Samuel in New Haven. (on D.L. Downing stationery)

Brother Johnson

It is nearly one year ago that I was in the City of Elms to attend the Wedding of that now is Mr. & Mrs. Spear. Should like to have another as good a time and if I could spend the time would have a spree of some kind, I guess. I started to go to Lyme last Saturday, but on account of the severe snowstorn could not get through, so I returned again. I suppose you know about as much of the affairs that way as Myself for I do not hear from that quarter often, the last news all were well &c

The folks are all well as usual in this place at present. Business of all kinds is dull and money is hard, but people will dance. We are engaged all of the time and to a better advantage then last winter, so hard times does not effect us much.

Enclose you will find a bill to [Quinnepiac] Lodge No. 1 which I wish you would settle for me and also my dues for last year and for one year to come and send me the bills and I will forward you the money and satisfy you for your trouble. pleas do this favour and you will much oblige the subscriber.

News is scarce, although this may be some Mr. & Mrs. Wm Hastings have seperated and Mrs. Stimpson has got a Divorce that is all

Oh I remain the same imfortunate old bachelor. My respects to all the friends Yours as Ever D. C. Hall

Letters 221-261 (February 10, 1855 to July 1, 1860)

Hall Letters 221. Feb. 10, 1855; Rhodolph in Boston to Sarah in Brunswick.

Dear Sister

I have been delaying a letter which has been your due for a long time having had no leisure since some time in the last fall. We have been engaged 5 nights per week since some time in Nov. most of which have been out of town and hard working engagements, or what we call "all nighters" The past week 5 nights, 4 of which did not excuse us until 5 o'clock next morning. You may guess how much we felt like writing anything interesting to Friends, supposing we had taken "time by the fore top" &c

D.C. visited Lyme one week ago yesterday Sat, and returned Monday following. Found the friends all very smart, except brother Thos. health which is rather poor. Father & Mother smart as crickets -- We visit them March 31st being engaged at Lebanon for Pushees benefit. I had a Letter from Sis Lucy, a few days since, they were in good health.

We are engaged every night (Sat. & Sundays excepted) until middle of March, very likely all of March by the time we get to it. We are hoping to be at leisure a few days in April, when we intend to worry you a little, if we have health. &c.

We visited the Italian Opera, heard the celebrate singers Grecia & Mario in Mozarts celebrated Opera, Dongovana Mario has certainly the sweetest Male voice I ever heard. Don govana is an Opera which did not show Grecia to so good an advantage as I expected, but enough to satisfy me that she is a greate Singer & Actress, no mistake.

Our health is very good at present, considering ther exposure. I suppose the most of your Thermometers lost their bottom out last week, did they not!

Had they been any longer here, we should have all frozen to death. Froze all my potatoes & apples. How is your health this cold weather, how do you manage to keep warm. Your better half, I should say brother Spear, how his health; sucessfull in business I hope. Tight times for business here, although it is talked that Money is a little easier now days then it has been, but hardly perceptable I think. It is thought that we are doing as good a cash-business as the best merchants in town. I think so considering our capital.

Tell Brother Spear I should be very happy to accept that Excursion, should any of his vesells be going the right way this summer coming, as I intend to visit Paris. The Worlds Fair being thare, will help make it worth a visit. &c.

Kate sends much Love as does D.C. also

Excuse mistakes -- be sure to write very soon, accept my best Love for you both
Your Brother Rhodolph Hall

Hall Letters 223. Oct. 7, 1855; Rhodolph in Boston to Sarah in Brunswick.

Dear Sister

We recd. your very kind invitation to your Festival Last Thursday evening but business or previous engagements compelled me to disappoint you in our attendance, had it been one day later Friday night I should have come. -- But I should enjoy myself better to visit you alone from a crowd of Aristocracy. We intend to worry you some of these Friday or Sat. evenings and bring our Knitting work stay all the week & Sunday go to church on Exhibition. how will that suit you?

The next of your assemblies, "by giving one weeks written notice you may depend upon seeing as many cousins as you desire, and not be disappointed" -- D. & I. We expect to be at Lyme N.H. next Friday night. -- Saturday night Play for a Benefit Concert at Music Hall Boston 3 Brass Bands viz. Bonds, Brigade & Boston Brass together. Benefit of Lem Clark a Vetran Musician. Can you not come and attend. We leave for Montpelier Vt. Wednesday. Kate wishes me to what she had this P.M. for Dinner so as to make your mouth watter, &c. Why Corned Beef, Cabage & Corasponding Vegetables topped off with custard Puding Peaches apples & grapes. She says she feels in delicate health since Dinner, and I am oblige to administer an unusual quantity of Chery Brand to her, twice, to my once. we wish you were here to help nurse us. &c.

Why wont you come Tuesday or Wednesday and keep Kate company while we are (D & I) gone to Montpelier Vt. -- do come? we will return with you.

Kate wishes to know how the black lace sack suits you. Please write soon, but come soon if Possible which will save writing. Yours truly, with best Comp. to brother Spear, and Friends enquiring. Rhodolph Hall

Hall Letters 225. Jan. 16, 1856; Lucy in New Haven to D. C. in Boston.

Dear Brother

I do not know whether I am owing you a letter or vice versa. At any rate I am going to give you one. We are, ie. both families in good health and enjoying life as much so as is the common lot of mortals. And I am going to inquire when you are going to introduce me to your wife! You see Lydia has got a "Hats" distance ahead of you and now you will have to stick in your spurs and go it. L. contemplates making you Bridesman with Ellen as maid. That is when you get here. But you will need no extras; only put in your travelling bag your white vest & kids, &c to bring.

I enclose a line to S. which you will please forward as I do not know whether she is in B. or not.

Hopeing to see you soon I remain Your affectionate sis Lucie

N. sends much love

Hall Letters 228. Apr. 20, 1856; D.C. in Boston to Sarah in Brunswick.

Dear Sister Sarah

I recd. your letter of the 15th inst. in due time. It found us in our usual good health and full of business. As I have not been home since Mr. Jeffers & Mary arrived there I cannot tell you but little on that point only Thos wrote me that Father had let the Farm to Mr. Stetson (to carry on or cultivate upon Shares) it may be for the best as it will most likely take a great deal of care off from their hands & minds.

I shall go up and see the soon if possible & R. also. am glad that you feel more contented in your home as you told me in your letter. I shall try to come down to Brunswick after going to Lyme.

Kate says tell Sarah she is going to runaway and see her the first opportunity. They have moved to whare Mr. Chandler lived, across the Place and are much more pleasantly situated then before. The Dagtypes or miniatures I'll get according to your wish if possible. Our Band is engd. for Middlebury Coll. again this year. Now a Mr. E.P. Gatchell from Brunswick told me that Dodworth's Band was not engaged for Bowdoin Coll. and that he thought if some exertion was made that we might get the job now could not Brother Robert use some stratigism or influence for us. say offer them \$50.00 to get our Band and if they do get us, we will pay him back again (there is a Scheme for ye) if that could be done it would much pleas us.

Give my best compliments to Robert, likewise to all inquiring friends. Very respectfully
Yours D. C. Hall

Hall Letters 229. May 25, 1856; Lucy in Brunswick to D. C. in Boston.

Dear Brother

I write to tell you that we are all well, and yet sojourning "away down east" -- and to extend to you, R. & K. an Invitation from Sarah and Robert to come and make a visit while I am stopping here. I should be very happy, also, to see you all here. Mrs. Dingley came and went yesterday like the shower. She wished to be remembered to "my brothers and sisters". Hail Simonds is here today. He came and rang yesterday shook hands & was away. The hack that brought in waiting -- Made a call while the Train watered and "Wooded up". But met Mr. S. at the Depot, who persuaded him to return and spend the Sabbath, which he did. He is a jolly, good soul, bound to take the world easy. Uncle D. is in New York -- and "Madam" on the old homestead.

I had a letter from Saml. Thursday. He was well and thought of starting Wed. for Ohio -- Told me to write him at Cleaveland where I suppose he is, ere this. Did he make any purchases of land in S. Boston? Wms folks were well when he wrote. Now can you not come on this week all hands? Or if not all can you not come D.?

I am much pleased with Sarah's home, and the environs. The only objection is cold weather and that is not much against the place, for me, when there is plenty of wood and comfortable quarters as in her home. To tell you the truth, I am delighted with it. It must be beautiful here in Summer.

Sarah got a carriage and took us to "Middle Bay" expecting to see a Ship launched but there not being sufficient water, it was deffered till Midnight, and so we missed it. But she drove us round the country. It is beautiful in the vicinity of Brunswick. I had no idea it was so level. Mr. S. took me riding one P.M. after he and S. had been a chaise ride to Bath. We went to the falls of the Androscoggin. They are beautiful indeed. Mr. S & Sarah had a letter from brother Jeffers last week, saying sis M. had had a severe attack of "Malignant Esysipheles." That her head & face were so swollen that her most intimate friends would not have known her. The whole family had it, himself excepted. But she was better when he wrote.

I believe I have written all the news. Write me on reception, in care of Mrs. Spear. Come if you can. We think of coming to Boston the last of the week or first of next. Sarah sends love to you, R. and K. also mine to same. Now visit soon to Your loving sis Lucie

Hall Letters 232. Oct. 5, 1856; Rhodolph in Boston to Sarah in Brunswick.

Dear Sister

I have done the best I could in getting the Prescription. The medisin I have got D.C. will bring it Saturday next as we are to Play at Bradford Vt. next week

Tell Marinda if her time could come off Saturday eve. we could give her a Serenade tell her to write, &c. D.C. is waiting to take this to P.O. Our love to all

Respectfully Rhodolph Hall

P.S. Kate thinks Mrs. Piersons a humbug, could not tell if any thing was to take place with you. R.H.

Hall Letters 234. Dec. 8, 1856; Sarah in Lyme to Robert in [Brunswick].

