Portsmouth Jany. 4th 1843

Dear Husband

I had the pleasure of receiving your letter of the 20th Dec some few days ago & was much gratified with the contents finding you had made a conclusion of the dream always write long letters & if you have no dreams tell something else to please or without any thing no matter what even scolding do, so you write lengthy. It is very cold and this little brag house is as cold as an Indian hut, my fingers are purple with the cold, I wrote you a long rigmarole letter but did not send it because it was silly & prosy about sentiment and all this. I hope you had a very pleasant new year, the Mr Moore you mentioned has not paid the fus, about advance monies for such persons always think when you are putting your hand in your pock=et that you have a jealous selfish wife at home who wants all you can spare from yourself, Lowndes has quit boarding with us, I wish you to enquire into the reason he always had his meals at a moments warning and the best could be prepared I tried to please him & make him happy, been saving for Op & him all this fall and winter, have always been too much of a slave to them for my own comfort. wonder if they will think of this should I live to be a little older & ever become helpless no they will not repay me But I wont anticip=ate sufficient for the day is the evil May it at Cincin=nati. Delia was with her but returned with Matthias them folks enjoy this world finely and easily I am not so fortunate as they are but must submit

Mrs Clara H. Moore
Washington
Care of Senator H. Clayton
Washington City
D.C.

Free

I often think why is it they can fly round & have every thing heart can wish every comfort & I pinching saving & denying my=self comfortable clothes. I get angry & provoked to death Mr Kenny house cost a little upwards of five hundred dollars, a great deffrence in the price of that and this but Lloyd tells fibs this never cost him half he says it did. there is a lot adjoining Kennis to sell, I wish we had a house of our own, you did not mention any thing about Father he never even enquires for us the boys must write you themselves I cant manage to have one more all together, I am glad the Eating Estab=lishments are removed from the capitol basement it will be an example & will put that nuisance down I hope I have a great mind to start a petition to suppress gamb=ing houses Eating houses & other houses of resort for certain men which causes such crime & degredation and in its results are so calamitous Look at the case of young Spencer those houses caused his ruin there he was schoo=led there the seeds sowed that brought forth such bitter fruit If every mother felt as I do they would wish for trumpets to tell the causes of the untold misery of the wife the mother the sister, I care not what is thought. Let me be crazy the time is fast coming when these deadly evils will be stoped. write me soon very soon the boys are both at Purcells, Send me some money you have been gone better than four months and I have had 50 keep account so you wont say I spend too much, all the Ladies enquire for you I dont see the gentleman often as you know I dont flirt with them be good dont make a dunce of yourself flirting with woman It is late & this must go or miss the

next mail, I told Op I would give him a present if he would secure his present place by being studious as Leonidas to business you can do much by encouraging Op. Tell me can we give a few dollars to Williams or not. I wanted some cash to send down by Mary to get to buy me a new kind of merino Shemise very comforta=ble and absolutely required this cold weather, I am wearing my old shabby bonnet I got at Stetenius three or four years since, not made a new dress since November year but these hints dont take. write long & dont get mad I wish you happy new year Heaven Bless you

M G Heaton

Portsmouth Febry 14th 1843

My Dear Husband

We received your letter of 7th Feby on Sunday evening. Seven weeks to a day from the date of your former letter to the last, and five from the date of mine until the reception of yours. I will suggest punctuality I can be so with you, We moved on monday 30th Jany. Orian hired Mr Bishop the one who moved us before We had all the furniture safely brought in. Bishop was careful. We are now cleaned up and all arranged comfortably. I took a violent cold & was hoarse so I had to whisper for better than a week after but am getting better of it, the morning I commenced moving I had arose from bed and went to the fire place when I commenced spitting blood, but I did not give the alarm untile I was safe moved I knew I had to go through it. and the sooner the better I feel much better now and the house is warm and perfectly comfortable and convenient, the Hall is papered handsomely and the parlour the prettiest paper in town except Mrs Conways parlour every thing is clean we have all our wood moved Orian got three cords one dollar per cord the best kind of hickory & Beech. we get Butter 6 cents per pound. last week. You forgot about the time we went into Lloyds house it was the last of August instead of the first oct. You would not write nor send money so I had to have the other fifty dollar note changed to pay expenses. and have not enough left to pay Lloyd you have been gone almost six months and I have not used one hundred in all I have been very saving not using my third I expect to save a sum of it for you will let me have it. at the end of the year you will see how much I will have saved and you keep the two thirds for your own and see how much you will save of it

Mr Ezekiel Mason
Machias
Washington Co
Me

Mrs E. Mason
Portsmouth
N.H.

