

LETTERS OF ORSON GURNEY SMITH

TO AND FROM HIS WIVES

1. CARRIE
2. ANNIE
3. MARY

AND CARPENTER RELATIVES IN
CONNECTICUT

AND OTHERS

Transcribed and Compiled by

Quinton Smith Harris

LETTERS OF ORSON SMITH

These letters were in the possession of Smith Stevens, son of Adaline Smith Stevens, daughter of Orson Smith and Carrie Carpenter. They passed on to his son Peter. Enclosed is the e-mail I received from Peter with the box of letters.

FROM: Peter Stevens (pste@comcast.net)

SENT: Saturday, May 13, 2006, 2:09 p.m.

TO: Quinton Harris

SUBJECT: Family letters

Hi, Quinton. Thanks for the recent material. I hadn't seen Mary Ellen's story. It's amazing that things like this have come down to us. I think I remember Orson writing somewhere that on a visit to Cardston he dug (dove?) a 200 foot well for Mary. I didn't see it in the diary so far. Pages 122-124 talk about 31 foot and 12 foot failed attempts. Maybe it's in the additional material. (Or maybe it's my faulty memory.) I hope you come across it. It's hard to imagine such a feat in those early days though with Orson one suspects anything is possible.

I'm enclosing a copy of this e-mail in a box of transcribed letters that's being mailed today. I suspect you'll be blown away. The letters are fantastic. One technical problem is that I transcribed them before computers came on the scene. The thought occurs to me that we should scan them into digital format. I'd be interested to know what you think.

(I have copied the letters exactly as Peter had transcribed them. Unfortunately, my spell checker frequently corrects misspelled words.

(Ezra Carpenter to Jenny)

Hyrum, Cache Co.
Aug. 13, 1872
Tuesday Afternoon

Dear Jenny,

It is just one week since I have written to you, the longest since I left home. The reason is that Uncle Ira's folks have got over their somewhat and I have been on the go about all of the time for a week past. Last Tuesday, one week ago to day, I went on a trip through the mountains, going to the top of the highest and no one who has not tried it does not know what tiresome work it is. But I was not behind the best of them. But they took me over more of the mountains than I expected. We went up at 10 o'clock in the forenoon and did not get down until 5 o'clock p.m. and we had traveled about 12 or 14 miles. We found snow 6 or 8 feet deep of $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ an acre in extent and it was the first snow I had to eat in August. We found a stream of water running from the snow bank clear and cold. Oh! How good it was for we was very dry and fatigued we killed four rattle snakes while we were gone. One of them I run right on to before I saw him. you can guess I jumped some. I picked up many Snail Shells on the highest tops 7000 feet high how did they get there unless it was at Noah,s Flood. I was a tired man when I got to the bottom for it is about as hard to come down as to go up. The next day Wednesday I went on an invitation to Logan to see a school teacher by name of Davis who was introduced to me the Sunday I went to meeting there. I found him a very pleasant and intelligent man he was very glad to see some one from the East. He is not a Mormon, but he likes them as a people very much. His wife is here with him, lives in a log home with only one room bed and everything in the same room. Yet she told me not homesick and said the Mormons were first rate neighbors. And made her feel quite at home. I did not get back to Hyrun until nine o'clock. And the next day Thursday Uncle Ira got liberated from the store and he and I started for the railroad. The trip that I took when I first came here that so nearly used me up. But I was recruited up and I told him I could stand it if he could. We started at 7 oclock in the morning and got to the cars at 2 o'clock I stood it as well as Uncle Ira did. We arrived at Salt Lake City at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ oclock in the evening and went to and old friend of Uncle Ira,s who seemed very glad to see him. Friday and Saturday we spent going about the city and calling on different persons among others Orson Pratt. Who I found was a very pleasant man had quite a talk. I also saw Ira A. Smith shook hands with him but did not get a chance to talk much with him. went in quite a number of times in to the deseret news office, but every time I was in George Cannon was not in and I did not see him until Monday the day I came away he was at the depot. And I was alone and some one said it was Cannon and I introduced myself. I found him a very pleasant man and was sorry I had not made his acquaintance sooner. Friday I went all over the Tabernackle also on top of it where I had a splendid view of the city. The city is laid out in ten acres squares and very wide streets. Nice shade trees grow on every street and water runs on each side it is a wonderful picture of progress and comfort property is very high and the Mormons are prospering in a worldly point of view. But it is trying them in their religion of which I will tell you when I come home.

The main street is a very busy spectacle and the corruptions of society is all around you Fashion you can see displayed and loose females on the street. Methodist Baptist & Episcopalian and the lowest of society combine as one to prevent the Mormons carrying out their very stringent laws against Grog shops. However of ill fame and gambling saloons and thus civilizations is being introduced into Salt Lake City with a vengeance and the people where Uncle Ira and I are stoping say females are not safe on the street now after dark and they are compelled to lock their doors a thing unknown until within a short time past. I went to meeting Sunday and in the forenoon heard a very eloquent discourse from Elder George Bywater and his text was in John the words of Jesus I am the way the truth and the Life. He that entereth in by me shall go in and out and find pasture. He never opened the Bible once it was entirely extemporaneous and very earnest and eloquent and riveted the attention of all. Yet this man works for his living is a Rail Road Civil Engineer. But he spoke by the power of the Holy Ghost. I do not believe Orson Pratt could have preached any better in the afternoon, John Taylor spoke not very long, then Brigham Young came to the stand and spoke long and earnestly, his remarks partook of a wide range of subjects and I am at no wonder that he exercises the most astonishing power over his followers. He is a large man, very heavy. Speaks with a strong voice although getting to be over 70 years old yet he is well preserved and to all appearances will live many years yet to be a blessing to the Latter Day Saints. For as long as he lives, there will be no dissensions among the Mormons. Although many is the enticing wedge that the emissaries of the devil are trying to work in. and prosperity is trying many of the mormons, yet Brigham Young is perfectly calm his faith strong. He is guided from on high. And his counsels if followed, will save them from falling into the power of the Devil. One of his wives died some time since and at her death bed said to those around her. You see my three children Brigham Young never touched me but three times in the world and there are my three children as the result. Brigham Young says no man is fit to be a Mormon who cannot in case such a thing was demanded and unavoidable. As to travel about from place to place and sleep with a different woman every night and still not touch her. No man can be a Mormon and live aright who does not entirely control himself and passions. No one can enter into Celestial Glory who does not conquer in all of these things. Jenny, Mormonism is a closer walk with God than any of our professed Christians dream or think of. And anyone having his or her mind enlightened has more to answer for. Jenny, I can never be the same man I have been in other days. I must crush out and stifle all of my convictions. Or wlse walk in a different manner than I ever have done before. A high way of holiness is cast up the redeemed of the Lord to walk in. Shall I give heed to it a light clear and plain has broken up on my mind what was conflicting and vague and dark before is as clear as the noon day sun. as voice says to me this is the say walk ye in it. If I reject it I am satisfied there is no peace for me in any other professed Christian way. I must yield up every hope of Celestial Glory. But I will stop on this subject. I am back to Hyrum got back this Tuesday afternoon and shall start home next Monday or Tuesday. So do not send me any more letters. I have not had any letter from you now for one week when I got back from Salt Lake City I expected to have found a letter but did not. One of Uncle Ira('s) little Boys 4 years old fell out of bed about one week ago and put out his shoulder and broke his collar bone. But he is doing well I will not close trusting I shall see you soon.

E D Carpenter

(Ezra Carpenter to his mother in Connecticut)

Hyrum Cache Co.

April 25, 1873

Utah Territory

Dear Mother

As you see by the date of this letter I have arrived safely at Uncle Ira. And we are all well and in good spirits. When we went aboard of the Steamboat Jane was sick to her stomach and was so nearly all night vomited a number of times and I felt as though we might have to stop in New York. But I got a cup of tea which settled Jane's stomach and she felt very much better when the boat stoped. We went to Jane's Aunt and stayed through the day. It rained in torrents all day but we got started all right and went on our way all right until we got 5 miles beyond Dayton Ohio about 4 o'clock Saturday morning when we came in collision with a Freight train running on our time and it made a terrific crash our Engine was forced upon the top of the Freight Engine and completely demolished both of them. Smashed two Baggage cars turned one bottom side up threw it down the river bank into the river which runs at the foot of the high bank where our train was smashed. Wonderful to state no one was killed and only two injured it was a very lucky escape and my Baggage was not injured. It caused a delay to us of nearly all day and we did not get into St. Louis until Sunday morning instead of Saturday night we had a very pleasant stay with Sarah Bugbee that used to be who married a Harris we got much rested and refreshed by the stay there and went on in good spirits Monday morning. And got along all right until Thursday afternoon of the day that I intended to get to Uncle Ira when Jane was taken sick to her stomach again and vomited twice and was very sick and I supposed we should have to stay at Ogden and not go to Uncle Ira that night. But when we got to Ogden I got a cup of Tea and Jane was much better for it but she was so weak and felt so bad I tried to get accommodation at the hotel but they were all full and we were compelled to go on and we left Ogden about 7 o'clock in the night. And found Uncle Ira there waiting for me he had been waiting for me about three hours. I felt that Jane wa too wearied and jogged out that I could not go to Ira's place by mule team about 7 miles. I went to the hotel at Logan and found upon getting them up at midnight that they were all full and we were compelled to start for Hyrum When we arrived at 2 oclock Friday Morning. Jane stood it better than I expected she would. And this morning we are in good health and Spirits Luly was one of the best children to take on the cars you ever saw and sleep good every night. I have not got any tenement as yet and do not know where I shall settle as yet. Will write again soon

Ezra D. Carpenter

Send your letters to Hyrum Cache Co in care of Ira Allen for the present.

(Nellie Holt to her friend Carrie)

Hampton Aug 9th/73

Dear Friend Carrie

I received your long looked for letter a few weeks ago and was delighted to hear from you for I had begun to think that you had forgotten your promise. You told me that you were going to move in the spring but I had no idea where you were going and you may believe that I was surprised when I received your letter. My Uncle gave it to me and said "is that for you" I looked to see where it was mailed and said that I did not know anyone in Utah but finally decided to open it and found it was mine. I should think it would seem strange to you to see the men have so many wives I don't think I should like living there I am of to jealous a disposition to be any thing but the 1st and only wife unless the others were dead. You have (moved) so far away that I am afraid that I never shall see you again. I wish you would send me your picture so that I could have the pleasure of looking at you once in a while. I expect to go back to school this fall or at least part of the term I want to teach this winter that is if I can get the school that I want. I have been teaching this summer I had a term of twelve weeks and a school of 18 scholars I enjoyed it very much indeed. Tomorrow (the 10th) is my birthday I have arrived at the age of 18 don't you think I am growing old fast I have grown so aged that I found a gray hair in my head the other day. I had a letter from Mary Bellows a few days ago she does not want to go back to school this term. Ellie Barber expects to go. But whether Tomas is going or not I do not know I don't know what I shall do if he don't especially if Herbert is out there. Have you studied Analysis of False Syntax lately I used to dread those classes but still I enjoyed them. I think Mr. Frost is splendid I don't think I can think of any more to write this time in fact I guess I have written all you will care to read I don't know as you can read it at all for I have written in a hurry if you cant send me a Postal Card and I will write again Please excuse all mistakes and write soon except this with love and best wishes of

Your friend

Nellie C Holt (?)

P.S. excuse this envelope

(Ezra D. Carpenter to his mother)

Logan Cache Co U.T.

Oct 5th 1873

Dear Mother,

Your very welcome letter was duly received. And we was very glad to hear from you as we had not had any letter for a long time I was grateful to you for your intent in trying to collect my old debts. She that was Lizzie West will pay the bill if you go to her. Her

husband is very poor pay. We are all in very good health now. But Luly has been Sick with Diarrhea which is very prevalent here. But She is very much better. Jane was also quite unwell for a few days. You wrote for Carrie to answer your letter and I waited to have her answer it but here time is so much taken up with Choir rehearsals and a Sabbath School Jubilee which was held here a week ago today and also the Semi Annual Conference at Salt Lake City which commences tomorrow. That I had to answer it myself. Carrie has done now. Went away yesterday morning in the cars for Salt Lake City and will be gone towards a week. The distance is nearly one hundred miles. She had a good chance to go in company with one of the members of the Choir and his wife. You will not hear one word from Carrie of being homesick or lonesome. Since I wrote you my last letter, I have sent you a newspaper twice and I am agoing to Send Some with this letter I received a Watchman & Reflector with an article on Polygamy. Well the world seem(s) determined not to believe or comprehend anything about the Latter Day Saints although there is an amount of evidence to convince the world that is perfectly overwhelming and unanswerable. In fact they do not try. But join in one Grand Chorus. Jo Smith Polygamy & go just as the people did in the days of Paul. Not being able to answer him. Great is Diana of the Ephesians. Now if any one should take more than one wife except for the fulfillment of a holy and Sacred purpose in obedience to the commandment of our Eternal Father. They would have a double curse and a perfect Hell on the Earth in their families. No No Celestial Marriage is to Pure and holy and the consequences to far reaching to be trifled with. The World the Flesh and the Devil may rage but just in proportion as the People and our government oppose Gods work and his children whom he has called from all the nations of the earth. So will their calamities increase. It is written in an Eternal decree that the Kingdoms of this world shall become the Kingdoms of our Lord and his Christ. And that work has commenced. And it is further written that the nation and people who will not serve the(y) Shall Perish. Here is a work begun not by the will or purpose of man but the Great Jehovah and all the powers of Earth and darkness will be utterly unable to stop its progress. You spoke of Almira inquiring of Elisabeth about me Well I did not know that she would do even that. For when I came away I asked her to write to me and she did not even answer nor bid me good bye. Yet gladly would I answer any of her letters. And still more gladly hear that She had opened her mind to the truth. I say most emphatically that none of the professed Christians in the East Know God or Jesus Christ whom he has Sent nor will they except by direct revelation in fulfillment of the Words of the new testament. And God Says Heaven & Earth Shall pass away but my Word Shall not pass away. I might fill out another Sheet what we are doing Drying Apple. Raising Chickens. Have a cow and calf make all of our Butter and So forth but must defer any more till another letter.

Your loving son

Ezra D. Carpenter

Luly is right over my shoulder looking on

(Carrie Carpenter to Orson Smith)

Logan Oct 19th 1873

Dear Friend,

I received your letter of the 14th and was glad to hear that you were doing well but a trifle homesick, but you will soon get over that when you get better acquainted. You did not tell me what you were studying or how you like your teacher and the scholars. Are there any pretty young ladies or Gents there and are they smart, you will probably know by the time you receive this letter. I arrived home safely on Friday after noon. If this writing looks bad please excuse it for I am writing half way between daylight and dark and Lulu right at my elbow. I have been to Sunday-school and have got a class, and I saw Orin Today I suppose he thinks he can come around, but he need not flatter himself. I have been to evening meeting, and it was a good one. They have been around today with a petition for the people to sign to prohibit the sales of intoxicating liquors only as medicine. This evening Brigham Young, Jr. said if they did that they must provide some amusement to entice the young from spending their evenings rioting, and they propose to have readings of History both religious and profane two or three times in the week these long winter evenings. I think it will be quite an idea and I like it very much. Sarah was here Monday and said they were going to have a male teacher here in two weeks. I do not know how true it is she seemed pretty confident of it. She said you told her that you were going to write me a letter before I started home and wanted to know if I had received any. It is so late I must close my letter it's very late, don't get discouraged at school and think how much better it will be for you. Mother wishes to be remembered to you.

Ever you friend

Written in haste

Carrie Carpenter

(Carrie Carpenter to Orson Smith, Logan to Ogden)

Logan Nov 9th 1873

Dear Friend,

I received you letter about two weeks ago and intended to have answered last Sunday, but we had a letter from Grandmother from the east, saying that she was very sick and did not expect to live very long and we all thought that we must each write to her. I do not know that I can finish this letter to night as I have just arrived home from after-noon meeting and it is nearly dark now. I saw your sister and father and spoke to your sister Lucy. Annie Partington said she saw you in the city and I said you were coming home if there was a teacher here, but I guess there is not much hopes that right off. I hope you will be home by Christmas, for the Lewis is going to have a concert to come off on Christmas eve. And wants to have all of the choir to take part in it. Mr. Lewis and Annie are coming here Wednesday evening to practice some pieces with me and try some of mine

so I can play them. The other night at practice George Morrison handed me a piece of paper with some Latin words printed on it and said when you write a love letter put that in. I told him I should have to write one first, and I felt some one pulling my shawl and turning around Knowles asked me if I did not write to Orson. I asked him what gave him that idea, and would not answer him. Sarah has been quizzing me a good deal to know if I have written you or you to me. I will not tell her right out in so many words she said Mr. Palmer told her so. Perhaps you have seen Ed and Beanie they have gone to the city to be married. Mrs. Maughan was here last week and the first thing she said to me was, how is Orson, I was completely astonished and hardly knew what to say. I told her you was well the last time I saw you, but she said but you have heard from him. I did not now what to say. She said she heard her girls saying. I should like to write to Orson, and the other one said I don't believe he would care if we wrote. Last Friday we intended to go to Hyrum, with Ed Holders team but it rained and we did not go, we were going to go the next day but he had sold his horses and we did wish you were here to take us over there. Well I must close my letter for it is time to eat and go to meeting. Remember me to all my numerous acquaintances.

As ever, you friend

Carrie Carpenter

(Orson Smith to Carrie Carpenter—11/13/1973)

1873
S.L.City. Nov. 13th

Miss. C. M. Carpenter,

Perhaps I am writing to(o) often to you but you will please excuse me if I am for I write none to often to suit myself. I am sorry that I did not speak to you when you was here, about what your Parents would say to our corresponding with one another. P will tell you why, because, (although I deem it the greatest of pleasures), you know, it would not be expedient in me to do so, and in doing so trespass on their good feelings. After they have been so kind to me. But I hope they have no objection, for it affords me great pleasure to sit down and read a letter from you. I should like to be home at Christmas, if I can and long before, but I know nothing about when I shall come. Brother C. O. Card is down here now trying to get a teacher but I am afraid that if he gets one it will be a Female, and in that case I shall stay here, until father wants me to come home. I am sorry to hear of the sickness of your relative, which, I hope is not fatal. I did not get to see Ed & Beanae, although I knew they were here. School commences at nine in the morning, and keeps in till three with but 30 minutes intermission and then I have to go home to dinner at three so I stay there and study until five, and take a walk a mile or so and then go home and study again until eleven or twelve, at night, so you see I don't see anyone hardly, but I went down town two or three times just on purpose to see Ed but I did not know where he stoped and I never got to see him. There was two more that I knew, here to get married a little while ago George Halverson from Hyrum was one of them. I hope to here from

(you) again soon if you think proper to write. I am well and was glad to hear that you was all well at home.

Remember me to all not forgetting to do so yourself.

Truly your Friend,

Orson Smith

(Carrie to Orson)

Logan Nov 23, 1873

Dear Friend

I guess you think that I have concluded not to write any more, but I do not have much time to write except Sundays and not always then. I guess that mother and father do not care if I correspond with you because father always brings my letters and mother most always reads them if I will let her. Joseph A is going to keep school in the second ward in Logan, is to begin next Tuesday. I see Libbie Maughan to day she said that Willard had a letter from you last night I asked her what you wrote she said that Willard would only tell her that you was well. I asked if there was any thing important, she said she guessed there was. You did not say whether you were homesick or not or when you were coming home, your sister Kate said she guessed you'd be home in a few weeks. Every time I go to a practice I tease father to go so as to go home with me dark nights I wont let any one else. The other night Wm. Appley tried to go home with Sarah W. and I. She played off on him and so did I as well as I could. You must tell me about your school and the scholars how you get along. Mr. Palmer asked me last Saturday night if I had a letter he said there was one for me and tried to plague me. Sarah and Hattie are teaching in the first ward school together, have got twenty scholars and think of giving it up. I think you will do well to get a good education and then come home and teach school. I have just got home from evening meeting and the subject talked on was cooperation. Brigham Young, Jr. and Bishop Preston and Moses Thatcher were the speakers. They wish the people of Cache co to buy the coop store in Logan. Bishop Preston said that cooperation was just essential to the people as Baptism for their salvation. Well there is nothing of much importance going on here Brother Lewis is coming here Tuesday night to have a practice. Brother Knowles is to have a concert to come off some where about New Years It is getting late and I must close my letter and will try to write a longer one next time. Write soon As ever,

Your Friend

Carrie M. Carpenter

Written in haste
Excuse mistakes

(Orson to Carrie)

S.L.City. Nov. 29th 1873

Miss. C. M. Carpenter.

Dear Friend,

Your letter of the 23rd. was very acceptable and it was with pleasure that I read it. I am glad to hear that Joseph is going to teach school, and several others of which I have heard, I should not be surprised to hear that you were teaching next. I am not homesick now, although I have not forgotten all about home. I do not know exactly when I shall be home, but I think it will be about Christmas, I consider that I have been well paid for the time that I have spent here, although another year would not do me any harm, but we must be thankful for small favors and by so doing we learn to appreciate large ones. If I come home I will attend school there the remainder of the winter. As I hear you are to have a high school there. You recommended as a very good thing for me to do, was for me to get a good education and then teach school. There are a great many scholars attending the school there now. New ones keep coming in all the time. Thanksgiving day was kept here. All the stores. And other business places was closed. And all. Had one great holiday My enjoyments consisted of work in morning. And theatre in the evening, the theatre was splendid. It was entitled (Dark Deeds) & (My precious Bettsy) A concert was held here on the 24th for the benefit of the choir of which it was composed, there were 80 members in all, the singing was good, and some of the songs had to be sung over two or three times to abate the applause. of the audience. The Morgan College has again opened. And in a flourishing condition. so says the Principal of it. There is not much going on in town now. Business is kind of dull. I don't know how interesting this letter will be to you for items of interest are very scarce in my vocabulary at present.

Excuse the numerous mistakes you may find in my composition.

Remember me to all.

As ever,

Your Friend

Orson Smith

(Carrie to Orson)

Logan Dec 7th 1873

Dear Friend

I have just been to afternoon meeting and have just got supper and the dishes done and a half hour to write. Evening meeting is to commence at six oclock and afternoon meetings at one. This afternoon I was the only Soprano singer and there were eight men singers. Tomorrow I am going to help Joseph with his school, he teased mother so hard that she let me go. Mr Card wanted me to take that school at first and mother could not spare me.

I wanted to teach school real bad but mother would not let me. There was a ball here thanks-giving day eve Father and Mother went, I stayed at home with Lulu. Father danced three times once with Sarah and once with beanie and Annie Levis he never danced before in his life and they teased him so hard that he thought he would and he did first rate. There is to be another one this week, but I do not think I shall go. I should like it if I knew how to dance. Last week Orin Benson came here for me to go down to Mrs. Blairs to walk with him, one of here little girls had died, and I was prevented from going by a cold I caught going to Mendon last Sunday night. There was a meeting over to Mendon and the choir was invited. I guess Orin feels rather discouraged the first time I could not go because father and mother were going to the excussion. I have just returned from evening meeting we had a very good meeting. I suppose you have had some snow all the city is quite deep here. It has snow by turns ever since Monday. I guess that I have written all the news items perhaps they do not suit your taste. I do not go any where except to the rehearsls and evening and day meetings Sundays. Instead of my rembering you to your friends, they constantly remind me of you. There seems to be no time to write except sundays, and then I have to do the work till Sunday-school time then have an hour or a half hour after that, then go to meeting and then get supper and a little time to write and then go to evening meeting, and then a little time then go to bed. The folks are all well except colds, and wish to be rembered to you I must close my letter for want of ideas to write upon. As ever

Your Friend
Carrie M. Carpenter

P.S. I guess you think my writing
Don't look twice alike.
I think so too.

(Orson to Carrie)

Corrine Apr 10th 1874

Dear Friend,

Excuse me. Carrie. For taking the liberty of writing to you. But it is an unexpected opportunity I have at present. And I thought I would write There is no telling when I will have time to do so again. I am well. and I should be glad to hear that you are all the same. I am at Logan every day at one oclock, but do not stop more than 15 minutes. There is no snow here at all it is dry and dusty everybody is plowing and planting their gardens and farms. I am stopping here to night. To let the agent go to Ogden. I should be very glad to have you write to me if you can. If you can write direct to Ogden City Weber Co. U.T. I will write when ever I can. But I am so busy now that if I had not been here to night I could not have written

(rest of letter is missing)

(Carrie to Orson)

:Logan April 14th 1874

Dear Friend.

I received your letter yesterday I am glad you are well and I hope enjoying your-self. I am well though last week I caught a severe cold but I took plenty of bitter medicine and now have no cold at all. The folks are all well, and mother has been out in the kitchen quite a number of times. I am enjoying my-self up in the fifth-ward school-house teaching school. I began last Monday or rather yesterday. It seems an age to me every day away up here in the fields. Yesterday it snowed so hard and it was so dismal that I began to think that I must be teaching in some other settle-ment. It does seem as though it never would come summer. Three or four times I thought I should loose my foot or my rubber or perhaps both in the mud and just before I got to your house or just a block above in attempting to cross a small ditch I lost my foot-hold and down I went and imagine my surprise and mortification to see bro. Flan Crany just ahead of me. But if it had not been for him I should have had to have gone back a block for I came to a large ditch that I could not cross and he put a plank across for me. You write you have no time to write or not often do they keep you at the brake all the time, if they do not, write a lead-pencil letter it would be very acceptable What kind of a place do you have to stay at nights. I suppose you do not know when you will be home again. I have hard the train nearly every day but did not know how long you stoped there. I did not know but you would come up but was disappointed. I can see the train from our house upstairs and if you will wave your handkerchief I will mine either next Saturday or Sunday noon. Well I must close my letter and about that letter I shall not burn unless you send particular request. And now good by. I'll not forget you if you will not me.

Excuse this writing it is school-time
I suppose your tr(a)in is just coming in

Yours Truly,

Carrie M. Carpenter

P.S. burn this if you wish yours the same.

Tomorrow is my birth-day if you was here I would tease you for a ride if the mid is deep.

(Orson to Carrie)

1874
Ogden Apr 23rd

Dear Friend,

I received your kind letter on Saturday night and have not been able to answer until now. They do not keep me at the Brake all the time but we do not arrive here till almost dark and then I have to clean up the cars. And in the morning we have to do a

great deal of switching so the time is taken up It is no(w) nine oclock but I thought I would make time to night I will try and answer all your letters, you must write to me as often as you can, or as often as you wish too. I shall be very glad to hear from you. The more the better. I shall not make it a request to you to burn my letter but I will let you do as you pleas I shall keep yours for I prise it very much. I would be very glad to spend an evening with you at home and then I could tell you more than I can write. But maybe I can after a while. I was supprised to hear that you was teaching school on the bench. I guess you will make it very interesting for your scholars because they can't help but like you. I am glad you are all well, as I am I should have waved my handkerchief on Sunday but it was a dull day and I could not see your place very plain. I must quit my writing now and I hope it will not be very long before I will not need the pen to tell you my thoughts,

Your Truly

Orson Smith

P.S. write to me as often as you wish I assure you it will be a pleasure to me to read them. There cannot be too many from you.

Excuse this scribbling

(Carrie to Orson)

Logan May 6th 1874

Dear Friend

I received both of your letters but I had not answered your first letter because mother kept me so buisy before and after school that I had no time then and at noon, mother told me it was time I answered that long letter that I received in the middle of the winter, and I was going to have answered it to day if I had not received your letter. I knew you thought it was a long time to wait for an answer to your letter but I could not help it. I wanted to do so bad enough. I am glad you spent your leisure time in that way. Oh I like teaching first rate up here I like the scholars much better than I thought I should and they appear to like me, and I guess they do. I have thirty six scholars, not many to be sure. I was thinking the other night when it was so pleasant, how I wished you were at home to go to walk, and as for thinking of me, you do not more than I of you. I am well all but a bad cold in my head and on my lungs. I have taken peper-tea in vain, Mother and all the rest are quite well. Ar'nt you rather lone-some, not seeing any one you know very well. I and all the family have joined the United Order, and I hear you were elected assistant secretary so you have joined of course. I guess you cannot be getting much worse judging from that. I am very glad that you have so good an opinion of me, but I do not know how I have merited it. But I am thank-ful just the same. I am sure you are very kind. I have not forgotten those pleasant rides. I guess it is about equal on both sides. You are entirely excusable for writing before an answer and in writing in such a strain as you call it, for I know you could not help it, and don't wish you to. It is school-time I must close my letter. I hope to see you soon.

As ever Your True Friend

Carrie M. Carpenter

(Lucy Dunham to Carrie)

Putnam

May 26, 1874

My Dear Carrie,

Do not think I have forgotten you because I have been so long writing this letter, for such is very far from being the case. The many pleasant reminiscences connected with our living under the same roof, can never be effaced from my memory. There has been hardly a day passed since I wrote to your Father & Mother but I have said, I must write to Carrie, but what shall I write about, she has so many correspondents from this section, & they have the Putnam Patriot, & I go out so little, it seems as though you know almost as much about Putnam affairs as I do, Last Sunday I repeated the same expression again, "I must write to Carrie." & Mr. Morse said, I should think you had talked enough about it to write a dozen letters, & today I have decided to make a beginning, I had a most wonderful surprise last week, your Aunt Salome called here, & told me there was another Baby to your house, & an uncommon good one too, my first thought was; how I wish it had been a boy, But upon second thought, I was glad it was a girl, for she will be so much company for Lulie, There is one thing I am pretty sure of & that is, she will not be any handsomer than Lulie, When you write give me a full description of her, the color of her eyes & hair, & her name, Salome told me she was born the 30th of March Tell your Mother, Mrs. Thomas Chandler had another son the 21st of March, so you perceive there is only 9 days difference she had a very comfortable sickness this time, I wonder at it, for she has worked like a slave ever since you went away Her brother, & Mr. Nightingale's son, board there yet, John Nightingale goes home every Saturday, & sometimes Friday, I think he is rather lonesome, you know there isn't any one in there, that would be company for him. If a certain black eyed, red cheeked girl, who lived in the other part of this house two years ago, was living here now, I shouldn't wonder if he stayed up here over Sunday occasionally, I am half inclined to think you missed it in going away just as you did, Although the letters that I have received from Utah convince me that you are all very happy & contented, Still I imagine that a glimpse of the ol "Land Marks" in Putnam would not be a gloomy sight, to any of you. Tell your Mother I shall begin to look for her by another year, to make a visit, I think she will want to show the new baby by that time, & I know we shall all want to see it, But be sure & bring Lulie, for I should be very much disappointed if she was left behind, & I think your relatives would be too, Mrs. Bead & I were up to your Grandmother's the latter part of March, & I never saw such a change as there had been in her looks, in so short a time, in my life. The first time I was there, I did not think she would live two months, & the last time she was looking as well as I ever saw her & she said she was feeling quite well, Aunt Salome calls on me occasionally, & I enjoy her calls ever so much, I received a very pleasant call from your Aunt, Mrs. Rhodes Allen a few weeks ago, she spoke very affectionately &

kindly of all of you, She said she felt very sad, when she thought of her only Brother being so far away from all his relatives, & that it should be necessary for him to go so far, in order to worship God, But do not repeat what I have written in any of your letters to your relatives, for she might not like it if she knew I reported her conversation, Tell your Father I am very much obliged to him for his long letters, I find them very interesting, & also for the papers, I perused them carefully & lent them to my acquaintances, & sure enough, according to them, the Mormons can get but very little justice from the U S courts, & Now I must write what I heard last winter, When I was in Providence last, I met with a Gentleman who had lived in Salt Lake City 2 years, I enquired why it was that the United States Government interfered so much with the Utah affairs, & he said for the reason that the Gentiles (as they call them) cannot obtain any justice from the Mormon Courts, I spoke of your Father, & of the information I had gained from him of Mormon affairs, & he said when he had lived there 5 years he thought he would view it in another light, I asked him if he was prejudiced against the Mormons, not at all he said, he thought they had as good a right to their religion as any other denomination, & he didn't know but as near right, He was a very intelligent man, but not religiously inclined, This makes the old saying true, that there is always 2 sides to a story, But I believe your Father is perfectly candid (candid) & sincere in what he says & writes, & if he ever discovers he has made a mistake, he will be very ready to acknowledge it, I hear you have commenced your second term of teaching, I think you must like it, I always did, I taught 5 yrs in one school house, or until I was married, Now don't you go to jumping into matrimony just yet, or rather until you have made one visit East, I never have thought to write anything about that Conductor on the Train, when you went on, I rather think he was smitten, You must look out for them Westerners, have heard they are very ardent in their attachments, But I will risk you with any of them, I am very glad you have learned to dance, I think it is one of the prettiest amusements that young people can engage in, I certainly commend the Mormons, for allowing their members to enjoy life a little, I continue to like the family in the house with me, but they never have filled the void the E D Carpenter's family left, I thought one while they would leave, for George & Mr Wilcox had som trouble, & he stopped work, but Mr Morse rather took up on his side, & they talk now as if they were going to stay, They have quite a number of Boarders, I suppose you have heard that the Convent is in full blast, Mr Allen told me last week, they had taken so many of the scholars from the schoolhouse, that he had closed one room, I went over there with Mrs Bead & Sarah after it was all completed, before the school commenced, we went all over it & it is certainly one of the nicest finished buildings in Putnam, I did not find that black room I heard was in it, But I found a very suspicious looking place in the upper hall, about one third of the hall was petitioned off with gates there was no window in that end of the hall it was all dark, the gates were very ornamental, all covered with gilt, still it looked like a place of punishment to me, I should think the halls were fifty feet long, Mr Allen said he had been in there once to see Priest Vyyen something about the schools, & he was introduced to the Lady Superior, he said she was a very Lady like woman, Tell your mother I am almost done cleaning house, hope to get through next week, I suppose she had beat me, as she does in everything, I must close by sending much love to all, & a lot of kisses to Lulie, for it is almost midnight, And so, to all to each a fair good night, and pleasing dreams and slumbers light,

L A Dunham

Mr. Morse sends kind regards, & wants to know if you are going to build your house this summer, he thinks he shall wait until you complete it before he comes on, Mrs. Chandler has named her Baby John Bradley the John after the Brother & the Bradley after Gertrude, middle name, Lanford Davis has left the Store because Mr Morse would not increase his salary, Charley Leroy has taken his place Lanford went to driving a two horse Yankee notions wagon, for a firm in Worcester, he only drove about six weeks, I heard there was some trouble & he quit, Now I hear he is going to open the Store, formerly occupied by Williams & Stoddard in Company with Moriarty Book keeper, I have forgotten his name,
You must be sure & write me a letter as long as this,

(Lucy Dunham to Carrie)

Putnam July 28, 1875

My Dear Carrie,

I am going to answer your Father's letter by writing to you, for I want to see your signature at the end of one more letter, before you change your name, I have been a long time about it as usual, It has seemed as though I never should get to it, for there has not been a day for the last six weeks, that some one has not been in to play on my piano, You have no idea what a hindrance it is to me, I resolve, & re-resolve, to do this & that, & the days pass away, & I don't accomplish anything, but I am always glad to see them, I am so fond of music, I received the pictures & you don't know how pleased I was with them, The new Baby, little Salome, is very pretty indeed, she is the exact image of her Mother, That little smile on her countenance is just as cunning as it can be, She couldn't have been taken in a prettier position, & darling little Lulie what shall I say of her, she is a perfect beauty, I never saw so handsome a picture in my life, I kissed them the moment I looked at them, that picture couldn't be bought from me, if anyone should offer me a great sum for it, Or the Pictures of any of your family for I prize them all very highly, & now I am going to make one more request, I want Mr. Smith's (I believe that is his name) Picture, to put by the side of yours in my Album. I wish to become familiar with his countenance, if he is going to have one of my particular Friends, I know you wont refuse me, if you have one, & it is quite natural for me to suppose that you have, I have sent the money for that purpose, & Now dear Carrie, I congratulate you on your approaching Marriage, I am confident you have made a wise choice, for your own good sense & judgment, would not allow you to select any other, Oh! How I should like to be present to the Wedding, I should not wait for any invitation if it was possible for me to come – but I fear I shall have to deny myself that happiness, not knowing as yet, how the Bonds are coming out, Your Aunt Salome called here last week, & told me she had just received a Postal Card from New York, notifying her, that the Road would be sold in October, & wanting her to sign something, I have forgotten what, for there had been so many in here that day, & she only stayed a short time, my mind was all in confusion I shall try to see her again before I go away, I expect to start on my summer excursion next week Tuesday, Aug 3, & shall probably return the first or second week in Sept, I

hope to hear from you by that time, Please tell your Father not to worry at all about the Bonds, for if I lose the whole, I shall not blame him, he did not urge me to buy them, he merely told me what he had done, & I thought the same as he did, that it was a very good investment, It seems we made a sad mistake, & I presume it will be a lesson to all of us, I have the same family in the house with me, it will be two years next month since they moved in, & we get along nicely so far, Mrs. Wilcox told me the other day, this house was called Music Hall, frequently both Piano's are going at the same time, & the windows & the doors being open, people stop still when they get opposite the house, & look first at one side & then at the other, They have a very fine toned Instrument, Mr Wilcox says he payed \$500 dollars for it, I only payed \$300, & still they give mine the preference, the Wilcox girls with the rest, Mr. Chandler says now, he shall have to buy one soon, not that he lacks music in his house, but he says he wants another kind, Tell your Mother she will have to hurry if she keeps up with Mrs Chandler, for she is going to have another baby soon, I hardly think she will wait until Sept, still she may, All of Mrs Chandlers folks have moved on here, they live up in the Powhattan Village, Her Father watches the mills on this side, 3 brothers & one sister work in the new Mill, & one sister works for Mrs. Chandler, Gertrude has not returned yet, I hear she is coming soon, I have not much news to write for you get it all in the Putnam Paper, & through you numerous correspondents, If I was not so busy getting ready to go away I would take another sheet, & write a little about Politics, to your Father, But if I should fill a dozen sheets, I don't suppose I could convince him that the Republican Party, is the best Party to be in Power, But I never shall allow our differences in opinion upon any subject, to interfere with our friendship, My Faith in Mormonism has been a little shaken since I wrote him last Your Aunt Salome brought me a book, that your Aunt Adaline bought last winter, It was the Life of Mrs Fanny Stenhouse Among the Mormons. It was written in such a candid, sincere style I couldn't help thinking some of it might be true, She described the sufferings of the Mormon Women as beyond endurance & she & her husband left them, And now this Mountain Meadow Massacre Investigation, I do not know what to think about it, It seems too horrible, to think any Civilized human being could commit such a terrible murder, I have cut out some pieces from my last Papers, to let you see, what we get of it here, A lady asked me yesterday, if I did not think this would have a tendency to open the eyes of your Father, to the iniquity of Mormonism, I told her I did not think he would believe it, unless they were proved guilty, & I shouldn't either, Tell your Mother I wish she would write me a long letter, & I will answer it as soon as I can after I return home I suppose you are all very happy in your new home, I wish I could run in & spend a day with you, how I should enjoy it, Please mark out a plan of it when you write, I send much love to your Father & Mother & a lot of kisses for the little ones, & I wish you all the happiness this earth can afford in your new relation, from your sincere friend

Lucy A. Dunham

Mr Morse says tell them I have not forgotten them, & should be very happy to come on to the Wedding, if he was not so much engaged in business, He seems more & more absorbed in it every year that he lives, He says he has not given up the idea of going to California yet, & if he ever does go, he shall certainly stop & see you,

THE DISLOYAL MORMONS

They Release the United States Marshal's Prisoners.

Salt Lake, May 11, (1875). –Deputy United States Marshal Brockaway arrived this morning from San Pete county, about 100 miles south of here. He reports that after arresting the parties accused of violating the Internal Revenue laws, he was set upon by the Mormon people almost en masse, and compelled to release the prisoners. He says the people declare that no arrests shall be made. Judge Emerson leaves to-morrow for Provo, and will issue warrants for the arrest of the rioters.

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Woodstock Jan 24th 1876

Dear Neice & Nephew

I think you ought to be happy if you have got to Paradise it is not many that reaches there in this wicked world am glad to hear it is such a beautiful place but I guess you will miss mother & father('s) house Dear Carrie you spoke about making Orson some slippers how did you make them I mean what out of am glad to hear you have got so many sisters hope they will be sisters indeed I should think you did have music enough have you taken your organ with you or left it for Lulu am sorry you think you cannot come on next summer cant you come if Orson does not I should think you might tell him I say so you say you wish I could be as fortunate as yourself in getting a life companion well I have had an offer by letter I have sent your mother a copy of it to your Mother so when you go home after receiving this she will show it to you do not know as I shall except of it or not but guess not would you Aunt Elizabeth has been quite sick so she was confined to her bed for 2 weeks saw Heather last night she was better then have not seen Grandmother Carpenter in some time I have been so busy have not had any time to go over there I have been doing from 3 to 4 washing a week for a few weeks past and grow fat on it weigh 127 Lucy & Ida are both away from home this winter Ida is to Albert Weavers she told me to tell you that the old horses stood by the old house waiting for you to come home & ride with her Lucy is to Ed Blys to work I miss them ever so much well I suppose that better or worser half of yours will be offended if I do not write to him

Dear Orson I hope in time you will learn to call me Aunt I see you did not in your letter use it because you was afraid I would not own you or was it timidity young & bashful because you had got a new Aunt you say you hope I will see & understand the time I live in I think I do I think they are hard times and if the awful destruction you speak of comes to the earth don't you think that I shall be as safe here as any where are the people here cast any more wicked than out there I think not I think there are good people all over the world yes good Christian people too now you must not get offended at what I write for I shall write just as I think and want you to do the same be good to

Carrie and I will say may the lord bless you I guess I have written enough for this time answer soon & write long letters you and Carrie both and oblige your Aunt Salome

Grandmother is well for her she does lots of work there is no danger of her forgetting her grand daughter & grandson I expect Nellie Leach is engaged to be married by what I see & hear she has got a large ring on her fore finger that fred franklin gave here and he comes real often (etc.)

(Addie to Carrie)

Pomfret March 12th 1876

Dear Neice & Nephew

I received your letter and seat myself to answer it at once if don't I will keep putting it off till it is hard work to get at it I write so little and don't get much news to write. I expect we will move in about a fortnight on some accounts I had rather live here and some there it is little better getting out there than here I have got so I can hardly see to write so that I have to wear glasses. Willie is a playing with his dog and Elisha he is reading Uncle Robert was here this forenoon so I did not get time to write and this afternoon Johnie was here Mrs. Lyon was down here yesterday and I told her I just got a letter from you She said she would like to step in and see you housekeeping how do you like kiiping house for yourself you and your Husband better try and come out next June as it will be pleasant time of the year You have steped on the top of the ladder Bishop('s) wife and got to Paradise Elisha says he guesses you will think I have not forgotten how to blackgaurd Your old schoolmate Jessie

Randall is married and got a baby. She that was Ella Fitts had one last Friday hers is a boy and if it takes after the Fitts it will be a beauty. Orin Underwood was here last week it is the first time since you was here he said he did not know what you got married for he was waiting for you to if you played old Maid any now. If it is not to(o) muddy Elisha is agoing to load up hay and go to R.I. Tuesday and I shall have to (be) alone Monday night he loads up the day before hand and stay(s) at Johnies all night and starts from there Elisha was saying that Carrie would not think of us much now you had got married Saturday morning at mothers as I was agoing to Putnam I have stoped to finish my letter they are all well Saloma is down to Lell Lakes to work today they have just got a letter from your Mother and was glad to hear that you was all well I will try and do better next time

From Addie

(Carrie to Grandma Carpenter)

Paradise June 26, 1877

Dear Grandma

I guess after this long time you think I have quite forgotten you. I (have) not though. I am obliged to make the same excuses to you as (I) did to Salome, & all the rest So much to see too. And since Maggie was born my hands are full. I go to see Mother quite often as she feels so lone-ly since I moved here. Uncle Ira's folks think I am awful

because I do not go to see them oftener. But Orson is in every sense of the word a public man, and full of business clear up to his ears, (to use such an expression). And I can-not go from home very often, and when I do I feel as though I must go to see Mother. I don't think mother would stay much longer in Logan if it was not for me, every time I go over she is just ready to go East, but after I stay a week or so she is not quite so ready to go, for she gets over her lone-someness by that time. Mothers health is not so good as it was when we first came here. I think that makes a difference, and she wants to see Grandpa King and all the rest of the folks. She often speaks of how much pleasure she would take in visiting the folks. When ever Salome writes Grandma is not so well she looks very sad. My baby is now nearly ten months old and can creep every where. I think she will run a-lone-before long. She is very healthy and never knew a days sickness which is such a blessing. She (is) quite good, so I do all my work but my washing. I thought I should be obliged to get some one to help me when she was cutting her first two upper teeth but they are through now and two little side teeth have just pricked through making in all six teeth. Which is well for her age. I was very much pleased with that matter you sent it is very handsome and I shall have it framed to put in our New house, which will be quite appropriate. I expect to move into our house in about three weeks, and as soon as I get settled shall have mother over here to stay a month. We have been renting until now ever since we came here, but I shall be glad to get into a home of our own. Uncle Ira has a good home and has recently built him a large barn, and he has had a nice large Grainery a long-time, he has every-thing comfortable and so has his two oldest boy(s) each got a large house. I have often heard Uncle Ira say if Maria was to come and live out here with us, I could support her and never miss it. And he has such a large family of kind and affectionate children, and two of the best of wives, you remember his two wives are sisters, and their mother & father is yet alive and they take such kind care of them and I know they would of you. They are so good to every body. If you are ever in want of care, or home, all you would have to do would be to write to Uncle Ira and he or father would come for you right away and Hyrum where he lives is just between Logan and where I live so you could see us all. You ought to come and see Lulu she is the very image of you, and just like you in all her ways. Uncle Ira says well Grand-ma Carpenter to her always

Two of Uncle Ira's boys have got married within the last few months, Albert, & George Albert has got a good wife. And I am not intimately acquainted with George's wife but they say she is a nice girl. Albert was married first he has got him a house and quite comfortably started Joseph has a house, but he is not married, and George lives in his house. I feel sorry for Joseph he does not settle down yet, the girls all like him but none want to marry him because he is deformed, and he is so old now that he feels like having a home of his own, now. And I am sure he deserves a good wife he is so kind hearted and his being in the store, he could well support a wife. I was over to Mothers last Sunday and meant to have written you from there, but Maggie's teeth hurt her so bad and it was so hot I could not but will try to write sooner another time. I find the cares of a mother will not let me write to any one so often as before. I must close now hoping this will find you well. Your true & Loving

Grand daughter Carrie

(Cousin Nellie to Carrie)

My Dear Cousin Carrie,

Putnam Conn.
Sept. 7th, (1877)

After along time I will seat myself and try and answer your letter as I truly think it deserved to be answered. My folks are all well. I don't know as I can tell you any-thing more about the folks around here. that you would care to hear. Before I wrote all I could think of. about the girls and people you used to know around here. supposing you might retain a slight interest in them. But I found out to the contrary. I let your religion entirely alone knowing how widely our views on Mormonism differed. And thinking in that way we might write to each other in peace. But you commenced it. and I will continue it. And give you my opinion of your people and religion out there just as plainly as you did yours of things around here.

I will now answer a few of your questions first I am satisfied with my mode of life. If you are with yours. I had far rather spend my time on fashion and fancy-work than on bringing up babys for that reasons I have never married. If I ever do my first care will be to see that my husband don't get a second wife. The young men are not very plenty around here. But you may be sure if I ever do marry I will have a whole one. I wont devide him with any woman and if I ever love a man well enough to marry him, woe be to the woman that comes between us. She that was Ida Winslow says. If she knew of any one coming between she and her husband she would kill her. If she lived to do it. I should not do that. I should think that not only she but the husband that had thus proved faithless to his marriage vows was not worth my notice. You ask if the religion around here taught our people to sacrifice their own pleasures to do right? In some cases I think it dose. For instance Salome in staying at home and taking care of her old Mother (and she has to work hard to do it) is doing as good a work as some other people in running off and leaving their old Mother's to the care of other friends. And if they aint a mind to do it. to the mercy of strangers in their old age. You say your religion teaches you to do nothing but what the Lord him-self done when he was on the earth. What I want to know is did he have two wives. And did he murder any helpless women and children in a wagon train? I don't say that the Mormon's did. They know whether they did. or not. But I hope who ever did will get their pay. (She is referring to the Mountain Meadows Massacre.) perhaps you have heard of it. I think that the second wife out there is no better than the women that some men take and support around here for their own pleasure and benefit. In plain words. Their Mistress. A creature disgraced for ever. For according to the laws of the United States the second wife is no more his real wife than if they had not gone through the ceremony. You say it is your religion. Perhaps if you were to ask some of the men around here that are supporting other women besides their wives. and they would say it was their religion. In my eyes they are just as excuseable as the men out there that do it. I am thankful for one thing that you are a first wife. I think I have told you enough at present and I will close with love to all. Good by from your Cousin Nellie.

P.S. Show this to any-one you please if you feel like it.

(Enclosed is a newspaper article. The exact newspaper nor the date are listed, but presumably sent by Cousin Nellie to Carrie with her letter.)

A SPREADING CANCER

It is reported that Mormonism is spreading faster and farther since the death of Brigham Young than it did during his life. That, in fact, so far from promoting Mormonism, that great, selfish fraud was a dead weight on it, and now that he is replaced by a counsel of the ablest men of the co-called Mormon Church it is in a far better position to extend than before. This also, in point of fact, is what it is doing. It has secured great numerical preponderance in Utah, which it will use every means to erect into a State, and now it is pursuing the same game in those hitherto empty territories—Arizona and New Mexico. With the large fund secured by its tithing system it can bring out the most ignorant classes of Europeans to settle those new territories, and having always a great preponderance of women, it can by its system of polygamy extend rapidly by its own increase. Strangely enough, the women who are by Mormonism degraded to the position of concubines, are its most zealous defenders, just as the women whose morals are corrupted by the priests of Rome in Italy, Mexico, and South America, and perhaps other countries, are the most zealous defenders of Romanism and the Confessional.

Let no one shut his eyes to the danger that impends over this country from Mormonism. Some unscrupulous Party will be only too ready, in order to gain votes, to let Mormon States into the Union, with all the pollutions of polygamy on their heads; and when Mormon Congressmen and Senators bring their Harems to Washington in the face of the whole world, the national disgrace will be complete. Then may Oneida and Wallingford and all such nests of lust and pollution spread indefinitely over the land—none daring to make them afraid or put them to shame.

Let no one say that railroads and gentile immigration and missionaries and schools will abolish polygamy. They should all be used to that end, but they have made little or no impression on it yet, and it is now growing more rapidly than ever. It only requires the aid of State organizations which it will have when Mormon Territories become States, to prove a most dangerous element in our body politic, just as slavery did. Any vice that is in accordance with the depraved human heart spreads with fearful rapidity wherever it is legalized. Witness slavery and the liquor traffic, and the longer it is tolerated and the more it spreads, the greater are the interests enlisted in its support. If Mormonism becomes a national institution, we shall realize what it is to keep God out of the Constitution.

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Woodstock Coun

June 22/(18)78

Dear Carrie your welcome letter was recived last Monday and right glad we were to get it too I am still out of work and it makes me many times blue and lonely but it is all for the best I had my old hat pressed over and new trimming on it and got me a new sun hat that is all I have had or expect to have for a year I think your dress will make up real pretty

but you do not want it trimmed with velvet and lace it will be much prettier trimmed with a shade darker you have not enough to make it as they do here unless you use a shade darker I think put on a ruffle on the under skirt 15 inches wide of the dark band with the light then a pretty polonairie and trim that the same or make an under skirt of dark and trim it with bright and make a light polonairie and trim it with dark do not trim it with any way I will send you a book Cousin Leanne sent me with in it perhaps you may see something in it you will like that pattern I sent of our skirt is real pretty Addie has one made like it so has I do Arnold you want your overskirt real long I do Arnold has

(rest of letter missing)

(Orson to dear wives—Carrie & Sarah Ann)

Logan June 18th 79

Dear wives

I am pretty well and shall try to work on Friday I forgot to bring that money with me that Gideon Olsen sent on his note please send it over with bro. King and he can leave it with father C(arpenter). I trust that you are well and I should like to see you it was with no pleasure that I parted from you on Sunday I assure you. I shall try to come home on Saturday if possible The leisure time I have had this week I have devoted to studying the signs of the times and find that to prepare for the coming events of the future we must gradually and persistently increase our exertions to keep the laws of God. We have started in the right path as a family and with the help of our father in heaven let us keep the prize in view. and press on from conquering to conquering. until we have conquered ourselves and our prize is gained. Our fight is with our individual selves and not with any visible enemy. In this life it seems that some can drift along and become elevated in the eyes of men. regardless of their unmerritous conduct. But the(re)in is a place and all will probably see it but the position that they occupy there. they will occupy through merit We have weaknesses all of us and must try to overcome them pray that we may see our faults and correct them All this will tend to make us happy agreeable. sociable, kind, usefull ornamental to society. and beneficial Bro. Torgeson the telegrap operator is dead and buried leaving a wife and four or five children. this seems hard but we should not so look at it. for life had no charms for him. He has gone and it is said of him as I want to have said of me. that he was a good man an honest man a verituous man. And a kind father What a great consolation this will be. My Dear wives I aspire to be something far ahead of my present condition, not in wealth altogether not in the estimation of those who know not God. but in intelligence goodness. love. charity. learning all that is enobling in the sight of God. To you I have never made this expression before. To you and you only is my heart open and the contents made known except my father in Heaven from him I can hide nothing. This can only be obtained by a continual labor and ardent study. But in all this I would not for the world be alone for in all my meanderings through life I want those helps which God has given me. to share it all. For in gaining the point I have mentioned I expect the aid and encouragement. that none but true. loving and virtuous wives can give. Exercise faith in my behalf and I in yours and this blended together will avail much. I cannot write all I think. at this time. Enclosed please find some kisses for those little girls of mine And tell them papa's

coming but they must wait the time. Now don't forget to give them to those blessed little elves And if there's any over you can take them for yourselves.

O.S.

(Ezra D. Carpenter to Carrie)

Albuquerque
Apr. 14 1881

My dear Daughter

Orson has let me see a number of your letters of late and I can say that it causes joy in my heart, that you seem so well grounded in the faith of the Gospel it certainly is more than I ever dared to hope that you should take so strong a position in the Kingdom of God and that your faith is calm and serene taking hold on the promises set before us in the Gospel of truth. May God Bless you a hundred fold in this life and certainly in the Eternal World to come you will be crowned with everlasting joy. May you keep humble and childlike and not be lifted up by any vanity. I have felt it was due you to write a few lines giving utterance to these feelings which are in my heart for truly away down here in this moral desert your letters are as an oasis. I am unexpectedly here to day in Albuquerque. I have no certain intelligence that your mother has gone to the East although I presume she has I hope for her a good time trust she will bear a faithful testimony that Mormonism is true. And return in safety to her husband and friends this is my wish and desire I see Orson often he is very busy and has much responsibility give my respect to all my old friends in Paradise

Ezra D. Carpenter

(Carrie to her mother in Connecticut)

Paradise May 22nd 1881

Dear Mother,

I found by looking over the desk that I had no other paper in the house but foolscap, but I guess the letter will be just as acceptable I was so glad to hear from you. It was a month lacking one day the 17th of May since you left before I got a letter. Except the one from Ogden and the card from Fremont. I had made up my mind to telegraph you the 18th if I did not get a letter the 17th as I was going to Logan the next day. But I got a letter. We are all well. better perhaps than any time for months. Ezra is much better. He is just cutting his double teeth and two are through and it has not made his humor one bit worse but, his face is all most smooth. His body is not quite free but no large sores, only a fine rash. Which was all most more than we dared to think, when he got more teeth. I have began the medicine full doses and am being set through, but not so bad as Annie was but I am afraid. it will be worse after a while. I am getting so large that, that is the greatest trouble about it it strains the cords of my bowels but I felt better in many ways when I only took it at night, my head is so much clearer. so I will be sure to be better when I get through with the whole of it. I am glad to hear you have met so good a reception from everyone. I must remind you that I forgot to take Lucy's baby's picture from yours will you send it back some time. and I never thought to get a picture of Lu

& Some for my-self. I have ten (tin) types of them but nothing extra. If you should see fit to get more taken, it will do me just as well only I want some good ones. I saw Miss Ida two or three times I get my medicine through her. she says tell your mother, don't forget the black medicine when you are under the weather. I did not tell her you had a Doctor. but told her you had been very sick. Every one is inquiring after you, and how you are received. I got a fine Navahoe Indian lap-robe for the wagon from Orson a few days ago. He has had an attack of billiousness. which made him feel dull. We are more anxious for the time to fly now you have gone, to have Orson to come home, and he is getting quite anxious to see us. He wrote me that Bro Young thought of sending him to St Louis again. he said if he did he might go on to Conn but he said he hardly dared to think of that as that would be too good. I thought if you found there was a prospect of such an event you would be highly delighted. We have got quite a start towards house-cleaning got the cellar white washed also the shanty and got the stove out. We are having a delightful spring have had a rain almost once a week. Every-thing is so green and fresh. Our place never looked so nice as it does now. Have got a new Privey that is cased with rustic out side and lined with nice planed tongued and groved lumber inside ceiling and all. with lids to the holes and finished up first class. It has been primed inside and out. So when you come again you will be well accomodated in that line. Oh how I do miss you when I go to Logan. I found Ida at Mrs. Cummings when I went and I was glad to see her as she to see me. She is coming over to make us a visit. after she gets done there. I have all most a mind to ask her if she will come here after a while. Folks are having such a time after girls. I might do worse. You must excuse this writing it getting so hard to sit over to write, that I write miserable and it getting quite a task to sit and write a letter. You tell the folks that when I read of your meeting them all I can hardly contain my-self I would so like to be there. if you can find time to tell me what enjoyments you find I shall so enjoy it tell me just how things seem I well remember all you have written about and seem to see them all. I should like to see Willie & Elisha & Addie so much and I want the pictures of all that can send them. How did Grandma feel to see you. tell me all Adelines place when you go there. I wrote you quite a letter about two weeks ago. with a lot of news about things we have got a good cow and have all milk we want she is young, and half Devon, am glad I did not have yours, as we will be able to keep this Had such a splendid visit from Young Brigham (Brigham Young, Jr.) at May conference he & Bro. Richard(s) & L(orenzo) Snow of the twelve were here, enjoyed them-selves highly. Particularly B.Y. I must close with love to all that inquire

Your loving daughter Carrie

The children was awful tickled to hear from you. They wish they were out there, Floe impartial Annie send(s) here love. Says she misses you awful

(A Carpenter relative to Carrie)

Harrisville Conn(ecticut)

Nov 27th/81

My Dear Carrie

For the sake of peace I am going to write to you your mother has haunted me all the morning to write to you I would say yes I will write I have told her so many times and then she would have to do it that I suppose she thought it would be the same now I

do hate to write but do love to receive letters. Your grandmother is quite smart for her (age) your mother is now combing her hair to go over to Mrs Harris to call as her stay here is so short that there will be no other time as the time set for them to start for New Mexico is next wednesday night your father came a week ago last Thursday and he has been on the go ever since last night he went to Providence to stay until Monday noon every one seems so glad to see him that I think he must enjoy it. and I think he will think different about folks around here when he goes away this time than he did when he went before I think your last letter was real good as you say you think we shall see you next summer now do not dissapoint us. Oh! dear we shall be so lonely when your mother and the children are gone if our house was larger and more convenient and was not so cold here I would not let them go but I do not think we could make them as comfitable as Ezra can it will be warmer down there than here we have been having some real cold weather yes awful cold but to day it is quite warm and pleasant we expect Aunt Addie down for the children to go home with her to stay all night Lulu is down to Uncle Rhodes is coming back to night I guess I will let your mother finish this when we get back while I am getting supper we are going to have codfish no cape cod turkey

(Jane King Carpenter to Carrie)

Well we have got back had a pleasant call, James and his wife were there they have a pretty little boy Hattie said she used to know you, I am dreading my journey wish my destination was Logan It is awful hard getting ready to leave we have so many calls to make and so many are calling it is very different from what it was when we left the first time the folks have a much better feeling towards Mormons than they used to have towards us after our having lived out here nearly nine years and come back looking so well but they all find we have not changed in regard to our religions views the weather here is quite cold and freezes me up awful I saw Georgana today she says give my love to Carrie she has got a baby four months old a real pretty little boy I made my last visit to Addies last Friday night Lulu and Some are a going home with Addie tonight for the last time you remember the last time when we left Addies when you were with us Lulu staid with Annie last night, how are all the children I hope I shall find a letter to Albuquerque for me when I get there from you I expect to be lonesome this winter but wish you was to be there with me we will be in St Louis next Sunday the Mormons hold a conference there they and your Father told them he would be there with them if possible I must say good night and I pray God to bless and keep you all until we all meet again

Your loving Mother
J. K. Carpenter

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Harrisville Conn
Dec 4th 1881

My Dear Carrie

Your mother started for New Mexico last Wednesday night have no(t) heard from her seince she said they would write as they stoped in New York but as yet have not heard any thing it rained here the day they were to stop in N Y and I think it rained

there and they did not stop it is so lonely without them it seems funny not to hear their little feet in the morning up stairs running around and then come down good morning Aunt Salome I suppose they used to think sometimes that I was real cross and I was I had that to plague me that they knew nothing of but as cross as I was at times I think they loved me and I know I did them and mother misses them so much she cant think of much else to talk about only them and if you come on next summer as I hope and pray you will I think she will be ready to say as of old now let thy servant depart in peace for my eyes have seen thy salvation it is what she never expected to see how I do hope she may see you next summer your mother said she should make you come she said when she get(s) home she should not let you have any peace until you did come your mother and I have had some good times this summer with it all and if you come I will try just as hard to make it pleasant for you it will be a pleasure to me to do it when you see your mother she will tell you all just how things are wont there be some talking done when you get together again we done some when she came here Well I have got a bundle to send to you that your mother left here so I thought I would write first and let you know so you could be on the look out for it and if you get this safe I shall have another one to send by & by do you remember Prescott Harrington he was killed on the car yesterday up to Thompson he was conductor on freight train now do write to me I know you will have to write to your mother but Orson is at home and you must divide your letters to him between me and your mother tell Orson that I say he must make all of his plans this winter with this end in view that you are all to come on here next summer tell him that is his old Aunts command if you do not write before be sure and write when you get the bundle so I may know you have got it I want to see your children more than ever I have heard so much about them the past summer good night from your loving
Aunt Salome

(Jane King Carpenter to Carrie)

12/20/1881

Dear Carrie and all the family for you are all dear to me, I need not tell you how glad I was to get a letter from you yesterday and that you were all well and enjoying yourselves so well, and very glad to hear Maggies ear was so much better tell her and Ida Gramma often thinks of them and wants to see them awfully I now begin to look forward to the time when I shall meet you all, if in the providence of God I am permitted to return to my old home, and I shall appreciate it as I never did before, I think it is worse coming from the east here than it would have been to have come from Utah I had just been living at ease and in elegance especially when making my visits to Dannelsonville Providence Putnam at Cousin Nells had a most splendid time every where, and I do so hope you can go out there next summer for I am afraid my Dear Mother can not live long, and I have a great desire that you bear your testimony to her and many others prefaced by mine by the blessing of may effect some good, I expect Salome has written you ere this as she promised me she would when I came away, and now about my new home as you are pleased to call it this place bears no semblance to any home I ever had, but I am glad to have come here if for no other reason than to know how the saints live here in Arizona and Bro.Young tells me this is a paradise to some of the settlements! O dear what privations and trials the Saints have been called to endure still they seem quite cheerfull those of them that I have talked with all feell that as they

were called they are bound to make the best of it and do not repine or grumble and God blesses them I really believe they do not so keenly feel the discomforts, The journey down here was long and tiresome we left Connecticut Wednesday Evening came through to N.Y. on the splendid new boat City of Worcester it is light (lit) by electric light and is truly a magnificent but the fog was so dense we did not make time so did not get into N.Y. until ten o'clock a.m. did have to go to Aunt Salome's but went to Jeffs store staid awhile then went to see about our tickets it rained pretty hard most of the time we rode on the elevated railroad Lu and Some never were on an elevated rail before they go quite fast and seem awful pokerish at first, nothing of note occurred until we arrived in St Louis Saturday morning found Mr. Hackstaff there expecting us he invited your father to stop with us his wife is sister of Mr. Catter they are real nice and made it very nice for us there Saturday Evening they had invited in some of their most intimate friends and a jolly time they had they were of the worlds fashionable ones and I know we were curiosities they were very polite made many inquiries one of the ladies came over Monday said she wished we were to stay longer and said she never should have the same opinion of the Mormons as she hithertofore had been led to have by the statements of News papers, I attended the Conference Sunday the first time I had, had to hear latter day saints speak for seven month(s) and I felt it was truly good to be there Bro. Morgan and Bro Mathias Cowley spoke by the power and spirit of God there was quite a gathering of Saints and many others it seemed good to shake hands with my Bro. & sisters in the gospel Bro. George Packinsen and a Bro. Howe from Salt Lake those three young men are a credit to our people they all went to the station with us to see us off when we left, Mr. Hackstaff also, then we had another long ride

(one page is missing)

meet good bye love to Orson and all the inquire
your loving Mother Jane King Carpenter

Put down all our names on the Temple Fifty cts donation

(Ezra D. Carpenter to Carrie)

Brigham City
Dec 25th 1881

Dear Carrie we received your letter of Dec 17th yesterday and you may be sure that we (were) far down in Arizonia away from those we love received it with great pleasure and to day being Sunday and Christmas as well. take the time to write you. We shall not be able to give the children much of a Christmas I bought them one pound each of peanuts and candy and they will have to do with that Bro Brigham who is staying here at present is away at Snow Flake and Taylor Settlement holding a conference and Bro John W Young is at Santa Fe and Albuquerque. Luella his wife who was here a few days ago has gone to San Francisco Mountains there are here in Brigham City about twenty families of Saints. Your mother was quite tried with the way she was compelled to live here and declared if I had told her all about what she would have found she would not have come here at all but if nothing happens to her and she arrives safely home to Logan next spring it will give her an experience of how the Saints have lived in this far

off Southern Country such as she could not have got in any other way. And consequently can appreciate all the better our comfortable home in Logan I believe your mother is growing stronger in the Faith of the gospel day by day and has a testimony that will always be with her which rejoices my heart. I believe your mother bore a faithful testimony to all of her old relatives and friends in the East which was all the better coming from the lips of a woman there would be a very great desire to see you and here (hear) from your own lips your experience particularly the Polygamy part I trust you will have the opportunity some day to add your testimony to that of your mother. Almira and Rhodes discharged their biggest guns at me on Polygamy and as Annie Bates told us Almira had studied very hard for six months when she found I would come for your mother to overthrow me from the Bible on Polygamy. I was ready to join issue with her taking the Bible for the Standard. I took a Compendium to the East with me and could easily refer to any thing I wished to in the Bible and in a very short time I compelled Rhodes and Almira to admit that the older Patriarchs Prophets and men of God did have more than one wife but they said it was sinful and a weakness that God permitted but did not approve or have any thing to do with. I refer(r)ed them to Second Samuel 12th Chap. where Nathan the Prophet speaking to David said thus Saith the Lord. I gave the(n) all of Sauls Wives this was a hard quotation that they could not dodge. For the Lord did it I then refered them to the third and Fourth Chap of Isaiah in which the Prophet speaking of a time in the future in which the women would be punished for their pride and costly apparel a war would prevail which would kill off the men and in that day seven women would take hold of one man saying we will eat our own bread and wear our own apparral only let us be called by thy name to take away our reproach. I told her it was (because) they were childless and there not being men enough. Seven women called upon one man to mary them promising not to be any expense to him and the Prophet says all them that is left in Zion and he that remaineth in Jerusalem shall be called Holy. Now this language cannot be mistaken when in the Providence of God a war shall take place and the men be killed off then seven women shall ask one man to marry them and they shall be Holy this was a settler for Almira She had to deny her Bible or be Silent. She choose the latter and caused her to reflect for some time but they are joined to their Idols and will not let the Gospel of the Son of God have free course neither will they bow at the feet of Jesus and cry What Shall we do to be Saved for if they did they would be told to repent and be Baptized for the Remission of Sin and ye shall receive the Gift of the Holy Ghost. This is to(o) simple and plain and the Lords Door into the Kingdom and they will not receive it. But gnash their teeth in rage at the humble followers of the Lord Jesus in the Vales of the Mountains who humbly receive the Law of God in their Hearts and Strive to practice it in their Lives. I greatfully and joyfully bore my testimony to all of my relatives and friends in the East and to a mixed audience in St Louis the Spirit of God bearing witness with my Spirit. Your mother will write more and I will close. I send my love to you all.

