Isaac Goodnow correspondence

Section 11, Pages 301 - 330

This series of the Isaac Tichenor Goodnow collection includes sent and received correspondence of Isaac T. Goodnow (1814-1894) and also the correspondence of his brother, William E. Goodnow (1807-1876). This correspondence includes early courtship letters between Isaac and his future wife, Ellen Denison, as well as letters between William and his future wife, Harriet Paddleford. There are also several letters written by their brother, Jotham Goodnow. The correspondence is arranged in chronological order. Box 6 includes undated letters arranged by the first letter of the correspondent's last name. Isaac Goodnow moved to Kansas in 1855 and established the town of Manhattan and Bluemont Central Colllege. He died on March 20, 1894.

Date: 1826-1940

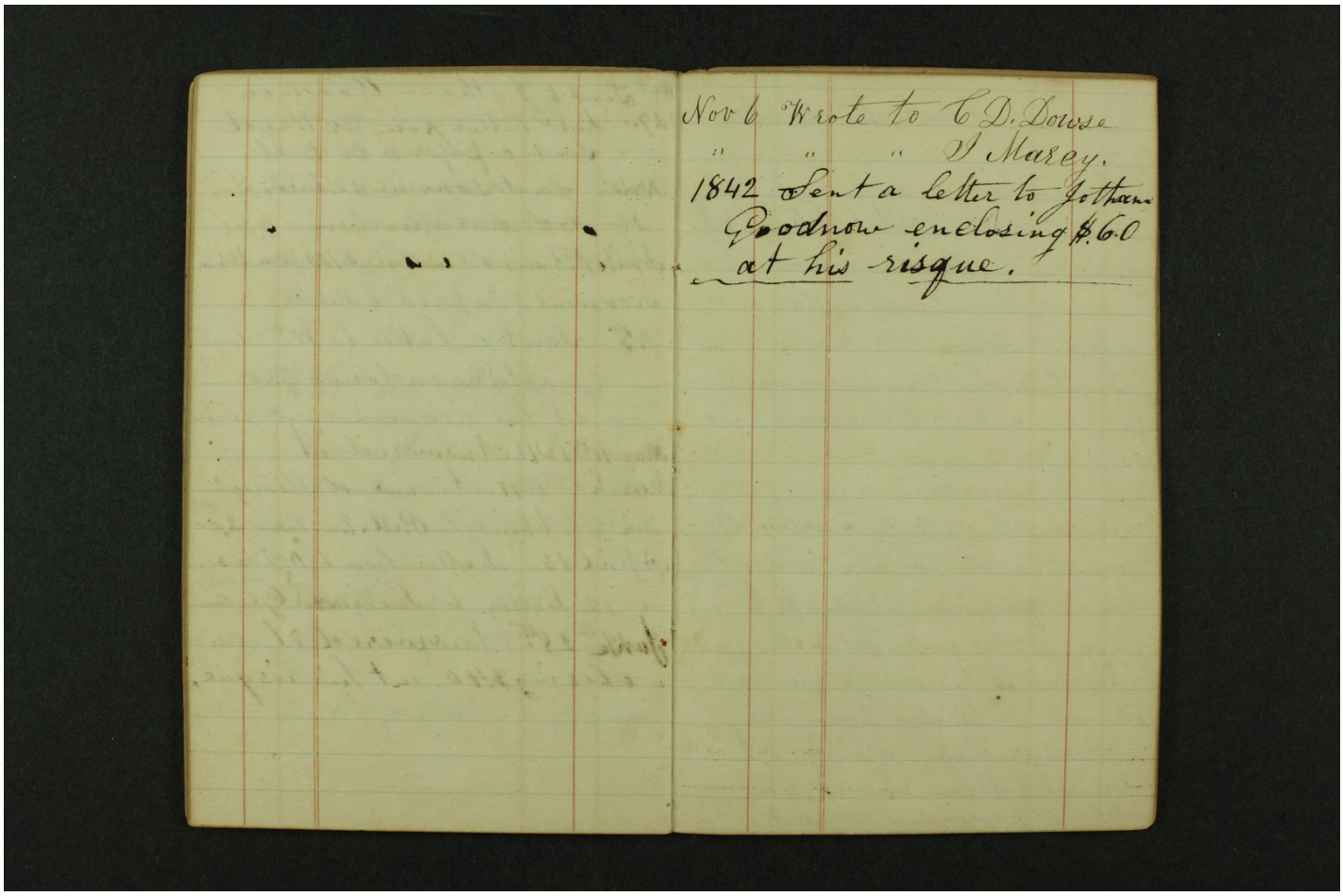
Callnumber: Isaac T. Goodnow Coll. #357, Box 1-6

KSHS Identifier: DaRT ID: 307637

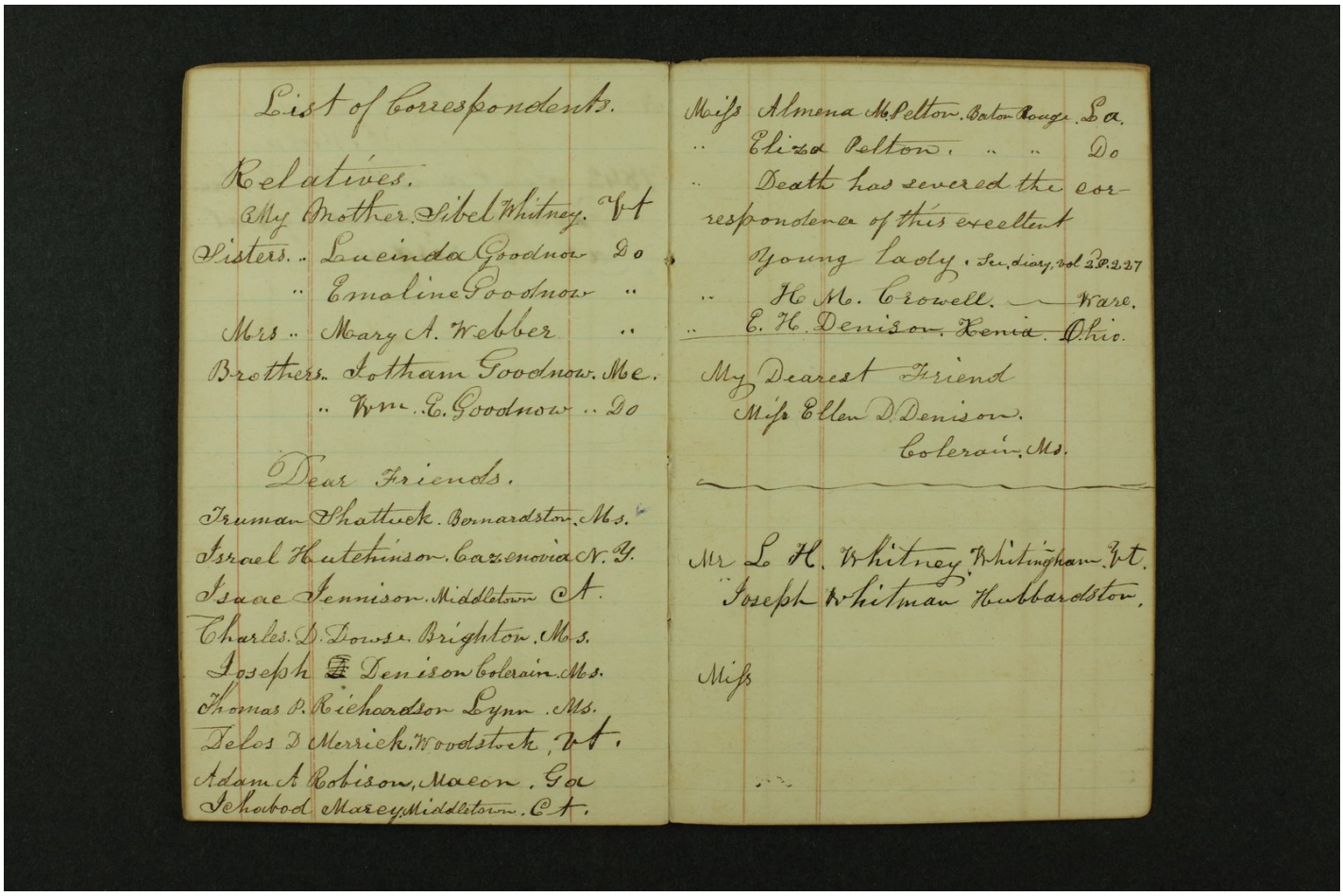
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Isaac Goodnow correspondence


Nov 6 Wrote to C D. Dowse
" " " T Marey.
1842 Sent a letter to Gotham
Goodnow enclosing $6.0
at his risque.

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



List of correspondents.

Relatives.

My Mother. Sibel Whitney. Vt
Sisters. " Lucinda Goodnow Do
" Emaline Goodnow "
Mrs " Mary A. Webber "
Brothers. Isotham Goodnow. Me.
" Wm. E. Goodnow " Do

Dear Friends.

Truman Shattuck. Bernardston. Ms.
Israel Hutchinson. Cazenovia N. Y.
Isaac Jennison. Middletown Ct.
Charles D. Dowse. Brighton. Ms.
Joseph E. Denison Colerain. Ms.
Thomas P. Richardson Lynn. Ms.
Delos D Merrick. Woodstock, Vt.
Adam A Robison, Macon, Ga
Ichabod Marcy. Middletown. Ct.

Miss Almena McPelton. Baton Rouge. La.
" Eliza Pelton. " " Do
" Death has severed the correspondence of this excellent young Lady. See diary, vol 29. 227
" H M. Crowell. — Ware.
" E. H. Denison. Xenia. Ohio.

My Dearest Friend
Miss Ellen D. Denison.
Colerain. Ms.

Mr L. H. Whitney Whitingham. Vt.
" Joseph Whitman Hubbardston.

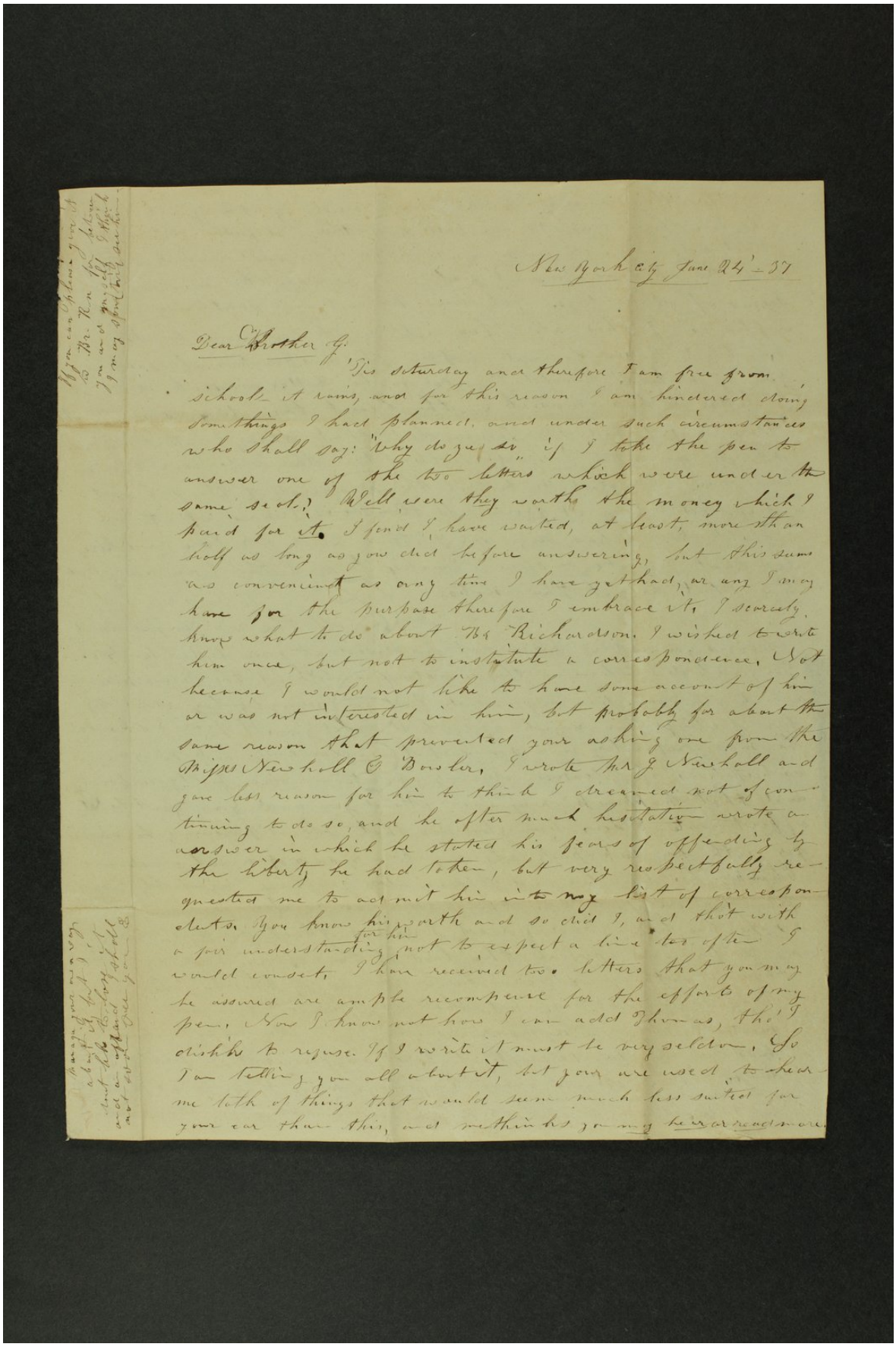
Miss

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



Isaac Goodnow correspondence

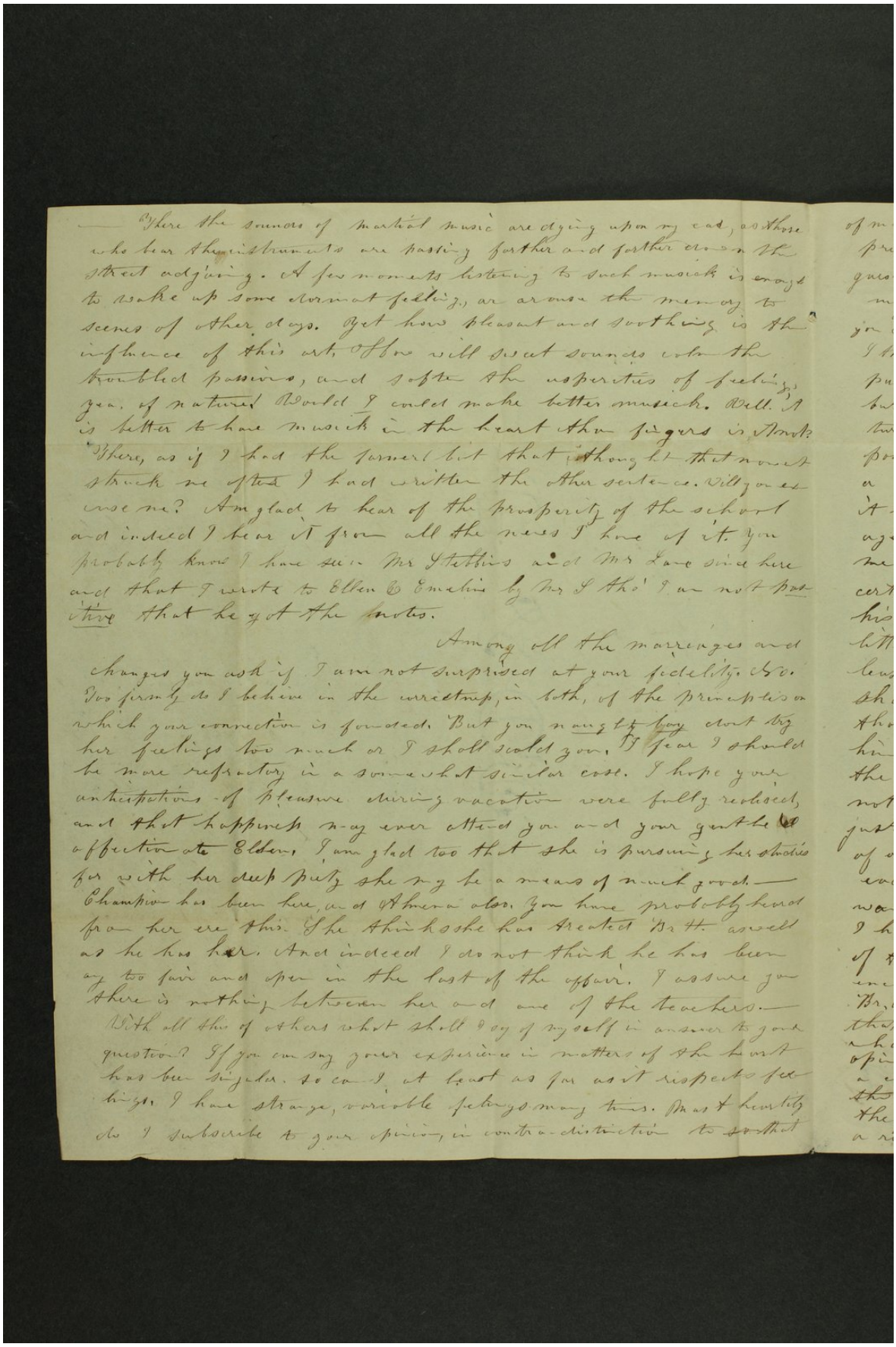




New York city June 24th – 37

Dear Brother G.

