

Battle Creek

March 23, 1857

My Dear Sister, or shall I say Mother,

Yours to me relative to your moving circumstances, etc., I have. I was exceedingly gratified that you made so minute a statement of circumstances, and am certainly in union with your carefulness. I still think you should come. The Brother Cottrells will certainly look after the property you leave. Strange if they do not. Let them sell the cow, the wood, etc. Sell them when they will bring cash in hand. They can make the place bring you something for its use. Box your goods faithfully, and leave them to be sent when navigation opens and freight is low. I think you would want to bring much.

If you, May, and Sister Devereaux have health, you can live here, and use but very little of your remaining capital. Sister D. can more than earn her living. You and especially May, shall have chance to fold, etc. We shall have much such work when we get power press. Wood four feet long, four high and eight long is \$1.75 per cord, pasture free on the common, and all provisions less than in New York. Now I advise you to get what you can fixed up. Crockery should be put up in clothing, nowhere to touch the side of a box. Looking glasses between beds. Come on with May.

We will keep you a month to begin with. When I go East I shall call at Mill Grove and will do what I can in seeing your goods sent off etc., etc. We have room enough, enough to eat. And now, do let us repay some of the many favors you have done for us. Come on, and we will be faithful children to you.

We do not want your means. We have enough to make us comfortable. Sister Devereaux is esteemed here and paid for her work. We shall be able to pay more for work, so that you can live with us without eating up the capital. This is a good good church.

But the mail closes soon and I must close.

In hope,

Copied from handwritten letter
April 26, 1965 arr

(Signed) James White