Ezra D. Carpenter

(Aunt Salome to Carrie & Orson)

Harrisville Conn(ecticut)
April 24th 1882

My Dear Neice and Nephew

Wish I could express my feelings to you on the receipt of your letter it seems at time as though we were alone in the world then when we get letters from our dear friends it cheers us up and gives us new hope and courage Was so sorry you could not come on this summer but I suppose we must be patient of couse (course) you know your own business best Grandma is real bad again she has got cold or less it is a kind of distemper that has been going the rounds here many have had it and been real sick with it and a little over a week ago James Allen commenced to come down with it was so he was out door every day went out last Saturday morning at night they sent for the Dr again he called it inflammation of the bowels and last night at nine oclock he died have not heard yet when the funeral is to be of course you will let Ira know about it I hope your Grandma has not got it for she is so weak and has such a bad cough now that I do not (know) but what it would end her days for 2 days it seems as though she has coughed and soiled (?) incessantly all the time I am really afraid if you do not come this summer (you) wont have her here when you do come she says when she goes she will go quick she is afraid she will die alone and it makes me feel real bad for I have to go and do my shopping and all other errands but I do not go any where for pleasure but it is a pleasure to stay with her. How I would like to see your new home or rather your old one when you get it fixed it will seem like a new one to you How many times we talk of you and the children and of you as you used to be when you used to stay here so much have not had a chance to tell George what you wrote he has gone back to James Allens to work again this year he worked there 6 years then went and worked for Lell Lake last year. Lucy Arnold is home with her three children she has got three pretty children they all talk about you and express so much love and respect for you how good Orson is to write every time you do you speak about Grandma visiting you in the temple that is something we do not understand but hope if you are in the only right way that we may be made to understand but I think the Lord knows those that are his of whatever name they may be. Addie and family are well but she is working herself to death and how much better off will she be Oh! The cursed rum I wish it might all take fire and burn up every drop. Orson says in his letter he does not want you to come alone neither do we (We) want to see him and Maggie & Ida of course now he has married our Carrie he is one of the family you speak about having grandma('s) picture sent (?) you get one of her at all wish I could think of some good news to write but this (is) a dead place there is three familys in the village and don't know how long those will be as many as that. Write to us as often as you can how I would love to be there next month when you are to your mothers wouldn't make (?) (?) so I could see all the sight(s) of Logan if I had mony I should certainly come out there well it is getting late and Grandma is abed so I will go so as not to disturb her kiss the children for us yes and Orson too if you are a mind to

From your loving aunt
Salome

(Jane King Carpenter to Carrie)

(4/25/1882)

Dear Carrie

I send you over your fathers two letter(s) that come this morning it had been a week last Friday since I had got one and I was getting worried I am so glad he is well

and think he will come home by rail when he gets Orsons letter and the money, don't know but almost think he would stay down there if it wasn't for me, and perhaps it would be the best thing for him in some respects when are you a coming over, isn't it awful hot, ask Orson if I hadn't better get one ton of hay put in the barn or if he is sure he can let me have enough when I shall want it, if I have another crop of Lucern as large as the last it will half fill the barn I expect it lays up pretty loose and seems more than it really is if you any of you come over Saturday could you not get me four pounds of butter and bring over that I got of sister Reece was not very nice and paid twenty five cents a pound Orson said that he brought over last came real nice, how are you getting on does Everett nurse you I have not done much sewing it is so hot and I am feeling so miserable come over as soon as you can, my girl seems quite a good girl learns fast my love to all

You(r) Mother
Jane K. Carpenter

(Ezra to his wife, Jane)

Sebolla New Mexico
Aug 6th 1882 Sunday

My Dear Wife

As you will perceive by the date of this letter I am not writing Friday afternoon as I have been doing for some weeks past. For I did not go to Wingate as usual. for a number of reasons. I have been hoeing my potatoes over to Garden City this past week. Sleeping over there so I could get up before sun rise and go to work. I have got them all hoed. I came back so as to be at the store in the afternoons of each day. When I came back Thursday Bro. Fetcher said I must move my store so as to give the store building to one of the families from Sunset. I have been using three buildings having lots of room one for wool and pelts one for store and one for sleeping but I have given up the wool house & store building and got them all in my sleeping room and I am pretty well crowded up Well it took me Thursday afternoon & Friday till 4 oclock to get moved and my room filled up then I started for Garden City and got about one mile and saw the long string of teams and cattle coming from Sunset I of course stopped. met them and the first team was a surprise for it contained Bro McNeil of Logan his first & third wife and further on in the line was his second wife. In all of them there was ten families. five extra families from what was called Bro McNeil Bro Judd Bro Hatch Bro Bond are all Volunteers. We also have a Bro Levis from Bush Valley Arizona and a Bro Johnson (a) blacksmith is coming this will make twelve new families and we have had to crowd up pretty close to get them all in. This Sunday morning Bishop Odell & Bro Gibbons came from St Johns Arizona to hold a meeting to cho(o)se a presiding Elder and make a temporary organization and now a few words as to when I shall get away the Brethren want me to stay a while so they can have the benefit of ordering some things through me so they can get the wholesale price for their things that they need at once and I find if I get any benefit from my potatoes it will keep me later than Sept 1 and again I must make a trip to Albuquerque to settle up and see about Frank Allens money I have about two hundred dollars in goods on hand to dispose of some way and it will all take time and it would not surprise me if it took me till Sept 15 to get everything ready which would bring me home about Oct 15 but this is guess work about collecting my pay from

John W. I dare not hope from all I hear of getting it at present. I hear they have refused to take his ties on the San Francisco Mountains after July 8 that would leave a large number in the timber on which he had borrowed a large amount of money So I cannot see which way he is a going to get out of his embarrassments and as there seems to be no hope at present from him I want to try and bring home some money if possible and fear I cannot tell what I can do with my potatoes so quick as Sept 1. my last two letters which I got at Wingate was the one you wrote last at Paradise giving the ofc (?) of Saloma('s) poor health and of Orson baptizing her and of her saying I am a little Mormon now the dear little Saloma may she grow up a useful worthy member in the Church and Kingdom of God on the Earth the other letter was written July 23 and as the last one before this was July 9 there must be a lost letter somewhere in this letter you wonder how I am this hot weather and whether I long to get home Well I stand the weather pretty well and when I wrote a few words in my last letter that I would be home Oct 1 I felt well the time is set and I am glad but later the brethren think my potatoes will not ripen as the spring was so late you wrote quite cheerful saying you had all you needed to make you comfortable that made me feel glad and how my mouth watered for some of those early apples. You say I expect I ought to get some hay yes get about two tons good hay. I can settle it when I come This letter I am a going to send Tuesday by Bro Nielson of Sunset. Monday Morning Aug. 1. Well we had a meeting yesterday and Bro Titcher was chosen presiding Elder of this place until a Permanent Organization can be made and a Bishop chosen. But Bro Titcher tried to get out of the appointment on the ground that he was sent here as an Indian Missionary and this would interfere with his duties as a Missionary but the Bishop of St John overruled and he was unanimously chosen & bro Nielson chosen Supt of Sunday Schools & Bro McNeil chosen clerk of ward. Many of the Brethren are very anxious for me to remain including Bishop Odell who said I was just the man they needed here but I gave them no encouragement only saying so far as I was concerned I would be willing to take my chance with them. believing I could get a living Merchandising & taking wool & pelts off the Indians to say nothing of taking up land but I feel that I ought to try and make your life pleasant and comfortable while we sojourn in the flesh and I do not feel to ask you to give up a comfortable home and make another. I hope to hear of the good health of the children and that you are getting along well. I have not written to anyone East yet I send a kiss to each of the children and love to all

E(zra) D. Carpenter

Tuesday Morning Aug 8 I have had a talk with Bro Bloomfield and possibly I may lump off my potatoes to him if so that will let me off sooner

EDC

(Ezra to his wife)

Sebolla New Mexico

Aug 10, 1882

My Dear Wife

Quite unexpectedly I am called upon to write you just a few lines to ope (?) for the absence of my usual letter I have not got any from you since the one written July 23/82 I have got the missing one written July 16th in great haste I am unable to name the day of my starting for home

Send love
E D Carpenter

(Jane K Carpenter to Carrie)

9/1/1882

Dear Carrie

Monday Eve I am short of paper but guess I can get all on this I have to say I did want you to come over but do not think I could accommodate the whole family Miss Ida will be here next week as school begins she will be here until there is a place for here to board and I expect Mary and Neoma Reece I told Miss Ida I could not have her she said do let me come until I can get another place she will go to Bro Trestons next Thursday but I expect Mary and Neoma will be here you will not mind them will you I am thinking you have got into a fix when you began to nurse Everet I am sure we could get along with him but don't (know) just how I can get along until I get settled down again quietly for the last two months I have been alone and would have been glad to have had you here but you could not come and now school is to begin and I can have the girls Mary wanted to come if Neoma could come too don't know as I can keep them I am getting so nervous I can hardly contain myself and sometimes I wish I was on top of the mountains or any where away from so much care my head feels so bad it seems as though I should go crazy the old cow came home yesterday and she eats the dry lucern so fast you tell Orson as soon as convenient to bring a load of hay twice she has broke the fence into the Lucern she acts worse than before she went away she will go for the children and even Adnweena so I go with a stick every time she milks, delightfull isn't it, bring or send me summer squash any time they are beautiful, do you want some sweet apples to preserve every one here is preserving them say they are nice can I get some black currents over there your father likes them so well I must get a few if I can to preserve, have got lots of those sweet apples do wish you could get them all you want, haven't had any letter since Orson was over shall expect you Thursday, but you will not be able to go to the conference especially with Everett Lulu wanted to come over with the mail but I was afraid to have her come alone with the man Annie might come over and all the rest if she did not stay all night or as long as she could if it was not for having so many here so don't stay away if that is what you mean

Your loving mother
Jane K. Carpenter

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Harrisville Conn
Sept 14th/82

My Dear Neice

I cannot begin to tell you how pleased I was to hear from you and did think I should of answered it before now but something has happened to prevent. To day have been to the fair at South Woodstock got ready this morning to go and Elisha came for Cousin Mary Gaylor and me to go and it commenced to rain and I told him I was not going in the rain so he and Mary went away as Mary was going to his house to night with Addie Addie has been helping Mrs Levoir so Mary came down here she came on last

Sunday morning is going to stay until the first of week after next well it did not rain this afternoon so Mr Arnold carried Mrs A and I up to the fair had pretty good viewing the fancy articles in the hall were better than common but the wind was strong south west and once in a while it would seem as though it would take us off from our feet and it was a damp wind too I feel to night as though I had taken cold. I am real glad you enjoyed your huckleberries am glad they kept good I have not made a pie this summer they have been so poor so small and dried up you speak about its being so warm out there it has been the same here and so dry too now we have been having a northeast storm and it acts as though we was to have as much wet weather as we have had dry am sorry your health is so poor you must have another baby Mrs Arnold says that you will not be right until you do she knows a good deal about such things yuo say you was sick so you could not finish your letter what was the matter your grandmothers health has been quite good most of the summer but she does not seem as well now it has been hard for both of us having Aunt Salome here. I had a letter from your mother a little while ago and she said she was going to have you come on this fall hope she will succeed in her undertaking I am afraid if you put it off much longer you will not have any grandmother to come to see you speak about our pictures I am going to have mine taken as soon as I get the mony for Aunts S board they owe us about \$40 for her board (?) Mary (was) mad when she came on and found out how William was using us. You say the children often speak of us how we do want to see the darlings and if you come on you must be sure and bring them both then they can see what a homly old Aunt they have got out here hope the next letter we have from you will be saying that you are coming on this fall now do come tease Orson real hard I know Annie will do all she can to help you to come by what your mother said when she was here am to(o) tired to write any more to night so goodbye

From Your Aunt Salome

Grandmother says kiss the babies for me and remember her to Annie & Orson I say so too your Aunt Addie don't get time to write she is working herself to death write to her as often as you can do not wait for her to answer all of them am glad you like the (?)

(Jane K. Carpenter to Carrie)

Harrisville
Nov 13th 1882

Dear Daughter Carrie

I got a letter from you this last week was glad to hear you was in better health than when last you wrote and that Orson is to be at home this winter. I think if you did not have to work so hard besides having so much care your health would be better but don't know as it is to be avoided under existing circumstances now you know Carrie it makes me feel real bad when you have things too hard and I hope you will not have any more children until your health is in a state warrant it, this having them to loose then the grief to bear is worse than the care of them, more wearing but the Lord knows if you could have them healthy and well I should be glad I do want to see you and the rest so bad sometimes I think I shall have to come right home Lulu says she wants to come home this winter she has always said she liked Utah better than out here, and when she

was sick she used to say O! dear I wish I was at home, it makes the folks stare and say O! and why how strange to hear Lulu say she had rather live in Utah than here, and they think I haven't been let into the secrets of Mormonism, and that knowing how high spirited I always was they know I cannot believe in it, or I have any faith in it, that I would not submit to your fathers having another wife. Grandmother was very much pleased to think there was any prospect of you coming out here next summer and I do hope you can come without fail if nothing happens to me I shall be at home to help you off and you could come when some of the Missionaries were coming just as well as I did, I should have got on well enough if it hadn't been for the floods keeping us on the road so long, Now I must tell you what is on my mind and makes my heart beat with joy that is your Father is on his way east shall expect him about next Thursday the 17th so I expect to have time because he must stay more than a week there are so many that want to have a talk with him Mr Lenard says he is going to try and induce him to come back here to live, I think he don't know what an undertaking that will be, I had the sick headache this morning it is the second time I have had it in a week so of course I do not feel the best, Was real glad Orson put in his Mark as he called it in your letter Tell him I think with him it is nice to be home think I shall be glad when I am quietly settled at home again When I read about his travels and every night having a new bed the mountains valleys rivers he had a chance to see, Aunt Saloma says I wish I had been with him that she should have liked such an out, Grandmother and Aunt Saloma wish to be remembered to Orson and hope to see him next summer, Mother is quite comfortable and would like to live to see you and her two great grandchildren Lu and Some have told so much about them they want to see them more than ever and I tell them there is another little one I think a good deal of that is little Ezra, how does he get along I expect he has forgotten me hope Annie hasn't. Aunt Adaline and Elisha were very much pleased to have you mention them in your letter Elisha want to know if you have forgotten the boot scrape he hasn't, well I must close I am feeling tired my head feels kinder topy or light accept lots of love for yourself and all the rest will write again when your father is here I remain your loving Mother

Jane K. Carpenter

(Aunt Salome to Carrie & Orson)

Harrisville Conn

Jan 23rd / 84

Yours of Jan 6th received and right glad I was to get it too. Then you think I have changed well I have had enough to change most any one to take it all in all I thank you very much for the kind sympathy that you express for I think it is heart felt that you mean just what you say You say you hope I may get as good a husband as I deserve Well I think that it is a hard job for the men are all so deceptive that it is hard work to trust them out of sight I think I am well enough off as I am do not wish to marry until I can better my self and I never shall marry only for love then I think it will require a good deal of Grace to live in peace and harmony. I think there are some happy familys if I only could find a man that would be like my father I should be all right but as long as I have mother and a home I shall not marry so I am afraid Orson will get tired waiting for my husbands picture I guess I shall have to wait until I come out there to get me a husband but I shall not be willing to share him with any one else I am to(o) jealous dispositioned

if you and others can do it and are happy in it I have nothing to say I have not said it to hurt your feelings but it is just as I feel and I always talk and write what I think I don't think you would do it if you did not think it was right. Your Grandmother has fallen in love with Orson she has formed the opinion that he is about right and she thinks he thinks a good deal of us too. I am glad you had such good luck with your teeth hope your underones are all good. Your Grandmother's health is real poor now in the fall she had a good appetite and seemed real strong for her but now she says victuals go against her stomach just the sight of them but I coax her to the table and sometimes she will make quite a meal then she says she feels better but it takes lot of patience to make all things go smooth but I Pray every day for more patience and I want you to pray for me too that I may do all things right I think there is lot of help in prayer I am trying to live near my savior than I have done and I think he helps me every day were it not for him I am afraid I should of done something desperate before now I love to read my bible better than I did and I love all good people the better they be the better I love them but perhaps this is not interesting to you so I will change the subject How I would love to see Maggie and Ida What did they think of their old Aunts picture any way did they think they would love to come east to see me I do wish you might come next summer How I would love to come out there and see you in your country residence I do not know but what if some good rich man would come for me for a wife I would marry him if he said he would take me to Utah to make a long visit When I do come I am afraid you will tell me as the man did this (?) once don't see as you are going home so I can come to see you Who did Orson see in his dream and in what place was he I have been over to your Aunt Elizabeths to day I had got real pop corn hungry so I went to get some she always inquires about you when I go there as though she was interested in you. I was up to Aunt Addies last Friday carried your letter and the plan of the house she thought the same as we do that your house will be just right when you get it done think you are quite a hand at drawing I hope you will both write again I think Orson is real good to help write the letters I have mine to do alone so you see if you get a good husband they are some help. I know you will laugh at this letter but I have wrote just as I feel and think which is the right way to do ant (aint) it do write often if you only knew how lon(l)ey I am and how much I prise your letters you would try too. Uncle Elisha I guess would turn himself wrong side out if Carrie would only come out he thinks there is no one else in Utah but her and Addie two for that matter but the poor thing done got (no) time to write it is all dig dig from morning until night day in and day out but she is as good as gold. There havnt I wrote a good long letter this time now do write soon to Your loving Aunt Salome

Kiss the babies one and all for us

(Orson to Carrie)

May 22. 1884

My dear wife Carrie,

I recd your most truly encouraging letter of the 14th. I was very sorry that there had been sickness at home But it is all right now that you are better. There is nothing comes from home too badly written for me to read I assure you. You need not offer any apologies for bad writing. You have not written how the grain looked. Whether the

mare had foled or not. Or anything about things at home in general. If they are progressing favorable I would like to hear if not do not say anything about it. Your answer to my query is truly gratifying to me. And were I where I could I would prove that I truly appreciated it. This matter has long been hidden in my breast. & while my heart yearned for the affection that I knew you were willing to give me I have had a struggle to make the sacrifice. But I feel that the sacrifice has been rewarded with blessing and success. And while we have not enjoyed to the fullest extent that liberty of affection that our natures demanded I have ever felt that it was there for me and that I should enjoy it sometime. When we all had learned the lesson of self sacrifice & have overcome our jealousies. You truly say, I feel a loss of this. And there have been times when I feel I could have enjoyed more of it without detriment. But Carrie. There is none of it lost. It is just as keen today as ever. & we will live to enjoy it yet. You spoke of my justice to all. In this I feel it is as much due to you as to me. I truly feel that God has led you and me in our journey through life thus far. As for me I would have blundered along without His aid. Your source of comfort I freely recommend as the best one. You could have chosen. But that you had to pass by me without getting some relief that you justly deserved I feel to reprove myself for. I might have lightened the burden. You have often tried to aid & comfort me. & lighten the load that I was carrying & would have gladly have carried it all if you could. & never have you offered this but that I have noted it with pride. Proud that I was blessed with such a noble companion. But your frail constitution compared to mine forbade me unloading off onto you what troubled me to carry. & yet I keenly appreciated the offer. & could scarcely refrain from bursting into open acknowledgement of it then. But I withheld believing that you knew how I felt. I should have felt a sense of cowardice. To have shrunk from the burdens placed upon me. Or to have shuffled them off onto you. These may seem simple reasons for not doing as you have many times asked me to do. But they are as they are. I know your integrity & I delight in your constancy, How I wished I could see you when I read your letter. & I have often wished you were with me here. It seems too bad that we are deprived of each others society & council. We have counseled together on all matters of importance pertaining to our Temporal & Spiritual welfare thus far & I miss it now. I do not know what we would have done if we had always have given full vent to our natural feelings & not have used restraint & wisdom. Our love girdled by a sense of right & justice to all has gradually raised us in each others estimation. Now love I do not think you or I need push our affection off at all. Let us freely bestow it upon each other & thus it will extend to our offspring & also all that God has given us. We have not thrown off mortality yet. & for a wise purpose God has caused that we should remain upon earth. to learn. He has also joined us together & made us one. Now, not one in body, for that is impossible. But one in Love, Union & principle. This then admits of our enjoying the affection of our natures. So far that it is not to the injury of others. Here is the rub. When we all have learned the lesson that we must learn, there will be nothing to prevent our fullest enjoyment of love. We have learned much. & I feel that there would be no wrong done one, but it would be a blessing to all. to throw off the restraint under which we have labored. Not at once but gradually. By this I do not mean to be unwise. nor law defying but to encourage the God given principle of love & affection. I feel the necessity of it. In that we may be losing much of the pleasures of life. That God has placed within our reach & for our enjoyment. You

know how He brought us together in answer to our earnest & simple prayers Did He not know our dispositions our desire to love & be loved. & knowing this why bring us together if not to enjoy these precious gifts These are my conclusions Carrie how do they strike you (We live for those who love us & the good that we can do) And the more we love the more good we can do. if that love is of God & we want no other. This is an outpouring of my soul. at a distance if I was nearer I could make it more appreciative I know. But dear wife glean from this as much comfort as you can, it is the sentiments of my heart. spoken in truth. Your kind & loving spirit. by which you say you are living now at home is to be admired to say the least. You will know how I appreciate peace at home & I ever pray that it may continue God alone can reward you all for your noble efforts, Carrie. You remember how we used to talk over the Celestial Order of M. & the ups & down we might have to encounter if we entered it. All was as carefully considered as it could be I thought. And really. I do not think we have found it much worse than we had calculated. Do you. Aint it been much better than we anticipated It seems to me so. And then look at the valuable lessons we have learned, the vast amt of experience we have gained. Besides the principles of charity. long suffering patience, love. Faith, & etc. many, many other noble attributes of the Deity. that have by that law been developed in our natures. All this is without price to us. And now we know how to love & respect each other much more than we ever did or could have done without. that experience. You may think this is a jenuine love letter. Which I hope you will for I so intend it. If it is food for you it will be food & drink for me. That your health will permit of your carrying our offspring through is my earnest desire & that you will be able to enjoy our fondest hope is ever my prayer. I do hope that Annie is all right now. An increase of a dozen if they will only be true to the cause of truth is none too many. The more the better. I'll do my part to support them What would the world say to an expression of this kind you understand me don't you? I shall be pleased to get the letter you say the children are going to write kiss them for me & Lina twice Be carefull in writing or talking about me & my whereabouts. Eternal vigilance is the price of Liberty Time flies very rapidly out here I guess it is because it is that I am so extremely buisy. There are over 100 teams at work upon our contract now. So you see we are doing something. If all goes well in about 8 months I think we can say our home is our own. How long we may be permitted to enjoy it I do not know. You may If I can not. It will afford me much satisfaction to know that you have a home & I know you will do right by each other. How do you get along for means. I want you to have some as soon as I can if needed. But must apply all I possibly can on our indebtedness. When that is paid off. You shall have the satisfaction of knowing that we have accomplished the harculean task that we have so long dreaded. & we can then feel free. Just at this moment one of Bro B's boys from Snake River came into my tent & says that Fred is not coming out here. So I will have none of my folks here attall. 8 months is a long time to look ahead to but it will soon go if I can come home then I will be satisfied. If the object for which I am here is accomplished. We are working our teams very hard and making very slow progress. on some of our work but on the whole we are doing very well. I can tell better in a month or two. Mormons here are looked upon as so many snakes unless they can make some money out of us that is by some. All are not that way we are well treated by many leading men & we are held in respect by some. We do not court the favor of the world nor do we wish their hatred. But we do want to do right. I had read of the raid

in Wellsville & I expect you will have many such in cache. this summer. I can only say do the best you can. God can & will take care of us. & permit nothing to transpire but that will be for our best good. I cheerfully submit to His will & hope to prove true to my trust. the responsibility that I have assumed. You & I fully realized before we took it upon us And now I am not discouraged but feel fully satisfied with the efforts made. I am by no means satisfied with myself but I expect to have (to) struggle hard against the evils of my nature. that are constantly besetting. You know them as well as I do. I know of no persons who are better acquainted with each other than we are. And I am so pleased to know that you do know me. I am glad also that I have given you every opportunity of knowing me. For it often causes me joy & comfort to know that some one understands me. I will not dwell on these matters longer. You understand me now I know Tell Ephriam. I will write him soon tell him take good care of things keep watch of the grain get everything ready for watering & etc. perhaps it would be better for me to write him about it so you need say nothing about it. I wrote you a letter each have they come safe. Keep track of them so that I will know that they are all recd. We perhaps may not be able to get letters as often as we may wish but we must make them up in quality. Let love abound in our hearts & we will place more value upon each other. Whatever lumber that is got should be well piled up & kept from spoiling I hope to be able to make the addition to the house before winter comes. on you. & all the lumber will be needed. I got a letter from Father C. dated the 15 of May saying that Annie was sick in bed. I guess he must have meant she had been. How is it. This has been a lengthy letter & it seems I am at home while I am writing to you. But the reality how far away. Thankfull I am th(at) we can talk this way. May God bless you Carrie & give you comfort. Kiss the children all for me, & give much love to you know. Names would be all right if letters went O.K. Now If you can smuggle a letter through to me. again. my heart will be made twice glad. Once while I read it and again while I answer it. I am as ever

(no name listed)

YOURS IN GODS ETERNAL GOVERNMENT FOREVER

Speed love to Carrie
And do not tarry
On the way
Making hearts so merry
Until the very
Night is turned to day.

May no sorrow
Come to harrow
Up thy Soul with grief
But may pleasure
Beyond measure
Ever give relief.

May we never
Try to sever

Or to turn away
That fond affection
Our conviction
Gives us every day.

But unbounded
Love is founded
On our heart to stay
And no other
Care shall smother
It nor take away

Now, love, goodnight.
Sleep till the light
Of the beautiful day
Shall cheer up thy way
And cause thee to say
The same to thy love who's away.

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Harrisville Conn
Jan 16th 1885

My dear Neice

Your very welcome letter was received last Monday cannot begin to tell how pleased we were with Linnas picture it has stuck up in the looking glass where we could see it and we have had many long conversations with it now I have it lying on the table close by where I can see it I told Grandmother I could write better to have it there it makes me want to come out there more than ever wish I could only get hold of her wouldnt I hug her. Thank you very much for your kind wishes hope you will also have a happy year. How thankful you ought to be that you have such a healthy child and that you can go and enjoy life. Of course your duties as President of the young ladies association make(s) work for you then you must have some pleasant times going from place to place then you have the conciousness that you are trying to do all the good you can we cant all be great here but it takes little things to make one bit one so I do not think that little things are to be dispised sometimes I think I am doing no good in the world then I think that the Lord knows best what is best for me and I try to be patient my life is very confining and it grows more so as Grandmotheer fails her health is very poor some days she lies on the lou(n)ge all day every day part of the day every one tells me she fails but that I must expect it but it seems as though I could not have it so what will I do then no(t) have my mother she says she does not wish to live only to wait the Lords time some times she says it seems long to her. Christmas I was home all day & New Years the same I go no where only to Putnam when I am obliged to I run up to the Arnolds once in a while and down to Anna Harris. Was glad to hear you thought your mothers health was improving How I do wish you and your three children could come on next summer if mother should live so long it would be such a comfort to her yes I wish you could come whether she lives or not cant you Ida & Etta Arnold

are both at home this winter they speak of you real often & wonder do you remember the good times you used to have together. I missed Orsons writing was sorry he was not at home I enjoy his letters they seem so true & sincere hope the time is not far off when I shall see you all cant you come on next summer I want the children to come too. We have had such a funy winter so far it has not been very cold as yet not much snow lots of rain how has it been out there do write to us as often as you can as it seems to cheer Grandmother up a good deal she says kiss Leina for her she thinks she is a darling yes she says kiss them all lots of times for her does Maggie & Ida ever say anything about us of course they have never seen us so it is not to be expected that they would feel like Lulu & Some ant (aint) that Some a darling Lulu is good I think but Some is so living any one cant help loving her well I guess I have written all you will want to read this time

Your loving Aunt
Salome

You say you have not got a picture of Grandmother why no I thought you had have you got one of your Grandpa if not please let me know it as Grandma says you must have one if you have not I have not but one small picture of Grandmother but have 2 of Grandpa & Grandma is not able to go to have any taken so you must get your mother to let you have one I will send you one of Grandpa if you want it your mother has a large

(Mary Ellen to Carrie)

Paradise. Oct 23, 1885

Dear Carrie.

Your nice long letter was quite a surprise I hardly thought that short note worth an answer but was ever so pleased to hear from you. Nell is quite as fat as ever and a rash all over her forehead. She can pat a cake and shake hands. We are all quite well here. I don't think Mother will be sick until the first of next month. I should have been with you this week if things had remained quiet. But as it is do not know when I shall get to see you. Yet we will not complain as there is one consolation we would like to be together if things were favorable and that is a thousand times better than if the trouble were with us.

The Young Ladies will have a party here on Thanksgiving Eve they will all wear their homemade dresses. Janey & Mary have a homespun one apiece.

I have been spinning last week and this for stocking yarn.

Martha was telling me that Mr Smart thought the Young Ladies Conference splendid thought they had a much more energetic president than the Young Men said he never was so frightened in his life as when he got up to open the meeting. Quite a number of the girls left off their bustles last week. Bro. Oldham took the Sunday afternoon to talk to the girls about their bustles, corsets, and so many feathers & flowers in their hats, thought the people of Paradise could afford no such style and selling wheat at low prices to buy them with. "The idea of young ladies following the styles of Paris and N.Y. decorating their heads off making perfect flower-beds of themselves. And covering up the sin. What did Bro Richards say at conference about the young ladies attracting the attention of the young men with such thing?" Mrs. Wilson and I went to the party here Friday evening I will not tell you how we enjoyed it but we decided that

we would not go again. Bro. S. forgot to take the book this morning but I will send it first chance I get.

It is cold up stairs and getting late I have written this in such a hurry you will hardly be able to read it I fear. I will now close with kind love to you all. Hoping to hear from you again soon I remain as ever

Mary

(Carrie to Mary Ellen)

Logan Nov 10th 1885

Ever Dear Sister

I was so glad to hear from you and as you surmised I felt quite lone-ly last week. But all the good came at once. But it was appreciated. And hope you will write longer. And although we are far apart. yet our feelings run to-gather. I have been so very buisy. ever since I came. Being at the farm all summer, has made the Wards all anxious for a visit as soon as possible. I visited one Ward Sunday night. and another this after-noon. Things seem to be making up in the line of Mutual Improve-ment. pretty much all over. For this I am glad. For we see a little reward for our labors. But the more we do.the more we find to do in this work. How is that dear little Nell. I hope she will not forget me. But that I can hardly expect. Is she as fat as ever. Orson has something for you that I think you will greatly appreciate I hardly feel alone since I got mine, it is so truthful a copy. Orson is not expecting to come over again till two weeks or more. Your visit would be greatly appreciated long about after a week has gone for I'll begin to feel like I will want to see some body from home. by that time. But you will need to wait till your mother is all right now I guess. I hope all goes well with her this time It must be getting anxious time with her about now. Give my respects to her & your father. I hope you are feeling well in spirits. I often think of and pray for you. in your trying position in life. I can much more redily appreciate your feelings now than I could when Annie came for I was to(o) full then to be able to see very plainly although I did a good deal considering what I had to contend with. Both in my self and others. I believe you will feel more & more satisfied as time goes on. I hope you will for I would like you to be as contented as I am. And then I would feel good. Annie is fully as much at home in the situation as I am. And I want you to be. And then I will feel better. But prepare for the shaking as Bro. Richards says. Bro Thatchers house was searched this morning by Vandercook & another marshall, and Preparations are begun to commence on Cache next week they say. But there is no telling. We'll hope for the best. Well Dear Mary good by and god bless you and little Nell

Your true friend & Sister C-

Will you send "The Science of a New Life" up to the farm and tell Orson to bring it to Logan next time he comes but if you think you will come sooner than he you fetch it with you. I wish you would write a note to Orson and tell him I will try and send his change of clothes over by some one. as far as Bro Oldhams. And he can send there for them either Friday or Saturday. I ought to have sent them with him but did not think that all his garments were fetched here, when he came last.

C.M.S.

(Carrie to Mary)

Logan Dec 11th 1995

Dear Mary

With pleasure I sit down to write you again. And have tried to make time to do so before. but could not get it. I'll tell you how I got time this morning. I was up till 10:30 last night and thought I should not feel like getting up very early but at half past four Mike got up to see what time it was. and knocked over the sweet oil bottle on the table and carpet. (and it was freezing cold). And of course I had to dress at once. Or he would have had it all over the place. I was about an hour getting it up and try-ing to save what I could of it. So I concluded. I'd stay up for I was perfectly wide awake. And I bethought me of your letter. And thought I'd have ample time to write to you and perhaps another one too. So much for preliminaries. Well Mary I was as well pleased to get your good long letter as you was mine. And to hear a little about Paradise folks and things generally up that way. I am sorry to hear that Little Nellies face is some-what bad. But don't you fear It will not be of long continue-ance. It is not a natural heritage like Ezra's (poor fellow.) I find that but few people have untainted blood in some way. So few people keep the laws of health. that of necessity these things must be. I learn that cases of Consumption are nothing more no less than Scrofula on the lungs. Often we suffer and know that the cause. when humors are seated inwardly, I would prefer to have my troubles in that way our-way. I have no doubt Nellie feels well. much better than if it did not come out. I am glad you are feeling well in spirits. as you will need all the courage you can muster. Trying times are a-head. Now the soldiers have come, they will not go till others have joined them till it swells to a great army. Of late I feel very blue, for a little while and then it passes off. And I cannot account for it. At the time, unless it is a fore-boding of coming trial. We will need to pray for each other, and I can tell you mine ascend constantly for you all. I am glad to enjoy as good health as I do, or I should feel particularly blue. I am still (hand and body free). And but for trying times I should feel very concerned about it. Do any way. I cannot account for it. From present appearances I am likely to remain so. The remainder of my life. (Private of course) I should be a poor one to meet alone troublous times in a pregnant state. I can write this to you, as I can feel safe in your confidence. And at the same time, meet a little sympathy in return.

You have seen by the papers, I guess, what I have been about since I have been over. I never was so buisy. Never was able to be. as I am now. Mutual Improve-ment has a start here this winter at least the Young Ladies. There is a large attendance in every ward, and People are beginning to know. that there is such a thing. The Young men piled into our first Conjoint session so as to abash the Young Ladies. And they were not invited either. I won the Book. "The Life of Empress Josephine" which was offered for the best Essay written on a lecture given by Wm. H. Apperly at the Temple School a while ago. If I can get it hometo send by Mike this morning down to Martha. Will send it to you to read. You will like it. And I think you will see what a benefit Poly-gamy would have been to her. It would have allowed her to spend the last days of her life in peace in comparison to what she did. Write and tell me how the Home-made party come off over there. I did not enjoy the one here much. Lina was so sick. But we are all right now. Kiss Little Nell for me & the children Lina can say Nellie. And talks about her and Lyman so much. Remember me to all the folks,

Lovingly,
Carrie

(Carrie to Mary)

Logan Jan 24th 1886

Dear Sister Mary

I do hope you have not been waiting for me to write. But I think that you have probably been very buisy since your mothers ill-ness. Well I will tell you what I have been at, that has kept me from writing. As soon as I got home I had to look after a conjoint session which was to be the next week. But (I) ascertained there was to be a meeting that night, and it had to be postponed a week. so I had to look after that. That same week I attended a conjoint session which was to be the next week. But ascertained there was to be a meeting that night, and it had to be postponed a week. So I had to look after that. That same week I attended a conjoint session of the Y.L. and Y.M. and there I took a violent cold. again like the one I had before I came to P-- this used me up nearly, and have not got over it yet. If it is better one day I get a little more next. I never had such a time with colds. Well in the time I had to make four pair of draws and four pair of garments, as the girls could not do any longer without, and last week I went to Millville & Hyrum as you probably know, through Orson. And I had to make a dress for Lina before I could go. And fix up a number of other things. I guess this is enough to show that I have been buisy. And will be till it is time to come back to the farm.

“Enough of this.” I have looked for a letter from you, eagerly each mail, and Orson tells me you are thinking of writing to me to-day so I will not have long to wait. Dear Mary I have thought of you often, and prayed for you as well, realizing this was the best and truest aid I could extend to you, and to speak plainly, I have felt anxiously for your welfare. I do hope that when you write you will be able to write with comfort and satisfaction to your-self and to me. And I may add to all of us. I have thought much on the long talk we had when at the farm, and hope the time is not far distant when we can learn more of each other. by close association. And that by a life of this kind we may all be both built up and strengthened by a close adherence to the laws of God. That by this close intimacy we may all go forth from such a home, with a power for good that will be un-mis-takeable. Such a home I believe can be instituted. because I have tasted of such a one. And my faith also leads me to think that if we should fail in this effort, there are those who will succeed in living this law as intended. But let me council you do not be over anxious to learn all at once, for this is some-thing that takes time. To develop. no one can learn all.and be all, that we would like all at once. In looking over my life now I can see I learned a little here and a little there, and at the time it did not seem as if I was learning any-thing. and often felt so discouraged but after a time, I could see that I had progressed. Such is life, and if we can only continue on till the end, the things we have labored with and contended with for a victory over, in this life, will indeed give way to a complete victory in the end. That such may be indeed the lot of us all, I earnestly pray. I am getting very tired try-ing to look after meetings and do my work and sewing. Am afraid by the time I get to the farm, I will not be worth much, for a while. Write me freely what are your plans, and hopes, for the future, and are you thinking of coming to the farm too. I hope you will have the spirit of this rest down upon you. So that you

may be able to feel like coming of your-self and help develop this principle with us. Tell your Mother I am glad she has got through the ordeal, as well as she has.

Yours. Lovingly.

Carrie

Write soon and often and I'll try to answer if possible

(Mary to Carrie)

Paradise Jan 24th 1886

Dear Carrie,

Having a good chance to send you a few lines this morning thought I would write but have not much news to tell you this time. Mrs. Wilson went home yesterday and I feel perfectly lost this morning we shall miss her so much her and Aunt Louise took the children and went up to the farm Monday in Georges little sleigh they tipped over and had an awful time coming home. The young mens first paper was to have been read in the conjoint session Wednesday night so the young ladies wanted to write up something extra this month as they did not want to join with their paper this winter with the young Ladies so Mary sent to ask me to write a piece and help her fix he paper up Lizzie Remington composed some splendid verses and we had a comical piece of poetry sent in Oliver Smith sent in a piece I wrote one and Mary and I fixed some fragments in and with other contributions from the members we had enough for the paper next month after we got a splendid one fixed to read this month well the young men had one short piece sent in and that came too late to be copied to be read oh how the young men hated it.

Well mother is getting along first rate set up quite a while yesterday. Nell has two teeth. I have quite a sore throat got my feet wet the other day.

Well Carrie the time is drawing near when I guess I will leave for the farm and oh how I dread it I don't know why I should but I imagine how lonesome I shall be if I could have gone before Nell was born I should have been so much more contented I know but I shall have to leave sometime as well now as ever I guess. Now I can leave Nell and go to Sunday-school and out to meeting once in a while but when I get there I cannot see that I can ever get out anywhere because I cannot take Nell and cannot leave her. I think it would be foolish for me to take her out now after being so careful so long. Her face is all well now and I am so thankful for that and she keeps so well all the time never had a particle of trouble with her teeth. Well I must now close as Martha is ready to start If Nellies face keeps well I shall come over the first snow there is when they go after Martha on Friday evening if I only stay a couple of hours just to get a peep at you and let the girls see the baby tell Maggie & Ida her face is well give my love to them my spirits still keep where they should be. You will write me soon and axcept of kind love. Kiss little Lina for me.

I remain as ever loving Mary

(Mary to Carrie & Annie)

Wednesday 17th 1886

Dear Carrie & Annie.

I now write you a few lines from these lonely parts. I have not felt lonesome at all yet. The little boys are good company. forever asking questions and never still all

day long. But they are very good. Are no trouble at all. They want to go to Logan before Annie comes away. Are asking Ephraim to night if he will take them over. They like Mary a little but want Annie to come back soon. Are afraid the cakes will not last until Annie comes are quite anxious to know if I know how to make them if Annie should not come in time. Ephraim and his brother has gone to the Joint meeting to night and Father sent Fred up to stay with me for fear Ephraim would go and I would be frightened so you see how I am encouraged in my scariness.

I guess you have scarcely begun on the quilts yet I can stay next week if you do not get through this.

Sister Henningson brought the carpet to day Caroline, Ed, and her were here to dinner. I was washing. It hindered sure so that I did not get done until sundown. The little boys thought that awful, that Annie always got through by one o clock. Luckily I had I had a kettle of beans cooked. (by the way were they the seed beans? I never thought of it until now. Perhaps I have been into mischief last winter I cooked the seed carrots, you remember.) I have not had to mix any bread yet and we have enough for tomorrow mixed a little fresh to day. Nell is crying to be undressed and I must close for Fred to take this to post love to all. From as ever,

Mary

Carrie, will write you a letter soon, as I owe you one.

(Carrie to Mary)

Logan March 10th 1886

Dear Mary

I wrote a letter to you while Annie was here. And sent it back by Orson when she went home. And he forgot to leave it with you. There was so much going on right then. But I'll enclose it. as it will tell you how I felt about then better than I can write it now. as I am feeling in better spirits than I was then. I have just got over being sick. That sick which reaches to the end of your toes. And comes up through the stomach. (You will know what I mean when you read the other letter.) So of course I am much better. I can't help being glad that you are to re-main. (You will know how to take this state-ment I believe). It is because I will get to see you now. You know I have no other motive. O- said he left it with you. Whether you would come to the farm with us. or not.

Now Dear Mary

I could not stand to have you come, and not feel at home. But if you could feel like it. it would be less lone-ly for all. I do not expect to come over to Logan much this sommer. As O- arranged it with Bro Card that I need not do it. And if Nell will stay with me. you do not need feel very closely confined. if you come to the farm. for I would willingly do what I could to let you off. And I believe it could be made pleasant. But do not be over persuaded by me. if you do not really want to come. I expect to come to the farm next Monday. if it is favorable. If it is not too late will call at your place.

With as much love as ever

Carrie

(Orson to Dear Children from Silver City)

Sunday May 9th 86

My Dear Children.

I now engage myself for a few moments in writing to you. As I am far from you I cannot but hope that you are good & obedient children my absence should not license you to do wrong or disobey your Mother You know that papa has always desired that his little girls & boys should grow up to be good men and wimmen I feel so much more when I am away because I cannot correct you in your faults. You should be much more careful to do right now as your ma^s have so much more to look after. You know the love that papa has for you. It is just as great now as ever. & if you wish to return it. (which I know you do) you can do it every day. by loving one another. Be kind. & remember the Lord is love & he commands us to love each other. You Maggie look carefully to your parents for counsel in all you do. & be an example to your younger Sisters & brothers. While I admonish you I feel satisfied that you are trying all the time to do this. & Ida You can be a wonderful support & comfort to Mama Be carefull in the use of good language & actions & be constantly mindfull of your parents wishes. Be not given to anger. But be pleasant & speak with kindness to all. Ezra I hope you are better in body. & trust that you are trying to be a good boy. It will please papa to know that you are growing up to be good & kind. A good man is a kind man to everything. By this time Everet is wondering what will be said to him. All that I have said to the others will be good for you to do. I desire you to grow to be a man that will be good to everyone around you. That you will also help papa with his work. At home now & abroad when needed. Be sure to do as Mama tells you. & do not feel bad when they tell you to do anything go right off & do it. If you do this now that you are a small boy. you will do so with pleasure when you grow to be a man. God bless Lina & Lyman & I am too full now to write to them. My Heart chokes me when I think to write or speak to children. & especially now that I cannot see nor hear them & give them my counsel as I have done when at home. But I feel & know that they remember & pray for me. I am well and happy as far as I can be without your association. Good may be gleaned from my letter for all. My interest in you is daily strengthened & the bond with which we are bound. I trust will grow stronger with age. & finally become bonds of eternity. It is for this we live. & hope. I feel willing to struggle through this life in the advancement of Gods purposes if you can become the reward. Your Labors thus far I greatly appreciate and my feeble efforts. I hope give you encouragement. at least in a small degree. But I know that your faith in God. & His work is the main incentive to your course & this I admire.

That the peace of God may abound
And in your hearts may be found
The Love that will ever bind
Together both heart & mind
Until in the eternity
You reap for your integrity
Eternal Life.

(Orson to Carrie)

May 12. 1886

C.M.C.S.

Dearly & much beloved It is with the utmost satisfaction & pleasure that I communicate a few of my thoughts to you It is not because I do not wish to write you individually, but it seems that it is my lot to do what I do do in a general way. It is often I go all over our early life together. & it is just then that I should delight in meeting you again. But I dare not dwell on that as I have other things that demand my earnest attention The freedom that I shall feel cannot be expressed when I am free from debt. I shall then feel that I can look upon my home & its surroundings with much more delight. & shall then feel that I can do more for my loved ones. It seems almost marvelous to me when I think what I have endeavored to do in the past few years & that I have succeeded so well. I thank God. Your aid from the first that I knew you has greatly enhanced my success. & has been (I hope) duly appreciated Your constant faithfulness to me & ever consideration of my welfare. will never be forgotten. I. Trust. This is not vain flattery as you well know, but the hidden feelings of my heart. I feel that we are lovers just embarked on the court Ship which I hope will never furl its sails. I just think now of the time you used to go upstairs in Crafts old rock house & waive your handkerchief. about the time I was to come in on the train. It seems that I see it now. The feelings that animated me then are fresh within me now & I feel a boy again & that life has but commenced. & so it has. We had some hills to go up but we have always found a corresponding one to go down. Thus life becomes equalized. & made bearable. I received your letter written after your. Conf. And was pleased with your satisfaction of it. I also saw a notice of your meeting in the Utah Journal. I feel very much delighted at the appreciation of your efforts by your superiors. & I feel that God approves of them too. Be humble & do not take honor to yourself. Be slow to speak in your own praise of ability & more slow to take the vain praise of others. God alone should have the honor I destroy your letters as soon as I have carefully digested them to avoid getting them scattered around. as I am not long in one place. You can do the same with mine if you see fit. If I write you individually, it is well to destroy them but when I write you in General all should have the benefit. I wrote one in pencil to the children did you get it? It was directed to Miss Maggie. C. Smith. I forgot the put the J in. I have recd one from M. in which I took great delight many good sentiments were expressed. Tell Annie I will write her next. & will try to write Eph as soon as possible I keep very buisy. I have been troubled a little with the rhumatism in my left shoulder. The same I had in New Mexico & day befor yesterday I went to town and on my way out to camp I had occasion to lift on the wheel. & hurt it again & last night I got no rest in consequence of the pain. It feels better tonight & I hope to rest. This is a small thing to complain about isn't it Its now ten oclock. & I shall soon retire for the night all. alone. What must single. blessedness be. I wrote a letter in care of A.O.Z. Wife did you get that. Tell father C my faith is as strong as ever that we will come out this season. All o.k. with the help of the Lord. I will answer M's letter soon. Hers was a long one. & tell her to read it without difficulty. & was much pleased. I have never been homesick once and hope not to be for some time to come. Home is sweet to me even the name. When I see some of the little children around here ((& they are very scarce) I feel that I would like to take a good romp with them But alas they would think me rude. I was pleased that you got

over your accident O.K. & hope you will not be troubled again in that way. & that you will get through all right. & be happy. & our fondest hopes realized. I have not poetical spirit on me tonight or I would write you some. But this I guess will suffice for the present. What I have failed in expressing I hope you will not fail in feeling. Give my love to all enquiring friends indeed. & my family in particular & kiss them for me. & I will now retire to rest & kiss you in my dreams. That the Lord will bless you all and keep you from all harm. & lead you all in the paths of truth is the prayer of your ever faithfull

O.S.

(Carrie to Annie & Mary)

Logan July 12th 1886

Dear Annie & Mary

I got the peas all right Saturday. I felt more than glad to get both of your notes to hear what was going on at home. But I felt that you had taken a great deal more trouble to get the letter down to your father than I could ask, but appreciated it all the same. I was truly so anxious about Orsons letter to rest. And did not get it any way till Sunday after meeting. The postman failed to bring it out Saturday night. I do not understand about my dress, as I have not got it yet. And the mail boy brought the peas right to me Sat night and if the dress had been sent I would have got that too. I do not need the dress. I only wanted it done by the time I got home. so I would not need to wear this light one to do work in for a while. so as not to wash it. Mrs. Dunham did not come Sat or Sunday she may come today. but we have nearly given up. The Smithfield folks have written for us specialy to come up on Thursday and I think I will go. That will make it Friday night before I get to the farm. I fully appreciated the account of the doings. The day the bees swarmed. and particularly Lyman falling into the starch. I have been there and know all about it. We all had a laugh at your droll letter. It was quite amusing. Glad you got the bees. And glad the girls are trying to do better. Oh it done me good to get your kind letter. It half made up for not getting Orsons letter. Well bye for the present. And may blessings & peace attend you all. Your true friend & sister

Carrie

(Orson to Carrie p.m. Helena, Montana)

Aug 25 1886

Silver Creek

Dear Carrie

I recd your letter of the 15th with the statement of the money all of which was satisfactory except that the family had so little left. But it is all right. It is better to be out of debt and have little than to have much & be owing I realize that fact. It seems that the burden of our indebtedness rests upon me. Since every little item is taken out of the money I send home. whether you have anything or not. But never mind say nothing about it. I imagine how it must have looked at the conference with few of our leaders present. What more can we expect. & I fear it will be worse yet. Now Carrie for a little council for you the condition of affairs at home from your view of it at present seems not very good.. But I have no doubt that your own bodily condition has much to do with it. You will remember it has been so before. under the same circumstances & after you

have recovered things change materially I think love you are borrowing some more trouble. Look on the bright side keep that in view. I am too far away to be of any service to you. & I believe you are among your best friends & they will do the best by you of any one else. If you were to go to L you would not (be) half so well off remember the past experience we have had in Logan & how we had concluded to stay at home. at least until we can have a place of our own there I am still of that opinion. writing to me Carrie write only that which pertains to yourself and nothing concerning the others of the family their course need not bother you in the least they alone are accountable unto God and their agency must not be interfered with. I cannot be with you or them continually and they must stand for themselves & for you to borrow trouble about them will only feed the flame. I do not wish to hear anything concerning my wives or their folks only as they see fit to tell me. Leave that with them entirely. But in writing about Eph or anything out side of the family. I am ever pleased to hear from either of you. I am sorry that Eph should take the course you say he is taking but it is as I expected. It takes a power to control him & I seemed to some degree to possess that power. & I little expected but that he would change under another influence but that is all right that is his agency. We need not cry about it. & I am sure you need not feel bad in the least of his conduct towards you or any of the others. When you look at them they look small things to feel bad over don't they. Keep cool & patient about matters you will feel different by & bye. As time rolls by I will try to provide for my dear children I am always thinking of them & there will be a way opened for their provision if it in my power lies. In the mean time do the best you can Let the matters move along until everything is well taken care of and I will try then to see to things you must use wisdom for we need the services of Eph for a while longer at least as I am not there to do it myself. It would be different if I was. What kind of a boy is Joe can he look after things alone when everything is gathered in you can write & tell me, do not mention this to him or Eph or anyone else. Just give me your own opinion. Is the Threshing Machine running and how is it doing I have not heard a word about it. I am well & I think I am doing moderately well shall know better bye & bye. I have an account from the 4th Ward Store of 64.97 given me Mar 15th 1886. have you drawn the balance since then or how is it I will send it as soon as I find out. I will send the bill in this letter. It does not seem that you have had so much from there. It will be well enough to see after it. I will write again soon. & perhaps can give all some more advice if needed. I leave for town today and will post this in Helena & shall be glad to get some more letters from home tell M I will look anxiously for her letter. & Eph also give my love to all and I ever pray God to bless you all. Take the advise I give you in this letter in the spirit of kindness & love for that is the spirit in which it is written & be sure to carry it out. It will be all for the best. Remember I am as ever your ever true H.

(Orson to Carrie)

Sunday Oct 3. 1886

Dear wife It was with much anxiety that I awaited your letter of the 27 enclosed with M's and with surprise that I learned from it that you were still around. I feel assured now that you will be blessed with a son. Perhaps ere this your hopes have been realized If so we are amply repaid for our efforts I think you have the burden of it what do you

think. I have written in answer to the letters that you spoke of & have written others which I hope you have got by this I wrote one to Maggie & Ida. I have written one to M & one family letter which I posted on the coach this morning. I have been thinking of some plan by which the children could be got to school this winter. But my being here & you situated as you are I feel unable to decide in the matter. But they should by all means be put to school somehow I have been thinking if I had not better try and buy a place in L or down town where they may be near to school privileges. What do you think. I hate to bother you with these things just now. But you asked me what you were going to do for room this winter, a matter that has puzzled me for a long time. Nor can I answer it now. It seems that we have got to make the most & best of what we have time will work things out. It would have done me good if I could have built on the addition to the house this summer but I could not & it is well that we did not try. In my last family letter I hinted at taking a mission this winter. I have had one letter in regard to it & expect another soon. What do you think of it. In about three or four weeks I shall be left here alone. As we will be through and our people will have gone home. and as I am not fond of staying alone, I should feel better if I was traveling & doing some good or trying to. I have about made up my mind to send my teams home and winter them out here & we have plenty of feed at home. I wrote that I should start a team home some time ago but I concluded to keep it until we got through. and then they could get home by the 1st of Nov or near about that time. I guess Eph would stay until they get there.

I heartily appreciate your parents feelings and believe every word you say regarding them. I have not heard one word from Mother C since I left home or from the children. By Mother I have been thought a hard man. Nor do I blame her for it. for I have not acted the part of a gentleman to her at all times. I do not blame myself for the feelings I have had. for I think them justifiable. But I do blame myself for my actions. No matter how I felt I should have been man enough to have controlled myself. & treated her gentlemanly. Too often we look back and behold our errors. Would that we had power to foresee them as plainly. I see these things many times in my own loved circle & I regret to have ever caused them pain. & have longed for an opportunity to heal the wound. Oh for control of this stubborn nature. I guess it is a lifes lesson. I feel well and have just had a good wash in cold water in which 1 cup (of) a little alcohol. & it made me feel splendid. I put on for the first time that light colored shirt that you sent with me. The others I have worn out & shall have to buy some soon. I have plenty of garments to last me for a year. I shall have them all fixed up before the wimmen leave for home. You say you never missed me as you do now. I can say ditto. & if I could fly I would not be long before I would see you. But our locomotion is confined to earth. & exposed to our persecutors Therefore we shall have to content ourselves with this mode of communion with each other Our meeting will be appreciated when it does come until then may the peace of heaven abide in your whole being. & comfort and consolation be yours to the fullest extent.

I could press you to my heart & convey to you my warmest feelings as I was wont to do upon these events. But alas I am not where I can. I feel it just the same. But your nature like mine. can better appreciate the actual contact. I shall look anxiously for a letter from you after you are able to write. I can then feel assured of your condition. You need not answer all the questions I have sprung in this letter. unless you feel it will

not be detrimental to you. May the Lord as ever bless you & keep you from all harm
With the warmest of love.

I am as ever
Yours

(Orson to Carrie from Montana)

Oct 17 1886

Dear Carrie.