My Dear Husband

I now am sitting up in my room with brother David for company just at this present time & have been gazing at our dear babi's picture. It is indeed beautiful -- yet it seems too sad -- to contrast the present with past 2 short weeks. This indeed is a solemn house -- I -- with all the brothers & sisters -- wished very much you could have been here yesterday to unite in paying the last respect to our dear Mother. The service here at the house -- was a hymn read -- the 5th of the 1st book, a prayer, It seemed to me (as well as to the rest of the family) to apply to both deaths, of the dear ones -- Babi's picture (the one sleeping) was placed on mother's coffin during services & almost covered with beautiful flowers of a great variety, as well as surrounded with a wreath of flowers & one for Mother also, & mother's face was surrounded and her breast was covered with most beautiful flowers R. & Kate brought. As I took the last look of her I took a small flower, then looked at babi's picture & took 3 small flowers from it which I will send you in this 2 of them. Mother was carried into church & placed in front of the pulpit with the wreath lying on the coffin. The wreath was brought home & is hanging on David's portrait & that with her plate is to be placed in a frame with a glass over it. Mother did indeed look beautiful. & every one remarked on it. I wish you could have seen her after death had done its work. She died without a struggle seemingly & closed her eyes & a flush remained on her cheek & lips & looked like one sleeping sweetly & not over 50 years of age. Father did not go to the church, but remained with me all the P.M. The services at the house was at 10 A.M. & at the church during the P.M. sister Lucy came with her 2 children accompanied by Mr. Morey. & so you see the children were all here & could scarcely be comforted. Oh! what a house -- The friends & acquaintances at the house (& there was a large number) tried to sympathize with me in my double grief & I think them sincere in it -- which was some consolation. But yet notwithstanding all the sympathy of friends, it is the great giver that has given & taken away alone can comfort -- & Oh! that man & more might look to Him for comfort & consolation at this time of deep affliction & even more while I stay on earth & my earnest prayer for you is -- that you may be comforted by your Saviour -- & to be encouraged then to put your trust at all times -- it is with a trembling hand & aching heart that I write you at this time, so I trust you will overlook all errors -- & even more believe me your true & affectionate wife Sarah

P.S. My kind love to Tomlin -- I hope & pray she may be blest of God for her sympathy & kindness

Mother died the P.M. after you left at 5 minutes past 3 almost the exact time babi died - write me often I beg of you.

My love to Paulina -- I have a little puppy, one week old yesterday paid one dollar for it. Mr. C. Marinda's husband found for me. S

Hall Letters 236. Dec. 12, 1856; Rhodolph in Boston to Sarah in Lyme.

Dear Sister

I write knowing you will excuse haste and I have but a moment to do so in. I had good success at Bangor Wednesday night as also in my journey returning via Augusta, Richmond, and Brunswick. I had a glimpse of Thos. Spear at R. as he handed a letter to a man for Robert as after inquiry learned. While wattering at Brunswick found Robert. he came part way to Portland on business he talked freely all the way, of matters which only concern yourself and himself particularly seemed greatly distressed with refference to your loss.

His last request was that I should write to you as it seemed as though he could not. He did not wish me to give you any encouragement that he should write, as he could not do so without exciting feelings of deepest kind and he could not make it seem himself to do so &c. Dear Sarah I am not old enough to advise but will venture to say that in his distress of business and loss of the child he seems to have but little hope of happiness. It would comfort him more then anything else if you were to write to him. telling when or about the time you think you will be able to go and see him or that you desire his coming for you. He is nearly destracted and will be quite insane if alone much longer. There has been 3 sucessive nights which he has not closed his eyes, so he told me. Do not fail of writing him a long, affectionate letter, at the earliest possible moment.

Enclosed I send the bill of the shawl I have Paid for it, and think it very cheap. It is the same they paid by the gross. Not one cent proffit did not let on but it was for Katie.

Comfort Father tell him I will come and see him often, and I hope to be able to come next week Saturday. tell them to send to post office next Friday night. Sleying is all gone here, how is it at Lyme? Please write us often. Katie wishes to be remembered to you and Father. Please accept my love and respects to all. tell them to come and see me as I did not think to ask them when I left. D.C. is well, we play tonight for the Light Dragoons first assembly. I am engaged again at Bangor Me. 25th ins. for \$25.00.

In love and truth yours

Rhodolph Hall

P.S. Excuse great haste but write us often.

Hall Letters 238. Jan. 7, 1857; Lucy in New Haven to David in Boston.

Dear Brother David

Yours of Dec 31st/56 deserved an earlier reply than this date and I can only plead want of time that it has not received it. I was very glad to hear from you and so were all the rest of your and my friends here. We are all in usual health at this time though it is snapping cold weather now. last night is called the coldest we have had this season and today it is real cold. There came quite a snow storm for this place on Sat. & night. Blowed and drifted much. I think it must have reached your city as it came from the N.E. and the cars came and went East bunting along with two engines. N and Lucy were in yesterday. N is not very well but so as to be about. Wm. & Mr. Johnson are making and sending off ink. Their new agent started Monday on a tour of selling and collecting. Has gone south and west.

N. has just been in. Says give him my love and tell him to come and visit me. Sarah and L. are well. Have both been in since I commenced this. Ellen I have not seen since New Years. She was then well. Is making 80 cts. per day. Mr. Barber took her to Thalberg's Concert. She was much pleased with his playing. Said he went ahead of Strakosh.

I had a letter from Sarah the next day after receiving yours. She is very lonely there. She says that she expected Mr S. after her every day. That father was as well as when we left. I wish you would come and make us a visit. Can you not? After your winter business slacks up a little? Give love to R when you see him and tell him to come too. About our communications from mother. I have had but 3 I believe since I came home. I did not any till I had been home nearly a week. I was very low spirited and desponding when alone thinking of her almost all of the time. At last she came to me, as I truly believe, and such a change in my feelings you cannot imagine. It seemed as if I was taken from the lowest depths of despair. Said she was happy and did not want to come back. That she only felt sorrow to see her children and friends sorrowful. There was some to you. Wanted you to go home to comfort father and that it would be better for you &c. There was much to Sarah I will not write it here. It would take too much space. Now I want you should investigate this subject for yourself. I think it would be a great source of happiness to you as it is to me. I care not what people say of it. They cannot put it down. N. forgot to give you a paper that you might find a good medium in B. says she will send you one.

I hardly know what I would put on the plate of which you spoke. I think her name and age thus would do as well perhaps: Mrs. Mary C. Hall who entered the spirit world Dec. 4th 1856 aged 75 yr. You can put in whose wife if you choose immediately after her name. I would not have "died" inserted for I believe she was never more alive than at the moment she left the form. If you put the plate in a frame, would it not be a good place to put her ring and beads coiled up. In the ring are these lines "Death only parts united hearts" to which I would subjoin: But death can never spirits dis sever! So, mother, though, by death laid low Thou now canst come to guide us home! This perhaps if you choose would do to put on the plate if there is room in 8 or 4 lines. Or if you choose you could change it and let her be addressing us: Thus: So children &c. Changing too the pronouns thou & us to I & you. Perhaps by a little study I could

write something better if you wish. Please write me soon and much oblige
Your affectionate Sis Lucie.

I suggest that a duplicate of mother's best picture be taken and put in the frame with the wreath, plate &c. Placed above the plate I think it would be a beautiful though sorrowful keepsake.

I have thought of some more lines. You may do what you want with them. Our Mother dear, the form forsaking, of spirit joys is now partaking; An angel mother; she will come, to guide her sorrowing children (or kindred) home.

L.

Friday morning. I had a letter from Marinda saying Sarah had left Lyme; tell her I wrote her there Sunday. Mr. J sends respects.

I send S. a paper directed to your care. I directed first to L. then to Brunswick and now to you not knowing where she is. There is a price marked that may interest her.

Hall Letters 244. May 18, 1857; D.C. in Boston to Sarah in Brunswick.

Dear Sister,

Yours of the 6th came duly to hand. I have not heard anything from Frances yet. You mentioned if she comes this way as if there was a possibility of her going to Brunswick and not coming to Boston. I did not think to bring your music from Lyme. I rec'd a letter from Wm. & Nancy this morning they were all the same as usual and appeared in good order. I thought some of coming down on the Boat last Friday but the storm and some other business prevented. Perhaps next Friday may start me but will not promise certain. I expect R. has bot a house in Myrtle St. if so I shall have to make out some money for him. Can Robert accommodate me in that way. I have got those papers made out as we agreed upon when I was in Brunswick & c.

I'll bring you a new Quickstep of mine when I come to B. My health is first rate and all the rest of our friends as far as I know about.

I gave a grand concert at the Music Hall the 9th inst. with good success. Mrs. Long sang on the occasion.

Remember me to Mr. Spear. Please write. With much respect,
yours Truly,
D.C. Hall

Hall Letters 245. June 10, 1857; Sarah in Brunswick to D.C. in Boston.

My Dear Brother,

I have been delaying writing you concerning Sarah Frances' coming to Brunswick thinking I might go to Boston before this, but I don't know when that will be yet. I am indulging a faint hope of coming on the 17th at any rate. Mr. S. says I may go with him south or part of the way as far as New Haven or to New Hampshire & stop a few weeks as they are all coming home from Va. & may keep house to suit themselves. for he shall be absent nearly all summer & if so I shall too. so you see it would not be best for her to come considering the circumstances. I am very sorry she did not come with you when last there as I have been alone so much of the time. Tell her I will make it all right when I come. & if any change from what is now decided upon that I should be obliged to remain here during the summer, I shall send for her. Give love to them all when you go home & tell them to write & you be sure to write on your return if you have not already made the journey. Has R's folks moved? Mr. S. has gone this morn in the first train to meet Mr. Haskins in Portland. He has now 2 Brigs in Boston & I thought he would be obliged to go on, but his seeing Mr. H. this morn may answer all purposes. I had made arrangements to accompany him. I lent Georgianna & Jamesena your Quickstep & they have been in & played it to us. It sounded very nice entirely & they think it is very pretty too. Give love to Rhodolph & Kate. Now write if but a line soon Aff. Sarah

Hall Letters 247. July 5, 1857; Rhodolph in Cleveland to Sarah & Robert in Brunswick.

Dear Sister & Brother,

I suppose D.C. has kept you posted as to our whereabouts and whatuptos, but thinking he may have forgotten to give a few of particulars not so interesting to himself as you I venture to send my mark and a little word in print ie program which is to be performed this evening at the Melodeon in this city. We are informed at the house is not sufficiently large to accomodate the people there being allready tickets sold to fill it. It is very spacious, and the style of a theatre & c.

We left Boston June 25th spent the 4th ins. in Detroit Michigan with the Cleveland City Greys. Had a fine time with the Mayor of Michigan. I being acquainted with him in Vermont years ago. Went to his house. Drank & smoked freely together & c. Ha! told him my name was Alcho Hall I guess.

We have pleased the citizens of Cleveland & Detroit extreemly well with our music from the B.B.B. 18 men

Please excuse haste as I am not indebted to you for particulars of this kind, also mistakes. We leave tomorow evening Boat for Niagara. Hope to reach Boston last of the week. Please write us often. Direct to Gouch Place as usual. Love & Respect to you & Brother R. Rhodolph

We are engaged for July 4th 1858. "Oh! no! we have displeased the Buik Eyes & Ears may be." (Pleas not say a word about it) R.

You may let your editors look at these notices and give us a good on if they will. Some times they are happy to do so. Truly Yours, Alcho Hall. Burn this please.

Hall Letters 249. Aug. 26, 1857; Sarah in New Haven to D.C. in Boston.

