

Sheffield Ill. Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> 65

My dear brother Grace,

I have not heard from you for a long time and know not why it is so.

I wrote you late in the Autumn ~~that~~ I should have received a reply to that before this but have not. I have sent the money to Iowa for paying the taxes on your land and my agent informs me that the taxes are between twenty one and twenty two dollars.

In one of your late letters you speak of it's being hard to raise the money to pay the taxes and inquire whether I could not sell a portion of the land to assist in paying the taxes? I have stated in one of my letters, that I thought it would be better to manage if possible in some way

to pay the taxes for a while, hoping  
that the prices will improve as  
the railroad progresses westward.  
I am not informed at what rate  
your land could be sold, at  
the present time, but I should  
think it would pay to keep  
the land notwithstanding the  
taxes till the railroad is  
through, for then if ever, the  
price will be materially im-  
proved.

I should like very well to hear  
from you, receive the money for  
taxes and learn how you  
are getting along in your labors.  
Some last I inquired whether  
you had become disconnected with  
the University as you directed  
me to send your letters to  
Forest Grove rather than to Tula-  
tin.

We are in comfortable health  
as a family except colds, some  
of the children are complaining

a little with colds and are  
croupy. But as a family we  
have been very comfortable in  
health, this winter. I have lit-  
tle to report favorable in reli-  
gion. We have had some favor-  
able indications but no general  
interest. We had a series of Union  
meetings the first week in Jan.,  
and continued it ten days,  
preaching every evening. There  
were three ministers of us  
and we took turns in preach-  
ing. The meetings were full &  
solemn but no very marked re-  
sults, except a partial reviving  
of Christians, and solemnity  
in the minds of the imperi-  
ent. One drawback on the good  
results of the meeting, was a  
want of ~~deep~~ cordiality on the part  
of some of the leading members  
of the Methodist Church. For  
this they ought to be ashamed  
of themselves.

O when will Christians of all  
denominations love each other  
as they ought to do, and be  
ready to unite in efforts to  
save men. May the Lord  
speed the good day.

We are joyful over the fall of  
Charleston, Columbia and  
Wilming ton and the elevating  
of the Flag over Fort Sumter,  
which has been removed now  
almost four years. These in-  
addition to the passage of the  
amendment to the constitution  
forever abolishing slavery from  
the whole territory of the Uni-  
ted States, constitute the great-  
est occasion for rejoicing over any  
event that has occurred these  
four years unless the reflection  
of Old Abe. This is doubtless one  
of the results of his relec-  
tion. Our love to you all. I  
must close with the hope of  
hearing from you soon. I will en-  
deavor to write at once as soon  
as the money comes from you.  
Your dear brother  
A. Lyman