'Tis saturday and therefore I am free from school it rains, and for this reason I am hindered doing some things I had planned, and under such circumstances who shall say: "why do you do it" if I take the pen to answer one of the two letters which were under the same seal? Well were they worth the money which I paid for it. I fear I have waited, at least, more than half as long as you did before answering, but this seems as convenient as any time I have yet had, or any I may have for the purpose therefore I embrace it. I scarcely know what to do about Mr Richardson. I wished to write him once, but not to institute a correspondence. Not because I would not like to have some account of him or was not interested in him, but probably for about the same reason that prevented your asking one from the Misses Newhall & Boston. I wrote Mr J Newhall and gave him reason for him to think I dreamed not of continuing to do so, and he after much hesitation wrote an answer in which he stated his fears of offending by the liberty he had taken, but very respectfully requested me to admit him into my list of correspondents. You know his worth and so did I, and that with a fair understanding for him not to expect a line too often I would consent. I have received two letters that you may be assured are ample recompense for the effort of my pen. Now I know not how I can add Thomas, tho' I dislike to refuse. If I write it must be very seldom. So I am telling you all about it, but you are used to hearing me talk of things that would seem much less suited for your ear than this, and methinks you may bear a reading more

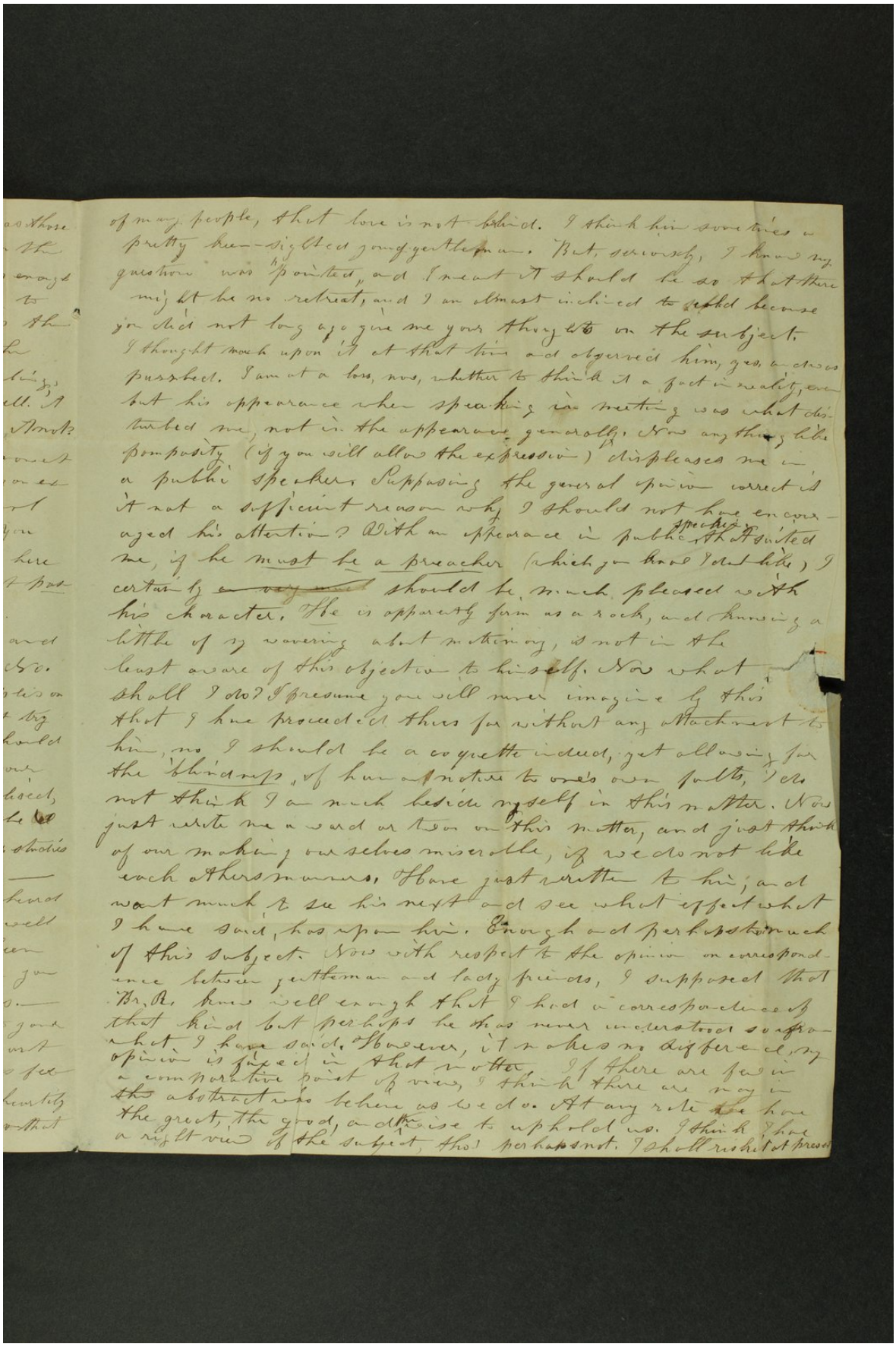


Where the sounds of martial music are dying upon my ear, as those who bear the instruments are passing further and further down the street adjoining. A few moments listening to such music is enough to make up some dormant feeling, or arouse the memory to scenes of other days. Yet how pleasant and soothing is the influence of this art. How will sweet sounds calm the troubled passions, and soften the asperities of feeling, yea, of natures! World I could make better music. Well. It is better to have music in the heart than fingers is it not? There, as if I had the former but that thought that never struck me after I had written the other sentence. Will you excuse me? Am glad to hear of the prosperity of the school and indeed I hear it from all the news I have of it. You probably know I have seen Mr Stebbins and Mr Lane since here and that I wrote to Ellen & Emeline by Mr S tho' I am not positive that he got the notes.

Among all the marriages and changes you ask if I am not surprised at your fidelity &c. Too firmly do I believe in the correctness, in both, of the principles on which your connection is founded. But you naughty boy dont dig her feelings too much or I shall scold you. I fear I should be more refractory in a somewhat similar case. I hope your anticipations of pleasure during vacation were fully realized, and that happiness may ever attend you and your gentle & affectionate Elden. I am glad too that she is pursuing her studies for with her deep piety she may be a means of much good.

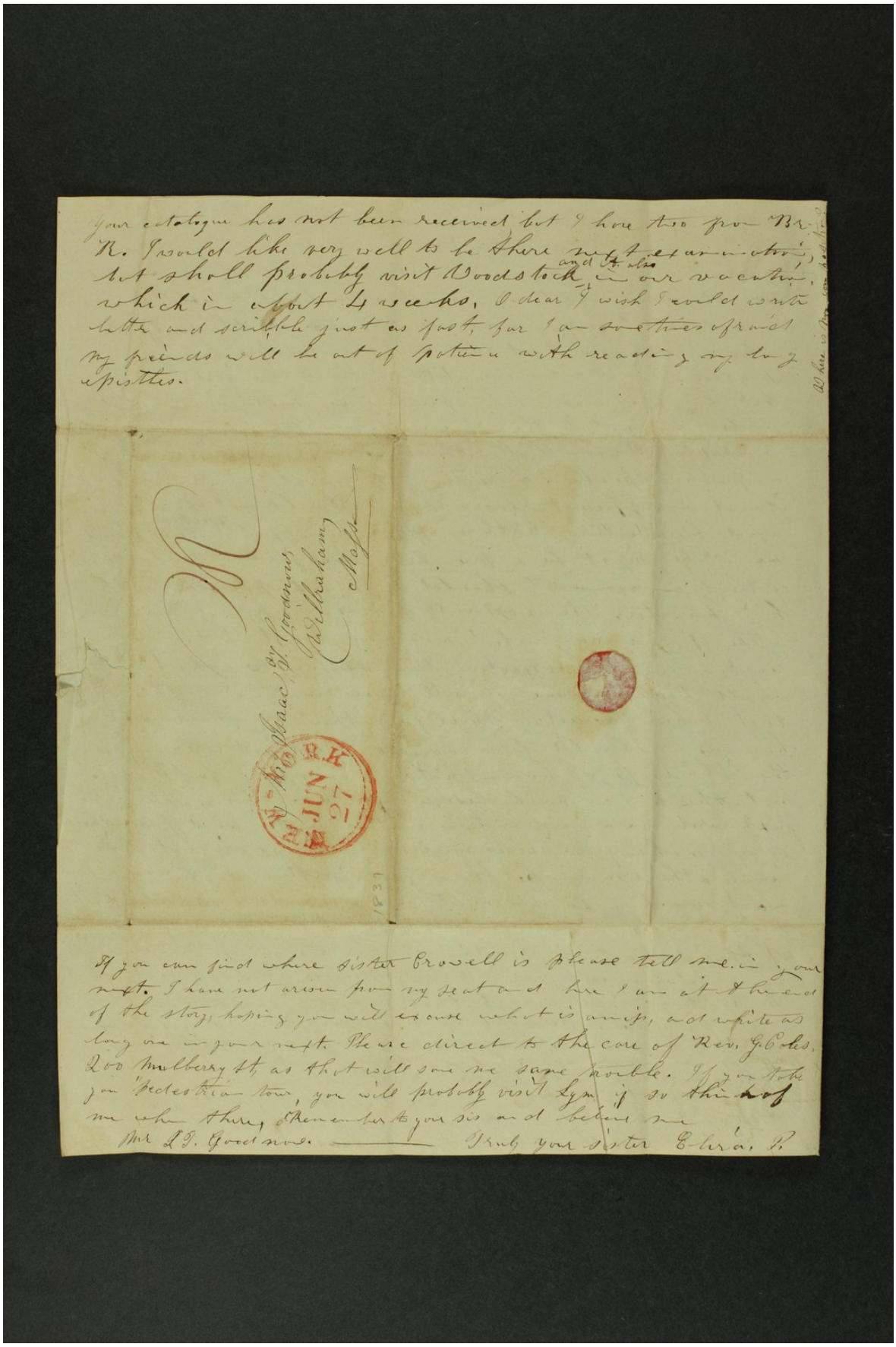
Champion has been here, and Almena also. You have probably heard from her ere this. She thinks she has treated Br H. as well as he has her. And indeed I do not think he has been any too fair and open in the last of the affair. I assure you there is nothing between her and one of the teachers.

With all this of others what shall I say of myself in answer to your question? If you can say your experience in matters of the heart has been singular, so can I, at least as far as it respects feelings. I have strange, variable feelings many times. Most heartily do I subscribe to your opinion, in contra-distinction to so that



of many people, that love is not blind. I think him sometimes a pretty keen-sighted young gentleman. But seriously, I know my question was pointed, and I meant it should be so that there might be no retreat, and I am almost inclined to scold because you did not long ago give me your thoughts on the subject. I thought much upon it at that time and observed him, yes, across purposes. I am at a loss, now, whether to think it a fact in reality, or but his appearance when speaking in meeting was what disturbed me, not in the appearance generally. Now anything like pomposity (if you will allow the expression) displeases me in a public speaker. Supposing the general opinion correct is it not a sufficient reason why I should not have encouraged his attention? With an appearance in public that pleased me, if he must be a preacher (which you know I dont like) I certainly ~~am very much~~ should be much pleased with his character. He is apparently firm as a rock, and knowing a little of my wavering about nothing, is not in the least aware of this objection to himself. Now what shall I do? I presume you will never imagine by this that I have proceeded thus far without any attachment to him, no I should be a coquette indeed, yet allowing for the blindness of human nature to one's own faults, I do not think I am much beside myself in this matter. Now just write me a word or two on this matter, and just think of our making ourselves miserable, if we do not like each others manners. I have just written to him, and want much to see his next and see what effect what I have said, has upon him. Enough and perhaps too much of this subject. Now with respect to the opinion on correspondence between gentleman and lady friends, I supposed that Br. R. knew well enough that I had a correspondence of that kind but perhaps he has never understood so much what I have said. However, it makes no difference, my opinion is fixed in that matter. If there are ~~few~~ in a comparative point of view, I think there are many in the abstract who believe as we do. At any rate we have the great, the good, and the wise to uphold us. I think I have a right view of the subject, tho' perhaps not. I shall rush at present

Isaac Goodnow correspondence



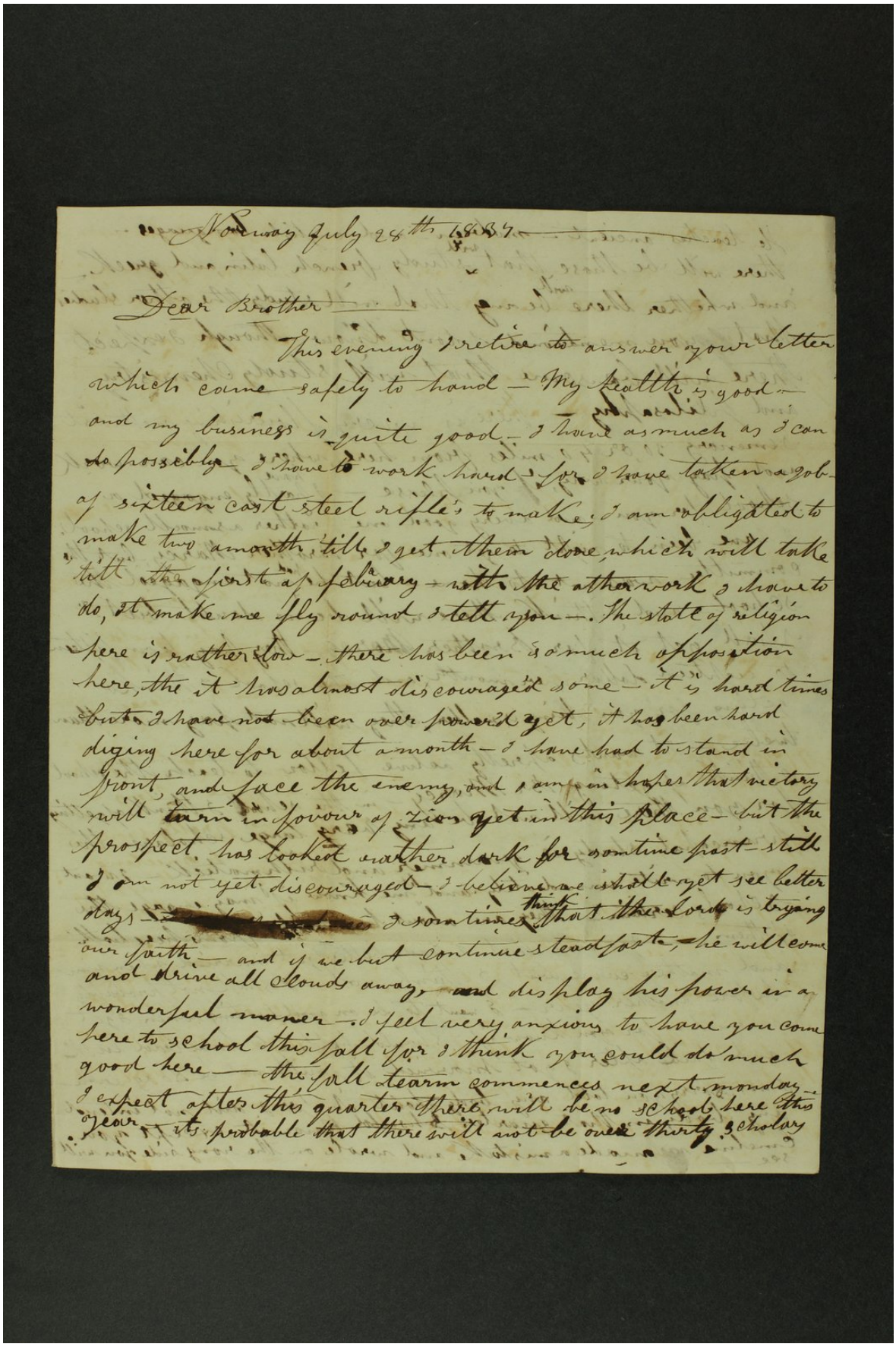
your catalogue has not been received but I have two from Mr. R. I would like very well to be there next autumn, but shall probably visit Woodstock and Ithaca in our vacation, which is about 4 weeks. O dear I wish I could write better and scribble just as fast, for I am sometimes afraid my friends will be out of patience with reading my long epistles.

