

New Bedford 9<sup>th</sup> mo 30 1842

Dear Deborah,

Had I not have gone to the Agricultural Fair last week at Weymouth, and business prevented I should have answered your letter ere this - I was very glad to hear from you - so long a time had elapsed that I began to think you were absent from home - Well knowing that your name Deborah, signified "Bee", as I once wrote you respecting your industry, I did not once suspect I would have you to think that you had the least bit of the "tortoise" fever. It is well I did not suspect so, for your letter would have caused my delusions to vanish. We had an exceedingly pleasant time at the Fair. Saml Thorne & Mary & Fanny and myself - instead of going in the car, I was kindly invited us to ride with him in his Carryall - it was a beautiful day and I never saw a finer exhibition of fruit - the stock did not seem to me as good as common. All along the route the trees were loaded down with all sorts of fruits - how strange is it not that while Nature is so bountiful with all her gifts that Man, sinful Man should be waging war against his brother Man - and yet he is only reaping the whirlwind he has sown.

What a desolation this war is causing, and yet it seems almost necessary, to bring the Nation to its senses - it is trials, troubles, and sorrows that cause us to reflect and see that our trust is not in <sup>to be betrayed</sup> man, but in the great principles of Love, Justice, Equity & Fraternity, and Christianity, and when we are fully convinced of this, then shall we have better Rulers & Leaders as the exponent of our ideas. Death has been making his rounds here as well as on the Battle Field. Little over two weeks ago, my cousin Caroline Kempton died - her death at last was rather sudden - we thought she might have lived till November but the day before she died she began to have great difficulty in her breathing, and suffered greatly till about twenty minutes before she died, when she passed away quietly, and almost imperceptibly being sensible to the last. She looked very natural after death though much emaciated. Mr Potter spoke most beautifully, and comforting at the funeral. Yesterday our Friend Isaac C. Taber died, after a short illness of a week or ten days. He had an introversion of the intestines and suffered excruciatingly - for several days he was under the influence of Anodynes & Chloroform - he has overworked himself, and is another victim to this accursed war - day and night he worked indefatigably - till prostrated

Nature finally gave out - Geo. T. Baker died  
a few weeks since - a great blessing - he has  
been sick several years - His daughter Mrs  
Turkin takes boarders among the number  
is my Aunt Phoebe Horton who ~~was~~ moved  
there from Horatio Kemptons after Carlins  
death - Ned Reynolds a young man about 25 years  
old, who was nephew of the former Mr Spooner  
and lived there till he went to sea, died at  
John R. Shourtens about a month since of  
Consumption - Last you may not have heard  
I will now inform you that Judge Oliver Prescott  
aged 55 is engaged to be married to Helen  
Howland aged 25 daughter of James Henry  
Howland - some difference in their ages - 30  
years - Her father used to go to school to the Judge  
and has the Judges Mother in law (Helen's Step Mother)  
is six months younger than his wife - I received  
a letter from Aunt Lotta Chapman of 33 West week  
before last speaking in the highest terms of Col  
Maggi both as a Soldier & an Abolitionist - and  
how he had infused his principles of Freedom  
into the whole Regt - I had the letter printed  
in the Standard it was so good - I should have  
sent you a copy, but I sent one to Wendell Phillips  
asking him to have it printed in the Liberator or  
Standard if he thought it would do any good  
and you will see it there, if not I can show it you

Col Maggi thinks every thing of Mr Forte and  
I feel very well satisfied in getting Mr Forte  
the place - The Col thinks every thing of Col  
Bates who is now Col of 12<sup>th</sup> late Webster's Regt.  
He was promoted as Major of Col Maggi's  
Regt but after Webster's death was again pro-  
moted to the Colonency of that Regt - He was but a  
short time with Maggi who regrets being obliged  
to lose him - I think Col Bates is a Weymouth  
man - Just think of John C Wyman the Capt  
that now is under Maggi being Provost Marshall  
of Alexandria - I saw the copy of Correspondence  
between Stanton & Secy War & Gen Andrew - both of them  
holding the 33<sup>d</sup> in the highest estimate - The Regt  
is going with Gen Sigel's Division - I rec<sup>d</sup> a letter  
from Capt Thos R Rodman 38<sup>th</sup> Regt - he is at Camp  
Cram near Baltimore - has been sick with the  
dysentery - is slowly recovering - says he is surprised  
to find so much Abolition sentiment among  
the men of the Regt as well as among the Marylanders.  
Major Wm Logan Rodman of same Regt is well - Sarah  
Ann continues the same - Rest of our family are all well.  
Thornton Briggs has enlisted - Sarah Thornton Gilbert wife  
is poorly, going to Baltimore Thursday - she is a little better  
now - Ferrisden, formerly a strong Democrat & now Editor of  
the Mercury has come out a strong Anti Slavery man, takes  
the highest ground - Tell Mr Chapman, I did not do any thing about  
selling up the meeting we talked of - for the reason that after my return for  
2 or more weeks there were no meetings, every night - now Sumner  
is going to speak the State & Phillips will lecture before our Lyceum

Ms. A. 9. 2. 31. 20