

MY DEAR SISTER HANNAH

WE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER A WEEK AGO AND THANK YOU FOR THE MANY INTERESTING ITEMS IT CONTAINED BUT REGRET TO LEARN THAT SARAH IS SO LONG RECOVERING FROM HER LAMENESS. WE HOPE THE GALVANIC BATTERY WILL HAVE A FAVORABLE RESULT, BUT I SHOULD THINK THE SENSATION ANY THING BUT AGREEABLE. I ACCIDENTALLY HAD A LIGHT SHOCK WHILE AT MR. FARMIN'S AND OH! HOW I JUMPED. THIS IS THE EVENING FOR THE DANCING PARTY AND ALL THE YOUNG PEOPLE ARE ASSEMBLED IN THE DINING ROOM EXCEPT HARRIOT AND MYSELF. HARRIOT IS AT MRS. LIMBERTS WHO IS JUST RECOVERING FROM A SEVERE SICKNESS AND NEEDS SOME ONE TO BE WITH HER MOST OF THE TIME. HARRIOT BEING SOMEWHAT AT LEISURE THIS WEEK VOLUNTEERED AND HAS BEEN WITH HER ALL THE WEEK RETURNING ONLY IN THE EVENING. MR. WRIGHT HAS JUST GONE FOR HER TO ATTEND THE DANCE, BUT SHE HAS MADE UP HER MIND NOT TO GO, AND YOU KNOW HOW UNCHANGING THAT IS. MR. BOUTELLE HAS ALSO BEEN URGING ME, BUT AS UNSUCCESSFULLY, FOR I PREFERED GIVING THIS EVENING TO YOU AND HOPE I SHALL NOT BE INTERRUPTED, FOR I BELIEVE WE HAVE HAD VISITORS EVERY EVENING SINCE WE HAD A ROOM. I HAVE BEEN IN THE DINING ROOM SINCE MONDAY, UNTIL TODAY, I GOT MR. MILLER TO TAKE ANYPLACE AND HAVE OCCUPIED MYSELF WITH MRS. BAKER IN THE KITCHEN PREPARING AN ENTERTAINMENT FOR THIS EVENING. I HAVE MADE EIGHTEEN APPLE PIES, AND SE ABOUT A HUNDRED COOKIES AS WHEN THE DANCING GROUP SENT HER, WE WITH MRS. IRVING WERE APPOINTED COMMITTEE FOR TWO MONTHS TO PREPARE EATING FOR THE DANCING ONCE A FORTNIGHT AND TO ENTERTAIN, THAT IS PROVIDE LODGING FOR STRANGERS WHO COME FROM THE COUNTRY ON THESE OCCASIONS. ALAS! A KNOCK AT THE DOOR. IT IS MR. FARMIN. I HAVE CONVERSED TEN MINUTES WITH HIM. HE IS NOW PLAYING SOLITAIRE WITH CARDS, AND I WILL CONTINUE MY WRITING AND FIRST OF ALL GIVE YOU A DESCRIPTION OF THE BUILDING WE OCCUPY, THAT YOU MAY HAVE SOME IDEA OF IT, I WILL GIVE YOU AN OUTLINE OF THE FIRST FLOOR.

DIAGRAM

IT IS TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHT FOOT LONG, THE ROOMS TEN FOOT SQUARE, THE HALL FIVE FOOT WIDE, THE CHAMBERS EXTEND HALF OVER THE ROOMS, AND MEET OVER THE CENTRE OF THE HALL. THIS REPRESENTS A RATHER ROUGH STYLE OF THE ARCHITECTURE. THOSE LITTLE LINES BETWEEN THE ROOMS REPRESENT A ROW OF WINDOWS THE HEIGHT OF ONE PANE OF GLASS.