It was with the utmost satisfaction that your letter of the 9(th) was recd. & my heart echos back all that was expressed by you. It found me quite reconciled in my feelings. As I had felt that it was Gods wisdom that directed it as it is. I perhaps could not have a son. & you too at the same time & as your services are so greatly needed in the training of our children. Especially under the circumstances we are now placed in I feel that it is all right. You are to me ever dear and I feel that though separated. we are a strong support to each other. I feel it day by day & am happy. How we might conduct ourselves were we thrown together I do not know. (but I only wish the chance was offered.) It would do me such a world of good. Of course I understand your meaning. But I am not lost to all restraint. And for you I can sacrifice what you refer to. with Fathers help. Your never tireing efforts to promote my welfare & add to my comfort & happiness can never be forgotten & I trust that I can be satisfied if I can but be near you. We will try to allow wisdom to direct us in this. I plainly see & feel the danger we would be in. for while even now as I write you, my whole being is awakened and my blood surges through my veins as if animated by your presence. All this I have weighed over carefully and feel confident that there is a lesson here of Self control to learn. What may be the time of our seperation I know not. But during that time let it be long or short we will labor to each others interest & constantly keep before us. The great object. of life. And the magnitude of our undertakings. I do not know with what success you would meet in trying to get to live in Mother Ca(rpenter's) house. But if she is willing I can approve of it. I desire the Children to go to school if possible. But if I am to be absent. You will be left without means to send them. & consequently you will have to endeavor to teach them some how when your babe has grown large enough to allow you to. It will soon be time for the boys to begin to go to school or be taught by some one. & my anxiety increases for them as they grow older. I know that I am needed at home & oh that I could be there. I have started the teams for home last Wednesday. It will take them about 16 days. I will send money to pay Eph and Joe to father C. & he will bring it over and pay them also some for you to pay what you owe at the Store & at the L(ogan). Fourth Ward. And Lofthouse. with some left for Yourselves. I shall I think be able to pay all we owe at Thatchers & every other debt in Cache Valley. & I have made very satisfactory arrangements with Bros Eccles & Pingree to use their money another year if I need it. So you see you will not be left to worry about debts for another year at least. I do not know of one person that we shall owe when this year closes. in Cache Co. and but three parties any where else. You can pay L. & G. & Brokell and all other amts you owe. Then when once out of debt make every exertion in your power to keep out. I have sent quite a number of things including a number one good cook stove. home with the teams. Which can be used in L(ogan) if you go there. You should write your father to have them unload it there if you need it. It will be very lonesome for Annie to stay at

the farm this winter alone. But you will all have to do for the best. How are the boys doing now. I did not know how much was coming to Joe. But I think I will send enough. & you can see what he had had and pay him the bal due. You never said what Bro. Lofthouses bill was. the Oats & Sheep herding. Get the amt from him and give him the note I enclose for him. A while ago M(ary) said that there were some C.P.R.R. land papers come for me you will also find a number of others that I have had for some time including the bond for a deed of the company. You may have them all placed in a large Envelope and forwarded to Oliver Gourney. P.O.Box 646 Helena. as that will be my address now that Bro. A.O.Z. has gone. Do not fail to send them all. This is somewhat of a business letter love. but with a ray of sunshine I hope. and that my feelings at this time may be yours when you get this is my earnest prayer. I guess that the tithing has been all paid up. And there is one thing that I have often thought of & it has just come to my mind again. was that ten bushels of wheat that was to have been paid to the Hyrum Relief Society for the man who plastered our house ever sent down if it was not 15 bu should be sent down right off as it has gone so long. I have seen the Epistle of the Presidency it is splendid. Everything is thought of by them. Now dear be of good cheer. For I am with you in all your trials and afflictions. & my support I gladly lend you. You will see by my former letter that I want the wheat kept & if possible sell no more. With the warmest love to all

I am as ever.

I should like Bro Ls answer before the money is paid to him.

(Orson to Carrie)

Nov 30 1886

Dear Wife.

I was glad you enclosed a few lines in Alecks letter as I was anxious to hear from you I am so glad you are better. If Aleck thinks he can move that house he may do so. & put it between the machine shed and that old cellar nearest the cellar. & have it face the east. instead of the north. We can put a wagon shed onto the west of it then. I hope you did not infer that I thought any of the money I had sent home had been misappropriated for such as not been the case as I know of. But I stated what I did to show what I had done. If we could have had this money to have used this season we could have fixed up quite comfortable. But it is all right if we can but get out of debt we can live. You wonder how you can manage to live on the farm. I wonder how you could live without it. You say it would have taken all you raised this season to pay the hired help Now let us see if it would. Ephs 230 Joe 60 total 290 say 300. that would take only 600 bushels of wheat at 50 cts. You say you raised 800 bu tall 300 total 1100 bu at the machine measue which over runs 10 lbs on the bu. You would have on 1100 bu. 66 bu which would leave you when the hired help was paid 566 bu thus you see you have bread for a no of years if you kept it. If you raise a crop next year you will be this much ahead. This we must do get one year ahead on every thing. Now you have some cows Your poultry. & possibly some hay can be disposed of in the spring. You say you are all provided for for this winter & next summer & this will put you ahead on farm products. Besides you have the sheep to help. They amply pay for their herd bill. I know that farming does not pay very well especially when I am away but I have no doubt. that it will pay all & help you to. And I feel you are much better off with than without it. & by

prudent management it will be a source of income to you. By this you must have recd the money I have sent upon two different occasions the hogs you can dispose of that meat in any maner you choose but make the best out of it you can. Have you got my horse & saddle & scales I sent. Write me if you have. Now love I do not wonder that your feelings sank within you at getting my letter stating that I was going off. It is with much regret that I wrote it but I feel it is best that I do not come home. At least for the present. I should so like to meet you. but we must govern our feelings in this as well as all other things Be patient & do the best you can we will meet again. Look well to the raising of our children. Guard their every action A life devoted to their care would be well applied. God grant you strength sufficient for all required.

I am yours

As ever

(Orson to Carrie)

Dec 5 1886

My Dear Carrie

I answer yours in part by itself the family letter will answer the other part. I am well aware that at the time of my writing you were all laboring under very trying circumstances and that they should have a tendency to depress your feelings more I fully comprehend. Your explanation is satisfactory I think. I understand your feelings towards me. & I appreciate them. You wish you could talk instead of write. How often I have wished the same thing. The question is how shall we do it. One would think he might see his wife once in awhile without injuring anyone. But under present rule it would be a crime against morality. Isn't it consistent? I might visit any number of wimmen. without laying myself liable But to visit my own family makes a great offense. I cannot tell how I feel sometimes when I ponder over it. I venture to assert that there are more polygomists in Helena. than in any three counties of Utah put together. No notice is taken of this tide of immorality that is sweeping (through) the humane family. But all this shows the purity of the position we have taken. Gods laws are life. Mans ways are death. I often think of the many enjoyable times we have passed together. & wonder when we will have them again. I feel fully assured we will have just as many & just as pleasant as we have ever had. I am proud to think we have bound ourselves together by ties that will endure here and hereafter. Comparatively speaking it will not be a long seperation at the most. We may endure many trials but they cannot always last. It does not seem possible that we have been separated already eight months without one carress or tender embrace. & yet so it is. How time flies. I wonder how tender our embraces will be when we do meet. I fancy they will be rather rough for you I have grown so rough myself. I weigh 180 lbs now just the same as I did when in Mexico. How would you feel in the arms of a 180 pounder. Think you could stand it. This is a little nonsense. But the reality would dawn upon us should we meet. I think (don't you) Well love thus far I have been blessed with power to resist all maner of temptation & am as free from sin as when I left my home & I hope always to hold myself sacred to my family. Your prayers have helped me. The trust that you all have put in me calls out my utmost power. to keep myself sacred to you. & I realize one misstep of mine would crush all our future hopes. These things I have constantly upon my mind. In addition to these honorable principles. I have the religious convictions of my whole being. prompting me

to remember the covenants I have made. With all these guards thrown around me I humbly ask the aid of my Heavenly Father to stand true to my covenants & true to You. Dear C You are so familiar with me and my disposition. that I can venture this free to speak and to you I entrust it. I hold most tender your feelings & would do nothing knowingly that would injure them unless I felt it would be right. But in writing tonight I am thinking of You and feeling as free as though I was with you in person. And I indulge my feelings as fully as is possible this far apart. This may be wrong. but I enjoy it for the present. & believe you can share it with me. If you feel my feelings. write me. It will not injure us I trust. Well now I will endeavor to write you a longer letter when you have written me that long one you have been waiting to write. Kiss the children for me & imagine I am giving you a good one right on the mouth. Praying for your peace & happiness

I am you ever true
H.

(Orson to Carrie)

Dec 30. 1886

Dear Wife

I regret very much that your letter between the dates of the 5 & 22 has not reached me. Whatever its contents may have been I have not had the pleasure of realizing. You will perhaps include it in your answer to this. I leave here next Monday. & shall go to San Fransisco if all is well. You may write me there. in the name of Samuel H. Miller. Be sure to get the name right. I have told father C and W and J.T.J where I was going. But do not desire that many should know. You may give A.O.J. my address & father S if you see him. I have sent home what I owe Thatchers Bros That is one big load lifted off my mind & I am truly thankfull. that I have been enabled to do that much. When I think of the situation when I left home last spring I am more than pleased that we are in as good circumstances as we are at this time. At one time I felt that I should be able to liberate the farm entirely. but owing to the extreme heavy work that we had to do with our own teams it cut down the proceeds very much. I have no reason to complain but feel glad that things are as well as they are. In your last letter. I could not understand what you meant where you said you hoped your letters had not made me feel different than what I should feel. I have not seen anything that made me feel different than I always feel. Nor do I think it out of place to indulge in a free expression of feeling to one another occasionally. From my letter at that time you will readily grasp my feelings. And I think them properly bestowed when upon my own dear wife. & could I bestow them in person I am sure they would be duly appreciated. Perhaps if I had got your missing letter I could have grasped your meaning. In my last letters you will have been surprised at my so earnestly desiring to have you scatter out a little this coming season. But if by being cautious we may retain our liberty it is for the best to do it. I do not do this from any fear I have of meeting the consequences of what I have done. But that I may do some good. support my family & educate my children. This I desire to do. And if the Lord is willing I will do so. If by scattering out a little and keeping out of the way at home. I can have my liberty another year. I feel confident with the aid of my Heavenly Father I can help you and place you in a better shape to care for yourselves. if I should have to remain away longer. Now love remember I am near you at all times Distance

only chains the body. The spirit remains free. And often it takes flight through its agent the mind. & visits its mates. and dearly loved children. Comfort its procured in this way. & great joy is often felt through this medium. May heavens choicest blessings be with You.

My keen love is yours

(Orson to Carrie 1/1287)

For Carrie

On the Train

What a comfort it is to travel by train
Out of the wind, the snow, and the rain,
Gliding along from scene to scene
Over the hills, and across the streams.
Look where you may, all is new
Until we exclaim, "What a wonderfull view!"
Passing through snow, timber, & cities,
Frightening a team, it draws out our pitities.
But our horse is of the genuine stock.
It takes more than a buzzard to give him a shock.
He snorts right along & stays with the track,
Steams from his nose, smokes from his back.
There's nothing that dare to stand in the way
Of this wonderfull horse that goes night and day.
Our driver's a good one & goes with the wind
Until each little hamlet is left far behind.
But no doubt you will ask what we feed this good steed.
What would you think? Water & coal supply every need.
When I write you again, I will if I can
Write you much plainer than I have at Spokane.

(Orson to Carrie)

S.F. Jan 13 1887

Ever dear One

It was with much pleasure that I could again put foot upon Tera Firma. We arrived here today at 2 PM no it was 10 AM and I am of the opinion that I was never cut out for a seaman We left Portland at 12 m last Sunday night and expected to reach here at the latest last Tuesday morning but owing to heavy fogs and high seas we just arrived here this morning. Coming down the Columbia river it was dense fog and shallow water. And after reaching the bar at the mouth of the river we encountered very rough sea I noticed that the Sailors manifested some concern about the ship. But we crossed the bar all safe. With the exception of all getting seasick out of about 200 passengers all but about 6 was sick. I was sick about 4 hours after that I was all right but for a little dizziness which I feel yet. It was about 600 mi by water. I am glad I came that way as it is another experience for me. But I have no charmes for the water. Upon my arrival here I hastened to the post office where I was pleased to find several

letters in waiting for me. Yours written in father Cs and the one of the 8th written at Smithfield I was so glad to get them all. And perhaps I will not be able to ans all in this. But in the first place will say I am astonished that anything should be said about that lumber I got off S. O Bray. For I was not allowed any rest until I had paid the cash for all of it. which some of my books will show. That was all paid for long ago. & thankful am I. I am so sorry that your letter of over flowing good feelings did not reach me for I should truly have appreciated it highly. This last one has done me good. And could I be with you tonight would endorse it better than I can in this way. I realize that my bounded duty to do right under all circumstances causes me to hold in check my natural feelings & bring them in subjection & this I am trying to do. How well I shall succeed remains to be proven. Were I with you I should hope to be as dear as my letters express. for I feel every word of it. Whether it is appreciated by others or not I never the less feel the same for them believe my Father has blessed me with a heart to love and be loved as strong as anyone and I can return it when called for. We have enjoyed unbounded freedom with each other because we have endeavored to reciprocate each others love. It is with thankfulness that I view our past. that we were so long permitted to be together and become so endeared to each other. We can now under other circumstances feel each others cares. Dear Carrie let us be wise in the use of this most precious gift. Our position by it on earth can be benefited. And our condition eternally enhanced. by its wise use. That God will enable me to retain a lasting love for you all to the end of life. and that hereafter we may enjoy it in its heaven adorned purity all of one heart and one mind as our Master gave patern. Most dear wife were we permitted to live our lives out again I am sure we could never have become more endeared than we have. Knowing each other so well and the needs of each. But I do regret that I have not been more wise in many things I could have lessened your burdens and have been better in many respects than I have been. But to be more endeared to you I never could. I do not cherish this for you alone love. But for all that have shared their lot with me. or that are of my flesh. My heart yearns for my little ones. And I hope for their care you are all devoted. Nor is my love confined to them and you entirely but I do love a good man or woman wherever they are. I love our people when they do right. I love the principles that we are struggling for & to which I feel we are indebted for all. And were I a prophet, I would say the very principle that our enimies say they are trying to put down. will be acknowledged and proclaimed as the salvation of the humane race Oh that this generation could be made to see their condition and turn from their wicked ways I have no ill feelings towards them but for their salvation I ever pray We sometimes hear it said that the wicked will be destroyed by Gods power. But I see that it is not God who destroys them atall He wishes to save them but they are destroying themselves. And very rapidly are they doing it. I can see we as a people are not prepared for much yet. We will have to live up to the highest degree of perfection. before we are in any position to assume the leadership of this age. We have the principles of exaltation. but what good is that if we do not live up to them. We must become educated and refined. embodying all the good that the world has and then adorned with righteousness begotten through the observence of the pure laws of God This then will put us in the lead. Oh how I regret that my education is so limited I can see how much more good I could do. were I the master of knowledge. I shall not longer dwell on this theme. Now dearest, be of good cheer my feelings are with you and I know you will sense them. Draw from them all the comfort they will afford as I do

from your letters. I feel it as keenly as I ever did standing outside of that old rock house of Crofts. You no doubt remember what that used to be to me. I hope the children will be able to continue to school some how. We must try to give them good educations if we can. They should study music now. What is Ida going to do and study. Get her interested in something. Now is the time. Whatever you may do domestically in aiding each other or anyone else. I leave entirely to your own judgement. as you know best what you can and what you cannot do. May the Lord bless you love and may our hearts burn aglow with pure and unadulterated love. To the entire satisfaction of each. I do not know where to have you write to yet. But will write again

As ever True

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm Jan 30th 1887

Dear Mary

Your note came to me with the babys skirt after I had gone to Logan. I did not need it as I did not go (out) much but had quite a number of callers. I felt so anxious about the baby that I never thought of the skirt. I am glad Nell was so pleased with the book. & doll. Lyman thinks his book beats any thing around.

I thought you was expecting your father home for Christmas. was why I did not make no move about going for you (at) Christmas You told us so I think when you was last here. & I did not think any thing would induce you to come then. You know that your liberty to come is fully understood, and had you droped a line it would have been sufficient. We would certainly have come

New Years we were doing the Saturday's cleaning till noon. And never thought of any "do" then. The skirt is as good as I shall need. and many thanks. The baby's lungs seem as if they never would heal. I regretted much that I had attempted to go at all. But she was better when she got home. than before. I believe that she is worse here. It is either hot or draughty all the time. I shall be so glad when summer comes for her. She has her lungs bad today again. She acts like it was a touch of Pneumonia she had. when she has those bad spells. She is so sore I can hardly touch or raise her up. Write and tell us how you get on at school. If you can't get time to come up. I would be glad if you would get another 50 cts worth of Alcohol and either bring it up, or let us know that it is at your Mothers for us. Hoping to hear from, or see you. I will now close for want of room.

Lovingly Carrie

(Orson to Carrie)

Sacramento Feb 8th 87

C.M.C. Smith

Most loving wife It is with most profound pleasure I attempt the task of answering your truly welcome and lengthy letter. I feel that my limited intelligence can only result in an utter failure to express and intelligently explain my feelings to your keen perception. If I can be aided by the spirit of God I will endeavor. carefully and cautiously to answer each point presented. And only do I do so I the broadest sense of Humane love. I fully realized in writing as I did. that I had written in a maner to thouroughly arouse your sensitiveness. And while I regret having in the least injured your

feeling I am more than delighted at your consistent answer. I did not for one moment entertain the idea of interfering with your individuality. God forbid that I should do such a thing in any way: In this I feel that I was misunderstood. Asking you to write here and tell the others to was merely a request and nothing imperative and (if) they or you felt in your judgement not wise to write, that would be all right. But in not giving them the opportunity to judge for themselves is error. At the time I wrote that letter I had just concluded to stay for an answer and I did not have the time to write to all by that particular mail. So I wrote as I did. I will avoid the occurrence again. Now I say I was delighted with the manner in which you answered it. You spoke of the surrender of your judgement and if you must surrender it, I say No Never. Do not give one moment's thought to such a thing. Not to me or any other person. But be ever ready to surrender to the right. I would not dare to interfere with the God-given right of all men & women to think and judge for themselves. I am in this particular expression of yours almost overjoyed. To know that I am bound to one who will think and act upon self-conviction from a sense of right, is to me untold delight. My expression upon this matter you have heard before." If my mind could be met, I would have every person old and young of my family do nothing but they were thoroughly convinced by their own reason was right. I am more and more disgusted with a humane machine that can be worked at the will and pleasure of anyone who may desire. It is inconsistent with and detrimental to the development of God's ennobling attributes. In no way did I mean that you should do just as I said. But not knowing at what point I might expect another letter from you, it made this particular request the more important to me. I do not know in moving about, as I have been, where I may get letters so that when I do write you where to direct to I make it a point to be there and await letters. This may more clearly explain why I wrote as I did, at not getting more at that time, and for more care in future. This Carrie I will say, that whenever you think it unwise not to write, do not write. Believe me I will not nor have not believed but you will act in good faith. In listening to what I said I thought that you acted upon her judgement too much. Now in regard to mistrusting anyone I have my Ideas, which I submit. It is not well to encourage a feeling of mistrust. I endeavor to discourage that in myself. But it is nevertheless true that there are so many that misrepresent the truth, that one must weigh carefully what he hears, before becoming truly satisfied. I will leave this subject now. With reference to my position in the Stake I wish you love, and all my dear family to strictly understand, it was never sought after by me. And the moment that I am not the person needed, or that others can forward the interest of the work better, I want them to remove me. And I do feel that it would be better, that someone who could be with and strengthen the people should occupy the position. I do pray that I may never seek office and if put in office, that I may not hold it to the detriment of any one. So thankful am I that this feeling has ever been with me. I have not thought of my position in any but the most humble manner. I know that God can move without me and I am but as an ant on the mountain. In my weakness I hope to be made strong to do good, and where my Father may want me. I have never felt but that I could get home in safety and stay around just as well as others have. But I feel that I have done more for myself and through me for you and for the truth, than I possibly could have done at home. Besides I did feel that I might subject myself to considerable risk in getting away in the spring. And other reasons I might mention if I desired. But these are the principal reasons for not doing so. (that is coming

home) About the letters you have previously written, which you say I have not fully answered. I do not know what they are as I endeavored to answer them right at the time so as not to forget their contents. As I have destroyed all of them when thoroughly read and as I supposed fully answered. I have not received a letter but that I have set to work immediately to answer as you will have observed by the dates. There may have been questions that you have asked about what should be done with farm matters. That I have not answered. If this is what it is. I will explain. I have felt it useless for me to assume to direct in these things and be so far and so long absent. as I cannot understand all the conditions which surround each item. And that is why I have continually said: do the best you can: to you and Aleck also. This is all I can or do ask. I cannot detail matters I wrote you from S.F. which I trust will in part explain my sentiments. The little slip I sent. which I cut out of the SF Chronicle. will explain the feelings engendered in the hearts of some of the M. E. Clergy. I took the liberty of answering it. And wrote several pages of this kind of paper to the Editor. But He would not publish it. I sent an article to the Utah Journal. (signed a believer in perfected Cooperation). You did not say whether that poetry I spoke of was published or not. I will send it as soon as I can copy it. I am extremely buisy. This may seem strange to you but such is the case. I am studying as hard as I can. Since my friend left I have devoted all my time to study. But as I stated in my other letter I shall be glad to get back to work at a job to finish the payment of my indebtedness. and help you at home. Outside of that I have the desire of educating myself, to better enable me to assist in the great work we have only just begun. From this love, you will glean but little compared to that comfort I could impart were I with you. As this letter is somewhat lengthy. I cannot hope to conclude my thoughts but will continue them in another to you at another time. Dear wife believe me. The embraces of conjenial spirits, enjoyed by pure sentiments and truthfull expressions, are next in keenness to loving embraces enjoyed in the flesh. One we have enjoyed. The other I feel I am enjoying with you now. I got a letter from Father C in which he related his encounter with Burglars. It was quite a trying event. I am glad he was hurt no worse. In that letter came letters from my dear children with which I was delighted also a nice little one from Salome. I used to have a mother from whom I never was absent for long at a time, but who always had an expression of encouragement for me. Now: if it was not for these expressions from my own immediate family, I should feel that female interest in my welfare had passed away with Mother S. Do not betray my weakness love. I confide in you. I have not had one word or even a remembrance from Mothers though blessed with many possibly I may not be worthy. If so I bear patiently the censure. Be of good cheer. I have not had time to consider the matter of your Y.L. paper. But should you have one write as often as you can for it. And encourage writing in others. And especially in our children as soon as they can The money matters of a paper as well as other enterprises are always difficult to manage. not so much the managing as the obtaining of them. But if the results to be obtained are equal in good to the outlay in money. it is then a profitable investment. I am satisfied that if our people have arrived to that position. that they will support. that which will be of the greatest good to the greatest numbers. that a paper of that kind would not lack for means or encouragement. The people will and must decide this. and will be manifest by the Spirit in which they take hold of it. I am keenly sensitive to the drudgery condition in which you are placed and I know too well the inconveniences to which you are subject. All this is indelibly impressed upon my mind.

And I am pained at times that I have been the means of placing you in your present condition. Was it in my power I would lift you up to the surroundings which you merit. and to which I one day hope to see you. The impossibility to do this now causes me to be lothe to say much about matters at home God bless you Carrie. And if I have grieved or written you in a maner to do so or reprovred harshly. my asking you to overlook it does not mend it. But your charity will not be disregarded.. Kiss baby for me & send along her picture as soon as you can With an ever increased desire.through merit, to retain your unbounded confidence and love I am with embraces and much love your own Dear Orson I hope you have written to Portland Oregon. You may have time to ans this there as it is so very stormy that I may be delayed in getting there

(Carrie to Mary)

1887

Dear Mary

I wish I could reply to your letter this time. But we were never more crowded than now. I have been at M.I.matters a good deal of late. I enjoyed your letter. & will answer it as soon as possible. There is no prospect of a let up yet in our work for 2 weeks yet. I am about used up. But there is a prospect of some thing better some day. I wish you might be able to come & enjoy the new home with us. I am sure you would. It would do you good to see it. I see your mother & father frequently. They seem to feel first rate. I attended Complaint about mail being delayed I think the P.M.s are mistrusted a good deal. I hope your retreat will not be discovered now.

With much love to You. & a kiss for Nell. Baby can say. Papa Mama. Auntie. Ida & Kittre & point to her fathers picture when you ask her where he is.

C_____

(Orson to Carrie)

Mar 15. 1887

Dear Wife

It is with unspeakable delight that I attempt to write you again. After so pleasant a visit and so short a stay to be again thrown upon the cold and unfeeling world. has shocked me worse this time than at any other. & I have scarcely recovered myself yet. But it is no worse than I expected it would be if I came home. God knows how much I appreciate you. But I, weak mortal could not know. Only. By our absence from each other. I did enjoy myself while at home & feel amply repaid. for all. it was so short. I felt that the spirit of God was there and I felt as I never had before. I have thought about it since. and have wondered how it was. Did you notice it? I am sure I never felt like it before. I went direct to see Frank and after talking with him a few minutes I went on to Logan where I arrived at 2 AM I went to bed and arose at 6 AM so I did not sleep much that night. I stayed cooped up all day. And at night Father came and we talked until 11 PM I went to bed about 12. I slept soundly until about 3 or 4. when I was awakened suddenly by some one calling my name. (Orson). I rose up in bed and listened but all was quiet. But I could not sleep again. That is the third time that someone invisible to me has called my name. You will remember me telling you of the other two times. This

time was louder and more distinct. so much so that it awoke me out of sound sleep. This is something singular to me but I have no uneasiness about it for there is such a good spirit surrounds me at the time. that I feel as though I was in the presence of some good person who was just about to converse with me. How I do hope I may live to be worthy of the spirit of God to guide my every act. And if He or any of his servants are desirous of an interview with me.that I may be fit to entertain them. Dear C you can understand me I hope. I know some would think these ideas as fanatical. But not so. I have tried to explain away these things.but am forced to the conclusion. that there are those near. who can converse when permitted. This point I have arrived at by having my own name at three different periods.uttered distinctly & each time more audible than the former. I told Tom & Lucy and Mary about it and Willard. but no others I am willing Annie should know but think that sufficient. I should like to continue my letter on these things but will not at this time. After leaving Wm. I went to S. got there at 10 PM or about that woke up Mother. Went in and kissed the children. But they were so sound asleep that they could not realize that I was going off. So when morning came and they came to their senses nothing must do but they must come and see me. (I had located myself near the depot.) I had a pleasant visit with them at noon. & about 2:30 I went over to take the train. which proved to be a freight and one I did not want so I sat down on some ties and waited for the passenger train. But the freight men were all around there and I hardly knew what to do. But just as the train was going I got around on the west side of the sleeper and got aboard. And took a berth in the sleeper and was undisturbed I do not know whether I was recognized or not. However I am here I had to lay over at Butte for two days. owing to the heavy washouts. I left Butte Monday and got only 17 miles by rail. Another Gentleman and I hired a team to take us 23 miles farther to the next town. Got there at 10 PM. Here I stayed over night. Tuesday morning I walked 11 miles. & reached the N.P.R.R. My delays were not over here for I had to lay over until 6:30 AM this morning when the east bound Pasenger train come along and I got aboard. I arrived here at 10 AM I was recd very pleasantly by business men that I have met but cannot tell for 10 or 12 days what work we can get if any. But I feel that god will direct all for the best. I paid father for the buggy & gave Father C some money to get away with if he has to. (say nothing of it) I saw Jacobs and he will commence at once on the house he will arrange to have but one large room overhead and light it from the top. There will be dormers in it as it will weaken the roof so much. That I fear it would be unsafe. He will wainscot the kitchen and dining room. He will finish it July 31 I am to pay him four hundred when he gets the material on the ground and the bal when the work is all done. I have also bought fathers lace. So you see I have much to accomplish this season I feel that all will be well and come out O.K. He will board himself and men or pay for it as you & he can agree. That joy may fill your bosom and heavens blessings be showered upon you is the earnest desire of him whose love you
Know

(Orson to Carrie)

Mar 24. 1887

Dear wife

I have written two letters to you since the 15th and have wondered if they had been intercepted. As I have not heard from either. I was glad to learn through Alecks letter that all were well at home & that you were having such fine weather I am well. and anxious now to get to work. But it will be a few days yet before we know about work. There are many men here who want to get contracts & it is hard to say who will get it. It is now near three weeks since I left home. The time has gone very rappid to me. But I have no home comforts. Nothing can make up for the associations of home. I believe I hated to come away worse this than the other time I should prefer to remain at home at any time but after such an absence that I had. I felt it much more keenly. But I feel first rate. And think all will turn for the best. My mind has been occupied of late upon our situation as families and as a community. And it does seem that some power must manifest itself in the interest of the work. Or it will (be) a sorrowful time for all. The very air seems pregnant with evils that undermine the very foundation upon which each

One page is missing

To tear away until in the entire strength and power we possess. We: like Him. cry out. (get thee behind me Satan.) The load is then lifted. The light of Heaven burst in upon us again and we move on. Light hearted and happy. made so by the knowledge that we have taken one more step and have not yielded to temptation Thus Year by Year we are schooling ourselves in the love of Christ. and approaching the perfection we desire to attain to. a Heaven or Earth. I have wondered if this could be. But I have no doubt. Others have thought the same. It does not look impossible to me. A builder will go to work to build a house. If he has. the brick the mortar. the timber. and all the materials necessary. We know that he can build the house. Good to look upon delightful to dwell in. He is not the master mechanic, but he puts together what another has created or organized. And we look upon it and say he has built a house. We are not as the builder. in the building we are trying to erect. For the great Master Mechanic has prepared the materials of an indestructible nature. And if we build according to His plan and with the materials He provides it will stand forever Now in the builders house it would be dangerous to dwell because of the destructable nature of the material But in the house we are permitted to erect there would be perfect safety. This then would approach toward Heaven. for that which will endure forever. and in which. is perfect safety is of the Heavens and I feel that it is possible to build just such a house upon the revealed plan of Heaven as it has been given to us. But it will depend upon all the workmen engaged in the building. It cannot be done if one should bring sand when lime is required or vice versa. But all must be of one heart and mind. controlled by the same unmistakeable spirit. This then would be Heaven in the building of the house. and Heaven in the enjoyment of its shelter This state of things is devoutly to be wished. I know it is a labor but

When two hearts beat as one

The work is partly done.

This I am sensitive of, in your efforts with me I feel our hearts have beat as one. having in view one and the selfsame object. although we have looked at things differently at times I know your heart has constantly yearned to approach to a degree of perfection &

your desires have ever been elevating. The aid and comfort this has been to me none but God knows. I hope you have recd my other letters to you. Keep track of all you send or receive that we may know if they get through. God bless you love. And ever increase your happiness

With much love

I am yours

I must tell you of a dream I had last night I think it refers to both. You & I. I thought some one unknown to me was talking to me about my position in the Church, that is, the office I hold. And he said to me, You did not seek your office and if God revealed to his servants that you was the man He wanted, you had better let Him reveal it to His servants when He is done with you. You remember how I felt when at home. about your office as well as my own. Now I shall never feel that way again. As long as God wants either of us to work in any place. We must do the best we can. And allow him to remove us when He sees fit. It is His work and He knows what He is doing. I was wrong in my feelings.

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 6 1887

Dear Wife

Your long and welcome letter came today and only your presence with me at this time can render you my appreciation of it. Words fail. But as we cannot meet I shall have to write. I have read with much interest and I trust with profit all that you wrote Your unbosoming your feelings to me are as sacred as the fountains of life you have entrusted me with. And they are as dear to me as my own life Our meeting was so short and private opportunity so impossible. while I was there that I sacrificed much of my feelings for what I thought would be of the greatest good to all. And by that sacrifice I felt that the blessing of Heaven was poured out and all had the benefit of it. I can never forget the effects of the power of the spirit. felt during my short visit that I had such controle over myself astonished me. And it has continued to surprise and please me. You speak of the reproof you received from me This touched my hearts tenderest place as I realize my weakness to reprove with harshness. And could I but controle my self to that degree.that I could convey with the loving kindness I know to be God like: I should feel that I had made another stride in the path of progress. My way of speaking to my loved ones harshly often causes me to lament. And I hope I may yet be able to rreprove with the true intent of my heart manifest in my words. I know love that you would be the last person to exercise unrighteous dominion over any one knowingly. I know you and know your desires and intentions. But to one not knowing so well. Your motives might be misconstrued at times. It is for this reason that I cautioned you. not to injure your feelings. For of all things that I do that pains me most you have my heartfelt sympathy in regard to your children and I will not endeavor to raise your expectations in regard to the ever present feeling in my heart. (that of a son from you) but will await with what patience I can the Good will and pleasure of Our Father. In the matter. It does me good to know that I have been of some good to you.and an aid to your advancement. And I freely accord to you the same credit in regard to myself. It seems that God brought us together to be a blessing to each other. For this has really been the result of our marriage. I not only love & respect you for the good you desire to do. but the good you have done.

I know that you nor I have got where we should like to be. But this will not lessen our endeavors. For little by little we shall rise. We cannot get there by a leap. Step by step. Making each step sure as we go. We advance steadily. Do not depreciate yourself in yourself beyond that which is necessary to humility I think I see a tendency to go beyond this in some parts of your letter. this I fear is detrimental. I realize the difficulty there is in trying to live above our natures but herein lies the battle of life. with our fathers aid we can win. What pleasant feelings are engendered by knowing that our desires, our motives, our spirits. are alike. It gives me joy unspeakable. Your honest open and free expressions do me good God bless you for it. I feel that I fully understand you. The raid you had must have caused you some anxiety. I am glad that you did as you did. It seems that words were given you at the time needed. by the answers you made them. Be on the watch that you be not taken unawares. I am sorry that (the) boys knew no better than to retaliate. Under the circumstances the time for that is not yet. Accept my blessing and the love of a devoted. Hub.

I must close now and will see that your poem comes if I get the spirit of it. I have sent for the teams to come by wagon road.

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 10. 87

Dearly loved. C

Agreeable to promise I send a few lines from my meagre store of poetry for your perusal. And coments. And again I have read over your last letter seeking diligently to decipher the meaning of each sentence. In my last I said I fully understand you I think I do. But why you did not or could not enjoy all that you had anticipated my visit would afford. I am really at a loss to know. I believe that I enjoyed all I had anticipated. And the full extent of my feelings. as conveyed by my former letters. I felt. Yet there was a modification of my actions some different to what I had thought they would be. And I was astonished at myself. But as to my feelings I experienced all I had hoped to. I was sorry and am now that you did not enjoy it better. Nor do I know how I could have acted to have pleased you more than as I did. For I have no Idea what you had expected. I was so astonished the day we had a talk to see how very much disappointed you seemed to be My heart chocked me as I tried to talk to you. For while I was enjoying all that I had expected. I saw that your expectations had led you to look for more that I had. And in what way I am at a loss to know even now. Your nature is capable of enjoying more than mine and could I only know how to. nothing would please me more than to lead your enjoyment to the height of your feelings when wisdom should dictate. But I must confess I knew not how to do more than I did. For like you. after so long an absence I had felt it would be not wrong to enjoy all our knowledge would allow. This I did enjoy as far as the superhumane power that was present would allow me to. And I felt so bad when I saw I had failed to meet your expectations. that I feel it even now. In it I see that a lesson was intended to be learned which I hope we will profit by. As to raising our anticipations again in our writing to each other I feel not as you do to some extent. Mine have not been raised above what I have enjoyed so you can indulge a little for my sake. I am ever ready to take a half a loaf. if I cannot get a whole one. In other words. if I cannot enjoy you by your actions. give me the enjoyment your expressions afford. And we will enjoy both when we know how to and can meet again. Now love you may think I have not

talked straight in regard to my own feelings but I will explain. As far as I knew how. I enjoyed all I had anticipated and far beyond my expectations in the great manifestation of the power of God. That I felt present with us. I sympathize with you in the struggle you had to conquer your feelings. And I trust that your love & confidence in me was not shaken by anything I may or may not have done. For I did all I knew how to under the influence which controlled me. As you have given the open expression of your heart in regard to your love for me. I answer it in every fibre of my being. and to lose one atom of that love & confidence to me would be a loss equal only to the loss of my senses. I hope ever to retain that position I hold in your esteem. and an increase if possible. Give my love to the children kiss them for me. And may God grant you power and influence over them to their good and training. I am in full sympathy with you in your labors. The first time my name was audibly spoken was I think south. 16 or 17 yrs ago. The second time. while I was coming out of Logan Canyon on a load of lumber the last time at W. Ms. As near as I can recollect these are the times and places the first two were plain enough to attract my attention but the last one was unmistakably plain.

With pure love
I am yours
I Wonder

I wonder when we have passed away
If any good of us they will say.
Or will our good deeds be forgot
And with our bodies go to rot?
I wonder if a good, kind word
In someone's heart has not been stirred
Who is not afraid to utter aloud
And of some good in us be proud.
I wonder if we will always be
Hated on earth and never be free,
Bound in fetters, of bondage sore,
Trod under foot, on the threshing floor.
I wonder why man has not feeling heart
That he cannot, to us, one right impart,
That he must trample us into the sod
And stand condemned before our God.
I wonder if ever he gave it one thought
That with one price we all were bought,
That He who paid the price of all
Will yet claim His, both great and small,
And will ask of all how each loved the other.
I wonder, to answer won't it be a bother?
I wonder.

(Orson to Maggie)

Apr 13. 87

My dear Daughter Maggie.

No words can tell my feelings upon reading your letter. that I am blessed with a daughter that wants to do right and be good and kind. I feel so glad. And I know that God will help you to be good if you try. You are the oldest and should try hard to be an example to the others. You are now old enough to know good and evil and both will be offered. Always choose the good and God will delight in you. And be sure to avoid bad company. Always tell the truth. Make mama your confidint in all things. Never do or say anything that you would not like Mama or Papa to hear or see you do. Remember that our Father in Heaven sees all we do. And hears all we say. And He will aid us to do right if we try. Your Papa is far away now but Mama and Auntie are near you and every thing you do should be known to them. I am so anxious for your welfare and I desire you all to grow up good men and wimmen. that you may be accepted of the Lord. Remember Papas example when I was at home. You did not hear me say bad words. Nor sware, nor smoke or anything that was bad. I want you to do the same or better if you can

I pray the Lord to bless you all and keep you from sin. I am glad you learned so well and hope you will continue.

Your loving papa

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 15th 1887

My Dear Wife

I devote a part of my time today for the benefit of all. But enclose an answer to your letter as well. To say I was pleased to get your letter in one sence does not express it. and to say that I was sorry to learn what had occurred does not express my feelings on the other hand. But I am sure good will come out of these disclousers. It will institute more vigilance on your part and it will give you more power over the girls. They will more easily be convinced of the evil of being with the boys so much. No matter where we might be these things would have to be met and contended with and like all other parents we will have our anxieties awakened for our children and their welfare. I have written Aleck in a way that he will not infer that I have heard anything and if he does I do not care better have nothing than such proceedings I will not submit to it unless obliged to. I realize one has to use wisdom. I have asked him to correspond with me upon subjects of advancement and if he does I shall get a chance to talk to him I am pleased to note that you are alive to the situation and will be on the look out. Your efforts will be amply rewarded. I enclose a letter to Maggie in Alecks. You will se it. I feel unable to reward you for your efforts to work harmoniously together. If these desires are continued I have no doubt of the result. I have received all of your letters but have not refered to somethings because I did not think it wise I thank you for your good feeling and desire in the matter. but all such things must work themselves out. which they will do in time. If any part of my family would rather see me in prison than at liberty. I hope to be ready. I do not think any evil was intended. Therefore say nothing about it if I were you I should ask M(ary). if she would not lend you some aid when needed at your conference. And treat her as you would anyone act right yourself no matter how others act. This is the lesson of life. to see that we do our part no matter what others may do. Trust her and she will feel that she is valued and thought of. Constant droppings of kindness will wear the hardest heart. A constant labor of love will win the humane heart. We hope to know each other someday. Now love I am ever glad to hear of your approval

of my course and your kindly feelings for me It does me good and lends me encouragement. And as I said in my last letter. Indulge my feeling that much. May the Lord bless you. You have my blessing always.

I will close with the warmest love. I am your
O.S.

I got the papers o.k. thanks.

(Orson to family)

Apr 15th 1887

My Dear family.

If I can be blessed with sufficient of the spirit to enable me to write my feelings I shall do so. Upon receipt of a letter dated the 10th language fails to express my feelings. But I shall write them as near as I can. And for your benefit and you only. as it would be unwise to talk of it to anyone. I have written to Aleck differently from any previous writing. But not aluding to any thing I had heard. You better not say anything. But as long as there is breath in my body. I shall use it in the defense of my families virtue. If I am where I cannot act I realize the great responsibility resting on you. in guarding the children against sin. But remember I am with you and I would rather you were alone on the farm and everything perish for the want of care than that one of our offspring fall. It is not wealth I want. but purity. holiness. honor and virtue. This is the wealth we are after. Oh that I could be with you at this period of our childrens lives. But as we are compelled to be away. from each other. we will have to trust in God. and be on the watch ourselves. You must not allow our children from under the eye of one or the other of you if possible and by no means out after dark. As you have talked so plain to them now you can give good reasons for curtailing their liberties when in your judgement it is best. You cannot afford to neglect them now take time to go out with them and witness their amusements and participate in them and get them to enjoy your society in preference to any others. I am so glad you have found out about what had occurred. It will put you on your guard. And it will show you the extent of the evil influence that is at work. It will be well to take heed yourselves. and guard your selves against any liberties that might be construed into familiarities. And set yourselves sternly against. any bad language or actions on the part of the boys. See that your windows are always carefully blinded. And that you are in seclusion before retireing. You may think these small affairs. but if you knew how I prize you. and how guarded I desire you to be. against any thing that might deprive us of those great and glorious promises that have been sealed upon us you would not wonder at my anxiety. We must shun the very appearance of evil. And give no one an opportunity to think evil of us. When we first get acquainted with persons we are apt to be free in conversation and action. And they take advantage of it. and assume liberties which would otherwise be controlled. Be carefull. Seek the Lord continually and devote your attention to your little ones. God expects it of you. And I expect it of you. And I know you will do your part. You will see by my former letters I have cautioned you before in these things. God bless you with love and peace and a unity of purpose in the protection of your children. is the earnest prayer of your devoted H.

(Carrie to Mary)

Saturday morning (April 16, 1887?)

Dear Mary

It will not do for you to fix back a certain date earlier than the 17 of May when the temple was dedicated. I think the 20th, as some body was there on the 19 & 20th and I think Rob Mack Murain was married on the 19th don't get that date.

I have been thinking about it. Is there any thing I can do to help you get ready If so let me know.

Hastily & with love

C

I got two hours sleep that morning, & two in the afternoon. I could write more but have not the time Ida & Lou come to day.

If you decide to come back, do not delay it to(o) long. You will probably have heard from O-. whether he has moved to safe quarters yet. & this will help you to decide for the best. I sympathise with you in regard to all the situations. & circumstances you are encompassed with.to the full. I know how I felt. a year & half ago. It don't seem long as that since then. It is as vivid to me as if it was yesterday. The memory of that time has stayed longer & more vivid than any other time. & then I was in my own home. I realize how much more the trial is to you. But never mind cheer up it is always darkest just before day. & if you are about to obtain a prize. it must cost in proportion to its value. You understand. Sunday night. (Apr 17, 1887), I thought to have got this letter off. ere this. but we have had the children all sick but Maggie & Ida. Also Annie too. I have written father full particulars about them & told him to send the note to you. as I can't get time to write it again. & feel so tired my self. I am glad if this had to come. that it came now, & not when you will need us Y.L.M.I.A. Conference will be on the 21st April. I hope you will be through before then. I feel so glad that mother done what she could for you. & she knows more than you think about some matters, & also fathers friends. She is different in many respects about her choise of - - than father, he is peculiar as I have told you before. or he could not do & choose friends as he does, but is honest in all he does to the dot. Well I must stop now. & send by paper. a loving kiss. & many pleasant remeberances & expectations of what has. & is yet to be.

Most Truly C-

(Mary to Carrie)

Paradise Sunday the 8th (1887)

Dear Carrie.

You will no doubt think me very unfeeling in not penning you a few lines ere this but I intended to have gone back to Logan with Martha to day, but she did not get home Friday and I could not get a letter to the post office yesterday. The boys were so busy. And tis stormy again to night so the roads will be so muddy I guess I shall not get to see you before you come over. But do hope you will write me a letter soon. Your conference will be now soon I think so that you will be busy I expect. I have not seen Annie since she came back met them going up as I came down from the farm Monday, with Father, I went up and made a fire, put some wheat on to cook, and fed the bird while Father was getting the bees in. We washed in the morning before I went and I

caught a bad cold going out sweating as I was and it turned quite cold before I got back, but I am better now. I got the three shirts done and starched and ironed them though they would keep clean longer. I made one collar like them would have made a couple more but did not have time did them all Tuesday had them ready by the time he called. I was too busy to think that day, but the next day I had plenty of time for reflection, I could not keep at any thing, seemed perfectly lost. I had quite a pleasant time at the farm felt quite at home. Carrie you would laugh to see the coat someone wears to do chores in or in fact all the time for every-days wear. I ask if they were going to take it with them. Should like your mother to see it. If all things were worn so threadbare we would have no carpets. Sister Jackson is very sick she has inflammation of the kidneys the doctor gave her up last night Lizzie has been working with her all day and she is a little better this evening. Her Sister is up from the City. Sarah Jane has a nice little girl 9 lbs. and is getting along first rate. The doctor took it with instruments. Bro. Oldham held the instrument and administered the cloraform (that would just suit him.) Little Tony Obery's wife has got a little girl. There seems to be quite a feeling of apostacy strauking abroad in our little town old John and Martha Young has joined the Josephites and Charles and Sarah Littlewood believe in the same doctrine and are visiting Lofthouse's brother and preaching to him he has not been in church long you know. John Young ask(ed) for a recommend to go through the Temple only to see what he could to bring trouble on the people if he could about our meeting and fast meetings are attended better than they have been for years the meeting house being well filled every time. Little Emma Shaw is very low is swelled to an enormous size. None of the folks were down from the farm today. I will now close with much love to all, but I cannot send this until Tuesday.

That the Lord will bless and comfort you is ever the prayer of Mary

(Carrie to ?possibly Mary)

no date

(The first page is missing)

With Eph telling me what your father paid. I felt as though I could not go near him if we were dying first. But just as soon as he took back what he told me your father paid. I went to your father right straight. & told him how it had been. & how I had felt. I don't know. how it was Eph came to acknowledge. I never knew him to do such a thing before. He must have suspected that I intended to get him & your father together as soon as I could. which I did intend. But Eph has been so hard to get to say any thing to that I never could be sure of my chance. The thing that Eph lied about was. the under-standing of the agree-ment or contract. He said your father told him one thing & me another. Your father said he knew there was some-thing wrong with us, but did not know what. I did not attempt to conceal it from him. Your father. since then has been knowing to the kind of a time we have had with Eph. But I have not seen him since we had the time with Eph and Bankhead too & got our affairs straightened up. But in spite of all he knew of what was bothering us. he never could quite get over the idea that we could get along alone. & meet these things, better than what you could bear the life you were leading. He would say it was to(o) bad we had it so bad. But when he thought you was likely to be left in L-(Logan) he could not stand that & would rather see us continue the struggle

alone. than that should happen. & at the same time he said he believed he felt unselfish towards us & you. I don't blame him for dreading to have you left in L- He could not well help that, I think so too. But when it came to a choice it was us (who) must still continue on alone in his estimation. He was a while ago so very anxious for O- to take all & go to Mexico. He was on the point of writing O- to that effect. but after-wards reconsidered it. The last time I was down to see your folks I went down & stayed all night. & went to L- with your father next day. & father Smith brought me home the next day, & so I did not see him again till we were just going into L- on the way home. He was in his buggy. & he got out & come to our buggy. It seems he had got what he thought was a dose at the priest hood meeting (the day I went over with him to L-. the day before). Bro Thatcher had been giving men a raking who went off with their young wives & left their large families to shift for them-selves as best they could. & your father said he looked right at him & he was sure Bro. T(hatcher) ment him. & he got after father Smith about it. Said that he was going to tell Bro. T that O- had gone with the full consent of his family & that he knew that he had felt as honorable as a man could do in what he had done. I laughed a little when he told us about it. He took it in so seriously. I told him I had no idea he ment O-. & I don't think he did mean him. but with what your father knew about our affairs he felt that the coat came near fitting him. as he seems to have espoused O-s cause. I am glad he feels so well to-wards O- & hope he will always continue to do so, when it is harder perhaps for him to feel that way then it is now. Well I have given you quite a history of things. I will change the subject now a little. The folks are trying hard up here now to start a school. & have not been able to do so far. Bro Hirst came to me the other day to see if I'd teach up there for 2 months. He'd would not take no for an answer. I told him I did not believe I could pass an examination to get my certificate. & he said he'd see Bro Apperly & get him to pass me in lightly. & was so anxious I told him I'd try do it. & last week Bro Pitkin held a meeting up here. & he said he was glad that they had picked on me to start up the school in the first said for me to take hold of it. I told him I did not know whether I could be up to so many things. Work in the stake too. But I was interested up here to do what good I could. & wanted our children schooled as well. Bro Hirst wants a phase of the appropriation from the county given to this district. & so I will likely get well paid if I do keep school. Annie feels, so more out with so much hard work she could hardly bear the idea of me being away from home so much. & I am feeling so tired to. & we are so behind with sewing I don't know how I can get ready. I have been up till 11. 12. & 1 oclock at nights lately trying to catch up. & I feel pretty worn. You know we have not had a machine to sew with till just lately. & got very bad behind. Well I must bring this long letter to a close. & I guess it will be in order to wish you a merry Christmas & a Happy New Year. I wish you would read the news items I have written to O- for I can't get time to write him this time too. & I know he will be interested I a part I have written. I have not heard yet from Bro T. but thought he must have said some-thing to Bro Pitkin about O- coming home. For he said that O-s father had written to him telling him to come home. as things were very favorable now. & he said to us that we would be assisted soon a change was coming. He said it in refferance to me being able to teach the school up here. I told him it would be apt to make it worse for me to teach school if O- came home as if he come here Annie would not be able to stay & then I could not leave the children. unless he says it will be all right. So this is all I know about things. You will perhaps want to know how we feel

about O- coming home. I will say that we are not feeling the need of him coming home now half as bad as we was 2 months ago. But we did think it absolutely necessary then. for it seemed as if we could not get along with-out his assistance. This is always the way relief comes after the struggle is made. & less need of it. I think we could get along very fair another 6 months or a year perhaps. we are dreading to be separated. & not knowing what other troubles may arise. If O- does come home I hope he will leave you in some degree of comfort. & I have no idea that it will be for long. anyway. The next thing we will have to trouble us will be. the prospect of leaving our home perhaps. This is the tendency now. of things. Well I must close now. & send lov to Nell & the baby. I think you have been blessed in the good health of your little ones so long. & I hope it will continue As ever Your sister

Carrie

Tell Lina I always thought that she reckoned me as one of her friends her mother offered the excuse she had so many friends to write to. But I intend to write to her any way soon. Kindest love to all. C-

(Carrie to ? Mary about May 1887)

(First page is missing)

It is expected to exceed every thing before attempted in the territory. Logan must do it big. or not at all.

I don't suppose any of them know that O-s birthday is that day. but it will be just as good to him as if they did. He don't crave notoriety. He can enjoy it quietly to himself. & have in remembrance another event on that date. Maggie is going to make her father a birth day cake. This will be the extent of our celebrating in that line. Maggie is a fine cake maker. You say remember you to the children & hope they do not object to being called children. They do not look nor act much like children now. Maggie especially acts like she might be 17 or 18 & is very lady like in her deportment, we are proud of her. Ida is an anomaly. We don't know what to make of her & she is much bigger than I am & thinks she is some body. She feels very sensitive because she is so big. She is just the awkward age. But is going to have a fine form but we can't make her believe it. I have such a time with her about havng her clothes tight. She just delights in it. I guess Martha & Ida are some alike. For if Ida knew I had wrote this to you she'd not forget it of me. Has Martha got a ring worm on her body or head. I always thought them rather dangerous if on the head. & they are annoying any way. We had a couple of pictures taken of the new house here. by a traveling photographer who was taking nearly every good house in town they were so good I got two one to send east with Aunt Salome. & the other mother wanted but I am going to get it of her to send by Orson as you can see the sizes of the children in it & the faces are so plain that you will see some comic expressions as we did not think the faces would show & so did not watch the expression. If you have not left one of your pictures with your mother. besides the one you speak of she would object to parting with the only one. Tell Nellie, Aunt Carrie does not forget her either. But I hardly thought she'd remember me so long. & I hope the day will not be long put off before we can see you all. & free. I hope.

I cannot feel so well as long as I know all are not partakers of my joy. I never could, & I don't want to feel any different. Orson has got home & I must close so as to

get supper in time for him to go to evening meeting. I want to try & write a brief note to Aunt Lina H. Young & inclose with this but will have to leave it just now but can perhaps before the letter is posted. I thank you sincerely for your feelings of blessing & comfort extended to me in your last. & for my part have never ceased my prayers in your behalf. I feel the need of it. & believe you do too. As do we all.

With Love to you all.

Carrie

(Carrie to Mary, date ?)

Dear Mary

If father S- is at your place will you ask him to come up. as the baby is not well. although she is better than she was She has passed nothing but green for a week today, and two days now she has been nearly choked with phlegm in her throat. She can't cry out loud only a little. She is better to day in her bowels and her lungs, but if he would come and stay a night it would be good. I hope you and Nell are better. I felt afraid of Nell when you was here last. Ida had better come home unless you would like her to help, but if she does, I want her to have some wollen stockings on. I will send a pair. Have you any of that Alcohol left we have used what we had but a little. I would be glad if we had some way to get 60 cents worth more.

Aint this winter. and not a stick of wood up. And only five acres of wheat in. Alec is nearly beside himself. If Eph had rustled a little more, like Alec has since he has been here, we would be better off. (but this is to you). Well I hope you will be all well enough to come up soon. We send the buggie home, as nothing else could be done much.

Lovingly Carrie

Lyman has been sick too but is better now.

(Annie to Mary, date ?)

the farm

Dear M-

Eph has just came home to day and he saw Carrie in logan and he brot some letters from her and some mony and oh how I wished you have been hear to read them to me for it was so hard for me to make them all out but I think I have I would have liked to talked with you and not had to write but I will send all the letters and you can read them I think I will send the mony to the store and to left hose and take the letters to mc kensie to morow and will leave this at your grand fathers. I hope you got don all rite you see by the letters that it has got out some abot you ben home and they think it was you thay was huntin so do be carfel and not fall in thare hans so you do not no what you will have to do. What do you think of lucys ofer I think is would be good to go for a little wile don't you I am so a frade thay will come and surch your place and if you are not thare it will be good. I gess I have written all I can now I send my love to you and ever pray god to bless and pearsere you in safety

I am as ever Annie

Ephram has not seen your seaken (?) in the slay nor I hae not sin it yet

(Annie to Mary)

Dear mary it is Sunday to an I will try to write to you but not answer your letter as it has been so long since and I was away from home at the time and had now would to keep it at the place ware I was staying and to be shore no one see it I burnt it I could not read it all but what I did was good. I gess you think I did not entend to write to you and I don't blame you much but you cant think how much we have had to do and it will be three weeks yet before we can breath free now I ant like any one deasent (descent) that can write in a little wile and in any place but it takes me so long to write a letter for I first have to think of wat I would like to write and then when I have got what I can read write and spell its all most a blank and cant write haf wat I would like to and feel to ashamed to send it for I don't now as you can read haf of it for some time I cant read my own spelling I have tried to write to you befor but thear has been no chance Sunday nor any other day. I thot I would have to give it up agane it is so late also I am so but after all was in bed and I went up stars to get redy to go I thot oh dear a nother week gon and Sunday to and I have not ritten yet I mus if I stay up all night. Well mary I gess you think this a long letter but I thot I tell you how hard it is for me to do it and then if you should not get a letter from me near (more) often I hope that you will not think it is because I am meen and don't want to write. Well we are all quite well but the little baby and she don't feel very good for her teath just now the children have all gron and liman is a big boy he cant hardly talk atall yet but what he says he meens and will stick to it I have my hand tool to trane him tell nel that liman put in the cows and s(h)ut the gat(e) and he put one little calf (calf) in all alone and tak(e)s his bucket with me to milk he ways we milk nely mama (d)ont kick me and sets his bucket do(w)n and trys to milk with both hans and I tell you he thinks thare is no one has big has he is when you come home you will see quite a chang in the farme we will hav a good home for the winter I hav got all the boys awake its so late so I will hav to close for this time ever pairing (praying) for god to bless and prosper you all in your labors and all your tirels (trials) give my love to O and kiss nel for me and except the same yourself I am as ever your sistor Annie

Will try and write a better litter nex time

(Carrie to Mary)

At Home April 18

Dear Mary

I got home all right, & to day McKensie came & said that he had written for proceedings to be stoped against Orson that he would settle it before it cost any more. So I guess that they (the Deps) will not be coming up again. I have been thinking that it will be unsafe for you to attempt to come up while the evenings are so light, We had better forgo the pleasure for a while, & better alto gather even, rather than endanger you right now. It will get to be dark in the early part of the evenings before a great while. I send down that cough medicine for the baby. Shake medicine before using The regular dose is 1 teaspoonfull three or four times a day. For a chjild 1 year old 10 drops 6 years old half a teaspoonful & especially give it at night just before going to bed.

I shall go to Logan Friday along when the teams haul grain with some of them, are busy at work in the garden.

Excuse haste this time

Lovingly Carrie

(Annie to Mary)

Friday night

Dar m-

To day I got a few lines from aslone (Salome) and she sed Carrie went Monday night and thay will come over to mor (tomorrow) and will tell all the news when thay come so I have got Ephrem to go for them. I wort (wrote) a letter and sent it with him to logan Thursday so I will not write Saturday but will get him to call at your place and if you have any news to send it will save us gon (going) do(w)n Sunday did you get the letter I left to your grand fathers I left it thare tusday and have wonderd weather you got it I would be so glad to no (know) if got your not(e) all rite and was glad you are all well and hav not been botherd yet hop(e) you will no(t) I was glad you found your stocken (?) all rite I have no news to send yet but will write and send the letters that coms as soon as I can we are all well at present for witch I feel truly than(k)full for. With much love to all

I am as ever your sistor Annie

Mecansy (McKensie) ses (says) he will see that Orson dos not loose one sent on that note so we need not worry abo(u)t to he sed he would pay it his self and I have written Carrie abo(u)t it.

(Carrie to Mary)

I have been fearing you was ill since O- got your last note. Bro Jackson got knocked down Saturday & run over with his team in our lot, & O- took him home Saturday night. & Frank J-came back with him to get his team & the remnants of his buggie. & O- thought he passed you but did not dare hail as Frank was with him. A loan agent came late that night. & could not wait over & he had to take him to the farm just at daylight Sunday. Got here in time for after noon meeting.

Yesterday had a meeting at 11 a.m. that lasted till 4 p.m. & got his dinner & done up chores & went to another meeting at 7 PM got home at 10 PM.

This morning a man came for him to go with him & Bro Cranny up to Mineral Point & he left just at day light with-out any break-fast. But he expects to get back to-night. or hopes he can make it. But his team will be so jaded to go again to night I fear. I hope you will take a turn for the better till he can come. & hope it is not very serious any wayl. If it is cold you have, do not wait to let it settle on you hard but do all you can think of at the first. My cold is getting worse in stead of better. & distresses me greatly. especially at bed time & in the morning I have been doing for it, but not so energetically as I fear I ought to have done. as I have little time left now to cure it in. I will pray that you are relieved and you do the same for me.

I don't know whether you can read it or not I wrote in such a hurry. I am glad to hear some word even if it is bad news from you.

Believing in your speedy recovery. I am indeed your sister in holy bonds.

C M C S.

(Carrie to Mary)

Dear Mary

I got your note and a letter from Orson to day I send the letter to you. Keep it safe till you send it back. I am sorry you could not get the cloth for dress. I send the dress by Joe. We have not killed any mutton yet, but will perhaps next Thursday when we will return a quarter to your folks, and will be glad to have a taste. If you could send it up in the morning to town. Ephriam will be down to Sunday school and will bring it up here You will see by Orsons letter that I did well to wait as nothing has been done so far to stop. But I think it will turn out all right yet. Hope you will have a good time to-morrow. We have got along first rate here. As ever Carrie

(Carrie to Mary in Canada)

I have had unusual good health all summer and fall. and still have, which I appreciate greatly. I often wonder what you are doing up there and if you have been into gardening and other things like we have done. O- told me you were teaching a while ago. How did you get along at it and care for your little ones. I would like to see the children and yourself. It seems ages ago, since you was here. We seem to be living a good many years in a little while now. Does Nellie remember any of us. If she does tell her Aunt Carrie sends her love. We got a letter from Annie last night and she was well. also the boys. She would appreciate the privelege of coming home once more as you would doubtless do too. And perhaps it will be so that you can, as it may prove unsafe any-where after a while, but near each other. It would seem that we would all know how to appreciate things being once more as easy as they were before these times began at least liberty we will know how to enjoy but we will never know real comfort till the crises is past and peace restored The mill is grinding and we must go through it. I will close now. hoping you will not be long in ansering. You are always remembered by both me and the children in our prayers, most kindly. And I always feel for your welfare and good, and feel bad when you are painfull situated. Trusting this will find you all well

I am your sister Carrie.