I received a letter from Mitton a few days since he has another daugh=ter proposes giving it a double name one to be Mina Mitton says there is a mortgage on his farm about being closed and if he had one hundred dollars it would save it. and he cant raise the money untill June then it will be too late, that if he had taken Father advice he would been clear of difficulty that this will be a lesson to him Shew this to Father and tell him Mitton must not loose his all for he has been good to poor old Mr Mitton when the rest was careless of him you and Father fix it some how to save him. I have told Matthias of it Pope has been in Town twice but did not call to see us Mary & Mate will not return in the Scioto valley Steamer this trip but probaly will the next. it dont cost them any thing, I wish you would inform me when you will be at home in your next. and tell me what you are doing with your money you said when you was here you thought you would buy land have you done it I have thought you could soon set up a store here, Lou could sell goods & you could practice Law & speculate & go to the Legislat=ure that is if you could ever consent to leaving Washington city Orian will soon be as good a merchant as Lou I will not forget Mr Purcell for his kindness he is a perfect gentleman in my estimation the boys will inform you when he intends go on for goods Matthias was here last night till late bed time told me Father was giving money to Warren co Father high ideas of honour and good principle are truly praiseworthy. I know him to be good & virtuous. Will McKenzie be cleared by the court Martial. it was cold Blooded deliberate & premedi=tated and he should be imprisoned six years in a dungeon & fed on bread & water as long as his dastardly mean life lasted I hope Spencer will if he is cleared take it to the civil tri=bunal. and try for justice & mercy there. our navy is disgraced by such creatures as McKenzie. write soon love to Father

Mina J Heaton

Dear Father, I have just read yours of 7th Inst. I am now boarding at Mrs Montgomerys, Mr Purcell wanted me to stop boarding at home because I could not be quick enough at meals and that is the only reason on the 1st Jany 1843 there was a ballance of 125$ in favour of me and considering the times it is not so slow. I have been more more economical than any young man in town they all spend their money as fast as they make it. Taking all things into consid=eration I have done first rate I have stuck to my place or my place has stuck to me while three first rate clerks in the same place could not: there are a great many many young men here out of employment the would be glad as you say to get employment at any price, Orian I think is more usefull than Ammon was, and it is a curious fact that at home we are always quarelling and here we have never had a hard word but live together like brothers: Mr Laughlin has not got back from the eastward, he is expected every day, Business is very dull as it always is at this time, Mr Purcell will start the first of March, the weather has been very cold all this month, we had a s[illegible] of snow and so precious was it that the sleigh bells are tinkling all the time from morning to night notwithstanding the runners rub the ground all the way, a young lady was just in here, I asked how sleighing went she said it was ground riding not sleigh riding, she only just wanted to have it to say she had been sleigh riding, general news is scarce, it was reported about here a few days ago that Henry Clay was drowned on the Steamer Creole which struck a snag and sunk, it was known that he was aboard here and all lives lost but it turns out the Ship Creole instead.

I would like to know what you think of the Somerset case, I think Spencer could have been brought home for as this case is like all others I ever read of when the Ring Leaders was safe the rest gave it up as a bad job and it shows cowardice in McKenzie for being afeard of a few young apprentices, I am almost done now we are all coming out of the kinks, your expences here this year will be if what it was last as we can get provisions less than half the price at the groceries, I hope you will not invest many in property as it is impossible to know what it will be worth, the river is closed with ice and steam boats are not running give my best respects to Grand Pa, and to your self my lasting gratitude is the wish of your obedient son

Lorenzo D Heaton

Portsmouth 5 March 1843

Dear Father

As the time is drawing nigh, When Mr Purcell starts I thot it would be well to write you ~~to~~, that you may know how money matters stand, Mr Purcell has been advancing money for us when ever it was wanted, and has paid Mr Floyd 40 ff Dollars for house rent; Yesterday I gave him a draft on You for 100 ff Dolls at 20 days sight — for 100 ff Dolls credited on our Books which will over ballance all claims and leave a ballance besides. so you can just be prepared to meet the 100 f Draft by the 20th Inst (when he calls) and it will save the trouble & risk of sending by mail; Mr Purcell has been very honorable in advancing funds for us as I dont believe any other person wd have done it, All things get along as smoothly as you could wish, expenses this year will not be if half that it was last, we are all perfect miserg; Butter and eggs can be taken in here for goods at 6¼c and that is saving a good deal in the course of a year the groceries cost 10c. You May expect to see Mrs Purcell this time, without a doubt she is the finest lady in town, I have not time to write more now I just write this so you could be prepared for the Draft, but I will write again by Mr Purcell,

Your Obedient Son
Cornelius O Hatore

Cornelius O'Hatore
Portsmouth Ohio

Mail 3

Wm. H. Winter Esqr
Washington City
D.C.