My Dear Brother

Thinking that now you may be in Boston & perhaps would be pleased to learn of our welfare & the latest & most interesting news among our friends in this vicinity, I proceed to give you a yarn hoping that you will be often doing the same by me. My health is quite good also Mr. Spear when I last heard from him which was Monday morn that I rec'd the last letter. He is in Va. taking care of affairs while his brother partner is in the west surveying a lot of timber with his oldest brother. Mr. S. has been absent from here 4 weeks. He writes his health is good but is losing his flesh as fast as a piece of grease in the sun & thinks he shall be on the last of this month if things work favorably. Now for sis L. & family. One week ago last eve a young Sammie Johnson made its appearance in this vicinity. Sis L. is quite smart is now sitting up with her dress on & c. The boy also is very well & [yuuit] weighed most 9 lbs. Nancy is not very well now. William has gone to Westport to work. The company that bought the ink works have moved it at that place. Aunt L. is in Branford nursing. Lydia lives in Johnson's house yet. Her husband left her last spring & she does not know where he is - - has not heard from him since he left. Is Kate in B. or up to fathers? She wrote to Ellen that she was going up there. She told Johnson when he was there last spring that she had lately read a letter of yours that I wrote you a long time ago about her. J. said she was pretty mad about it. I have forgotten about it but probably wrote as I felt at that time & she can make the most out of it & harrow up as often as she likes.

I sent R. a paper with an account of a Balloon Acension here on the public green. It was a grand affair. Can you not come on here in the course of a few weeks? We all wish to see you very much. Come & go on North with Mr. S & myself. Mr. S. spoke in his last of going to the White Mountains the last of this month or the first of next. I should like to see father & the journey. He thinks I must go to Baltimore & spend the winter; if so I would like to stop in Lyme a short time for a few reasons, for I don't know when I may have another opportunity. A sad feeling comes over me when I think of going to the old homestead, for I know I cannot meet that loved mother but should see the vacancy in every thing & place & can see her form in no place except at her grave. Write very soon how they all are & if you can come, for I should like to have your company here very much & I know Mr. S. would.

I suppose Miss F. told you of my calling at your place on my way here the 3rd of July. I put up at the U.S. Hotel & left early of the 4th found Mr. S. & his brother William at New Haven depot in waiting for me.

Dr. Chamberlain said he rec'd a paper from you or R. N. & L. are sitting by me & send love to you & R. & say they think you might come on & see them & make a visit. I think you would enjoy it too. It is beautiful here, & very comfortable weather. Mr. Johnson is framing a house in his yard -- seems to have business enough in his old trade. I have written you very lengthy & hope you will have plenty of time & patience to read & then go & do likewise & much oblige your aff. sis Sarah

Hall Letters 252. Jan. 8, 1858; D.C. in Boston to Sarah in New Haven.

Sister Sarah,

I returned from Lyme N.H. on Monday last, found, and left, the people all as well as usual. The concert at Lyme was very successful, and to the satisfaction of all. Cleared fifty dollars to carpet the church &c. I brought your music along with me. On Monday 5th inst. I went to Brunswick, Me. in hopes to sell the house as Wm. S. telegraphed me to come for that purpose. But I went on "Tom Fool's errand" as Bowker and the rest of those "Rovies" think it must be sold and at their own proposition but they are "sucked in" a little I think. They are about to buy the attachments &c. then to pay the ballance when I can give a clear title &c. The price they have set is \$3750. Then, it may be years before the dispute may be, or is settled. Beside this Bowker wants a bonus of 3 or 4 hundred or which is the same thing, he must have all the stable equipage for \$100. I understood that Boody is going to testify that Robert lied to him, that the conveyance of the property to me was only for safety, that he done so &c. I have got your singing books and some other things that Pauline put up from Brunswick also your music that was at Lyme. My health is first rate, business is dull yet. Tell Father everything is in good shape on the old farm. Likewise my best regards to all, Very Respectfully Yours,
D.C. Hall

Hall Letters 255. July 28, 1858; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister,

I am reminded of some of my debts this evening by the receipt of Sis Sarah's very kind letter of which please tell her she shall have a reply in her turn. I nothing very interesting to tell you, but here goes. We had a glorious 5th in celebration the finest I ever saw in Boston or else where. The Monster Concert on the Common in the morning was all could be expected the particulars you have read no doubt. The 4 Bands ie. 72 musicians (all brass) played well. Hail Columbia with Lt. Artillery accompaniment. The 6 canon came in just right. The Fire works were never so good, representing the burning of Charleston &c. We started the 6th ins. 5 of us on a concert tour to Vt. first at Sharon, Strafford where we had cenator Morrill & family at the concert. After concert, serenaded cenator Morill and were invited in, with a brief speach he said, it being so unusual in that vicinity a serenade "surprised him about as much as for an old maid to have a beaux" at which I responded with a glass of his curent wine by saying: "I only hoped the surprise might be as agreable as for an old made to have a beaux." It pleased him very much &c.

We gave a concert at Chelsea Vt. and West Fairlee also with good sucess. had their best churches. and were urged to repeat them, but our engagements would not permit a repetition &c.

We brot up at Lyme Saturday where we played in the old church to about three hundred people all old friends I hope. Sunday evening gave a free sacred concert at our old once Swee Home. The last place the audience was not so large, mostly relatives. We had a 4 horse coach to convey us the journey through from Sharon returning via. South Strafford where we visited the mines and gave a concert after which played for a ball on the Monday night and took cars at Sharon on Tuesday morning for Boston where we have been doing our share of Pic Nics, Excursions, &c. (returned from Pic Nic today). Left Father & friends well on &c. Paid well and no accident. Please excuse haste & mistakes. Katie would send love but is on a visit. Mine to all. Write often, Rhodolph. [on stationery of Halls' Quadrille, Brass & Concert Band]

Hall Letters 256. Aug 1, 1859; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister

I am permitted once more to write alive to you. One week ago last Wednesday the old grim messenger stared me in the face. I had two big ulcers cut out of my throat, and from over exercise took to bleeding and bled 24 hours I knew I was in danger but did not know how much danger. Dr. Howar said I was in danger of bleeding to death in 5 minutes had I ruptured the wound a trifle more. I bled not less than 4 quarts of blood. He knew my danger on being told that I was bleeding to death drove his pair of horses from Chelcea Vt. to fathers in 75 minutes distance 24 miles. The whol of North and South American Continents would be no inducement for me to run another such a chance unless Cuba were thrown in. It was like the fellow that had but one chance in a hundred and when the Dr. told him (or the minister) said he, by g--d I'll take that chance and made a live of it.

We expect to leave Boston with the "Old Folks Concert Troup" the 5th of Sept. The rout is laid out far as St. Louis Mo. to commense Sept 5th at Providence R. I., Norwich thence by boat to Albany &c. Expect to spend winter at N. Orleans & Mobile & home by the Atlantic States and next year are going to Europe. Katie is to travel with me and is practicing singing &c.

I am contracting for a new gold cornet. I have received the note, for which accept my humble acknowledgement. When will the \$50.00 come. Now, should I kneed another hundred, will it be convenient for Brother Johnson to raise it. Please write me with less delay if convenient. Sincere & truly your brother Rhodolph.

Hall Letters 257. Oct 9, 1859; Rhodolph in Chicago to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister

Your very kind favor was duly rec this A.M. while I was at my brekast table alone being late to the latter. It brought the fluid to my eyes. I could with the deepest sincerity exclaim "Oh! would I were a boy again"

We leave Chicago at 8 o'clock tomorrow morning for Kanocia, Racine, & Milwaukee, thence to Grand Rapids across the lake in Michigan, thence to Milwaukee over Sunday 17th ins. We then resume our journey west. 18th at White Water Wis. 19th Janesville, 20th Madison & 21st-22d at Lacross -- 24th 25th & 26th at St Paul Minnesota. Where please write to me, that I may get it on my arrival there. be assured, never did a letter do me half the good it does at this time.

We arrived here last Friday have done very well so far, and a still better prospect. A Mr. Proctor from Boston arrived this morning to join us as Bass Singer. We are exceedingly sorry Ellen could not be with us for her, not our especial benifit, as we feel it would have so proved to her. but it is possible it may prove otherwise.

After the concert Friday evening who should call for us but a cousin Levin Sis of Mrs. Sarah Marsh of Manchester. Uncle John Culvers Youngest daughter with her husband a Mister Fuller. they are living very nicely. D.C. & myself dined with them yesterday on invitation. he came for us in a cariage they live at 590 Washbash Avenue &c.

We saw John Ball our old school master here and numerous friends, not time mention. I received a letter since here from Cutler O. Bartholomew saying he intends to meet us at Beloit Wis in about a week &c. Also said his father and mother have just returned from a visit to Vermont &c.

At St. Paul Minnesota we shall be some distance North West please bare in mind, and write early to me there.

We go to St. Louis in a few weeks, thence to New Orleans and talk of going thence to Havana Cuba but do not know certain. Depends on luck, &c.

The letters are about going to office for first mail in morning, so please excuse mistakes as I have written in great haste. My love to all the friends. Please write early to St. Paul. Ever Yours Truly, Rhodolphus Hall (12 o'clock M. Sunday night)

Hall Letters 258. Nov 23, 1859; Rhodolphus in St Louis to Lucy In New Haven.

Dear Sister

Your letter to Peoria Ill. was forwarded to me at Springfield Ill. I was exceedingly glad of its contents written & quite sad for the accident of the boat. I have not much news to tell you except that we are here one day sooner than we anticipated, not being able to get the room for a concert at Alton Ill. 25 miles above here, it being engaged. Our Company is smaller now, than when I last wrote you. finding it too large we divided one Co. are intending to concert on the way home pretty direct, having sent for old Ned Kendall & his daughter to help them. We have a first rate Co. now and giving the best of Satisfaction and making nearly double the money we were before as we have as full houses, with one half traveling & hotel expences and much less to divide proffits with which makes a vast difference &c.

We arrived at St Louis last evening and while here have concluded to go to New Orleans via Springfield Ill, Indianapolis Ind. & Cincinnati Ohio as we can go for 1/2 fare by cars and shall then be in New Orleans in plenty good time. We expect to be in N.O. Dec. 25th or sooner. We are to be at Cincinnati Ohio one week from next Saturday which will be 3d of December. I shall expect a letter from you on arrival in Cincinnati Ohio Dec. 3d so please not disappoint me.

We shall be in Mobile Ala. on New Years day, so we design. We intend to take our Co. to Havana Cuba but it depends some on how well we take South. St Louis has grown very fast since I was here 11 years last spring. it is the liveliest place I have seen since New York City or Boston. it is truly the King of the great west and when I say great west I speak in contrast with the East, for it is beyond comprehension for one who has never traveled over the western states. compare one of the little states of Missouri, Iowa or Minnesota, with all of the New England states.

