

I find my likeness better than I thought
through some mistake the face was reversed
not through want of care for it is not my fault

Hamptstead Feb. 26th / 48

My dear Dear Brother,

I have been thinking
for some time, that I should like to
write to you, if I could get a chance;
today is a rainy day, so I believe I will
improve it in writing to you, I was a
letter writer, but judging you by myself
I think that whatever I write to you, will
be very acceptable, and give you pleasure.

I suppose Emily keeps you well posted
as to family matters, so if I should write
that Father has gone to Albany on a visit
and that sister Mary will have another boy,
that Mother was taking care of her, and
wishes the baby called George Harris, and
that Joseph is to work for William this
Summer, and that Elmer has yet to be
that Joseph is to work for William this
Summer, and that Elmer has yet to be
Capt. Harris, that Henry is learning to
stitch shoes of Sister Emily, &c. &c. &c. you
will say there is no news, so I will not say
any thing about it. I suppose to Emily has

Transcription:

[raised imprint reads: "C.S."]

[written upside down at the top of the letter]

I had my likeness taken last week and through some mistake the bow was colored - do not laugh about it for it is not my taste.

Hampstead Feb. 26th /65

My own Dear Brother,

I have been thinking for some time, that I should like to write to you, if I could get a chance: to-day is a rainy day, so I beleive I will improve it in writing to you, I am no letter writer, but judging you by myself I think that whatever I write to you, will be very acceptable, and give you pleasure.

I suppose Emily keeps you well posted as to family matters, so if I should write that Father has gone to Albany on a visit and that sister Margaret had another boy, that Mother was taking care of her, and wishes the baby called George Harris, and that Joseph is to work for William this Summer, and that Elmer has got to be Capt. Harris, that Henry is learning to stitch shoes of Sister Emily, &c. &c. &c. you will say that is no news, so I will not say any thing about it. I suppose too Emily has told you about Joseph's Clara, that she

was here and made us a visit, I feel
very much pleased with her, I think
she will make Joseph a most excellent
wife, she is not handsome, and at first
sight would be called plain, but on
further acquaintance first impressions
vanish, and she looks quite pretty, I
think she is a person that a man can
put perfect confidence in, she is modest
intelligent and agreeable, and that is of
more worth than beauty; I hope she will
seem as much like a sister to me as
your dear Emily does, and I think she will
I do so long, to have you come home and
go to housekeeping, again, so that I can
visit you ~~at~~ at your own house and
by yourselves, I like to go and see Emily
now, but it would be much pleasanter
if I could see you together, I hope before
many months have passed we shall have
it ~~many months have passed~~ it ~~shall~~ ^{we shall} have
the happy privilege of meeting together
I suppose Emily told you long ago of
the pleasant ~~we~~ gathering we had at
sister Emily's home, I cannot tell you
how much I regretted your absence, I

Transcription:

was here and made us a visit. I feel very much pleased with her, I think she will make Joseph a most excellent wife, she is not handsome, and at first sight would be called plain, but on further acquaintance first impressions vanish, and she looks quite pretty, I think she is a person that a man can put perfect confidence in, she is modest intelligent and agreeable, and that is of more worth than [Seventy]; I hope she will seem as much like a sister to me as your dear Emily does, and I think she will I do so long to have you come home and go to housekeeping again, so that I can visit you if at your own house and by yourselves, I like to go and see Emily now, but it would be much pleasanter if I could see you together, I hope before many months have passed we shall have the happy privilege of meeting together I suppose Emily told you long ago of the pleasant ~~me~~ gathering we had at sister Emily's house, I cannot tell you how much I regretted your absence, I pitied Emily (your Emily, I mean) for

I know she felt bad although she
did not say much. I think too
Mother felt rather sad thinking of
George, it does seem hard to think
he should go away as he did, and
die, without doubt it is all for the
best, but it is hard to be submissive
and reconciled always, if he had
lived, of course he must have endured
much suffering, perhaps he was taken
from the evil that was to come, it is
useless to regret now, but still I often
find myself wishing he had taken
your advice and remained at home.
I hope it will be the means of keeping
Henry at home, he has almost made
up his mind several times to enlist,
but something has restrained him, he
says if he could know he should
escape un injured he should certainly
enlist for a year. I can hardly seem
escape un injured he should certainly
enlist for a year. I can hardly seem
to realize, now Joseph is here with us
that he has been gone three years, and
been exposed to so much danger, as he
has he has not returned from the effect

Transcription:

I know she felt bad although she did not say much. I think too Mother felt rather sad thinking of George, it does seem hard to think he should go away as he did, and die, without doubt it is all for the best, but it is hard to be submissive and reconciled always, if he had lived, of course he must have endured much suffering, perhaps he was taken from the evil that was to come, it is useless to regret now, but still I often find myself wishing he had taken your advice and remained at home I hope it will be the means of keeping Henry at home, he has almost made up his mind several times to enlist, but something has restrained him, he says if he could know he should escape uninjured he should certainly enlist for a year. I can hardly seem to realise, now Joseph is here with us that he has been gone three years, and been exposed to so much danger, as he has, he has not recovered from the effects of his prison life yet, his diarrhea

has not left him, but still he looks
pretty well, it is a great wonder he is
alive, and I think we have great reason
to be grateful that he and Elmer have
reached home safe and sound. I do wish I
could say the same of you, I felt very
sorry when Emily told me you had left
your pleasant situation, and been sent
your regiment, I hope soon to hear you
have been detailed to some position
equally as agreeable. We have had
some fine sleighing this winter, and Wm
and I have had one long sledge, we
went to Lowell to visit Mrs Page former-
ly Rebecca Plummer, we spent the
night with them, and had a very pleas-
ant time, her brothers Samuel and Charles are
both in Lowell Charles is in a dining
saloon, he receives nine dollars a week
and boarded, he is a fine looking man
and industrious, he is a fine looking man
Samuel is the same nonsense fellow he
used to be. William wishes me to say
that he has not written to you this
winter for the reason that he has been
expecting you home on a furlough, he says
you may reckon on a letter from him after 1000

Transcription:

has not left him, but still he looks pretty well, it is a great wonder he is alive, and I think we have great reason to be grateful that he and Elmer have reached home safe and sound. I wish I could say the same of you, I felt very sorry when Emily told me you had left your pleasant situation and been sent to your regiment, I hope soon to hear you have been detailed to some position equally as agreeable. We have had some fine sleighing this winter, and W^m and I have had one long sleighride, we went to Lowell to visit Mrs Page formerly Rebecca Plummer we spent the night with them, and had a very pleasant time, her brothers Samuel and Charles are both in Lowell Charles is in a dining saloon, he receives nine dollars a week and boarded, he is a fine looking man Samuel is the same nonsensical fellow he used to be. William wishes me to say that he has not written to you this winter for the reason that he has been expecting you home on a furlough, he says you may reckon on a letter from him after town meeting. If you deem this worthy of an answer I shall be very happy to hear from you, sister Julia