25

Portsmouth March 15th 1823

My Dear Husband

A few minutes since Opian inf=
-ormed me Mr Pindle would start in the morning
and I could not omit saying a few words to you
it has been a long time since I received a line from
you but I hope you can explain the cause why
I am thus neglected. I hope you will thank Mr
Pindle for his kind interest manifested towards
Opian, report says he is to be married before he
starts to Miss Thompson of this place I am not ac=
quainted with her, but hope for his sake she
is amiable and sensible, Ladies call every day
and ask for you I cannot write a long letter this
time it is late now but you must understand
I wish all good to happen to you Suppose you
pray the Lord prayer every night. At going to
bed try it and see the result, will you go regu=
=larly to church at least once every Sunday, it will
do you no harm and maybe much good.
It will purify the heart soften it elevate it
Oh do so. Let us try to live right that we may
die in peace May God, Blessing be with you

Adieu

Mria G. Heaton

please give my to Father
he too forgets me

Suppose you send me some pretty present.
and say when you will be home we wish to see you
you again we live comfortably & pleasantly

David Heaton
Washington city

Mr Pindle

Victor

1823

Portsmouth April 5th 1843

Dear Husband

We had the pleasure of receiving your kind letter of 11th March ten days since but had just wrote by Mr Purcell, Mary & Mall have returned they were well pleased with their visit they describe New Orleans differently from some who go there Mary likes it better far better than any city she ever saw they was treated with great attention & kindness by Mr Zackrie & wife & at Mr Waters on the Plantation, they was at Maguyades the French opera or Malvina was I dont know about Mary but Mall went with Mrs Zackrie they took them every where to see the the Lions of the city. Lepe went down after they came up Henrietta is confined about this time. You may remember Mrs Craighead the Sheriff went into her house and took out her furniture for debt a Bank debt. it was cruel as well as mean she is independent & superior to some here & they hate her, & try to humble her pride I like her she is a virtuous sensible woman she always enquires after you. Mrs Conway was here yesterday & said Miss Stigar (the illnatured old maid) had been here again I call her illnatured. She wished to see me as she was going on to Washington, I saw her once too often for my own comfort she hurt my feelings very much about you & the Ladies of Washington about your gallantries. She made me feel bad very bad Oh! how I dislike her. She is a bold boasting blowing

Mrs Sidney Stanton

Dr

Dr David H Stanton
Washington City
DC

PORTSMOUTH
N. H.

Mr 3

woman you can see her at Mr Fralis but if I were you I would have little to say to her she is dangerous as well as insulting. I treat Mrs Conway politely since but I never will like her again. as well as I used to she was present when Miss Stiger spoke so foolishly to me once in the street and once in her house in compa=ny. Orion & Leonidas do finely while Mr Purcell is away their store is full of customers, when others are em=pty. Orion is becoming a good salesman and a good clerk Purcell acknowledges to Son that he is much better than cousins, we do well at home here Matthias invited us up to eat oysters this winter I mention it because it is unusual he is here frequ=ently they had two boxes of oranges and gave us about two dozen or so. Mary brought me a pretty little present from Orleans Mrs Waters sent me a jar of fig preserves, I will tell you a little tattle or rumour but you must never let Purcell know either thought you or Father that I told it. it appears that Mr Purcell was engaged to be married to a Mr McGowan who was absent. that Mr Purcell wrote to the above gentleman to return the ring & letters of his bride and the young man is making great noize about it since Mr Purcell left here he came back, there I have wrote you all the Stuff I could muster up Suppose you and I run races and try which will be the best in every thing you will please tell where you board & lodge. whether you bought the land you spoke of to me we have paid five for the Cousin. I wish you would write soon & often & long love to Father Adieu

D F Keaton

Mira S. Keaton

Dear Father.