Mr. Field has been sick with tyfoid fever dangerously so but is better last we heard, he was our chorister at new London he is with the other Co. waiting for Kendall & daughter.

The cars broke through a bridge, with our Agent Jarrett while on his way to Peoria Ill. cut his teeth through his lip and a gash in the back of his scalpe or head.

D.C. & myself ar in good health at present. D.C. thinks he has lost some 3-4 lbs flesh by woreying about matters of the Co. but I have gained from 5 to 8 lbs of good meat I feel sure if I can believe Fairbanks scales. (dam the odds.) There an immensity of corn in a "fluid state" here. better then what you get east. And my "Meurchum Cullers Finely" I do not have but few wormwood thoughts and those I pass off in smoke.

If I write you very fast, and very frequently you will excuse mistakes of course tell Mrs Jeffers to answer my letter at Cincinnati or at Louisville Ky. Shall be there soon after the 5th of Dec. on our rout to Memphis, Vixburg, Natchez, Batonroge, New Orleans. I hope to get a letter from you here before leaving &c. write to Cincinnati With love to all, Aunt Lydia included, Rhodolph

We saw Bartlet Phelps formerly of Orford N.H. at Quinca Ill. &c. R. Hall. I am greatly obliged for the notices you sent me. I return them as you desired to keep them. [copy of their concert proposal and description]

Hall Letters 259. Nov 27, 1859; Rhodolph in Springfield Ill. to Sarah in Lyme.

Dear Sister

I believe I am owing you a letter which I rec'd at Madison Wis. although I wrote to Marinda Chase since, so you have heard of us &c. I have no news of interest to tell you to begin with. We are through our concert here for tonight and the rest of the company are a bed. We arrived in this place at 9 o'clock last night (which was Sunday night). it was pouring rain and has rained all day. so I have not seen much of the place except the capital and square in which it stands, as I passed the post office. it appears like a very fine place. I this day rec'd a letter from Sis Lucy from New Haven telling us Father was able to walk up to see Marinda, and stayed overnight &c. Please tell him to be carefull of himself as we are coming to see him soon via New Orleans. Mr. Amisa Converse a brother Mills Converse sold tickets or attended our door for us tonight. Mr. Allen Latham & wife attended our concert this evening. We saw Bartlet Phelps of Orford N.H. formerly at Quinca Ill. where we were last Friday. We leave here at 8 1/2 O'clock tomorow A.M. for St. Louis shall be in St Louis untill Saturday evening, then take boat for Memphis. Please write to me at New Orleans Louisiana on receipt of this as we shall not stop at many places between St. Louis and N.O. Shall be at Memphis Ten. two days at Vixburg and Natchez about two days each, at Baton Rouge Gen. Taylors old residence one day, with the time we have to travel on bord the boat will take us about fifteen days, or less, to get down to N.O. So Please write to me at New orleans, or to Natchez Miss and I shall be sure to get it.

We expect to be at Mobile Alabama Feb. 22. It is not sure that we go to Havana Cuba yet. we are doing very fair business. and it is a very easy agreeable business to what marching in the street was, or playing for Balls as we can get to bed at 10 1/2 o'clock if we like, and we like that, since we have had the privalege the first, regularly, for many years. We are giving very good concerts now. Our company is not so large as it was, as some have returned home tired of traveling &c &c. Please remember me kindly to Father to Uncle David, Brother Thos, Dr. Howard, the nieces and many Friends too numerous to mention. As I am the same as usual (allways in a hurry) please excuse hast. Did Marinda get a letter from me at Debuque Iowa? Tell me all the news at Natchez Miss. on receipt of this. Not forgetting your good husband, my best wishes to him, do not make your self sick off of this bill of fare. Respectfully & Truly Your brother Rhodolph

Hall Letters 260. Feb 19, 1860; Rhodolph in Montgomery Alabama to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sis Lucy

I have taken my dinner and a walk to the landing of the bank of the Alabama River. it is a beautiful day like May in New Haven grass is looking green in places it being about 2 inches high in places, gardens are filled with flowers of a rare kind & flavor so that bouquets are made and thrown at us in some of our concerts.

I improve with a great deal of pleasure this opportunity of acknowledging your favor of Jan. 11th which I received on my arrival here last Friday evening at 5 o'clock Feb. 17th. I believe I have not written you since N. Orleans. We left N.O. Jan 6th for Jackson capital of Miss. by cars about 180 miles. Arriving at 6 1/2 P.M. while it was pouring rain, passing through swamps thick with weeds and grass of all size and kinds. palmleaf in great abundance, for the first 40 miles. Where alegators are seen by the dozen at the same time, as the cars pass in warm weather, so the conductor told us, he being a Massachusetts man formerly. the alegator skins are becoming very usefull in the manufactor of boots, being very durable and easy for the feet, and turn the watter well &c. and make a very handsome boot. I have several hides with me to make me some boots of, when I get whare labor is cheaper. (Please excuse me for writing in detale, as I have no other thing that will interest.) from Jackson (after Serenading the Mayor & Ex Mayor, both of which were out with us all night) most we went by cars to Canton, a county seat about 25 miles distant from J. where we gave two concerts Jan. 10th & 11th thence to Vicksburg Miss. whare we concerted untill Jan. 19th then went on board the Steamer Hope & after getting on board for Yazoo City had an engagement to play for the funeral of an editor. Col. Roy, who was shot on the street while we were there. I saw him 10 minutes after he fell, as his wife was ringing her hands almost frantic over him. They were both at our concert Sat. eve before (he being shot Monday A.M. by a Mr. Shepard that had been in his imploy.) Our Capt. of Boat waited while we played for the procession to march 1 1/2 miles without stoping playing. We then left Vixburg for the Yazoo River. Yazoo City Miss. is about 180 ms from Vicksburg. This river is formed by the union of the Tallahatchee & Yallabusha, which are navigable rivers. After it receives the Sunflower River which runs nearly parillel with the Mississippi and is navigable for 80 miles, it empties into the Mississippi 300 miles from its source. The country on this river is very rich. land produces cotton in great abundance. From greenwood, at the mouth of the Tallahatchee, Several large steamboats run regularly to New Orelans, during the cotton season. The number of bales of cotton that annually float down the Yazoo River is estimated at 150,000. it is a sluggish stream and navigable throughout its whole length. Yazoo City, county seat of Yazoo County, Miss. Some 160 miles below Greenwood, is a flourishing town, in the midst of a rich cotton growing country and has considerable trade. A large amount of cotton is forwarded from this point to New Orleans. It has 2 or 3 printing offices, a number of churches, and a population of about 2000. We spent the Sabath at Yazoo City and I, for a wonder, attended church in the A.M. & P.M.

Jan 23d proceded to Natchez Miss. stoping at Port Gibson and gave 3 concerts. Arrived at Natchez Jan. 27th and left on the 31st and passed through New Orleans (the second time) on Feb. 1st. arrived in Mobile Alabama on the 2nd of February. Had immens

thunder storms while in Mobile. Concerted there untill Feb. 11th left Saturday evening after concert. the boat waited 5 hours for us to give the concert. Arived at Cahawba on the bank of the Ala. River, a fine villege & county seat, gave two concerts at Cahawba and then went to Marion, 28 miles off of the river, a county seat of 2800 inhabitants two female colleges & one male college numbering 600 students in all the second concert at Marion, we had 106 young ladies from one seminary, between the age of 10 & 17 dressed all alike & the prettiest sight I ever saw in a concert room, they were delighted with our concert, and beged of us to stay another night. but we were advertised at Montgomery.

Every villege of any size through this country has Artezan wells from 500 to 2500 feet deep, throwing the watter from 25 to 75 feet above the surface of the ground through pipes. Watter very clear & pure but nearly blood warm. they are drilled by steem with a kind of auguor, and tubing put down to keep the well from filling up. They make a beautifull perpetual fountain when once completed.

The fraternal tone of your kind letter breathes a balm to a weary traveler, I can assure you. Notwithstanding my health has not been so good since I can remember. I do not the less appreciate kind words. We find here a Judge Houstin a cousin of Mrs. Shaw of Lyme, a graduate of Dartmouth coll. is acquainted with all the people at Lyme of the year of 1835 he is a fine man, rec'd an appointment of Frank Pierce as Land Agent of the state of Alabam &c. he is delighted to meet us.

We leave here Feb. 21st by cars 200 miles to Columbus Georgia, thence to Macon, Atlanta, Millegeville, Augusta. I shall have time to get a letter from you if you write on the receipt of this, at Augusta Georgia. We shall stop from two to three nights in each place. So write me at Augusta Geo. on receipt of this, and do not wait to get one from me, but on the following week write to me at Charleston S.C. also. I send papers occasionally do you get them. With much Love to such as inquire to yourself Brotherly, Rhodolph. 11 o'clock P.M. [Copy of the Concert Troup's advertising flyer]

Hall Letters 261. July 1, 1860; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister Lucy

I must beg a thousand pardons for my long silence. for my circumstances have been such as would not have, in any way interested you.

I sympathise with you, in your sad loss. I did not know of the death of Willie for more than a week after it occurred, as we were at Concord N.H. when the dispatch arrived, and I went to Lyme with Katie from Concord. and D.C. did not tell me of the dispatch for several days after I returned. And since, and even now, I cannot say but little. We must hope that all things which we cannot control, are for the best. I ought to have written, I know, sooner but "when the heart feels most, the lips move not." We little thought of the final separation, when we took leave of you.

I left Lyme three weeks this P.M. by waggon to White R. Junction, for the night train to Boston, thence to Portland the same evening by boat. I left Father & friends all in good spirits. Katie is now stopping at Lyme. I sent a box of luxuries to her last Tuesday of which all partook of. Father thought it "as good as thanksgiving" such as Fresh Mackerel, Beef Steak, Cucumbers, Pine Apple, Redishes, Gin Whiskey, Strawberries &c. &c.

We are engaged at Newbedford for a Concert on Tuesday night, and for the city celebration on the 4th ins.

We should have been very glad to have attended Francis Wedding. but can not lose a \$20.00 engagement in addition to the expence of Fare &c. I am exceedingly sorry she did not decide on a date less likely to hit on our best engagement of the season.