(Annie to Carrie)

Sunday

My dear Sistore Carrie

i write to you we are all feeling some better. i was so in hopes of getten a letter from you befor this but i gues that you hav all that you can do to get along i do hate to send the boys for you to take car of as you are alone but i do feel that they are not meanted (meant) here and i do wish that i could come home with them and help in all some times I wish that i was back to pleasant rely (really) wher i did not bother any one if it was summer it would not be so hard for the children could play out but the room that we liv in is not much biger then our citchen at the farm and ther is nine of us in it and none fresh air a tall till i can hardly stand it my self and it is to cold to go out much so we hav to bear it so the boys will be glad to get home and so will i now i don't write all this to wor(ry) you but i thot would like to now (know) the resen (reason) that i meanted (meant) them to com and go to school and i do hope that they will be good and that god will bless you all with helth. i got a letter from Orson Friday from Portland and by this i

guse that he is nearly there and I hope that all will be well with him and get there safe he told me to send you some money if I had any so I send this ten dollars I will not need any till spring and I have enough to pay a midwife any way and O- said that he maybe could let me have a little more by then so I guess we will get along all right. Orson never wrote any news nor said what had been done at all in any thing and it seems so long since I heard that I will be so glad when I get a letter from you how I would like to see you and all the children oh it seems so long and I can't write half that I would like to so I must wait until I can see you so good by with love to all from your sister

Annie

(Annie to Carrie)

My Dear sister Carrie

It has been some time since I wrote home but the mail has not come in all the time and it has been such bad weather that I could not get it in the mail now I think I have got a chance to send the boys and I trust that they will not be hard to get along with it will be a relief to me to have them go home not that I meant to get rid of them or that I meant to trouble you with them but it is not so pleasant now as it was in the spring I guess that there is too many of us and most of the time we have only bread and pig meat and we have said so much about it so our children would not eat it that they have some thing to say every meal and then it makes Barrie mad and some days she will hardly speak and it makes it hard to bear and their (their) boys are so mean and want ever thing that our boys gets and they cry till they get it and that makes our boys say more and I can't make them stop so it is a row all the time and I guess the boys will be glad to get home and I hope they will try and be good and if you can get along with them till I can come home then maybe I can do something for you in return. They have all had a bad cold and are so cross and Lyman has not been right well since I came I did so hope that Orson could have caught but I guess he has gone I did not think of him coming till he wrote and said that he would try and come and that made me think I wished he would but it is all right. It won't be so bad when the winter is gone and the children can play outdoors and I will be glad when it is gone there is a awful deep snow up here and it has been a awful cold I would be afraid to let the boys come but it has changed some and then it was brother Righes boys that was gone with and their sister that married brother Cord (Card) and she said that they would take good care of them so I thought it the best chance I could get so I will send all these things. I would have been glad to send this before they came but I could not get it off I would have been glad for you to be expecting them but I hope it will be all right I will be uneasy till I hear of them getting home all right and trust that you can write soon and I hope that you are all well. Now do not say any thing to any one about what I have written for them to hear (hear) that I have said any thing for I would not talk to any one but you about it for as I have got to stay it is better to make the best of all things there is some thing the matter with Barrie so it makes her feel worse and Fred is not what he might be so I don't blame her so much for it is hard for her to get along well this is a blue letter but it is just as I feel and see things I do not feel very well in body this week now good by with kind love to you all I am as ever your sister Annie

(Carrie to Mary)

Annie is flat on her back again. If you could come up with Ephriam to-night or after-noon it would be very acceptable. Come prepared to stay a week if possible.

In haste Carrie

(Carrie to Mary)

Friday night

Dear Mary

Ever since your folks came up here. I have felt quite anxious for you. as much so as I could and have such doings going on here. as there has been. Annie took to flowing Sunday morning and has never raised her self in bed till to-night. She has been awful bad. But has not lost it yet. I have had Ida, Everett, & Ezra, all down at the same time with her this week. And to night I am about fagged out. Although I am easier in mind, as they are all better I got a letter from Thursday. O was much delighted with a letter he got from a certain individual. And says he will shortly answer it. I have made up my mind with your consent I will write O. to see what the difference will be to him now. he is away. if you come here in spite of all the doings. For I truly appreciate what you(r) unsettled feelings must be. after having made your mind again as you had. For my part I can't see when there is likely to be any better times for a while. And he would have to be gone any way now. I can't see why we can't at least be easy when he is away. Bro. Card said that it was to(o) hard a matter to prove a polyg- case. as it required the witnesses to the marriage to prove a case. Said that there were only two cases ever handled. And they confessed the marriage of their own accord. And that was Rend Clawson & Renolds. Renolds done it as a test case. and Rends wife gave him away. or they could not have done a thing. This was news to me. I shall try and write O. Sunday. Try and get a note to me Sunday if you can. how you feel. Now do for good-ness sake. act wise-ly in this matter and don't let any unnecessary pride stand in the way of your consent to my proposition. dear M. for I truly think it is for the best. There is much more I would like to write but it is eleven oclock. and I must get rest. Excuse scrawls for I can't do any better. As ever your own

Bro C. O. Cord advised for you to stay away. But, I knowing the situation think differently. _____

(Carrie to Mary)

Dear Mary

I was sorry to learn by your fathers note that he could not come up. as we would have been pleased to have had him & your mother. And I forgot to extend the invitation to Martha & you of course, but if any-thing is said apologize for me. I did not succeed in getting Martha B. to go home with me. But Annie is so much better we get along first rate. So you need (not) worry about us. You can stay all right till you get your dress done. but we will look for you then. You would like to come up if Lucy comes next Sunday I guess. I was just going to wash out your dress & Ida's this morning. But as Ephriam is going down town I will send it as I may not get a chance again. and you may

need it. Eph got a letter for you that will do you good no doubt. We send it along I told your grandfather to send down a bundle to you. if one came for me. He said he would.

Well good by. And come soon. I think I will try and go to Logan, next week Thursday as the Saturday after is officers meeting.

As ever Carrie.

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm Monday noon

Dear Mary,

I received your note and was sorry you had such trouble with Nellie. This morning found us in quite a predicament. Annie is quite sick. Last Friday night Annie thought her courses had come on her. And has had little nothing since, but this morning she took with pains. And she has about concluded that a miss-carriage is on foot. So you can judge about how things are. She is feeling better now. and will probably come out of it all right. but will have to go slow. for a few days. We would be glad to have you come up and stay, if you can till after I get back from Conferance. I expect it will discommode you to do it as I knew you wanted to clean up for your grand-mother. But if you do not we shall be obliged to get some one here. and dread that very much as it will make such a great stir down town. I shall send the washing and ironing down town any way. If you can keep this from your mother. without making her think you are terrible to leave home just now. Try and do it, but if not, tell her Annie is quite sick. And it will prevent me from going to Conferance.

I am sorry to, for your disappointment – I will get Ephriam to come down to-night if I can. But if not to-night, in the morning. I must stop now.

As ever

Carrie

(Carrie to ?)

I felt very uneasy when I learned that by your letter that you had not moved your location. Do not risk any thing. as I am satisfied every thing will be done to get at us. & if you come down do not be careless as you will be looked for no doubt. I am more than thankful that we feel so well to each-other. This is half the battle. The lord bless & sustain you in all your trials, and bring you & us out victorious in the end.

Most sincerely. & with increasing love.

I told Mother to let the place out for \$8. a month & them to fix it up as they liked. They want it papered. This arrangement was satisfactory with Mrs. H. Alec has not heard of the horses I have hardly had time to think about them. We must abide it I guess.

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 23 1887

My Dear Wife

To say that I was pleased. upon the receipt of yours of the 19th does not express all I feel. It must have been delayed somehow as it just reached here this morning. I

received a letter from Father C. saying that Mother and Salome had gone to pay you a visit and I am glad to learn that you have had a pleasant time. I am also glad that she appreciated my short stay with her. I talked to her as best I could. And I enjoyed it too. You must not base too much upon what she says in regard to me or Father. I am not what I ought to be and we should beware of flattery. Father may be doing all he can according to the light and knowledge he possesses: Judge not. We as a family may be able to see the weakness and the disturbances of our own immediate family circle. and with the help of our heavenly father we may correct them. But farther. we cannot go. only so far as our counsel and encouragement may extend. These we should exert for good if we know how. I write thus to correct an expression. you say Mother made in regard to having some one to encourage her. I fear she may be looking away off in the distance for some thing she might enjoy right at home if she would. How could you love and enjoy me unless you tried to. Or what happiness would it afford you. to be looking for a model in some one else. Contentment is a grand gift and but few possess it. I sympathize with Mother but only so far as my sympathy will do her good. Many of the humane family are constantly looking for something better than they appear to have. And should they come into possession of the object looked for. might then be as equally disappointed. Appreciate and enjoy what we have today. the fruit may taste better tomorrow. Be ever carefull upon interfering in family matters. I know you will. but it is natural for me to caution in this way. Now love, if I am to you what you feel I am, you have but one power to thank not me. but God. It is by his assistance that I am what I appear to be. And to him I and you owe it all. I am by no means what I would like to be. Nor what I desire to be. I see so often the weakness of my nature crop out that I am fearfull lest I make no progress. But I can see it is beneficial to me as it keeps me humble. My feelings cannot be expressed. Upon reflecting upon our most singular experience while we were together I had fancied as you said. that we should have after such an absence. some keen sensitive and endearing expressions. And I had them. All that I could enjoy. the pleasure of which I feel now. I see now that you and I both lacked power to express what we felt. And those feelings are still warm in our hearts. We will encourage it and cultivate it until we can pluck the fruit and eat freely. I appreciate your approval and appreciation of my practical effort. It is not fiction. but fact. capped with the feelings of my heart. How did the children like: That Rat. I thought it might amuse them. And their letter you did not say anything about that. I hope that good will result from my letter to Aleck. For his own good and ours. Your strict vigilance must not slack. in the looking after the children. Do you know who Jessie Tuttle is? If so you know what J.T. means. I have not said anything about my prospects for the reason you ascribed. I am not assured as yet. I wrote father C. that there was better prospects for work. But prices are lower and there will not be as much made. I trust that I shall be able to liberate myself from debt. If so it will be all I expect. If I could have stayed at home with you this season it would have afforded me much pleasure. But I will not think of that aloud. You said. You wished you could be where the teams will be soon. I wish you was here with me now at least a few moments. I am alone in a very comfortable room. situated on the south side of a three story brick building. in the upper story. The sun is shining in through two large windows. And if your presence was added. I should enjoy it fully. I must banish the thought of such an impossibility. Excuse me for indulging my feelings a little. You understand me. I am glad the teams are on the road and shall be more so when they arrive. I have not

heard who was coming to cook for the camp. I fear that they are having a disagreeable time just now as it has been somewhat stormy. I hope the storm will help our crops in Cache. I have often wondered what there was existing between Mother & Father C. that causes them, to be so antagonistic to each other at least Mother. I have never heard her speak of him in a pleasant manner that I know of when referring to him in particular. But I have very frequently had him speak to me of her in the best of praise. I am sorry that better feelings do not exist. I guess that their age and long continued feeling will prevent a change in this life. It is very detrimental to the girls. And I regret that it is not otherwise. We must profit by these examples. Never manifest an idle feeling towards each other in the presence of our children. the council I gave when I was with you. I shall close my letter now. Feeling assured that you will glean from it my feelings at heart. and that comfort and enjoyment from it that I have intended.

In her innocent glee,
Kiss baby for me
And draw her close up to your breast.
After this pleasant task
Is done as I ask
Just do the same to the rest.
With true and confiding love
I am Truly Yours

(Fragment—Orson to ?. The content appears to be to Carrie.)

(It appears to be missing a first sheet.)

to our enjoyment and satisfaction. I realize that financial trials have been greivous. But when I have the satisfaction of controlling myself and I can feel that I am worthy of your confidence and love. and that my course is approved of God: all earthly trials become as the snow before the sun. they melt away and are soon gone. Today is a day for us to make ourselves right before god. and one another. Now love I have thus unbossomed myself to you. I know you understand me. and will greatly appreciate this letter. it is heartfelt and for you alone. If no letters have been sent me calling me home. you can answer this to Portland, Oregon. that is if you know of none. I think I shall be there about the 12 or 13

Dear Wife. I've learned that you were gave
To me a blessing. Not a slave
To any passion I might have
That might speed you to an early grave.

Atributes that God has given
Should tend to make our home a heaven.
Misuse of these has often driven
Love from house, and strife has arisen.

Thank God that I have seen in time
To call that prescious jewel mine
Who oft around my heart doth twine
Pure, unsullied, love divine.
Though on my path storms may be rife,
Contending parties may have strife,
The ultamatim of my life
Will be to save a Trusting Wife.

(Orson to daughter—probably Maggie)

Apr 28 1887

My dear daughter

I have received your letter of the 23rd and I answer it this morning with pleasure. I desire to see you improve in your writing. You must take a little more pains and not hurry when you write. Do not make so many repetitions of your sentences. Two or three times in your letter you say you want to be good. Now I believe you do want to be good. You must do it. and not want to all the time. And you speak of the bad man getting you. Now he does not want you unless you desire to go with him. There are two powers at work in your heart. One of them tells you to be and do good: the other tells you to do evil and you belong to just whichever power you obey. I do not desire you to feel that the powers of evil have any power over you. But always think of God and the good. He will preserve you if you will listen to the spirit which is in you prompting you to be good. I am glad you are trying to learn. Do not become impatient or too anxious. But keep steadily at it. And you will succeed. Study your music hard and learn all you can remember that what is worth doing atall. is worth doing well. and whatever you learn you should learn well You did not tell me what you were going to Logan for or when you were coming back I hope you will have a good time while there. You did not tell me how you liked my poetry that I sent you. Neither did you tell me what Ezra thought about it. Now Ezra I hope that you have not forgotten your book altogether since you have come from school. But I trust that you will study it at home a little everyday.that when you go again you will not have to go over the same you have this winter. Papa will always be pleased to hear of your progress. I pray the Lords blessing upon you all. With much love

I am your
Loving father

(Orson to Carrie)

Drummond May 15 1887

Dear wife C.

I received a small note from you enclosed in a letter from Aleck. I was right glad to get it. It has been two weeks last Friday since I left Helena. from which time I have been very buisy and the time has gone rapidly. I only hope that the summer may go as quick To day is Sunday and if I have any blue days today is one of them. so if my letter is not as spirited as common you will know what to attribute it to. I am not despondent. although things do not look as favorable as last year. just now. But I have a peculiar feeling. Which seems to draw my mind towards home. How I wish I could see. and talk

to you. Writing does not satiate my feelings. Indirectly I have heard that you have been to Logan and attended conference. and the Y.L.M.I.A. conference. and had a good time. This I was glad to hear I am glad to hear of anything that is good. And am trying to think of everything that is good. but find some difficulty in doing so. At times. I feel that many years like the last would almost heathenize me. I would give any thing if I could be at home and enjoy your society and all the family. as we used to. Poverty is far preferable. with the society of those I so dearly love. than wealth and be absent from them. I never felt it so keenly last year as I do this. And if you could be with me I could endure this kind of life much better. But to drag you or either of you through the country as I have to go. would be more than I could ask you to do. It is not often that I write you in this way. But you will pardon me this time. Little can you know my thoughts and feelings. As you remarked once. I have a faculty of keeping them to myself. Nor would I trouble you with them today but for unloading just a little. There is no one near that understands my feelings or that I can unbossom myself to. And if for no other purpose I wish I could have one of you with me for that. I shall banish these feelings as speedily as possible for I know there are always bright spots among the clouds and I feel that they will shine with brightness again. Dear wife allow me the privilege of thus expressing myself without taking it to heart of feel burdened by it. I know you would carry a part of my load if you could and you are doing all you can. and I ought not to burden you with more

But one single glance at your loving face
Would spur us on to a fond embrace.
Feelings exchanged while thus together
Would banish the clouds of the stormiest weather.
But alas, too far we are struggling apart
To feel the throb of each others heart,
Little dreaming as we used to rest
So fondly pressing breast to breast,
That the time would come as we see today
When each from the other would be forced to stray.
But so it is. But for some good I suppose.
And will prove a blessing to both. Who knows?
Dear love, I cannot express my feelings plainer in words.

I hope you will grasp the balance. And lend me a few words of feeling comfort. We have been at work one week. Now all the teams look well and feel well It is storming today, but you will know that by my letter. I wrote my address once but will again Drummond Deer lodge Co. Montana P.O. Box 33.

With the warmest love
I am yours
Truly.

(Orson to family – 5/21/1887 ?)

On this the twenty first of May

A few of my thoughts I send away
To meet a longing from my home
Of those who wait these words to come.
Other letters I've written – a few –
Some were cheerfull, some were blue
Just as my spirits happened to be
Up or down, bound or free.
Some I have written when I felt inspired,
Others when worn out, lonesome, and tired.
How much good they have been to you
I do not know as you may do.
But when I weigh my changing life
I cannot feel I've lightened the strife
Nor helped but little to lighten the load
Of any in traveling life's crooked road.
I see but little that man can do
Who is as weak as I, and as faulty too.
There was a time when it looked to me
That man might grasp eternity
And at a bound approach the goal
That would bring contentment to the soul,
But as I have struggled day by day
To find the road that led the way,
I have found there many a hill to cross,
That among the gold there is also dross.
I've found that many a constant friend
Who one would think would ever lend
A helping hand in time of need
Prooves not a constant friend indeed.
I have seen the brightest days that shine
With effulgent rays of life in its prime
Suddenly cloud with shadows dark.
No light atall. Not even a spark.
I've noted each change that it has wrought on me
And I wonder if I am the man I used to be.
Life is a struggle from which I'd shrink
Were it piled together on which I could think.
But as it is strung as beads on a thread,
Some little, some big, some alive, some dead,
Each day makes it possible another to meet
And offers a rest for the weary feet.
As the clouds obstruct the sun's bright ray
They feel the better when the clouds pass away.
So also the shadows that cover our wrath.
Although these lines are not of the best
I will write in prose what will do for the rest.

(Orson to Carrie)

May 22 1887

My dear and loving wife.

Again I attempt to address a letter to you which if not as long may be as deep in sentiment as yours. Truly pleased was I upon the receipt of yours dated the 15th. And while I have no comments to make upon it in particular, I found it very interesting in general. It is gratifying to learn of the progress you are making in M.I. and I earnestly hope you may continue. My endeavors towards improvement are very much curtailed at present. and I seem to do but little. I was glad you had so good a time in L(ogan) as you report. And trust the good feelings encouraged there may grow that the fruit thereof may be beautiful to look upon and partake of. It is my impression that I will return to L in the fall I cannot think she will winter in Cannada, though I cannot tell. I do not know how I shall come out this fall as things at present do not look very encouraging. I shall do my best. You say the men will soon be at work on the house. I have heard nothing from Bro Jacobs and should he say anything about the money tell him my first pay will come on the 20th of June and I will send him some. I should send it sooner but will be unable to do it. I shall be very close pushed for means all this season I fear. It is well enough for you to know it but no one else. You say you think more of me than what I am doing for you I should hope so or it would not amt to much. But I do not know what would become of you if I could not do anything for you. I fear I should be of much less account to you then, than now. A man is not of much account unless he can do something. It is more for what a person can do for us that we like them. than we are sometimes willing to admit. I am all well but a sleight cold which I am laboring under. May Our Father bless you, strengthen and aid you in all you undertake. Love to the children and a full share to you. I am as ever

True
O.G.S.

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm April 22nd, 1887

Dear Mary,

It has been a long time since we heard from you, till Alec went over. He says you are living in the big house, how do you like it.

I am in considerable perplexity to know how to arrange to attend the Y.L.'s Conferance, and as Lina will not be here, I must do something.

The baby is still delicate, as far as going out is concerned. She is well here at home, but never has had her cold heal up yet, it tightens once in a while and then loosens up, and that is as near healed as it gets.

Are you situated so that I could stay with you, if I was to bring a tick bedding & eatables. And I think it would be safer for the baby, if Annie was to come, as she is used to her, & it would not encroach on you so much. If she did she would have to bring Lyman. Mother says I can send Maggie & Lina up to Smithfield. Ida is up there now. And we will try to get a girl to stay here and cook for the boys & take care of Ezra & Everett. We could then take care of our selves pretty much.

I must put some one in Lina's place & I ought to be over a few days before, to attend to these things.

So if it is agreeable to you, Annie & I & Lyman & baby will come over on stake Conference day (Saturday) & stay over till the next Saturday & Sunday (one week). I shall expect an answer back by Alec how you feel about it, so we will be able to see some one to stay here while we are gone. Have you got your big rocking chair over. Write & tell us what to bring if we come, & it is agreeable to you.

Hastily.

Sister C.

(Mary to Loved ones at home)

Cherry Creek. May 24, 1887

Dearly and much loved ones at home.

I arrived here safely, but tired. I have felt rather miserable to day but it is my worst day the first one here in a strange place.

Then I felt so bad about the horses getting away. I know Alec will feel terrible for I believe he does try to do what he can for all & try to also keep all ends up at the farm.

I think I will get along first-rate here. I like it better for being out of the town It makes it seem more like home to me.

Yet it will be bad enough after doing so much as I have been doing. It seems a little better to me to know that Will Raymond is not far away. Although I cannot see him I look over and see the houses & know he is in one of them & it seems company, or a little satisfaction to me.

Then it is good to have Nell with me You don't know how I enjoy that honestly.

There is nothing the matter with me this summer. I forgot to tell you & you may have thought there was & been worrying about me having to leave if you thought there was.

I have no time to have children these critical times. Better days coming.

I hope Annie will not have to leave home for long It is so much worse for her than me having more children to leave. With one I can pick mine up & start out any-time having all with me that I need worry about. Then it is worse when you have been settled in a home for so long. & have no disposition for rambling. Annie is such a home bird.

I could not get a key over there to lock up any of the rooms. I put things up in that north room & sacked & covered them up as best I could. I did not think it worth while to carry the dishes up stairs as long as I could not lock the door.

I just had to leave them in the pantry & as long as I was obliged to do that I did not ask for the kettle or backing pan. Do as you think best as regards sending for them If you send for the one kettle, you would need to send for the other that is in the house then if you get both of them away, Mothers is there that should be taken away or that would fall in next. I took the new tin bucket which had been in good use in the well of late. I will keep it with me.

Write & direct to Fannie Stotard Richmond.

I believe this is all for the present.

With love to all.

I remain one of you.

Mary

Please burn this
I saw a snake to day. Imagine my feelings if you can
I keep Nell close.

(Orson to children)

May 26, 1887

My dearly loved children

I endeavor to write a little to you. It has been some time since I devoted a letter directly to you. But in each letter sent home I have been remembered to you. Words cannot express the feelings I entertain towards you and for your welfare. As I have been to you a kind and loving father, ever having your best interests at heart. so also I desire you to return to me the same by doing to one another as I have done to you. It will not be long until some of you will be past childhood. and as you grow into man and womanhood. be sure to keep what I have said in view. Be honest Be truthfull. clean & tidy. Be kind and cultivate a pleasant disposition. I see many things in myself. that I desire you to avoid. But my example before you has been such that I shall be glad to have you imitate. Never speak cross or harsh to anyone Bear injury rather than give injury All these things you will find hard to do unless you begin now. Mama and Auntie will always endeavor to do whatever they suggest and do not feel bad if their ideas conflict with yours. They are older than you and know better what is best for you. Shun the very appearance of evil. And enter not into temptation.

The joyous path of a little child
Abounds with thorns and flowers
Whose perfumes may be nice and mild
But if touched cause many sorrows
The happiest day of the one will be
Who plucks but the choicest roses,
And not all that pleases the eye to see,
As many much sorrow discloses.
Be good to your mothers who gave you birth,
Pain not their hearts through your actions.
But honor and love them while on the earth
And you'll give them complete satisfaction.

God bless you and preserve you in all that is good and
True. With much love I am your

Papa

(Orson to Carrie)

May 26 1887

My Dear wife

I did expect another letter from you ere this. And as I expect to leave in the morning I shall have to lose the pleasure and comfort I might get from your letter. How long I shall be gone. or where I may go. I do not know. We shall soon be out of work in this place. And we are off to look up some more somewhere. and I do not know just when we will get back. I have written several from here and have received but the one letter. I hope all are well with you. I am well Circumstances are all that bother me. And they

look somewhat gloomy. We are having excellent weather here now. If I could see and talk with you I might say something today. but to write I do not feel in a mood to do so. You will perceive that by my last few letters. But I could not think of going off without writing you about it. I shall endeavor to write you occasionally as I proceed. You had better not write me at this place until I further direct. as I will not be able to get them and it is better that they do not lay around. I have just taken a bath and changed my clothes and the garments I took off are not fit to put on again as they were worn so thin that they tore almost off me. And the ones I put on are short enough for you and consequently are up to my knees. I have plenty others but this is what transpired today. How my heart yearns to be near you and had I the power it would not be long before I was there. But alas it cannot be. Such long absence seems almost like death. It does not seem a reality that we both live and yet so far and so long apart. May our father in Heaven speed the day. when husband and father shall no longer stay, from his dearly loved ones so far away. The True love of a Husband is yours. And a fathers true love to his children which I know you will freely extend for me.

Yours Devotedly

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm May 30th (1887 ?)

Dear Sister M-

I was so delighted to get your letter, but Alec did not hand it to me till last night. He is run nearly off his legs, so I can't blame him, although I would like to write much. as there is lots to tell you. But in an hour we start for Ogden so what I write must be brief. Your mother sent for me to come down there yesterday, so I went Steel searched the place, (that is your Mothers). friday for you, and it unnerved her some, & she fears. arrest for fear of the effect on her. She feels & so do I that, you cannot be to(o) cautious. I think you had not better stay there for awhile, as so many folks know that Alec lost his horses in Richmond as he told them that & the next thing they will suspect what he went for. although he told them it was to see about wool. I told everyone that said any thing to me.that he lost them in Smithfield so the two don't agree, Deception don't work very good with us. or we are too poor hands at it. So now you understand, how things are. Move to some other place. If you do not know just where to go. write father to look you up a place in Smithfield if you will like that better. I will write you again when I come back if you will let me know where you are, I'll tell you all I know. about things, Excuse all blunders as a lack of time,

Yours most truly C_____

(Carrie to Mary)

At Home May 8

Dear Mary

I wish it was so you could come up to night. & hope your folks will happen to get this to day. for I am going to try to take some few lbs of Oats to Smithfield to pay on what I owe father, & think to go friday morning. I would be glad if you could come up before. I could put this off till another week only that the Y.L.M.I.A. are going to reorganize in Smithfield next Saturday. & I thought as I was going. It would be better for me to try to go at that time as they wrote me apcialy to try & come. I will be back Monday or Tuesday.

Yours in Haste.

C_____

I am down town to day to get horses shod at Black smith shop.

Truly

We got a letter from O- that he was off to Spokane Falls. Would be back to Great Falls by the 1st of May. To send mail to Great Falls

(Carrie to Mary)

Monday morning (1887?)

Dear Mary

We find our-selves better this morning. Lina is down now but not so bad as Lyman. He has not got the fever broke yet but is still better. We are feeling in better spirits Father & Mother came last night, and will stay till we get in better shape. Your letter has just come. Mother thinks she could do better to-night than to-morrow night. As Sister Law stayed here last night. If you could come up to-morrow night it would help more. I realy think that the baby has taken the turn for the better. She sleeps very quite (quiet) to day. and looks much better. All of which I am so grate-ful for.

In haste

Carrie.

(Carrie to Mary)

Dear Mary

A Merry Christmas & Happy New Year to you. Father & Mother are here. I sent last week for Mother to get Maggie & Ida & Lina & Nell each a \$1.00 present. I sent for the girls each a hood. but Lina & Nell. I forgot to state that Nell had a doll. When Alec got mother to get Ezra & Everett & Lyman's dollar all together in a rocking horse but could not get one for that so mother did not know what to do so she took 75 cts from Lina & Nell's money each to get it. She thought as she had presents for them that 25 cts would do. So all we send Nell is the mitts and Lina has a pair of red ones too. Mother sends the doll for Nell. & Lina has one like it. Mother send you the handkerchief this is not what I wanted to give either Lina or Nell. But it is the best I can do now.

Mother sends kind remeberances

Also remember me kindly to your folks.

In haste Carrie

(Orson to Carrie – partial letter)

But I can excuse that after writing such a long letter. this letter follows nearer to the last of any I have received. I have not heard from Father O since his arrest. I expect it excited him. and upset Mother. Nor do I wonder at it Well I think I have answered all your questions and as far as possible suggested some things to be done. I too wish I could be there to aid you Nnothing would delight me more. But as I last wrote I see no chance yet. I am doing all I can to keep alone and keep above water and get out of our embarrassments....

To A & the children and yourself the blessing of a husbands life is knowing that he has a wife who (is) true to all his interests. (&) prove(s) A worthy object of his love He. In turn with manhood true should keep this object plain in view. And base his actions on the plan That makes of him a noble man. Worthy a crown of such great worth. That all his loved ones here on earth may honored be by Him
Your most true

(Orson to Family)

Dear Family enclosed you will find an agreement to which I have attached my name. Now if Ephriam wishes to take the place at that lay. I am willing or any other good responsible person. You should not move the old log house You will find it very usefull as it is until we can fix a better wash and wood room. He could fix up Mothers place to suit himself and have the use of that free but I should not move it from where it stands. He could fill it in with shavings and make it quite warm by banking it up at the bottom and put in a good chimney. He might enlarge the back shanty and line it the same way. to suit himself. He can feed his team on the farm this winter. (that is hay.) and have the putting in of the 18 acres now in addition to the agreement. But cutting up your wood now on hand and aiding in any other small matters that may be needed. I think that if He feels inclined to take it. You had better take the agreement to Father Wright. and ask him to explain it to Eph and let Eph sign it in his presence. I want him to thouroughly understand what he is doing and what I expect of him. Father W understands farm matters and could best explain if he will do it. I should be pleased I feel that it is a good offer I am making and if properly appreciated one might do well and soon get a good start. You can look after the bees yourselves with but a little help at times. This will not exempt the children from doing work. I want them to learn to labor. and such as they can do should be assigned them. Any meat grain or other eatables you have to spare. You could let Eph have and charge him with it. Strick account should be kept of every thing he gets. The grain you have on hand is under your controle and you should keep the key. No grain should be fed the horses in winter I think there is no need. as they will not work much. This is all I think of now

O.S.

No one but those interested and those I refer to should know anything about this matter Eph ought to keep it to himself You can leave the agreement with Father W. and Eph can (go) to him for information on points he does not understand.

(Orson to Carrie)

Still. A. Comfort

The law by which we were made one.
Has scarcely in our lives begun
Great promises to us were given
Not getting here. We will in heaven.
The boddies that through us will come
Will countless be. Before we are done.

If we but live. as Sts should, be.
An endless increase we shall see.
These poor old bodies. So declined
Life. Life. Eternal life shall find
Bow thou not down dear wife and feel.
That on thee. Time has set his seal.
Not so. The heavens have all decreed.
That endless. Endless. Shall be my seed
No. mean proportion. shall fall to thee
Throughout the vast Eternity.
For. You. Love

(Carrie to Mary—partial)

I would rather it should be so, but I told Lucy I thought her very inconsiderate of me. To add to my then present troubles. She said she had told Emma that to(o). I have them to understand I felt it too. I was some-what surprised to find through Lucy that you had given Emma the use of your store. & things belonging. From the fact that you had felt so bad about them using your dishes. & other things. & even went so far as to suggest to me if I could not gather them up for you. when you first left in such a hurry. I was heartily glad I had had nothing to do with it. after you gave them permission to use those things as you did later. I do not feel to censure you for lending the things as I might have done the same my self. But I could not help wondering. if you was playing a double game. I could not allow my-self to harbor the thought. But it was trying just at that time. Since then I could not see how you could hardly refuse for a little while, as she was expecting her's so soon. I had hoped you would mention it. but as you have not. I thought I'd write you. how I felt as only by straight forward talk to each can we hope to retain the confidence we have in each other. I also thought I'd ask you what you thought about doing with the few fruit bottles we left with you. Shall we buy more to replace them or shall we get them from your things, & is there any thing in the eatable line that will be spoiled by leaving there. Well enough of this I felt truly glad to hear of your safe arrival. & also that you do enjoy traveling. That with all the inconvenience there is still some pleasure for you. We feel lonely as I said before. & would be glad to enjoy a few days of your trials. & pleasures. but do not feel to begrudge you. It is only your due. Do not on that account cease to think of us, as we have done for you, & no doubt you do for us. This is frankly spoken & I hope you will accept in the light intended. I feel sorry for Annie for she can't write. & she feels the situation keenly. It is a trying time for all. I have been able to keep up my spirits better than I ever thought I could, under such dull prospects If you have left your things in the care of Floe or any one. be sure & send an order for me to get the bottles if you think best for me to get them, I did think to write you what we done on the 24th but Baby is cross & I can't. It makes me sick to see the doings down there with the rowdy boys & girls. Sam O-son (Samuel Oldham's son) is home on the quiet. Has been very sick. Is trying to superintend the farm work a little & help the boys. The Bp. Bro Hirst has permitted two round dances again & it is carried on more disgrace-ful than ever. I have not time to write to _____ these items again, you can make up the deficiency. Remember us to little Nell. & try to not let her quite forget us. Kiss her for us. Also ____

if not out of place. Annie would like to write you so she expressed herself. So take the will for the deed till she does. which I think will be soon. She sends a letter to ____ this time so that is about all she can do at once.

As Ever More than a Sister

C_____

(Orson to Carrie)

June 3 1887

Dear wife

I am just in receipt of yours of May 26. The one written the Monday previous have not received. I was right glad to hear from you. but was somewhat surprised to know that you are all well and in as good spirits as you appear to be. Although you had passed your examination before I got news of your subpoena. You have not been without my faith and prayers all the time and under all circumstances so upon this occasion you were not alone though unknown to me. I shall be anxious to learn how it all comes out. It seems that Goldsbury is doing his best to make his mark. I hope you will not feel alarmed about me. I confess I have written some strange letters for me. but no stranger than I have felt and I could not write at all if not as I felt. But be not worried about me. There is a power within me sustained by my Heavenly Father. that will enable me to rise above such feelings. I have always avoided crowding upon you my feelings when depressed. but no one knows. like my own the feelings I sometimes labor under. And should I undertake to unbossom myself it would be useless. For this reason I have given vent to my feelings in my last letters to you. Therefore take no notice of these things. They will only illustrate my feelings a part of the time and that a very small part. God bless you for your earnest endeavors to buoy me up. It is to him I look for aid for you and me. As far as your being arrested is concerned it does not alter my feelings in the least. I trust I shall prove myself worthy of my family under all circumstances. If I was but free from debt. I should leave these parts tomorrow and as it is I do not know but I will anyway. Circumstances are much more tight on us this season than last Everything seem he(d)ged up and I cannot understand it. But I shall not loose hope as long as I have life. It has now been a week since I left camp and I have been looking for work all the time. but as yet have got none. and cannot hope for much for 4 or 5 weeks. as everything seems standing still just now. God alone knows what is best. And I cheerfully submit after doing my best. I hope your other letter will come to hand they all do me so much good. It is very seldom I get the blues and no doubt they were a premonition of what was about to occur at home. It will be quite a load for you to carry at the farm if A(nnie) has to be away. I hardly know how to advise you to do But you will be blessed somehow in all you do. It will not do for me to worry about things at home only your own personal welfare. for I cannot do any good in the least. I shall do the best I can abroad and you must do the best you can at home. The clouds will rise bye & bye. I shall be pleased to hear of your safe arrival at home again. It might slip out that I had gone to Cannada. which would be all right for it might be true. This is the second letter I have written from this office. I expect to leave here now. It is very pleasant weather here now. but water is high everywhere. I am writing in my wagon tonight. located on a ranch in the country We buy a little milk and eat bread and milk so our deit is light and our spirits are bright. If I am to travel about in this manner all summer. I see no reason why I should not have a

home companion with me. It is terrible lonesome for me. If I am not busily engaged I am completely lost. I wrote A(nnie) but have not had a word for sometime from her I guess she is pardonable just now I will be glad to hear how she gets along over there. Send me her address and I will write her

Now Carrie Dear draw the children near
And whisper to them this prayer:
May our father stand by his little band
And all of our trials share
Till the day has past whose shadows cast
A gloom oer the path we tread,
And those who now reign shall no longer stain
The records of our honored Dead.

With enduring love to all
I am Truly.
Yours

(Orson to Carrie)

Rocky Mountains
June 8. 87

My dear Wife Carrie

I have received your letter through Bro A. O. J. reciting your experience and other matters. I greatly appreciate your anxiety in my behalf. And God alone can and will reward you. Be not too anxious It may injure you. These things are all right. God is moving and no one can stay his purposes. We are yet young and much lies before us. I will do what I can to avoid being taken. But if I fail be not atall concerned. You are of more worth than what little this earth affords under its present power. The day is not far distant when another power will assume controle and I trust we will be counted worthy of an inheritance. True love, I do always remember the promises made to us it is the life of my being. And I often ponder it over. You will see in my blessing. that I should witness trying events among the people but I do not remember just what it says about the outcome and what it says of my undertakings. I believe it says I should succeed in all. If I keep my eye single to the glory of God. Since you have been in trouble at home so much I can readily understand why I have been so low spirited. I will tell all now. I had been for some time before writing. so oppressed. that I could not understand it and in writing as I did caused me great sorrow at the time. but it seemed I must write if.and as soon as I heard what was up at home. It all flashed across my mind what had been ailing me I am all right now. And my only anxiety is for you at home. Oh that I could but lift your care from off you. It would give me joy. I do not think they can make anything out against you but you must be very carefull how you write and talk to anyone They might get you for aiding and abetting me. or others. I have your note to A.O.J. telling him to warn others. I cautioned him not to tell who the word came from. Do not get excited over these matters for they are only men or I should say humane beings. Of which we have no need to fear. I feelingly sympathize with you. And I feel my right place would be near you to defend you against any unjust proceedings. You did not say how you was

treated at Ogden. where stayed or how you fared. all of which I anxiously waited to hear. You have never said whether anything was being done at the house or not. I wish now we had deferred building a little while. Prospects are dull for me this season. Especially if I have to go off which apparently I shall have to do. I am not set upon worldly things but, I did and do yet hope to make my family a comfortable home. For that I have labored these years and I am very desireous that I may succeed. You have merited it in my estimation and if it is right in our Fathers sight you shall have it. My labors are not a burden to me atall but if I can afford you happiness I am happy. You know love what you are to me. And to earn the prise. I have to labor. Never speak of overburdening me with trouble for when that trouble affects you It will afford me pleasure to come to the rescue. I am by no means cast down but am as cheerfull. and as happy as one could be under the circumstances. The scripture says (He that will sacrifice father, Mother, Brother, Sister, Wife, Houses, lands for my sake shall receive an hundred fold in this life and eternal life in the world to come.) We are sacrificizing wives and husbands now. And I hope it is for His sake or the sake of His principles. If we can do what we are doing now. I hope our few houses and lands will not stand in or way. But for your sakes I hope I shall be blessed with my liberty. But borrow no troubles grace will be as our day. we live but one day at a time and we get through it somehow. Give my love to the children. I hope they will be good and obedient to you. In all Carrie you are sustained by the love and faith of Your devoted Husband. Write no more letters to Drummond. Send to A.O.J. 884 Helena and get someone else to direct them as they may know your writing.

You see by this heading I am in the Mts. And it is true I wish you could see where I am tonight Your heart, I know would leap with delight if you could see your Huby tonight.

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm June 9th 1887

Dear Mary

I was equally as much pleased as you was at getting my letter, when yours came to hand. I did not get the last one till Sunday. although I got home from O- (Ogden) on Wednesday, but Alec has restricted me now to Weds & Saturday for getting mail so I must abide it, as it was so arranged to be by the G when the matter was laid before him, but as we have had plenty of teams till now, we have never been brought to time before.

There were a number of things that needed being attended to through the mail but I have had to swallow my feelings and wait as best I could. One thing was to arrange about moving your things, so that the house could be rented. As Mrs. Haines saw Mother about it & I went down to your Mothers to see her. as to what should be done with your things & hers. If the place was rented. she thought with me it was the best possible thing to be done. & this would also advertise the place a little if we wanted to sell it.

Your Mother said one of her boys could go over with a team along with Annie to get the things. She said she would write you about some other plans for your benefit. If she does it will perhaps give you the privelege of talking with me instead of writing which is so much better.

I had a time at O- which I shall not soon forget. The details I think will be safer not written, hoping to see & talk with you, or you may see your mother. She can tell you all, but in case you do not I will write another time. If you only knew what it was to go

before the G.J. you would pray unceasingly never to go there. I am so glad A(nnie) escaped them too.

I got a letter from the G- saying he had got that letter saying that I was about to go to O-. As this is the first letter he has received saying any thing about what was going on here. I was nearly beside my-self with anxiety for I began to suspect tampering with the mail. as his letters kept coming saying he was waiting patiently for a letter from us to know how we were. & I had written three in the time. I never spent such a two weeks in my life as the last two. I have been taken with an attack of Diarorea, and I feel about used up every morning with it. It has been on ever since I got back. And is not better now than when I first got home. The babe to(o) has got it, was real miserable Monday, & Sunday night after I got back from your mothers.

Try your best to keep out of their way, ask God to direct you what to do for the best. I appreciate the confidence you made to me. In regard to your health. I had begun to think about the matter. but would not intrude myself while you was here. I did not even know A-s state of health till she was about leaving She frightened me, when I went to her after Dep Steele had gone, she looked so bad. I did not know but that she was injured, but it proved to be nothing the matter, but fright, which afforded me relief, as I thought nothing about it when I gave her the warning. Well I guess we shall all be able to meet the situation. I guess it will be pretty hard for me to keep every thing straight here. It has been so far, although I have had unusual strength. Or I would have been bed fast with all that has bothered both mind & body. the last two weeks. I hope for a let up for a little bit. I have got Miss Mc-C with me. She is doing better than I thought she would.

Alec goes to Logan Saturday I think to have him call for one of the boys & Dora to get your things to-gether. I would try to my-self to see your things packed up good, but Annie will go to Mendon Friday with a sick horse & over to Logan next day. & I did not know but what you would come down, to come over with them, so I'll not try to go until I hear that I am needed.

(not signed)

(Luitty's note:

Alec: hired man (bad) -----, gored by bull

G : Orson went by Gurney when on the underground

G.J. : Grand Jury

A : Annie

O- : Ogden to Grand Jury

(Orson to Carrie)

June 12 1887

Dearest Wife

I am pleased to state that I think all your letters have now reached me. I just got those of May 18 and 23. the others I have answered and you will see they were all O.K. I do not know that I can tell you any news this time as I write you from Gold creek on the 9(th) all the news I had. I have no doubt but that everything will be done God has ruled it otherwise this time. and how many things there are and have transpired in which His power is visible. I rejoice at your faithfulness and devotion. God will be with you. There seems to be a little doubt in your mind as to my faithfulness to you or in other

words that another might draw me away from you. Dear Carrie do not think it. Had I a dozen as devoted to me as you are. not either should lack their full share of my love and respect I do not censure you in the least for your frank expression. Nor do I take it as a reflection upon my ability to govern myself in righteousness and justice to you all. But I accept it as the hearts utterance of an honest soul. And as such it is as sacred as life. If there is one prayer I utter more fervently than another it is that I may ever be just to my family that I may impart to each their true merits. Be not worried upon this matter God has thrown around you a shield girdled with my love. that cannot be trenced upon. He will bear you testimony upon this matter. Our destiny is together and not apart. And we are to get as many more around us as we can. Your unselfishness so plainly manifest in your willingness to aid either to come to me or to come yourself if required. calls forth my admiration. And the spirit is Godlike.

May Heavens best blessings be yours
Is the earnest prayer
Of Yours
Devotedly

Much love to all.

(Orson to family

June 14 1887

Dear family

As it is a very stormy day and I am compelled to remain in my wagon. I endeavor to write you a little.counsel if needed. ecouragement if required. A letter enclosed to A.O.J. is the last I have had from you. In that I learned of your experiences with D.M.s and Grand Juries. My sympathies were touched upon learning these things as I know full well what your excitement would be. Since then I have not been in camp but have traveled about a little. I wrote you at Gold creek and Helena. You may direct your letters as you did last year to A.O.J. and he can send them to me. What I shall do I do not know. I am utterly at a loss to know what to do for the best. But I trust in our Father for His spirit to direct me. And whatever I may do or wherever I may go I hope it will meet with His approval and blessing. Our prospects are still cloudy and unstable. I still hope for the best. I have just taken a small piece of work to keep my teams and men employed. until something else turns up. We have the promise of a piece of good work sometime in July. and if that is given us we shall have work until fall. as it was the president of the road that promised us I think we will get it. But if D.P.s were to come and drive or take us off I guess that would change matters. I shall have to wait and see. I see by the Ogden Herold that the Grand jury has been discharged. They found a whole batch of indictments against some of our people. Cannot tell who. I guess we shall learn before long. These cases now will come before the Petit Jury for trial. Warants will (be) issue(d) for the arrest of parties wanted. and so the mill keeps grinding. I learn that some of our brethren who are pretty well posted. think that better times are just ahead and a change in matters is possible at anytime Upon what grounds they base their hopes I do not know. but they appear quite sanguine. Now as far as I am concerned My indebtedness is all that I should hate to be taken for. outside of my aid to you. As for my facing the result of my actions in the courts I do not I have no fear whatever, but on the other hand. I feel proud that I have a family which I count of more value to me than all

the liberty our proud Nation can give. A few years of servitude or confinement would not injure me. As I have no disaipated habits that would break up my constitution. But I should come out no worse for my experience. These are my feelings in regard to that and if after I have used due caution,the Lord sees fit to put me through that school I pray that I may prove equal to the task. I am not downhearted upon that score. I have ever tried to keep all my promises and obligations to man. as I have with my God and my family but man is so liable to impute wrong motives in ones course. That their judgement would not be as just. I should feel sorry to think what little you had to live on belonged to someone else. I have no desire to be taken and shall avoid it just as long as I can and perhaps I shall succeed in straightening all up. I hope so. Be of good cheer all of you. There are bright days for us yet. Your appeals to me to be true to my covenants. and not to falter in any way. is of great aid to me and is a credit to you. It is an evidence of your integrity. Who could not stand when surrounded by such loving hands and encouraged by the devotion of such faithfull hearts. It is to me of more value than gold or any prize that earth can offer. My desire is to be humble before God and always be in a position to merit His aid and protecting care. Remember me kindly to all the children. Carry to them my spirit if it is possible. It seems ages since I exercised my influence over them as was my great pleasure to do. But in my absence I feel that there has been an influence over them which has protected them. Dear family we are all indebted to each other for all we now enjoy and for all we expect to enjoy. (outside of God our creator) Your encouragement to me and mine to you. denotes the interest we manifest in each other. It is very befitting a husband and father to encourage his family and I feel limited in mine to you owing to my embarasment. But to have my family offer such soul stirring encouragement to me.I have no language to convey my appreciation of it. It smacks largely of Heavens Nobility. Men have stood the test under much more unfavorable surroundings. I ought to with it. Now loved ones be cheerful be happy for none are as happy as they whose conscience is free and who enjoy Gods Holy spirit. Trusting this is your present position I am yours

Devotedly

(Orson to Carrie)

June 15 87

Dear family

Again after a night of serious reflection I write you. this time with a feeling to move in our affairs as I hope for the best It is well known that Annie is my wife All they can do with her would be to put her under bonds to appear when wanted. And even then she need not go into court for I should plead guilty in her case. Now I feel it best for her to go home and stay there and deny nothing if taken. You will then be able to help one another. And until they get me you will be in peace. I will take M(ary) and seek a home some where for a season. This after mature reflection I have decided to do. Now as to my debts I will do the best I can with them I will write you my plans in regard to them at another time as I want to get this off today. We offer for sale the lot and both houses in Logan to pay part. I will send some means to you and Bro Jacobs at the earliest possible opportunity. If I was where we could council together upon this important move I would like it better. But I have sought all the light I could. And I see nothing better. God bless and preserve you

Yours Devotedly

I wrote a long letter yesterday
All will work out well I have no concern further than I wrote
Truly

(Orson to Carrie)

June 16, 87

Dear Wife

I just recd your letter today of the 13th and was so glad to get it I have written you one today and I haste to send another. In answer to some of your questions 1st sell all but 20 head of good ewes. That will give another start in sheep. And if you can sell the threshing machine do so I did ask 400.00 but if you can get \$350.00 sell it. I ment to have written you about it but must have forgot it. In regard to my indebtedness, I will write all at another time as I wish to send this off today I have written to W. W. Maughan to sell the house in L. and father wants to sell the old house with it and all the lot but if parties do not want both places and the lot. they can have the big house and 12 x 9 rods of the lot. I should be only too pleased if the place could be sold. That would pay off a part of what I owe. I have written for A(nnie) to go home and stay there. She knows nothing about anyone's affairs but her own. It is strange to me that people can make out to know so much when they know nothing and should say so. But I have great sympathy with those who are brought before the inquisition. All is right I feel with Annie at home you can get along very well for awhile Let him go on and finish the house. The money will come somehow. I will write all particulars in my next. You will excuse brevity send mail to A.O.J. and he will forward. Yours ever True
(Orson to family)

P. P. Valley

June 21 1887

My dear family

Knowing that a letter from me at any time is a source of pleasure to you. I take pleasure in writing as often as is practicable. By my last two you will have learned of my plans in regard to us all. which I hope you have received and will approve. I feel greatly. the need of your support in every move I make for what I do. I do for the best good of all as I understand it. And as I have always had your hearty support in all matters pertaining to our affairs I base whatever of success I have made upon that fact. And with this knowledge I feel that with that support in the future (which I have not the least doubt but that I shall have) I feel confident of success. I keenly sense the situation and it seems that it requires the wisdom of a God to know what to do for the best. I find it very difficult for me to know what to do. First one plan suggests itself and then another. But I constantly pray for the guidance of the Holy Spirit. that which ever way I do move may be for the best. In the past I can call many instances to mind wherein I have been led by that spirit and I do not know of one that did not prove to be for the best. My faith and confidence is firm that it will be so in the future. I recd a letter from Mayor Eccles of Ogden in which he intimated that a prospect for better times for Utah is apparent. In what way I did not learn. but I guess it is the hope of Utahs becoming a state. It is good to hear of a little ray of hope for something better. You will remember some three or four years ago how Bro. Taylor acted it off on the stand He said a storm is coming we may

have to step behind the hedge a little while and (lifting his coat collar) says we must draw our coats up round up our shoulders till it passes over. It will soon pass over. For five years many have been behind the hedge and their coats have been drawn tightly. and in this situation have had to remain. until whole families have suffered. And it is my opinion that a change is about to take place and those who have been put through the mill. will have a respite. The ram was not there until the final blow was about to be struck. (In the case of Isaac) The clouds seem darkest just before the sun shines forth. The battle rages fiercest just before the victory. God is on the side of right and wherever right is. it will surly prevail. In asking M(ary) to come out here and A(nnie) to go home I have in view the object of doing good to all. You will be able to help yourselves at home and see to the children which is of the utmost importance It will give you better opportunities to train and teach them and in fact it will be better in every way for you. all. The farm will be a home from which you will derive a partial support at. least. I can help with the balance. And thus while the storm is raging we shall get along M.'s being with me will give her other experiences and will be of benefit to her. It will by no means be pleasant here as it is a rough way to live. but as she is the least encumbered with children I thought it best for her to come. And it will leave you with your own children at home and should anything occur to any of them it would be better that you be there. I do not feel that this will be long. But wherever I go I shall do some permanent work. even if I should not stay. We have received no money yet for our work done but hope to soon. I feel that we shall be able to come out all right by fall. or at least very near. Tell Bro Jacobs to be patient. Tell him we have had a tough time this spring and it has put us back some but I will send him the money the first I get in. It is due me now but cannot get it for a little while. There has been very high water all over this season and it has delayed our work very much. From this on I think we shall get on nicely. I sent 45.00 interest money to C. C. Richards Ogden but have recd no receipt. Did he send it to you. Write A.O.J. as you did last summer Helena Box 884 at present and he will forward as I direct. I expect to travel several hundred miles before I return to camp. And shall always be anxious about you and eager for your letters. I have sent some poetry of late. But it was all written in such a hurry that you will no doubt find many errors. but if the spirit of it will lend you any pleasure. I am amply rewarded. I learned that our friends Goldsbery and Littlewood were making diligent inquiry about me and my affairs since the discharge of the grand jury. so I guess that they did not have sufficient evidence before and they are hunting it now. Well let them hunt. You settle down at home and look well after affairs there. I will aid you all I can and I think I can do much more for you here than I could caged up. I was so glad you desired me to keep out of the way. It was evidence of such profound interest in me. that it wrought up my whole being. No tongue or pen can utter the true sentiments of my heart and describe the estimation in which I hold my family. Your devotion has extended to every matter pertaining to this and the next life. in that you have aided me in this and when I have felt downcast. You have ever been ready to present the beauties of the glorious promises made us for the life to come. In this way you have sustained me through many trying scenes. I make these truthful acknowledgments that you may know I appreciate your efforts. And for your encouragement. I should feel that you had not recd your just dues. If I did not tell you these things. I should only be to(o) pleased to make these utterances by word of mouth. But I feel that you will accord me the consideration due although compelled to write them. Although the season is passing

rapidly. It seems so long since I was at home with you and I often picture up in my own mind what a happy time we shall have when we can meet again. The word (papa) rings in my ears (There is a good time coming wait a little longer) and finds an echo in my ears. I could write a whole book to you and not tire. But wisdom suggests write again some other time. Cultivate a spirit of loving kindness towards each other and our dear children. Kiss them all for me and express my kindest wishes to them. With the love and true sentiments of a husband and father. And through the authority of the Priesthood, as a servant of our Heavenly Father I invoke the blessings of Heaven upon you to guard you from all evil. To bring joy and comfort to your hearts. And to sustain you through all trying places.

Your affectionate Husband
And Father

(Orson to Carrie)

Great Falls
July 3rd 1887

Dear wife Carrie

Today I occupy a part of the Sabbath in writing you. All is well with us today, and as tomorrow is my birth day it suggests many and happy thoughts of by gone days, the remembrance of which only make them dearer. As I before wrote that I had left camp. You will be anxious to hear how we progress(ed) on our journey. We have encountered one severe rain and wind storm and any amount of mosquitoes. I expect to look at some work this week, near this place and if satisfactory my outfit will come this way. I hope to find letters from you, awaiting me at the town tomorrow. I shall be so glad to receive letters from home on that day. You will have my fourth of July oration before you get this I guess. You must write what you think of it, not to speak in praise of it but as to the fitness of it to our situation. I do not remember of ever having wishes that I could spend my birth day at home as I have this and it would be such a pleasure to me. But in my thoughts alone can I be with you. I have traveled quite a bit and have seen many attractive places, but never have I seen the spot that attracted my attention as does our home in Cache. And while I have at times felt that we might be better without it, I again feel that we shall all live on it and enjoy it yet. How soon this may be I do not know. But the impressions upon me are favorable. I have never heard from the North and I am at a loss to know how they got along and what are their prospects. The water has been so high all over this country that it has cut off all communication with our northern friends. But as it is now fast receding I hope to hear soon. It will be a month before any travel can go to where they are. I may be the first to pay them a visit. But upon that point I am undecided as yet. I shall await with anxiety all your letters. There are many things of which we have reason to feel thankful and to rejoice in, and there are others in which we can get no comfort. I am sensibly aware of this, and at times I feel that everything is hedged up and at other times I have no such feelings. And I am inclined to the idea that there is much in which we take sorrow that we might enjoy pleasure. If we would weigh the two. God has been and is now ever mindful of us and as we serve him so also does He fulfill His promises and we share it proportionately with our fellow men, & according to the degree of appreciation we possess. I find that I am constantly surrounded with blessings which I might enjoy were I to properly appreciate them. I am trying to do this.

that I may ever be thankfull. and worthy of Gods protecting care. My plans for the future are undeveloped. I trust in God for His spirit to direct me in all of my moves. I hope to keep my teams at work all summer if possible. so as to earn something and I do not think that I shall drive them home again. not all at least. I shall either sell them or winter them here. Sell if I can. Winter if I must. I will keep you constantly posted as to all my moves. I have no particular news to write. It seems that all news should come from home. as that is the scene of the conflict. We are encamped on the banks of sun river and as it is Sunday we do not travel. The country here is covered with fine feed this season. There are no mountains in sight on the north and east. The snow capped rockies looming in the west and south. You will remember my description of this country last year when I traveled over it. It is quite familiar to me now. It seems that I am making quite a study of Geography. at least of a part of our continent. Had I been so situated this spring. I should have gone east and learned something of that part but this is deferred at present. Dear wife be of good cheer all will end. Well yet. We have labored hard sacrificed much. and we will yet enjoy in abundance. With love to all and much to you I am

Your Devoted Husband
Orson Smith

Selfevident Truths

There is a difference between a truth and a selfevident truth. And herein much wrong has been done for men have differed so much in defining them. Selfevident truths are in themselves plain and easy of comprehension. and which all men are supposed to understand. while a truth may admit of illucidation and require argument to establish. July 4th 1776 certain articles compiled and called the Declaration of Independence were signed by many noble hearted men. whose life had been tyrannized over by men lost to the principles of Humane liberty. Among these articles are couched selfevident truths written there that all men might see and understand. that all men are created equal. and are endowed with certain undisputed rights. Life Liberty and the pursuit of happiness. And no power should prevent the full and complete enjoyment of these rights. only when it trenches on the ground where the liberties of another begins. Here is a subject worthy the careful consideration of every true lover of liberty. to see that no man trample upon the rights of another. For they are God given and Heaven defined. (Mans inhumanity to man makes countless millions mourn) with these selfevident truths enumerated. We have men enslaving men and not satisfied with the controle of their means of support are now clamouring to controle their souls. That they may direct their votes to still farther bind them and aggrandize themselves. Such is the picture presented to us upon the 111th anivarsary of our Nations Independence. Tell us not upon this day that we are free & that the principles enunciated by Adams. Jefferson. Paine. Franklin and Patrick Henery are not in force It would be casting a severe reflection upon the characters of such Noble men. that would draw them from the silent tomb (were it possible) to deny the assertion. But still deeper, and inhumane bondage than the controle of means and body. are now forced upon a part of our people. the binding of the concience. dictate our wages our votes and now endeavor to controle our thoughts How far would man go if let alone.it is difficult to say. but there is a power that holds him in check. And as our forefathers whom we honor with our lips broke loose from the bondage that enslaved them 111 years

ago so also we'll break loose from this mock freedom and liberty which is slavery and worse. That time will come. when man his fellow man will forgive. and this rule be established: live and let live. There are but few today who can enter into a hearty celebration of our Nations birth for they are staggering under the oppression of the few. And such times only present more vividly the gulf which is forming between rich and poor. Man has raised himself to that position. that he now undertakes to dictate terms to his creator and that which He orders & commands. man annuls. thus stepping far in advance of his station. The created directing the creator. How absurd, and yet it is so. Man should learn himself to controle. He'll do well that saves one soul. Manys the man who has hastened to this land where freedoms banner waves. to find it all a myth. and men bound worse than in the land from which he came After a short stay he hurries back. Preferring the Tyranny from which he fled. to shackles of sham Liberty. Talk no more of the land of the free and the home of the brave. It has changed. sadly changed to the land of the slave.

(Orson to Everett)

August 1, 1887

Dear Everett.

Papa was very pleased to hear from you my son. And that you were well and could do so much to help at home. And that you were doing all you could to work. That is right. Do all you are asked to do. And try to see that nothing is left scattered around everything should have a place and everything should be in its place. And your bright little eyes are given you to look around and see that order exists. Look well after your poultry and try to raise them all. I hope I shall find some big and good boys when I come and I shall be happy.

The boy that's good. and kind and true will never lack a friend Of this ask all will be for you If thus your life youll spend.

Your dear papa

(Orson to children)

Aug 7 (1887?)

Dear Children

It is with the most tender feelings of a father that I write you a few lines of comfort and good council. Often do your nimble forms come up before my vision & I long to be with you to see you & to kiss carress & fondle you as I have oft done before. You are now growing to be young ladies & gentlemen. And your minds are gardens in which nothing should be planted but the good. You see in your garden how the weeds grow. They would choke out every thing that you plant if you did not keep pulling out. The evil one has planted the weeds and you see how much work it requires to get rid of them Now in the garden of your hearts there has been no weeds planted & if you are very carefull you can keep them out. You are pure before God & can continue to be so if you will try. In order that good may be planted in your hearts always you should never do or say anything without first asking your mama if it is right & you should always tell them everything you do. How good and thankfull you should be that you have such good kind mamas thankfull to God for them & how hard you should try to please them Remember that what you do for them you do for me. & I am just as glad. as though I was

there myself Dearly loved children I do feel that you are trying to be good. Study when you can. I shall always be glad to get a letter from you Dear little Ezra & Everet you are trying to be good boys aint you I feel that you are Be sure not to use any bad words nor do anything that is bad papa would feel so bad if he thought you was learning anything bad. Remember that your father in heaven is always near you & hears all you say & sees all you do. Papas love for you is keen and I hope you love just the same & if you do you will be good to your little brothers & sisters all the time. Never say cross words to them or to Mama Cross words are bad things but kind words can never die. When you play play to please all but never never play to the hurt of your brothers & sisters God loves little children when they love each other. I send you all a kiss & a papas blessing. 0 0 0 0 0 0

Dear little children
Joy of my heart
Blessings from heaven
That God does impart

Be kind to each other
In your innocent glee
And true to thy Mothers
Your Aunties & me.

Be pure in your actions
Thy thoughts & thy words
For these are attractions
That draw the rewards.

Be kind to thy kindred
And use not the rod
And then you've not hindered
The pure love of God.

With this admonition
Through the spirit of love
I ask this petition
For you from above.

Your ever true and loving papa. May the Lord bless you all.