I perused your last letter with great pleasure, because you always write so encouraging and good natured, Ossian & I get along very well together in the store business has not been as brisk as I would like to see it, but the river has been so high and consequently so much back water people could not get in, still we are doing a better busi=ness than most of the stores. What Ma says in relation to Mrs Purcell is a report from hearsay and untrue. there is no rings or letters in the case at all nor has McGowen been here for 6 mos. but the people must have something to gossip on and as there is no expected marriage to talk about. Simpso=ne Sonce of the most scientefick fabricated this burlesque to keep the ball in motion, If Mr Purcell is in the City when this arrives tell him C & E Cooper have sent another 100$ Bill Exchange on N.Y. and he will understand all the rest, This has been the longest winter Never knew it is not over yet here. Laughlin has been frozen up in the Missouri R. for the last 6 mos Mathas Lincoln "Journal of news in general" so I will not repeat it. but leave room for Osh to say something, Very Affectionately Leonidas Keaton

Dear Pa

as there is some room left for me to say something I will endeavor to do so. news that is out of the Question things are going on very smoothely at home economical as ever notwithstanding the hard times and cold weather Ma has given you a record of every thing that has transpired to date and therefore I have nothing which will be new without it is that I am pleased with my situation and employer there is very little doing now in the city Good time or any other time let me once more put you in mind of the Spot Cash you must think I am quite a bore but the bore you is the only way of getting it as paper is running short and mail is about to close. I must do the same I remain your affectionate Son —— O. Keaton

Portsmouth May 30th 1823

Dear Husband

I have not received a line from you since Mr Pursell came home seven weeks since the date of your last this is absolutely too bad and I have been waiting for several weeks to receive a letter so I could mention what I wished you to bring me home when you came, but it seems you have forgot your promise to be here the last of May. I am sorry to say you disapoint me, Mr Macey informed me he saw you in Washington I caled to see Mrs Pursell but she was absent. I have seen Mr Pursell in the store but had no chance to converse of you. So you see I am entirely in the dark about you or how you are coming on but I supose as usual attending to business in the morning and the fair sex in the evening, this is merely a supose as you are a philanthropist. I feel a little illnatured that you have so disapointed me, and will not say any thing to please, for when I write a first rate letter you never notice it or answer, Orpian is now regular in his habits that is comes home to bed at nine or half past. Pursell sells more than other stores always full of customers. Leonidas looks pale. Sepe has returned with his wife & son but Matthias

there is a kind of woollen goods called neapolitan it is all wool I don't know whether there is any in new orleans if it is for mantle of black colour I could get it cheap

Mrs Oliver Wolcott
Mrs Pursell
Mrs Macey
Mrs Clapp
Mrs Mackay
Mrs Bitz
Mrs Weaton
Mrs Bagg

Mail

Mr Oliver Wolcott
Washington

those poor starved boarding houses come home linger not. my love to Father adieu Mira S Heaton

Dear Pen — as there is some room left for me to give my sentiments I will endeavor to do so. we are anxiously expecting to see you and that anxiety I hope wont last long as it is we would rather see you than hear tell of you we anticipate this letter may never reach you thinking you may be on your road before it reaches Washington my Dear Pen you must be in error in relation to the Gun you think I am extravagant wanting you to get the Gun but I merely want to exchange the rifle you gave me if the Gun costs more than the rifle I am willing to pay the difference which it probably may be there and get one Pa. all going on smoothly at home. Give my love to Grandpa must leave some room for Love excuse dirt & a bad pen O Heaton

Dear Pa I hardly know what to add, without it is to join in the ardent wish of soon beholding you. if you only knew how anxious we are to see you, you would not delay a moment, how swift the little time flys that you are here and how long & tedious your absence do not let June see you in Washington at the furthest you have nothing to keep you I am sure, all your acquaintances will be glad to see you. Mr Graham always enquires after your health, but you always have friends wherever you go, I am now boarding at Mr Parsells, my health is as good as it can ever will be confined as I am. for I know that plenty of exercise in the open air is all I need, I see by an Athens paper a letter of your address in the dead letter list, I will have it forwarded to you as it may be important, my love to Grandpa — Adieu Dear Pa Lucinda Clay Heaton

I want a cap a handsome one I expect to be at a wedding soon and I must get up a decent new dress I get up so thin any other time I would need money but it will not do to give away

thinks he looks like he was sick Henritta will be here in a week or two Matilda told me to say she would write Father but nothing was certain yet, but she rather thinks she will want three hundred dollars to go to housekeeping this fall. all goes on smoothly here at home if you come before I write again I will want a few "notions" brought. a fashionable deep cap from Mrs Hills. two or three pair gloves fine french kid to fit a ladies hand not the common size, my hand is not large, one pair lemon colour one pale blue one pair brown or black, get the gloves at Clogsets or Stevenson, of the finest & best quality I have thought of asking you to buy a summer lawn dress for Mrs Williams every one gives them presents and I feel ashamed I go to their church all of us do and it is mean not to give something. I leave it to your generosity I wish you could see if gingams are worn I would like a dress of that for myself. but of colours that will never fade, but any thing pretty or genteel would not come amiss dont be afraid I dont stand in need for I do want all I can get stockings dresses &c I have five little chickens round the door will be ready to fry when you come our beans are growing finely will be plenty of strawberries at glovers first June Come soon, have plenty home sugar to make molasses many good things all so clean so different from