Please give her our fervent hope for her futur happiness, with our devoted love to yourself & Friends. Excuse my neglect, and write me soon please, Rhodolph Hall

Letters 263-279 (October 24, 1860 to October 8, 1863)

Hall Letters 263. Oct. 24, 1860; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sis Lucy

Please excuse my procrastination in not writing in answer to your favor received at Saratoga. as I have had nothing of interest to write you untill now. and now I feel sure it will not be very interesting to you. We have been constantly on the jog since I wrote, at least since we left Saratoga. We played for the reception of the Prince, and I played for the ball at the Boston Theatre it was a brilliant affair. Political torch light processions evening have kept us snapping. I left Lyme two weeks ago today. the friends were all smart and are still as Jane writes 22nd. Tonight we play for a grand political concert at Boston Theatre Music Hall & Tremont Temple in which for of our bands take a part viz. Germania, Halls Boston Brass, Brigad, & Gillmores. We all play (two of our best) pieces at each place alternately, while one band is playing at one of the places, the other is passing between the places to take their place. Each ticket intitels the holder to a pass into all of the three concerts. The 25ct. ticket has the favorite candidate for president of the purchaser which is torn off on entering the first place. it is a novel affair to ascertain the which candidate has the greatest popularity among the concert going public of Boston. H.C. Jarrett our old agent is at the botom of it, he is the one that chartered the Great Eastern to go to Cape May on that excursion this summer. he cleared three thousand dollars on the Great Eastern excursion to Cape May &c. Our band open the concert at the Boston Theater at 8 o'clock this evening &c.

As is my lot -- I am engaged to go to Cuba as soon as I can possibly. via. New Orleans La. I hope to get started next Tuesday or Wednesday. the Concert Co. are now playing at the Academy of Music in New Orleans. I sent my terms 15 days since. and last Friday to my surprise I rec'd a letter accepting them requesting me to come as soon as possible. Yesterday I rec'd a telegraph dispatch asking if I had rec'd the letter and terms understood satisfactory & to come soon as possible &c. the Co. sail from New Orleans for Cuba on the 20th of Nov. on a contract and will play in Cuba several weeks. My engagement is untill 1st of July next at \$25.00 per week and all expenses, traveling & board from Boston.

The company are responsible. I know them so well that I feel safe. and confident of success. but Oh! I dread the journey. I intend to go via steamer from New York to Charleston the quickest possible way as my time this monment is worth \$25.00 per week. I shall purchase tickets from Boston to New Orleans and I am affraid they will not allow me to stop over a train in New Haven to see you, -- but if they do not I will ascertain if possible so as to inform you by letter or telegraph so that we may clasp our hands once more at the cars and hope not for the last time in life. My heart fairly sickens with hope & dread, at the very thought of the undertaking. but I am pledged by my word, and shall make an attempt. Should I not be able to come via New Haven please do not be concerned about me, for I have traveled &c.

We have but just got nicely settled in pleasant rooms for the winter, and trunks unpacked, not is it not a reckless shame. Katie is to accompany me. I have taken the engagement partly for my health. I have suffered intensely with my throat from colds.

I fear my broncal tubes ar affected. and am reminded all of the time of poor Giffin. I feel confident that I had better spend the winter in Havanna than to blow my very life away in Boston this winter. &c.

Please ask Ellen if she can select me four or six nice shirts. so as to bring them to the depot in case I can come through New Haven. If we come that way I shall want to leave some of my thing with you & Sister Jeffers. My immeasurable Love to Sister Mary, Sarah, yourself & the neices. also compliments to Brothers Johnson & Jeffers, Hanibal & Hiram. Knowing you will be kind enough to forgive my faults. I remain your loving brother.

Rhodolph, 52 Howard St

(Tell Ellen, as nice as can for about \$1.50 each for the shirts. different styles as your taste). (Please write me by return of mail in great haste). I will write again if I can possibly get time.

Hall Letters 263.1W. Jan. 2, 1861; Rhodolph in Cardinas, Cuba to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister & Friends,

It is with multiplied sorrows that I attempt to write to you at this moment, but, duty says write. We left Matanzas last Monday morning for this place, we played at Matanzas 5 nights. We left Havana Thursday Jan. 20th, played 4 nights at Gueines, which is about 40 miles from Havana in the interior, half way to Matanzas.

I suppose Jane or D.C. has written of our misfortunes. We buried two men of our Co. at Havana; both died of Yellow Fever, one the 3d day after he was taken and the other the 5th day. Katie was the first sufferer with it. The Doctor gave her up as lost, so did everyone in our house. But I had hopes as long as life. While our Co. were burying one of the men I was watching to see Katie breath her last as the Dr. said she could not live but an hour or two, as she had the black vomit. She had at the time vomited 4 1/2 days every 15 minutes. I watched with her every night, and attended to her daytimes not knowing for 4 days that it was the Yellow Fever. Thank God she recovered, which is a miricle, a case rarely known in the Yellow Fever. She got able to have her clothes on before we left Havana; and last Friday, one week after we left, she came on 80 miles in the cars and met us at Matanzas. But the journey was too much for her; she took a little cold in her head, and last Saturday did not leave her bed, and her symptoms were very bad. But on Sunday she sat up again, and Monday, when we left, she was feeling quite smart. I have not heard from her since. I am going to Matanzas tomorow to see her, as our Company leaves for Havana then to New York. And will take this scribble to N.Y.

I am unable to accompany them on account of Katie, as she will not be able to stand the passage for several weeks, as she is very weak. Beside, I am advised not to risk taking her north under circumstances, as frost is very bad for anyone coming up from Yellow Fever. There was a day or two that our prospects for ever returning were dreadfull. As my symptoms were very strong for having the Yellow Fever. And had I got it, it would have killed me, I think, as soon as it did the other two men of our Company; for they were very tough, harty men, both of them. Our journey thus is shortened here by Deaths & sickness. Our Co. are frightened as they certainly have reason for being. The two that died were John H. Collins & Charles W. Gall one a Balad Singer, the other one of our Band -- an old acquaintance of mine. Both were personal & particular friends of Kate & myself. Kate does not know of but one of their deaths as any little excitement of the kind is very bad for anyone having the Fever, as it throws them back into the Fever again. She did not even know she had the Yellow Fever untill the 7th or 8th day after the danger was over pretty much. All prophesy that she will be very fleshy & tough after she gets over her sickness, as Yellow Fever cleanses the system and eradicates all other diseases.

I feel very bad to be left so far from home & Friends as I do not yet speak but a few words of Spanish. But I ought to be thankfull to ever meet you in health again. Words can never express what I have suffered in mind since she was taken sick, as I myself was fearfull of the danger we were in. I am now hoping she will be able to sail about the 20th of January as there is a Steamer leaves Matanzas for New York about that time. 11 o'clock night. We are now through with our last concert on the Isle of Cuba, unless they give a benefit to the Leader of our Orchestra, he having lost his satchel containing

all of his money to the amount of 500 Dollars, and all the money he had in the world. His wife is our Dancer, and very good too. They left their satchel in a Valanta containing \$300.00 and never heard from it since. Mr. Rumsey, one of our proprietors had his watch stolen from the Dressing Room at the Theatre. So, we all, nearly, take our turns in misfortune. Five of our Co. were sick at the same time with the Yellow Fever. But are at present comfortable. Mr. Newcomb, the man that engaged me, was taken last night with Yellow Fever, but took it in season and got relief and is now feeling well. It is rather sickly he on an average. But I am feeling as well as ever I did in my life, except the anxiety of mind.

I was kept awake last night by the sick man in my room, and we leave at 5 o'clock in the morning for Matanzas where I shall remain untill about the 20th ins. and if Katie is then strong enough to stand the sea sickness, I shall sail for New York. But I am expecting to be obliged to stay thare about two months perhaps. Matanzas is the most beautifull place I have yet seen on the Island. Katie said what she saw of it reminded her of the picture of the City of Jerusalem she had seen in some Scriptural engravings.

I am truly sorry to tell you so much to disturb your good hearts of Yellow Fever, but I do not like to blind or deceive you, but it is, I know, by more than human favor that we are yet living.

You have read and well know the destiny of the Foreign dead here, they are dug up, their clothes stolen, coffin sold a second time for a 25 dollars & the body hove in the ditch to bleach in the sun. I do not Exaggerate in writing this for the coffins of our two men looked as though they had been used a sixth time. So say others of our company -- what I say when I see you may not be believed. I wish you to write to D.C., tell him. I shall be in Boston 4th of March if it is God's will (and my judgement) for I have not time to write to him.

Mr. Gustave Beadeaux, a particular friend of ours wishes me to give you his sincere good wishes, for the good feelings he has for me. He is our solo Baritone singer, a Frenchman, and a clever good friend of ours. And a good singer. He once had the black vomit in Cuba and everyone gave him up as a gone case. Consequently he appreciates our narrow escape. I will not ask you to write to us, as I expect to be on my way, at least I hope to be before a letter can reach me in answer to this. Yours fervently untill we meet.

This is a perpetual summer here, hot as dog days in the north only much more oppressive heat in midday. The rest when we meet, which I hope may be in a few weeks. Kate would send love were she present, but she is about 50 miles distant. So, good night. Please write to D.C. on receipt of this. Yours truly, Rhodolph.

Cardinas, Cuba 5 o'clock A.M. Jan. 3d, 1861.

We are now off for the cars to Havana. I go to Matanzas. I will write to you again if I have a chance before sailing. Love to all.

Hall Letters 264. May 16, 1861; Rhodolph in St. John, New Brunswick to Lucy and Sarah in New Haven.

Dear Sister & Friends

It is with cherished memories, that I again attempt to communicate to you, fullfilling my promise and answering your very reasonable request. And now, as I did last October, cause some considerable anxiety on your part relative to my health and prosperity, I am under the same necessity of exciting those fond rememberences, (which ought allways to exist among Brother & Sisters). You may think me a big "Baby" or booby. for what I have to tell you brings "scorching dampness" to my eyes, for fear of what may be the changes in our family circle ere we meet again.

I want you to write me your views of my going to Europe with our company, also what the expression of the rest of the friends are. Our company are making preparations to sail from Halifax N.S. about the 12th of June via the Gallway line of steamers, for Gallway Ireland, Liverpool, London &c. They may travel a year or two in Europe, as they think of visiting Dublin, Cork, Edinburg Scotland. Thence to France & Spain. before they return if they prosper.

We left Portalnd Me. April 29th by steamer & arrived at Halafax N.S. May 1st at which place we have been doing a splendid business. we left Halifax yesterday morning, and arrived here this morning at 4 o'clock passing through the Bay of Funday which was rough & foggy. The population of Halifax is 50800. it is pleasnatly situated on the west side of a beautifull bay. in the picture, imagine yourself looking a little south of east out to sea. at the mouth of the Harbor you can see a fort on a little island. And on the hight in rear of the city is an immens fort, or as they term it. the "Citadel". which commands the city & harbor in front of it. This city of St John N.B. is promentory like shape extending down into the harbor St. John. on the south is the harbor where the tide rises to the height of 60 feet and at times 66 feet. the population is estimated at 45,000. I have not been here but a few hours and have not looked about at all. but am told it is a very pleasant place. and as there is no mail out untill tomorow evening. I will take a look about before closing &c.