(Orson to Carrie)

Aug 9 1887

Dear Carrie

Sunday again and I answer your last two dates July 24 and 31. which I received on Friday last. I sent off a short note answering some of your questions and giving some directions. This you may get a day or two before this letter. I was glad to learn that all were well and that there was a prospect of your getting a house. that the crop was good and etc. and that your financial affairs were all so well understood by you and kept track

of. This is as it should be, and as I desire it to be. Continue in so doing. My finances are not very flattering yet, and the prospects are poor. But I am of the opinion that I shall come out yet. I have faith and energy yet. Now in regard to me. Do not entertain the idea that I will not return to you. It matters but little as to that, but I felt that I have some mission to perform yet and that I shall live to perform it. As far as my death is concerned. I do not entertain any thoughts regarding it. For I feel that when my time comes it is all right. But that I do not think is yet. Your anxiety about my future plans may be aroused and upon this I should like to enlighten you, but at present I do not know what to do. I depend upon the spirit to guide me. And that I may be guided aright I ask your aid and faith. All will work out for good we have but to wait. It looks as though I should have to struggle for another year. But if in that time I can make you reasonably comfortable all of you and I shall be glad and satisfied with my efforts, in that direction. But until I can enter the celestial kingdom and there take those I love by the hand and there offer them life eternal I shall not be satisfied. All earthly possessions sink in the comparison. Yet here is our school and we are teachers of each other. And the spirit of God is the text book. Let us learn its value and listen to its impressions. I have said nothing of M(ary), but now say that in every way she has done well, and has endeavored to aid me all in her power. It will be of lasting benefit to her to be with me, that she may learn me thoroughly, and N(ellie) too. I am so glad she is with me at this particular age if but for a short time. I am not sorry you have had the windows changed to suit yourselves as you are most likely to have to use them most. But if you ever desire an addition on the south it would be awkward I think. Now I think I have answered all your queries, and suggested all I had upon my mind. There is a matter which you call my attention to. That is an expression I made about my future usefulness. I had not thought but that I had done some good but it seems to(o) peculiar under existing circumstances that it is apparently lost to my view. You have been much to me and I can hardly realize that I have done so much for you as you seem to think. God has done for both what we could not do for ourselves. When I think of the past, I long to be with you again. For the present I dare not indulge the thought, and I have to cast it from my mind, at least temporarily. Were I to indulge my feelings as I should like, it would be to embrace you and that I cannot do, only in imagination, which is very often. It is no doubt a depressing time among the Sts at home at this time. The Death of Prest. T(aylor) would necessarily make it so. And with the other trials our people have would add to the intensity of the feeling. You will see by some letters I wrote long ago that I felt that something would take place in this season. And I am not surprised at the death which has occurred, and there will be more changes before the year is out.

Momentous are the times we live
Unfolding mysteries while we live
Which startle all with wonder gase
At such changes in these days.

I ever pray for Gods protecting care over you all. Kiss all for me and accept many yourself. If you have the folding door put in (which I am willing you should have) have them so they will open clear back against the petition wall, that they would be out of the way, when open

Your loving and true H

I will do all I can for Annie to have some teeth. As I should hate to see her without them as bad as I did you. I believe I am younger than any of you now. I never felt better in my life than I have this summer. And as to looks I leave you to guess. But I think I resemble my picture more now than ever. My beard is full and quite long.

With a hug and kiss
I . Am Yours

We all gain in love.

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm Aug 28th 1887

Dear Mary.

I had been waiting & expecting to get your answer to my letter to you. when it came to hand. I was glad as usual to hear again from the absent ones. & that you were all so well. I wonder if we appreciate the health we are all enjoying. I some times fear in our every day haste to accomplish all we can. we are forgetful at times of the giver of this inestimable blessing. I have tried to get time to write sooner but work presses us so hard just now. & I expect this week will see us into it worse than ever. as we expect threshers Tuesday. & lathing. & chimney building on Monday. & perhaps the painter too. for outside work. He has primed it all out side. I tell you the old part looks all ready like it had a new dress on. I wrote _____ that we were expecting threshers here last week but we have had a heavy rain that has put back things. It has done no damage that we know of yet, but it still hangs around. threatening, & we can't get the machine now till Tuesday. so it is not all secure yet. but the prospects are large crops every where. The anxieties we have to daily meet. in one way & another nearly turn our hair white at times. Then it lets up a little & we feel we can go on again for quite a while. Alec has been unbearably mean to us. both A(nnie). & I. This morning it came to a head. I asked him to tell us where in we had injured him in any way. that we had deserved such treatment So he told us. It was chiefly the cooking said we stewed all our meat till he was plum sick. that we had brought up fruit from the cellar once or twice for others & not given him a taste. that we thought he was only a hired man. etc. It was well for us that we had been guarding these points & so was prepared to meet them. But we were surprised to find that these little things were at the bottom of his meanness. & finally after going over the ground well he came to the conclusion he had judged us to(o) severely. & with-out cause. Said he felt much better after he learned that what was done. was not intentional meanness on our part. He said he had had a grudge against me. for what he thought was my lazy-ness. But of late he had seen that it was not. As he had noticed how give out I had been over a little light work. & once or twice when I had attempted hard work. But he said it had made him mad to see me take it so easy appearantly. & all the rest working. I told him he did not feel any worse about it than I did. Then he stared at me. I guess to days talk will help him out abit. I told him plain that I did not feel like having prayers to-gather with the feelings that had been exhibited. I did not think it right. He said he did not either. That it made him worse. I then told him that when he felt like that. to ask to be excused. for we should continue them as long as we felt all right ourselves. for our benefit & the children. & that one would excuse him any time when he did not feel that things could be made right with-out that. He was glad of that. We have had a dose. Take them & the men at work on the house. They were enough L.D.S. to wish to

take part in pray(er)s yet at the same time they could hardly stand up to it. (I mean the carpenters). I asked them at first if they wished to join with us. & they said they did. so we could do no other than carry it through. Alec promised to make right what he had said to other(s) about us. & our cooking. They told a man working here last week that we feed them on half grass. before the children. I tell you Annie was hot. We came pretty near cooking them a dish of Lucerne the next morning. I told them to day we felt like it. They were chagrined. Now the truth of the matter is. we have had better fare. this summer in the meat line than we ever did I don't know what he'd thought if he'd been here when Eph. Was here. I have thought we were farming pretty good. & since the men on house came unusually so. & you know if I thought it was good. It wasn't very bad. I told Alec I guessed the reason he was not satisfied was because his mother had it so good. This pleased him. & went a long way towards something the difficulty. But I told him we could not afford it. He thought we could fry meat for break-fast. He felt the need of it. I told him I was scared now we killed so often. Well he thought we could do a little better. just in time of hardest work. I finally told him he ought to have told us this for we did not know but what he was perfectly satisfied. We did not want them to suffer for the need of necessary food. He said he could say one thing what he had had was well cooked. & clean. Well I guess you must be sick & tired of this lingo by this. But as I have no special news to write I thought it might interest you. This is my apology. Now Mary I think you must have miss understood me. when I wrote you about those bottles & provisions. I have no wish to ask for. or take anything that is yours. much less ask for back that which we gave you but I thought you would not be using these things this year at all. & as we find it difficult to see our way clear to pay for any thing. I thought it would be better to use them than spend money for more. & as for the provisions we were about to buy some more dried apples & I wondered if those you had would not be eaten up by the mice. It is hard to furnish enough to eat here for two, three. & four beside Alec & Will & one day we had three here beside the boys & carpenters. & when I enquired about these things it was to save. so that it could be used in a way more needed. perhaps as much for your benefit as ours. for you will need it this winter I am sure. So far as your returnig them. I shall feel injured if you do. That was not my object. I thought you knew me well enough for that. If you wish to have your things entirely your own. be sure I will never interfere. only so we under-stand it. & so far as your feelings towards Emma. & Floe is concerned. I do not wish you to feel ill towards them. if you don't feel inclined. I know their weaknesses & faults. also their virtures. & it matters little to me how they are regarded by others. & as long as you do not get their ill will. there is nothing they will not do for you. So you are right in that idea. Perhaps you think I am greatly exercised over the matter. but such is not the case. I felt that if I did not mention it to you that I should always wonder how it was. & I preferred to remove the idea. that perfect confidence might remain. Your explanation is satisfactory. but I am sorry you felt so sensitive about it. If we are consience free we need not fear questions but rather court it You are right we do not have any time or team for a pleasure out. We have only tried it once. & that was on the 4th when the buggie broke. We were dressed up more that day than any day this summer & we had to turn in & push the buggie back with our dresses trailing in the dirt. so that teams could travel past. & we did not like our adventure to be commented on. We have enjoyed one of the pleasantest outs this summer down to your mothers last Sunday. I was surprised to see them at meeting. & as we had planed to go down to see

Martha. your mother urged us to go down. We were some time looking around trying to find a hired girl. & they got home some time before us. & when we got there. They had table set. with a lot of fresh peaches. that they had planed to have. & we had to stop & eat with them. I told your mother we had come to chat. not to eat. But she thought we could do both. She filled our dishes till I feared we should be sick. Martha is coming up to spend a few days after a while. when we get the work more off our hands. Mr. Raymond was there. But we did not get time to talk to him. Your father kept us talking so close with him & your mother. They are feeling first rate. & glad to get to see some more mormons once more. Not very anxious to go again. They related their experiences while away. I was pleased & quite amused. Your father says. our folks here.do not do what they ought to. But they are good in spite of it all. I am glad to get among them. This reminded me. of a similar expression from _____. I heard that Mary B. has a daughter. & doing well. Bp. O- is home & abroad on the streets as if nothing had happened. The people are about ready to carry him by force away. Well I did not think to write so much when I began. I hope it will not prove uninteresting. Maggie & Ida want me to send a lot of kisses to you & Nell. They have never asked where you are. I thought by the way your mother talked your Brothers & sisters know where you are. As she was talking before hem. about your where abouts. Lina speaks about Nellie but does not remember much about her. I am glad for your sake & ___ that Nell does think of the children. I am glad to you are being assisted in your efforts with her. Do not be alarmed about her nay word-ness. It is only a streak it will not last long. Ours have all been subject to it Lyman is not quite so bad. Although he has not lost any of his will. Geneva is coming on for another Nell. She is on her feet all the time. creeps every where. is so large & strong. I feel faint & tired nearly all the time. I must close now. If you have not much news to write. write any-thing you can think of. We got your last letter on Tuesday. & we were glad to hear so often. We'll write as often as we can get a chance.

As ever Carrie

(Orson to family)

Se[3rd 87

My Dear family.

It is Sunday today and nothing affords me more pleasure than writing you upon these days. The many pleasant Sabbaths we have spent together pass vividly before me. and I long for their repitition. It was no small trial to be sent to preside (in my extreme youth) over the small town of Paradise. But I was amply repaid I see now. I miss so much the liberties I then enjoyed. My regular attendance to the S.S. our ever interesting reading and conversing at home. between our meetings the sweet voices of the children. in the soul inspiring songs of Zion. All seem indelibly impressed upon my memory. And I long again to share them. But I do not mourn for those things though so dear. for I see what we still enjoy is far more precious to us (Unbounded confidence in each other). This alone recompenses me for all sacrifices. It has been and is now the prime object in my life to live in the confidence of my family unimpaired. No matter what others may say or think of me. If by you I am understood and respected I am happy. We have launched our boat upon a troubled sea. The life we are trying to live is unpopular in this generation. and thus throws us out upon the sea of humanity to struggle for our lives. (eternal) Thanks to our Father that He is at the helm and that our boat is of

strong material this lends great encouragement and bids us be faithful seamen. We read of no storm but has spent its fury no man but reached his zenith no Nation or people. but were succeeded by another. The tables will turn and all will be well with those who will do right for the love they bear it. I regret my inability to be with you at this tender age of my children. But I forgo this pleasure in the trust that God will make up the deficiency by the better protection of his spirit and power. In the past we have maintained a devotional influence over ourselves and them which I feel becomes a L.D.S. this I desire to continue. not to the forming of one sided ideas. but to the ever broad and expanding field of true knowledge. clacisical and theological. I lack much the information I desire to obtain and my hopes of obtaining it are very limited. until I have become freed from the bondage of debt. That is for(e)most upon my mind daily. I have thought not to make reference to this unpleasant subject again. But I know you are as anxious as I am. and would much rather I speak out my feelings. but I do hope to do at least as much as you anticipated. We have had very stormy weather of late. and nothing has been done for a week. I have taken a small job of work for the teams but I do not expect to realize much from it. It is distressing to be here unemployed. I have ever felt that we should yet be free and permitted to enjoy each others society again. This has never left me and I hope to realize it. I am thinking seriously of going North to winter but if so I strongly think of trying to visit you first. And should I conclude to do so I would like it to be immediately after you are settled in your house. You may write me what you think of it. and when it will be ready. How the Debts are and all about it. You remember I told you I should try to be there to dedicate the house. I shall make the effort. if wisdom so suggests. Do not fret upon it but let your minds be free. And your prayers unceasing. And if I am unable to come you will be reconciled. Of course you understand the privacy of this Kiss all for me. and accept our true love

Your ever true
H.

(Orson to Margaret Jane Carpenter Smith)

Sept 26th 87

Margret J Smith

Dear daughter

I was glad to get your letter and answer it at once. It is realy delightfull to think that you are determined to do right and will persist in trying to do the best you can. You will succeed if you continue. There is nothing that will aid you more than to be obedient to your parents and kind to your brothers and sisters. God will reward you with strength to do right. You will have a nice good home now and you must help to keep it nice and be nice and good yourself. That you may (be) an ornament to our home. and a comfort to your parents when you have your room to take care of. You should see that it is always in order. and neat. I am glad you are buisy at work. And you should always be employed. at something good. Even when at play it should be intelligent amusement. And of some benefit I send my love to Ida and all the other children and wish you all well. Kiss them all for me. When I can return to my pleasant home. and join in the happy throng:

We'll sing the songs we so oft have done
With voices loud and strong.
A happy sight I am sure twill be

To see us all together
Feeling so happy light and free.
Sheltered from stormy weather.
Let us hope that God's spirit will be there to.
To add to the joyous greeting,
All this would be pleasing. I know: for you.
The thought of so happy meeting.
Your loving Papa.

(Orson to Carrie)

Oct 11 87

Dear Carrie

I write a little more before closing my letter of the 9th. You will notice in my letter. I make reference to your economizing all you can. I have no doubt but that you feel that you are doing so. And I feel that you are. but unless we can so manage as to keep out of the stores debt. we shall come to grief. We have got so in the habit of running accounts that. we will find it hard to break off. You will not censure me for making mention of these things because. I feel it greatly concerns me. It is impossible for me to keep it up. We must live somehow with out going into debt to do it. Our plan of living has been a very critical one and I feel it must terminate or sorrow will be the result. Now I take much of this to myself. And I ask your hearty cooperation in it. Our children had much better live in some want. than to get any older and find out that we have lived ahead of our means. They must learn to contrive some means of living without running into debt for it. I do not want them to get one thing on credit in the stores. nor before they have something to pay for it with. Now about your M.I.A. I feel again as I did last spring that you would have all you ought to do at home in my absence. if you did not have that to look after. And while I leave the matter to your own feelings. I tell you mine in regard to it. It would seem that in regard to existing circumstances we would do very well if we make out to live and all do our best. I fully appreciate the efforts you have made but the struggle is not over and our efforts must not cease. After a struggle the severity of which you do not know you have a home. which I trust you will enjoy. And in that home, I hope you will aid each other in every way that will lighten the load you have to carry. By every act and word, prove the strength of your desires. Do not impose upon each other in any manner. But each should lift. and that together. What one cannot do both can. if united. I am trying all I can to liberate myself and with the help of Our father I will succeed. But this must be by our united efforts. While I desire the welfare of all our people and the Youth of Israel. I do think God will accept our offering if you should now look after our children and our secular affairs. now that I cannot be with you to aid. Our little ones are now of an age that require constant attention and schooling. And I cannot afford to send them to school all the time and you must take hold of this matter if you meet my wishes in the matter. The Girls can greatly lessen the household labors and they should do it. and be given to understand that every precaution should be taken to save and care for things and that theirs is a humble station. and not of the wealthy class and what we get is through hard and constant labor. You may think that. not much of your time is taken up but the time you are away is not as much as the time you must spend in thinking over what to do. and during which time all else is left unthought of.

There are others whose time is less occupied and who are not situated as we are at the present. and whose time is due to their friends and brethren to some extent at least. I do not want my children made a burden or expense to anyone. We had much better keep them home in rags and do our best to educate them. I will close lest I weary you too much I feel all I write and pray that you may get the spirit of it. I cannot speak of coming home as I cannot tell about it yet. You are constantly upon my mind. and my greatest anxiety is for you and our children. Wisdom is a great gift and I trust all may possess it. With love unfeigned I am your loving husband.

Orson

(Carrie to Mary)

At Home Nov 6th 1887

Dear Mary

I have in hand your letter of Sep 12th and I had no idea when I received it. tat it would be nearly two months before I answered it. But so it is. through no intent of mine either. We thought we were buisy last summer & fall. But it don't begin to compare with this. We have had to keep our wits on the alert. that we did not forget things of importance. So many things required our attention. But now. we are able to collect our senses. & reflect a little. although the anxiety is not all past yet. We have felt funny indeed to have Alec's time up. & no one else here to take his place. Will L____ has been working here the last week & will continue to another week longer, I expect. Ephriam was here to-day & looked at the old house & Mothers place. He thinks that between the two he can make a comfortable place to live in. He says that if the arrangement O- is willing to make is better than what he now has he is willing to take it. but that he should wait & see what O- is going to offer before he says much about it. I told him that I thought O- could make just as good arrangements with him. as with anyone. If any one could make a living here. he could. So this is about how he feels. You will repeat this to O- & save me writing it again. I trust. Eph is as steady as an old man I think he will be quite different if he comes here now. Who'd have thought we'd ever want him back again. We was not reckoning on moral behavior. when Alec took Ephs place. but we have found that we had better be without some things we may desire. than.to have impurity to contend with. I do not remember whether I have written that Hattie Williams has married John Mickesel or not. the one who is not a Mormon. Just come home from the rail-road two or three day's when they got married. She was engaged to be married to one of Daley's boys. Near Eph's place. at the time. too. They are plum disgusted with her. She was working for Eph when she got married. I guess we need not trouble ourselves over her affair with Alec. It is quite a relief to me. She must have been sixes. Your Father & Mother came here last Monday with Mrs. Blanchard. I wrote about it in the letter I sent to ___ last. (I sent a letter with the conference news. & scraps from the Journal about fathers arrest He did not mention it. It can't have come yet.) We showed your folks over the house & they all thought it fine. Last Wednesday I commenced taking the breast away from Geneva. & last night & yesterday she had none nor today. She thought it dreadful. But to night is quite good. I am having such a time to dry my milk. I have such a quantity. All goes to milk. & I have got quite thin. with her being so hearty. & she had eaten but little. But now she takes bread & milk good enough. How time flies. a year since I was dreading confinement so. You were then free, now I am

meaning mine. & your troubles are just beginning. So it goes. first up & then down to the end of the chapter. I guess. If it will only be evenly balanced we can endure. I am glad to learn there is a prospect for an increase. I used to often wonder when there ever would be a time. or place when & where you could obtain your just due's. as things looked when I lived in Logan. & you was home with your mother. But I believed then as I do now. that every thing will work out right to those who try to do right. although I could not see how it could come about in your case but now we see it verified. although I guess not in the shape you ever expected to see it. & if it could be under more comfortable circumstances. you could appreciate it better. It must be specially trying to you. the work you have to do now. Any one who disliked early rising as bad you always have. & the weather must be cold now. How is Nell now. It is a long time since she has been heard from. I was quite amused with your snake adventures. Your heart must have been in your mouth. Also I had to laugh at your after-noon nap you mentioned. I could imagine how you felt. You spoke of coming home this winter. You will be feeling the need of comfortable quarters towards spring. I had not looked for you before. If you find yourself in need. remember we have a comfortable home here. & stand. ready to return to you the kindness you done me last fall. I would like you to feel free to accept unless you can make better arrange-ments. The children are wishing they could see Nell. They have not the least idea where she is. There is lots I could write if I had the time. & I know you would enjoy it. But the children are raising bedlam. Time forbids We could have so enjoyed a visit from ____ now the house is done. & it would have been a treat to ____ to see things more favorable here. It would do you good to see it too. I must not forget. I wrote in the missing letter. that Ruth O- wants to buy your stove & wants to know at once. She may have one by this. it being so long. but it will do no harm to write what about it. your cook stove. I believe I'd sell it if I was you. & get a new one next time. Well I must close now. & will try to write more another time. I have three other letters that have been waiting longer than yours. for answers. Kindest love to all of you.

I am as ever your Affect C_____

(Orson to Carrie)

Nov 13 1887

Dear Carrie

Sunday affords me an opportunity to pen a few more lines to you M(ary) got yours of the 6(th) yesterday. And she let me read it. I must say to you I honor you for the sense of justice you show and desire to see bestowed. where you say (You are glad M(ary) can have her just dues.) she appreciates your expression. I assure you. it has seemed that the way was hedged up for us to get together that we might learn to know and understand each other but as you say it has been realized and I feel truly thankful that it has been so. For I now feel assured that M has and does love and respect me. and feels kindly toward you all. God has ordered this for our good and I acknowledge Him in it. She has taken a wise and upright course while here. and has been a great blessing to me. I know that this much will please you. and it pleases me to write it. N(ellie) grows like a weed and is a great comfort to us. You do not know how much I prise your efforts and beneficent labors in helping me in all my affairs and labors and especially in my family To you I am indebted for much of the perseverance and success I have attained. At each step I have taken you have been ever ready and willing to aid me. My pen cannot express

the gratitude I feel. And my presence seems prevented for a season. But in my heart there is deep rooted, a feeling for you inexpressible. I am now truly thankful to Our Heavenly Father for all, for I feel indebted to Him for everything. I have labored much and long to get something with which to make you decently comfortable. I can now see that, that is but an infinitesimal part of our life's object. The great part is not in getting what we have not but in keeping what we have, and that we have each other and that too of the Lord, is enough to swallow up all else. To retain these precious gifts, our efforts in this direction must be unceasing. The love implanted at our first meeting must undergo careful culture, that it may grow as we grow in years. As in the past, I feel that it does and you become nearer and dearer to me with the years. It seems an age since I was at home to appreciate it as I have done in past years. But time does not wear off the remembrances of those happy times. Nor does it fail to come up fresh as the day it transpired. And to be at home again will afford me as much pleasure as did the first home we ever enjoyed. You know what that was. And as my thoughts revert to those times, my blood rushes through my veins with such rapidity that I almost witness, and pass through them again. Life seems to have gone fast, but much has been done in the time. And so far I have nothing to regret, but everything to be proud of. It is with delight that I note the pleasure you feel at the prospect we have of an addition to our little flock. And I have no doubt but it will be one of profit to us, although coming under circumstances of so peculiar a nature. Yet I feel it will be a prize. I write thus freely to you for I know your feelings in regard to it. We are well and with but one exception I am feeling well, and that is my debts. Were they off my mind I am a doubly happy man. But no matter the time will come when we shall be free.

The struggles we make. And make them to win.

We'll never regret that we did them begin.

But when we have got there, and see what we've done

We'll always be happy to think we begun.

I thought that surely this season I would be able to liberate myself but not so things have not been so favorable in financial matters. But in family matters I feel I am greatly blessed and that is of the greatest value to me. You have all been well at home and we have out here. While an opportunity has been given M & I to bind us together at a time most needed to ensure the happiness of each. Taking this into consideration I feel that I have done very well this season. Besides you are more comfortable at home. The job we are now on will enable me to finish paying for the house and your private bills at home. And maybe a little more. But this will be all owing to the weather we have for the next 6 weeks. I may be forced to remain here all winter I cannot tell yet. I hope not. And if I can only get free by selling all my outfits I shall not bind myself on any more work rail roading. My teams look splendid now and we are doing lots of work. But it is not as paying as I should like. You spoke twice of the stove at home. You may say it is not for sale. I think we shall need it. M has written to have it put in the house at Logan. I do not know what will transpire for Utah this winter but I hope for a change of some kind, which will allow us to return to our homes again. And that will restore peace. God knows what is best and I hope we shall endure all He sees fit to impose. Kiss the little ones for me. And you. I would bestow many on you, were I with you

Yours loving and true

Orson

(Carrie to Orson)

At Home Nov 20th 1887

Dear Husband

I again attempt to write as I agreed I hardly know how to begin, your chiding letter has so surprised me. It affects me more seriously the more I think of it. When it came on Sunday night, I read the other letter first, & was so glad to hear, & the first read letter was so pleasant, that when I read the chiding letter it did not affect me then, as it (the former 1 (one)) was so much pleasanter to think of. But now I have had time to reflect, I feel that I must write some thing in self-defense. I did not think, if it should be a year unheard from that you would ever be tempted to doubt my constancy to you & your interests. I have no doubt but it has seemed long the intervals between letters this summer. I have attempted in every letter to convey an idea of the pressure we have labored under. You may think that. you would have taken time if you had sat up all night. We have done a good deal of this kind of thing so much so that it exhausted my energies to such an extent that I have had to lay over the next day long enough to make up for all the time I have spent evenings. I will say once more, that my energies have been taxed to their ut-most powers of endurance. The baby has been quite ill, at times. that I have never mentioned, with her teeth, and she has nursed so hearty that it has very near prostrated me. She was very sick when the painting was being done as was Annie, it effected us all, more or less. You perhaps do not realize that If any move was made in my direction I have had to be the starter of it, in that was my mind taxing has been severe, & when I have written letters, any part after dark it has been at the expense of a nights sleep for I have not been able to quiet my nerves enough to sleep, & have waked up so often in the night, & lain awake for an hour or two hours take this from 7 hours & it leaves little rest almost continuously all summer, until we would over sleep from exhaustion. I do not like to write you thus, but these are plain facts, & what is more we have tried every way to avoid it, but you can't realize what it has been to build in connection with house work and farm work. To give you an idea, the last week of work here by the men on the house I would have given it all up to have been able to have sat down in peace. I did consider the matter seriously, & would gladly have let it all go. It was as much of an ordeal as I ever passed through you will think, that it cost more than it was worth, so it would if it had kept up longer, but we now enjoy the fruits of it, & when we first got into the place, we could not refrain from crying, so intense was our relief & gratitude for such a place. also has greatly increased our cares & anxiety by the way he has conducted himself, & the influence he has had with the men working on the house. I could not begin to convey with language the things we have had to do. So I shall not attempt further. You seemed to think that I had been engrossed in Mutual Improvement, & that I have been very restive under the curtailment of liberties. This is not the case. I have been as contented in my stay here this summer, as anyone could well be. I have regretted every time I have had to leave home, chiefly because I craved for the rest, I so much needed. Little pleasure could be got under such circumstances. In regard to M.I. matters, I feel I have done as little as I could and not one whit ahead of ours I think, for no one but ourselves know how we feel to leave them, to go to Y.L. Conference They too know how we felt. Maggie was well aware how we felt to leave her, & she promised so faith-ful to do all as we told her. & she did do the best she could in spite of their poking fun at her.that is Alec & Hannah. Those who will be particular about the

conduct of their children, will draw on those children the attention of those who are opposed to these things. & they will do all they dare to thwart the purposes of their parents. We have strove to show this up to the children. & they are not influenced by it as they other-wise would be. although the children are not as we wish them to be. They got more uncontrollable while the house building was going on than at any time since you was home. But now since we returned from Conference, we can take the time to look more carefully after the children, & correct them when needed. The result is they are much better now. The 17 days you mention as elapsing between the former letter and the Conference letter, was when we were moving in, & we were then just beginning to have trouble getting our letters, and we were daily expecting to get a letter saying whether you was coming home, & when we did not get letters we concluded you must be coming home, & we worked night & day nearly so as to get settled before you got here that we might be less pushed and could enjoy your visit. When we went to Logan, we found two letters wrapped up in a bundle for us in Mothers shanty They had thought that we would perhaps be over & get them before they could get a chance to send them to us & we did not dare to trust any letters that might have anything in them about your coming home, through the mail. I am glad we did not know what you was thinking just then. You wrote in one of your letters that you hoped we were not making any extra preparations to surprise you. We did not do that but tried to get things done so as to have the house ready for dedication. This took some planning to get done. We have never allowed ourselves to let on you coming, but when we found you was not likely to come, we could not but sense the disappointment. We have not regretted rushing things so as to get into the house. because we have found it hard to get the children into warm clothes, we have not got done yet, but there are none of them suffering now, so had we been more slow we would have been in more danger of having them sick. We did have decided symptoms of fever manifest with them, but they have become more used to cold weather now. & there is less danger. Typhoid & other fevers are very common every where. People are laid up with on every hand. We have felt so grateful that we have been spared thus far. We have made but one effort to go pleasuring this summer, or since you left. & that was on the fourth of July when we broke down before we got off the place. We have not tried it since. I wonder how it is that we have felt so cheerful as we have, it is in part because we have been too buisy to be other-wise, but now that we have time to think, we shall suffer the most. There is one part of my subject now, I would gladly omit, but I feel I must speak of it. You said that Conference news, Epistle, etc. you had had before you got ours, & the way in which you mentioned it was that, in that as well as the rest we had been tardy, that you had been furnished with it by more interested parties, apparently than us, it was not so worded but such was the tone of it. Truly O- I had never expected to hear the like from you. That any combination of circumstances could ever have made you feel that way towards us I never would have believed. Many women less sensitive than me would not have been able to endure the thought. I have felt perfectly content that you have lived under a different influence the past few months trusting that my conduct was proven in the past & safe from any assault made upon it, from any source. You may ask, who had done so. This letter is so unlike any you ever wrote me before. that with my own knowledge of your present association I can-not help but feel the difference. This has burst on me so sudden, & unexpected. I never had the least idea you was feeling in this way, & then on top of all, you write what Father W(right) will do, & to go to him, for

him to explain to Eph the agreement, & ask him for the other thing, these alone would never be noticed, but before I finish, I want to say that we have not felt the responsibility of this place for two seasons with-out learning some thing from it. I read the agree-ment to Eph, & he understood it easily, as did I, but as you requested me to take it to Father W. I have done so. I know it needs some one to witness to the agree-ment, & it will be better him than any one else. I enquired about the blackboard, but it is all smashed up & gone I also asked if they had a small low table not in use that could be used as a desk, but all they have is in Logan, used by Martha. Sister W- said that rather than us buy a desk or table, Bro W—would take some rough lumber & fit up a desk for us, the offer was kindly made, & I accepted of it. No O- you will believe me when I say that I am glad that the feelings of certain parties have changed towards you, but I have ever hoped that one change need not bring on another. I have never written you how I felt about your expression in one letter that M. had far outlived your expectations & that you wondered how it had been that you had lived so long so misunderstood by each other. I used to think the same, but after M- spent the summer, & fall with us. I saw in part, at least, the reason, what is was & will not say, as time will develop everything, both good & bad & no one can stay it. I am, & was glad that it is so, for it is as it should be. I only hope that when another phase of things comes along, it will remain as firm as now, if wo we shall all have need to rejoice. A noticable feature of M—'s character here was the strict exacting from others what she wished, or have nothing to do with them. & the deep feeling she manifests over small things, & is so much like her folks, small in her nature. I never knew you to write so exacting a letter, & the spirit & tone of it so like hers used to be. I have heard her tell of your course with her, about many smaller matters, & I used to tell her that I never saw you do the tings she spoke of. All these things make me feel that you must be experiencing a change in your feelings. I always expected that every change in the family must make a difference, but I hope that every change will be for the better. I will feel to have it, even if it is trying. M- used to complain to me of so many things you used to do, that she knew you got from me. I told her you might have done but if she felt like me, she would not object, if it leads to improve-ment. To this she had no answer. I feel the same now. If she can do anything to improve you, we should be glad, but at present I can't see the improve-ment. Had you had waited a little you would have seen whether it was intentional neglect. It pains me beyond measure to pen to you such utterances, & I can scarcely believe my senses that it is me who is doing it. But you know when I feel there is no other way I can nerve my self for almost any thing. This alone could not make me do it, if it were not for a sense of what I am ever trying to live for. I have ever tried to not place you in my feelings before duty, which I am naturally inclined to do, & if I have not been able to do this I could not endure such a letter. I still feel as I wrote you long ago. I hope to go on & do what is right, even if you should fail, which would be to me what no human being knows but you. Now Dearest O- all I have said has been in self defense. Do not think me uncharitable, or unkind. I could have passed it all by, inasmuch as you wished, as you expressed your-self in the last letter, that is was only a caution, but I felt if you ever did feel in the way you have expressed your-self you might again. I feel free from the implied charge. The only thing I have blamed my-self for has been that I did not write oftener even if it had to be short, but every time I tried to think to do that, there would be so much I wanted to write, that I could not tell what to leave unwritten, & then would think I'd wait till I could write all, & in that way

time would slip by. If only the spirit could witness to you how I have felt & with what patience we have had to try to put up with the delays in getting your letters, you would never thought to allow the first feeling of neglect to enter your heart. I fully realize that no one can help being influenced by their surroundings, & associates. Some we are under the same trouble but I pray it may never be to obliterate the fond ties & attachments of the past. This can never be done with-out serious injury to me. I felt it hard to endure the disappointment of your not coming home, but it would have been harder to have had you come & then not be able to enjoy it. So I was braced some-what to bear that disappoint-ment but I never reckoned on the present trial. I had held my-self from writing many things hoping I should have the pleasure of talking but we have almost given that up. The trials of our present position I may never be able fully to explain. When you write us what you want us to do about farm arrange-ments, it has been written in such positive language that we dare not vary from it, no matter how difficult it may be to carry out through your not knowing the circumstances which surrounds us at the time, & which has been taken advantage of by those who may see they have a chance to do so. Which greatly perplexes us. You would be surprised I know if you knew how people are changing in their feelings towards their brethren, & sisters. You will never come back to find things & folks as they used to be. I feel as if I lived in a different generation all ready, what we will feel like before this persecution is through is hard to tell. Alec is so jealous, now that we have made a move to have Eph come here, that he is hardly like the same individual. Will is also more or less effected. Alec says if he can't get the hay for \$5.00 a ton he'll not have it I told him all right. Eph wanted him to come & look over the machinery with him & see what repairing had to be done, to put things into running order & when I told Alec, he said that as Eph had said he was coming so many times & had not come he did not think he should come here to see Eph. It was to day that Eph wanted to see him (Sunday), & he said he would be to(o) buisy to come any-way. I told him I guessed we did not need him then, & he said good morning, & shut the door with-out any thing further, so I expect we have seen the last of him, unless it is when his money comes, & we let him have the use of one of the harnesses, and have ever done a kindness to all of them when we could. Will has been loth to do as we asked of him, in fact will not do it. He has since tried to get over it, whether it is because he wants to get the place here to care for this winter or not I do not know. But we paid him up last night, & told him if he was willing to work for Wheat Monday & Tuesday he could chop up some wood to last two weeks & hunt up M's calf. (which by the way has been hunted up twice since I first wrote about it), & after that we could do the chores alone, till Eph comes. We can get along if it don't storm, but if it does it may be hard for us. We have not had any rain for I don't know when, it threatens every few days & then goes off. Will offered to work here this winter if Eph don't come, but I feel like if he can't come & do as he's told, he can stay away. We will turn things out to the stacks, first He spends his Sundays either hunting or fishing, this I did not try to help in the summer but, I don't want it this winter. He has had \$.75 a day since Alec left, but he would not expect that in the winter. He is so very hard on the team. I feel it would be worse, & more loss than to even do without any thing but a small boy. He is worse than Alec, for he got quite decent. But old Maud will be ruined I fear, as Will has no judge-ment. So you hav an idea of the situation. Eph thought to bring his wife over last night to see wha she thought about the house arrangements, but has not come to day either. So I expect Alec will gloat

over his not coming. I have written you what Eph wanted to know of further understanding about the place, & we shall look for the mower next Saturday, whether it will get any further than Smithfield then or not I do not know, but hope it will arrive here. We paid Will money obtained from selling some Oats at Smithfield which Alec mentioned. We have \$2.00 left which we think to use to buy a hen turkey as we have only got that gobbler & one hen, the other two hens set off in the bottoms & something killed them, as we found their bodies since, & we did not raise one young turkey, although we tried hard to, but the best (?) came off when I was in Ogden, So we'll have to put up with it, I guess. When this money is gone, we will be striped again, but do not think we will need any personally unless it is to get a small black board made. I thought to do it, when John comes this week. He has not been over to finish the little that remains yet, but says he will be here this week. Him not coming, I have not been able to get his bill exact, but expect I shall this next letter. You asked how I liked the place now it is done. We have never had the likes before, it is all I could ask & far more it looks very attractive now out-side, since John put on the railing, in fact is complete, the inside is none the less so. It could not well be more convenient. I do not see one thing I would like altered, it is nearer my idea of what I'd like than any thing, I have seen yet. I have anticipated much your pleasure at viewing it, but I guess it is not to be realized. I have written M- about two weeks ago, & have as yet heard nothing from it, it was directed Martha Johnson box 45. Now there is one thing I wish to say before I close. If you feel to blame Annie for not writing. I do not think you would do it, if you knew how hard it is for her, & if she does not have plenty of time she can't do it at all, & when I read the chiding letter to her she felt very bad, & I felt sorry for her. I have not colored it any to(o) high, when I say neither of us have had time to (do) any better, & it applies to her also. She is nothing like she was last summer, she has patiently & steadily worked on all summer not seeking her pleasure. Now Orson I have tried to write as I would speak if you were here, & if you have, or do feel dissatisfied with what I can do, I hope you'll not forget that I have given you the best of my life, the poorest part remains, & if I can't help you physically as I used to do, I would if (I) could. I am glad M- is of such assistance to you, & I have not felt so anxious about your physical welfare since she has been there, but she will never do more than I have tried to. Pardon me Dear Husband, I can't help write thus.

God bless you, As ever C—

(Orson to Carrie)

Nov 27 1887

C.M.C.S. My dear wife

Today I have ridden 16 miles. in as cold weather as I have ever witnessed, and found a letter dated Nov 20th from you. And I must say was never so surprised. I am completely upset and do not know how or what to say. I crave the aid of the spirit. that what I may write may be understood. In the first place I desire you to retain the letter you speak of. that I may see again myself for if I have written a letter that would convey the ideas you give I am in total ignorance of it. I do know I wrote earnest but not disparaging. I have now been your husband 12 years. If I have ever told you an untruth or tried in the least to deceive you I should like you to acquaint me of it. Now my dear C if I have not. I pray you to let my words and solemn testimony. have weight in this

instance. The influence under which I have lived for the past few months. has had nothing whatever to do with my feelings towards you. No one has trespassed upon the sacred rights belonging to you and no one has in the least attempted to do so. This assertion (my dear wife) is entirely uncalled for and unfounded. I wrote you regarding the reconciliation I felt had been affected between M- and I. for I felt that you could appreciate it. and would be glad. You have been so good and always so anxious to help me. and so desirous to have us live to understand each other that I felt you would share my joy in knowing how matters stood. now in M-. I may be deceived but this much I do know I have done my duty by her. and should deception arise it is no fault of mine. I will say this she has ever expressed a kindly feeling towards you. And in any of my affairs she has never in the least interfered or even asked a question (only when asked to) and how you could infer that my letters bare a semblance of her tone and manners I cannot see. I am sure you are in error. She has exerted no influences over me, nor has she tried to. I think she knows her position and beyond that she has never tried to pass Now Carrie each step that I have taken in 12 yrs I have submitted to you. And have received your hearty approval. I have done it for our mutual good and advancement I have told you much in confidence that you might know all that I thought was of interest to you. But if I have erred in speaking of M- as I have found her I have erred only in trying to bless and comfort you. You arrived at the conclusion that some one was sending me letters and papers who you thought I inferred was more interested in my and my affairs than you were. This also was a hasty conclusion. The only letters I get from Utah come from you and papers I never get. The news I got of the conference all came from other camps. who are from Utah. I got it from them. Father C has written but one letter since his arrest, by this you will see how often I get mail M- has had but few letters since she has been here. And them I have not read and know nothing from them. I did think that you might have dropped me a line, if but short, for it was all I craved. but I do not blame or charge you for it. I thought you were over burdening yourself with M..I. (A.) matters when I felt you had enough to do at home. I think so yet. and what I said about that. I meant if for your good. Now I again remark that no combination of circumstances has combined to change me in the least. I am the same Orson that I was when I took you by the hand and over the sacred altar. I implanted that kiss. That forever bound our destinies together. believe me not changed. Often does the remembrances of all the past flit before me. The vows and covenants I have made are written in gold letters upon the tablet of my memory. And the promises to us are so interwoven in our history. That nothing will (if we be true) prevent us partaking of them. It is for this I live, not to cast off but to add to the jewels I now have. It is cruel (dear wife) to pain me with the thought that I was drawn away from those I love more than myself. All I have done has been that I might raise you up and place each where merit has designed you. Read again my letter and in the spirit of the love that drew us together 13 years ago. See if aught can ther(e)in be found that would indicate a drawing away. Or a fathers earnest desire for your welfare. If it pains you for me to speak of M- I will not do so I done it because I thought it would please you. You say I have the best of your life I can say so of myself you have had the best of mine. And what of it that is left you shall have as you have had before. I am not weary in my struggles as long as there is a breath in my body I want that used for good. and this you shall share. Dear wife. Please read my letter as I worded it and do not place a false construction to it. which you surly have. done where I said I had

got the conference news from other sources than you you make me to say I got it from others more interested in me and my affairs than you were. Now I never said such a thing. And it was the farthest from my thoughts. Oh what anguish I feel to have my motives thus impuned. Truly all my past life. and efforts to merit a confidence unshaken from you. have not been in vain. I cannot for one moment think so. I have more than once thought to burn your letter. and not answer it. I cannot think it is yours. Now I have concluded to return it to you. And instead of keeping mine. Return it to me I long again and again to see the article that my hand should pen. to call forth such feelings from you. Unless I knew you so well. I should fear that. that spirit of jealousy we have so often condemned had seized you. But I cannot think that. You are too wise for that. You say you never wrote me how you felt. At the expression I made. that M- had far outlived my expectations. No you never did write me about it. but I felt in saying that to you it would please you. Be ware of prejudice love remember how it has been against us and what we have suffered by it. I have suffered the sting of prejudice and you have known it in Paradise for years. And I am lothe to allow myself to feel the spirit again. You to(o) have met much and I hope you feel as I do about it. I never knew what Father W(right) would do or say. if you asked him in regard to the lease. I had had no communication with him in the least and in fact only thought of him as I was writing the letter to you and I know he knew nothing of it until you presented it to him and I thought him best qualified to explain and to its being signed, but I had no idea whether he would do it or not. Now in conclusion for this time. I will say I am sorry for this letter. or that there should ever be any cause for it. If I am to blame our father knows my willingness to right it. One thing more you speak of obliterating the fond ties of the past. a thing I have ever tried to increase and all I have this far done has been to bind more closely. and strengthen those ties. You say you feel free from the implied charge I know of no charge that I have made. You must have inferred it. I did write stern. For I felt it. but you must have borrowed much more than I inferred. When that was written my whole soul was awake to our mutual interest and I could not have felt better towards you. No person has in the least ever tried to interfere in any personal or family matter. In regard to my coming home as I once wished to. You say it was a disappointment. but it would have been harder if I had come and then not (been) able to enjoy it. What I am to understand by that I do not know. unless you infer that I am so much changed that I would not be myself. atall. Or was it the fear of the D. Ms. Then you speak of the present trials. Is there nothing I have that is trying. but with it all I should not allow myself to add one item to your trials if I knew it. I have no such intentions I do not blame A(nnie) for not writing but if you all knew how pleased I am to get one word from home I know I would get more. If but one word it would be enough. I have written enough. Read it with care. I am more than thankful to God that you have had good health I am pleased beyond expression. I do not know where I shall go or do this winter my finances will not allow of my moving around. May the spirit of God bear testimony to you of my love. constancy and appreciation

Your ever true H Orson Smith

Do as you feel about the sheep refered to. I aproove it M- has rec'd yours and will answer

(Orson to family)

Sunday eve
Dec 4 1887

My dear family

It does not seem possible that Dec has come. How the year has flown the last month of 1887. To day I have been at work all day. it is the first Sunday I have labored since I have been away. We are pushed now to get our work done so we are compelled to keep at work. It has frozen very hard and we work to a great disadvantage. It will require all this month to finish I think what we are to do this fall. We cannot finish up entirely this winter. But I do not know that we shall do it next spring. I have no idea what I shall do next year but I guess something will turn up. by that time. From what I can learn there is no chance for me to come home. and be safe. I so much desire to come but am at a loss to know what to do. I am seriously thinking to make my way to canada as soon as I can get off this work. and remain there until spring. And then return and finish up if we are wanted to do it. Would you approve of this move. And what do you think of it. I do not know that I can go at that time it will be so cold and late. But if the weather is suitable I may do so. It will take me but five days to drive out there where our people are. Some teams started for there from here today. and had I been through I think I should have gone with them. If I was only free from debt I would not hesitate to go at once. What means I shall get is now in the work here and I shall not be able to get it all until the work is completed. Which will be some time in the next year. I shall await anxiously your letter in answer to this. for I do want to do for the best. And you may be able to aid me to take the wisest course. I dread the trip north. and I know the danger south. And of the two evils I desire to choose the least. You know full well my situation now. and I long to have your minds in these matters. It is no use thinking of traveling by rail any where this winter. Wherever I go must be by team. so it cannot be far. We have had extremely cold weather this winter all ready and I dread the balance of it. although it may not be so bad again. It seems an age since I last saw you and my Dear home and it does seem that I may not this winter. The persecution ripens fast. and we cannot tell what time it will last. This much I do know. when Father says it is enough it will cease. These things may be for our good in some way. I often wonder how we shall feel when we can again feel the liberty we have enjoyed in the past. We valued each others society then but never like we could now. We did not know that it would not always be so! or we might have placed more value upon it. I often think how easily we lived in our humble home in P(aradise) when I could enjoy the Sabbath day in peace with you. When I could read and rest without fear of molestation. Oh how changed. I do not feel that I have a home. Only by my remembrance of you there and as for the enjoyments I have refered to I have none of them. But I do not complain If I can but be worthy of you and be counted among Gods people I am amply repaid. For all sacrifices. I trust all my letters have reached you and that I shall receive answers soon. I have great anxiety for you and I ever pray for your protection and happiness. I see by the papers that quite a stir is being made about the Church Property. I wonder how far they will carry that. It is no more nor less than confiscating our property. and who knows but they may yet try it on individual property as well. I see that the Sts at present are best off poor. They can live better and have nothing for our enemies to covet. But God has said that the earth and all that is ther(e)in shall be given to the Sts of the most high God. To possess it for ever and

forever. This will be when we know how to use it. Now loved ones be of good cheer you are dear to me I prize you as only a true husband can and I hope to live up to all that will exalt you and I. It is for this I have agreed to be your head and for this I am trying to live.

Believe me never more faithful than now.
The heart that beats within my breast
And drives its liquid stream
To every thought gives greater zest
And dwells upon the scene.
When we in all the bloom of youth
Agreed to live in life
Bound firm as heaven is to truth
Without contentious strife
And longer still than in life's breath
We willingly should stand
For bonds are stronger far than death
We'll there be hand in hand.
Oh Father, comfort those I love
And make them fearless & bold
To meet the trials and to prove
Faithful when we're Old

Love to you all and my dear little ones be good and kind. I love you as only a father can and I do hope you will grow to be. Good and honorable. Be good to your Mothers and do not grieve their hearts. If you do this God will bless and take care of you.

Your loving father and Husband

Orson Smith

Do not mention my plans outside of yourselves. at present.

(Orson to Carrie)

Dec 6, 1887

Dear Carrie

Your letter of Nov 27th came yesterday. I had written on Sunday. a family letter. but I am only to(o) pleased to get yours that I may answer that. I go to town this morning and will post this I have sent A(nnie's) money also the tax money. a draft in your name. You can endorse it and turn it over and get a receipt of them. You need not go in person after you endorse it. You will know whether A(nnie's) money is right or not. I gave ample scope for you to arrange with Eph about minor matters. I guess you have all by this time. The house in L(ogan), I have never said one word to any one about it and know nothing about it. Only that M- has instructed Martha about it. So we better let it rest. for fear of other misunderstandings. I do not want my name in the matter. and wonder how it has got there at all. I should never keep a boy around you that would do nothing. Better let him out at once and try another. Be a little independent at least in feeling. They will ride clear over you if you do not. I am glad you are all well and I do feel that you have been blessed in this respect. You will see by my letter to you how I took yours and I returned yours believing when you read it again you would be surprised

at yourself. It is so strange to me that at the least bit of earnestness I may manifest in my letters, you should think some one was influencing me or that I was drawing from you. I cannot think that you think me so changeable, and you can see, it is quite a serious charge that I should allow anyone to swerve me from the path of duty and justice. And I cannot for the life of me. see upon what ground you can even surmise such a thing. It is very difficult to write understandingly and I should be better than that we should impune the motives of each other to any but the best desires. And what is as bad to me as anything. was that you should think that M- had anything whatever to do in the matter. for it was so utterly uncalled for and untrue. And again how could you think that I should allow anyone to dictate my letters. You say they bare a tone different to me I cannot see why they should for no one has helped to write nor have they tried. Now my dear wife these are some of the reasons why I felt so bad. I know you must have been greatly tried to have written as you did. For you must have more confidence in me. I am trying to be true to all of you and I desire to be upright with each and be just. This I have ever tried to be. and never more so than now. You speak some what in doubt. where you say you wonder if I should love you as I do now. if you were not making these sacrifices. Oh, C-. what must you take me to be. Are not the sacrifices that I am making. stronger tokens of my love for you than any thing else? Are not my efforts for you and your advancement and progress here and hereafter. Who could do more. I mean the advancement of all. It is for this we labor for the progress of each means the progress of all. I wrote very earnestly I know. but in my place. and if I over stepped the bounds of propriety and justice it was not to injure any one in the least. I shall drop the subject now. And I pray it may never occur again. I hope that Annie may be informed of my feelings if she knows what we have been writing I have said nothing to any living being but you. It is our own. and so with any thing you may write to me. It is as sacred as your heart is to me. I know you must know I am trustworthy I am trying to do right here as well as at home. and I do not feel changed We have set out for the beautiful Valley. the haven of peace and rest The road may be rough. the journey tedious. But if accompanied with true love and full confidence it may be smoothed a great deal. Dear wife it pains me to have you doubt me I have never doubted you. nor have I ever felt but you meant well and for the best. no matter what you did. This is my confidence in you and I trust that through time and eternity it may be as unshaken. I shall close my letter now. praying god to bless you all.

In much love I am
Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Dec 11, 1887

Dear wife.

I have recd and read your letter of Dec 3rd and I ans it this morning. I do not know how to express my feelings in regard to it. And I am sure I shall dwell but little upon it. It pains me to do so. And I much prefer to forget it. As to me forgiving you. I have nothing whatever against you. And you are in as full confidence as ever with me. I do not think you would have written as you did. had you understood me. I freely overlook all. and love you just as I ever have once. No matter what we may encounter I always pray that not the slightest... may come between our sacred feelings and should misunderstandings arise let them never cause a doubt upon our sincerity and faithfulness.

I have read my returned letter and I cannot see where you could have gleaned the impression you entertained. I note the sentences you underscored but if they bear a tone of harshness I do not find it. I know I wrote sternly for I felt as I before stated that you was overdoing yourselves with matters that did not concern us personally. and unless I wrote sternly you would continue. I never felt more kindly and interested in your welfare. One thing more I will mention and reiterate. that it was myself that wrote. Blame no one but me. I shall always defend the innocent. I am pleased to hear that baby is well or almost again and I do pray for her entire recovery. and for the health of all of you. What a misfortune for those at the House in L. it is too bad. Isn't it. Dear C I feel and keenly sense the trying situation you are placed in and would only be too glad to share it. But you know why I cannot be nearer. Do not think me any the more removed in feeling from you. I constantly feel your presence near me. And I never wish it removed It is for higher and nobler ends we labor. and we must not loose sight of it. We are all interested in it and the good of all must be considered You do not fully know the support you have been to me. nor how I value it. or all doubts would be far far from you Now it matters not what any one may say or do It should not interfere with our plain straight duties to each other. I am so sorry I am not free. It seems that I am in bondage. No one knows my feelings. May God grant you his aid and blessing

I am as ever True

O.G.S.

(Orson to family)

Dec 11, 1887

Dear family.

I enclose a little more in this letter. Another Sunday has arrived I write by candle light as it is not daylight yet. I have Jacobs bill. of Barber and store and note. which will make 409.10 This amt I will send at my earliest

330.00

\$739.10

convenience. perhaps this month. I do not like to dwell upon my finances. So will not try to explain until I have settled up. I will try to send enough to pay your accounts there. Allie will be home in a day or two now. He may call and see you. I shall depart from here as quick as I can get off the work. It is too bad weather now to be R. Roding. And I want to quit. As soon as possible I do not know how we are going to be treated by the R.R. Co we are at their mercy. as we did not get our work completed according to contract. I have reasons to believe they will be fair. My dear family if in any of my former letters I have said any thing that has hurt your feelings. I pray you over look it I had no such intentions I entertain the best of feelings for you all. You are a part of me and I never forget it. If I am severe at times. I have your best interests at heart. With you I feel strong. Without you I should be weak. My absence. Makes you doubly dear to me. And I long to join you. but alas what shall I do. I lack wisdom now if I ever did. And I feel it. I am at a loss to know how to move The only anchor I have is in God I know He can lead the way. In him I trust. Give my love to the children. I have written you about the north. How it will be I do not know. The weather is very bad for traveling and I dread the undertaking. I hope I may be directed aright. These are trying times. Oh that we may be true. I know that we have the truth. And all the powers combined cannot break

them down. And the day will soon be when our light must shine as it never has before. You and I will see it. and rejoice in it. The time intervening is the test. God bless and preserve you all.

Your, True, H.

(Orson to Carrie)

Dec 16, 1887

Dear Carrie.

As I have an opportunity of having a letter delivered to you by M- I embrace it. I know when you see her, you will wish to see me. And as I cannot be there in person. I must send all the comfort I can by letter. To be with you to enjoy the holidays would be beyond price. and if it could be I should be there. I am not going to devote much time in this letter to financial matters but I desire to devote to you alone. By this time I trust that baby is entirely well and that all the rest are too. Our letters of late. although somewhat excitable, have borne evidence of the great interest we have in each other. And the earnest hope and desire that that interest be not impared. I have taken all this in. and no doubt you have. Now Carrie. I want to say just a few things which I hope will be of a lasting benefit to you. I have long since learned the great blessing I have had in you. You have ever been willing to share my ups and downs. from one thing to another we have had to change. until we have reached our present position. At every step we have taken in family matters, you have stood ready to place yourself on the alter of sacrifice. To further our advancement all of which I am sensitive of. and appreciate to the fullest. I am a weak frail man. But believe me love. these whole soul efforts. and untiring assistance. is not forgot. And although at times you may be tempted to think me slack. I never have in the least iota felt that my love was less for you. But on the contrary I feel an increasing respect and love which has grown from the date of our first meeting. When from beneath a huge sunbonnet I first saw and read truth and honesty in your heart. little did I dream that a union of our lives. meant such a diversified life for us. But to have you meet each change with true integrity. has made you doubly dear to me. and confirms my ever memorable first impressions. Each addition to our family has raised you in my estimation. Dear C- never think me going back again. It is too hard that you should think it of me. I am trying as hard now as ever to be a just husband to all. For this I constantly labor. Your aid has had its weight. and I appreciate it. I have never mentioned one thing of our late letters to M. so she knows nothing about them. She is in total ignorance of anything that has passed. And I hope that none but you know about it. I do hope you may have a good time at the holidays I shall try to enjoy it in spirit. I was telling M- how I should enjoy the meeting when she gets there if I could be there to(o). this is such a feeble way of conveying my feelings. I hope you can realize more from her how I feel. She can tell many things that I cannot think to write. You will enjoy it I know. In one of your letters you said it was hard to endure a life of hardship. This cut to the center of my being. for it is as hard for me to think that you have to as for you to do it. In this it might have been my lot to have to struggle all the time It pains me when I think I cannot help you more. We have met and our love found a resting place and it has burned intensely ever since. It is all I can offer yet. That is as intense as ever. God bless and comfort you dear wife. More than I have done. no other could do under the circumstances. We shall be left alone after this week as all of our Utah boys will be gone. And none but strangers

working for us. You will realize how I feel when all are gone. Where I shall go or what I shall do I do not know I hope to be led aright.

I wish you joy and gladness
A happy joyfull meeting
Free from sorrow and sadness
A heartfelt whole souled greeting.
I wish you a lasting pleasure
A time not one to forget
Love poured out beyond measure
A something no one will regret.
I wish you a time that will hasten
The union I've longed with delight
To witness, and see our hearts fasten
Together with bonds strong and bright.

With untold love and
Affection I am
Your True
Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Dec 25 1887

Dear Carrie

I shall occupy a part of this day to those I love but can not see. It snowed a little last night and today it is quite cold. I got a letter dated Dec 13. but it came after I had answered yours of the 16. which accounts for my not knowing anything about Eph being on the farm. You spoke of his willingness to come & etc. all of which I am glad to hear. But how long it will continue we can not tell. Now from the past experiences we have learned (I think) that in order to maintain a good feeling we must be carefull in the way we deal with each other. I wish you to do this with him. Let everything he gets be charged to him and all he does for you be credited to him and balance up your accounts occasionally. Do not let them run too long. You will find it the better way. You know Eph cannot do his writing & etc. and if accounts are let go too long they will slip his memory. Well now to something else. I was wishing that I was with you this morning and enjoy this day at home. We were about to go to work today but finally decided not to. And I could not have written if we had. But it is a dull day for me. I never thought that time went so rapidly but now I am compelled to admit it. Almost two years since I first left home. In that time what have I done. As far as personal improvement I see but little compared to what should be. In the devotion of my dear family I see a growth. for I realize now that without them I would be much worse than I am. Financially I see a little growth. Yes I see a good deal. I would feel unworthy if I complained at my success. I see I have been blessed. But with all I have I feel it is valueless compared to my interest in the Work of God. the Gospel. to which I am indebted for you & for all that makes my life a desireable one. or a pleasant one. All the happiness I have comes from the knowledge I have of your respect for me. and the esteem in which I feel I am held by my family. Asside from the comfort derived from the spirit of God. of which I endeavor to retain a portion, This brings comfort when in distress and a true source of supply. It was

uppermost in my mind to liberate myself from debt this summer but in this I have failed and another struggle is necessary. I shall be so happy when it can be done. It has been a worry that I never want again and with the help of God I will try to keep free. I shall not get as near free this season as I was last. But I have this consolation I have not squandered any. nor spent any thing unnecessarily I think. In reckoning up I find I have sent home for interest, house and mortgage on Father C House 2777.06 this would have half paid what I owe if all had been applied on debts (or notes) But it has gone for other things and I feel it is all right. But this next season must be spent in lifting all the notes I owe. or as many of them as possible. I may be able to do a little more when all our work is accepted. I hope to meet all you have sent me about at least. It will leave me short for winter but I shall get along somehow. I will not write more on this subject least I weary you. How I should enjoy a talk with you. and the rest we would enjoy were we together. I dare not dwell upon it even in thought for it pains me. I never felt that we should be sepperated so long at a time as we have been the past two years unless I was off on a mission. But so it has been. I guess my mission is to get out of debt. I feel so at least. Your reference to how the children missed me. pained me beyond expression I can endure almost anything but the pleadings of an innocent child. This I cannot resist. I shall endeavor to write to them and enclose it in this. Prospects are not very good in these parts for work another season and I may have to move to some other part. I shall make diligent inquiry about work. But if I can find none I will endeavor to sell out and free myself as far as I can. If you have anything in the horse kind that you can sell, do so and apply it on accounts. Dear wife do not censure me for dwelling on these matters. I cannot rid my mind of them. Would that I could see you a word of comfort. a pleasing smile anything to make forget these things at times. You have often comforted me when I have been cast down. Believe me when I say you are just as necessary now as ever. The esteem I have for you and my warmest love I hope you will retain forever. God bless you Carrie We shall meet and pour out our souls to the consolation of each other May the day speed on.

Your loving
And true
Orson

(Orson to daughters)

(possibly Dec 25, 1887)

My dear daughters

In the letter recd from your mother I was grieved to learn that Ida had been talking impudent to Annie & Mary You do not know how bad I felt. to think that my little girl of which I am so proud should so far forget herself as to conduct herself so improperly. Just stop and think how bad it does look when A- & M- are doing all they can for your good & comfort & helping mama. Don't you think you ought to be good to them If you love your own papa you will love them & if you wish to be good to me be good to them. Mama says Ida that you did go and ask M-'s forgiveness I was so glad to hear this & I do hope you will never forget it. & that you will never be guilty of doing so again. that is be naughty. Papa is far away from you now & can only counsel you by writing to you. & I trust that you will be willing to do as I tell you in this way. And also I hope you will be obedient to those at home who can teach you & help you to be good

children. I am always very anxious to hear from home. to know how you are but am always sorry when I hear that my little children have been naughty. Now that Mama is sick I wish you to be very good & do all you can to help. that she may not be worried about you. I will try to write you often & shall want to know how you have been doing. Now dear children never be saucy or impudent to any one and especially to those who are at our own home & are trying to help us. God loves little children but he loves them better when they are good. & so do I. Remember what I said to you in your last letter. that we should never do to anyone what we would not like to have done to us. I recd the ring that Ida sent and letter Maggie wrote both of which I was pleased to get. But what I prize above all is to hear that you have been good children all of you. Now when you write again you must send me word how you are doing also Ezra & Everet. I would like to hear from you all. Be good to one another I pray for you all the time and I hope you do not forget your papa. May the Lord bless & keep you from all harm & help you to be good little boys & girls is the earnest wish of your anxious & loving papa.

(Orson to his Children)

no date

To My Dear Children

Once again with pure delight
To my little ones I write
Filled with joy unspeakable.
To please – I trust I shall be able –
You who from the God above
Have graced our home in tender love.
Come a joy to parents true
A greater mission waits for you
Born in Zion, a precious boon
Not forgotten. Very soon
A greater joy should fill your hearts
When reason to your mind imparts
The knowledge that you come to earth
Beneath the covenant of such worth.
Forget it not my precious jems,
You are the blessed diadems
Your loving parents seek to wear,
A joy the pure in heart will share.
Be true to parents, friends and truth
Above the rest. Yourself in youth
Be pure in thought and action too
And angels will watch over you.
Be kind to all you chance to meet
And gentleness will guide your feet.
Seek company that will elevate
And smile away the look of hate.

Do not in anger deign to chide
The faults in others you should hide.
Love all that's good, for real worth
God's day of peace will come to earth
A staunch reward to all the true,
A share of which will come to you.
Go down upon your bended knee
And pray for every soul to free
From every evil thought or snare
Heaven's glory then to share.
Oh, Father bless and keep them true,
For exiled ones must trust to You.