Rev. Isaac G. Goodnow
Ithaca
Mass

N
YORK
JUN
27
1831

If you can find where Sister Crowell is please tell me in your next. I have not arisen from my seat and here I am at the end of the story, hoping you will excuse what is amiss, and write as long one in your next. Please direct to the care of Rev. G. Coles, 200 Mulberry St as that will save me some trouble. If you take your pedestrian tour, you will probably visit Lyn if so think of me when there. Remember to your sis and believe me

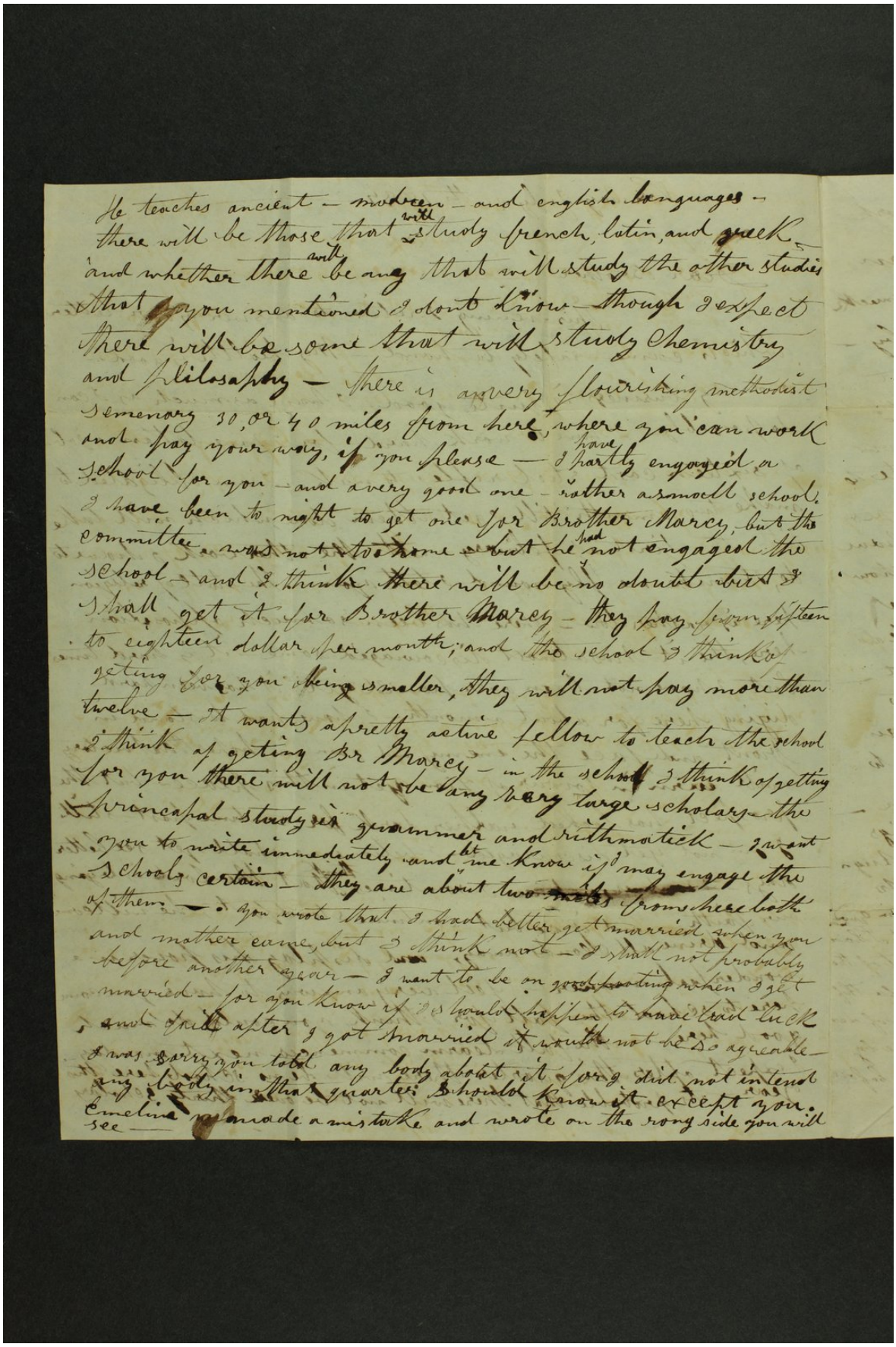
Mr I. G. Goodnow. ——— Truly your sister Clara P.



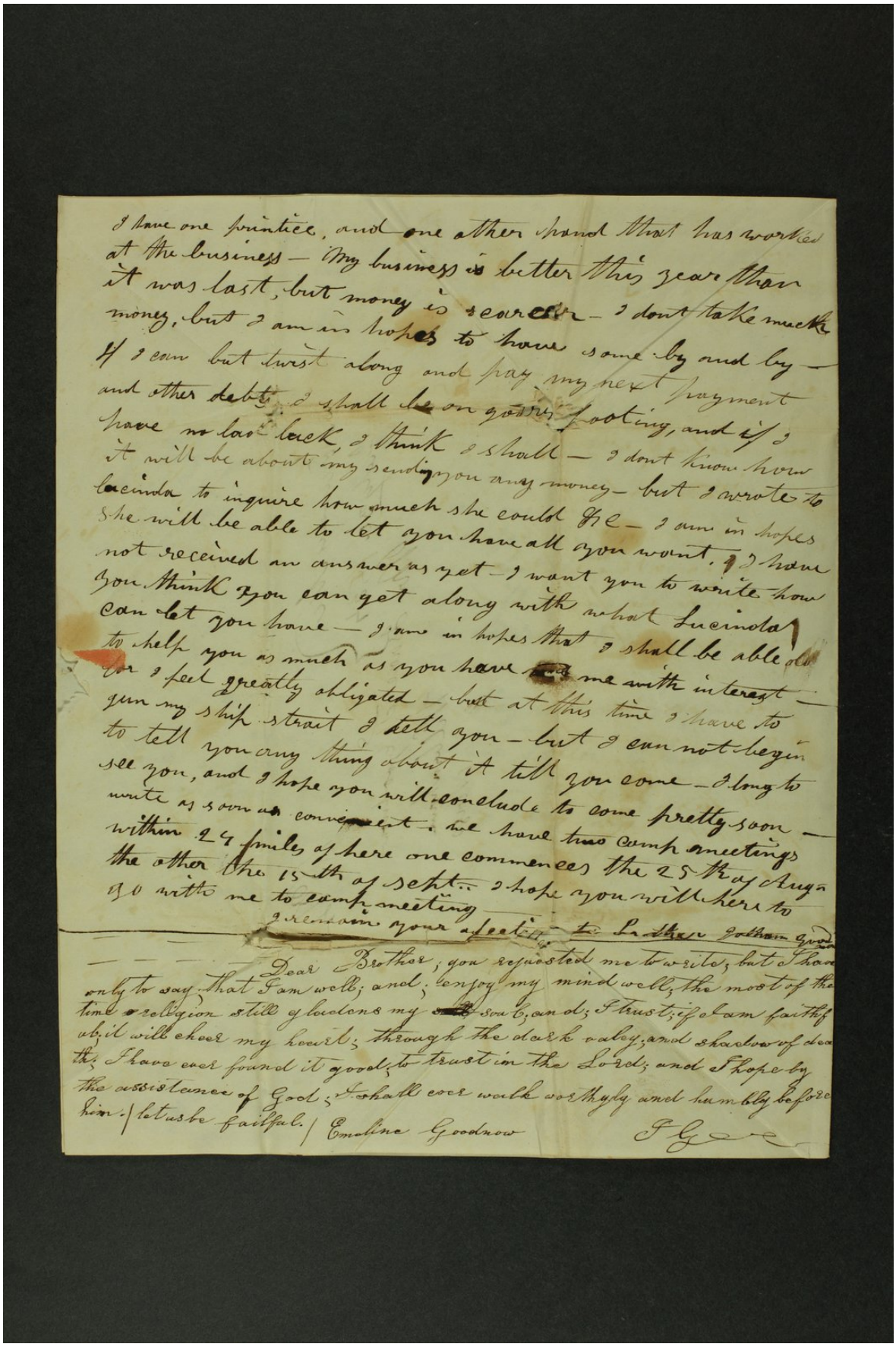
Kansway July 28th 1857

Dear Brother

This evening I retire to answer your letter which came safely to hand — My health is good — and my business is quite good — I have as much as I can do possibly — I have to work hard — for I have taken a job of sixteen cast steel rifle's to make, I am obligated to make two a month till I get them done, which will take till the first of February — with the other work I have to do, it make me fly round I tell you —. The state of religion here is rather low — there has been so much opposition here, that it has almost discouraged some — it is hard times but I have not been over powered yet, it has been hard diging here for about a month — I have had to stand in front, and face the enemy, and I am in hopes that victory will turn in favour of Zion yet in this place — but the prospect has looked rather dark for sometime past — still I am not yet discouraged — I believe we shall yet see better days — I sometimes think that the Lord is trying our faith — and if we but continue steadfast, he will come and drive all clouds away and display his power in a wonderful manner — I feel very anxious to have you come here to school this fall for I think you could do much good here — the fall tearm commences next monday — I expect after this quarter there will be no school here this year — its probable that there will not be over thirty scholars



He teaches ancient – modreen – and english languages – there will be those that will study french, latin, and greek – and whether there will be any that will study the other studies that you mentioned I dont know – though I expect there will be some that will study Chemistry and Philosophy – There is a very flourishing methodist Semenary 30, or 40 miles from here, where you can work and pay your way, if you please – I have partly engaged a School for you – and a very good one – rather a small school. I have been to night to get one for Brother Marcy, but the committee was not to home – but he had not engaged the school – and I think there will be no doubt but I shall get it for Brother Marcy – they pay from fifteen to eighteen dollar per month; and the school I think is geting for you being smaller, they will not pay more than twelve – it wants a pretty active fellow to teach the school I think of geting Br Marcy – in the school I think of getting for you there will not be any very large scholars – the Principal studys are grammer and rithmatick – I want you to write immediately and let me know if I may engage the School certain – they are about two miles from here both of them – You wrote that I had better get married when you and mother came, but I think not – I shall not probably before another year – I want to be on good footing when I get married – for you know if I should happen to have bad luck and fail after I got married it would not be so agreeable – I was sorry you told any body about it for I did not intend any body in that quarter should know it except you. Emeline I made a mistake and wrote on the wrong side you will see –