Stubbs Hotel St John N.B. May 19th, Sunday evening 10 o'clock

Dear Sis

I have delayed sending this by the every day mail by stage. to Bangor Me. as it will reach you sooner by steamer which leaves twice a week for Boston and I send this by the same, it leaving at 8 o'clock tomorow morning. If I should decide to go to Europe with the Co. I shall not engage to stay with them longer than 4 or 6 weeks unless I choose. And they are very anxous to have me go, even for that time, so as to get them establishe, and to make a good impression there.

The passage is made in 9 days from Halifax, in good weather, and it is the best season to expect good weather. In view of the extreemly hard times, and difficulties now in the States. I am thinking very favorably of going to see, although I dread the sea. The Co. have not decided to go positively. because I could not say I would go. I expect letters

from Lyme and Boston, here this week. Also from Katie. If we go, we shall sail from Halifax June 12th via the Gallway line of steamers from Boston. They touch at Halifax. A Mr. Bishop composer of songs is here and offers to take this letter with him to Portland and mail it there. as the steamer stops there it will reach you 15 hours sooner for it. I am now intending to visit Lyme to see Father before I sail. as the fare is the same price from Boston to Liverpools as it is from Halifax & the same steamer, leaves Boston, that takes the Co. if they go.

Do not delay writing to me, on receipt of this. Direct to St. John Newbrunswick. A good long letter. My health is very good. The company are doing well. We give a much better entertainment now then we did in N.H. we have all the same people. My love to all. Fraternaly yours, Rhodolph [picture of Halifax included]

Hall Letters 264.5 (312). June 28, 1861; Rhodolph in Liverpool England to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister & Friends,

Though distant, not forgotten. your kind favor was forwarded to me, at Lyme N.H. from St John N.B. where I received it on my arrival it going by the same train from Boston. I arrived at Lyme on Wednesday P.M. and visted until the next Tuesday 11th of June. When Mrs. H. & myself preceded to American House Boston where we rec'd a few Friends, D.C. & wife. Mrs. Rumsey & Mrs. Blakeney sailed with us, at 11 o'clock [A.M.] on the 12th of June from East Boston by the British & North American Royal Mail Steamer "America" of the Cunard line. Please excuse if I dwell on a few particulars. The Steamer "America" cost Eighty thousand lbs. sterling or Four hundred thousand dollars of our money. She consumes 60 tons of coal per day, or 24 hours, and is a magnificent ship. The fare from Boston to Liverpool is \$120.00 each. but beautiful accomodations &c. &c. Halls Boston Brass Band 20 pieces in uniform escorted us on board of the steem ship at E. Boston where Dr. E.C. Chamberlin & wife & the old "Aunty" and many other personal friends came to bid us farewell (perhaps forever). The Band played some of their choise music as they only can play. And as the noble old ship swept majestically from the dock firing a salute and dipping her flag to the good old tunes of Hail Columbia & God Save the Queen appreciated as never before, we glided smoothly away and the last we could see of our Friends were their white pocket hdkfs. We had a fair wind with full sails set for several days, everaging 10 or 11 nots per hour. Early in morning of June 13th passed Cape Sable. at 3 o'clock A.M. June 14th arrived at Halifax N.S. where the balance of our Co. came on board, and we gave them some Brass Band Music on leaving Halifax at 6 o'clock A.M. June 15th A.M. saw a school of whales, about 50 roods from the ship, playing & Spouting. at times they would come so much out of watter as to show their blunt looking head and [loga] shape and at the same time the watter seemed alive with Porposes &c. runing a race with our ship, sometimes so near we could touch them with a 20 foot pole.

Early Sunday Morning June 16th passed Cape Race, and lost sight of the land of Newfoundland. at 10 oclock Sunday A.M. we attended church service in the cabin with the ships crew & passengers. I forgot to mention it takes 100 men to man the ship and we had about 150 passengers beside. About midnight on Sunday night we passed the first ice Burg. one of those, Cool old fellows, which float down from the Polar seas, that you have wread about as being so dangerous to ships at sea &c. We passed near the first one and the Captain told us it was from 250 to 300 feet high above watter, and think of it 4/5 of them under watter, or below the surface. We were among the ice bergs about 24 hours. they being in every direction from us, but not obstructing our course or speed except from the fear of running on them in the foog where they were about sinking. We passed through but two fogbanks and those but a few hours through, but very thick, could see but the length of the ship a head in the middle of the day. While among the Ice it was very cold & damp, June 18th saw nothing of interest except the spouting of whales. on the 19th June a passenger died of Consumption & Inflamation of Lungs about 6 o'clock P.M. at 7 o'clock he was sowed up in a canvas sack in which was put four Iron grates of the Furnace weighing 80 or 90 lbs each and at 8 o'clock of the same evening service was wread over him and launched from a greacy plank of the starboard side of the ship, while we were under way, and he went "Below"

about mid Ocean. This was a solemn scene to us although he had no relative or Friend on board, yet there were many tears shed for him for a few moments. It brought the critical situation which Kate passed on our returning from Cuba last winter, vividly before us &c. &c.

June 20th we had heavy weather and it seemed very rough to us, though our noble ship plowed the mad waters with seeming defiance. Most of the passengers manifested symptoms of an Inverted Stomach. June 21st saw nothing of interest except "sky & water" and we made about 10 knots per hour by steem alone. June 22nd the Ocean was as smooth as a river, rufled only by an immense School of "Porpos." Some of which would rool twice their length out of watter, and occasionally one would turn a complete summersett out of watter. they would follow near our ship for about an hour, seeming to run a race with us. Sunday morning at day break June 23rd discovered for the first time the land of the Eastern Continent. Oh! with what fondness did the "Emerald Isle" meet our view. We passed Cape Lookout about 7 o'clock A.M. on the beautifull Sunday Morning, and for 30 to 40 of the first miles of the southern cost of Ireland, it reminded me of a half worn out piece of green velvet, in different sections resembling a piece of brown Codroy. as the 4 to 6 miles we were distant from the Irish coast, gave it a mellow smooth appearance, but as we proceded along the coast we soon came to the more productive part of the country with its "Potato Patches," Oats, Barley, Corn, Hemp, Flax and grass, with their varied color and regular shaped look reminded us of a Pieced up Bed quilt. Well may an Irish man boast of his Country, for none but the pen of a Moore can do its lovliness justice, and even his can only assist the imagination of those having seen it. Perhaps the Southern coast of Ireland is more than an everage of the Island, but believe me it was the most beautifull Landscape I ever Saw, bearing marks of ages of improvement in the cultivation of its soil, regularity of its lots, roads & Hedges but very little Forest or woodlands. But further in the interior lifted a beautiful mountainous scenery, as we moove it seemed a mooving Panorama. While at the right or south of us was the broad waste of watter completely "Lace edged" by the Ships and canvas with their rigging. It is but a conceited mixture of foolishness to try to represent it to you. But you will recollecte it is one thing to Imagine, another to discribe, but to realize is the fullfillment.

We arrived at Queenstown Cork Harbor about 2 o'clock P.M. Sunday 23rd at which place we met the great steamer "Percia" of the same line of ours bound for New York. At Queenstown we learned of the loss of the steamship "Canadian" by an Ice Burg on her rout for Quebec Canada, you have doubtless read of it ere this. loss of the entire ship and 34 or 36 lives. She sank in 35 minutes after the 1st struck. You must know we all felt thankful that we were not of the unfortunate as we may have passed over her in 24 hours after she went down &c. I must tell you that but one half of my anxiety is over for I have yet to return, and brave that mighty deep that "Broad" Atlantic for the word Broad but half conveys the idea to one never having crossed it. We landed at the wharf in Liverpool England at 12 o'clock M. June 24 making the passage from East Boston to Liverpool in 12 days & 1 hour from dock to dock. I canot give many particulars of Liverpool yet as I am not yet rested, or got my sea rool off of me, not having looked about me yet &c. Liverpool has now a population of five hundred thousand celebrated as one of the greatest commercial cities in the world and particularly celebrated for its splended docks & wharfs of hewn stone, masonry. From what little I have seen I must think it a great place of Begery & Prostitution. We went to the Royal Amphitheatre the

evening we arrived, saw the Irish Play of Colen Bawen. Last evening we visited the Zoological garden where we saw Blondin walk the rope again.

We are now rehearsing at Clayton Hall on Clayton Square where we give our first entertainment on Monday Evening July 1st. Our stay in Liverpool depends on our patronage, but every prospect is in our favor. It costs nothing to forward letters here. Consequently all our letters directed here, will be forwarded as we shall direct on leaving here.

My engagement now, is \$30.00 per week and all expences paid from Boston & return. I loose my time on the passage over, untill we commence playing here. We are boarding at the Feather's Hotel on Clayton square (only four of us however Ramsey & Wife & myself & Katie). the others are boarding at a cheaper place. We have 3 rooms between us, and our needs served in our sitting room or Parlor all to ourselves &c. We pay \$25.00 per week for the 4 of us &c. I intend to write to some one of the Family every mail which is once a Week. To whom, depends their punctuality. The postage to the U.S. from here is 24 cts. and every letter I shall get will be worth a Dollar to me. So Please be punctual and write to your distant devoted Friend & Brother on receipt of this. we are in good health. I just recovering from the effects of the old humor. Our love to all our Family & Friends. Please write or send this letter to the Old Home as I shall not have time to write them by this mail and they doubtless feel interested, as to our safe passage at sea &c. Tell Mr. Jeffers that we did not go to Old Haveril Mass. Having wearied your patience I hope you and the other Friends will remember me in like manner. I am not at all Homesick but in the language of a John Howard Pane -- "Mid pleasure & palaces, though we may roam" -- Space says Farewell, Rhodolph Hall.

Twilight untill 10 o'clock night -- day light at 3 in the morning. Please write to me as soon as you receive this and oblige them. We are a bed an sleep here when you are at tea 4 hours 40 mts difference in time from the U.S.A. I shall write to D.C. at Saratoga next mail. should this day but I have given the Band a notice in tomorows paper in return for their compliment in playing us off from Boston. It will not be out untill tomorrow &c. Katie says "tell her she owes me a letter" Joins me in Love to Mr. & Mrs. Jeffers and the all others, that she will write to Ellen, soon. Please excuse all imperfections, in my hury I spell badly so I am told.

Hall Letters 265. July 14, 1861; D.C. in Saratoga Springs to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister Lucy

I believe That I am owing you a letter, if so will try to send you an apology for one for you know my propensity for letter writing does not amount to much.