Your Loving Father
Orson Smith

(Orson to his children)

No date

My dear children.

I was delighted to learn by letter that you were all making great efforts to labor interestedly in the affairs of home and you cannot imagine how proud I felt of my darlings. Papa keenly feels that there is no place like home. And when I know that love abounds in your hearts and that you are kind and good to each other, I am all the more sensitive to the "saying." As you grow in age so also you should grow in the fear of God and the love of your devoted parents. You have a excellent opportunity of inculcating the grand principle taught by our saviour, "Love one another." This is the greatest and most elevating principle that He.taught. And upon which He said hung all other laws. Keep this in view. that if you love your mamas. your brothers and sisters. you will also love me for in loving them you are one for you are all mine. Strive to overcome every selfish feeling you may have. And ever try to aid in the happiness of others. In this you will always find the greatest and richest. pleasures. Now is the time to live for life. And that life should be one of usefulness.

In all your pleasing, youthfull plays
With clouded skies or sunny days
Remember 'tis a truth you'll find
True pleasure comes from being kind.
The pain that racks the sorrowing heart
From its slow torture is made to start,
The soul to pleasantness is stirred
So often by the single word:
Kindness.

Your loving father.

P.S. If anything should occur that you should have to get out of the way take the train to Helena Stop there at a hotel and telegraph me from there and I will meet you there. Do not delay it, if there is danger.

O.G.S.

(Orson to family)

Jan 8 1888

My Dear family.

Sunday finds me at camp a very pleasant day and all well. To attempt to pass over one Sabbath now without writing a little to you. Would be a loss to me. Which I could not make up the entire week. Besides I know you are all anxious to hear often from me. Judging from my own feelings I conclude it is so. It has been bitter cold weather here for the past 10 days. But we have been constantly at work I have sent 13 head of my horses off on a ranch for the winter. The other I am at work with. I have 23 men at work who board themselves only four of us at camp now. You see by this we are not numerous. I think I will be done this week. but I cannot tell. All is owing to the weather. It has been 35 degrees below zero. and I tell you that's cold enough. I cannot say that I have suffered very bad. I got a pair of felt boots and some overshoes. which keep my feet quite comfortable and the mits M- made me inside of a pair of buck mits keep my hands warm. You see by this I am comfortable. You need feel no anxiety. I am working for the company now by the day. M will be able to explain how it is. I feel lost. The time has been so long since I saw you and it gets worse for me every day. When you write of the children. I can weep I feel so bad. All that sustains me is your efforts and Our Fathers Aid. Nothing do I prize on earth as I do my family. and your love and consideration of each other. build me up and helps me to endure any and all trials. Language fails to express the esteem in which I hold you. Nothing but the spirit can bear evidence I felt this keenly when I heard of your good time together on Xmas. My heart leaped for joy. and I want to tell you it done me a world of good. With this feeling constantly, I think we can rub out this existence in the hope of something better. Without this feeling of oneness, my heart would be sad and my life would be a drag. Time is short Eternity is vast. This well worth our struggles. I have not recd my valise yet. And your last letters bore date of Dec 28. If the winter breaks up in March as all say it does here I think I shall go north but that I cannot tell yet. The circumstances around us at home and here will controle us more or less. I await to hear from you in answer to my last letters. It will be too cold to start before Mar(ch) anyway. During Feb. I shall not know what to do unless I take a trip east and if I do I should like Carrie to accompany me. We could get back by Mar 1st. what do you think of it. Write me. But unless you think it safe for M at home I would not think of this. For I should deem it unwise for her to stay there if unsafe. You will be able to judge of this. better than I can. And if you think it all right and favor this plan. C had better get ready for if I go. I shall decide hastily and she will have not time to prepare. Can all the children be left? I feel it would be to(o) cold for her Upon getting your answer to my other letters and this. I will decide and write particulars. If we go it should not be later than Jan 20th or 25. I shall know about my finances this week. It seems too bad to go and spend the money and be owing. But if I must be away all winter I should like to have a change from my long summers work. Do not decide hastily I want to do for the best and I desire the approval of all of you. If we go it will be a flying

trip and we do not want to take anything but just what we can carry in valises. It will cost about 400,00 for us both to go and come back Can we afford to use it in that way. I shall apply 1000.00 more on debts and will have enough then Praying that wisdom may direct us in our every move and that God our father will approve

I am Your
True. H

(Carrie to Mary ?)

At Home Jan 15th 1888

Dear -----

I thought to come down this fore-noon. But it was so severe cold. I gave it up. We received a letter from Mr. Dyer Receiver, asking what we intended to do with the note in the P.E. fund. stated that O- was surety for \$117.50 with interest 47.90. total 160,40. I don't know how he gets this total. He further states that there is a note of O- own of \$109.50 still unpaid. Do you know anything about this. I shall forward the letter at once to ----, & state to Mr Dyer that is what I have done with the letter, that he must wait till I learn what to do. I shall see Mr. K—to day about it. would be so glad to see you about a number of things, but as our children are yet free from disease, do not hurry till you are sure all is safe. Have got no other letters Bring a couple of quilts if the cold continues, when you come.

Lovingly

(Orson to Carrie)

Feb 9 1888

My Dear C.

I am back in the tent. And knowing that your feelings will be as intensified as mine I cannot wait for your letter before writing. And I should not feel satisfied if I did not put upon paper. for your comfort. the deep sentiments of my heart. The joy of meeting the pleasure of association the pain of parting. are vivid to you as well as me. I can never forget either. I would not say one word to flatter you. but to give what is due I shall always delight in. You are to me a jewell. To retain the love in which you hold me. I shall ever try. Never in all my life have I known the depth of your love.until now. To meet me as you did with a deep and fervent desire. to comfort me. The strong and anxious effort. to understand me. so as to be of greater aid to me. The sacrifice of leaving me after so short a stay. are to me untold wealth. You could not bestow greater blessings upon me. My words shall bear evidence that I do wholly appreciate it all. You have always been a comfort and an unselfish blessing to me. but there are your crowning efforts. You know me now as you never have. And I feel it is with increased respect and love. My prayers follow you on your journey and are with you at home. And as I write I feel you are now in the valley I love so well. (Thursday 7 A.M.) To tell you how I spent the first night after you left would only be to harrow up your feelings. as also last night. And until I hear from you I shall still be anxious. The only comfort I found was in prayer for your safety and for all at home. I do hope you will find all well when you arrive. When I think it over I do not know why I let you go back so soon. Perhaps you can explain. I was lothe to let you go but it seemed it was the time. I did feel that you should remain a month with me at least. It would have passed off the winter so pleasantly.

Thankfull am I for what we had. It is such a pleasure to think of it. yet I have not got over the depressed feeling produced at parting. It was a dreary ride from Helena to this place. To think we were going from each other. After we had experienced such unspeakable feelings of coming together. I took such a delight in your surprise at Deer Lodge. The name of that place will be ever dear to us. I could not bear to think that you would be alone at Garrison or Silver Bow. Now Dear C be happy for we know the chain which binds us together. which has grown brighter and brighter from our first meeting until now. It is of the most precious gems. And sparkles so bright that it is a constant light to our path. God bless you love and may we both be guided to that place where we have labored to attain with love to our dear little ones and all. I am Yours

As ever

(Carrie to Mary)

The Farm Feb 11th 1888

Dear Mary,

You will be greatly surprised to get this & see where dated, but I will come down to-morrow & explain all. I would have come down to-day but I feared that to have me come on you so sudden might excite you. & you might betray to your folks where I have been. with-out intending. & I thought I'd better send Eph with this note. & the enclosed letter. & that would serve to prepare you. to meet me. & you could arrange to have our time to-gether alone. Annie may come down to(o) with me. if mother can get along with the children. I got home yesterday. feeling very tired. I surprised father in S—and the folks here. coming on them so sudden. Will see you to-morrow if all's well.

Lovingly

Carrie

(Orson to Carrie)

Feb 12. 88

My Dear Carrie

How pleased I am to have your letter from Smithfield dated Feb 9. it came so I got it last night. I was surprised at its coming so quick but none too quick to suit me. For two days after you left me I could hardly raise my feelings at all. I never was in all my life so depressed. But after writing you. and getting yours from Butte, I began to feel better and am quite myself now. although the feeling haunts me still. I am glad you are home safe again. I know the welcome you will get and the joy you will feel. I rejoice in your rejoicings. It is too bad that so much sickness prevails among our people. You may have to meet some of it among our family. but God will temper the storm for your sakes. to His good pleasure. We will submit. How much I should liked to see you all. my dear children deprived of the pleasure of seeing me. Words fail to utter my sentiments. You Dear C alone know my feelings I have learned what it is to have the Heart ache. And if ever I have caused either of you this pain. I pray you to forgive me. With the help of my Father I would never cause this pain in any one. Your letter from Butte came the evening after I had written you. And oh so glad I was to get it. It did me so much good. It seemed for so long after you left that I must here (hear) you speak again and your letter alone comforted me I am so sorry we could not have gone east but you know it would have delighted me. If I could be that pleasure to you. You also know my disappointment

in it. all of which it is not easy for me to forget. Now dear C. I must say just a little about our visit. In a letter I wrote you before you came I spoke of our meeting and its results etc. You will remember it. Do not think me one bit disappointed in our meeting I had a premonition of it. as you can testify from my conduct in your presence. I did not think to see you quite so poor in body. But I did feel quite strange regarding our intercourse. What I want to say is this. The comfort you gave me far outweighs anything else you could have done and I did enjoy all I was capable of. I could have taken no greater pleasure. in any other way. Your devotion to me is life to my life. And natures demands sink in oblivion compared to the joy afforded by such love. So I do not want you to ever feel that you cannot meet my every demand. It would so belittle me in my own estimation. I would far rather that my creative powers should decline with yours. Than that they would make the slightest change in my love for you. So My precious wife, you will rest content upon this "Won't You" and as we see and know each other better for our meeting so may it always be. a comfort to you. Your loving H.

O.G.S.

P.S. Ezra had better wait for warmer weather to be bapt

(Orson to children)

Feb 17 1888

My Dear children.

It is with the greatest possible delight that I write a few lines to you. To see your loving faces your sparkling eyes. and hear your merry voices. would so gladden my heart. that I dare not contemplate it. I feel and know you would be pleased to see me. but for the present. we are all deprived of this satisfaction. God is overruling all for our good. And as we grow older we shall see it more clearly. Mama told me how that you all prayed for me. and desired so anxiously to see me and how that you were trying to be good boys and girls. All this so overcame me that I could not refrain from tears. They were tears of joy. And even now my heart chokes me when I think of it. Remember this my dear children, the course you pursue will be a wealth of happiness to your parents or a deal of sadness. Happiness if you do right. Sadness if you do wrong: Listen to the spirit that always tells you to do right. Do not think that you cannot enjoy yourselves. The greatest enjoyment comes from doing right. Our Heavenly Father is watching over you. and is ever ready to bless. and add to your happiness and comfort. You must trust him and He will listen to you. Now that spring is coming I hope that you will take a great delight in keeping every thing neat and clean all around your home and in your garden. And try to admire the beauties that God causes to grow and surround you. the trees the grass. the flowers. all have some beauties for your benefit. Learn to love and admire them. See that you cause no pain to any living thing not even the little fly. or bug. For all have feelings like you and you know how it feels to be hurt. So also with each other be careful not to injure in the least. each others feelings but guard your every word and action. Jesus so loved us that he died for us. So should we love each other. Almost His last counsel to us was to love one another. And. oh what joy to the heart. is the love we impart. To parents, friend sister and brother, for Jesus can see that happy we be. In trying to love one another. Be careful this spring not to use matches unknown to your mothers. nor go near the water with your smaller brothers and sisters. Do all the good you can. to aid in the work around home. But do not bother Eph atall. Look after your

garden and try to keep the weeds out. All will look so nice arround home if you do this. My prayers are for you all the time. My love I send you all. Kiss each other for me. And Mamas too

Your loving Father

(Orson to Carrie)

Feb 19. 88

My Dear Carrie.

This with untold delight that I was greeted with your pleasant letter of the 13th last evening. I have read and reread it. It was such a comfort to me. I have written three to you with this. And no doubt you have them now. I hope that the desired comfort and information. will be found therein. although words are such poor. conveyances of the true feelings. that allowance must be made for them. I can feel and realize every act and move made. by. both you and the children upon your return. And oh. how I should (have) liked to have shared it. but your pleasure is mine and I must feel it that way. I am feeling first rate now and am trying to carry out the plan we talked over. i.e. to get out of debt as speedily as possible. Father has taken the place in L(ogan) and as fast as I can I shall dispose of my teams and apply it on acts (accounts). I am moving now on to some work but do not expect to do much before next month. as it freezes up nights quite bad. We have had fine weather ever since you was here. And I think we can get to work quite early. and if Blessed with a degree of prosperity until may or june. I think I can come out. Let us hope so. Old seal fell in the river. broke through the ice last Sunday but we got him out. Last night he took sick and was quite bad for awhile but was better when we turned him out. The manner in which M- received you did me good and it is my ever and earnest hope that a kind of love and affection will exist between you all that shall strengthen the bond that is to bind us here and hereafter. For this reason I desire you to love one another. I feel much strengthened by the knowledge of this feeling among you. My heart is sad for Annie and would that I could comfort her. She is dear to me. and to pain her feelings is alike painful to me. For the world I would not cause either of you the least degree of pain knowingly. if it was possible for me to avoid it. Dear C. I cannot write to you since we have talked. for it seems my words are so inadequate to express myself. When I am near you so that I can impress my words with an embrace a kiss or expression it seems then they are felt. And will last. If I could talk with Annie I know I could comfort her. As it is I know it is hard for her to feel my feelings. She must cheer up and try to have confidence in me. You must settle up accounts as best you can and write me the result. And what you have left. you had better secure some good seed potatoes somewhere. And try to raise your own this season. I do not care where you plant them so that you have some. It seems too bad to have to buy potatoes when we have so much good land on which to raise them. I am surprised at so much sickness in our town. You must be very carefull with ours during the spring weather. as it is so bad for colds. If you do anything with that sink drain do it good. Have the box made of 2x6. and put it in so that the deepest way of the box is perpendicular. Put it down in the ground below frost. and as steep as you can get it so that all filth will rush out. Have it extend far enough down the hill to be clear out of the way. And by that means you can get plenty of fall. by cutting the trench deep on the brow of the hill. The plank should be planed inside. or just smoothed off. God will bless your efforts in taking care of our

children if you do what you can. and exercise faith in Him I feel He will not forsake us If I could be home a year now. to look after things and enjoy your association no tongue can tell the joy and comfort it would impart You my dear wife can but slightly estimate my feelings when all. are united at home and trying to advance in the cause of god. I feel I am so greatly blessed. that Heaven seems at home. I have no doubt but that our Heaven will be just what we make. I invoke Our Fathers blessing upon you. May His spirit forever. comfort and sustain us. Your valentine came somewhat torn but none the less appreciated. Your lifes object has always been to bless. and comfort me. when I am in the right. Do not think me unappreciative. I can only reward you by an earnest and true life. Which I hope will be ample. satisfaction to you. I can no more express my love by words. You know more than words can convey.

May you ever be happy, my dear and good wife. From the first, you have tried to make happy my life. Success has attended the efforts you've made, If my love is sufficient, I am sure you are paid.

Most loving and True
Orson

Kiss all. And give my love.

Kiss little Lina and tell her (God bless her) papa will never forget her love.

(Orson to Carrie)

Feb 20. 88

Dear Carrie

This evening I received your letter of the 17th and although I have written several letters and sent them yesterday. and among them (was) one to you. I answer this immediately. It does seem strange you have not got my last letters. They must be delayed somewhere. But when they do arrive I know you will feast upon them. as I do upon yours They do lend me all the encouragement and comfort you desire they should. It has been a constant surprise to me how I made the sacrifice of your society so soon. As I had so long looked for and desired it. But my dear wife, I will now make to you one confession I have never made to mortal and I do it to you because I know you will understand and award me due credit. I cannot feel to suffer myself to enter fully into any enjoyment. no matter how pleasurable it may be to me. when I know there are those of my own flesh and blood. that cannot share it too. Thus it has always been with me. And so it was when you was with me. No one could feel better or enjoy as I did those few days. but with it all, my heart went out to the absent ones and I longed for them to share in my enjoyment So it has always been. It seems that the place you each hold in my heart is ever sacred even the least of my children and could not be satisfied short of seeing you all. Dear C. you will understand my expression upon this very delicate point won't you. I mean it is as the highest token of regard. I feel that those few short. but happy days. let in the light of Heaven to our understandings and we truly have learned to value each other as we could not before. I leave this subject reluctantly. but trust it will be food for your true and honest soul. I cannot think to build a very expensive shanty. And should you have one built be very careful of fire. I shall be anxious. Do not build much of one now. I cannot figure out the bill. You will have to have the person who builds it do that. I think the Old house worth 40 or 45.00 as it stands. The doors and windows and frames are good. The lumber in the floors is fair. It is a double floor and

new joice. So you can reckon on the amt of lumber. and the doors and it will run quite well up. If the roof is taken off in sections it will do to go on again. But I think. he had better take it all to pieces and put on new shingles. Look out for the children if he tears that down. Sell hay for lumber to the amnt (amount) you need. but apply on debts all you can. I am still very anxious to free myself. And the sooner I feel the better. God bless you my dear and loved ones. Love to all kiss my dear little ones. How my heart aches for them.

As ever

I am Yours

I do not remember the date of that P.E. Fund note

(Orson to Carrie)

Feb 28. 88

Dear C

I received your letter of the 23rd. yesterday and (was) again made glad to hear from you. I hope our people will not be disappointed about State matters. It will be as God orders. About my affairs. I cannot see how I should gain anything by any false swearing. As the Temple was only opened May 17 1884 and if an indictment was got out that year. we could not date back prior to that. 17th. But as no move whatever was made in my case until 1887 I fail to see upon what grounds they obtain it. But I know that no mercy would be shown me. nor do I expect any. and the faintest rumor would be sure conviction. I am sensible of this fact. But no, let us not swear false. nor shade the truth but think much and say little Say nothing of what we do not personally know. and then we will not have much to say. For when one says only what he actually knows, it is but little. The issue will have to be met. We will avoid it as long as we can. but when it comes. may we be prepared for and enabled to stand it. If I can I will move from here as quick as possible I am buisily planning and thinking of what immediate course to pursue. And at any time you may hear from me in some other place. I am not content here any longer I asked for your pictures but you had better deffer it for a time. if you have not sent them. I am at a loss to know what to do. with my outfit. and there is no immediate chance for the sale of them. I have more horses and wagons than I can move alone. And so you see my fix. But where there is a will there is a way. And something will turn up yet. S.F.A. has gone to Old Mexico to look at the country and will report what he finds. He will return here about March 20th In that time I think I can be all done here that is if the weather permits. We are having (a) fearful snow storm here today and so it offers the chance to write you. or I should not have answered it so soon. in hopes to have another and a good time to answer them at length. The only way for me to endure the time is to keep buisy and that is what I am trying to do. I shall not decide which way to go until I hear from Frank. If you can raise any money to pay on my note at Thatchers Bank by Apr 16th do so. I want to pay that off by that time if possible. The interest is all paid up to that time. Keep enough Bread for one year and sell the rest if you can manage to get along at home. I may be able to make a few dollars to send you occasionally. somewhere. However do the best you can Do not go into debt. anywhere if it is possible to avoid it. Make the stand now. Have you paid the Store? You can now see the prospect before you and you must manage as best you can. God bless and protect you is my earnest prayer and I feel that He will Thatchers will endorse all you pay. on the back

of the Note. The Grain and hay is what you will have to work with. As all stock should be left intact until Ephs time is up. My Dear Wife a word to you as thus far my letter is business. You cannot get too lovesick for me. Legitimate love. but elevates the mind. the truth of which. But few. This jewel find. I trust that each of my family are striving to the same end. It is a world of comfort to me. It does not seem possible that you can feel the interest in and love for me that I do for you. and yet it may be keener. Your letters convey much. and from them I derive comfort. yet this is dulled by absence. and a great loss of the reality. True we know what we are to each other. but how trying to this deep seated affection to be compelled to bear this long continued sepperation. and the joy our presence would bring The look. The thought. The act. Is all lost in effect. by absence. The Spirit alone is left us to comfort console and bless spirit. Our poor bodies are left out in this kind of comfort. But the higher part of our natures is blessed and I guess this should suffice. In this. one thing is learned. and that is, we are not perfect and Nature demands its share. which I think all right. with those we love. Honor. and are God given. As in other letters I say again words fail to convey my regard for you and I shall not attempt it. My life must attest all words don't express. Oh that I could kiss you all this morning. You will for me won't you. Your knowledge attests

My Devotion

Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Mar 4, 88

My Dear and Honored wife.

Sunday again affordes an opportunity to write a little. which I trust may be so directed by the Spirit that it will be a comfort and an anticipated pleasure to receive Nothing of importance is upon my mind. but I am full of words and expressions. such as words can convey. I have been thinking much of my home and loved ones of late and the prospects of my seeing them and enjoying their very pleasant and interesting society. though they look very dim. I cannot but feel a pleasure in the reflection. And may God grant a realization of it. I have answered all your letters I believe. but a desire to converse impresses me to write again. I never feel to wait for answers to my letters but to write whenever an opportunity presents itself. Whatever may occur with our people this year. I think it will be full of interest to the observing. and many will be tried in a maner they look not for. I fancy the test is not over. When I learn of the increase of sickness in our town I think of the trials of those who may be absent when death enters their homes. snatches from them the dear ones. whom they have. not seen for a time. and who they may not see again in the flesh. These scenes touch the heart and harrows up the feelings. to the highest pitch. Many have already met just such things. and they are pained beyond measure. It would seem under these circumstances that it was requiring more than humane nature could endure. but strength is given according to the day. There is a being who is noting these things. and who will reward and will punish. I have no doubts of the outcome but for poor weak mortality I fear and tremble. When I see my own weakness and how frail I am I shudder when I contemplate the future. When we were married you remember how in our innocence: (or ignorance) we talked over the probable events of our lives. How we thought and talked of the present situation of our people. But how little we could estimate the cost of what we were to do. How little we know until we get

there. I remember well the many times our conversation led us to these important matters. How we thought the time would come when we should have to separate and be tried in this way. But how little I knew what a sacrifice it would be to me. And how it bursts upon me with the true sense of what it costs. I would willingly wander as an outcast, in a foreign land, if I could but have the company of those I so dearly love. The wealth of this world is pleasing but the eternal wealth, which is offered, in the faithfulness of each other, far surpasses and absorbs all else. I do not feel to seek after. Any wealth other than that it is God's good pleasure I should possess. In you my loved ones I feel I am rich and with you I desire to enter eternity and enjoy all we have been promised. Dear Carrie I know you feel as I do in these things, and of that we could be where we might commune with each other upon these pleasing subjects. An opportunity may yet present itself. At least we can write and as far as possible share each other's feelings. I feel you a part of my being and to have you ever present where I could see. Feel. And hear you. Would be as a new life to me. May our Father's blessing be ours that each may feel the support we are to each other and the unity to which we have arrived. May the same blessing be with all of the rest and our dear children

Peace and love from me receive
As ever true. You do believe
The past, the present, and future too
Have and will behold us true.
Hence adorned with such a love
As Heaven borrowed from above.
Blessings on all I love so dear.
Kiss for me and bid them cheer.
With joy we all shall meet again
And share the love. We now feel pain.
Your most loving
And true H

(Orson to Carrie)

Mar 9. 88

Ever dear Wife

Your letter of the fourth is in my hands and I am answering it, but the others you mention as having sent last week I have not received. But trust it will turn up all right as it is such a comfort to me to get them. Truly sorry am I to learn of the trouble of Father O(bray)'s family. I had heard of it before, and had written a letter through Annie to them, but I guess it will not comfort them much. I see by your reference to the Old house, and W.W.M. I have had that letter but not A(nnie)'s and the children's, nor the blessing you refer to. All your questions I have answered and by this no doubt you have them, so I will not repeat. Shall be so glad to get the children's letters. True My Dear C. I do and have felt downhearted and no one to open my soul to which at times seems too full to let me live. Your dear Soul can feel for me, but I beg you not to be overcome by it or allow it to burden or cloud your happiness. When I opened those pictures last night, and beheld by the light of my candle after all had retired and were sound asleep, the objects of my heart's delight it seemed to bring back all I have been and cause

me to feel that I should be the happiest of men. I think I am on that score. but who can tell my feelings. Alas they were only the pictures. I could not forget that my three daughters were not among them. and again my heart was in my throat. I sat until 11 o'clock looking them all over and reading your letter. and on retiring to bed I found that sleep had left me. and not until late in the morning could I fall asleep. then to dream over getting your pictures but not all. I wondered. If I returned home would I find all. Oh Carrie. your tender and loving heart I know can feel my pain. Do not censure me for thus betraying my weakness. I know I am a stern man but sensitive to all that is pure and loving. and writing thus only to unburden my mind. I feel that God has and will protect you all at home and I trust will guide my wondering steps. I have no heart to write business today. Do the best you can. I can trust you. You and the room of the Brown block has never left my view All your faces at home are constantly before me. and by them I am reminded of the past. and how it contrasts with the present. Life without you all. under these trying circumstances would be a burden indeed. Do not think me in the depths of Dispair love not so. far from it. But the longing I have to see hear and embrace you, becomes uncontrollable at times so is it this morning. I shall feel better after this I know. It is a sin for me to harrow up your feelings I know. but pardon me won't you. Do not betray me to my little ones. For I feel their faith is strong and it helps to support me. I know that no more fervent prayers could be offered than ascent constantly in my behalf. And I would encourage them and not make heavy their youthful hearts Your words of cheer find an echo in my soul. the depth of which cannot be told. I treasure all you say and I would that all would and could feel how dearly I love and honor them. Aunt S(alome)'s letter I was pleased to read and will take the liberty to answer it and have her send her answer to you. Now love I will tell you what I contemplate doing. If this cold weather will break I shall leave here immediately. debts or no debts. and seek a more safe place. I feel that much depends upon this now and I shall act upon it. If the worst has to be met I will face it. and hope to be true to the last but. If I can go off somewhere and be safe I feel it my duty to do it. It is very cold here now hence I cannot move at the present. but by the time you can answer this I may be off. Peace to You. and love to all. God preserve and bless us wherever we are. Many kisses and much love

Your true

Orson

P.S. you speak of having trouble about mail. I can realize your bother and I guess it is becoming quite irksome to our friends to have so many to bother with. But it is my only comfort and if it is troublesome to some it affords me much pleasure. And thus I intrude on them to some extent. I have just written a long letter to Salome and told her to send her ans to you if she answered it. So you will see what she thinks of my plainness. I asked her some questions. Which if answered will indicate pretty well how we are looked upon by them. The piece you ask for about Sister Snow I cannot find but if I have it I will preserve it and send to you as soon as I find it. In case you do not get my letter about the old house. I will say again. I think it worth about 45.00 as it stands. See if you can raise 500.00 dollars to pay Thatchers. by the 16th of Apr. Has Ephs Father paid for the mare. And is the store paid? What did Jacobs say. Is he paid yet? We shall get through with this debt business soon I hope. We will make a desperate effort any way. I can scarcely quit writing to you today. It seems I am talking to you and it is such a trial to let

you go. Give my love to Annie. I must close now. And remember me to Eph. Tell him I hope he will keep ahead of his work. and do well at it. as ever true

(Orson to loved ones)

Mar 11 88

My Dear and loved Ones

Sunday again and I in my tent wondering how you are. Yesterday I rode 24 miles to see if any news from home awaited me was repaid by a letter from M- and a paper from Ell. Passo, Texas. sent by S.F.A. Your letter. or Annies and the children and the blessing. I have not yet got. I was disappointed at not getting them as they must be long since due. We have a warm wind blowing. and the snow fast disappearing. We shall have a good spell of weather now I hope. It is truly lamentable to hear of our young folks falling. as I learn from time to time that they do. And it must be a severe blow to their parents. And the many cases of this kind. weighs heavily upon my mind and I think of my own unprotected wives and children. as also so many of my brethren who are similarly situated. Do not bear too heavily down upon those who have fallen. I feel that much leniency should be shown at least here the circumstances are such as have been thrown around many of our young. They have been allowed to run together almost without restraint. and it is a wonder that more have not fallen. They have come up without any particular care or culture. And have merely answered the demands of their natures. not realizing the enormity of the sin until the truth dawns upon them and it is to(o) late. There are other things connected with this subject. that calls forth our charity. This sin in the unmarried comes to light in due time. It can not be hid. But how many are there. who under cover of marriage are far more guilty. Men with other mens wives. Wives with other wives husbands. And it never known. May not this very thing be the cause of our trouble to some degree. Would that all married before they and their parents are disgraced. But oh how infinitely better if married to answer the demand of honest love. than. Fleshly lust. While it is our duty to frown down this shameful sin let us not cast away our youth as long as there is a threat of honor remaining in them. We can and should forgive all men. And let God then judge us all. Dear family watch and guard close the priceless jems in your care and never allow yourselves or them to speak disrespectful of the fallen ones. Frown down the sin. but abuse not the sinner. Our father has a more clear conception of the fault and where it lies. I grieve when I hear of any one breaking over these sacred lines. And it causes many. reflections to pass through mind. upon the course we should pursue in regard to them. and I come to the conclusion that I haven't much to say about it. only watch and pray that it may cease. I have long since feared that our Youth were upon very dangerous ground. And I have tried to warn them. but when parents fail to controle. who can be expected to do it I have written to Father and Mother O Bray. but little did I know the depth of sorrow into which they were plunged. and my letter may indicate that I did. It is Sunday today and the wind is blowing a gale. I spend a good part of it writing as that affords me greatest pleasure. And it seems that I am talking to you. The weather has not admitted of any work for some time past. And I can assure you it is lonely enough. I cannot imagine how much interest my letters afford you. but I do feel much pleasure in writing them. I do not expect answers to all I have written lately. because it would be asking to(o) much. But I shall write for your comfort. At every opportunity it may be often. or not as time will allow. I

must seem so funny to our little ones that I do not come I almost see them at times in their anxiety. and when I do a lump creeps gradually into my throat. and I find it hard to refrain from tears and you my loving helps are all I have there to keep my place with them. To you I am indebted for the esteem in which they hold me. and to you will the reward be given. Tell them I will answer their letter as soon as it comes. and that I feel so bad that it has not come yet. I shall not object to your reading aloud all my letters of this character to them. it may be of comfort to them. I feel sure that God will watch over and protect you in my absence. and I am so glad that up to this time it has been manifest. Put your trust in Him. it is our only source of hope and help. But that is strong and ready. I wrote Bro Hirst and A.O.J. and told them to give their answers to you if they ans—they. If I go North I shall return. again in the spring and take my teams if I can not sell them. There seems to be no show yet. I trust that all will be well with you upon receipt of this. And that in the merry spring

Will many pleasures bring
To cheer your dreary home
And keep safe while you're alone.
Kneel gently by the bed
When to sleep they've laid the head.
Plant on each a gentle kiss
As they lay in perfect bliss
In remembrance of papa.
Will do it, Dear Ma Ma?

Ever True
Orson

(Orson to family)

Mar 18. 88

My dear Family.

I was truly delighted last evening at receiving three letters from you I went to town almost purposely to get some mail and was rewarded ten fold for my trouble They have been a long while on the way. but just as good when they came. They are all life to me. And how to answer each of my little ones as they deserve. and as I would wish to convey my feelings to them. is a puzzle to me. I shall make the attempt. and their Sabbath is not too good to devote to it. Some parts of your letters I will answer individually and some in this. in order to answer all at once as I will send them to the post tomorrow. I am glad Eph has the house up and hope he will make him a good home there. He can do a little at a time and ere he is aware he will have a home. which I think a great blessing to him I hope he will appreciate it. I am pleased with your financial standing and trust it may never be worse. but still be better. As I wrote in one letter. I have but little to say about matters at home. I can trust you all and I know you will do the best you can. You fully understand my situation and I know you appreciate my feelings regarding all matters It is but to liberate ourselves from the bondage we are in that I am so anxious. I would so much prefer to have nothing and own nothing than to have much and owe for it. Besides we must teach our children. never to go into debt. And to do so. our example must and will be the most powerful teacher. They are now getting old enough to understand these things. and as has been my example in other things I would

desire it to be in this. I enclose 10.00 for your use. I have made nothing this season yet. You must have got a pretty good horse for two steers. Haven't you some horse flesh you might have traded instead of horse stock? they will be of most profit to you. Besides we have horses enough and to spare. I guess. When I sent my brand to have it recorded a mistake was made. But as it is recorded now, you better have our brand changed and made like the recorded one. I tried to have it rectified but could not, so you better get a correct pat(t)ern of the recorded brand and change ours to conform to it. I will send Jacobs money as soon as I can, but must wait until I can earn it. I will say no more about raising some money to apply on that Note at T's bank Do the best you can. About that land have it surveyed and get the deed as soon as you can I enclose a letter to A.O.J. in answer to his. I have not heard form the North for some time but I think they are farming there long before this. It has been so fine all through Feb. but the first of this month has been cold and rough we have commenced work again now. And I hope we can continue. I shall do all I can to keep at work if I cannot sell out unless I decide to go north. I shall wait a little while yet. I think. I believe I have mentioned everything. Now for my dear little ones answers. My Dear daughter Maggie. You will not mind if I write your answer in this letter, as I want to get them all in one envelope. I was so glad to get your letter, and to learn from your own hand, that you was well and still trying to do right. Do not expect to do it all at once, but keep constantly at it. I am thankful to you for your faith for me and your desire to encourage me. I feel it and it helps me much when I know that I am loved by my children, and that they continue to pray for me. God will hear your prayers. Should you continue to write take pains and try to improve. It is so good to be able to write and you must try to do it well You are doing well, but always try to do better. I have read your poetry and am pleased at your effort. You should learn the meaning of all the words you write, and then you will know where to place them. I am so glad you can do so much to help your Dear Auntie. And Mama. And I know that God will make you happy if you will always try to do this. You must always remember that when you was so small that you could not help yourself, that they done all that was done for you. And that by your kindness and obedience you will more than reward them and make them happy. I am glad you liked my poetry and I will try to write some more for you all. Your loving Pa. Pa.

My Dear Daughter, Ida

I was delighted to get your letter, and hear from you how deep your feelings are for me. I appreciate it as only a father can. You say you would like to see me. I know you would and I would like to see you. But we cannot just now You will be glad when I do come I have no doubt, and we shall all be so happy. We must try to forgive our enimies and see that we are not enimies to any one. You tell me to cheer up. I thank you Ida for your thoughtfulness in that, I will try. I am glad you remind me of Linas birthday. I will send her a verse. I appreciate your kisses, only I would like to receive the reality. I think Mama and Auntie can appreciate them for me. How do they stand it. Do you wear them out? They deserve lots of kisses and all else you can do for them, they are so good to us all. Don't forget that.

Your Pa. Pa. Who dearly loves you all

(Orson to Carrie)

Mar 18. 88

My Dear Wife.

Your letter of Feb. 27th is before me and also yours of March 13th. To say how much comfort these were to me. does not begin to answer my feelings. I shall not attempt it. When I receive letters conveying such regard. it grates upon me to have any temporal matters. to break in to such sweet communion afforded by them. and they lift one up from the surroundings which harass. and perplex. I am fully sensible to all you have said. And before referring to any of those precious references. I wish to say. do not think me perfect. nor think me above the giver. If I am to you what you say, God has made me so. as a reward to you for your faithfulness. Your wanting to see me aroused every fibre of my being and you must feel sensitive of it. or I have no doubt you would if I was near you. You will indulge me a little if I overstep the bounds of propriety in my letter. Will you? But the thought of your wanting to see me so bad. so works up my whole being that I indulge the thought of such pleasure as but man and wife can have who love as we do. Of course we cannot realize a fullness but that much is good. I will leave this subject now. I am so glad to know that your trip afforded you so much pleasure and knowledge of me. And that you were enabled to see how my feelings were. and understand the depth of my love. True our conversation that night did us good. I feared I should be unable to show you what I meant it was such a delicate subject and it was not me who enlightened. I was as much in the dark as you. until the light burst in upon me. It is God we must thank for this light. What joy it brings to my soul. now that I know you fully understand me. I trust that nothing will ever blur or blot the knowledge of these things. Dear C- I have many weaknesses and I feel very imperfect. and the knowledge of this and precious jewels. who are depending upon me for their glory and exaltation. weighs upon me and causes me to see more plainly how weak I am. You have reached a position now that you too can see where I stand. This gives me fresh strength and hope. Your readiness to administer to my every comfort has merited the love and esteem in which I hold you and I feel it is your due. If I merit yours in return I am happy to receive it from you. Your expressions in your letter fully convey to me that I am held high by you. And I caution you because of my own imperfections. I can only implore Gods aid in our efforts. and his blessing upon you. This I do in the depths of my soul. How I could hug and caress you after such an outpouring of your devoted heart. Words utterly fail me. When you lay upon my arm in that room at B. Block I thought how often I had had you near and how much at home I felt always. to draw you up to me and feel the breath and taste the impress of those pure lips. And I pressed them to me again to be sure that. I had another chance to share in such a luxury to me. I have often thought how could I stain my self with anything that would be foul my lips or breath or body. that would jar upon such sacredness. And the one great joy to me is that so far. I have been kept free and pure. That I can meet you with open heart and arms without remorse. feeling that in me you have to meet no evil contamination. Proud am I Dear love. to see how unselfish you are in regard to my creative powers and frankness with which you speak of this matter. It has ever characterized you but this expression supercedes all others. It shows to me the grandure of the principle of the celestial law. and the height to which you have attained. True I should be happy with such a companion. to give to me wives to hail my offspring. through them. as your own love. And when your own powers decline. to wish me well.

with endless increase through others Is more to me than all else. How could I help to love such a being how could I be unappreciative of such devotion. Dear wife say not to me of my devotion to you. until I have shown such devotion to you. as you have for me. This I have never said before but I have felt it always as I have watched your course. And you have been piling up the treasures all along which you now say you are in possession of. all through merit. I do not flatter nor do I want to lift you up in pride of these things. but to humbly acknowledge myself knowing to all you have done. and my appreciation of them. Now I cannot think what you mean in regard to that further ordinance. I must have forgotten it. I am sorry. but I cannot think of it now. there was so much said. There was another matter upon your mind once which. I thought to speak to you of when we were together but I forgot it. Nor do I wonder that I did. It is a wonder I thought of anything. In a letter you sent me along time ago. you spoke of something that you thought about to be realized and that you was then ready to have done. It was very indefinite and I was wanting to ask what it was but some how it always slipped my memory when I was writing It was soon after I was telling you of my experience at W. Maughans. Perhaps you will remember it. and would not mind telling me now. If it is sacred to you I would not exact it from you. but if I can share it I would like to know what you refered to. I am glad to get my blessing. but I see nothing that would require my return home to have fulfilled. I can remain away and witness trying events among the people. I see them now. Our blessings do us no good unless we live for them. and we can live as well without them as with them. They just will come to the top. blessings or no blessings. I am glad you appreciate my poetry. I may try again. God bless you my Dear wife. Feel the love I feel and share it in full

Your ever true and loved one

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 3rd 88

My Dear wife

Your letter bearing date of Mar 15th came all right. But I had previously got one from father C. saying that Steele was in S. L. city at the time you thought he was out this way. so you can see how false rumors can be circulated. and much to the annoyance of families at home and husbands abroad. Now dear wife do not worry over these things. If they occur worse than we anticipate. it will be time then to worry. and even then it will not help it. The best way will be to move along as unconcerned as possible. and trust in God. who knows for the best. If I fall into the hands of the enemy, pray that I may not falter. But until such a thing should occur. be as happy as you can. And fret not over the unavoidable. I know and feel that I am upheld by your faith and prayers. and I am so thankful for it. I was extremely pleased to get a letter from you. As soon as my eyes fall upon your own familiar handwriting, my heart gives a huge throb. I should feel so lonely if I could not get them. A word. A mark. I know from home. banishes the thought that I am alone. Those pleasanter things you desired to write are what I always look for. with intense interest. Your anxiety for my safety and my anxiety to be safe. is always upon me. and these other things help so much to lighten up the gloom, that I look for them with far greater anxiety. It seems like food to my soul. I know I cannot always expect such letters. But no matter what it is so it comes. printed by the fingers and indited by the heart so dear to me. I am sorry you are not feeling very

well. but I feel that you will do soon. I got those letters you refered to and my answers. will tell how I appreciated them. S.F.A. has returned and rendered an account of the south. A very barren and uninviting country and people are there. but He prefers it to the North. After such a long tedious winter I am about of the same mind. It has been so disagreeable this spring that I should hate to spend such another as I have this. It is better now and is quite good we are at work. There are quite a number of families in the south where F. was. and they seemed to like it very well. no cold weather there and not so very hot. The brethren there have all their families with them. and seem to think it safe yet anyway. I do not know how that would be after awhile. However I am yet unsettled as to what I shall do. I want to free myself from debt if possible. this season. by disposing of my outfit. or by working it. I am sorry your machine has given out. but perhaps it can be repaired. Write me about it. It has served you quite well and we cannot wonder at its giving out. after so many years use. and considering the price of it. \$33.00 and you have used it about 12 years. That would be only 2.75 a year. So we cannot complain at it failing now. Get it fixed if you can. It will be so bad for you without it. Dear C. You speak of the increasing trials. Or the depth of them. upon our people and you remark that you are feeling it worse Now I know this and I grieve when I think of it. but you must not give way to it. Remember how you was convinced last year. It cannot be so bad this? And you must not allow grief to take hold of you. for it would weigh you into the ground quicker than any other thing. I can see that there is a tendency. to dispond. with many. But this must not be. God is at the helm and all will yet end well. No greater trial has ever been imposed upon us. than the seperation we endure. and this proves every day our devotion to each other. It takes true fidelity to endure such long intervals of seperation. and nothing on this earth do I prise more than to know this of you. I cannot speak in too high terms of you all at home. And our children. For what you have done. It is of such worth to me.

The jewels of our mother earth
Are to me of but little worth
Compared with those which God has given
To bless me here and up in heaven.

You must derive lots of joy from my letters for I take so much in writing them and getting yours. I think it must be our spirits are alike fed. May our Father answer my prayers upon you. and add much to your health and happiness. Remember love. fret not over the unavoidable. You know I prise you much above what you can accomplish. of a secular nature.

Like to the life you are to me.
Soon, soon, my love, we shall be free.
To meet you then with spirits low,
To me, oh then, think, what a blow.
Rise dear soul to the light above
And bask in the life of Gods deep love.
The groveling cares of this dull sphere
Would wear us out and stop us here.

But see, the life stremes from above
And whispers gently, God is love.

Love dear wife
And kisses too
Life of my life
I send to you.

Love to all the little
ones and another kiss
all around.
Your true H.

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Harrisville Conn(ecticut)
April 5th 1888

My dear Neice

It is a rainy evening and no one will be in as Mrs. A is away and E M will not be down as she usually is Mrs A is over taking care of her sister Hannah her sister Emeline died a year ago last summer so I will try and answer your long letter why did you send my letter to Orson I have not fully recovered from my dissapointment as yet but am in hopes that I shall see you before snow flies again. Yes I had a long letter from Orson but he did not write anything that need worry you he thinks he is in the right and as such I shall take all letters he may (write) I cannot see as you and he does but that is not going to make us eminies (enemies) I say let evry one enjoy his own opinion. You must have been supprised to have a man com up behind you in the cars and kiss you. Then it must have been an agreeable supprise too I would of liked to seen you about that time. By what you write me about Annie I think she is one of a thousand as folks tell me. never mind you will have your reward but that does not make the sacrafices any the less hard to bear at the time wish I could write as you can or as I could talk was I with you I am glad to hear that Maggie & Ione are such good girls that their Mother can say they are lots of help. You may think more of Mary evry day that she wanted you to come east the way I look at it is like this I should think she & Annie wo(u)ld want to please you have you not givn up a part of yourself to them when you gave them Orson. your old jealous Aunt could not of done it am sorry to hear she is in delicate health when she comes to be sick now will she account for it well I guess I will not write any more for fear I shall say some thing that will make you feel bad and I think you have enough to bear now if I could talk to you I could say things better than I can write them. You want to know if I do not think that the Government might let such family arrangements alone as you describe yours to be may be that all family are not as united as yours and do not live as happy as you and do not live up to what thy profess if thy let you alone thy must the rest as I said before I wish I could express myself as well as you can on paper I think sometimes I will write just as I think & feel then it will not do any good maybe make hard feelings so I will keep still until I see you then I will talk just as I feel there is but a few of us left and I think we should be careful and not do any thing to make hard feelings with each other I know you are sincere in what you write and think you are in the right I used to think that the Mormons was the awfulest things that ever was & I can remember your Mother did too but since you went amongst them & I have heard your reports I think different about them than I did as I do not think you would be about it but I shall never be one for I could not share my husband with another I think that is all that I should be selfish about I know I am not selfish about other things

but that I know I should be maybe you think I had better wait until I get a husband before I talk of sharing him with some one else Why has not your Father taken more wives if it is all right & part of your religion that is what I never could understand only he don't live up to the requirements of the church I have been told that part of your creed is the more wives & children a man has the higher his state of glory will be why is he alone behind about it I am going to stop now as I have said before I was going to do not know but what I hav said to much all ready. I am suffering with a terrible cold in my head hav had it for a number of weeks expect I keep getting a little more by being careless. I think now when next I write to you that I shall be all alone again when we had that awful cold weather in february Aunt S had a sick spell and she has not been as well since about a week ago her appetite began to fail and now she does not eat only as I feed her & coax her evry way to eat she acts as though she was to tired to eat to feed herself and when I hav fed here a few mouthfuls she acts as though it made her sick to here stomach I had the Dr yesterdy he is coming again tomorrow then I am going to make him tell me just what he thinks of her but it is hard to care for any one that has no mind I have to do the same as I would for a baby it is harder for she says things that I do not know wether it is true or not how much better off she will be when the Lord calls her home I am glad I have never married to have children if they should be like her it is worse than having none none of them come to see her but Mary how much I do wish your Mother lived where she could run in once in a while and cheer me up and tell me I was doing all right I see many long lonely hours she is not as much company as a baby would be wish you could just see her once you cant realize how it is until you have a trial or see some one in the same condition she is. I wonder sometimes if it will be my lot to be such a care to any of my Neices I hope not I hope when the Lord takes what little mind I have he will take all. Of course had you come on you should of gone to Mrs. Seyons & to the old Manning place Evy one that I hav heard say anything about your coming that thy shold do all thy could to make it pleasant for you you must remember that your Uncle Elisha always thought that ... was not over such a girl as Carrie was it has always been a sore trial to him that you went out where you are but he loves you all the same Uncle Rhodes said he should do all he could to make it pleasant your Mother knows he did for her I think he is one good man as your Mother sayd about Orson I think Uncle Rhodes is an exellent husband a noble God fearing man. Hattie C said she had made up her mind by what she had heard about Orson that you had got a good man if he was a red hot Mormon I do not think it will make you feel any the worse to know that folks think he is good I am going to answer his letter soon Sunday I gues I am to tired to do it to night & he requested me to send it to you why did he do so. We are having a thunder shower here now it thunders real hard I shall do just as I am a mind to about the shirts. If I send any I do not do it for anything back again I do not think it is any point at all when you make one expecting as much or more back again. By the time you come on next summer I think I shall have 2 for ... 2 for ... & how many more now I cannot tell will tell you later see what happens between now & the time you come. It is not cause only what folks want to see you for it is for your own sake so come if you can next summer may God bless you is the prayer of your loving Aunt Salome Shall write to Orson soon so when you write to him again you can tell him one is coming. I am glad he wrote to me think he is good on making poetry

Salome

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 5th 1888

My Dear Wife.

Although I have but just recently written you. I must write again in answer to your most enjoyable letter the 28th just recd. I do not know how to answer it in full. without being present. in person. Words utterly fail me in expressing the sentiments of my heart. These are the letters that lift me far above the burdens of life. and I bask in the sunlight of love. I cannot express to you the good such a letter does me. And A(nnie's) and M(ary's) which came the same day were all such. as to make my heart overflow with joy. and gratitude Now Dear Carrie. Never mention your phisical. condition to me again. (that is so far as your administering to my phisical pleasure is concerned.) I cannot bear to hear it. I should be very ungratefull indeed were I to exact from you. that which I have already had. And I assure you my dear and loving wife. I take as much pleasure in your association. as if you were still possessed with those phisical powers of which you feel yourself deprived. Ay and more so. for I know you better than you know yourself. And I feel you a part of my very being. which alone contributes all and more than I could ask. in that particular. So do not think that you ever contributed more to my happiness than you do at this present time. Were I permitted to be near you I know you could realize this. If ever we are permitted to beget another child I would feel no different than I do now. You might experience some change. but as for myself. I enjoy your presence as much as I ever did. You have lost nothing to me. Never think it. I should feel very bad Carrie if you should get the idea. that you could not do as much for me as ever. You can. You do. And you are. more to me every day. Never allow yourself to think any other thing. You do me injustice when you do. Dear wife, you are at liberty to indulge your fondest hopes and your profoundest expressions of me and our future. as long as God is still ahead of me. For it does me such a world of good. and it is far far from me to check it in you. I love it too much for that. And I cautioned as much for my good as yours. (Do you see it now) Your mention of our past. draws much upon my memory. And I wonder if you have been as happy as I have in the possession of each other. I cannot think but that I am the lucky one. All your remembrances of your visit are vivid to me at the mention of them. and I long for a repitition. But if I cannot have them in person. send them by letter they will be no injury. but much good. You rightly say. my body would tingle at the mention of these things it does even now while I reply. And this I want as conclusive evidence to you. that you are all to me you ever were. and even more. And when our hair is white from age. our bodies wrinkled from cares. and we lay side by side. As we so often have done. the electrical feelings. (although dimed for a time) will send a thrill of joy through our beings that will recall every time we were together and will render us equal satisfaction. Can you believe it? You will at least realize how little I think you have lost. This will comfort you I know. For it is my abiding faith. And I never expect to touch you but I shall feel all I ever felt. From your reference. I infer you are ready and willing to attend to the ordanance of the washing of feet. and it would be a pleasure for you to do so. No greater devotion could a wife manifest to her husband. I appreciate it. and trust that your desire may be granted. If I am worthy. I believe you will have that privelige. How I should enjoy a conversation with you upon these things. I do not think it any harm to write upon it. so long as we do not speak of anything forbidden.

As our letters could be destroyed. You have not told me what you meant when you wrote me near a year ago. Or do you have reference to this same thing.

Oh, for a power to waft me away
To the home of my loved and revered
Where from my lips you could hear what I say.
It would not of its pleasure be sheared.

A little light
In lifes darkest night
Keeps our souls forever bright

Delighted was I to hear how pleased the children were. over their letters. I had to have a joyful cry after. I had finished them. I am so proud of my little ones. I cannot but feel bad every time I think about being away so long. You speak of having been sick and that my prayers had helped you. through Gods mercy. My letter you have received ere this will. testify to you how my prayers were answered. And no doubt you will be more joyfull than ever. your wish has been fully realized. In my enjoyment of your letter. and you may send me as many more as you can. They are so valuable to me. I trust you will feel the effects of my blessing upon you from this time on. I have said a little what S.F.A. had told me about Mexico. And I cannot tell you more. We shall have to be directed by the spirit. I shall be pleased of your opinions at home about (it). I do not think either north or south are very inviting. And there will be no place like our valley home. But. Peace. is preferable to anything. There are 17 families in the town he visited. All our people. And all seem to feel well they are poor but they are happy. and cold winters do not hurt them. I am. as I said in my last letter. anxious to free myself and then for a home where. perhaps before. pray to God that the way may open that I can see you at home. And in safety.

Your most loving. H.
Orson Smith

(Orson to family)

Apr 10 1888

Last Sunday I did not write as I have been accoustomed to. as I was not at camp. Tonight I endeavor to write a little. It may be that my letters may be less frequent form now on. for the time as I expect to be mooving about some. I omitted saying in my last letters. That you had better not write to this place after the 15th but told M- to tell you if she wrote you. I had first sealed your letters before I thought of it. I will give you another address. and tell you where to write after that. I cannot bear the thought of breaking into our regular and most interesting correspondance. and I hope it will not be for long. It is such a pleasure to me. to write and receive letters from home. Your assurances of good will towards me and the confidence you repose in me. make the battle far easier for me. When I am shut off from these. I feel such a loss. and it seems as if all were dead to me. Were it possible. that we could have a telephonic communication between us. I should have to use it often to know for sure that you were there. But all will end well yet. Each year will bring changes and those changes will work out good for us. We can only live

one day at a time and each day will bring its joys and sorrows. We must make the best of every one. for any amt of worry over tomorrow. will avail us nothing. I have every reason. now. to look with joy over the few years that we were permitted to live in such peace and joy. all together at home. Little did we dream that it could not last. I fancy we should have taken much more satisfaction from it. if that were possible. I always did take great pleasure in my home. and I was always there when it was possible. which course has so endeared it to me. That it is something of a trial to me to be away from it now.

You realize this I know
What we endure from absence now
Completes that perfect, Holy vow
By which we're bound in strongest ties
Through which to glory we may rise
Perfected by our sacrifice.

It would be difficult for anyone to know the depth of respect each has for the other, unless it is shown up. and that cannot be so well as through absence. Every endearing tie is made stronger. and every past pleasure is hoarded up and held as a treasure. How often the mind wanders over the past and recounts the many kind words and thoughtfull actions. of our loved ones. and just as often we again made happy. I know how these things are to me. When I think of them. my heart sorrows lest in the smallest way I may have grieved the heart of the least among you. It would be a blot which I would fain remove. For now I want every heart to be free and as a sheet of the purest white upon which. I would write. None but the fondest memories. That as you thought of me. Every thought would be a pleasant one. Words fail to portray to you the esteem in which you are held by me. and the value you are to me. Values are placed upon chattels but not upon loved ones. Be not discouraged loved ones. The race is not to the swift. but to those who endure to the end. I expect you are having a very late spring as we are having here. And it does seem that summer is never coming. such a long winter we have had. At least it has been so to me. In one of my letters I told you what S.F.A. said of Mexico which was not very much. Bro. Geo. Barber of Smithfield is there and he seems to like it very well. but I fancy one must see it himself to know whether it would suit. One thing is certain. There would be no long cold winters and one could spend a winter there much better than in this part. I do not want to spend one again in the test. unless it is in a warmer climate. That country is much farther off than Canada. that is from Utah. or our present home. Can go by rail. within 100 miles of the settlement F- visited. Fare \$32.50. They live in adobie houses. which they can build as well in winter as summer. There is good water and land. but 75 miles to timber. They burn a root that grows in the ground and is quite plentiful. and almost equal to coal. I wish I had went that way. when I was in San Francisco. I should then know for myself how I liked it. I shall be glad to hear from you how it strikes you. If I could only free myself this summer I would try to see it next winter and perhaps spend the winter there. I would then know what I did want to do. I guess we must be patient and move catious. You have a home now and I had better look around a little before locating. anywhere. I am not wanting a home. I am well suited with the one we have. But we want a place where we can be free. I do not expect to be suited any where as well as I am now. but that is not the question with me. Where can I

go to be safe and the most agreeable.under the disagreeable circumstances which surround us at present. Next time I write I will tell you where to write me God bless and preserve you all. in peace. And love may you ever live. Kiss all for me

Your loving and true H.

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 14th 1888

My Dear Carrie

Your letter of the 7th came a day or two ago but I only got it.yesterday. As I have written several of late I have put off this until tonight. I have been holding plow all day in very stony ground. and am somewhat shaken up. and a little tired. I was real glad to get your letter. and again read letters penned by your hand. You can scarcely imagine the good this does me. I cannot help speaking of it. least you might weary of writing and thus I loose the one joy I have left to me. I know it is irksome for you to write so much. but remember love it is all I have from you. to lighten up life. I have repeatedly read your letter as I always do. and in answer to financial matters. I can only say as I have often said. Do the best you can. I know you will be carifull and I can trust you all. May God bless and give you wisdom. It is now so long since I was at home or had anything to do about our temporal affairs. I am at as great a loss to tell you what to do. as you would to tell me what to do out here. But my council would be to keep enough bread by you for a year at least. I got a letter from Bro Hirst and A.O.J. both very good. I was so pleased to hear that M. has got all right again. And all are doing well. It is such a relief to my mind. I do think that M. does respect me now and it is such a joy to my heart. I daily thank God for it. I feel so blessed when I know I am loved by my family. I try to live worthy of their love. And in return for theirs.I endeavor to give them mine unrestrained and in full. I hope you all appreciate it and feel it. In one of my letters I told you my feelings in regard to yourself. and your seeming change of life. I feel the same now. When I can embrace you I shall tell you more. I often think. oh for one minute with you again. just that I might show you what I feel. That might prove too short a time. but I am so thankful for little favors in these times! and dare not ask big ones. It will be nice to get the girls pictures. if I cannot see them. I hardly think now that I shall get away from here before the 20th as we want to get all done here. and it will take us all next week. And as yet I do not know where to have you direct your letters to. You may answer this one as before and I can have it forwarded to me where ever I am. There is a prospect now of spring The weather is quite fine. Work seems scarce now and I do not know what or where I will strike when this is done. But I do think I shall move out to some new field. Prospects seem no better now for us to return home than a year ago. and until some changes take place I guess we must wander in exile. But this is proving our constancy to each other and our religion. It seems that no greater test could be made unless life itself was required. I feel well every way. But there is a longing for my home and loved ones which weighes upon me at times with great force. I throw it off in various ways. and think over the past and all its attendant comforts combine to cheer me up for a time. Our Father alone knows what is felt by the absent ones. Yet every dark and cloudy day. is followed quick by some brighter ray. And so we live on. I take as much comfort in penning you a letter. as any thing I have except receiving yours. And I could write for hours and not tire. Of course there are times when I can write you better ones than

others. But you get every phase of my feelings by them. So I guess they are just as interesting to you. You will have got my poetry ere this reaches you. And perhaps have heard from the piece I sent Father and Mother C. both of which you must criticize. and help me to better it. I was the most pleased with that I sent to Lina. than any I have ever written I believe. I wrote it with such ease. And it is so truthfull and applicable to her and her birth. And Dear little Geneava. I can hardly realize that she lives. Just think I have seen her but the once. Were it not for the remembrance of our efforts at her comception. I should be unable to place her on our list. All that is as vivid to me as it was but yesterday. And so are many of the past scenes of our lives. And I rehearse them in pleasant memories. Many of which would bear repeating without detriment. You must indulge me in them by recalling them in your letters. I have often alluded to them. and your mention of them would afford me pleasure. Give my love to all my little ones and if I cannot enclose a letter to A(nnie) before I post this. also remember me to her. I pray for you all continually. May you ever be happy.

If I could stand beside the bed
Tonight, I'd plant a kiss of joy
Upon the cheek of girl and boy.
Nor them alone should share the bliss
Of such a comfort, of a kiss,
But you dear wife would share the same
Until your cheeks were all aflame.

With ever increasing love
I am Orson.

(Orson to Carrie)

Apr 22 1888

My Dear and Affectionate Wife.

After posting my short family letter this morning. I make use of the balance of the day in writing you all. I have had my bath. and my dinner and I know you will be pleased to get a letter again. but I may not get this posted for a day or two but I will have it written so you will get it sometime I cannot devote my time better or more interesting to myself than write to you. I derive so much satisfaction and comfort from it. You will see by this that I have not moved yet. The job hangs on. but we are nearing the end now. and if all goes well I shall leave here about next Wednesday. I cannot tell you yet where to direct your letters to. but will just as soon as I know myself. Dear love you must imagine my intense desire to see you again. It is indiscriptive. Were it not that I am constantly engaged I should be most miserable. but we must wait I guess. I hardly know what subject to treat upon in my letter today. as I have such a longing to talk with you face to face. And it seems difficult to say any thing in any other way.

It seems so hard my thoughts to trace
When I would meet you face to face
Or speak to you by feeble pen
Of future plans or what has been.

And I have no doubt but you have experienced just such feelings. I cannot collect my thought. when I so desire to see your loving face. Your short but ever memorable visit is vividly before me and if it could but be repeated occasionally. it would heal up the wounds made by the sacrifice of your society. I am so glad you came then. It seems that. that visit has showed so much. what we are to each other and in what esteem we are held by each other. which is such joy to me. And although the ordeal of deprecation is severe. much comfort is afforded by that knowledge. I have often thought when weighing up my feelings of regard for you how could I best prove my love. that your tender heart might ever be at rest as to my constancy. To pain you love is to pain myself. And I would joy in the knowledge. that you was ever happy. or rather that your happiness was as near complete as it was in my power to make it. I knew your love is deep for me. but tell me. is there a rough place. that I can smoothe. that I have failed to see? When first I met you. and saw your face. although shaded by a sunbonnet I dared not admit to myself the feelings. that swept over me. much less that I should possess the treasure. Time has more than blessed my hopes. Your frail constitution. was no check to my unbounded. but controlled love. And when you urged that as an impediment. I was ready to offer any excuse to ever turn the objection. I felt then that I loved you. with a sincere love. But until now my love was never as defined. It was my desire then to be to you all that you could ask in a husband and to this time I have never lost sight of that object. To what extent I have succeeded you must be the judge in that matter. I love to have you tell me how you love me. for what you say comes from the heart. And I think there is no harm in it. it is not flattery. but it is the strength that the one soul can pour into another. "The oil of gladness if you please." You appreciate my letters for this I know. And I do it because I feel it and I want it to do you good. What I say to you is true. You know it don't you Carrie!

You know the cords that tune my heart
Are those from which we cannot part,
For discord in them is not found
But truthfull harmony does abound.