ANOTHER KNOCK! MR. BAKER, HE WITH HIS FAMILY HAVE BEEN HERE BUT THREE MONTHS AND ARE TREASURERS IN THE ASSOCIATION. HE IS NOW PLAYING HERE WITH MR. F. AND I WILL INTRODUCE YOU TO THE HALL. I ONLY WISH YOU COULD ONCE PASS THROUGH IT AND IF YOU GET THROUGH SAFE YOU MIGHT CONSIDER YOURSELF LUCKY AND WE WOULD CONGRATULATE YOU FOR THIS BUILDING HAVING NO CELLAR AND BUT A SMALL CLOSET UNDER THE STAIRWAY OF EACH TENEMENT (A LA' OURS AT NAUVOO WHICH ELIZABETH WILL DESCRIBE) THEREFORE THIS HALL IS USED FOR BOTH CELLAR AND CLOSET AND AS MOST OF THE FAMILIES DO NOT BOARD AT THE PUBLIC TABLE BUT EAT THEMSELVES, YOU CAN WALK BUT A FEW STEPS WITHOUT STUMBLING AGAINST CUPBOARDS, WOOD BOXES, FLOUR BARRELS, BAGS OF POTATOES, PUMPKINS AND THUS ENDANGERING TOES, NOSES OR OTHER PROMINENT FEATURES, OR PER CHANCE ENSCONCED IN A PAN OF MILK OR FIND YOURSELF SPRAWLING AMID THE CONTENTS OF SAID BARRELS, BAGS AND BOXES. LIGHT IS ADMITTED AT DOORS AT EACH END AND CROSS HALLS WHICH ARE PARTLY OF GLASS PRODUCING A SORT OF TWILIGHT EVEN AT MIDDAY. I SHALL NEVER FORGET MY PERPLEXED SENSATIONS WHEN I FIRST PASSED THROUGH THIS MYSTERIOUS PASSAGE. IT WAS THE EVENING OF OUR FIRST DAY. WE HAD BEEN TO WALK WITH MRS. WRIGHT AND MRS. MILLER AND ENTERED AT THE EAST END. WITH BOTH HANDS UPRAISED BEFORE US WE CROPED ALONG IN DARKNESS ENCOUNTERING OBSTACLES AND BRUSHING AGAINST SOMETHING, I KNEW NOT WHAT, AT EVERY STEP WE ADVANCED. I COULD NOT HELP THINKING IT WAS AN EXHILERATING THOUGH DISMAL PASSAGE TO ASSOCIATION, UNTIL AT LAST FEARFULLY GRASPING MRS. WRIGHT, I EXCLAIMED IN IN DISMAY, "IS THERE ANY OUTLET, IN THIS HALL AT NIGHT? ONE IS CONSTANTLY REMINDED OF MOTHER GOOSE. 'THE RATS AND THE MICE THEY MADE SUCH A STRIFE' BUT INSTEAD OF A WIFE, THREE STRAY CATS. HOVER UP AND DOWN FREQUENTLY GETTING BEWILDERED IN THEIR PURSUIT OF GAME AND COMMIT DEPRADATIONS IN CUPBOARDS DISTURBING THE SLUMBERS OF THE INMATES OF THE RESPECTIVE TENEMENTS BY THE RATTLING DOWN OF DISHES, WHO RUSH FORWARD TO RESCUE THEM PROPERLY FROM DESTRUCTION. AS WE ARE ON THE CROSS HALL WE SELDOM HAVE OCCASION TO PASS THE WHOLE LENGTH. IF WE ISSUE FROM THE WEST END, DESCEND $\frac{1}{2}$ STEPS AND PROCEED ABOUT FIFTY YARDS TO THE N.W., WE ARRIVE AT ANOTHER BUILDING WHICH WAS ORIGINALLY THREE HOUSES A STORY AND HALF HIGH, THE FIRST ERECTED ON THE DONALD, BUT

HAVE BEEN CONNECTED, THE TWO FIRST BY THE DINING ROOM AND THE OTHERS BY TWO ROOMS INHABITED BY FAMILIES. YOU ASCEND A ELIGHT OF RICKETY STEPS AND ENTER THE GENTLEMENS SITTING ROOM WHICH PRESENTS RATHER A FORLORN ASPECT, FURNISHED WITH A TABLE, A LONG BENCH, A DESK WHERE EACH PERSON KEEPS AN ACCOUNT OF HIS OWN TIME, WHICH IS BALANCED EACH WEEK. FROM THIS YOU ENTER THE DINING ROOM WHICH HAS HITHERTO AND PROBABLY WILL FIGURE CONSPICUOUSLY IN OUR LETTERS FOR A LARGE PORTION OF OUR TIME IS SPENT THERE. IT IS FURNISHED WITH FIVE SHORT TABLES ACCOMMODATING TEN PERSONS EACH AND ONE LONG TABLE TO ACCOMMODATE TWENTY, STOOLS IN PLACE OF CHAIRS, A LARGE COOK STOVE AT THE FURTHER END WHICH WAS FOR M. C. BLY UNTIL THE LAST WEEK. THE OLD KITCHEN, ABOUT SIXTY BOARD THERE MOST OF WHOM AS UNMARRIED AS MOST OF THE FAMILIES PREFER TO DO THEIR COOKING IN THEIR OWN ROOM DURING THE WINTER SEASON. OUR DIET FOR THE FIRST THREE WEEKS WAS WHOLY VEGETABLE. ONE EVENING AS I ENTERED FOR SUPPER THE ATMOSPHERE IN THE ROOM WAS MOST SAVOREY, MY EYES GLISTENED AND MY MOUTH FELT UNCOMMONLY GRATEFUL AS I THOUGHT OF STUFFED TURKEY BUT HOW MY COUNTEenance FELL OR RATHER HOW I SMILED WHEN I PERCEIVED THE SAVORY STEAM ARRISE FROM LARGE PITCHERS OF SAGE TEA AND BOWLS OF ONIONS. THIS DIET LASTED A WEEK OCCASIONALLY VARIED WITH CAB AGE INSTEAD OF ONIONS. AT THE END OF THAT TIME THE TEAMS RETURNED FROM SHEBOYGAN WITH TEA, COFFEE AND OTHER LUXERJES. HOGS AND SHEEP HAVE ALSO BEEN KILLED IN ABUNDANCE. THOUGH I SCARGELY EVER TASTE MEAT WE ARE NEVER WITHOUT THE MOST EXCELLENT BREAD FOR THERE IS A REGULAR BAKER, MR. IRVING, A SCOTCHMAN, IN THE ASSOCIATION AND DURING THE LAST WEEK, SINCE TWO WOMEN BESIDES THE STEWARD HAS BEEN OCCUPIED IN THE KITCHEN, THE FARE IS WONDERFULLY IMPROVED, SCARGELY A MEAL WITHOUT EITHER PIES OR CAKE OR SOME "CHICKEN FIXEN". AT THE LEFT OF THE DINING ROOM IS THE PANTRY WHERE WE WASH AND KEEP DISHES AND THOUGH WE HAVE NOW RATHER A DELAPIDATED ASSORTMENT, BUT A NEW SET IS SOON EXPECTED. THIS ROOM WITH THE KITCHEN ADJOINING IS PROVIDED WITH GOOD CLOSETS AND EVERY THING CONVENIENT.

