



They say there is not a man here whose name is not  
 either Symour or Clapp but one and his name is Symour Clapp  
 Yours very affectionately  
 Lucy A. Burnhams

East Hampton Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 1852

Dear Aunt Mary,

You will doubtless be somewhat surprised  
 when you look at the date of this and see where I am  
 you probably did not imagine when you visited E. G.,  
 that I should be here so soon attending school, but  
 life is a scene of changes and I think it has been  
 particularly so with me thus far and probably ever will  
 be. I received your letter the night before I left Eastham  
 which was a week yesterday I need tell you how  
 glad I was to receive it though I am sorry to hear that  
 your health is not good, I hope it will not be thus  
 long for I am sure you need strength of body and  
 mind also to perform all your duties. It is so long since  
 I have written to you that I hardly know where  
 to begin and if I am in something of a hurry besides


for my time is quite occupied now and I am stealing  
these few moments. Therefore if my ideas are rather  
disconnected you will excuse it I know, I felt that I must  
write as soon as possible after I came here,

I left the friends in Castleton well as usual and that  
Sequoyia type had been received two weeks before Mary Perkins  
<sup>carried</sup> brought it from here when she went home in vacation  
(she has been here to school since August.) It was of course  
 hailed as a great treasure by all especially the Grandparents.  
I had no idea that away off in Oregon there could  
be such good pictures taken. We all thought she looked  
like her Mother, which you had better receive as a  
compliment for I thought her beautiful I suppose you do  
not, I suppose when I go to Oregon to teach that you  
will place her under my particular charge and I will  
teach her all the solid and ornamental branches, and  
to work also if you wish, I think you need have no  
fears that I shall ever be afraid to soil my fingers  
with any thing which shall be necessary. Though for the  
past two years I have been so situated that I have  
not been required to do very unpleasant or fatiguing work.

but have done considerable of some kinds.

I commenced taking music lessons rather suddenly and without much previous deliberation but I was very fond of it and thought I would commence as I could have an excellent teacher and father was going to get a piano and did not think of getting a very full knowledge of the science, however had I have known as much about it as I now do I do not know as I should have ventured to begin for I am fully satisfied that I shall never be contented without a full course of instruction I have taken lessons 3 quarters and shall take no more at present, When I come to Castleton I expect to attend school in the term two years and then graduate which I could very easily do but Mr Hullocks school is has lost its tone and is now quite an inferior school he has been gaining worse and worse for the year past and has moreover been very unfortunate in the selection of teachers for the very good reason that no very good ones will have anything to do with him, The Corporation were so very foolish as to let him take the school for another term of years but before the close of four years there will be no school if he is there, Father concluded to send

here to school and I liked it - from all I could  
hear and concluded it would be much better for me  
than to stay in Castleton, I have been here a little more  
than a week I have a very pleasant boarding place, with  
a Mrs Sainds who lives nearly opposite Mr Solomon Symour  
perhaps you recollect where that is, if you do not Uncle G.  
probably does Mary is my roommate and also there is another  
young Lady from Fairhaven who is with us now I like the  
school much and every thing about the place Mrs S has six  
young Ladies and two boys boarding with her, which makes  
a very pleasant family, Mary and I walked out to  
your father Symours Wednesday it is a beautiful walk  
we went about three in the afternoon and reached home  
about dark had a very pleasant call though your father  
and mother were neither of them at home I saw your brother  
his little boy who has been so sick is much better  
so he is able to walk a very little as plays around candle  
They have a new Church just completed or will be in  
two weeks it is a very handsome one quite just south  
of the Seminary. I had a letter from Emma the other  
day and she writes that Mr Atkinson was in Castleton


 and might wish here I want to see him very much  
 I shall feel very much disappointed if I do not see it will  
 be the next thing to seeing you. Emma wanted very much  
 to come here with me but could this time so I suppose she will  
 feel rather lonely this winter for we have been together a  
 great deal since I came to C-. Do you ever hear from  
 Hal I shall hardly venture to tell the news there  
 that it shall be no news but state,

We had a first-rate visit from Mr. Peck in Oct he came  
 to Albany to attend the meeting of Cong. Convention  
 and came up and spent four days with us so he told  
 us all about the Hal folks and in fact that is the  
 last I have heard for they never write to us at least  
 none of my relatives Aunt C & C- were both good  
 correspondents for awhile but they have neither of them  
 written for a long time I suppose you have heard that  
 uncle W<sup>m</sup> has sold his place there and is boarding  
 and uncle S has exchanged houses with Mr. McPain  
 there have been so many changes there that I should  
 hardly know the place in the short time which has  
 elapsed since I left so it must be an entirely new

place to you they have applied for a city charter and  
will probably obtain it.

Isent it a little singular that I have always followed  
so closely upon your steps I dream in going to the same  
places where you have been only a short time.

I do not know but I shall be doomed to follow you  
to Oregon but if I ever go there I hope and trust  
it will not be under Gov Gladus patronage or the Herald  
for I should greatly prefer to go independently.

I do however expect to teach in about a year at least  
I expect to be fitted to do so, and shall if I can obtain  
a situation but I do not promise to go to Oregon.

Dec 18<sup>th</sup>) I do not like a letter unfinished for any  
length of time especially to you for I would like to  
write much oftener than I do, but have a great many  
letters to write and now I am in school have not  
as much time as usual, I received a letter from  
Wm Perkins this eve he writes that Mother has been  
sick or implies the same by saying that she is now better  
I feared she would be quite sick after we come away  
for Monday Gridley and his family come up from Washington

and remained there till Wed. when we all came  
away and after having so large a family for a few  
days and then so sudden a reaction I expected with her  
work worries that she would be quite - dead,

I think however she is better able to endure fatigue  
than she was last winter, Wm P. has been in College  
the past term but is home now for vacation and I  
think it will be pleasant for Mother that he is there

I hardly expect to receive a letter from Mother for it  
is next to impossible for her to get a moments time to  
write - I suppose you can fully sympathize with her  
but you give me rather a hard income to say that  
I expect so much, true I like to hear from you exceedingly  
but I can very readily imagine that you have  
many things to hinder you from writing,

I received a letter from Charles Post a short time  
since he writes that they expected to get their new house  
finished this winter though the work has progressed  
slowly. Charles is going to attend school in Orlist  
this winter he is a very fine fellow and improves  
constantly he is a real good correspondent

Henry and Anna are still in Holland and Gloyd-  
writs that they probably always will be,

I have heard that Habet is in Grand Haven and  
also keep posted up in ~~small~~ other particulars  
probably I think it is too bad to get stale news when  
it takes so long for it to reach you but I think you  
will be very likely to hear me for I write a little  
about this one and a little about that without much  
connection between anything.

My room mates both wish to be remembered to you  
though Miss Kimmey does not know either you or  
your husband but she said you married and her  
parents are acquainted with Uncle G. I presume  
he remembers them. Mr Hubbard also one of the  
teachers here was a class mate of Uncle G. and made  
many enquiries of me about you, a few evenings ago  
Mr Hubbard is son in law of the Lady with whom  
I board. And was good night I wish I had written  
you a more entertaining letter but I will endeavor  
to write again before great whate and more to the point  
Please remember me affectionately to Uncle Lyman and  
a kiss for your little girl ~~and~~ and ~~write~~ as soon as possible