How glad I will be to get an answer to some of my last letters. As soon as I get settled and can get them. It must take a considerable of your time to write me so much. but you know it takes me but a few minutes to read them. and for that few minutes only I seem to be with you. Hence you can see how I desire them so oft repeated. If you feel as I do today. wings would be too slow to bring us together if that method of transportation was available. I guess that the slow medium of letter writing will have to suffice for the present. And right thankful am I that even that much is afforded. Well I will close now for this time. praying for. Heavens choicest blessings to be yours and a loving Husbands you have always. I shall try to enclose something to the children. if time will permit after I have written two more letters. I should like to know just how you are feeling to day. bodily. and spiritually I do hope you are feeling like I am. It will be pleasant to recall (Sunday Apr. 22) Prospects financially are unchanged but we must not worry too much over them. I will try not to. and you must also. When you are likely to get worried. sit down and write me as good a letter as your devoted heart can prompt. and I will bless you for it. and your mind will be at peace.

A loving kiss
Is not amiss
But were I near
Your heart to cheer,
It would be better
Than in a letter

God bless you love
And love and kisses. From
Him who is Yours
Devotedly

(Orson to Carrie)

May 5 1888

My Dear and loving Wife.

I enclose a little to you knowing by this time you will be anxious about me. I am well thank God. and I feel as well as one can under the circumstances I am placed in. But there is no use worrying about matters we cannot help. I have never regretted having done what now banishes me from my home. I feel it is all right. There never was any good thing given to the world without sacrifice. I know that God will sustain us in this if we do right. And I believe He has more charity for us than we have for each other. or for ourselves. I have had splendid opportunities for reflection and I conclude that God will allow every body to condemn themselves by their own acts. tat all may know their own follies. ad although steeped in sin there will be yet a chance to repent. The chance to repent will never be closed. o forbidden. I was pleased with the remarks of J. W. Taylor at the last conference. I tell you it is true Wmust have more charity. for those who fall into sin. And instead of discouraging them. take them by the hand and endeavor to save them from further sin. Call the childrens attention to those two items in my family letter of love and kindness. Dear C. I hope you are well now and encouraged for the future. I cannot bear to have you discouraged. You have lent so much encouragement to me I feel to have you wane. crushes me. and this must not be at this particular time. Though trials encircle us we must keep up. The clouds will surly pass by. and light again be given us. I want to be to you all you have been to me and are now. No one can realize our situation as we can. Since no one knows the needs of our minds as we do. our only encouragement. our only help. is God and each other. And one is almost made at times to cry out, (as Joseph did in liberty jail) or as Jesus did upon the cross. "Oh God why hast thou forsaken us." Or "Where is the pavillion that covereth thy hiding Place." His answer to Joseph was. Be of good cheer. No (know) ye not my son that this is for an experience. for you. And thus he comforted him. Perhaps it is so for us. That we may gain our experience. for the riches of eternity. As the hymn says we are willing to pass through all needful tribulations and count them just. It would be like life itself if I could but press you to my breast and wipe away all cares of this weary some struggle. I should feel that I was doing my duty and answering my inmost feelings.

Plod on, plod on

My darling one.
There is a better day.
The cares we meet with aching feet
In other words will say
The race is won
It was well done
See here's a better way.

Lovingly Your own true
Orson

(Orson to family)

Spokane Falls
May 5 1888

My dear and honored family.

Again by the great mercy of Our Heavenly Father. I can say I am well and truly thankful I am for this. It is some time since I wrote you. but it has been owing to my unsettled situation. Upon arriving at this place we learned of some work here about to open up. So we have waited until now. before concluding what to do. At last we have taken a small contract. so I shall be at this point for the next 4 months at least. I shall struggle hard to free myself this summer and it is for this I have changed location and have taken work. It is about 400 miles from where we were before. We shall have to ship our teams that far by rail. which will cost about 250.00 for the Horses Men and Wagons. I am having a camp made now and shall put about 30 men at work next week. before our own teams arrive. It will be well to keep my whereabouts strictly among yourselves. for I do desire to be safe this season. I have just looked over your pictures and what a joy to my heart. the sight did impart. When I look at them my memory goes back to the time we were all at home. and I can only remember you as I saw you then. Those were happy days for me. I realize it more now. much more than ever. But I thought I was as happy as I could be then. I met with a sleight accident as I was leaving Helena from which I have scarcely recovered. As I was changing cars I stepped onto the edge of a two inch plank. and my weak ankle gave way. and my feet turned and sprained it quite bad. I have suffered intense pain. For two days I could not walk on it but very little. It has gradually improved. but I have had to be on my feet so much since I have been here that it pains me yet. but it will soon be well now. It is the same foot I sprained once before. You remember something of that. I think this a nicer climate than Montana although I do not know how it would be in the winter. M. had better come here as she will be safe I think. and will not be so closely confined. I will write her about it. I imagine things must look nice on the farm now. I should like to take a peep at it again. and see my dear children again. I have wanted to come home so bad. but under the circumstances I have not felt it safe to do so. I know you will appreciate my feelings and award me due consideration wont you. I get impatient at times but it is no use. We know the danger I should be in were I to come. and I think it unwise to risk it at present. I shall wait anxiously for an opportunity to come. and I know you will too. I have been unable to sell my outfit and must now put them to work. Once I am free from debt. I shall feel more at ease and at liberty to go and come. even at a risk. No one here knows where I am

from yet. but I suppose they will find out in time but I feel it will do no harm. I am proud of my home my people and God. and shall not deny them. unless I become blind. which I trust will never be. I feel them as dear to me now as ever We are noticed wherever we go we are so different to those around us. After being at a resturant a few times they bring us milk or water without our asking. They soon find out that we do not drink tea or coffee. and it is never offered. I feel so glad that I have abstained from all these things all my life. I have no desire for them now. Nor are they any temptation to me. This God has helped me in. attaining to. I attended a ladies lecture one evening on the Gospel of health. Mrs. Palmer was her name. A small lady in stature but large in ideas, I tell you she talked plain. just as we believe. I felt good to think some one had the courage to come out like it among so much vice and wickedness. I went and spoke to her after the service. principally to see what she looked like. She was about 54 years of age I think intilgent expression, and quite a pleasing manner as I looked at her I wondered. how long. it had been since she had learned those principles. However it is good to hear them treated upon.in various ways. God is working up the people. preparatory to His judgements. My dear ones. endeavor to be pure and holy. loving and kind. Peace on earth. and good will to all. must be our motto. And it will win every time. See that our children are ever reminded of the great importance. to be kind and loving. to each other and to all men. I was walking past a school house during recess. There were a large number of children of various ages I noticed how kind they were to each other in their play not a cross word or look that I could detect. I was drawn to them. and lingered some time in their midst. Heaven will bless such kindness. I thought of home sweet home. and I prayed in my heart that all mine would be built upon the principle of love. Another pleasing incident came under my observation. which is worthy of reppitition. Two little boys met in the street just in front of me. I took one to be about 5 and the other 4 years of age. They were so pleased to see each other. The larger took the smaller around the neck. Saying (The Lord bless you my little fellow) My heart leaped to my throat to see such pure innocence and love. And I said to myself Oh Lord that the melenium might soon dawn. when everybody could meet as did these little ones. Such scenes carry me away. God bless you all

Your Devoted husband and F.

Direct D. W. X. Rallins

Spokane Falls

W. T.

(I have no box yet.)

(Orson to Carrie)

May 13 1888

Most Dear and loving Carrie.

It was with unspeakable joy that I came in possession of your truly comforting letter of the 2nd. It was forwarded to me from Gt. Falls By this time you will have my directions. and know some of my plans for the next few months. all of which I have written you. I do not know what I can write you today that will please and comfort you. As my mind is some what perplexed. over matters just now. it is so hard to know what course to pursue and it be for the best. I have letters from Bro. Card and M.

Thatcher one asking me to join him in Canada and the other asking me to join him in Mexico. sometime in June. I have written to neither of them yet about what I shall do. With all this my embarrassing circumstances and desire to place M. out of immediate danger. etc. has a tendency to perplex my mind just now. But it will be unraveled soon and I hope for the best. I sense in the keenest manner your intense desire to have me come and see you and our home. and children. And your description of it and your own room. in which I should so delight to place my feet and feast my eyes. and pour out the burden of my soul. makes the most sensitive fibers of my whole being vibrate in harmony with your own on that point. It does not overpower me to have you mention these things. but it rather helps me and I delight in your mention of them. I have learned my dear wife that I am much more to you all. as I am. in exile. though free. than I would be near to you and imprisoned. and can do you more good. and what ever you may or can say. that touches my ever fond remembrances of you. will not cause me to move hastily in the matter of coming home. For I sense the situation very keenly. If I have to go to prison for you I hope to be ready. But as long as absence and caution will prevent. I shall feel it no honor to go there. It is by no means a life of pleasure to live as I do. But I prefer it. for many reasons. to going into that crib to be confined for from three to six years. I do hope that the prediction you mention of Bro. Woodruffs may be speedily realized. It would not be long ere I would be with you. But we must patiently wait the time. I assure you love God has blessed me. Your prayers have been answered I have been preserved and prospered. and I pray that He will help me this season to be financially free. I am in a new country among new people. but I see in this my blessing verified. I have found friends. and men that would aid me. I am becoming quite reconciled to strangers. and their customs. So far I am as pure as when I left my loving and true family and for you I am constantly praying to be kept so. that when I see you I can embrace you. with the same wealth and purity of affection that I had when I parted from you. In this manner I try to live. for your sakes and my honor. And how I shall hail that day when I can bestow that hoarded wealth of affection upon you in a more demonstrative manner than at present. I am glad with your endeavors in raising so much of that note. I hope to send the balance soon. And will endeavor to send some to you occasionally. This year will be a rub and I hope we can rub out all we owe. I shall feel so glad It is pleasing to know your crops look so very promising. How much of each kind of grain has he got in. tell Bro. McKenzie I am truly thankful to him for his kind offer to help me if needed. Ask him how much he can get. for that land over the river. 340 acres. It might be wise to sell it if a good opportunity was presented. Tell my dear children how much I appreciate their prayers and God has answered them and has blessed me. My ankle is much better now. but a lump still remains about as large as an egg. I have discarded my cane. I shall be out on the work now soon all the time and will endeavor to write weekly if but short. fail not to tune hearts fondest lyre. For of these things I never tire. True my eyes were opened to your situation when you was with me. But Carrie my treatment of your tender feelings was only my duty and. as I would have mine considered under similar circumstances. but my love for you was intensified. rather than diminished and should your hair grow snowy white. to me they will be ever bright. And if theres comfort in my heart. To you Dear wife I will impart. Your expression of love and confidence build me up and gives me new courage to meet and battle with surrounding circumstances. And thus I crave them. I know it is not irksome to you to write me but I ask so much that I

fear I tire you. In this you must use judgement. and I will not blame you for what you cannot do. I bless you love with a true Husbands blessing and ever pray that your mind be ever comforted in the knowledge that I am true to you. Some time ago I sent you a blessing. You have not mentioned it but I guess you must have gotten it. Love to the little ones. May they ever grow to be so good. that when their lives are understood: they would not change them if they could:

With ever deep and increasing love I
Am Your own
Orson

(Orson to family)

R. R. Camp
May 18. 1888

My Dear and trusted family.

I write you this evening to inform you of my receipt of your most interesting letters. two of which was delayed at Smithfield and one dated the 2nd from C. They went to Gt. Falls Montana and were sent to me at this place and although they were sometime in reaching me yet they were none the less. a joy and a blessing. I will answer them in full soon. I am at work now. and again have responsibility and care. but one must venture if he succeeds I had my bedding sent to me from Montana and I am now sleeping out on the ground with the sky for my covering. as our tents have not arrived. and I prefer this while the weather is fine. to sleeping in the tents that our men occupy. as they are all strangers to me and may be possessed of more currency than I want. (Graybacks) so I lay out side. So far I have been quite comfortable. The weather is pleasant. and we are located. in a beautiful grove of pines. which adds to the scenery and also to the healthfulness of the atmosphere. Your description of home and how things look around there now. makes my every thought and feeling rebound with pleasure. and causes an almost iristable desire to fly to you

but oh to come and not be free
would almost be like death to me.

I patiently wait the time you speak of and trust it will not be long. You seem to be quite sanguine that a change of some kind is nearing. that will permit of our return. Can you give an idea what it will be? and also the changes it will bring. I have had much thought about going either north or south. And if I could see any chance of getting home again to be with all my family. I should never make the move but unless some change is made soon I feel I must have you with or near me. Some way or another I have had nothing urging me to go either way. but that may be owing to the desire I have to free myself from debt. Now I have quite an urging letter from Bro. C. O. (Card) asking me to go to him. Little does he know where I am and I do not know what he will think when he finds it out. I have written him somewhat of a discouraging letter. from this place. telling him of my contract and the liability of my staying here this summer. He said Z was about to be sick. and that her mother was going to be there. perhaps to stay all summer This would be a comfort to her I know. for she must be having hardships a little now. I hope all will be well with her. Several of the Northern people have come back into this

country but I have not talked to them. I think there will be many homes of our people made both North and South for we are destined to spread out in every direction and I guess a great deal of exploration is now being made. which will result in much good and the discovery of new homes. I would rather if we can retain our home where you are now and if it be our Fathers will we shall. I have always been of that impression and in all my wanderings I have not lost that. It was so vividly shown me in my dream. that it has never left me. And I still feel it. and as I remarked in one of my letters. I feel that you now live at our home. God knows best and I will endeavor to be led by him. and where I can be of the most good. there I am willing to be. and that will be where I can be of use to My Family. in the connection with other labors. I am glad to have you feel at home when you do so it makes me feel like I had done something for you. But when you do not feel so I say to myself. well what have I done for them. However. should we have to leave the home we have for the sake of being together. we will count the sacrifice small. Although trying

A family left without its head
Lacks that by which it should be led.
And should that head be forced to flee
All better share the same decree
So they can be together.

We will wait a little longer in these matters and see if our prayers for liberation from debt may not be answered. which I feel will be. How I felt when you said how anxiously my dear little (ones) were praying for me. There honest prayers will surely be answered. I feel blessed beyond my due. To have my situation held up before My Father. by such loving and devoted a family. Accept a fathers love and blessing in return for such devotion. I feel that your prayers follow me and by them I am led continually by the impressions made in answer to them. Much love to the children and yourselves. May you all realize your own value to me. About the team I expected Eph to have but the one team. and not two. It makes no difference whether they are raising colts or working. It is all a benefit to him. and he should not expect the use of the other without paying for it. as he will expect the benefit of the colts just the same. I furnish one team to work of the place. and no matter what they are doing it means but one. You can help out with the other as you choose. how many colts are going to be

Your loving H

(Orson to Carrie)

Rocky Mts.
May 22, 1888

Dear Carrie

I take time this afternoon to write a little in answer to your good and pleasing letter of the 2nd. I am buisy now with temporalities. But not to the exclusion of the blessings I have at home They are uppermost in my mind. I hardly know how or where to begin to answer your letter. I am aroused by it to the full realization of what I am to you. Never have I felt that I was of such worth. I truly felt all I wrote you and am only pleased that it had the desired effect of drawing from you the sentiments you expressed. My whole soul was made to feel glad that you so loved and honored me. I am proud that

I have attained to such an exalted position in your estimation. And I desire to retain it to the end, and add there to if possible. Your reference to your home and its neat and pleasing accommodations, lent such a thrill of joy to me that I shall not soon forget. My presence I know would complete your joy. I feel it love. Do not imagine that I mistake your meaning, and I can add it would be mine as well. I have tried to picture it all up in my mind and derive all the comfort from it I could. But the reality of it, is lost without actual presence. You can feel it more keenly than I, as you occupy the room you so much desire me to see, and admire. I am glad you can take some comfort in it I assure you. It must be that every thing looks lovely around the place now, and it would do me good to see it. I could view with much interest all you have mentioned and much more your own dear self. I am very sorry that Mother and Father C were disappointed in not seeing me when they came over. It was quite a joke. I am glad they feel so much interest in me, as to come so far to get to see me, though I am sorry to disappoint them. You remark that if you had time you could write of many things of pleasure to us, that we could appreciate more now than ever. I wish you would write it for I would like to know what we could enjoy better now than we could if we were together. I know of nothing Carrie. That we shall not enjoy again equally as well as we ever did if not better, for our experience and our knowledge will aid us to intelligently enjoy all we are capable of. And as far as you and I are concerned I expect to enjoy equally as much as ever. Therefore let your soul rejoice with mine, for joy is surely thine. It would be such a comfort to me to have another long chat, as we did in Helena. I feel that I could lift a load from off your mind, easier now than I did then. The light that burst upon me then is lighter now, and from your letter I see, the points that trouble you. But I want to say this My dear wife, as you value me and have seen the extent of my love for you, let not one thing enter your mind, to worry or bother you in regard, to your being incapable, to administer to my pleasure, or the possibility of another taking the place you have filled. I know your feelings. And I know your trust. They are in sacred keeping. You mention the trials we are likely to meet, when we all can be at home again. Now I never expect to live without some trials, but the trials you refer to, I trust we have risen above. Oh Carrie the love we bear each other, I feel, is capable of taking us over the imagined rivalries. Our weak natures would picture up before us. It is for this we have lived loved and labored. Without this attainment I should feel that our advancement was very, very, slow. Never think nor allude to such unpleasant things again. But with a firm grip upon my arm, let us together mount the ladder of progression, and press on to obtain eternal happiness, leaving behind the petty things that would bind us to continual misery. Can you grasp my meaning love? I think you can. While you may have changed in some things, as I have said before, never for one moment think it has made you less dear to me. It is no fault of yours. I should rather think it mine, as I wanted it all at once, or it might have lasted longer. I hope dear love the time may come, that all of us will as near be one, as you and I are now. Let us not loose the loving grip, nor even let one anchor slip, but keep right on upon the trip, to perfect peace and happiness. Let not one thought of cruel hate, enter in to change the state, or make us feel, alas too late, our feelings have been fruitless. Look up and see the grandest stride. Our love has taken undefiled. Keep right on, each, side by side, to joy and married blessedness, until within the loving fold, every one we shall behold, numerous I hope when all are told, joined in family sacredness. I have not had the time to write much of my surroundings. I have nothing to complain of. I shall try to

free myself this season I hope I can do it. I trust in God for aid. I hope you will be blessed at home. And be able to avoid going into debt. Pay your Tithing and offerings. Fast and pray. Do what is right and pray that I may have power to do the same. Correspond freely upon any subject you may wish. I will only be glad to write fear not that you will add too much to my comfort. or over balance me I feel too well balanced for that. I have not heard from M. yet do not know whether she is on the road or not. I hope to hear from or see her soon. I trust all is peace and quiet at home. and in the valley. I can truly appreciate your remark. that if God does not take care of us we can do but little. We can do what we can but He has to step in and do the stronger helping. Love to the children Kiss them for me and tell them again how greatly I appreciate their prayers for me. And I pray for them.

Love. Love. Love. To you dear wife
And may it lengthen out thy life.
Oh may the tears that dim thine eye
Be forever stayed and dry
Unless they be for joy

Devotedly
Yours
Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

May 27. 88

My Dear Wife

I have received your letter containing Aunt Salomes. and have answered it. I think it quite moderate considering what I wrote her. But one can see she would like to say something but refrains. I have answered her kindly and told her to say what she wants to without reserve. I also sent my kind regards to those who were desirous of seeing me for myself or your sake. I was glad to hear that you were all well at home. It is such a great blessing. My soul offers up continual thankfulness. for such great blessings. I received your letter posted at Smithfield and dated May 2nd and have answered it. and written others. which hope you have received and derived such comfort and satisfaction you desire and deserve. I cannot think of anything I have left unanswered. I have sent for the mail you say is at Helena and great Falls. None of M's letters have reached me since I have been here. My outfit is all here now and I have the pleasure of seeing some I know I hope and pray that I may succeed this season in lifting my obligations. I am struggling for it. We have about 50 men employed on our work at present. and expect to add more soon. Your earnest desire and the childrens make me very anxious to see you and I often think how pleasant it would be for you and me were I sent to the P(risson) and I guess it best to wait for a while. I hope the time you speak of may soon come. when all can return home in peace. I did write to Bro Pitkin once last year and once this year. but he answered neither. I thought his excuse rather fishy. however I will not trouble him much. I accept of his good wishes and wish him well. I guess he is quite buisy. and perhaps entirely excuseable. But the same excuse was offered this time as before. This is of but little moment to us. I should have thought you would

have no occasion to caution him about keeping my address quiet. He would know enough for that. You spoke of Bro. Card sending an epistle to the Sts of Cache Stake and it was regarded as peculiar by some. How did you mean. I see no reason why he should not write an epistle if he choose. nor why it should not be read. It need not effect anyone. nor cause them any feelings. It is bad enough for wimmen to be jealous but how much worse to see men entertain jealousy of one another. I do not know that this is so. But it does seem so at times. (It may do for us to speak of these things but no further.) I am very sorry to see any feelings manifest themselves between men. whose every ability is needed to be concentrated in the one channel for good. and whose whole aid is needed to build up and strengthen the cause. An epistle from the humblest of our brethren might do as much good as the ablest sermon. of his betters. Position in Gods Kingdom aids but little in the approach to God. He is nearest God who is most like Him. I have not got the childrens pictures yet. but I think they are in the post office. But on Saturday the post office was moved and therefore closed until tomorrow. I shall try to get them then. I have a notice that there is a package there for me. I am anxious to see them. and wish I had one of the farm and house. It must look nice now. How is your garden. I guess you have not been bothered with the D's again as you do not mention it. I guess Eph is buisy now. or will be very soon. How does his crop look. and how much has he got in. and above all how are you love in body. Do not forget to tell me when you write. I think you have forgotten when you omit it

Be sure that I cannot forget
Nor from my mind begin to let
The thought of how you are.
And when you have not told me this
A something I am sure to miss
Of greater worth by far.

Once in a while I think that I would write something to my young friends at home in the M.I.A. but again I wonder what good could I do in this respect. I do feel that much precious time is being lost by me in my labors of doing good. and I am sorry it is so. But no one can do much until God wills he should. and I guess it is all right I feel so anyway. Give my love to all that claims mine Kiss them for me. I appreciate it. and them all. God bless you all and I feel that He will

Your own True and faithfull
Husband and father

(Orson to Carrie)

June 1. 1888

Dear Carrie

I came in possession of your letters dated May 14th and 24th today. and I sit down to answer now. In regard to yours of the 14th I have but little to say. As I feel equally as bad to answer as you was to write it. My own feelings could only have been gratified by my coming home. but I have no chance of gratifying my feelings yet. by a visit to you. and can only choose what comes. It is no small sacrifice I make in not seeing you this spring as I contemplated. but being a creature of circumstances. I cannot do as I should like. I did not get your letter about Ida in time to write you. I guess it will be all right

either way. I learn that M. was to start on the 30th I shall be at the train tonight to see if she is there. And if Ida is with her I will do all I can for her if not it will devolve upon you. Either will be all right. I can keenly sense your feelings in regard to my having to remain away and you know love, how much a trial it is to me. True we can sympathize with each other. And in that sympathy I know we shall find comfort and endurance. There's not a hill for us to climb, but we shall leave behind us. There's not a stream for us to cross, but trying there they'll find us. Your financial letter, I must say is business entire and entirely satisfactory to me. And I hope you will succeed in what you contemplate, for summer I should think you were anti Cleavland, on the tariff question, especially on wool. He will loose your vote I am sure. I was right glad you saw Bro. T. and had a chat with him, and while peace and liberty appear away in the distance yet there is comfort in the life we have to live. In the first place we look to the future for our joy we have never anticipated much for this life and I do not know but we are blessed as much as many of our betters. I often think of many of our brethren and Sisters who must be in much more trying situations than we, and I dare not complain. If we but can merit the great blessings we have had pronounced upon us, our comfort lies in knowing what we are to each other and in living worthy of the promises. There'll be a day when we shall meet, and not to part again: when all the true will gladly greet, a time that's free from pain: I too shall be glad if I can free myself this season, and hope I can get somewhere and do some other kind of labor another year. I am so tired of this mode of life, although I have been blessed in my labors and I feel that financially I have done very well. I have forwarded several letters of late to you and have told all the news that I know of. We are working about 60 men now and will complete this job in 2 months I think with this force. I hope to be left in peace to get this done, and shall then look for something to keep me buisy for the summer, unless I am prompted otherwise Do not let things worry you at home too much, but move along with moderation and as much contentment as possible. Get the deed of Bro. Sinfield as soon as possible and have McKenzie settle that bill and get my note without further bother. It is me they wish to bother and no one else and McKenzie should stop it at once. Tell him not to delay it. It is of but little use to trust to Lyman or any one else. They are not to be expected to be on the look out to any great extent, and the best thing to do is to get the note out of their hands inasmuch as the note has been turned over to them. I am unable to calculate as to how we shall come out on our work this season but trust in the Lord. Once out of debt and I can move with much less anxiety. I appreciate your desire to have me see our little Geneva. I can see by her picture she is cute and I would so love to hug and kiss her. Maggie looks so serious. I can just see her all the time. Ida looks bold as usual and she is a very large girl now. I hope she will try to love and aid you. Little Lina looks just as she always did, a little shy, but I can tell her. I will write them all something about their pictures soon. Dear Carrie I know you look anxiously to a meeting with me. And the time will no doubt drag. But this you may be assured of, you are not forgotten, in my prayers my thoughts and my actions. You are before me. And with Gods help we shall feel each others help and love. Bear up You are performing a useful and good mission and you know your support. I got a short letter from Father C. he tells me all are well but Lulu. I am glad he has got some of his pay from J. W. Y. Bro T(hatcher) did not say that he was going to Canada did he? I heard he was, but I do not credit it. God bless you love and comfort your heart. And strengthen you body.

Your devoted H
Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

June 10. 88

Dear Carrie

Your long and welcome letter of the 2nd arrived yesterday. I have read carefully with intense interest and shall endeavor to answer intelligently, and with care. I can very readily sense the disappointment you all would feel at my failing to come home for I felt it myself, but what was I to do. The situation is a puzzling one, and one through which we can be guided, only by superhumane aid. To me especially it seems so. I have sought to do what is right and for the best of all concerned. I think you realize that, and by care and great blessings of Our Heavenly Father. I have had Liberty and you have peace at home, and a good home you have according to your description, and I want you to enjoy it if you can. I know the tender feelings which are touched when any matter pertaining (to) family relations are mentioned and I infer from your letter that, such must have been yours, at parting with M, and must have been the cause of your strange feelings. I am a little surprised that you should allow them to so far overcome you as you say they did, especially after so careful an explanation that we had had. Dear Carrie if I speak a little plain about this be assured I mean good for you all. There is a spirit I feel that would like to destroy your peace of mind and happiness, and if you lend any degree of encouragement to it, it will wear you out. And I would to God, that you would forever banish it from you and from our household, this spirit would lead you to believe that, I would be drawn from you and that others were faring better than you, and all such unhallowed feelings, to agitate your minds and cause you sorrow. Whereas if it was the proper spirit it would encourage and build up in faith and comfort and enable us to rejoice in tribulation. And from what you told me when you was out here, and what you say in this letter about Mother C and her feelings, I feel that she will not help your feelings. And I do think that the less you or Annie has to say to her the better for you and me. I fear that she looks at every one who enters that sacred order as if they did so for immoral purposes, and I want you to shun such. I care not who they be, it will do you harm. It may be imperceptible at first but a constant agitation of such a theme may contaminate the best. I am horrified at her remarks about it, and I never want to hear of it again. It is time she either called a halt in her expressions, or you must cease your association with her. The kindnesses she has rendered you will never make up, for the impressions, her course and remarks to you, may make, against that elevated and soul saving law of God. And when you said that A(nnie) had gone to Mothers for a time to help her, I felt it forbode no good. Moreover your labors at home are sufficient and you will be much better off there. I shall feel much better to know you are at home all of you. Another thing I cannot understand why our home should become monotonous, or that any other place should be found more attractive. It seems to me that, where we lived, however plain for better bear the parting pain. Now love do not think I write thus to injure your feelings, but I do it for your good, and if it is not plain now it soon will be. Do not converse with Mother about your fathers course. I want you to have nothing to do with it, and if you do not resist it, you will become prejudiced against him as he is now. Mother is deeper than you are and she will wind you and Annie up in such a manner that

will be detrimental to you. You will look out won't you? and warn Annie I write thus plain to you. for it is your Mother and I trust you to tell Annie and it need go no farther. Tell no one else but be wise. This is a time when all the powers are arrayed against that principle. and are taking every way to frustrate it. In my absence I know the influences you will be exposed to. But I do pray that we may be spared the pangs of prejudice and division. How would I feel. if I thought you looked upon me as Mother looks upon father. And as far as you or I personally know him. you might be worked upon until you would look upon me the same. We know of nothing by which he should be so condemned. only what she has said. and she may be prejudiced. Do not listen to it any more. I do not want to hear it. nor do I want my children ever to hear it. Be very careful of your remarks before them. Now about other matters. You ask me about the horses I wrote you once about trading. and I also said I thought it should be a good horse for two steers. And from your letter I fear you have made nothing by disposing of them. and as you wish me to say about trading again. I must say as I did before. that we have all the horseflesh on the place that we can afford to keep. and I do not wish you to buy more. And I do not want you to allow Eph to do any trading with our animals it is a failing of his which I do not desire to gratify. Inasmuch as you have all of the financial matters settled up. I think you will be able to get along somehow with what horses we have. And when necessary I think it can be arranged for you to have a team. I would not travel about any more than is needed. It is too hard on you. Let things accumulate. until you have enough items to attend to. to justify the trouble. and by keeping them written down you will be able to do all at once. and save yourselves. I hope the beautiful rain we have had here the past few days have been extended to Utah. and helped out the crops. Tell Eph to go right on and use that water as if nothing had occurred. I have used it for seven years now unmolested and I think that some one will have a say in the use of it. but I want no trouble at all. I want peace peace peace. and if I cannot find it here. it will be but a little while when we shall try another sphere and I hope to find it there. I am no more decided now about making a home some where else than I have been and I cannot bring my mind to it. We have had one estimate on our work here and we are a long way behind. and should we get no better this month it will take all I possess here to pay up my debts here and our men. so you will have some idea of my present situation Our expenses are about 120.00 per day now and it would soon swamp us if things do not change. I do not desire to keep this from you but you must keep it to yourselves. Do not read matters like these before the children. I still trust in God and my faith is all will end well. but it all has a tendency to add to the gloom. M- has written you of her safe arrival and other matters so I need not mention it. It is somewhat stormy. but all are well. When you hire Eph to do any thing keep strict account of it. and put him to something. which will give you the value of your wage allowed. I have written you about what McKenzie must do about that P.E.F. note. I am still of the same mind. It is has been delayed long enough. and I should think he would pay it at once. however you should see him about it. Now I have written a long letter about Father and Mother and I hope you may see as I do and take warning. Do not infer that I want you to turn away from them but away from such influences. And I do not want you or Annie to go there house cleaning for her. You know you cannot suit her. and it will only be thrown up to you after. and I would not do it. Mother will a better friend to you a longer ways off. Have they got the school house done up there. And do they have meetings and S.S. there now. If so it will be much

handier for you than down town. and you might do much good in that direction to meet with the people among whom you live. At least they would feel you was one with them and it might do good. I trust that you may ever be possessed of the spirit that guideth into light and truth. and that we may ever be found in the right road and fast hold of the Iron rod. and never retracing but ever progressing in the scale of our being. And merit eternal life.

Much love to you and our
Little ones.
Your True. H
Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

June 24. 1888

My Dear and ever loved Carrie.

No soul was ever so. moved upon receipt of yours of June 17th. which I received today. Have you received only the one letter (in which I admit I spoke earnestly.) which you refer to? Is that the only one that has reached you since June 2nd? You refer to but the one. I did so hope that I had cheered and comforted your heart and truly I had written very cheering letters. but the one. which seems to be the one you have answered. In closing your letter you hope I will not write if I feel as I did when I wrote that. My mind is not changed from what it was then. but to cease writing to you I never can. until I can submit to having. my heart so affected that it shall cease throwing its life fluid to the extremities of my system. And even were you to request me to. I could not until we met. saw, and understood each other. Oh that I might see you now. I shall not attempt to explain my self only upon three points 1st as to McMurdie. and that water right I thought that was so fresh in your memory that I need not mention it. You remember I applied for that water at the commissioners office two years ago. And it did not come before them until I was out in Montana so I left it in W. Maughans hands. But when it came up. David Z. James. Jas Lofthouse Jr J. Roberts. and some others appeared against me and lied by saying they had the prior right to it. So neither of us got it. and thus it was left. I not being able to appear in person since. I felt so bad to think my own brethren would do such a thing under the circumstances that I have not mentioned water since. not being in any position to defend myself. For this reason I said no more in my letter. If he takes the water I cannot help it. but I say again. others will have something to say about it. Watch and see. The game is not up. My trust is in God. Now Dear wife I fully sense to what extent our enemies are crushing us out of every right. I also fully sense how utterly helpless we are. if God does not protect us. What can I do situated as I am. And any amount of worry will avail me nothing. Nor do I want you to worry yourselves about them. 2nd In regard to your team. If I spoke indifferently about it it was not my intention. I know what you may have to meet in dealing with Eph but if he uses your team. it seems to me you should charge him enough for it. to at least balance what you might want to hire of him. I agreed only to furnish one team and no matter whether it is raising colts or working it makes no difference. I do not furnish two. And if he is charged with the use of yours I think you can make it offset. for the little you may want a team. You have been imposed upon in your trades for horses. so much that were you to purchase a horse or horses I fear they would still swindle you. And you would be better off

without them. You so well know my feelings about horse back riding. that I am surprised you should think me indifferent to the safety of any of you. Upon the indifference you think I manifest. I am too pained to write at present. but this I must say. I am so glad that Ida did not come. God overruled that for her good: I see it now. Our Father In heaven. knows how much I regard you. my ever true and faithful. How and what can I tell you about a team. I haven't a dollar in hand. nor do I know where it is coming from. I hope and earnestly pray that I may come out all right. I have faith that I shall. I am away out here and can not tell how to direct you. in temporal affairs. Hence I have so often said do the best you can. And from your letter I felt that you had been imposed upon and I thought you had better stop trading atall. Was I wrong in that. It was not that I disregard your feelings nor your situation. but for your own good. 3rd. I did not say that you should drop Mother C. nor do I ever want you to be anything but kind to them. and your letters and what you told me yourself. alone led me to say what I have. and that only to caution you to not encourage it. nor allow our children to hear it. I am satisfied Mother has said too much already. for her own good feelings. And I do not want to hear it. I shall think more of her if I do not. I have never disrespected Mother nor do I now. It is the influence she may carry. and it is better she does not talk of such private matters. What I have said of her has been to you. I tell no one else my thoughts about such things. I have tried to take a course to merit the respect of our parents. And I have not lost sight of it. and I do not want my regard of them mared by any revealing of their private affairs. God alone can rectify their wrongs as judge and counselor. You ask me pointedly if M. said any thing about Mother. Yes she has often spoken of her kindness and has mentioned the matter you told me of at Helena. But she did not know that you had told me of it. so Mother must have told others besides you. M. knows nothing of what I have written you. nor has she ever spoken disrespectfully of any of our people. but is more reserved than ever upon private matters. Do not feel bad at what I said of Mother. It was not to injure her or you I said it but to benefit both. and avoid future trouble and remorse. nor did I wish you to infer that I did not want you to help them if you could but not for pay. Do all you can I do not object if you do so from choice. But you need not hire out yet. Wait until I am behind the bars or in my grave. I certainly drew my impression from your letter that Mother did not believe that father could have pure motives in entering that principle. If I erred I am sorry. I know the trial it is to her and I appreciate her position. but I could not justify an abuse of that order. Do not think that I feel harsh towards Mother not so. If I did I would not endeavor to save her. My heart is more free from hatred than ever and it is from the kindest feelings I speak. Now as to yourself. Never have I doubted your integrity for a moment and I did not warn you on the account far from it. but you know as well as I do. that we are not any secured against temptation and a word of warning often spurs us up to more force to resist it. My heart is at peace regarding your desires for good and the right. And I pray that I may always feel the love and esteem I have for you now. Oh Carrie why should you say if I find it hard to have confidence in you? I have never questioned you in the least. I could have no more confidence in myself than I have in you. I could not have more. Now about my conduct. It is as it ever was. and were it possible I should be proud if you could see it every day. It would do me good to have that confirmed to you. You speak of eternity and the final judgement will show me the position you have maintained. I hope I shall not have to wait that long. I know now dear wife enough. I know and believe all you have done to be true and

faithful have I inferred that it was not? If so, I am out of my senses. I had no cause to feel so nor have I ever felt so at any time. I say now do not allow a spirit of despondency to take hold of you. It is my life to have you cheerfull. I have felt cast down and I know how influences will operate then on one. I do not and never have questioned any of your labors it has been all I could ask and more. and I have so written you. My anxiety to save you unnecessary labor has caused you to think I censure you. for what you have done. I only wish I could do it myself. I am greaved that you are so burdened with such hard labor. Your fasting and praying has been of an unequaled value to me. I to(o) upon that day was engaged similarly and I felt your faith. I ever pray for and wish you well. I cannot express the deep sentiments of my heart I am unable to do it. but if only at the bar of the God we worship and that gave us all we are to each other. we can know the truth of each others position. I hope to be there to. And as we met over His Holy Alter. may we meet at His Holy bar. and love it as happy as we were upon that ever memorable day. But must we wait? Oh Carrie Carrie. I cannot. I know you too well. I love you too well to think I must wait. I have taken an honorable course all the days of my life I do not look back with regret nor pain. I fear not the future. If God will be with me. You were given me for my reward. I have lived that I might ever have you with me. and that your confidence in me might ever be strengthened. I have so far succeeded that I am not ashamed. of this God will in due time attest. I have never mistrusted you or called you any thing but an honor to me. and now in the heat of battle. if we could be one and the same I could only be more satisfied. All things seem to combine. to wreck our fond hopes and our antisipations. But as with our namesake. let us hope that in the thicket of trial and perplexity. adversity and cares. a ram may be prepared and presented for the sacrifice instead of our dearest and best. (Each Other) I fear not what man can do. If only I can live worthy of the promises. You ask if I feel spiritually fed. If ever I was in my life I do now. I cannot call to mind when I felt better. If I fail financially I do not feel it will be on that account. for our only pattern and ever ready friend possessed but little of this worlds goods. But was right in eternitys gifts. I do not think but all will work for the best I have every reason to have such faith. because it has ever been so. If when you get this you feel as when you last wrote. Write all you feel I cannot be overburdened by anything you may write. I cannot think of your not writing. If I do not find good in reading them. I shall see with my eyes. words penned by your hand. But I never fear but I shall see with my eyes but I shall find something good in all you write. May our just and ever indulgent parent bear evidence of what I say. And offer a balm to thy dear soul. I have written Maggie. And as for Ida. god knows whether I want to see her or not. and can assure you better than I can. God bless you dear wife

Your ever Devoted

Husband

Orson Smith

(Orson to family)

June 30 1888

My Dear family

I enclose letters to the children and a dollar each for M.I.E.E. and 50 cts for Lina and Lyman and 20.00 for you. I hope it will reach you by the 4th I am well in body and doing all I can to make ends meet. The situation remains unchanged

with us. I cannot tell how things are until next week. when we shall have another estimate. I have been unable to sell any of my teams yet. and have no prospects. The weather so far is quite cold and has been wet so much so that we have lost some time. every week since we have been here. I have had one letter from home since the 2nd of June. I trust you are all well. I receive no letters or news but what comes from you. only as I pick it up from the Allen boys who are out here. From them I learned of O.C.O.s arrest and J. Unsworths. It would seem that no one is safe around there now. I was glad to hear that Bro. T. E. R. was free. and hope J. N. may get free. I feel assured that this persecution will terminate in 91. and it matters but little where we may be in that time. We shall feel its effects. If it is my lot to pass a term in the P(riison) I may stand it as I should. I do not feel to waver. I know it is the life of our lives. the principles for which we now contend. It is my highest thought. and ambition. to attain to all we have set out to. and to be to you all you can ever ask in a husband. That your happiness may be complete here and hereafter. I pray that God will show you my life. and bear me up before you. that in my absence your joy may be full and your faith and confidence increased. Far be it from me to desire to loose the least we have gained. but want to increase and progress. I invoke Our Fathers blessings upon you. All

Your true husband

Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

July 1. 1888

My Dear Wife.

Sunday again and raining I write you. as my letter to the children was too full to admit of more. and I by no means wrote all I wanted to. but hope enough to please them a little. A week today I received your last letter I was in town at the time. four miles from camp. It was all I could do to transact what business. I had to attend to before leaving for camp. I wanted to be alone to my feelings. and as I rode through the timber in solitude. I read and reread your letter. The thoughts and feelings I then entertained you can never know. If I can but write to your understanding this morning I shall be glad. Many years now has past by during which time. I have loved and been loved by you. and have labored to increase confidence in each other Until now. I thought we had arrived at a position that. nothing. we might write to each other would effect that fidelity. without a personal meeting on the matter. But from the understanding I get from your letter of the 17th I infer that. my letter had. had a tendency to shake your confidence in me. If this is the case. I certainly cannot believe it until I see you and hear it from your own lips I hope I have not over estimated that degree of oneness to which I felt we had arrived. This fact may have left me unguarded in my letter. especially in relation to my own conduct. from which you deduct the most painful and erroneous suppositions. For if ever I have lived an upright and pure life. worthy the confidence and love of my family. it has been ever since I have been absent from you. I do not ask you to believe my words but I do beg of you to be patient. until stronger proofs can be offered. I look upon you as a part of me. and I cannot think that my right hand would injure my left knowingly. No more can I think you can think evil of me without you first see and hear it from me. No words that we may write. should affect that knowledge we have of each other. Nor can I think it ever has had.

Alas for wings to bear us where
Our words more clearly we might share
Nor leave to writing such important task
Of trying evils to unmask.

It has been my souls desire to aid. not injure you or your most tried and tender feelings. and my letter although they may take on the nature of severity. I can say in all truthfulness. have never been written but in the best of feelings. And with an interest deeper than humane conception. Your trials I know increase the tenderness of those feelings. And I have had no intention of adding to the severity of them but would much rather if I could bear them for you or at least a portion. And I think you will find there is but the one letter. or an occasional one that has even that semblance. I should feel that I had advanced far ahead of what I am if I could always conduct myself in writing or speaking. just at I should. I have not so far got possession of my self that I can do it yet. From our first acquaintance until now you please enumerate. the times I have injured you by harsh words or actions. that I have scolded. found fault or criticized you. with severity.

If this amounts to once a year,
I will admit I must be queer.
But if the number falls below
Tis not so bad. Do you think so?
If we can pass through mortal life
Where sore temptation is so rife
And only chastened once a year
Shall we not be happy Dear?
But if we can so accomplished be
That from all faults we can be free
So much the better. And to our praise
From numerous ills it will us raise

Don't be angry with me Darling.
Drive away that look of pain. Etc.
Please sing it.
Not for worlds would I distress you.
Cause gloom upon your brow

Blessed are they who have come up through much tribulation and have been true. To their covenants peace shall be given them. and they shall be sustained These may be our tribulations or a part of them and through which we are to be perfected. Let not any of them lessen our love for each other. For you Carrie I hold as a part of my life. Never doubt it. If life is worth anything atall. It is worth all to us. You say (if your life is not worth anything to me) do not say that again You know different from that. I do hope no unpleasantness will arise through anything I may write. I would not be the means of sorrow to you. who are so dear to me. For all this world possesses. My family are what I am living. laboring. and hoping to obtain for eternity Why should I cause them pain. With all my trials none are so severe as words of unpleasantness from you. I can bear

anything better than that. It is my love for you. that causes me to be over anxious at times. May God bless and help us all to grow better. wiser. and more dear to each other. Dear Carrie what more can I do or say than what I have said and one to assure you of your worth to me. Do not allow anything to change it. For when I feel different, love, I will lay bare my thoughts. and you shall have no cause to doubt. May God bless you and mine you ever have

With much love
I am Your
Orson

(Carrie to Mary)

At Home July 3rd 1888

Our Dear Mary

At last I sit down to write you in answer to your short note. I was glad to hear that you had arrived safely. It was a long time before I heard that. some two weeks after you left before we got the letter. I realize it must be hard to get along with two little ones, but did not think it to the extent of home-sickness. We do not know how you are situated & I fear from the way O- writes about his finances you may see hard times. I wish you would write us just how you look at the situation, it will not hurt us, for we are prepared for trial. from the teaching we have been getting in trial right along & we feel more for one another, when we understand just how each is situated. Now do not think that we will feel better if we think you are having hard times & get but little enjoy-ment from the privilege we are deprived of. Not so. I thought when you spoke about the babe being so fretful that you were almost home-sick. that perhaps you thought it would relieve our minds. Now we do not feel so. If it is right for you to be where you are, it is right for you to take what enjoyment comes in your way. & we (or I at least) would not wish you to be deprived of it. Of course it is an appreciated kindness to be ever regardful of the feeling of those, so deeply tried, which will be sure to rebound in added blessing upon your head, but not to that extent that you could enjoy nothing your-self. Let me give you a leaf from my history. Certain trials & sacrifice we may make unnecessary & uncalled for will not lessen the trails that are yet to come, therefore it is right to enjoy any legitimat, honest, oppertunity for enjoy-ment that comes in our way, other wise we will feel that we will have lost that much entirely that we might as well have enjoyed. The only thing is to be ready for changes. That constitutes the chief trial in this Principle & it is trying to meet such sudden trials some times. Now do not write of your trials greater than they are, for our sakes, or fear to write them as bad as they may be. You remember I promised you I'd write you plainly how I felt about any thing you might write about, & it struck me in reading your short note that this was how you felt. I may be wrong, but offer it for what its worth. I delayed answering your letter longer than I intended, but had solid reasons for doing so, which have not time now to write about. I have taken so much time to day in writing O- that it has deprived you, but you will excuse I know. There is so much to write that never gets written any way. To morrow is an anniversary that many will look forward to. I hope you will be among the number as you have much occasion to & hope you will not be disappointed. As for us we shall not try to celebrate because who(o)ping cough is around so bad we can't take the littlest ones away, & so we content our-selves which is not hard to do, as we feel little spirit for it, but Eph is going to Logan

to-morrow & will take Maggie & Ida the only ones who care to go. They are to celebrate big over there. I forgot to tell O- that Ezra will be baptized Thursday the day after the fourth. (please mention it to him) down town. There is much more I would like to write, but time forbids. & you will have lots more for me to answer next time. So goodbye for the present.

Lovingly Carrie

Annie will write soon. You know how it is.

(Orson to family)

July 8. 88

My Dear Family.

Another Sunday now has come,
I haste to write a letter home
By which you'll know that I am well
And all the news I have to tell.
The weathers warm and bright today
All nature smiles with flowers gay.
I've labored through another week,
A rest today I gladly seek,
And from the store of memories sight
A few more words of comfort write
To those I love and long to see
But can't for want of liberty.
My duty to you all I know
Full well, and that's what often grieves me so,
To be compelled to stay away
Or in the darkest prison stay,
And thus add to your deepest pain
That naught but absence can explain.
My choice, of course, is to be free,
But when I can't my loved ones see
For such a long and dreary time,
My feelings I cannot define.
I read and think, I think and read.
I wonder when we shall be freed.
The clouds hang low and hover round
As if to hide the faintest sound
Of our pleadings to ascend
To God Our father and our Friend.
I know, dear ones, that just ahead
Are brighter days: for God has said
To all who held on tried and true
Is everlasting life for you.
This buoys us up, fresh courage give
And helps us nearer to Him live
And through our every grief and woe

Bear e'en the most severest blow.
There is not much this world conveys
That would induce our longer days
Unless the fair and far beyond
Would make secure the sacred bond
By which to each we have been given
To meet, to part no more, in Heaven.
For this most precious gem of worth
We can endure the ills of earth
And even bear the scoffs of man
To gain the prize through fathers plan.
I often think of how we've tried
To live and labor side by side
And in each other seen the good
Whenever we are understood.
How oft we've proven how sincere
Or love and confidence so clear
In all the trials we've together met
Are fresh within my memory yet.
Two weeks today was last I heard
From home, and now I want a word
To know that all with you are well,
A comfort which no tongue can tell.
I guess your letter's on the way
And by misfortune makes delay,
But when it comes, it will be good.
I'd get it sooner if I could.
Be sure to all our little tots
You tell them papa loves them lots,
And often after evenings fall,
I pray for God to bless them all,
And that although I have to flee,
They each and all are dear to me.
Be not impatient blessed wives,
God will lengthen out our lives
To make up what we sacrifice.
When I return, your open eyes
Will see me as I am, and, if I must say,
No other than the one who went away.
Your True Husband
And Father
Orson

(Orson to family)

July 29. 88

Dear and honored family.

I again devote a part of this another Sabbath to you. not as I should wish to. but in a manner which is left us. not of our choice. At this time I am well for which I rejoice. Were I to be sick and situated as I am I do not know what I should do. But with health one can rise above many difficulties which would bear him down was he not well. I do not know yet the results of our labors hence I can give you no news of my financial situation other than I have already written. We are still working away with a will and as good heart as we can. I feel well and that all will end well. It may take time but it will come. The weather is dry and hot now in the day but the nights are cool. I received a letter from Aunt Salome last week in answer to one I wrote in April. She was well and sends love to you all. She wants to come out to Utah and wants to know how long we would board her for what she could do. if she came I have not answered it yet. But I shall tell her I guess you would board her (if she would be a right good girl and do as she was told) as long as she might wish to stay. I don't think she would want to stay long. I would have no chance to see her if she came. but I guess it will not be this season that she will come so I may see her when she does. I was glad to hear from her and shall answer hers soon. From all the reports I get from Utah I see that there is no let up in the persecutions and the chances are that there will not be for some time to come. The bitter opposition to the truth continues to manifest itself and to spread abroad. and it is surely the time spoken of by Daniel. because that iniquity abounds the love of many should grow cold and is it not so when sore troubles come upon us are we not tempted to doubt. Such I fear is the case with many. We may know by this that the time is nigh when we shall be freed in some way. How it will be I cannot say. I got a letter from J.B.C. and from him I learned that he thinks it will not be longer than six months from this month. As he was in his dream. and he seems to have a great faith in his dream as so much has come to pass already. He seems to have launched out quite extensively in his business of late but prospects for trade must be blue just now. as he seems to have the blues says trade was never so poor. I guess the scriptures are about to be fulfilled. which say that the merchants cried out for someone to buy their goods but there was none to buy. It is much harder for poor men to get means now than ever before. And great distress will soon fall upon the inhabitants of our land. I have no doubt but that all that has been prophesied concerning Zion will be fulfilled. Can we wait and endure patiently the trials we are called to pass through? That is the question. Time only can answer it. By this time you will be anxious to know what I intend to do. for the future. I have also been led many times to ask myself the same question. I do not know what to do. I pray always to be guided right at the proper time I have laid no plans. Nor have I thought of anything in particular. So your minds can be at rest upon that. unless you can help me out. by suggesting some plan. I am utterly at a loss to know what to do. I think some times that we had better all take to learning law and become better acquainted with our privileges as citizens of non citizens of our own country. I hope we shall be able to see our own mountain home. out of the difficulties she is now under and again enjoy the peace we have before enjoyed. Keep up your spirits as best you can. Remember God is our friend and will not forsake us if we will but trust Him It is my constant prayer that He will have an especial care over you and our children that you may be protected and led in the light of His presence. I heard that C. W. Penrose had been excuminicated for adultery. Is it so?

Peace, comfort, joy and love

Be ever thy gifts from God above.
Life, health and liberty
Never slack in helping thee.
Light, love and duty bright
Lead us till we all unite
To walk the narrow road.

With love increasing
I am Your own
Husband
Orson.

Fail not to kiss my little girls.
They'll laugh and shout I know
And shake their little heads and curls
To think I love them so.
And don't forget my little boys
To kiss them one by one.
For all are a fond parents joys
The daughter or the son.
Papa

(Orson to Maggie)

Aug 1 88

My dear Maggie.

Your welcome letter made my soul rejoice. to feel I have children that think and pray for me. and who are trying to keep the counsels of their parents. It is such pleasure to me to know this. My love for you all is given. a refreshing. whenever I hear from you and I often think of the good times we have so often enjoyed at home. And when we meet again I trust it will be revived with increased interest. Your intense desire to see me. finds a ready response in my own feelings and I to(o) will be glad when I am home again. I thank you for your encouragement. for it is such to me. When I know that you are all trying to do right. and are trying so hard to help me. I can do anything.

Your ever loving
Father.

(Orson to Ida)

Aug 1. 1888

My Dear Ida

Truly you shall have your hopes realized. We shall meet sometime and that too in the flesh I feel assured of that. I was right pleased with your letter and I thank you for such manifest interest in me and mine. I shall always be of Good cheer when I have such children to bless me. Your efforts to do right will be crowned with success. And they are all powerfull to help me. You must kiss Lyman and Geneva for me as I cannot write them a letter now I am just going to post this.

Try to do the best you can
Mama will contrive and plan.
You can learn to do the work
No matter if inclined to shirk.

Your loving
Father

(Orson to Carrie)

Aug 6. 1888

Dear Carrie

Your letter accompanying the childrens was a pleasure to read and I enjoyed it very much. Your discription of our family choir and the advancing ideas of our of(f)spring. thrilled me with joy and delight. How I should delight to see. hear. and participate in your sociables. I am glad you are taking time to educate them in the principles of truth I failed yesterday to write my Sunday letter but I have to be goverened by circumstance to a great extent. Yes it will truly be a time of rejoicing when we can all meet again Oh how joy our hearts will swell. The depth of which no tounge can tell. I know dear love that your greatest desire is to have me feel and realize what you know and understand and not to gratify any selfish desire of your own. I know this full well. and if I have conveyed any other idea. I have not meant to. And if I could I would gratify your feelings in both ways. by seeing you and all you have mentioned and I do hope that God will order it some way that we may enjoy this privelige. If D. Ormsbys ideas of things come true we shall all have occasion to rejoice. We used to think we were greatly mistreated when we were deprived of our right to vote. and that our liberties were much curtailed. But wont we be able to appreciate the least mite of liberty now when we get it? If we don't I shall think we are very poor scholars. I cannot make up my mind to move to a new country. yet. And if I do not free my self from debt. I shall most likely winter some where within the U.S. I have no idea where it will be. But I hope not far away I am sorry to learn of Goldsberys misfortune for he must have suffered severely. It may be that some may think it a retribution on him. but we do not know. All of us are subject. or liable to mishaps. If he can feel that it is a punishment. upon him. that would be good. We should welcome him to repentance. I am glad you think that the thickest of our present war is over. it may be in one way but I fear that all are not yet sensible of the trials some have encountered. and there will be something after this is over. I shall hail a change if we can but share our trials together. We are tried now in sepperation. perhaps to test our fidelity to each other. And in no way could. we be made to know the value of each to each as in this way. and our next trial may be in some other way we do not now look for. To me dear wife You are more dear than ever. What we have passed through has endeared the Gospel and all its gifts and blessings. to me more than all I thought of before. My eyes have been opened to many things which has confirmed and strengthened my faith and which has shown me the grandure of our position. And I am satisfied that the time will come when our people who have entered in to the higher law will be honored for the step they have taken. notwithstanding their present. appearant humiliation. I have no regrets for what I have done in this respect. unless it be that I have

not done enough. The papers come all right. I have the Deseret News sent to me direct from the News office. I thought best to have it regular for a quarter. I would not be surprised if Cleavland did not receive a second term. I think he will have a hard fight. And it matters but little to us God is building up a Kingdom and He will do it in His way and in His time regardless of who may hold the high position of President. We mortals look for some release. but God alone can give us peace. My heart warms within me at the thought of my dear ones and Home and the anxiety with which I watch every movement of our enemies can only be imagined. I dare not enter to earnestly in the contemplation of a speedy freedom to return. and live in peace. for fear of a disappointment. However I shall hail with joy the apperance of peace. Write me when you can. It does me so much good to get your letters. They let me in to the secrets of your loving heart. and opens to my view the joy of your countenance. They encourage me and give me peace of mind. I have no news to write. God bless you

My sincere love to you
Ever and true
Orson

(Orson to family)

Aug 11th 1888

My Dear Family

With true sentiments for home and dear ones. I write this morning informing you of our health and condition We are well and are pleased to state we are so. I truly hope that this will find you all as it leaves us. I thought yesterday I should get a letter from you and so I deferred writing until some one had been to the mail. In this I was disappointed for upon their return I received none. I conclude that you are very buisy at something and have much to take up your time. I have written you what I was desirious of doing to quiet my creditors for a while. i.e. to mortgage my place for the amt I owe. hoping to be able to clear it off by the time of the expiration of the mortgage I shall anxiously look for your ans upon the matter. I am very loathe to do such a think but as long as we owe anyone. we must exert ourselves to pay and if our own property will secure them I feel we should do so. I do not know where I can raise the money even in that way. but I will try with your approval. I hope the time is not far distant when I can come home and attend to matters in comparitive safety. I am almost tempted to come and stand my trial I might get off and I might not. It would be due to the workings of God upon our enimies. This has been a hard summer on my feelings. under such pressing financial demands and I long for a change in some way We have worked all this time and have made nothing comparatively. True we have lived and we have need to be thankfull for many things. yet it has been hard for weak humane Nature. I do not mourn nor regret. only in that I am indebted to others. It may be for a lesson for me and I hope to proffit by it. I do feel bad at times when I think that. upon you the trouble has fallen also. for it was never my desire that it should be so any farther than possible. But at times I think I have caused it unduly. by incurring debt as I have. If upon liberating myself again I can have learned the lesson intended by this experience. Your trials in that respect will be at an end. for nothing has grieved me more than being thus situated. I have not yet felt any inclination to go to any new place for I have felt that I should return to our old home. Under what circumstances I cannot tell. but I hope at least in peace.

Did I tell you that Zina had a daughter? If not I should have done for she wished me to in their last letter. and also sent their kind regards. It is sometime now since I heard from them but they were all well at that time and new members were constantly arriving in the colony from Utah and else where. They are very anxious that I should pay them a visit. I have not thought of such a thing although. I could go from here by rail. within 30 miles of where they are. but at a cost of about 60 dollars. which I think I should prefer to spend in making a trip to Cache. We must constantly hope for a return of the exiles. Not only for ourselves but for all Isreal many of whom have been scattered and pulled for hundreds of years. For no other reason (many of them) than that which scatters us for a few months. Let us bear with patience our lot and trust our God for His aid

With my warmest love
You are possessed
Uttered at heart though
Unexpressed.

Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Aug 18 1888

Dear Carrie.

Your letter dated aug 12 came into my hands on the 16th and I ans today. I had become quite anxious about you as it had been so long since I last heard. I am glad again to hear and that no more serious results came from the accident. It might have been very serious. I am sorry that it happened. But I guess we cannot expect to escape entirely. from the ills of life. I am glad you was at the conference in L. and I expect you had a good time It would seem so good if I could attend another. I should so enjoy the sacrement and meetings again The last I had was in our own little meeting a year ago last Feb. You had quite peculiar dreams I must say. Let me see. to dream of death is a sign of a wedding is it not? Surely some one is to be married. after all that dreaming. We are well thank God But as to finances I am not sanguine I do not know how well we shall come out. My notes are due now and I should like to pay them up or extend them. but how to do it is the trouble. For I ought to be in Utah to attend to it. and under present circumstances I cannot get there. however as in all other cases we have been helped out. so also we will in this. And I feel that the way will open up. for us yet. In the meantime we shall have to do the best we can. I have read your statement of accounts and am satisfied you could have done no better in expending that amount of money on these improvements. And you have no doubt got value recd. but don't you think that. 61.00 in winter clothes. would have been of more service to you. in case we cannot get any more. If I was you I would not do any more improving until we saw our way a little clearer. Look after things well. that you may have shoes and clothes for winter. I think we have expended enough on the house to make it as good as we are justified until paid for. And I would rather you have. something to eat and wear than so much house if we can't have both. I am glad you have the house. And I hope we can have the other things. you did not say what you owed the Store. I will write you what I am owing in full. and you can see just how I stand. Do not think that I object to what you have done. I do not feel so. but I am anxious to be free. and you will need many little things that I fear I shall be pushed to provide. However you will be able to judge for yourselves. My desire to place the farm under mortgage was to pay all accounts up and get the deeds for all the land. and

have no one responsible for any of my notes. I do not know how I can succeed in this nor how you will feel about it. I have recd a small note from Father C. saying he did not know what to say in the matter. But that is all I expected he would say. I have always had to meet issues of this kind alone and so in this case. it will not be an exception. I know I have their good wishes. which is enough. Well dear wife these are some of the trials of life. and they do not amt to so much after all. they pertain to our mortal sphere. and from which we cannot escape in full. while many are agrivated through our own unwise moves. And this knowledge brings deepest sorrow. Laying finances aside I could not hope to feel more blessed than I am. feeling assured that what we are doing will bring a reward. far exceeding our ken. For this I am willing to continue to labor. And for you my dear and loved ones. there is a reward awaiting. Be patient. I am as ever

True

Love to all and kisses to
Blessings of heaven and earth for you.

Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Aug 26 1888

Dear Carrie

I now complete my ans to your of the 13th much of which I answered in my family letter. I was pleased with your letter. and to note your interest in the education of our children. which I esteem highly. and in which you all have my hearty support. so far as in my power lies. It is very difficult for me to minutely describe all the particulars of my situation and circumstances. And from my family letter you may jump to conclusions which might lead you to think that I was not as interested as I should be but I hope not. Were it in my power no chances. which were calculated to advance my children. should pass unimproved. As I now am situated I cannot see how I could do any better than I have stated. which means to do the best we can for them at home for the present. In your conversation with Eph you must have brought up all that could be thought of. But I trust that all is over for the present. and that a while will pass pleasantly. You will remember I wrote you at the first that I did not expect you would get along entirely smoothe in farm matters. and tried to prepare you for it. Nor do I expect that one person could be found that all would work smoothly with. It is impossible to find one. So do not feel bad if you meet such things. (Think much and say little) we shall wear out the present the future we do not know. Borrow no trouble. That comes to all. We do not live with out hope. We know that things as they are cannot always last. and all will yet end well. I have secured no money yet and I do not know how I shall succeed. In your letters you talk as if I might come home if I felt so disposed. But I cannot see how I could do you the least good. I should have to keep entirely hid and what could I accomplish. I have done and am now doing the best I know how. with my limited knowledge. I know it looks like one might do different and I am tempted at times to come and take my chance at home. Then I think of my circumstances and I feel that. that would not be right. And what must I do. & what can I do more. than I am doing. If I did not owe any one I would most assuredly come and run my chances. But as it is I do not feel that I should be justified. You know from what they are constantly doing. that I could not be at home only in secret. and that if arrested would most likely have a term

of 6 months if not longer. The fine in either case would feed and supply you a year. besides the feelings of my incarceration upon us all. and when I take all these matters into consideration. I no (know) not what to do other than what I am doing. Can you see? The disagreeabilities of a home without a head I know are great but it might be greater. For were I imprisoned. your responsibilities would be no less. Our debts would be no less and our feelings would be much more intensified. How do you look at these things. do you think I view the wrong? I am extremily anxious about you all and in no way would I neglect an opportunity to be at home if that was the best for me to do. You are as dear to me as is myself and for you I labor as for my self. and if in the Providence of God I am permitted to be freed from debt. there is no spot on earth that will hold me but where you are. Be of good cheer. Kiss all for me and my love yourself. I hear of Goldsberris death how dreadfull. and oh the poor family. left with all the temptations to take an evil course and with the example of a parent impressed upon them. They may be saved by a better influence being thrown around them. Lets hope so. God bless you all.

