

Norway Jan. 26th, 1866.

My dear Son.

The last mail brought me two letters from you, beside the note, which Nellie handed me.

I do, indeed, congratulate ^{you} on your happy prospects, and earnestly hope, that a life-long happiness will await you both. I have known Nellie as Sue's intimate friend, several years, and, since you were here, have felt that she was your friend. I like her much, but, of course, have no intimate knowledge of her, as I could not expect one so young, to feel any special interest in me.

I will most gladly receive her as a daughter, and hope to win her love, and respect. As yet, I have had no opportunity of private conference, with

her, — and, with your injunction
of secrecy, I wait a convenient
opportunity, that I may not excite
remarks. — She is still young,
tho' more mature than many at
24 years, and without parents to
advise her in this matter. I trust
you will feel your responsibility, and
strive always to make her happy.

I am glad your prospects are
good, for a maintenance, but, don't
count too sanguinely, on rapid increase
of wealth. I fear you are too confident,
and will be disappointed at the end
of one year's labour. — I know it is
the fast age, but, money slips away
from you, very easily. — I think a
man has no right to involve a wife
and family in poverty. Unless he has
some solid foundation, and a fair
prospect of a comfortable maintenance,
he should not marry. Something

should be laid by, for accidents,
or sickness, or death, that the loved
ones may not suffer. — I have
experienced so much privation,
and anxiety that I dread its repeti-
tion in your case. — So, I urge
you to be prudent, and discreet, and
I would advise a postponement of
union, till you can know what an-
other year will meet you. — You
are not sufficiently established yet, I
think, to spend the three months time,
and the large amount of money, which
a journey to France would require.
May you be guided wisely, in this, and
in all other arrangements. — You will
fully believe that I am practising
self-denial, in this advice, as I should
rejoice to see you very often, if it was
practicable. — I thank God for the
good friends he has given you, and trust
you will not disappoint their expecta-
tions, but, by study and perseverance, will
prove a blessing to them. —

I am much obliged to Mrs. Johnson for her kind remembrance to you.
Joe Newhall, has purchased an interest in a paper mill in Hurri-ville, New Jersey. — He is now here, to take his family on there. — They were to have left today, but are detain'd by a heavy snow-storm. — The first deep snow of the season. — We have, thus far, had a very open winter. — This month has been very cold. — It is still snowing, and I doubt if they get away before next week. — Joe's partner in the business, is Mr. Harris, a batchelder, who will board with them. — They will have no neighbours, except the dutch apprentices, and will be twelve miles from every thing. — About 40 miles from Philadelphia and sixty from New-York. — Eliza likes the country, but this is a little too much like solitude, and we regret that she is to be so unmur'd, shut out from all social priviledges. — She is much oblig'd to you for remembering her baby-boy, but thinks you had better not spend money for him. He is a fine healthy boy, now three months old, and looks like his father. — I read your paper, when it comes, but the Major reads but little of anything. — We all send love,
your mother & A. Michels. —

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should be laid by, for accidents, or sickness, or death, that the loved ones may not suffer. -- I have experienced so much privation, and anxiety that I dread its repetition in your case. -- So, I urge you to be prudent, and discreet, and I would advise a postponment of union, till you can know what an other year will neat you. -- You are not sufficiently established yet, I think, to spend the three months time, and the large amount of money, which a journey to Maine would require

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little of anything. -- We all send love. --

Your mother E. A. Mighels. --

[left margin:

I am much obliged to Mrs Johnson, for her handsome present to you.]