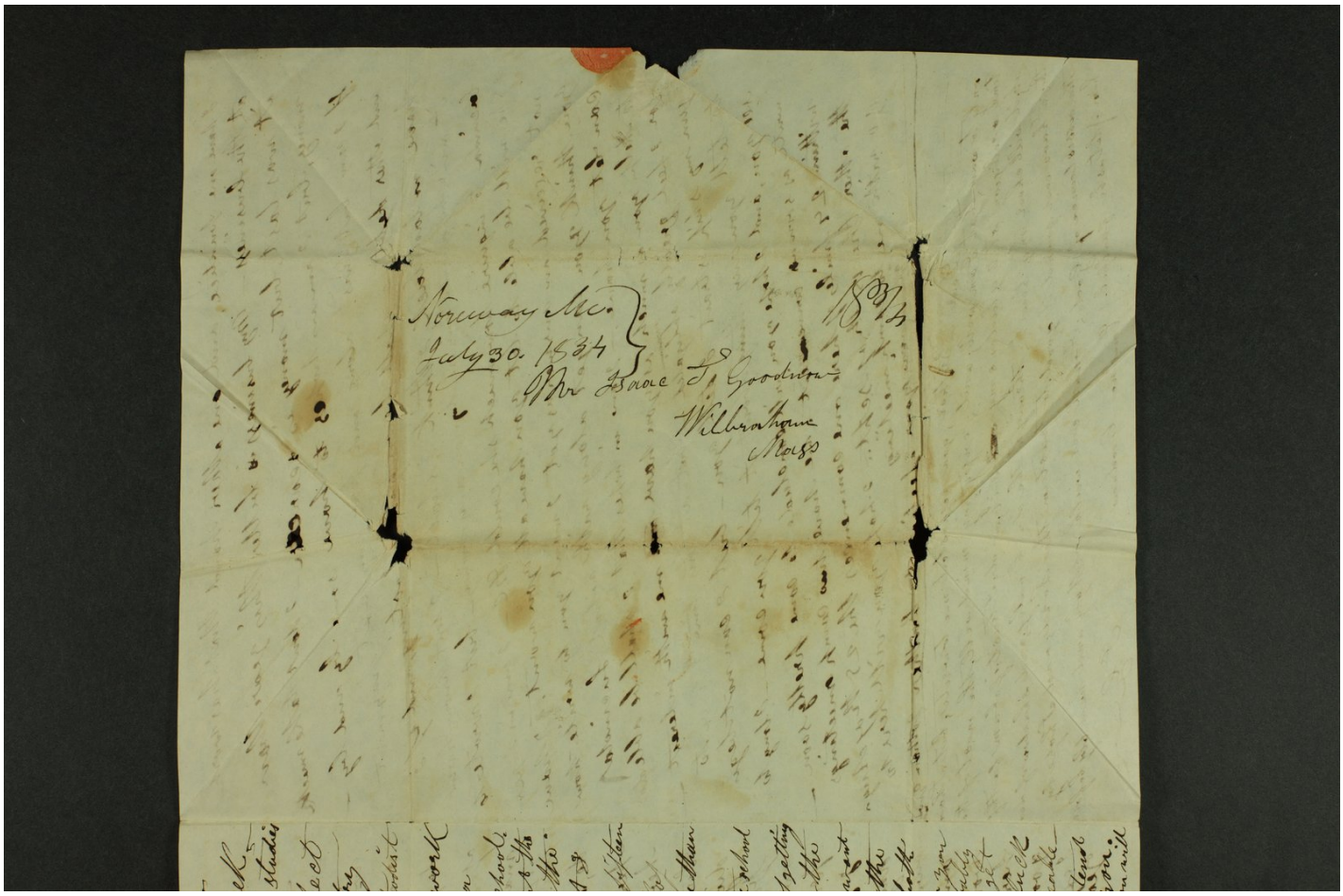


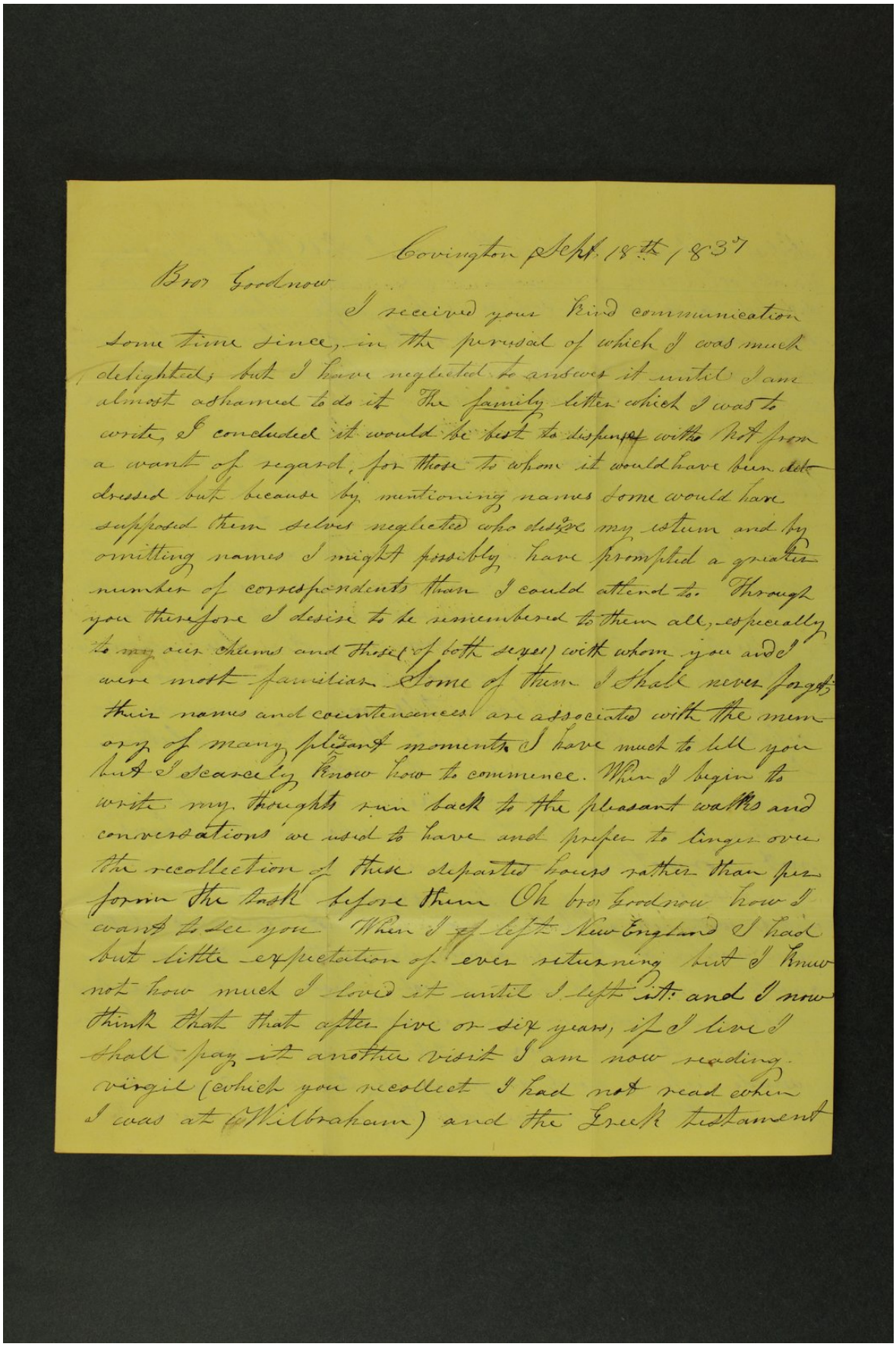
I have one printice, and one other hand that has worked at the business — My business is better this year than it was last, but money is scarcer — I dont take much money, but I am in hopes to have some by and by — if I can but twist along and pay my next payment and other debts I shall be on good footing, and if I have no bad luck I think I shall — I dont know how it will be about my sending you any money — but I wrote to Lucinda to inquire how much she could get — I am in hopes she will be able to let you have all you want. I have not received an answer as yet — I want you to write how you think you can get along with what Lucinda can let you have — I am in hopes that I shall be able to help you as much as you have me with interest — for I feel greatly obligated — but at this time I have to run my ship strait I tell you — but I can not begin to tell you any thing about it till you come — I long to see you, and I hope you will conclude to come pretty soon — write as soon as convenient. we have two camp meetings within 24 miles of here one commences the 25th of Aug the other the 15th of sept. I hope you will here to go with me to camp meeting

I remain your affectionate Brother Gotham Goodnow

Dear Brother, you requested me to write, but I have only to say that I am well, and, enjoy my mind well, the most of the time religion still of leadens my soul, and I trust, if I am faithful it will cheer my heart, through the dark valley, and shadow of death, I have ever found it good, to trust in the Lord, and I hope by the assistance of God, I shall ever walk worthyly and humbly before him / let us be faithful / Emeline Goodnow

Isaac Goodnow correspondence

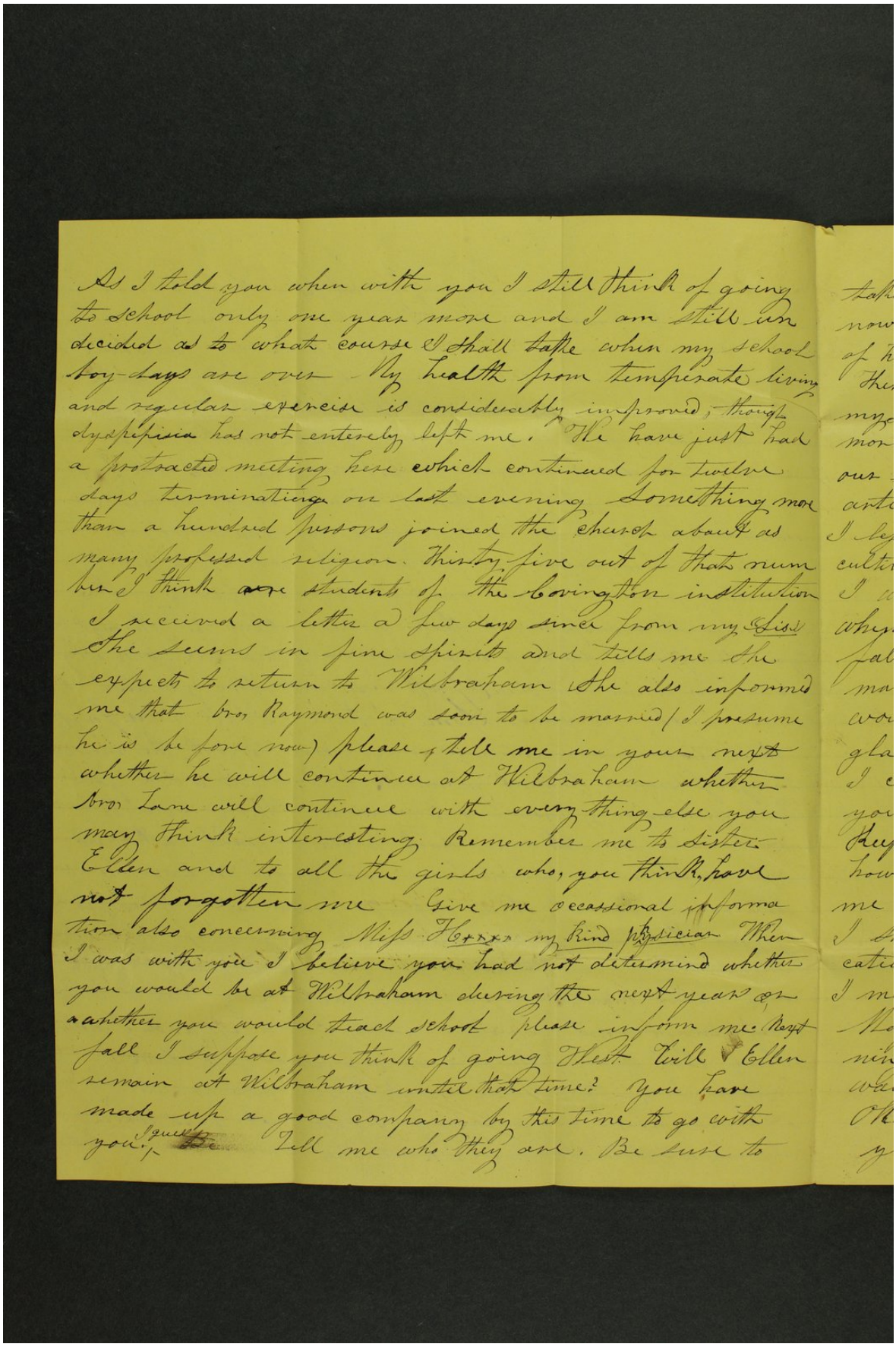




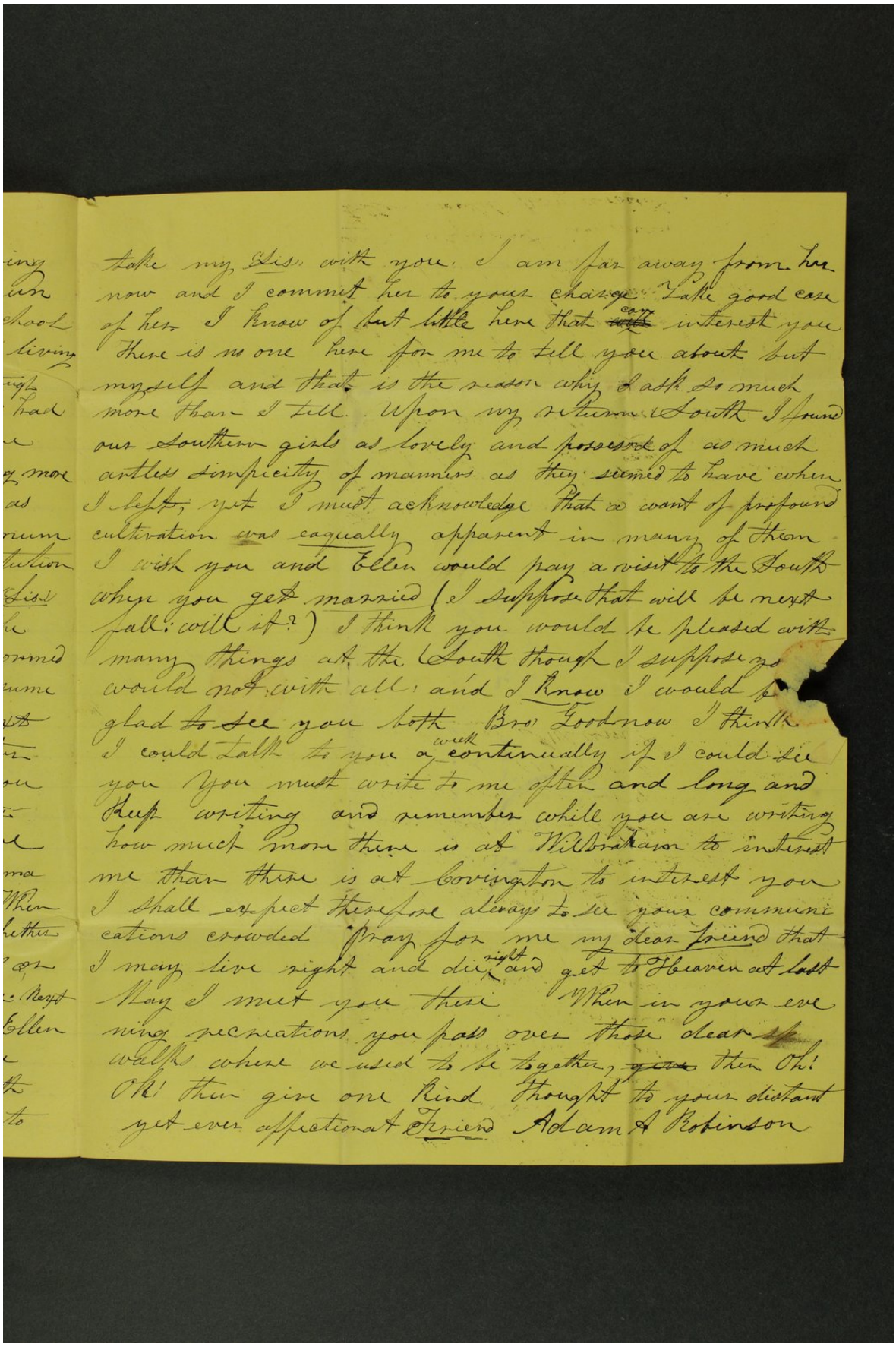
Covington Sept 18th 1837

Bro Goodnow

I received your kind communication some time since, in the perusal of which I was much delighted; but I have neglected to answer it until I am almost ashamed to do it. The family letter which I was to write, I concluded it would be best to dispense with. Not from a want of regard for those to whom it would have been addressed but because by mentioning names some would have supposed themselves neglected who desire my return and by omitting names I might possibly have prompted a greater number of correspondents than I could attend to. Through you therefore I desire to be remembered to them all, especially to my own chums and those (of both sexes) with whom you and I were most familiar. Some of them I shall never forget. Their names and countenances are associated with the memory of many pleasant moments. I have much to tell you but I scarcely know how to commence. When I begin to write my thoughts run back to the pleasant walks and conversations we used to have and prefer to linger over the recollection of those departed hours rather than perform the task before them. Oh bro Goodnow how I want to see you. When I left New England I had but little expectation of ever returning but I know not how much I loved it until I left it: and I now think that that after five or six years, if I live I shall pay it another visit. I am now reading Virgil (which you recollect I had not read when I was at Wilbraham) and the Greek testament