Well I am stoping in this place at Union Hall, Twelve of us in the band. I think it doubtful if we stay the season through as the business for these watering places are at present dull. it may be better but not enough to warrent the hotel propriators to keep their bands if they can get rid of them. I have a written contract signed & sealed but don't want to force myself upon them unless it pays. Did not you and Sarah talk of going to Lyme this season and come this way and I should like to see you very much if we stay Edna will come about the first of Aug. and stop a short time on her way to Wis. on a visit. I left Boston on the fifth with band by the way I have got a fine band this season. The people here say that we take the palm from the other bands there are three besides us at the other hotels.

Rhodolph has gone to Europe you know I suppose I have not heard from him since he sailed. I hope he will do well. How are all the friends in New Haven? give my best regards to all. Johnson is full of business I suppose or does the war knock him some. What does he think of Southern shivelry compared with Northern shivelry? How is Jeffers getting on nowadays stubing about as usual I think. Is Spear in N. Haven or Bluff pt.? I haven't heard from him since I saw him in Boston then he felt pretty much like fighting the old Dominion.

It is a rainy day in this place and dreary also. The church bells are ringing for afternoon services and as I can't think of anything more to write will "dry up"

Please drop me a line on receipt of this and believe me as ever. Your Brother, D.C. Hall

Hall letters 266. Dec. 21, 1861; Rhodolph in London to Lucy, Sarah & Friends in New Haven.

Dear Sisters and Friends

You will please excuse brevity. As I have sent a bundle to your care & having seen the arrival of the ship Thornton, the Capt. of which I am well acquainted. It is simply a book which I have purchased at a great cost and desire you should keep with the greatest safety. Also some things which I do not require here this winter. please do take great care of bundle and do not let it be handled &c. So doing greatly oblige yours ever truly & affectionately, Rhodolph Hall (In great haste for the mail) We are well. Katie joins me in love to you all. I forward this in a letter to D.C. on business &c.

R. Hall

Hall Letters 267. Dec. 25, 1861; Sarah in Providence R.I. to D.C. & Edna in Boston.

Dear Brother D. & Sister E.

I wish you a merry Christmas, this morn at 9 A.M. (as I am now writing) & many a happy & merry Christmas in the future. I am having rather a lonely one as Robert left Monday morn & I have not seen or heard from him since. I looked for him last night strong. but was disappointed as usual, & have had half a mind, (since I received yours last eve.) to go on today, & supprise you & the 2nd sober thought, that perhaps he might come & he would feel lonely & disappointed, but still might follow on. He told me he partly promised to take me on last Saturday eve., but his business troubled him when he did not expect it & he did not come home until Sat. eve. He was in Boston Friday P.M. & out again as soon as he could go. I rec'd a letter from Thomas Wednesday saying he should leave N.H. Friday 11 o'clock & should come this way from Boston & would stop with one night. if I would meet him at the depot, if not he should go on to Boston. I went, was there when the train came in but not a bit of a T. & I have been at the depot 3 times for him, & have not heard from any of them at N.H. I have a pleasant boarding place on the principal business street on the corner of Westminster & Mathewson streets & opposite Grace Church that has the only chimes in the city. They woke me up at 12 last night chiming a merry Christmas to all. It was beautiful. They chime everything. Even Yankee Doodle. I have a pleasant room & in a pleasant family; my room is warmed by hot air from the furnace in the cellar, & I hardly have known what cold weather has been. Can you not let Edna come on & stop awhile with me & then you come too or are you so full of business too that it is impossible. Do you hear from R.? you did not say in your letter anything about him. Won't he be coming back if England is going to war with us? It is generally believed they are making every preparation for it. Isn't it awful! You don't say anything on the great & absorbing topic of the day in your letter. But your sheet was so much smaller than mine will account for it I suppose. I should like to visit you very much during the holidays & it is not impossible that I may, but I have seen how poor folks live before this day, so I shall not come for that purpose. I suppose you found all well, at the old home or you would have told me in yours of yesterday. Write me again soon all you can conveniently. I have dreamed of our dear mother in Heaven, for 2 nights. Last night I was up there & she was helping me to get ready to leave, as she used to. & I was feeling very badly about leaving her, as I always used to. Love to you & Edna, Affectionately, Sarah

Hall Letters 268. Apr. 26, 1862; Sarah in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sis Johnson

I wrote to you over a week ago, for my letters & packages to be sent by express to me as there has been a check sent for some money & I am in need of it very much. I cannot return to N. Haven until I receive it. I don't know as you have received it, if not I wish you would send it forthwith. David has seen a man that came in company with R. & Kate. & that they are in N. Haven &c. so I suppose you are enjoying a fine time with all together there. I feel quite relieved to know of their safe arrival in "Ameriky". I had a letter from Lucy Morey & sis N. They were complaining some. but thought Thomas was a little better. that Marinda & Francis with theirs had been there & were well, a few days before. We are all well here but Edna's step sister she has been confined to her bed for 2 weeks ever since we moved, sat up for the first time yesterday, to have her bed made. I think when she is able she will go home as her brother that has been to work for D. is a going in a few weeks. & she will accompany him if she is able. I think he will wait for her. She was intending to stay until D. & E. should visit the west again & the time was set a year from next fall &c. but they have all concluded it will be best for her & all concerned for her to get home as soon as she can. I must close as I am taking care of the baby while her mother is down in the kitchen cooking for Sunday. She is the best baby I ever saw I think. Please give much love to all & tell them I hope to see all soon. From your affectionate sis Sarah

Hall Letters 269. May 25, 1862; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sis

It is a long time since I seated myself to scratch a line to you. and now I can think of nothing interesting to write. passing events are so stale with me, consisting of practice, playing for funerals, Band rehearsals &c. the balance of the time I occupy in "spinning street yarn." Boston Comon never looked so beautiful as now, at least it seems so to me, perhaps from the fact that I am a part owner in it. And my long absence among Spanish dialect and tropical sights, rendered doubly gloomy by the accompaniment of sickness, "Yellow Fever" & Death, or the slow, sulkey farm yard conceited airs of the Johney Bulls lends it a greater charm to me, then it had in former years. Tell Katie I took a walk last Sunday on the comon & Pub. garden in Co. with Mr. & Mrs. Haskel after being persuaded to dine with them. They are both impatient to see her. They urged me to come and dine with them today, but I excused myself until she comes on.

I should have written sooner but last Tuesday, we play for the "Knight Templers" of B. for the funeral of one of their order, and Thursday I played for another funeral of a member of the Roxburg Artilery. shot at the Battle of Williamsburg. I played with the Bragade Band however. (solo cornet) Marching from Norfolk House to Forest Hill & back 7 miles in all, by dirges. blistered my feet, cut my lips terribly, they being covered with cold sores. For Choise tell Kate I rather have been in old "Hengland." My lips have been so sore that I have been unable to practice the past week. And hardly able to live up to my reputation or do myself justice at rehearsals &c. And my Reception Complimentary Concert will not come off so soon on that account partly as the Band have not yet got up in preparation. It will not come off before next Thursday or Friday & perhaps, until week from tomorrow night. And I am afraid my monkey will get up, about it, and if it does, I wont have it at all.

We rehearse tomorrow, day & evening for concert Tuesday night at Dover N.H. where we play Wednesday for the 1st. parade of the Strafford Guards, a new Co. First Monday in June we are engaged for the anniversary parade of the Ancient & Hon. Artlry. 124th Anniversary. We played for them for 7 years in succession but lost them last year by Flag's Band underbidding us a dollar per man. but this year they asked no terms but gave us the pref. over all other bands & instructed the Music Com. to engage our band if we were to be had &c. I can distinctly disern that my trip or noteriety in England has & will continue to benefit our Band in the way of business &c &c. We are engaged to play for the Govs. Horse Guards of N.H. at Concord N.H. on the 5th of June, Band of 12 pieces. Consequently I shall not visit Lyme until about the 6th of June, as I shall then be more than half way home, and so much, at least the little business between this & then is of importance, and the band are in such a condition having several new members, it will require our greatest care and attention just now.

Please tell Katie I wish she would take care of the papers that I send her, for I shall want the notices in them.

Also should Katie have use for any reasonable amount from a postage stamp to \$10.00 & Mr. Johnson can accomodate her without inconvenience, please let him do so, as I have to launch out for many purposes fitting, furnishing apartments, instruments I had

of D.C. &c. and have many insidentals in meeting my friends. and I want to guard against an ill success on the concert to my honor in case of bad weather, poor audience &c. The engagements I have been playing for are not yet collected, or I would send her some in this. so she must hold on, and let her hair grow. but "keep her [pucker] up" &c. Tell her to kiss my Love of a "Dickey" for me, and shake up "Nero" & give him a nut. Give my love to all the children, young & old. I shall write to Katie soon. tell her not wait for my letter, but write me often. Please answer this at your earliest convenience and believe me the same loving "Bubie," Rhodolph Hall

P.S. Sarah says, the she hopes you have rec'd all the letter she has written to you. that you will be as expeditious as possible, remembering that Mrs. Piersons is a great sufferer. but has great confidence in Mrs. Adison. though she feels hardly able to bear up under the expence in her circumstances. Rhodolph for Sarah

Hall Letters 270. Jun 8, 1862; Sarah in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sis L.

I received yours of the 28th of May & ought to have answered it before this for I got answers to your questions in a day or two. Mrs. P. said in her trance state it looked a "little" like it & voluntary prescribed for your lameness of which I wrote down & will now send it to you. Take one cupfull of yellow-dock, half cupfull of prickly ash bark, 3 pints of medford rum to stand one week & then rub your ankles or wherever you are lame. I asked her if [catahrrk] would answer & she said it would but was not as good & that you must wear sulphur bags on the hollows of your feet one even teaspoon full of sulphur and wear one week and then change burying the old ones. & some bitter-sweet in a pint of boiling water to bathe in & take yellow-dock, wild cherry, & black [chabos]. (I don't understand this or what it is). Half a cupfull of each to three pints of boiling water steep 8 hours & add two wine glasses of gin & take it two or three times a day.