Portsmouth June 13th 1843

My Dear Husband

Yesterday I received your letter of 6th June, I can tell you now all the reason you did not get my letter which was mote immediately after Powells arrival Leonidas says he forgot to mail it and it has laid in the store ever since and he did not inform me of this untill after my last to you had been mailed & gone so you see I was not to blame I was very much provoked at Leonidas but he laughed as though it was a smart thing. you know how men pretend to forget, & he is having the art, Henrietta has been up ten days with her fine boy, tell Father it is a very sweet baby I love it nearly as well as I used to our babies, Henrietta would write him if she knew what would please him that is if she knew his tastes I dont think there is any sign of Matildas going to washington rumour says Mathias will be married soon but I dont know any thing certain yet, I am very sorry you cant come out sooner do try and come quickly dont put off so long and make arrangements to stay longer than usual. I told Nero you was coming home soon to take him hunting & he held up his head and run to the door and appeared to understand he knows you are away for when I talk to him about you he listens shews by signs that he knows what I am saying he is a faithful affectionate creature, he loves any thing little or helpless, so you see he is expecting hunting scraps

Walk up the wishes to feel mean and no body, but Mathias, Mary & Mall will be there to be married in due time, depend upon it. Heath is not good but they don't think and they said about it. The last by this month Adieu Mrs Heath

Mr Daniel Heath
Washington City
Care
Wm Dr Graham
1848

you said you would buy a fine shot gun but never a
word about the articles I named in my last letter I dont want
you to forget. any one article I named I wish you would
think about selling the little brick and buying here I think
I deserve a home by this time, I wish Father & you would purchase
this house we live in, do by all means try and sell your house
there, dont lend one dollar nor lay out any money but for board
ing & clothing, dont give away any money, I intreat you to observe
these rules for your own sake as well as the childrens & mine
Tyler may turn you out he has done worse things than that
our expenses have been very little here at home, I need not
ask you to have a good suit of clothes, you will do this anyhow
If we had a home paid for I would be glad Tyler would
turn you out for you will never leave untill you are made
to you have resources have a mind capable but you
are contented there and it is so strange to me how you
can but I suppose easy life some pay plenty amusements
are the causes I would as soon go to the penitentiary for
life as go there and live. I wish to heaven you could break
the chain that binds you there, men make money here and
get rich. but I have said more than I ought to on this - how
is your health this summer. I hope well, for fear you will for
get what I asked for I will name again a fashionable drab cape
that costs three pair gloves fine french kid one pair Lemon colour
one pair Lilac, or pale blue, one pair brown or black, one gingham
dress fast colours. look for a material caled neapolitan woollen

I wish to hear from Father about Mother and Mattie. I wish you would pay particular attention to our letters. I have said in these two last letters if you please and I will be very grateful for it I have cause Mattie of wishing you to go to washington city tell Father do

goods something like mouslin delain but all wool if any one has it Lizzie
is the one it is for winter Mary bought her a shall each one from the
south I would like a dress of it. and a very fine linnen cambric pocket
handkerchief, I have no silk shawl for summer, but I am going now
beyond my bounds - or limits but I get no finery here and you will
not can to give me a little now. I must have room for the boys come
as soon as possible be careful of your baggage and money when
travelling all is lost often every person enquire & send respects to you

Port June 14th 1843

Dear Pa

I have just returned from a Collecting not
exactly Collecting but trying to do so, and had a great
time seeing my old School Mates and other acquaintences. We are
all verry well at present and am glad to hear you will be
here shortly. Pa the Verb endeavor you use in saying you wo
do anything dont give satisfaction but say it is your i
=tion to do it Come so soon as you can make it convenient
and be received with open arms Love to Grandpa - O. Preator

Dear Pa, After reading what has already been said I hardly
know what I can entertain you with, but I must again earnest
-ly wish you to hasten your arrival here, it seems so long
since you were here and you must stay six weeks or
two months too. We are all getting along first rate, Odell is
making a fine salesman and I dont think there is any
danger of losing his situation for there is no body that
could be got to suit us well. My health is first rate
which I attribute to the exercise I take. I rise 5 or 6
miles every pleasant morning before breakfast. I never felt
a symptom of liver complaint, in haste your dutiful son O. Preator