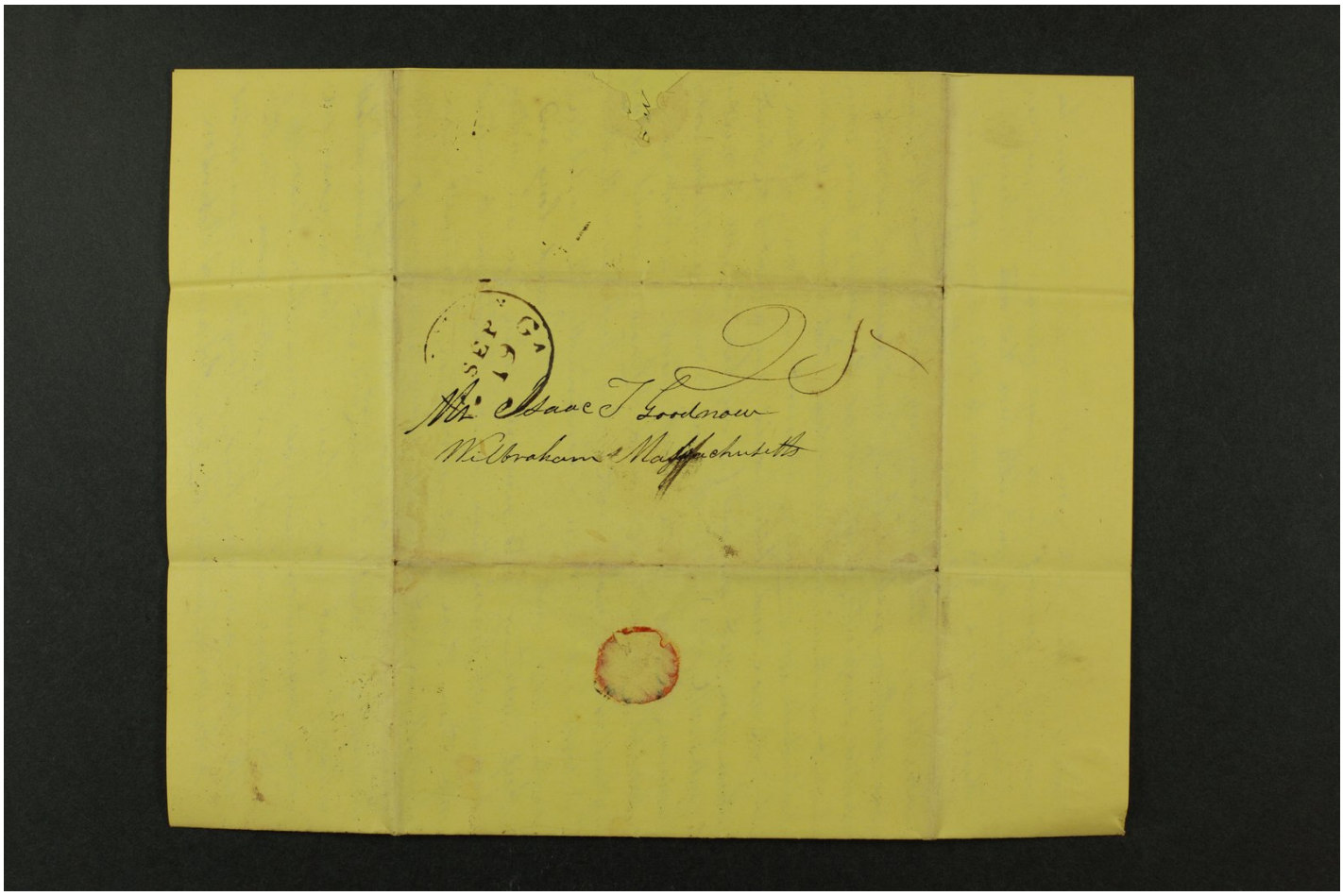


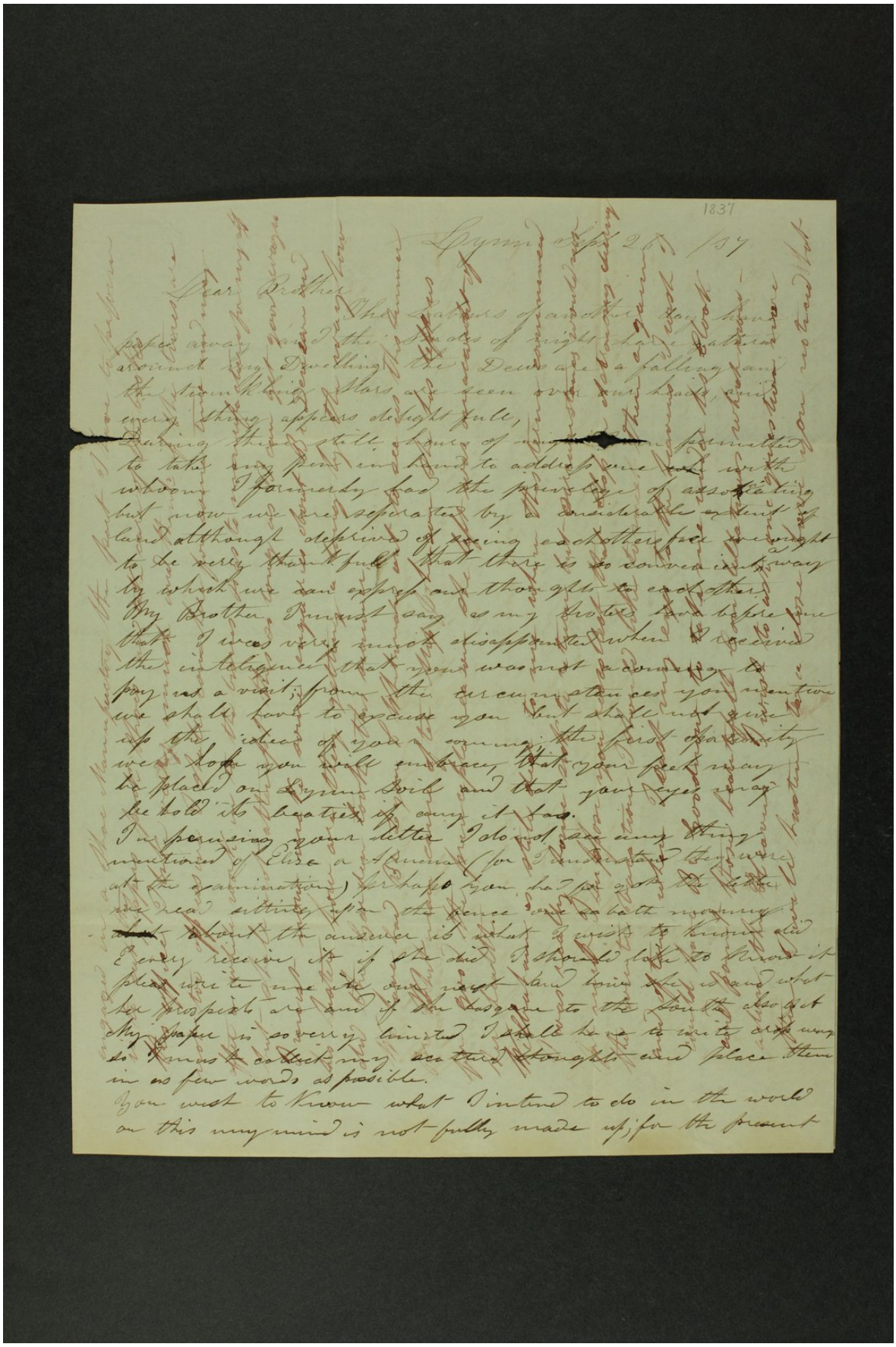
As I told you when with you I still think of going to school only one year more and I am still undecided as to what course I shall take when my school boy days are over. My health from temperate living and regular exercise is considerably improved, though dyspepsia has not entirely left me. We have just had a protracted meeting here which continued for twelve days terminating on last evening. Something more than a hundred persons joined the church about as many professed religion. Thirty five out of that number I think are students of the Covington institution. I received a letter a few days since from my Miss She seems in fine spirits and tells me she expects to return to Wilbraham. She also informed me that bro. Raymond was soon to be married (I presume he is before now) please tell me in your next whether he will continue at Wilbraham whether bro. Lane will continue with every thing else you may think interesting. Remember me to sister Ellen and to all the girls who, you think, have not forgotten me. Give me occassional information also concerning Miss Hoxie my kind physician. When I was with you I believe you had not determined whether you would be at Wilbraham during the next year or whether you would teach school. Please inform me. Next fall I suppose you think of going West. Will Ellen remain at Wilbraham until that time? You have made up a good company by this time to go with you, I guess. Tell me who they are. Be sure to



take my Miss with you. I am far away from her
now and I commit her to your charge. Take good care
of her. I know of but little here that can interest you
There is no one here for me to tell you about but
myself and that is the reason why I ask so much
more than I tell. Upon my return South I found
our Southern girls as lovely and possessed of as much
artless simplicity of manners as they seemed to have when
I left, yet I must acknowledge that a want of profound
cultivation was equally apparent in many of them
I wish you and Ellen would pay a visit to the South
when you get married (I suppose that will be next
fall. will it?) I think you would be pleased with
many things at the South though I suppose as
would not with all. and I know I would be
glad to see you both Bro Goodnow I think
I could talk to you a week continually if I could see
you You must write to me often and long and
keep writing and remember while you are writing
how much more there is at Wilbraham to interest
me than there is at Covington to interest you
I shall expect therefore always to see your communi
cations crowded Pray for me my dear friend that
I may live right and die right and get to Heaven at last
May I meet you there When in your eve
ning recreations you pass over those dear
walks where we used to be together, then Oh!
Oh! then give one kind thought to your distant
yet ever affectionate friend Adam A Robinson

Isaac Goodnow correspondence





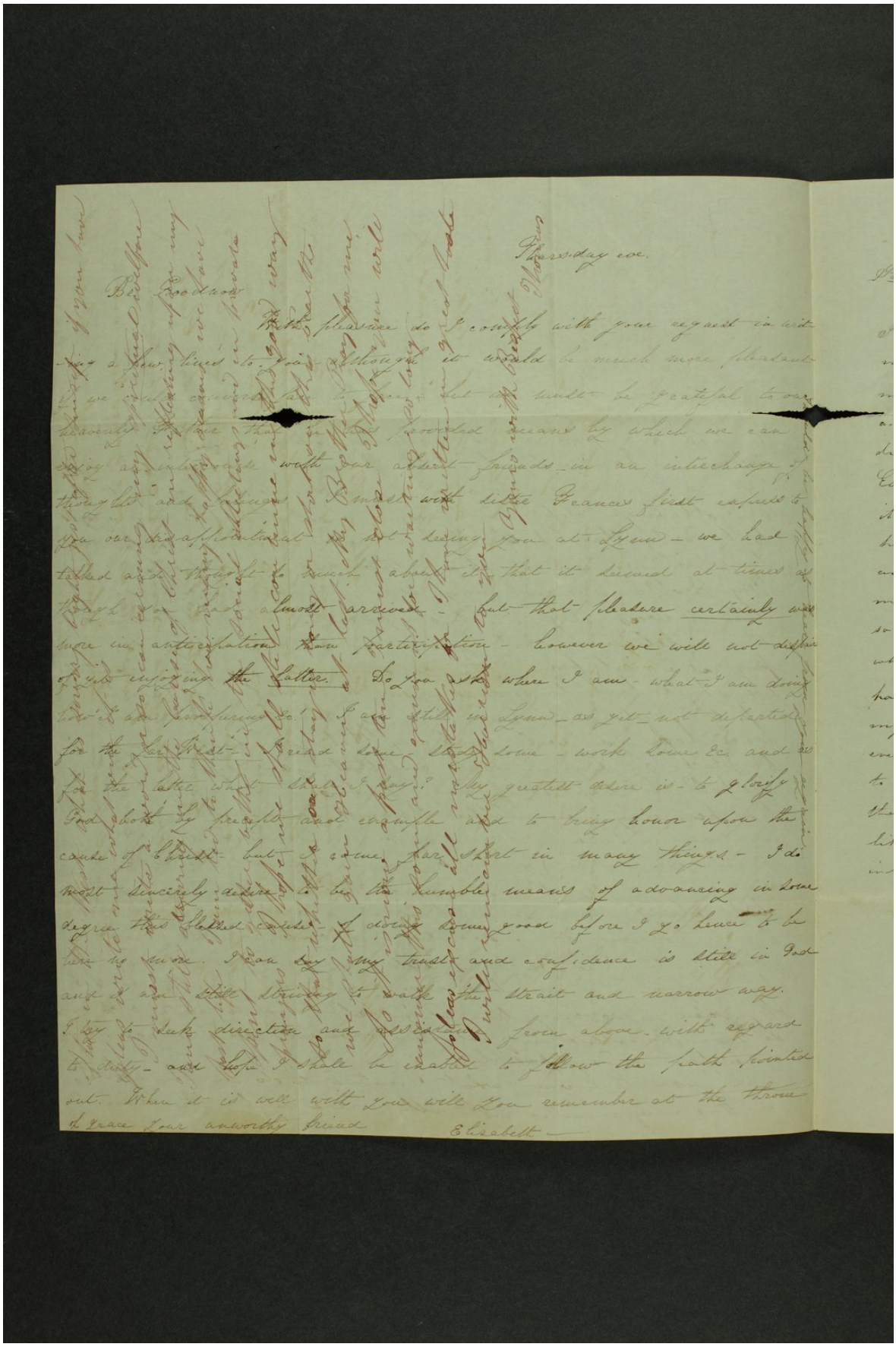
Lynn Sept 26 1837

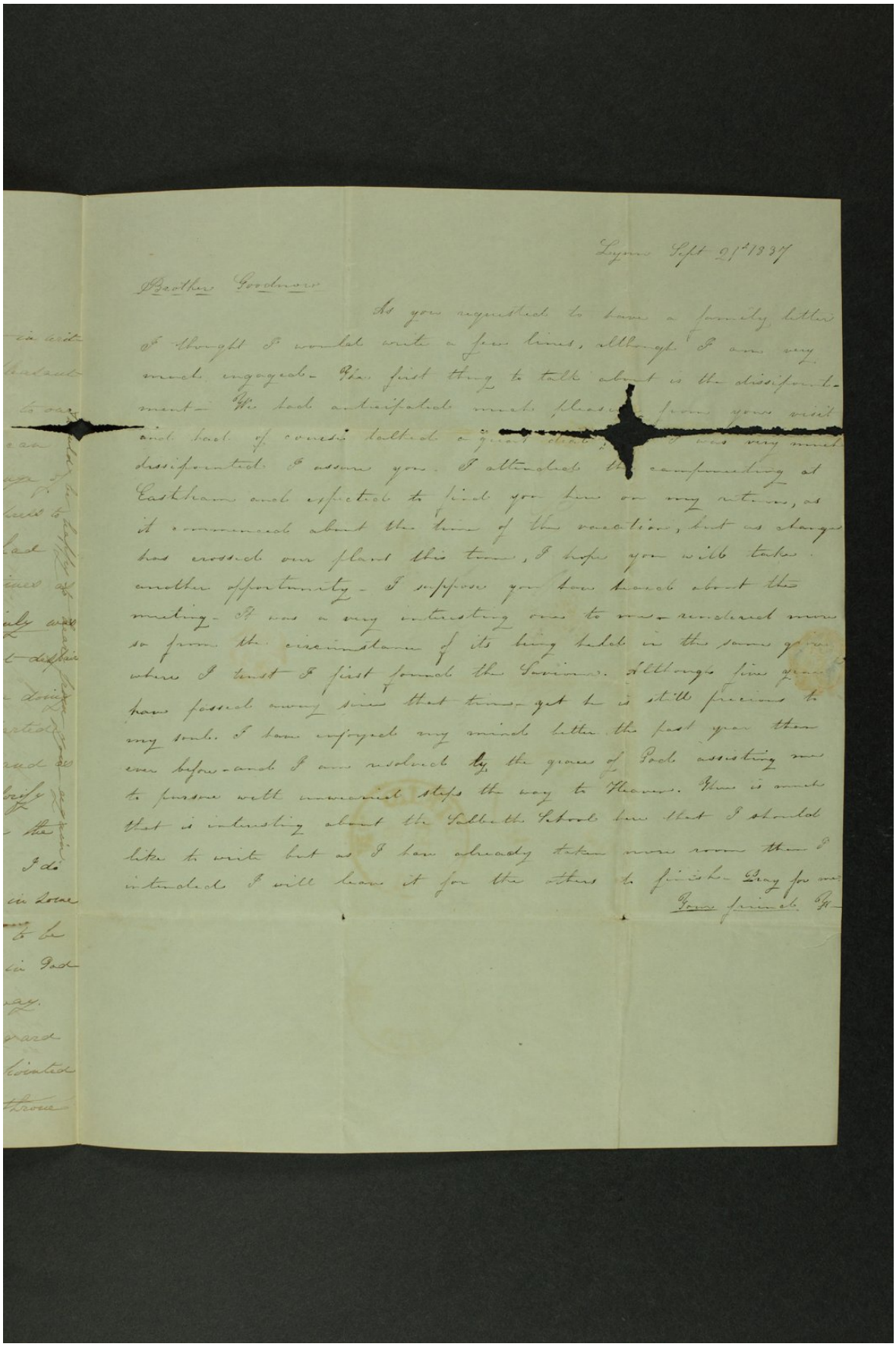
Dear Brother

The Saturn of another day has passed away and the shades of night have gathered around my Dwelling the Dews are falling and the twinkling stars are seen over head, and every thing appears delightful, during these still hours of meditation permitted to take my pen in hand to address one with whom I formerly had the privilege of associating but now we are separated by a considerable extent of land although deprived of seeing each other face to face we ought to be very thankful that there is so convenient a way by which we can express our thoughts to each other My Brother I must say as my mother has before me that I was very much disappointed when I received the intelligence that you was not coming to pay us a visit; from the circumstances you mention we shall have to excuse you but shall not give up the idea of your coming the first opportunity we hope you will embrace, that your feet may be placed on Lynn Soil and that your eyes may behold its beauties if any it has.

In perusing your letter I do not see any thing mentioned of Eliza a Seminary (you understand we were at the examination) perhaps you have got the better we need sitting upon the fence some debate respecting about the answer is what I wish to know and every receive it if she did I should like to know it please write me the one next how long she is and what her prospects are and if she engage to the South also let me know. My paper is so very limited I shall have to write close so I must collect my scattered thoughts and place them in as few words as possible.