This she seemed very anxious for you to do. She said she was not disappointed in Mrs. A.'s decision. That she felt it. I think Mrs. P. very generous. I shall have a great deal to tell you of her sayings & doings when I see you. We are all well here. Rhodolph has gone to Lyme & was to meet Kate at the junction. Was it not sad to hear of Mary B.'s death? R. said he thought sister Mary would accompany Kate on to Lyme. D.'s band went to Concord to play Wednesday & to Nashua Thursday to a funeral of one of the N.H. Horse Guards brought home from the army. I attended the funeral of young Monkouse one week ago today in a church nearby at the foot of Dover Street. R. played with the B. Brigade Band. The young man was a former member & an acquaintance of D. R. had played with him many times before he went to war. He had been married 6 months before he went way. His remains were in the House at the door & his photograph encircled with a wreath of flowers on the table by the pulpit for the audience to look at. The music was beautiful and solemn & there was not many dry eyes in the church of which he was a member. met Mrs. Gardner & Bills wife there. Mrs. Dr. Chamberlin was here week before last. Edna was out & I went to the Tremont Temple to the universalists sabbath school anniversary with her. she inquired for you & I with Augusta French went to Roxbury and spent the P.M. & eve. at Mr. Hastings last Thursday. They were all well. I went home with A. & the next day Mr. Tafon was over on the jury & called and took Augusta and myself to East Boston. French & his partner that boards with them came in the eve. but it being very foggy & late & A. & myself stopped one night. I went with Augusta and Christianna to Mount Auburn week before last. A. was to set out some flowers by Martha Ann's little grave. which reminded me of my little grave so far away. Have you visited it recently? Last Tuesday a friend of D.s loaned him a large grey horse & carryall for the P.M. & we all E. & baby with the step sister went for a ride over the mill [denn] & then to Cambridge & on to old Harvard grounds & to Auburn. Oh! it is so beautiful there I cannot begin to describe it, none can know but those that visit it. I received a letter from Mr. Spear written the 28th of May. He has just got out one cargo of timber, the first, on the Susquehanna River near Havre de Grace & it is to be sent here & I may stop here until it arrives as I shall see him more I think & then accompany him to N. Haven. I am in want of my black silk shawl & thin [barage] dress. If you should have a chance to send by anyone with the rest of the articles I have sent for with my big brown cape like my dress. I have the dress here. Sarah Marsh was here & spent P.M. & eve. a few days ago. She lives in

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South Boston, is a seamstress in a family. I spent the P.M. & eve at Carlos Culver's in South B. with Sylvanus Cobb & wife with the only daughter Layhartte Culver's wife. had a very pleasant time. I must close for this time. give love to all. Write soon. How did you like Javitte's theatre. He called here & gave us all a complementary, so I attended several nights & Saturday P.M.

with much love to yourself as ever, Sarah

Hall Letters 272. Jul. 30, 1862; Rhodolph in Saratoga to Sarah in Baltimore.

Very Dear Sister

Your favor came duely to hand. It may seem procrastination, me not having answered earlier. a thought of my multiplied duties will relieve you of sensure.

To say that I was delighted in receipt of yours is appropriate. though it portrayed many distressing scenes. I did not think you were so fond of witnessing distress, as to have chosen so exciting an occupation.

Mrs. Rhodolph writes me from Lyme, she intends visiting me next Wednesday. leaving there on Tuesday The friends are not braging of their health at L. it being sickly with the Diptheria. Sewell Hews has buried his wife very recently leaving him with two small children. Mr. Simeon Whipple is fast failing and his death is looked for daily. Hattie Dimick is at West Fairlee under Dr. Howards care & unable to be moved home, in last stages of consumption and is not expected to live from one day to another they have telegraphed to her father (Adolphus Dimick) at work in Ohio on R.R. Bridge near Cincinnatti. the Brother & Sister are feeling very sad, over the circumstances.

I called at Carol Slowns in So. Boston the day before I came here. His wife told me that he started for Lyme the day before. He had not arrived there at the date of Ks letter. of course Aunt S. is feeling concerned about him &c.

William & Antie talked determined to visit Saratoga, in August. when I was at Lyme. were thinking of driving a pair of horses across the Mts. perhaps they have given it up now, as Kt. makes no mention of it. Lucies health is quite feble yet. I think a visit here would improve her.

Having little or no news which I can further defuse. This time you may excuse me, while I swap off the blues.

“Hurah!!” for the successes of our Federal Army. The little emblem you sent me is beautifull. but discretion tells me not to mix with politics at a place like this. as people of all temper & places & principals come here to be cured, made sick and for curiosity. It is very gay here now and will continue through Aug. The best season ever known so say the Landlords. A ball was given at U.S. Hotel last night. We have one tonight at the Union. Band of 12 largest band, and acknowledged the best by all ever at Saratoga. We furnish at Union and Congress Hall, both from 4 to 5 P.M. alltogether in the lawn at Union Hall from 5 to 6 o’clock P.M. at Congress Hall. And in the evening we play 6 pieces at Union Hall & the other 6 pieces at Congress Hall for about 2 1/2 hours for dancing. among the distinguished guest have been Comodore Vanderbilt & Lady, John G. Saxe, & numerous others which I canot mention. We played at Manchester N.H. the 4th of July, and I there had a chat with Gov Gillmore of New Hampshire, and the last he said to me was, that he should certainly visit Saratoga this season as ours was his favorite band. We went to the White Mts. with him & his family 3 years ago this summer &c.

Board at the principal Hotels is \$3.00 per day or \$18.00 per week, but there are good

accommodations at lesser Hotels, at, from \$7.00 to \$10.00 per week. in private families from \$4.00 to \$7.00 per week &c. &c. We should like much to show you the Lyons (Lay on's) should you venture to come, which, I hope you will. With love to yourself & Lady friends & fraternal regard to Mr. Spear. Please write at your earliest convenience, and believe me your devoted Rholdolph

I gained 8 lbs the past 3 weeks. Columbian Spring Water helps me &c. R. The atmosphere & water here are such as have a tendency to make all rules of propriety very elastic. I have not violated them however, as yet. Please excuse every fault as I write in great haste.

Hall Letters 273. Aug. 9, 1862; Rhodolph in Saratoga to Lucy in New Haven.

Very Dear Sister,

Your favor to Kate, was forwarded to me. I forwarded it to her while in B. She sent it to me from Lyme. I have been thoughtfull of your indebtedness to me, for a letter, but the uncertainty of my memory induces me to be unceremonious knowing your multiplied duties. &c. I have nothing of particular interest to communicate. I sent you a paper not "long ago" did you receive it? It contained a letter highly complimentary to the family a little mixed up, by fault of the printer which has been, since set at right in type by a Seratoga paper, which I will send if I can procure a copy. The Letter was by John G. Saxe, an intimate friend & acquaintance of mine (which I feel proud of) of long standing. I am also informed by Rev Mathew Hale Smith (in person) that there is something, complementary to our Co. in the "Boston Journal" which the Rev Gentleman promised me, last evening to "bring to a show." As we were delighting the guest of Congress Hall last evenings with our "cullivate sounds" the Rev Mathew Hale Smith passed through the parlor, (where we play) shook hands with me inquiring if I scanned the Boston Journal insinuating there was something interesting to us, &c. and said if I would come & play at church, today, He thought he could preach much better (or smarter). I inquired where was to preach, he said at the Methodist Church. I passed myself as "afable" as possible & said, I would gladly be thare, if not Professionaly, to listen to him. I accordingly went & heard him and was delighted. He is without doubt a talented man, & so is J.G. Saxe & I am perhaps too proud of their familiar ascquaintance. (I am not in partnership with their acquaintance as). D.C. left yesterday morning for Boston. notwithstanding the climate & water of Saratoga has a tendency to elasticity as regards the rules of propriety, but do not think for a monent that I have violated any them at all. D.C. has had to go to Boston this is the second time, but to be charitable, for to attend to business, as much as to see the baby its mother, so you see I had the responsibility of pleasing the aristocratic masses, say nothing of the honors. but this much I claim as having rec'd more applause than at any P.M. Playing since we are here (If D.C. was absent.) of course we can play better music with him, but I can beat him to d-- in making selections to bring the public to a "focus." Katie leaves Lyme on Tuesday 11 ins. will arrive here 12th via. Bellows Fall, Rutland, White Hall &c. We are here with 12 men furnish music at Congress & Union Hall all together in P.M. at each place 1 hour. 4 to 5 & 5 to 6 in evenings 6 at each place during 2 1/2 hours. Board at 1st hotels \$3.00 per day private families \$3.00 to \$7.00 per week. Come & see us. with Love to friends. Please write on receipt of this. Rec'd a line from Sarah while here. All in health. Fraternaly Rhodolph

I thought that I had got to the bottom of the fourth page, but here goes another line. Simeon Whipple is buried so Katie writes & Harriet Dimick is past cure & death looked for daily. Telegraphed her father Adolphus Dimick and he had arived &c.

Brother Wm talked of coming here, by his private conveyance this summer, with Antie & Lucie. but haying &c. has discouraged the enterprises, so I hear. 1 o'clock Monday morning 10th Aug. I am again yours truly. Write at earliest convenience. Rhodolph Hall

Hall Letters 274. Nov. 19, 1862; Rhodolph in Frankford, Pa. to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sis Lucie,

Procrastination is a big thief, and if I ever do get hold of him I'll take off a wheel of his wagon and run it down beside the cemetery where he will have to take me to help him find it &c.

I suppose you begin to think that I never write to you except that I want a favor, but not so, even if it so seems to you. We were intending to visit you ere this or should have written you earlier.

We left Boston the 10th ins. at 5:30 P.M. via Worcester, New London, N.Y., &c. Should have come via New Haven, but the Pres. of the R.R. could not give me a pass further than Springfield that way. but the way I came we were passed as far as N.Y. & a return ticket also, all free &c.

We have enjoyed our visit here much. Brother Geisse has a very fine Boy 18 months old, runs alone, and is very bright, fat as a pig, & is quite tall for the age &c. (Prospects of further addition soon &c.)

We shall leave here on Friday, as I am engaged to play at Mt. Vernon Hall, Boston for a Ball 26th in. night before Thanksgiving. Shall call on you on our return Saturday morning via Boat if nothing havens.

Brother G. is waiting so you will excuse the balance until we meet. Kate sends love, is suffering with teeth & face ache, or would write &c. With Love to all the friends, Yours fondly, Rhodolph Hall

Hall Letters 279. Oct. 8, 1863; Rhodolph in Boston to Lucy in New Haven.

Dear Sister,

I had too much on my mind, to answer your last favor at the Springs, which, I hope you will excuse. In yours you mentioned that Mr. Johnson wished to take up his note which I herein forward to you. Will you please be so kind as to cash the interest carefully & tell him to forward such amount of it as is most convenient to him. (Not that I am in distress for it by any means.) As I intend taking more U.S. bonds Saturday evening. I shall be glad if he forwards me a check on our Banks here by that time, or as soon as his convenience will permit. if but a part of what is due, endorse the same on the bill & forward it at the same time &c.

Mrs. Hall has been quite ill. employed the Doctor for the past 8 days. she is so she stands up on her A--- in bed as the Dutchman said. and anything but in a "healthy Humor" so I think she is fast gaining. She is threatening to ghost you as soon as able to go in the street Barefooted or before. With our Loves to all, Believe me sincerely, your Brother, Rhodolph.

Excuse haste, let me hear from you Saturday if convenient, &c. R. If Saturday, direct to Post Office; If later, direct to 334 Washington St.

Kate had Disentary 10 days when inflamation of Bowels & kidneys set in &c. is better now. D.C. "Babie" is a Gall.