Portsmouth August 7th 1843

My Dear Husband

I was very glad to hear of your safe arrival your letter from Wheeling & Washington both came, I hope you will sell the house & buy the land, then you will be more secure even if you should leave the land office, which I think very probable. at any rate I think it time to bring all things in such a train that you can leave there & not be a loozer either I felt lonely & sorry you could not stay longer with us I dreamed last night you were here Oh how I wish you was coming soon never to return there. the question has been asked why did not Mr Seaton stay longer I explained all about it. I found after you left that you had forgot two of your shirts, and the black shawl. I wish you if you please to attend regularly some church every sunday do it to please me, I have received three letters from Cincinnati from Matilda Malvina & Cordelia, the baby has been sick but now well, Mathias & Elizabeth & Mary are well and frequently come in to see us I think Elizabeth would please Father she is making a fine housekeeper Dr Allen has been in town he is Mary's beau, Mr Purcell will have her for goods soon Mr Gaylords family are gone Mrs Gaylord told me she waved Adieu to you but you did not see her, Mrs Craighead says we treated her very mean in not calling to see her, I excused you of course

Mr August 1843

Mr Wm Seaton

Marietta 26th

Mr Wm Seaton
Potter's
of Mr Jones
Washington City

I wish I knew whether Father would come out this fall if he does you get me a dress of the Neapolitan I spoke of, Clagget will certainly have it for he has fashionable goods in the season, if you see a cheap bargain in irish linnen fit to make shirts and shemise, get it or a lot of table napkins damask linnen I do wish to make you some handsome irish linnen shirts this winter half a doz and before you come home you must get Young to make you a fashionable dress coat. do extra work on it for my sake, I want you to think of us all the time & try and love us better than all the world beside we will do the same, write immediately Heaven Bless you

please give my love to Father — Affectionately Yours

and to Mrs De Kruff with a hope } Maria T Heaton

for restoration to health, Porto August 5th 1848

Dear Pa Mr Powell starts on the first Boat And I will not lose the opportunity of writing you. I am very glad to hear that you arrived safe, and in good health which is one of the greatest blessings we enjoy, we are all well and I have got clear of the Tyler Grip which is a great consolation indeed. I have not much time to write and therefore must make my epistle as short as possible for to give Son time and room on this dirty sheet you must excuse this scrawl. Dear Pa your advice is good so far as it concerns Business but I cannot help but say it is a little inconsistent in another light as you have heard me give my reasons for not being so closely confined and you cannot help but know they are not without foundation. but dont misunderstand me dont think for a moment that I would lose a situation of this kind unless it was injurious to my health. I will determine on what I will do in the course of two or three months Give my love to Frances and believe me I remain your affectionate Son A. Heaton

Portsmouth September 5th 1843

My Dear Husband

I had the pleasure of receiving your kind letter a few days since, but it was a long time coming you must write sooner after receiving from me as I am anxious to hear from you. I hope you will complete the purchase of the land, and sell your home in Washington. I wish you to be shure and shape your course so you can leave there soon if the land is good why you are safe - do fix matters as soon as possible and leave there - think of it Will it and then will he away Orian has got into a notion of going to New orleans this fall I would rather you would persuade him out of the notion as he will loose his place and be out of busi=ness that is a bad thing then times or at any time for when unemployed mischief comes in then disgrace will you please write him to stick to it untill you come home then promise him a respite, Mr Ratcliffes son is dead this is the second child this summer now they are alone when I stood beside the coffin of poor John (just Leonidas age) I thought how would I feel in their place Oh Mr Seaton how important life is how we should be determined in deed and in truth to perform our duties moral social & religious I thought of these things and feel determined to perform mine as far as circumstances will permit I will be a good mother

David C. G. Seaton Esqr.
Washington city D.C.

Mrs Seaton
Sept 5th 1843

Oh! how soon may death seperate I wish our sons to
cherish, love and respect their mothers name when she
is no more. I endeavour to merit this but I am human
and apt to err in judgment. then I am a wife as well
as mother God knows my poor heart there - but enough
On sunday Malvina & Cordelia came up here from Cin
Mall is here cordelia at Matthias, cordelia will remain at
Matthias probably untill Sept & wife goes to her fathers or un
=till Malvina's wedding which is sometime next month. Mall
will return to Cincinnati in a few days - I wish you had
seen Mr Dunsle - write to the boys & tell them how to do
I believe I am done if I give this to op he will be mad
because I wrote about his intention of going to New orleans
and they frequently mislay and delay sending of my letters
I dont know what else to say I dont make any thing by
writing sentiment. tell Father I was glad to hear in the
letter of Milton which he sent by Dunsle that Mother was
so well thank heaven kind heaven she does not suffer
I hope he supplies her as well as the rest with all the
comforts and some of the luxuries certainly she does
deserve as much as any I know father is a self deny
ing man deprives himself to give to his family my love
to him May heaven Bless you do be good Adieu
write soon dont wait but one day to think do try and
do all I desire dont be hard & stern
many all enquire kindly after you Mira G Heaton
I would let the boys finish but for reasons stated