You wish to know what I intend to do in the world on this my mind is not fully made up, for the present





Lynn Sept 21st 1837

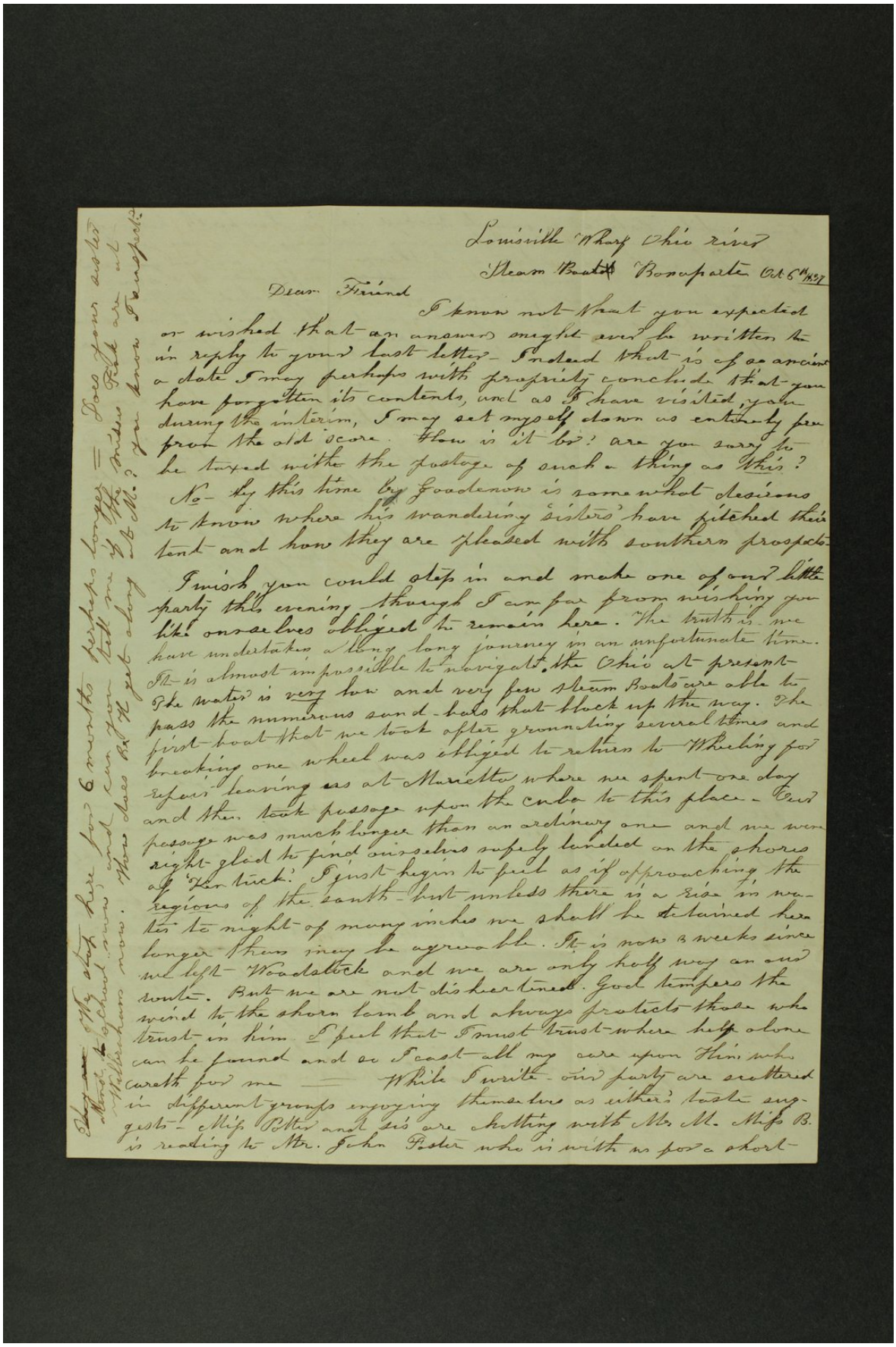
Brother Goodnow

As you requested to have a family letter I thought I would write a few lines, although I am very much engaged. The first thing to talk about is the disappointment. We had anticipated much pleasure from your visit and had of course talked a great deal. I was very much disappointed. I assure you. I attended the camp meeting at Eastham and expected to find you there on my return, as it commenced about the time of the vacation, but as danger has crossed our plans this time, I hope you will take another opportunity. I suppose you have heard about the meeting. It was a very interesting one to me rendered more so from the circumstance of its being held in the same grove where I first found the Saviour. Although five years have passed away since that time yet it is still precious to my soul. I have enjoyed my mind better the past year than ever before and I am resolved by the grace of God assisting me to pursue with renewed steps the way to Heaven. There is much that is interesting about the Sabbath School here that I should like to write but as I have already taken more room than I intended I will leave it for the others to finish. Pray for me

Your friend. P—

Isaac Goodnow correspondence





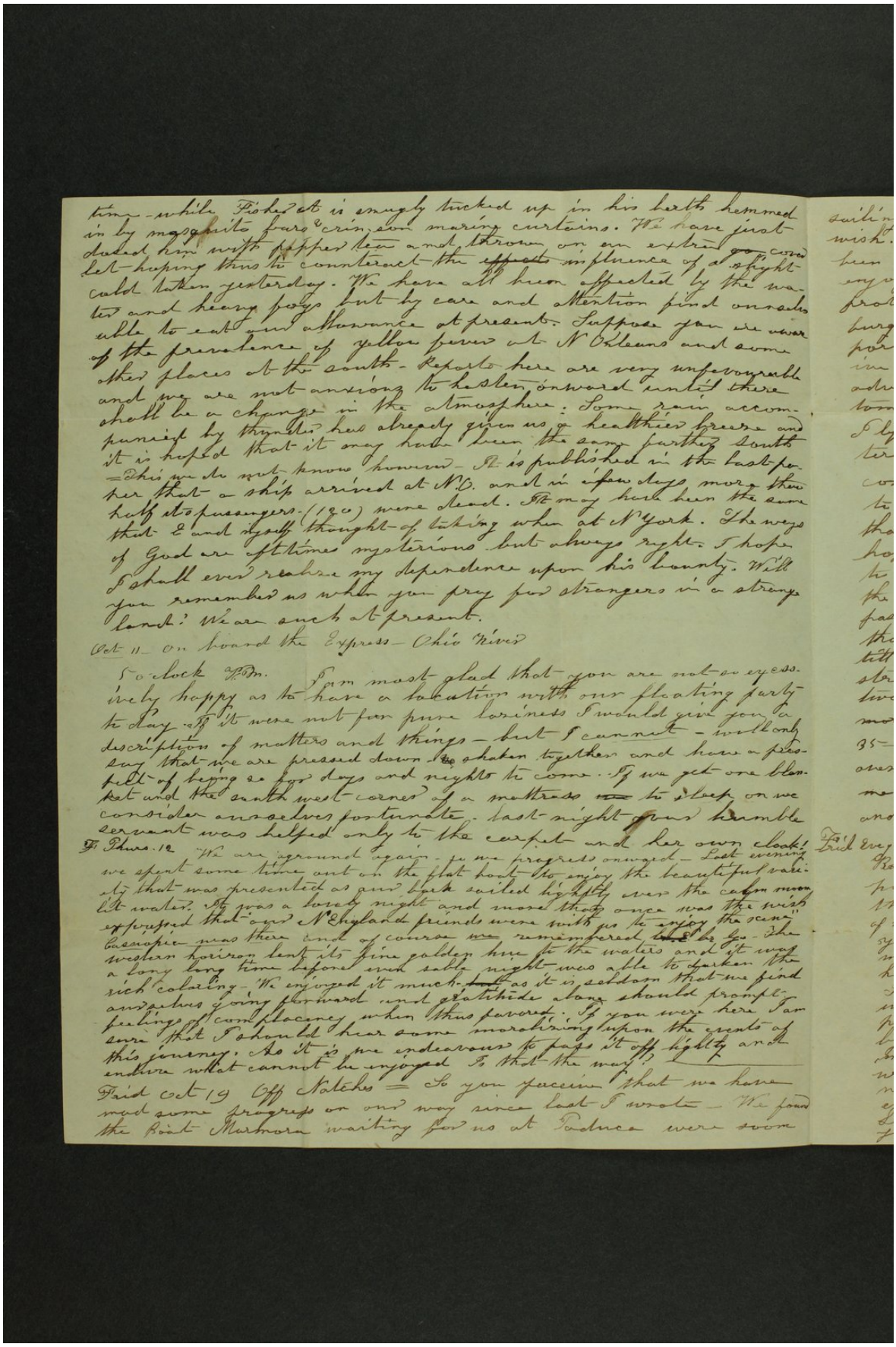
Louisville Wharf Ohio river
Steam Boat Bonaparte Oct 5th 1857

Dear Friend

I know not that you expected or wished that an answer ought ever be written to in reply to your last letter. Indeed that is of so ancient a date I may perhaps with propriety conclude that you have forgotten its contents, and as I have visited, you during the interim, I may set myself down as entirely free from the debt score. How is it Sir? are you sorry to be taxed with the postage of such a thing as this?

No- by this time Mr Goodenow is somewhat desirous to know where his wandering 'sisters' have pitched their tent and how they are pleased with southern prospects.

I wish you could step in and make one of our little party this evening though I am far from wishing you like ourselves obliged to remain here. The truth is we have undertaken a long long journey in an unfortunate time. It is almost impossible to navigate the Ohio at present. The water is very low and very few steem Boats are able to pass the numerous sand-bars that block up the way. The first boat that we took after grounding several times and breaking one wheel was obliged to return to Wheeling for repairs leaving us at Marietta where we spent one day and then took passage upon the Cuba to this place. Our passage was much longer than an ordinary one and we were right glad to find ourselves safely landed on the shores of "Old Kentuck". I just begin to feel as if approaching the regions of the south- but unless there is a change in weather to night of many inches we shall be detained here longer than may be agreeable. It is now 3 weeks since we left Woodstock and we are only half way on our route. But we are not disheartened. God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb and always protects those who trust in him. I feel that I must trust where help alone can be found and so I cast all my care upon Him who careth for me — While I write our party are scattered in different groups enjoying themselves as either's taste suggests- Miss Potter and Sis are chatting with Mr M. Miss B. is reading to Mr. John Foster who is with us for a short-



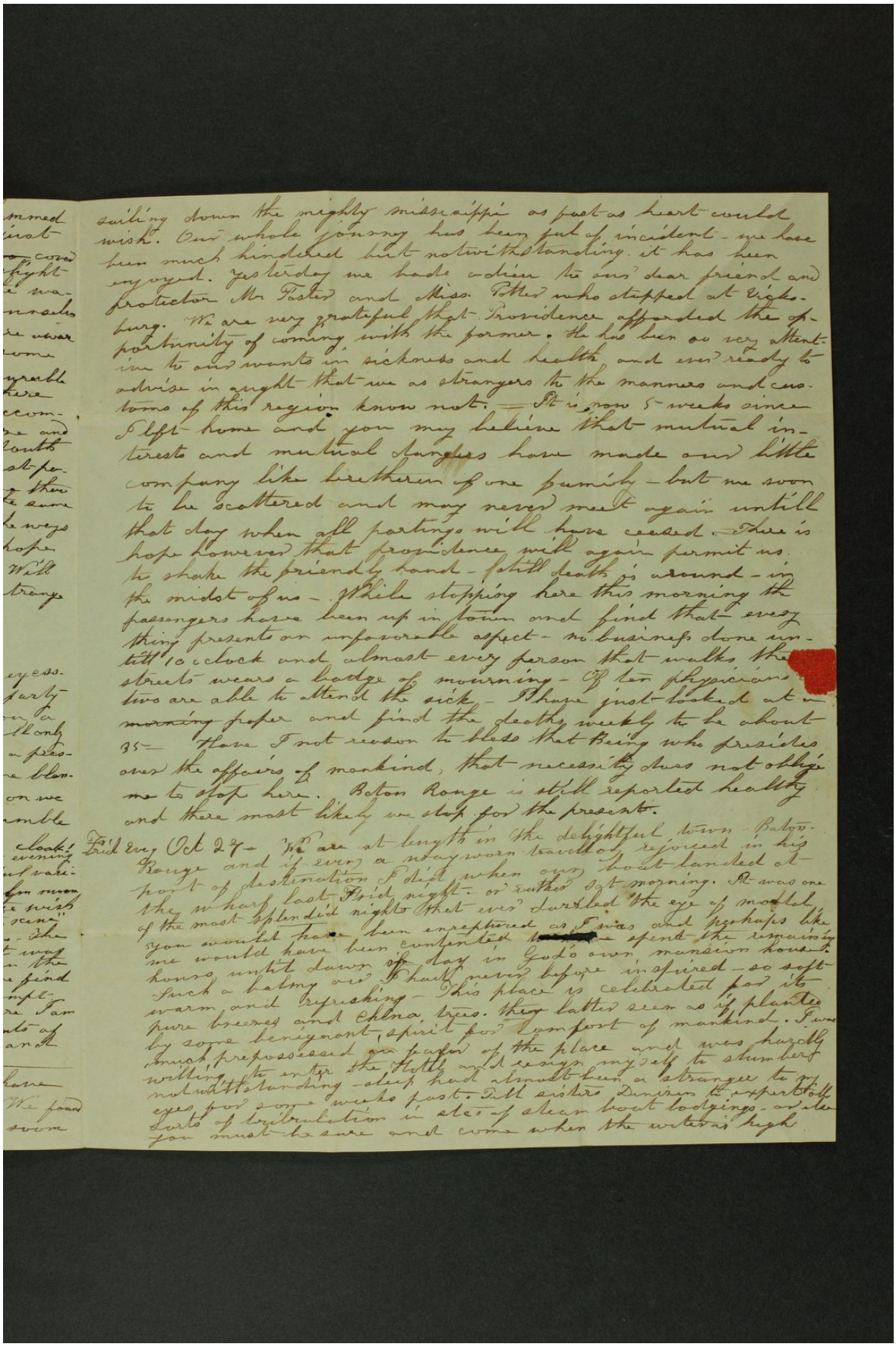
time - while Father is snugly tucked up in his berth hemmed in by mosquito bars & crimson muring curtains. We have just dosed him with pepper tea and thrown on an extra coverlet - hoping thus to counteract the effects influence of a slight cold taken yesterday. We have all been effected by the water and heavy pork but by care and attention find ourselves able to eat our allowance at present. Suppose you are aware of the prevalence of yellow fever at N Orleans and some other places at the south. Reports here are very unfavorable and we are not anxious to hasten onward until there shall be a change in the atmosphere. Some rain accompanied by thunder has already given us a healthier breeze and it is hoped that it may have been the same further south. This we do not know however. It is published in the last paper that a ship arrived at N.O. and in a few days more the bulk of passengers (120) were dead. It may have been the same that I and myself thought of taking when at N York. The ways of God are oft times mysterious but always right. I hope I shall ever realize my dependence upon his bounty. Will you remember us when you pray for strangers in a strange land? We are such at present.

Oct 11 On board the Express - Ohio River

5 o'clock p.m. I am most glad that you are not as joyously happy as to have a baloatin with our floating party to day - if it were not for pure laziness I would give you a description of matters and things - but I can not - will only say that we are pressed down & shaken together and have a prospect of being so for days and nights to come. If we get one blanket and the earth west canes & a mattress to sleep on we consider ourselves fortunate. Last night your humble servant was helped only to the carpet and her own cloak!

Fri Thurs 12 We are aground again - so we progress onward - Last evening we spent some time out on the flat boat to enjoy the beautiful variety that was presented as our bark sailed lightly over the calm moonlit waters. It was a lovely night and more than once was the wish expressed that our N England friends were with us to enjoy the scene. Canopies was there and of course we remembered you & Jo. The western horizon lent its fine golden hue to the waters and it was a long long time before each sable night was able to darken the rich coloring. We enjoyed it much but as it is seldom that we find ourselves going forward and gratitude alone should prompt the feelings of complacency when thus favored. If you were here I am sure that I should hear some moralizing upon the events of this journey. As it is we endeavour to pass it off lightly and endure what cannot be enjoyed. Is that the way?