OCTOBER 31ST - - I HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO FINISH THIS LETTER UNTIL TODAY'S MAIL. WE HAVE BEEN WASHING TODAY AND DON'T YOU THING US SMART TO GET THROUGH A FORTNIGHT WASH BEFORE HALF PAST ELEVEN. WHEN THE FIRST BELL RINGS FOR DINNER, WE HAD MOPPED OUR FLOR AND ALL DRESSED, HARRIOT IN A CLEAN CALICO AND I IN MY BLUE MUSLIN. THERE HAS BEEN A PEDLER'S WAGON BEFORE OUR DOOR ALL DAY AND A GROUP COLLECTED AROUND IT. I BELIEVE MOST EVERY ONE ON THE DOMAIN HAS PATRONIZED HIM. HARRIOT HAS BOUGHT A PAIR OF SHOES FOR SHE FEARED HER STOCK MIGHT GET EXHAUSTED BEFORE WINTER ARRIVED AND NOW WHAT SHALL I SAY OF THE PEOPLE HERE. I HARDLY KNOW FOR THERE IS OF COURSE A GREAT VARIETY. THERE ARE MANY WHO HAVE BEEN HERE ALMOST FROM THE COMMENCEMENT, AND CAME FROM DISINTERESTED MOTIVES. THESE ARE STILL GOOD ASSOCIATIONS AND AID IN WHICHEVER THEY THINK WILL BENEFIT MANKIND. THERE ARE OTHERS WHO HAD MONEY-MAKING THEIR OBJECT AND STILL SEEK THEIR OWN INTEREST. THESE GRUMBLE AND ARE DISSATISFIELD. THERE ARE OTHERS WHO ARE TOO LAZY TO WORK THEMSELVES AND THOUGHT WHEN THEY CAME TO LIVE EASM AND CHEAP AT THE EXPENSE OF OTHERS. WITH THESE, THE COUNCIL ARE DISSATISFIELD. AND BOTH THE LATTER CLASSES WILL SOON LEAVE. TWO FAMILIES LEFT SINCE WE CAME, ANOTHER IS NOTIFIED TO LEAVE AND THE GRUMBLERS WILL LEAVE AS SOON AS THEY SEE ANYTHING BETTER. THERE ARE MANY APPLICATIONS MADE BUT FEW ACCEPTED. MOST OF THE MEN ARE MECHANICS AND ARE AN INTELLIGENT, WELL-INFORMED CLASS OF PEOPLE. HAVE RECEIVED A COMMON EDUCATION BUT NOT MUCH CULTIVATION BUT SEEM DESIROUS OF IMPROVEMENT. WE ARE APPRECIATED HERE, I FEAR MORE THAN OUR DUE BUT HOPE WE SHALL NOT BE TOO MUCH ELATED, WE DO NOT REGRET COMING FOR WE FEEL AS IF WE ARE USEFUL AND ARE IMPROVING OURSELVES IF NOT OTHERS. HARRIOT HAS BECOME COMPARATIVELY A GREAT TALKER. WE ENJOY MOST THE SOCIETY OF THE THREE GERMANS WHO PASS AT LEAST TWO EVENINGS A WEEK WITH US. WE PLAY WHIST, HAVE MUSIC AND SHALL PLAY CHESS SOMETIME THIS WEEK. MR. FINMAN HAS VOLUNTEERED TO TEACH US GERMAN.

(signed) Charlotte