Portsmouth September 20th 1843

Dear Pa

We received yours last Evening with great pleasure and it also found us all in good health one of the greatest blessings we enjoy notwithstanding there is a great Quantity down and almost all that gets down scarcely ever rises the diseases is principally Billious Typhus and other fevers it is at this time verry unhealthy here but I hope we will all escape but enough of this Mr Daniel Russell will draw on you next month for Twenty Seven Dollars and Seventy nine Cents from what I can understand you seem to think I am dissatisfied with my Situation I do not know from what ground you can suppose me being dissatisfied unless it is from something Ma has said or that in every letter I am praising or blowing about the business or my Situation and by this time you ought to know my disposition in relation to my expressing myself no pa so soon as I find my business a bore I find another Situation you must not think me rash I think Consider and look before I leap as to my going to New Orleans that is all in my Eye unless something turns up more than I expect when I go to Cincinnati which will be in about a month from this time perhaps it may give you some Satisfaction to know what my business is, that is to see Malvina M Scott married to Joshua V Robinson on the Seventeenth of October She wants me to come

Paid 25

Capt Daniel Shelton

Care of Capt Waters

Washington City

and see her Married which of Course I could not refuse
pa you are aware that there is only one thing which keeps
me in Portsmouth that is I must Stay at home with my
Mother I do not know it would be necessary as to the
duty I perform but the appearance it makes though I do
as much as is in my power and spare time that I
have which is not much. but I dont believe the Devil
himself could get her from Portsmouth with all his little
ones. I can tell in the course of three months how long
long I will remain at Mr Pusey my present wages are too
small for me to lay up any thing and I must have some
encouragement at the end of twelve months to encour-
age me I have now lived with James Pusey almost
two months and I assure you pa I have never lived
with any One that I liked to do Business for better
he is an honorable and upright man One that will
see to his Clerks interests as well as his Own
You need not say anything in your letter in rela-
tion to what I have said I will tell Andrew Crick-
ton Do what you wished me and anything you
Could do for that young man would be great ad-
vantage to him and at the same time be a great
pleasure to me If you Could make any arrangement
with that man you speak of which would be profit-
able to me and substantial and at the same
time it should be as business which would not
keep me so closely confined for my health I
must and will have you can give me more
information in your next letter and I can give
you a more correct answer and anything
to my interest I will most certainly do Aunt
Mary is going to Lima in about a month you can
tell Grandpa and if ma would go I would go with
them for a short time perhaps make it my residence
if we could only get ma to go how much more Eco-
nomical it would be and the climate would suit
both her and myself better reason with Grandpa
perhaps he may have some influence more than
likely providing he comes out I have become verry much
attached to my new Aunt that is Mr B Rops wife I
think she is a most splendid Woman none of the deceit
full ones she says to your face what she would be hind
your back and that is the woman for me and no
other. Dear pa I will now tell you my reason
for being so anxious for ma to go to Lima although
they are alread familiar to you it is simply this
ma can be swayed by any One for instance the disp-
leasure of Mary Rop may be upon some one
And therefore she did as a matter of Course I say
a matter of course because it is always the case
put ma against the aforesaine person she does
it unthinkingly but it is allways the case and
at this present time ma has a great many enemies
on that sole reason. Give my love to Grandpa
And bear in mind that I remain your
Affectionate Son Ofs Cadwa

Portsmouth October 11th 1843

My Dear Husband

I received your letter two weeks since, with great pleasure, and thank you for your promptness. I would have answered but waited from day to day thinking of doing it tomorrow. and Opian told me he had wrote you which informed you of our welfare - I was pleased to ~~[illegible]~~ you had thought of still purchasing the land. I am not a judge of the ~~prosperity~~ of it. I am still in hopes Opian will stay with Pursile his future prosperity depends upon it. write him so. I wish them both to be rich men and they can be by taking my advice. sticking to their places no changing & Pursile is clever, when Opian gets to wing about he will do no good. Mary left town two weeks since for Cincinnati Matilda came up rather moved here at the same time, lives in the house we first rented three years ago of Riggs. Malvina will be married on tuesday next to ~~A. C. Robinson~~ she is now making the wedding dress Matilda looks very thin and pale & care worn She will write Father a letter as soon as she is settled, again we hear Mary has left Cincinnati for Indiana gone to Logansport with Mrs William Hop, but ~~she~~ has not wrote a word herself to us although I expected she would tell Father he had better let Matilda live here she will be happier than then