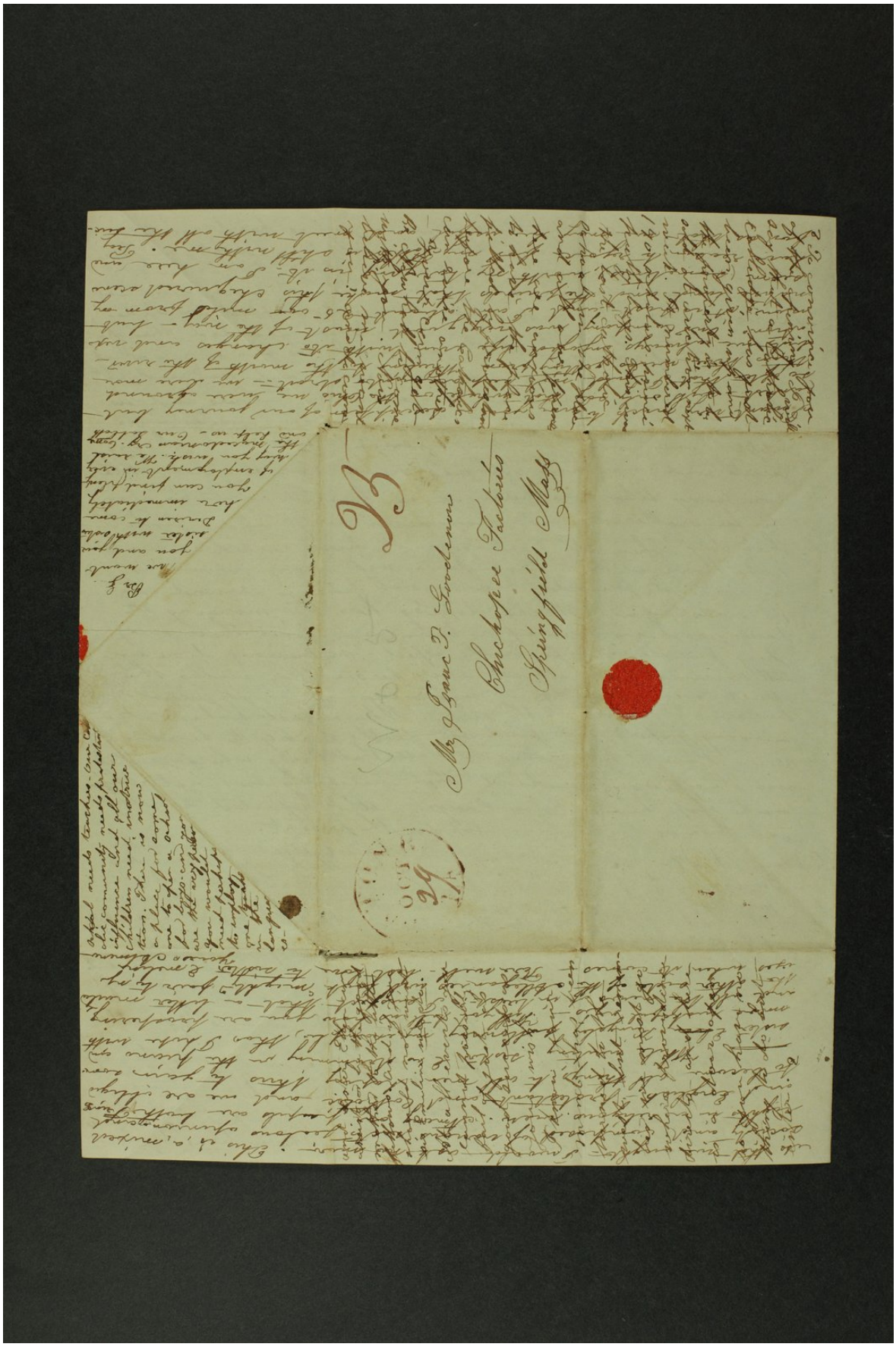
Paid Oct 19 Off Natchez - So you perceive that we have made some progress on our way since last I wrote - We found the Boat Marmora waiting for us at Paducah were soon

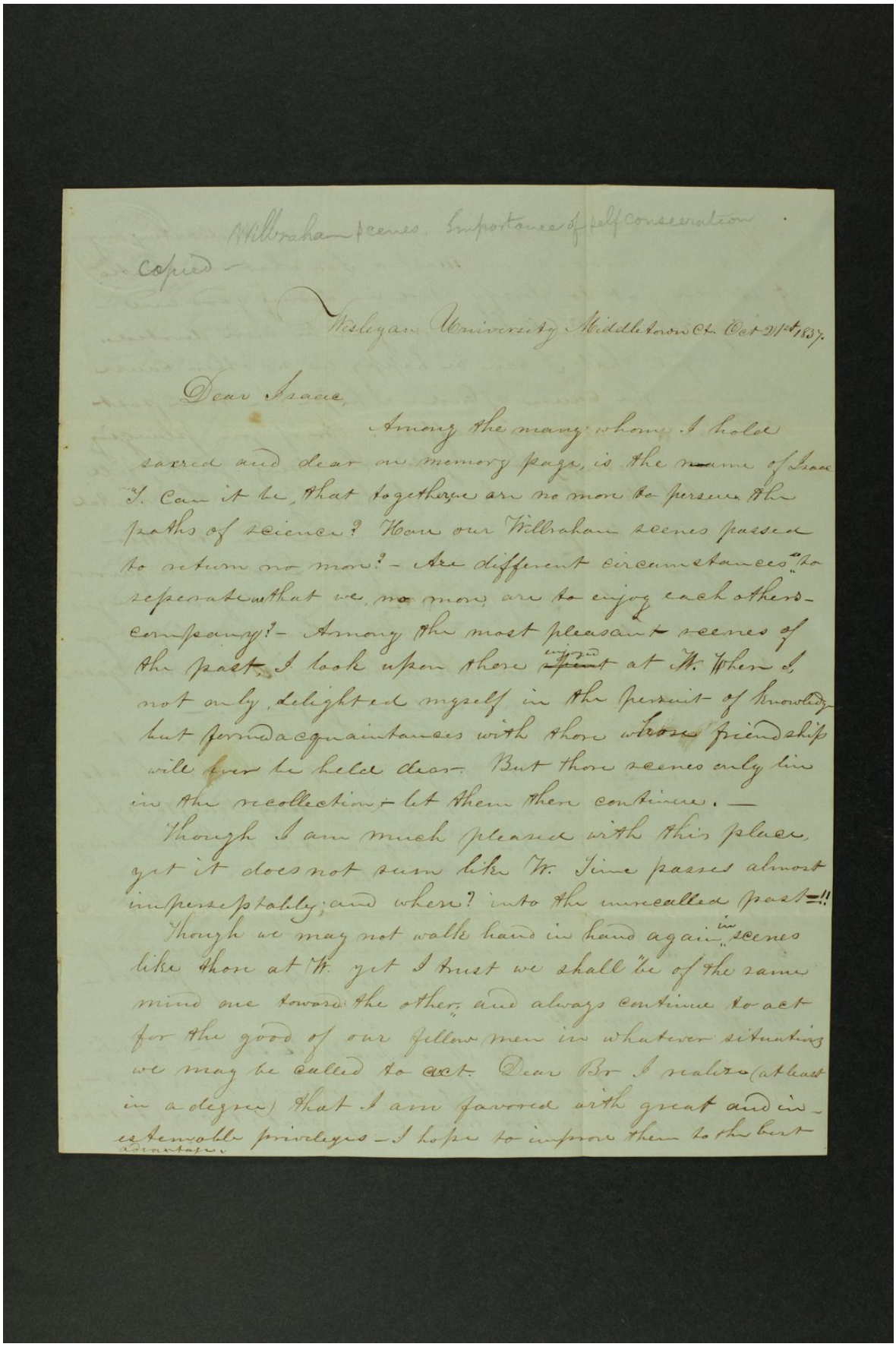


sailing down the mighty Mississippi as fast as heart could wish. Our whole journey has been full of incident - we have been much hindered but notwithstanding it has been enjoyed. yesterday we bade adieu to our dear friend and protector Mr Foster and Miss. Potter who stopped at Vicksburg. We are very grateful that Providence afforded the opportunity of coming with the former. He has been so very attentive to our wants in sickness and health and ever ready to advise in aught that we as strangers to the manners and customs of this region know not. — It is now 5 weeks since I left home and you may believe that mutual interests and mutual sorrows have made our little company like brethren of one family - but we soon to be scattered and may never meet again untill that day when all partings will have ceased. There is hope however that providence will again permit us to shake the friendly hand - still death is around - in the midst of us - While stopping here this morning the passengers have been up in town and find that every thing presents an unfavorable aspect - no business done untill 10 o'clock and almost every person that walks the streets wears a badge of mourning - Of ten physicians two are able to attend the sick - Have just looked at a morning paper and find the deaths weekly to be about 35 — Have I not reason to bless that Being who presides over the affairs of mankind, that necessity does not oblige me to stop here. Baton Rouge is still reported healthy and there most likely we shall stop for the present.

Frid Every Oct 27 - We are at length in the delightful town Baton Rouge and if ever a weary worn traveller rejoiced in his port of destination I did when our boat landed at the wharf last Frid night - or rather 1/2 morning. It was one of the most splendid nights that ever dazzled the eye of mortal. You would have been enraptured as I was and perhaps like me would have been contented to have spent the remaining hours until dawn of day in God's own mansion house. Such a balmy air I have never before inspired - so soft warm and refreshing - This place is celebrated for its pure breezes and China trees. they latter seem as if planted by some benignant spirit for the comfort of mankind. I was much prepossessed in favor of the place and was hardly willing to enter the Hotel and resign myself to slumber not withstanding sleep had almost been a stranger to my eyes for some weeks past. Still ashes Dungeon the expert bills Suits of bribulation is also of steam boat lodgings - or else you must be sure and come when the water is high

Isaac Goodnow correspondence





Wilbraham scenes. Importance of self conservation.

Copied

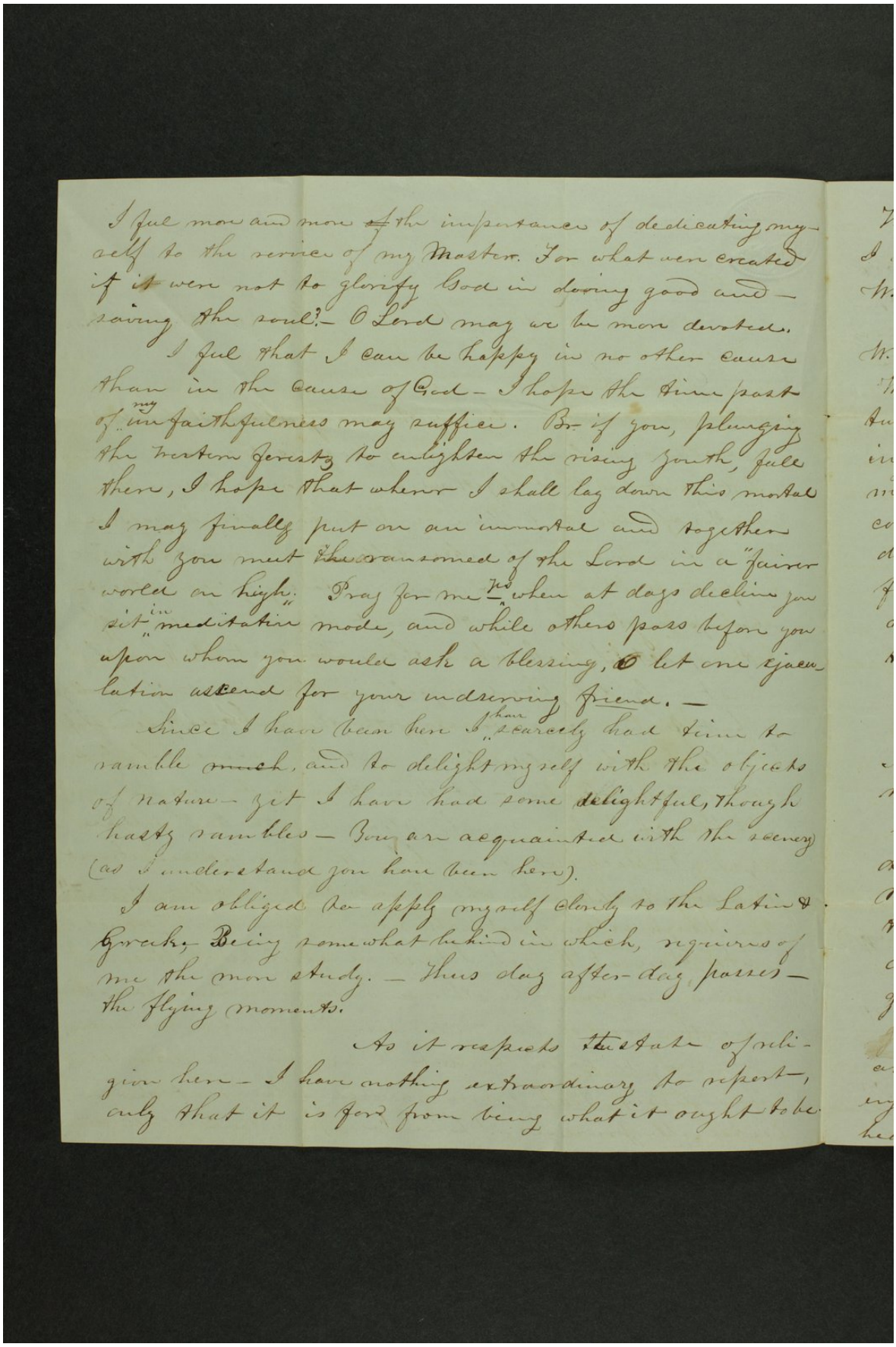
Wesleyan University Middletown Ct. Oct 21st 1837.

Dear Isaac,

Among the many whom I hold sacred and dear on memory page, is the name of Isaac T. Can it be, that together we are no more to persue the paths of science? How our Wilbraham scenes passed to return no more? - Are different circumstances to seperate what we, no more, are to enjoy each others company? - Among the most pleasant scenes of the past I look upon there ~~spent~~ enjoyed at W. When I not only delighted myself in the pursuit of knowledge but formed acquaintances with those whose friendship will ever be held dear. But those scenes only live in the recollection + let them there continue. —

Though I am much pleased with this place, yet it does not seem like W. Time passes almost imperceptably, and when? into the unrecalled past —!!

Though we may not walk hand in hand again in scenes like those at W. yet I trust we shall be of the same mind one toward the other, and always continue to act for the good of our fellow men in whatever situations we may be called to act. Dear Br I realize (at least in a degree) that I am favored with great and inestimable privileges — I hope to improve them to the best advantage.



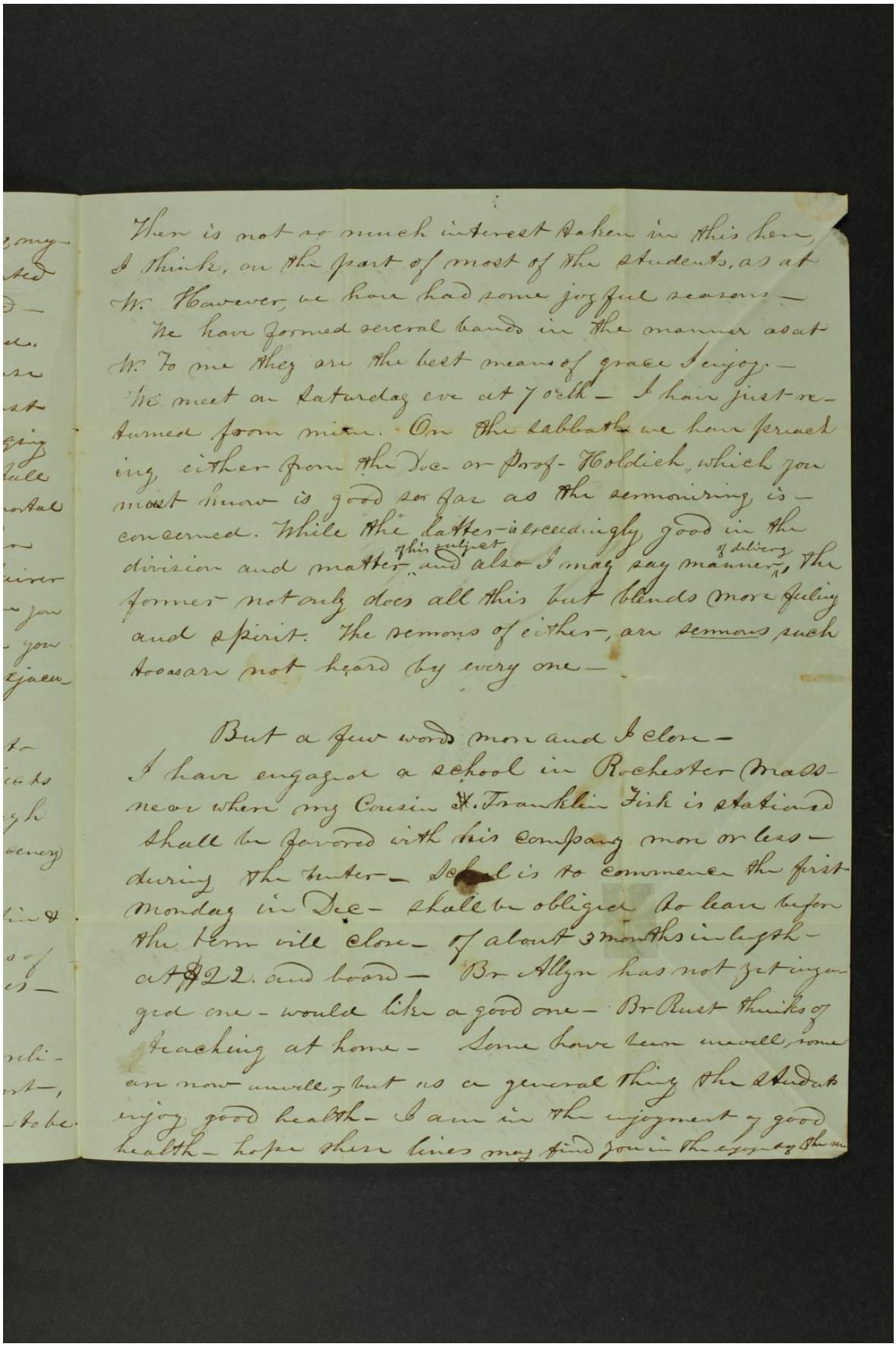
I feel more and more the importance of dedicating myself to the service of my Master. For what were created if it were not to glorify God in doing good and saving the soul? O Lord may we be more devoted.

I feel that I can be happy in no other cause than in the cause of God. I hope the time past of my unfaithfulness may suffice. Br. if you, plunging the western forests to enlighten the rising youth, fulfil there, I hope that when I shall lay down this mortal I may finally put on an immortal and together with you meet the ransomed of the Lord in a fairer world on high. Pray for me Br. when at days decline you sit in meditative mode, and while others pass before you upon whom you would ask a blessing, O let one ejaculation attend for your undeserving friend. —

Since I have been here I have scarcely had time to ramble much, and to delight myself with the objects of nature — yet I have had some delightful, though hasty rambles — You are acquainted with the scenery (as I understand you have been here).

I am obliged to apply myself closely to the Latin & Greek. Being somewhat behind in which, requires of me the more study. — Thus day after day passes — the flying moments.

As it respects the state of religion here — I have nothing extraordinary to report, only that it is far from being what it ought to be.

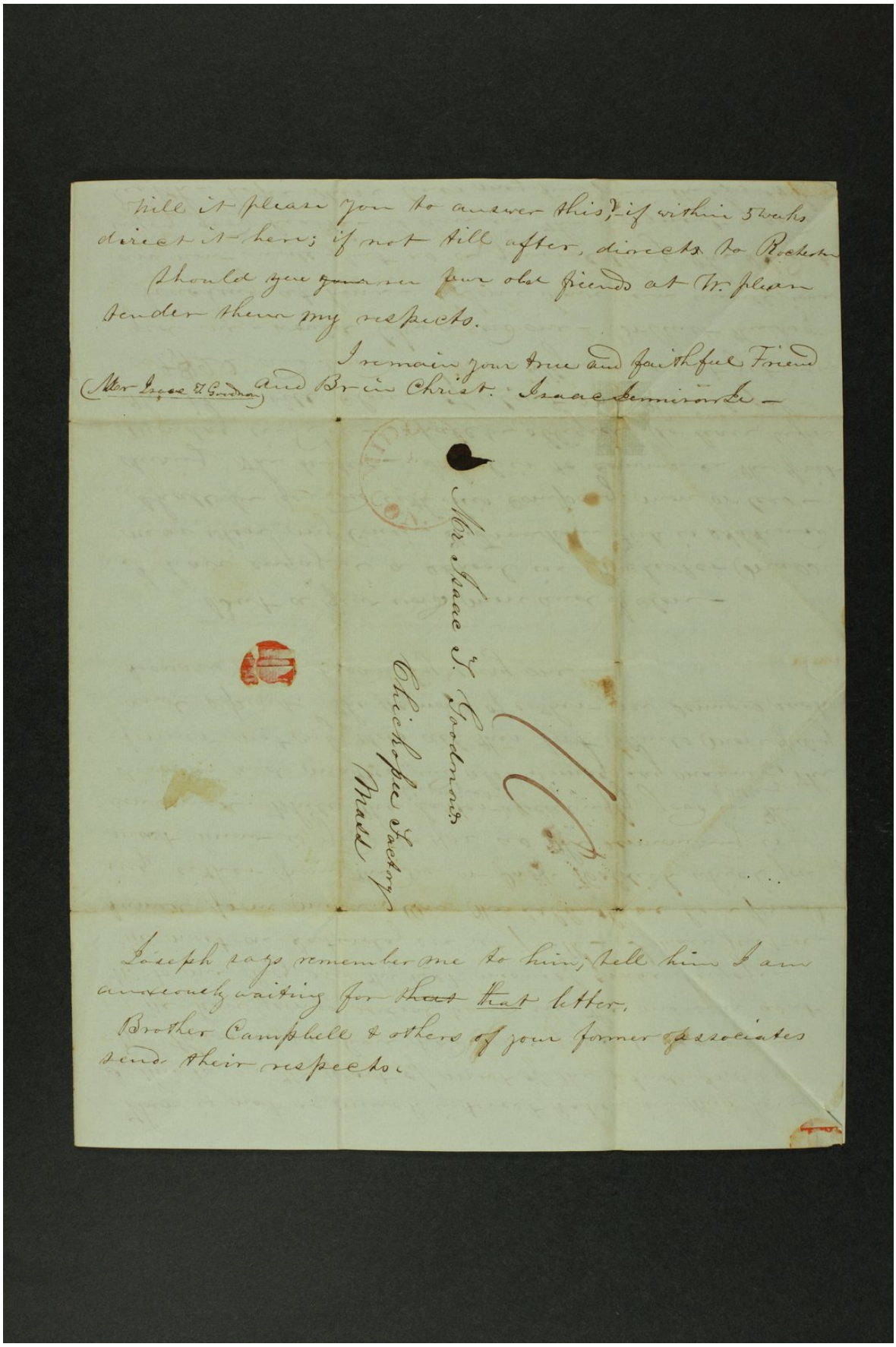


There is not so much interest taken in this here, I think, on the part of most of the students, as at W. However, we have had some joyful seasons —

We have formed several bands in the manner as at W. To me they are the best means of grace I enjoy. — We meet on Saturday eve at 7 o'clk — I have just returned from mine. On the Sabbath we have preaching either from the Doc or Prof. Holdich, which you must know is good so far as the sermonizing is concerned. While the latter is exceedingly good in the division and matter of this subject and also I may say manner of delivery, the former not only does all this but blends more feeling and spirit. The sermons of either, are sermons such as are not heard by every one —

But a few words more and I close —

I have engaged a school in Rochester (Mass) near where my Cousin H. Franklin Fisk is stationed shall be favored with his company more or less during the winter — School is to commence the first Monday in Dec — shall be obliged to leave before the term will close — of about 3 months in length — at $22. and board — Br Allyn has not got engaged one — would like a good one — Br Rust thinks of teaching at home — Some have been unwell, some are now unwell, but as a general thing the students enjoy good health — I am in the enjoyment of good health — hope these lines may find you in the enjoyment of the same



will it please you to answer this? if within 3 weeks direct it here; if not till after, directs to Rochester

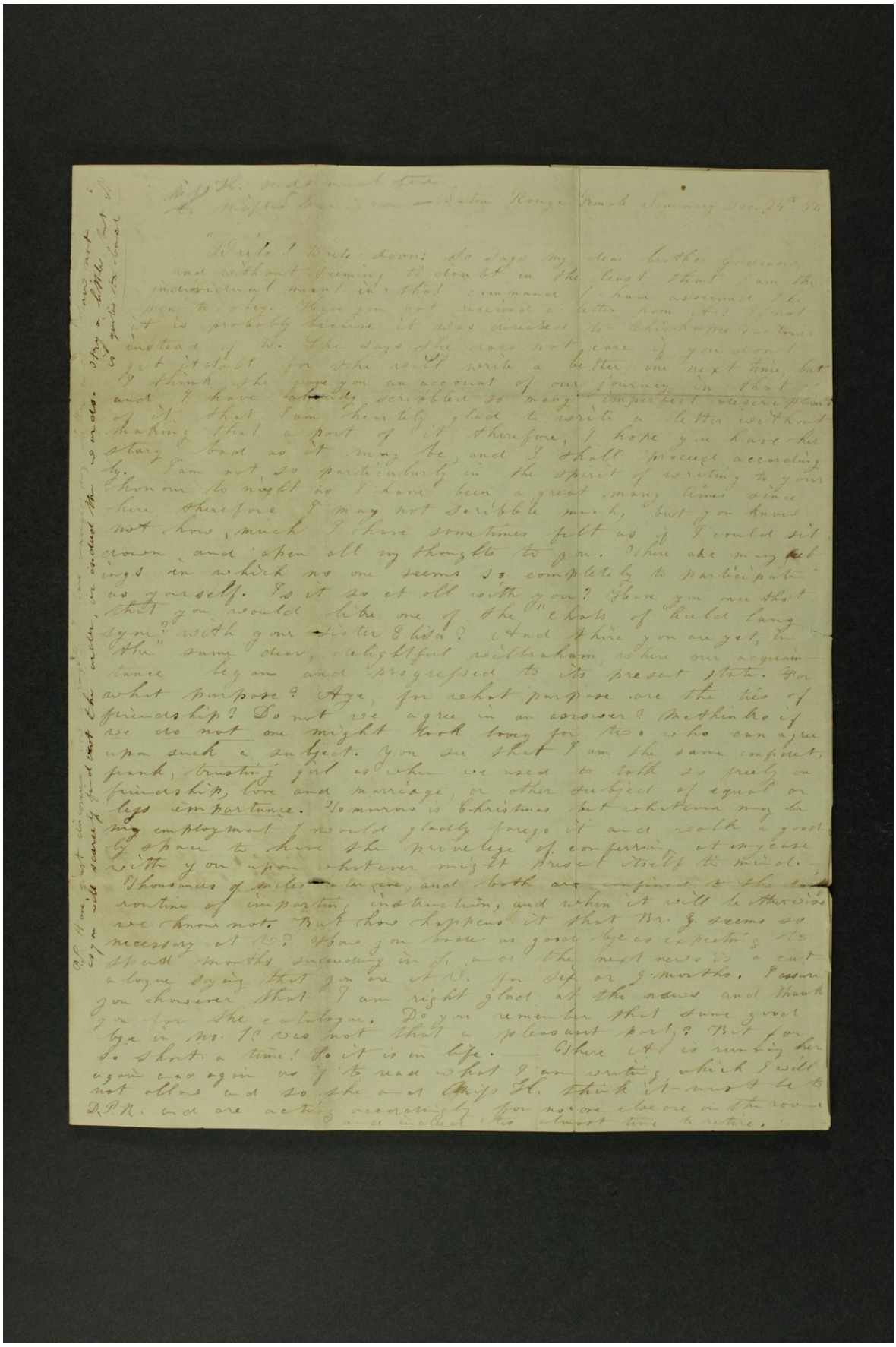
Should you see any of our old friends at W. please tender them my respects.

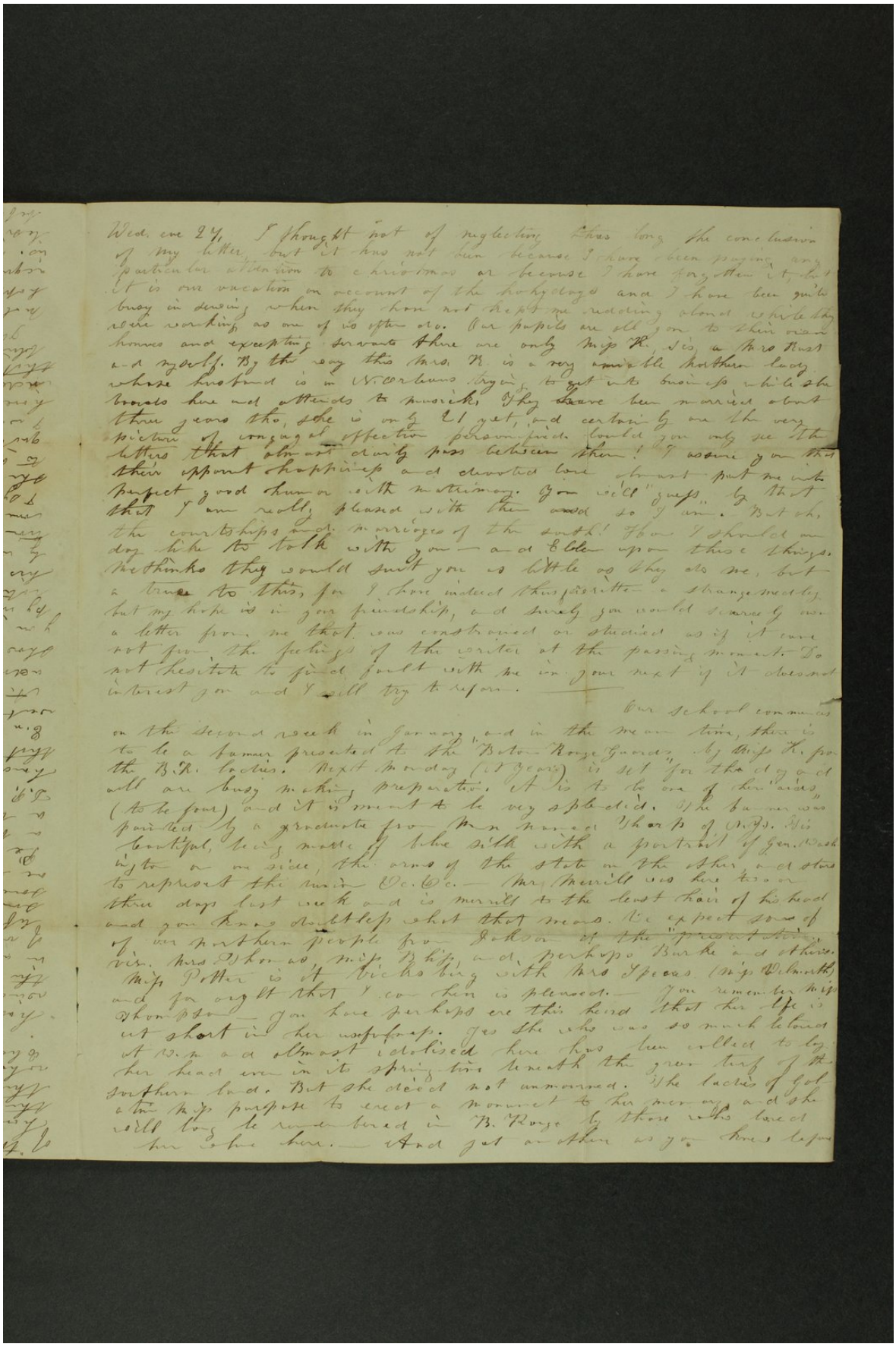
I remain your true and faithful Friend
(Mr Isaac T Goodnow) and Br in Christ. Isaac Scrimshire

Mr. Isaac T. Goodnow
Ohio
Corresponding Secretary
Mass

Joseph says remember me to him, tell him I am anxiously waiting for ~~that~~ that letter.

Brother Campbell & others of your former associates send their respects.





Wed. eve 24 I thought not of neglecting thus long the conclusion of my letter, but it has not been because I have been paying any particular attention to Christmas as because I have forgotten it, but it is our vacation on account of the holidays and I have been quite busy in sewing when they have not kept me rocking about while they were working as one of us often do. Our pupils are all gone to their own homes and excepting servants there are only Miss R. Mrs Rust and myself. By the way this Mrs. R is a very amiable Southern lady whose husband is in N. Orleans trying to get into business while she boards here and attends to music. They have been married about three years tho, she is only 21 yet, and certainly one the very picture of youthful affection & unsophisticated loveliness. You only see the letters that almost daily pass between them! I assure you that their apparent simplicity and devoted love almost put me into perfect good humor with matrimony. You will "guess" by that that I am really pleased with the world so I am. But oh, the courtships and marriages of the south! How I should enjoy to talk with you — and Elder upon these things. He thinks they would suit you as little as they do me, but a true to this, for I have indeed this paper written a strange medley, but my hope is in your friendship, and surely you would scarcely censure a letter from me that was constrained or studied as if it came not from the feelings of the writer at the passing moment. Do not hesitate to find fault with me in your next if it does not interest you and I will try to reform.

Our school commences on the second week in January, and in the mean time, there is to be a Soiree presented at the Baton Rouge Garden by Miss K. for the B.R. ladies. Next Monday (31 Dec.) is set for the day and all are busy making preparations. It is to be one of the "aids" (to be four) and it is meant to be very splendid. The banner was painted by a graduate from Mr. Sharp of N.Y. It is beautiful, being made of blue silk with a portrait of Gen. Washington on one side, the arms of the State on the other, and stars to represent the union &c. &c. — Mr. Merrill was here two or three days last week and is merrily to the least hair of his head and you know what that means. We expect some of our northern people from Dalton at the "presentation" viz. Mrs Shorwood, Miss Whipple, perhaps Burke and others. Miss Potter is at Vicksburg with Mrs Spears (Miss Wilmarth) and for aught that I can learn is pleased. — You remember Miss Thompson — You have perhaps ere this heard that her life is cut short in her usefulness. Yes she who was so much beloved at B.R. and almost idolized here has been called to lay her head even in its springtime beneath the green turf of the southern land. But she did not die unmourned. The ladies of Gol[illegible] the purpose to erect a monument to her memory and she will long be remembered in B. Rouge by those who loved her & knew her. — And yet another as you have before