Mr Otis
Steubenville
Ohio
Favored
Mr Otis
Steubenville
Jefferson Co Ohio

and she has all her furniture and is fixed comfortably and decently and will save every thing Matt & Lizie and he will jointly contribute to her support. such as provisions home rent & fuel Malvina is entitled the wealthiest family in town they are methodists and they would have written him & consulted him and invited him to the wedding but the time was too short for him to receive the letter & come, I wish I had a genteel winter shawl I want a Neapolitan dress I wish I could hear something good. but I am discouraged about your ever trying to do any thing here or elsewhere except Washington there you intend to stay. but you will be mad so I must not say more about it I wish you would answer me immediately. tell us how your health is my love to Father. do write soon adieu

Mary Hale

Portsmouth

Mr David H Weston
Paris
Washington Co
Me

Portsmouth 27th October 1843

Dear Husband

I would wait untill I received your answer to my last letter but I must inform you of what has transpired recently. You are aware of Malvina marriage on the 17th oct. that took place on Tuesday on Thursday there was a party at Conways where we were all invited. Ophian went but Leonidas Caird in the evening and said he had too much business to do to go. and I was going then to go he said ma send an apology I did so as Ophian had been gone some time and I had no one to go with me on the monday following I was at Mr Dowses Store he came up to me and asked me if Ophian had got into any business yet. I was astonished and asked what he meant he said Ophian had left on the friday morning before, and had he not told me I said no. he then went on to state particulars that he had frequently warned Ophian about a certain young man to avoid him to pay more attention to business & less to cheap company that idle companions was the ruin of young men &c that Ophian was too often in the oyster shop too often away from the Store with the above young man John Macy. but on the evening of Conways party

We Father Matilda is well and finding comfortable but wants money that he said a letter from Mary Catley. Mr Weatherston you dont say what we must do about money. Leonidas is well he gives me no anxiety

Nov

David F. Atwater Esqr
Washington
Cit. D.C.

Portsmouth Oct 27

Recd Nov 1st 1843

told Opian if he went to the party it must be
with me and return with me that under no other
consideration should he go. that he did not aprove
of boys going to large parties it led their minds
from business. he said in the morning Opian came
in and he asked him if he had went with me and
he said no then Dunsell told him he would not keep
him unless under severer restrictions ~~and~~ that Opian
then left. this was all kept from me. Opian is sly
and artful. when he chooses to be. Mr Dunsell said
a great deal but said it like a gentleman to a lady
no Sepe Rop Language, he told me to say to Opian
to go to work to go to a trade &c if he would not
comply with the rules of a merchant. I felt so bad
I could scarcely stand I was unprepared took by surprise
but paced it off smoothly and came home in
the mean time Opian had been out hunting but
I had not thought much about it. that was from
Sunday now I was determined to talk to Opian
plainly but mildly I advised him I told him
I was his friend on certain conditions that was that
he would do right and follow my advice but
the first thing on Tuesday was shirts to be washed
for he was going to cincinnate. there was no call
then I asked him where he would get money he
said he had sold a gun, and that he would
never have a better chance than then to go there and

then to Eaton. I could not prevent him and he went
on wednesday I asked him who he was going with he did
not say who, I did not speak crop to him but told him
I was going to write you what should I say he said
that I could tell you he would maybe be back in a
week or so, when Mary was at Matthias last summer
she was always asking him to go to Lima she is the one
I think that put it into his head and Matt was heard
to ask Opian if he was going to be ordered about
by that Englishman Dunsell. I dont think if Op had
been let alone he would have done so but Matt I
believe secretly wanted him to loose his place not that
he would ever give him one. he it was that to
Mary to get us off to Lima. he is the under
but never mind we will soon see how th
will go with him. I say nothing but think
now my plan is this for Opian when he
to go into Dunsells store and stay at Eat
any restrictions untill you arrange some thing
him I wish you could come out this fall you a
not so chained fast but you could come I wish
you and Father would go into Partnership & put
the boys in a store for themselves look at Elder
look at others making money getting rich why
cant we do so I wish I was a man I could act
Opian must never go to a city he could not withstand
the temptation he would be totaly ruined forever
Write soon adieu Mira S Hatch

I have wrote you a long letter to explain every thing to you in order
that you might know exactly how it was

don't be angry with
Matthias or Sepe he
Sepe has gone south with his family

I see he has already seen a better friend than either
Matthias or Sepe he would advise him
I wish you would come out this fall