O.

(Orson to Carrie)

Sept 1st 1888

Dear Carrie

Your letter of Aug 24 came to me day before yesterday and I was right glad to get it. to hear that you were all well. but sorry you were so disappointed at not seeing me. I can realize your feelings and hence can sympathize with you. I am glad you sense my situation and feel so willing to aid me. It is such a joy to me to know I have such a loving and trusted family. In fact it is what keeps me up. It looks quite discouraging at times but your efforts spur me on. and I feel confident that we shall come out all right. and retain our home in P(aradise). We have ever been willing to do all we could for the cause and I do not feel that we had tied ourselves to any of the blessings god has bestowed. only for the good we could do with them Now you speak of six months imprisonment of little consequence and so it is and not much to fear nor do I fear that. but even that I do not want to undergo. unless I am obliged to. The fine would work a greater hardship to us than the imprisonment would to me. besides putting means into their hands to prosecute others with. Were I free from debt I would not hesitate at all to come and run my chances I do not feel it would be right for me to do it. I do not know how our brethren stay about home as they do Surely they cannot be doing any labor out of doors! It is to be deplored that anything should be said to hurt the feelings of Mr. Goldsberries family what ever turn they may now take will to a great extent depend upon the course pursued by our people towards them and all should be carefull in this respect. I cannot see how T. W. can be tried for Polygamy. He as been married to(o) long for that. And I do not think it will go near so hard with him as you imagine. It is best to not say much about things of this kind and it will be hard for anyone to find out. I dislike to have you say how hard it is likely to go with any one. As it seems that you are in danger of having to testify. And it is best not to even say how bad we think some will get it. Rather treat it as if a very little could be done to them. and create an influence that way. If the worst comes that is soon enough. We should not borrow it before hand. Within a very few days we have had a number of tragedies enacted near here. One man hung himself. One shot himself. Another tried to kill himself by hanging. A train left the track

yesterday morning and killed another and one more was murdered, and thrown into the river. But the guilty one is now on trial and will probibly hand. By this you see that all manner of ways are resorted to by man to rid himself of life. Surely mens hearts are failing them for fear of what is coming upon the earth. I am glad you have seen father and got the news from here. I guess better than I can write. I would like to have a chat with Bro. Allen. as you had. Take care of Maggie and keepe her warmly clad. I do not think she will develop into womanhood yet for at least two years. Give my love to them all and tell them how I felt their disappointment. I have only the best of feelings for father C. and have not inferred otherwise I hope. I know how he is situated. And expect nothing from him. I have feelings against no one that I know of. And I feel at peace with all men. Ever praying Gods blessings upon you I am your true and loving husband.

O.

(Orson to family)

Sept 28 1888.

My Dear and beloved family.

As I have omitted my Sunday letter of late I take this opportunity. of writing. While I have no particular news to tell you I have many serious reflections upon my mind. of which I shall endeavor to write. First of all. I will say. I have not yet learned how we stand here financially. But hope to learn about monday or tuesday of next week. Since the 7th of this month I have done no work. Have sold out the most of our R.R. outfit. and one team but have not got the money for all yet. I sent \$108.00 interest to Eccles. 90.00 to C. C. Richard part for father and part I agreed to pay. and some to Father. But not all that is his due. We cannot get our money from the Company as prompt as we could wish. I have fitted up my teams and wagons and have tried to see. but no show. I am now ready to pull out and leave the country. and shall try to start next week some time. My idea was to go to Canada for the winter. and see what might turn up in that direction another season. and return home in the spring if things permitted. All the suggestions. which have come to my mind. have been met with a labored feeling difficult to express. It has been my keenest desire to have returned home and at each thought of going anywhere else I have been pained. But taking into consideration all things. it may be best for me to go north for the winter upon this I have not fully decided. I have no one but Dave Rollins. with me now and we have all we can do to attend to the teams we have. And we cannot move without both of us at present. Should he leave me I should be left alone with them all. and I am anxious to get them where I could winter them if I was alone. It may seem to you that I could do differently to what I do and it may be so. but as far as my vision can penetrate. I cannot see how. Your desire to have me come home. cannot be greater than mine is. to come. Therefore pray do not censure me. The pang is too great. when your love languishes. or your censure is added.. It is for you I live. labor. and suffer. which is not for a day. month. or year. but for ever I may fail in everything else. but oh Lord may I never fail in the principles of eternal life. for You dear family. I hope to progress. that of me you need never be ashamed. that the true love I bear you shall manifest itself. in my life. to your exaltation. I know it is long and hard that I do not come. but it is not that I do not wish to. It is not that I neglect you. Do not think it. it is not so. If I could do more for you than I am doing. I should gladly do it. I see that quite a number are giving themselves up now. And it appears that a little more leniency is

shown by the courts. which I am pleased to see. It will help some. But the young men and wimmen who are raising families it will not help. We must either obey the law or our families it will not help. We must either obey the law or our families must be raised in obscurity. This well to do people must labor under more trying difficulties. and must place their wives farther apart. unless the entire law is repealed. The adultery charge is worse than the Co. hab. Next spring I can come into Utah without molestation if M- is out of the way. But even then I can not go home with both of you there. My ideas are to provide some way that I may be to each of you as I always have been. But you can see it must take time. I have tried to get out of debt. and have not succeeded yet. and the remainder of this fall and winter I can do nothing unless. it be on some improvement of a home. I might lay around all winter in this country. And awit for something next year. but see the time I should loose. and be not farther ahead. But if I go there I can build a house and other needed improvement. even if I do not remain here after. I am not sure of this plan succeeding. But it is how I have thought of it. I have but the one object in view. and that is for your best good. and best plan of carrying out the labor we have commenced. Neither of you shall be neglected if it is in my power to avoid. At times it may appear that I do. But when all the circumstances are understood I am sure it will not look so. especially if the desires of my heart are carried out. I am not senseless to the trials you are passing through. Neither am I deaf to your pleadings. Both pierce to the quick and I fain would suffer for you. I am not afraid of prison life in some ways it would be preferable to the life I live. I have faith that I could come home and go again without arrest. but when I came I should like to be able to test the case. And upon a three years absence I might get off. I should like to have M- somewhere in safety. so I could return for sometime Otherwise she would have to hide up in Utah. and it would be more difficult for me. However time must tell. I shall move as I am impressed. and shall ever pray for the right impression. If you should ever be tempted to think that I forget you. banish the thought. for I never have you out of my mind. Be to the children all you can. Work yourselves in to their feelings as you are in mine and I know they will not forget me. Give my love to them. and a kiss for each.

As each fond heart for me doth pray
As I in absence, far away,
I hear a still small whisper say
Be patient, we shall meet.
The trials we suffer day by day
Must surely go. They cannot stay
And sorrow and sadness flee away
When we each other greet.

Love to children large and small.
Love to Mothers, one and all,
From one who lives and loves

As ever True
Orson

M- joins in love and hopes for a letter. do not write to this office after receiving this unless I write you to. I will write when I leave here. And will write as we progress on our journey.

(Salome to Jane King Carpenter—her sister)

Harrisville Conn

Oct 10th/ 88

My dear Sister

Here I am sitting all alone no one to speak too even a cat Aunt Salome has been abed almost one hour she is no company when she is up I put her to bed as soon as she gets her supper eaten tonight it was quarter past five was I to tell her it was nine o'clock she would believe it she does not seem to realize time at all I only wish you could see her I have to lift her into bed nights now and it is telling on me she is dead weight Mary has not written me since the 19 of September she owes me 76 dollars to night why she don't write I do not see unless she is mad because I wrote and told her I must have some money as I had not but 2 dollars to my name she has not sent the money nor wrote a word since I think she might just write to me never mind it won't always last no road so long but what there is a turn. I guess you will think before you get through reading this letter that I have given up hoping for a better time well I have for they grow worsen & worsen. I am having the worst cold I ever had lots of folks have got the same I think it is a distemper Aunt S. has it & she is real deaf and cross most of the time swears and talks awful mean to me if I do not do all just as she thinks it is fearful the state she is in I can't begin to make you realize how bad she is by writing but when I come out then I will tell you all about it. yes in 2 years you will be as old as our dear Father was it don't seem possible when I think about it. hope your new girl has proved satisfactory. I was dreadful yes awful sorry to hear such news about Carrie. Never mind when she is gone Orson will realize what a treasure he has lost only couldn't he live the Mormon with one wife as well as Ezra (Ezra married his 2nd wife 25 Mar 1885; a child was born 28 Feb 1887) I think Ezra is as good a man as he is and that he will get to heaven as quick as Orson & his happiness will be as great & glorious as Orsons Why couldn't Orson been contented with one wife like Carrie only think a woman of her age the Mother of 7 children I am kinda mad with him he might been contented with Carrie then he could lived at home & been with his wife & children & Carrie need not to been plagued with the farm. I think it is a mans duty to curb his passions as well as a womans especially when he sees it is going to be wors for his wife you may think that is plain talk but I feel so bad for Carrie that I can't help talking plain poor Carrie is all I can think of it is ridiculus for a good woman like Carrie to have to suffer so well I guess I will change the subject before I write to much I owe Orson a letter but I cannot answer it when I feel as I do now. You say you wish elisha could see the farm. So do I but should he see how Carrie is suffering he would storm the castle for he always thought Carrie was perfect. You must miss Lulu when she is away to school for she must be lots of help when she is at home & company too. I think her white dress must look beautiful on her she has such a good complexion & I think it is made pretty. How I do wish I was out there I do not believe but what I could live through it if you can of course your customs are different from here and it would seem strange to me but it would not kill me I do not believe so look out for me when I get money enough to come I shall come you & I always did scold more or less but it never amounted to anything unless it was to make us think more of each other after it what do you think of that Addie & family are all well with all the hard work Addie has done she is the youngest looking of the three she looks

much better than when she had Aunt S. there she is doing a washing for a woman in Pomfret that she has between 3 & 4 dollars a week for doing & she says it is not as hard as taking care of Aunt S. I thought I had told you who Clara Whitman married she married that William that was in company with Charlie Sharp when you was here she has had an addition put on to the little cottage that was grand Mother Whitman lives there she has a little girl 2 years old last august. Hawley is Eddie Whitman's wife she lives up stairs in the house with Nell she was Hawley Stone related to Charles Fenn's folks she has a little boy 3 years old she is the one I worked for after our dear Mother died I went down there in May staid until the 8 of Oct then I came home & took Aunt S. so I have had her 2 years. Cronin Nell grows old & course looking. Yes E G Whitmore did have a cancer in his ear but Bert ate it out with something & cured it he grows old I can tell you when he is gone they will see a change the mony machine will be stoped then. How is the weather out there we have had a cold summer & it is real cold now yesterday it was snow squally all day & it was awful cold. By the time you get this letter I shall get the shirts all done and if I can send them as cheap by express as through the office I shall express them you have an express office there havnt you or if I send them by express had I not better send them to Lulu to Salt Lake City please answer as soon as you get this so I shall (know) which to do & send Lulu's address. I shall see the next time I go to Putnam how much the express will be on them & I can tell by weighing them how much the postage would be so I can tell then which will be the cheaper. If it is as cold there as here they will want them to wear Well Well havnt I wote a long letter & made a mixed up mess of it you will say too should I write all I want to I should fill to more sheets write as often as you can I was glad to see Ezra's writing once more will write to him soon

Your Sister
Salome

(Aunt Salome to Jane King Carpenter)

Harrisville Conn
Nov 20th / 88

My Dear Sister

Your welcome letter received Monday night should of answered that night but thought I would wait a day or so to see if I should not hear something favorable from Mary have not heard a word since the 21st of October that was the date of her last letter then she said she could not send me any money until after election as she had got into trouble with the man she had been working for and the lawyer could not attend to it until after election as he was much engaged in politics she did not tell me what the trouble was nor what she was going to law for she is to high headed for her cloth this man Robert Simpson has done a good deal for her so she used to say how good he was to her paid her Mothers board and paid her 10 dollars a month besides and made her lots of nice presents wish I could see you then I could tell you the whole story. In my last letter to her I asked her what had she done with her Mothers money I expect she has let a Mr. Thomas Palmer have it (a man that she is very sweet on) & that he has speculated with it & lost it she has always been very private about it and has always been very much afraid that some of the rest of the family would come here & I would tell them her business when Joe did come she said she came as a spy I told her I did not think so Joe

come last may then the 15 of Oct she & Etta came Joe is married lives in Milford Mass has 2 children one 11 and one 9 & expects to get to Boston again the middle of march her husband is older some than she is he owns a large farm has a large cranberry meadow has a saw mill & grist mill I am going up there when I am at liberty again if I am sometimes I think my next liberty will be the grave her husbands name is Chandler Kirk. Etta lives in Rochester N.Y. her husband is a shoe manufacturer is quite wealthy name Johnson Roibbins she has one little girl 3 ½ years old (Joes one a boy & girl) Cousin William lives in Medway Mass on a farm he is real poor Etta helps him a good deal she bought him 2 cows helped buy his horse Joe bought him 2 pigs Etta sends him lots of money Etta is a nice noble woman a humble Christian too I think there is no brag about her Joe done the bragging after she was gone what I mean by that is she told me of some nice things she had got. John lives in Brooklyn N.Y. so does Willie he is a smart young man. Leona & Jeff live in Brooklyn N.Y. 279 President Street I wish she would come on but I have never asked her to for fear of making Mary mad it seems strange to me that all the rest of the family are united but Mary all are against her it seems to me that she has trouble with everyone she has any thing to do with. She did talk shamefully to Elisha the last time she was there which is 2 years ago last August Elisha fairly hates her she told him what she would have and what she would not have right to his own breakfast table had Elisha get up and showed her the door I should not of blamed him one bit but for a wonder he held his temper but he went into the field to work and she had not seen him since. I have never forgotten how she used you when you came on I have thought of it lots of times she thinks she is the smartest cutest & most perfect woman alive she is I am afraid to smart for her own good. She owes me 100 dollars today for her Mothers board I am going to try and be patient and wait this week out then if she does not send me any I will howl on her doorstep until she does. Your last letter sounded real natural and like you am sorry your girl cannot be contented to stay with you how I do wish I could run in and have a good talk with you tonight I am afraid that morning would find us still talking there is so much I would like for you to know. Well I have not got the box ready yet think now I shall get it ready to send by the 27th or 28th I have lost all life and ambition working as I have and not got anything for it you say let some one else take her I do not want to think of that I am cross and ugly enough to her and I am afraid that strangers would abuse here she is so trying at times I have lost all the little mite of patience I ever did have she is all the Aunt that I have and if her own children do not care for her I do I have not forgot how well we all loved to have her come to see us and I never shall forget how well she & uncle William treated me when I was there. You say it seems as though you was good for nothing now do not feel so for your letters do me lots of good & I always think how good of you to write when it is such hard work for you. I hope Carrie will write to me soon. I did not want you to send any mony for express or postage I think now I shall send the box by express I shall write again just before I send it but you seemed anxious to hear from me so I thought I would write a few lines to let you know I was still alive I do not know how much I do weigh but more than you do you must be changed in looks a good deal I never saw you when you weighed so little. I guess Addie is the youngest looking of the three she is looking real healthy now it wore on her when she had Aunt Salome & it was not as hard as it is now. You say you dread the cold weather so do I has it been very cold out there as yet last night was the coldest night we have had as yet

well I am getting sleepy so will close as I think now I shall write again Sunday & shall want something to write then Love and best wishes to all Oh! Mrs Albert Chandler called on me the other day she says when you write to your sister again be sure & remember me to her she always asks after you I wish sometime when Ezra has some good papers on or about Mormonism he would do up 2 or 3 & send to her direct to Mrs Albert Chandler South Woodstock Conn as their mail comes to (?)

Good night

Your affectionate
Sister Salome

(Jane Carpenter to Carrie)

Smithfield Utah Dec 7th 88

Dear Carrie

We got your letter last Wednesday was glad to hear from you had heard through the Journal of you being in Hyrum so I told Maggie she need not expect to hear from you until the materials (?) were all attended to she was disappointed in our not getting a bundle when we got the money as she was expecting some chemise and a petticoat I would have made her both if she had not expected some but she has got along by wearing some of Lulus old ones she is a real good girl and I don't know what I should have done when Sarah left if she had not been here she and Saloma both done their very best Clara Raymond has been here two weeks doing the work Maggie is just doing splendid she will not be long catching up with Saloma I never have to urge her to practice, but she was homesick when she got your letter telling how Eph was acting she cried and said she thought she had ought to be home to help she says poor Mama and all of them over there so far away from any body that cares anything about them, write as cheerfull to her as you can she is to sympathetic for such a little girl Well I have been having an awful time with both feet one was swollen as big as two that was when Sarah went away and it grew so bad I was afraid I should be used up entirely and forever your Father took me to see Dr. Snow two weeks ago next Sunday he gave me something to take and bathe my feet in and that I must surely keep off of my feet but that is hard to do. Clara is not very strong and am afraid to have her do all Laura helps her do the washing. I am in hopes I shall get over the trouble in my feet the swelling gone down half but is still quite red and inflamed Maggie Salome and your Father are playing cards usually Maggie helps Salom get her school lessons so she is picking up some knowledge she goes to Sunday school and primary she plays the organ to Primary, accompaniments you know she does well, they are glad to have her Had a letter from Aunt Saloma and there is a box on the way out here with lots of things for us Lina and Geneva each two flannel petti coats you a cape Maggie and Ida a new dress said it would make them a good every day dress would to have sent them something better I will send her two last letters with this. I guess you can write to here after you get all the nice things it is to bad the way you have neglected her so bad. I hope we can all come over after Christmass if not before, oh if Orson could only come home he would straighten things up I guess. Well I have written quite a letter. write as often as you can give my love to Annie kiss all the children for me give Lina two and I guess Granpa would send one to but he has just gone over to the store well I will with lots of love to your own self

Your Mother

Jane K. Carpenter

Your Father is out of guny sacks or sacking but will save you some as soon as he gets some more Your Father says he dont know as he could do you any good if he was to come over there it makes matters worse I think he had better come home pretty soon if he cares anything for you over there at all Maggie says tell Mama I weigh 80 lbs she is real well

(Carrie to Mary)

At Home Dec 16th 1888

Dear Mary

At last I make the opportunity to write to you, by rising early. I have no more opportunity to write sundays than any other day, only on every other Sunday. I have got myself into business. I have a class in the Sunday school up here in Old P(aradise) & I am depended on to lead the singing as well. Sister Burrell used to always be there when I was not to lead singing but she is bed-fast now. She worked to hard helping white wash the meeting house, & clean up, & she miscarried so now they all look to me. & every other Sunday they have meeting in the after noon, & I am wanted as bad for that time to lead singing as in the morning, & it is such up hill work to get things started, that I feel almost wicked when I am not there, but I have had to be away from home some-times & could not help it. This is how my sundays are spent, & when we work so hard weekdays & go to all the meetings sunday we feel we get no rest at all. You may not fully believe that we truly have not had time to write sooner but such is the case. It is no light matter to get everything around you that will be needed for the winter through. This is what we have been at, & now begin to feel relieved, & just got through in time for the bad weather has set in, & we can no more drive our own teams. It is raining hard this morning, & a good part of the day yesterday. We have had one snow only up to now & that went off right away. We have never had such fine weather before so late. It has been like Oct weather freezing a very little at night only. Eph has got in lots of fall grain, over half of what there is to be put in. Well Mary I guess you had quite a variety of experiences in the last few months. I hope no serious trouble, which I judge from O's letters you have not had as yet. I was down to your folks place, when a short letter came from you, & from that I saw you thought it was not going to be so lonely as it had been for you. I am glad of that, as I know you miss sociability with others more than we would if any-thing. I have felt much like writing to you the last few weeks but that was when I had least time, but a while before that I could not get up heart enough to do it. I have thought I met trials before, but none quite so severe, as we have met this summer & fall. I could not convey by writing how it has been but in all my life I never felt so alone as we have been in that time, we seemed to be utterly removed from all sympathetic feeling, & Eph has made it so unbearable for us, & the anxiety of fear that he was trying to take advantage of us, which he proved that he did contemplate doing. It had so worked on me that I could not sleep nights, till finaly it came to a head, but it drew in Bankheads with it. Eph had been talking to them, more than he ought to. & Lib let it out here, & altogether it worked into the worse time I ever experienced. But it proved to be the best thing that ever happened to Eph. & Bankheads they both acknowledged their error. & we proved to them & Eph the kind of folks we realy were. Since then Eph acts like a man & goes to meeting & tries to behave him-self. I got track of Ephs doings just in time to nip them in the bud. He had bargained away our Mauds colt to Danford Buckmore. A colt worth about 3

times more than any of the other colts. He never mentioned it to any of us. & I told Danford Eph had not made a division of the things yet. & he had no right to sell it. & he said if that was the case he would not touch it. & he said more about other things where Eph was not doing right. Also John Bradley offered to testify if needed in our behalf as to the rightfulness of our claims. & when I told Eph how I had got track of his doings & that I could get plenty of support to defend me against his unjust dealing, he was dumfounded. & he saw I had got the best of his evil intentions, & he wilted right down, he did feel small. Nothing but the Lord supported us through all this. & over-ruled the hearts of others in our behalf. I never would have believed John Bradley would ever testify against Eph. & I know it surprised Eph. The reason I went to these men, Eph had been telling me what they had been telling him about these matters & their opinion on it. when we had that pick colt. Which after wards died. & I thought I'd ask them if they had told Eph what he said they had. & they denied saying. what he said they did. & offered of themselves to help me in the matter. whether they would actually have done it I don't know, but it had the right effect on Eph. & he would not allow it to go any further. You may not know that Eph acknowledged to me that he had lied about your father & what he said your father had told him about our affairs, was not so I am greatly surprised at Eph, & he feels it too. You can judge what our feelings have been. To feel that no one would do justly by us. & O- so far away that he could form no just conception of our situation. & we could scarcely feel he sympathized with us was trying in the extreme. ..

Ida wishes me to tell you she wants to see you much, & sends her love.

(Mary to Carrie)

Cardston. May. 11th 1889

Dear Carrie.

I received your letter of March 12th in reply to mine of Jan. 7th. You say it looks like a good while in answering and so it seems to me now. I guess we are not unlike. When we have our husband with us, we are well entertained, a good deal to talk about. and consequently we have the male with us. and don't need to do much writing, I guess. Then, when alone, with hired help, and work to see to, there is always a good deal of writing to do, that must be done. Then that not so pressing is put off. Then, I notice when we were alone, and don't have so many business letters to write, and have work pressing, there is always time made, to write to the one individual an abundance of letters anyway. So it is with me I know. And I think its all right. It is natural to like to write to a good corospondent, and one so prompt in answering. We always feel paid, amply for the time spent. I feel that its best to be honest about it, rather than offer so many excuses. I know I've written a dozen letters to Orson, and during that time I've felt realy that I had not the time possiably to write anyone else. When it was all a mistake. The weather has been extremely warm here the past three weeks. But there is several inches of snow on the ground to day. I think Lyman Martineau curious, over zealous in some points, so that he could hardly estimate the prevailing sentiment of our people correctly. I think him a little exaggerative. He will need to look well to No. 1 too, along with the rest. For some people to live the life of a latter day saint it seems a constant warfare. And they only work at it by spells and starts and then they do go, and every one must come up to the standard. But the race is not to the swift nor the battle to the strong, but the prize is to those who endure to the end. Its nothing less than a lifetime. It means a good deal.

We don't hear much about politics here. We live a very quiet life. Occasionally I have strong feelings to go somewhere, see someone, hear something. It seems so quiet, almost dreary, then it passes off and I don't find it hard to content myself for quite awhile.

But I am glad we keep well, that is one advantage the people have in settling a new country. As a rule they are healthy. And meal is not so plentiful then, especially pork. When one of the Sisters gets a little pig large enough to kill here, every woman in town is to have a taste of it. they first have a gathering, then a quilting, and different things, different groups being invited until all have tasted. The pork is very poor here I never heard of any of it frying itself. The grain is so scarce and milk so plentiful, they fat them on milk. And of course are not fat.

Martha is worrying about Papa being out in all this storm. She says he is out for the nasty man took him in the wagon. Nellie wants to know how Geneva is. She says they'll think it strange me asking about Geneva, before I ask about Papa. But I want you to write it any way. With love to you and the children I will close. Remember me to Annie when you write. You shortened baby too young. That's the worst of having little ones in the winter they need so much more care and you can't get out for so long. But by this time it is warm enough.

Mary

(Orson to Carrie)

Saw Mill 12 miles from
Baker City June 28, 89

My Dear Wife

After mothers day. I write my best wishes to thee and mine. No new features have developed. at this point. plenty of labor and worry if I choose to let it. We are all well and it is my earnest prayer that it is the same with you all at home. I was thinking today of our scattered condition at present and wondered what object the Lord has in view to thus place us. Surely there is a something in all this. I hope and pray we may get His meaning and fill our mission. I truly think that the patriarch was inspired when he told me I should travel much at home and abroad. For since that time I have not sojourned much at home and the prospects are not flattering for the future. with our family scattered as they are. But God who made these changes come. can also bring us nearer home. One thing is certain, it will prove our fidelity to each other. and cause our true love to grow stronger each day. How dear do we become, dear Carrie, when in memories of the past I see how attached to each other we have been from the beginning of our acquaintance how your indefatigable energies have been bent to further my wishes in righteousness can never be forgotten. and you have won a warm spot in my soul which you do constantly share. whether I am present with you or not. In the relations we have formed to furthur keep Gods Holy law. It places me in that position which causes me to look to Heaven alone for guidance. That the every step I take is one nearer to the one aimed at in the start. That I may ever be able to say to my loving family come. You dear Carrie have been and are now a strong support to me. And you have the reward of the keenest love of your own Orson. Honest I was when I married. and Honest I am now in trying to keep sacred my vows to you all. See me as I am, love, and I know

your happiness. May God be our aid through all time and our stay to the end. Kiss the children for me and yours will be kept fresh for the time of our meeting.

Your True Husband

Orson.

(Carrie to Mary)

At Home July 14th 1889

Dear Mary

For the 2nd time I commence another letter. I had one letter nearly complete, & was detained a few days in finishing it, & in the time new plans had been made needing so many explanations that I thought the letter would require as much for a preface as a good letter would make so I concluded I'd write another & not send it. I shall not attempt to write of the many plans that have been made since O- came home, as it would fill more than one letter with all the pro's and con's but will tell you as best I can how we all are, who are here, & what we are doing. In the first place we are all well. a blessing we daily appreciate. I expect some I may write you you will have heard through Orson's letters, but it is often pleasant to hear it expressed by another person. I am now alone again, with all the children here but Lyman. It was extremely lonely when Annie first went, even with Orson here, but I gradually got used to that. & now they are both gone. Although it seemed bad at first, we all bear it a good deal better than I would have thought we could have done. thus showing how a kind fatherly hand can prepare the back to bear any burden that we will try to bear. It seemed bad when A was home & O gone. But I used to think I never could get along without Annie, but now they are both away. & we go along as if we had always been used to it. I have had no help but the girls since A left, only on wash day The Housley girl their size comes & helps them. for .30 cts I am proud of the way the girls are doing. They are taking hold splendid better than I dared to expect. When Orson was home here. we left the girls 1 night twice & did not get till 11 the next night, alone, & they took good care of the things & the children. & I have been to Smithfield & stayed 2 nights & took Maggie & Geneva. & Ida got along first rate. was lonesome the most of any things. I had Annies sister Ida a week with me. but I soon found that I did not get as much help from the whole as I did before. so I soon done away with that. I am kept more close now as it is no light thing to care for six children, but as long as we are all well, & can do it I do not mind I had a very pleasant trip to Salt Lake C- to the Young Men's Conference a while ago. Orson bought him a 2 wheeled cart & light harness. He had to be traveling so much on Stake work. & we took this cart & drove to Ogden in 6 ½ hours. in time to catch the regular conference train to Salt Lake. & went right on that afternoon. but stoped & had dinner with Bro Johnson's folks before taking train. I do but little with M.I. work the last six months. Although that little seems to be satisfactory Orson made a special call on Bro. Thatcher. to get me released from it just before our spring conference. But he said he would not release me under any circumstances said I could release all my old counselors & choose who & where I liked for help, but I must not quit. There was no getting out of it. O- told him that I would have no one to leave the children with. & on a lonely farm. But he would not listen. So I do what I can, I made 3 trips while O- was here & helped me to get around. 2 times along with him & 1 to Smithfield & that time over one night. I do not know how much I can do now. I don't like to leave the children alone it is so lonely here. I shall be glad to hear

how you are getting along. & how you are spending your time. for it must be some-what lonely here. I shall be glad to hear how you are getting along. & how you are spending your time. For it must be some-what lonely there. Remember me lovingly to Nell. & I don't suppose the baby would know but kiss her for me as I would do if there. You are tenderly remembered by my-self & the children in our prayer night & morning. And you have our best wishes

The 2 Stewart children (J. Z's girls) are here visiting the girls or they would want to write to you too. Tell Zina we received her M. I. Report & enclosed it with ours to Salt Lake C- to Sister Taylor. I was pleased to get it, as also were others.

Your Sister Carrie

(Orson to Family)

Baker City Oregon

July 21 1889

My Dear Family.

Sunday affords me another chance of writing. which I embrace. Today I have not been as buisy as other Sundays. and am very glad of it. Yesterday I encountered a shower on my way from one lumber yard to the other and got wet through. such an unusual thing that I rather enjoyed it. The weather has been so hot and dry that a shower was a pleasant change. I often think of our pleasant home and pure water it is certainly a desireable place. when compared with other less attractive places. In the timber here it is not so bad. but out on the open country the heat is oppressive. I send cars of lumber to points in Utah. every week and will do almost every day now soon. But not one leaves here but I think of its destination and of my dear ones. near by. You are my greatest attractions. Were you all with me. I do not know that there would be much charms for me in Utah. with all her persecutions and trials. While she is choice and desireable with peace, she looses her charms without it. I think of the sorrows, heartaches and trials so many are passing through. of the once happy and peaceful homes. All changed. and with these changes. her beauty and loveliness to some extent has departed. You know dear wife. that Utah is dear to us. dear for many recollections that will never be forgot and I have no doubt but at some future time. It will be that Heaven blessed place it has been in the past. but for the present we who the law now reaches, must seek elsewhere for peace. Time passes rapidly and changes continue. Let us hope that it will soon turn to our advantage and profit. God knows his own business. if we can only know our own. and do and keep his commands. I shall make an effort to come and see you sometime in September I think. All will depend upon the circumstances surrounding us here and the condition of the business. It costs 22.60 fare from here to Logan. which is quite expensive traveling shall see if I cannot procure some kind of a ticket if I continue in the employ of this company another year. which will enable me to travel some cheaper. With true love and kisses for you all I am

Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Baker City

July 28, 1889

Most Dear and affectionate Carrie

At length an opportunity has arrived. in which to more fully answer your most welcome letter. I hastily replied to it when first received. as I happened to be in town at the time. Sunday again and as hot as you can imagine. Your mention of the garden. makes me long to see it I am so glad it affords you some good remuneration for your diligent labors, and I trust you will be able to keep alive the trees. Another season I will if possible put in another good large ram. expressly for the garden and lawn. which will obviate the present difficulty and secure permanent water for our trees. It is good to hear that the harvest will be fair although not all we might ask. I am thankful to God for what there is. Yes dear wife I should always love to see you most neat and respectable. And shall hail the day as a happy one for me when I can situate you so that you can be. You well understand our history. The reasons for our present condition are fully known to you. I shall make no excuses. But still hidden in my heart. is that ever present desire to yet see you situated as you merit as a true and devoted wife and mother deserve. Your mere reference to our dear children. causes a feeling to well up in my bosom unexpressable and to realize must be felt. They are very treasures of heaven to me and the love I bear them is akin to that I bear those precious jewels who gave them birth. The small part which I have taken. vanishes like the morning dew before the rays of the summer sun. when compared with the important part you have performed. That yet I can call you mine and know that the early love which attracted us when first we met. still shines out in such effulgent rays. made additionally stronger. by the efforts of years. is joy unutterable to me. And with the help of Him who has been thus kind to me I hope to meet and make your heart the happiest of hearts. Dear wife may you derive as much joy from the reading. as I do from the writing of these lines. I do not tire in writing to you and it has never been in all my absence from home. but a joy to embrace an opportunity to write you. And the knowledge I have of my own character (which is often a great annoyance to me) its harshness. and apparent unappreciativeness causes me to know full well how very trying I have been to you. But no matter what I write or what I have or may say. or how I may act. remember this dear wife, that love (if we must call it by so mild a name) has grown from our first meeting and today it is doubly strong foremost from increased affection. and from unwavering integrity. I hope by gods help to rise above a disposition. that pains the tender objects of my care. and erradicate from my whole being that which does not contribute to their happiness. I know the labor before me. but the longer postponed the more deep seated. and difficult to overcome. To you dear C. I open my soul upon this a most delicate subject to me. Yours have been the joys and sorrows of my life. and I accept your admonition to cultivate the true tender and good. To the additional joy of us all. may Heaven add strength to our purpose. You speak of drauth in Utah. It is bordering on to seriousness in this country. It is becoming a very serious question. as to how stock are going to get any water to drink. And some ranches have had to be abandoned in consequence of no water. If Danford does not sell the machine I hope it will be properly housed when it does not run. However you need not worry. It is not pleasant for me to depart from a theme so dear to me. to one of such annoyance. But such is life. made up of all kinds. Let us hope that the good will predominate. I enclose an order for (?) to get the wire and staples for fence. God bless and comfort you dear Carrie and may we ever grow in respect of each other

Only but sincerely

Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Baker City
Baker Co. Ore
Aug 4, 1889

My dear Wife

I hastily answered your most welcome letter of the 29th yesterday immediately after receiving it and today I answer more fully. I trust my instructions will be carried out about the water, for my agreement specifies that the garden shall have water enough. And I do not want you to do that work. I am very sorry to hear of Bro. W's misfortune I do earnestly hope that our children will not meddle with matches, I realize the serious consequences that might result. I am so glad you will not allow it. I recd a letter from M. and Bro Card yesterday all are well out there. Lots of hard work. which is every where. I have no time to get lonesome. Buisy, buisy, all the time and such hot dry weather. To travel it I get tired. Lyman was quite beside himself when he heard about his little niggie he wants to go right home to dit him. he say he will go on the train when I go. And I guess he will.

Dear Carrie I fully appreciate your appreciativeness of all I do or have ever done for you. And my whole soul is filled with kindness for you. And my expressions and sentiments of love I take as much delight in. to make, as you can to receive for they are honest. Yours are always a blessing and a great comfort to me and I feel that mine are to you. born as they are of a loving heart. Your mention of your growing in size. causes me to have a longing desire to see you and I shall not be satisfied til I can have that privilege. I will try to arrange for a place for you in L. somewhere. I got a letter from Father C. asking me for 500.00 if he decides to buy in Franklin. I told him it should be on hand for him. if he will give me a weeks notice. Now if you can to rent the place. and get it by Sept 15th I will try to be there to help you locate. and I will find some one to (?) the farm to look after things and if Father will sell I will buy for you. and of this we can talk over when I come. God bless you all kiss them all for me. Your loving Husband

Orson Smith

I have much to tell you when. I come. With fond embraces.

(Orson to Carrie)

Baker City Ore
Aug 23, 1889

My Dear Carrie

Yours of the 19th just recd I am so glad your health is so much improved and trust that no other backset may befall you. I will answer more fully your endearing remarks at another time I have already written three letters tonight of business and would rather take more time to write you. than I can devote now. Have you recd the box of gum and the letter containing the poetry? to the children I do wish it would rain here it is the most fearfully dusty country I ever saw. I can hardly keep men at work at the lumber yard owing to the dust. And I am sure you would not know me many times when I come in from a trip. I have much traveling to do all the time. I am glad to hear that you have rain. It will prepare the land for fall grain. of which I hope to get some in. It will be a chance for Eph to put in the 18 acres I had in for him. I sent 15.00 did you get it? I have also paid one Thousand on the Bank. I owe them 500 now. There never has been a time since I first saw you but that I have not entertained the highest regard for you. And a

look or word or a letter from you. has been encouragement to me. I prize them all. No dear wife I am not depressed a bit what I wrote I feel. It is policy to be mild. and no doubt it is the better wisdom. but the day will come when the word (it is enough) is uttered some one will arise and shake off the bonds that bind us and others will follow suit I guess. Today we stoop to conquer. Tomorrow we may stand up to conquer or die. All is in the hands of Our Father whose great wisdom. will over rule our puny efforts. And to Him I ever look. In Him I ever trust All join in love to you all. Kis them all for me. And you dear wife must wait for yours As ever Your Own. O.
I think I sent the gum in Maggies name.

(Carrie to Mary)

Logan Dec 1st 1889

Dear Mary

I thought I would make another trial to-day & write to you and see if this letter will be more successful in reaching you than the other. I have forgotten what I wrote in the other so will let it drop. and begin again. We are all well and in fair spirit. The children have had the chicken pox since coming to Logan. but had it light and scarcely felt it. Maggie and Ida are both going to school at the College. and appreciate it very much having been deprived so long. They have got real proficient in house-work. but is a good cook, unusually so for her age. She delights in it. and is very handy with the sewing machine and her handwork is getting quite fair. She can regulate the sewing machine as well as I can. so between them both I have good help better than with hired girls, I tell you. They took the brunt of the work moving over here. and at no time did I ever learn their worth so much as then. Ezra & Everett were with me all summer. and Ezra & I did all the watering of the garden till near the last of the season. when I took down very sick suddenly. an attack of real cholera. I believe. And Eph took hold then, and let up on us. Ezra got real help-full. He got so he could drive to town a little pony we got to do errands with. awhile before O- came down from L-. and Orson bought a cart for himself to use. when he first got home. And Ezra got so he could hitch this little pony in this cart & drive to town quite nice. I missed him when he went away. Ida is an inch taller than me. and takes skirts as long lacking two inches as me. You will see much change in them all when you see them again. Geneva is a big girl. fast catching up with Lina. She is like Ida in form, but not in disposition. She is keen and bright. more so I think than Lina. They think so much of each other. Lyman came down once to see us. and he is a big fine boy. bright and active. His ideas have expanded lots since he has been around so much, you can guess. Orson has just got word for a certainty that he has to appear on the 7th next Saturday. and that they will bring those witnesses who were down before. but most of them are away from home. so it is uncertain, the result. But O- is rather inclined to think they will succeed in fixing a six months term. as it dates so far back. But I think there is quite a chance for him, if those witnesses. don't try to remember and know to much. I don't see how they can tell much. It has been so long gone by. It is to be hoped that it will turn that way for the good of us all. They will be here to-morrow to subpoena me, so O- learned to-day. I don't know when we were ever in the condition and circumstances that we are to day as a family, so trying to the feelings. I don't know whether O- has written you that he had made offers to sell the farm. but such he did. and a man has taken him up. So now we are not likely to ever all get together there again. It

seems so strange. to think of. We little know (I guess and feel) the many changes before us. but I do sincerely pray that not one of us may falter or waver. till we have weathered it all. and that a kind father will overrule it all. for our good and safety.

(Orson to Maggie & Ida)

Jan 16, 1890

My Dear Maggie and Ida.

Since I left home I have traveled about 2400 miles partly by rail and partly by water. If you will look on the map of British Columbia and you will see Vancoovers Island. and between that Island and the main land you will see the bay of Georgia. It was through this bay that I rode on the steam boat, Primier. It was a cold raw day and I took my cold there. After landing at Vancouver I took train on the C.P.R. and we traveled up Piece River into the Cascade Mts. thence over the Rocky Mts to Calgary thence to Dunsmore. and then to Lethbridge where I am now. You can follow my course on your maps with Mamas aid, I think. From Calgary to Lethbridge is one vast plain. with not a bush on it. When the time comes that you can take a journey with me I can point out many items of interest to you. and should delight to do so. Do not forget the request I made of you to be kind and considerate to Mama and the little ones for with what measure ye mete out to others shall be measured to you again. God will bless you if you do right.

Which is the earnest
Wish of your loving
Father

(Orson to Carrie)

Lethbridge Jan 16, 1890

My Dear Carrie.

As you see by this date I am still in this place. There has been no teams from our settlement since I came in. and it has been so very cold that I dare not go out on foot or I should have tried it. It is 45 miles to our settlement. and over an unsettled country. There is 6 inches of snow and it has registered from 20 to 32 degrees bellow zero ever since I came in town. So I think I will not leave until some of our people come in. which may be about next Tuesday I tell you the days I stay here seem very long to me. But I see no way to help it. It costs me 1.00 per day for a bed and one meal per day. which I am living on now. I get a pretty good bed so I get along very well. I tell you I have many serious thoughts under these circumstances. Regarding our very scattered condition. and our future outlook. But I do know dear wife that God is with us. Were it not for this knowledge I should falter. but His Holy spirit keeps whispering courage courage eternity is vast and your reward is sure. I see we must seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. In order to receive that insured success. All our encouragement has ever been from Him and the most manifest when in our greatest straights. Or we see them plainer then perhaps we lean on Him more then. I see the great responsibility which is resting upon me. and in which I need the guidance of Gods Holy spirit. I feel so weak of myself. and in my soul I cry out for His aid. That I may prove true to the great trust reposed in me. My heart is full of love to all of my family. which I think I can express when present with them. but I utterly fail. I feel much more than I can

express but you will learn me better some day to your great joy I hope. I shall be glad to hear from home soon. I am anxious to hear if La grippe has taken hold of you. I have nearly recovered I think. If you have it take good care for some time. for one is apt to think he is over it before he is. And several here have taken a set back and it then goes serious with them. The bowels should be kept well open. This seems to be one of the plagues of the last days they will prove more severe as time advances and the end approaches. I was struck very recently with a thought. that our people would be left entirely alone in the near future. owing to the prospect of great disturbances in the financial and social circles of our country. And the Hand of God is now resting heavily over our nation. and oh the affliction she will be made to suffer. I may be wrong but I think not. To stand will depend upon our integrity. I cannot see how things can last long. as they are. I feel this sensibly when I think of the scattered condition of my children at a age when my attention is so greatly needed. I do hope that something will transpire to bring us closer together. That we can share in all these varied experiences. Let us try to be as happy as we can. And be of a light heart and a cheerfull co(u)ntenance that our pathway may be strewn with heavens blessings. Be kind longsuffering and joyful. These virtues will surmount every difficulty. and place you where you belong (at the front!). I hope our dear daughters will stand close up to you and help you in all you have to do. and make all your burdens light. God grant that it may be so. No one can tell the feelings I have when pondering these things and no one will know but those who have those dear ones so closely entwined around their hearts that not a breath is taken but that it is for them all. I take great joys in my labors. but it is my love for you. and my hope of the future. that enables me to keep to the plan. I know in whom I trust. Kiss my dear ones for me and bear them my warmest love. And I trust that a fathers love and influence will not be forgotten. A kiss for babe Geneva and Lina and M. and L. and the boys if there for them, and many and many for yhou. God bless you my dear.

Your own

Dear Orson

(Orson to Carrie)

Lees Creek Feb 9 1890

My Dear wife.

Tomorrow is the first opportunity I have had of writing to you. or of getting a letter off. We have had very severe weather since my arrival. but now we have the welcome chinook winds which have taken off almost all the snow and it is as warm as spring. It is wonderfull how changeable the weather is. One can hardly believe that we have had it 35.0 bellow zero. But such has been the case. We are all well. and so are all the colony it seems to be a very healthy climate if one is to judge from the fat and hearty children there are. At the SS this morning. I think there were at least 60 fine healthy children of from 6 to 14 yrs of age. The number of children in the colony excites general coment. among our N. W. friends. and has called forth some very bitter criticism. We are charged with living in Polygamy and U.C. and the heads of the Government have asked us to disprove the charge. So you see in this land we must prove ourselves innocent. This will give you some idea of how our Canadian friends are looking upon us now. but this is Gods move and He will see it through. Man proposes but God disposes. The people here feel very well and are somewhat anxious to keep all the laws and

commandments of God. or as far as they are permitted it does seem that Satan does not intend to allow the work to progress if it is possible to prevent it. and it may be that our destiny is so interwoven with that of the U. S. that we must live and fight it out under the heaven inspired constitution. A little more time and all this will be proven. for we can not stand still or go back. Our bark has been launched. and we have no harbor this side of eternity. in which to find any rest. No matter where we may go we shall excite the hatred of men. until the great melenial morn. when all shall be at peace. and it shall no longer need be said: know ye the Lord: for all shall know Him. I know of no other way but to live each day as if it were our last. and one day at a time and perchance God will give us grace sufficient for our day. Some of the people here have received letters since my arrival here saying that Cache Valley has (had) a winter unequaled by any previous winters and that stock are suffering extremely for want of sufficient food. I hope that we shall have feed enough. I did think we might have some to sell but I do not know. None should be sold until you are certain that the winter is over. or that you can get through. There (are) some people here who prefer this and others prefer that and it is impossible to ascertain any correct ideas of that land unless one should visit it in person. for opinions of men are so different. This country affords many good opportunities of getting an honest living and I think them equal to any other place. but we cannot live together here and that seems to be the only favorable feature of mexico and how long we could remain there in security I cannot tell. So I guess we need not worry but do the best we can and go at the call of our brethren and if not called do the best we can where we are. I hope to hear from you soon again to know how you all are. It is a great anxiety to me continually to have our interests so scattered. but it is unavoidable for the present. The time may come when a change will come over our Nation so that we can meet again in our own land. Read the sermon by Bro B. H. Roberts. in the weekly news of Jan 5th. To me that is inspired and it is true if I have the spirit. With all that work before us and the ultimate purpose of God to waste away the Nation. it would seem that we must remain within the jurisdiction of the U.S. in some way. Give my kind regards to all my trusting friends and especially to my dear children kiss them all for me. and encourage them in all that (is) high and enobling. for great are the things they will witness in their day upon the earth. To you love my sincere regards I send. aye nearer still than regards. the heart felt love. that none but the most devoted husband can feel. God bless you all and keep you safe

Your Devoted
Orson

All join in love to you all

(Carrie to Mary)

Logan June 29th 1890

Dear Mary

I thought I would devote spare time to day in writing to you. I went to meeting last Sunday it having been quite a time since I had partaken of the sacrament. My baby keeps me very close as yet. I was in some concerne the last few weeks whether he had not got the whooping cough. He would choke and strangle so with the cold he has got. It is but just breaking up since from long before O- came home. So you can judge how it has hung on. I believe he had Pneumonia when he was 2 months oud & that it is just getting ready now to leave. But this week he has not choked at all. & has got one

tooth through. I will send you one of his pictures which shows him some what larger than he really was when taken as pictures generally do. He was not quite 3 months when taken. I don't suppose you are where you can get pictures taken of Nell & Martha I would so much like to see them.

I must tell you of the time I had last week or week before that rather. I and Ida went to see Annie. It was a little over a year since we had seen each other. & I sent Ida ahead to tell the boys to wait till we got in the house before they got crazy, so the neighbors would not notice any thing unusual. & Ida run up to Annie. & she stood back & pushed out here hands. & said who are you, I don't know you and then in a second or two, she said why Ida is that you. She did not know her at all, she has grown so. She is much taller than me, & takes cloths just as long. She resembles Kate very much. Is a full blooded Smith, & so full of comic that we can scarcely get along with it. If you thought she was a tease when you was here, I don't know what you'd think now.

Annie had a feast that time we was there. & the children. she has got a fine little girl. & so bright & pretty If she was home with it. I fear her head would hardly keep level, as it is. she needs all the comfort it can give her. & I am so glad she has got something to cheer her She has named it Hortense. Ezra & Ev have been with me all winter & Ev thinks my baby (is) lots the best. Ezra don't care much about babys. & when they heard what extravagant pet names Annie called hers they said our (?) Mama don't do that with her baby. & just laughed at her. Annie said she had such fun astonishing them to hear her talk to her baby.

(Orson to Carrie)

Cardston Dec 9th 90

Dear and affectionate wife.

It was with pain that I read your two and the Doctors letter which I received yesterday. To think that Maggie who had been such a stay and help to us through all should at last have to be stricken with it. I was so in hopes that you were all doing so nicely. Thank God all live yet. And we will merge from this another trial by His blessings as we have done from others. It will be with the greatest pleasure that I learn of your recovery and as there are no more to take it. I feel I shall soon hear that all are well. I have written two letters since I reached C- both of which you will have ere this. I am much better. but for a weakness I feel in my limb I should feel as well as ever. I am sorry to say that our little ones here have colds and fever and are quite sick. But I trust they will not ail long M- feels quite well. In my next I will be able to tell results. I feel that God has a care over us and I think our trials are for lessons which I trust we shall profit by. I cannot think that it is a pleasure to our Father in heaven to afflict His children. but He has lessons for us to learn. Thank Dr. P. for his kindness in writing me of your condition Tell Maggie she has the unbounded faith of her Dear father. as also all of you. for it is my constant prayer that may be protected. I am glad you have a little help. although I am afraid to write it for fear the bird has flown ere my congratulations arrive. It is so here. Where on earth we shall get a little help I cannot tell. However I feel equal to the emergency. and shall be glad when all are O.K. again. Remember me in much kindness to our brethren and sisters who have rendered you aid in time of need. Most feelingly I appreciate your labors dear wife and your superhuman efforts to keep up. God bless you.

as I bless you. and I feel my blessing will be answered upon you. Kiss them all for me and remember me to Annie when you send to her and hers. I am indeed your loving and true Husband

Orson Smith

(Orson to Carrie)

Cardston Dec 14 1890

Most affectionate wife

Your letter of the 2nd brought such good news that I am tonight answering the same. with equal pleasure. in that I feel so well myself in body. and having an opportunity of sending this over the line by one of our brethren. I embrace it with pleasure. I am so well again now that I feel quite myself. And I am only solicitous for your welfare at home. I was so glad that you were all so much better. but sorry that Mike had become a victim to the malady. Surely God has been merciful unto us. in sparing our children. How is Annie and the children there You cannot conceive of the great anxiety I feel. scattered as we are. but I hope to ever keep a firm trust in God and do all and the best I can. I am glad you have had such fine weather we to have shared it. except high winds. All are better here. The children which were so bad at my last writing are almost well again now. M- still keeps her feet. and is well. It is strange we hear nothing of Bro. Card and his case. I hope he escapes If all goes well here I think I will join you New Years day. however you will keep this to yourself. Tell Maggie I am pleased to hear of her recovery. and I guess it is none too soon if your girl leaves. The Lord will provide is Maggies old motto and that He will and has done so we cannot deny. I hope Mike will not suffer long with the fever. It will put him back. Kiss them all. both great and small. for me and I entreat the Goodness of God upon you all. that you may have a Merry Christmas I trust you will get them each something. necessary to their comfort and health. It cannot be expensive but I have a good will to do better but powerless. Tell them my heart overflows with love for them and trust that they will appreciate it. Tell Lina that Nellie sits at my elbow while I write and wants me to say that she would like to see her. And she is very near as big as she is. This will serve to let you know how we are and in about 5 days you will receive it God bless you and ever be your guide.

Most True your own

Orson

Send my kindest regards to A- and to all friends.

(Mary to Carrie)

Cardston. Jan. 14. 1891

Dear Sister Carrie.

I should have been pleased to have written a few lines to have sent by Orson but did not feel able then. Now I have another good chance of sending where you will get it at an early date. and I embrace the opportunity with pleasure. earnestly desiring it may find you all fully recovered from the effects of the fever. and that you may soon get moved into your new home where you will be more comfortable. I am feeling quite well again now. I feel myself getting stronger every day. and the weather is so nice that I go out of doors without danger. I was pleased to get babys picture when the freight came.

That was taken when he was three months age and now he is over a year. So there is quite a change in him now.

The children were pleased with their dresses. They were quite stylish for Canada. Gave me some fresh ideas for making others for them. I have never seen a fashion book since I left home. All the things you sent were useful. (I was pleased with them) but the little cap. And that is most too small to fix into a hood I fear that will be of no use. Babe looks so dark in it. light blue and her dark hair and eyes are quite a contrast. Give my love to Maggie and Ida. The others have forgotten me I guess. And accept of a warm portion yourself.

As ever Mary

(Mary to Carrie)

May 2nd 1891

Dear Carrie.

I received your welcome favor of Apr 5th borne by Bro. Allen in due time. was pleased to hear you were all well. Frank says he never saw Orson look so worried, and worn, as he does now. that he looks as bad as when he came out here last fall. We are all well here. I weigh more than I have done for a number of years and I feel so well. other times I have come around during the time I was nursing but do not this time and I feel better for it. and have more nurse. Babe is a perfect little butterball. She has never been fed any and will not touch a taste of anything. She is a very good baby. The first three mo. she was cross with colic but has out grown it now. You ask if I can do my work easily. Yes. Like a flirt. Nellie cannot tend baby much she is so fat her arms tire in a few minutes. but she runs errands. and helps me so much. Can wash and iron diapers good. churn, bake potatoes, and make milk gravy, grate potatoes for yeast and shake the mats. Martha gathers up the dust she does not notice big dirt so much but cannot let the dust rest. She reminds me of your mother. I ask Martha what I should tell you she is out of sorts to day. and says I don't want you telling people I have a ring-worm but you can tell that Nell sucks her thumb if you like.

I have one of my pictures here. the one you left with Orson at Helena. the one I kept for myself is at mothers I have written Orson to ask her for it.

We were at Zinas yesterday and spent May day. She cannot get out much and seems to enjoy having some-one come in and chat awhile. I never saw anyone enjoy having company as she does. She expects to be sick next month her mother will come out with Bro. Card the last of this month.

She desired to be remembered kindly to you all.

I guess Annie does feel down hearted I feel so sorry for her. It is so much worse for her now that she is alone. A little babe is such a comfort. They require so much care and attention. Passes off the time more pleasantly to a mother than anything else could.

It is snowing all day to day and ice hanging from the porch eight inches long. We have had a month of very pleasant weather. The crops are mostly in.

Nellie does not remember Father Mother any of the children in fact no one but you she remembers you lifting her on the stool to play on the organ at the farm and when you came to see me in the house across the field after I came home from Smithfield. She does not remember Annie. And gets Willie and Bertie mixed up with her

little brother. She remembers very little about the railroad only Grandpa Smith he used to frighten her about sucking her thumb.

I will now close trusting you will pardon my breach of etiquette in replying to your letter so soon after receiving, but I can always answer and write better at the time than if I let it go on for a while.

Please give my love to Orson. And tell him I received his kind letter this week as usual but will not be able to reply this week as the mail goes out early Monday and I have a short lecture to prepare for the con-joint for Monday eve. It has been so long since I have done anything I promised Bro Card I would help a little now its getting warm weather and Aunt Zina is so poorly.

With love to you and the children. Hope they do not object to being called children yet. I think of them all as I left them. And a prayer that Our Heavenly Father will add his blessing continually for your comfort.

I remain ever yours.

Mary.

P.S. You ask what I named baby. "Harriet." Papas choice. I don't know why he called (her) that unless it was he thought it would harmonize prettily with "Hortense." Granpa Smith had the promise of naming the next girl after Martha, but there was no time to write for the name in order to have her blessed before O- went back. We call babe Hattie.

You did not lay away the wrong letter but the old one you found has never been answered either. I wrote again in order to thank you for the little things you sent to me.

(Probably Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Putnam Conn
Dec 20th 1891

My dear Neice Carrie

Was so glad to get your letter & to hear you was so well but I hope when this reaches you you will be all through and doing well with a great fat Boy by your side. I am sorry you did not like either boys name I suggested Jerry sounds so sweet to me that I cant realize how any one can dislike it but we are not all alike I was glad to hear that it had a sweet sound to you too. Yes I am going to let Mrs Chandler have those papers as soon as I get them from Rhodes & if I think Mr & Mrs. Liably can get time to read them I will let them have them they are both very busy now but after Christmas will be more at leisure I sent his picture to your Mother in a book that he had telling of his lectures he is booked to go to South Dakota I told him I wished it was Utah I wish he might be called to lecture some where near you so he could call on you you could not help but liking him. So you remember Charlie Cutter he died last night and I heard to day he had left the Baptist Church one thousand dollars hope it is so. Aunt Almira told me some time ago that he said he should leave the Church something but I cant think it is as much as that. Dear Maggie I was much pleased to get a few lines from you Yes I wish I could be with you again this Christmas but don't see how I can. I am real glad to hear that you have got the home fixed so nicely & have got a Creamery they have them this way am sorry to hear that you had to part with old Jack I hope he is well used am glad to hear that Lyman has not forgotten me hope it wont be long before he can write to me How is Ezra & Everett & Lina & Geneva & Ida be sure and remember me to Annie & I hope

you will get time to write me again soon. I wish I was able to send you a Christmas Present but you must take the good will for the deed What is your Father doing now. I would love to hear him & your Mother talk with the Universalist minister that lives up stairs. Now do write soon for I am anxious to hear about your Grand Mother she wrote me a nice long letter but it made me feel awful to think she is afraid she cant stand it the Winter out unless she has help if any thing should happen to her I should want some one to telagraph me right off send it in the care of Marvin Barrett & it will be delivered right here & not cost me any thing but I hope she will live & come out here with your Father & Mother when the worlds fair is I sent your Grand Mother letter to Aunt Addie she thought it a sory letter & she said she & Elisha was talking of having their picture

Partial letter

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

April 7th 1893

Dear Neice Carrie

Here I am under my own vine & fig tree came home yesterday morning when I awake(ned) at 5 it was snowing like fury thought I could not (?) have but it cleared off and I got a boy to bring me it grew cold towards night this morning it was real cloudy & looked like snow but I expected Addie down to go to Putnam for her pictures she came and just as we started for have it begun to snow & it snowed a regular blizzard all the way home got here at about 12 & now it is almost 9 does not snow quite as hard think it will turn to rain & cary off all the snow what came yesterday morning went off with the sun yesterday. But it is good to be at home if I am all alone & it does storm so. Dear Carrie I had my pay for all I sent when I was getting the ready did wish I could go with them I think yes I know you all think a good deal of me. I think I hear you say O what conceit. I hardly knew what to send the boys finally thought a handkerchief is always useful I am glad you like the table cover did not think to use them for the machine I have a blue one made with white a friend gave me think I shall use it as you are going to am glad you like Willies picture we got the big one to day he had 1 doz small ones 1 big one. I forgot to let Addie have your letter to day so they could know about your hen coop but will cary it up to morrow if I can get there I think you are crazy to have such a hen coop I am afraid you are so extravgent in hen coops that you will not get to the Fair to come on here. Dear Carie I have not had any chance to attend any of the temperance meetings this winter but will get some temperance songs & send you if I can possibly I am have only until next Tuesday should be back in Putnam when you get this I do not want to stay but 2 weeks more but they want me too to stay all summer but it makes me sick to my stomach to think of it I am glad you are doing such good temperance work out there. Emma Maning often speaks of you she is a nice woman o much different from what I thought she would ever be. I send Maggie a pattern for her dress & a veil for Salome 19th birthday present I have me a new black dress hen it is cut will send a piece & a piece of trimming too I cant write much more as I have got 6 other letters to write thought as it was so stormy I would take the time to answer all letters I owed & yours was the 1st I took up I do dearly love to get your letter. O say one you ever going to have a big picture to match Orsons if so I want to know it so

I can get the frames alike can maybe get 2 cheaper if I get 2 when I get his I think it high time his was framed ope you will write again soon

Your loving Aunt Salome

Well Well it does look dubious nough it is snowing harder than ever & it is real cold wish you was here so we could sit up to the stove & talk & not have to write. Love to all,

Aunt Salome

Do you ever see Uncle Ira Give him my best wishes & tell him I often think of him & ask him if Charlie Allen ever write to him

(Aunt Salome to Lina)

Apr 20 1893

Dear Lina

I was much pleased to get such a good letter from you I think you are improving in writing think you done nicely. Only think you are 9 years old I cant hardly believe it tell your Papa some day when he ha nothing else to do to measure & see how tall you all are Maggie Ida you and Geneva Gurny & Salome & Ezra & Everett & Lyman and you send the measure to me when next you write & tell me the age of Ezra & Evertt How I would love to see Gurny I can see just how cunning he used to be but now I suppose if I was there I should see all the cute & cunning things little Soma does do you call her Soma or Salome I hope Salome, not Saloma. Hope you will write again dear the more you write the better you can write. What do you study at school I think when your Father & Mother comeon they had better bring you on & leave you with your Aunt Addie.

Your loving Aunt Salome

(Aunt Salome to Carrie)

Putnam Conn
April 27th 93

My dear Carrie

I feel as though I must write to you though very tired am cleaning home hurring with all my might as I want to go home next Wednesday for good. Such a shock as the news of your Fathers death was to me. I went to church Sunday evening and had a good meeting just before it was done the minister Mr Ackworth got up and says Of course most of you remember Ezra Carpenter that was a member of this Church a good many years and who went west years ago his Sister Mrs. Allen has just had a telagram saying he is dead I came very near saying what it did seem as though I could not believe it as soon as meeting was done I thought it would never be over I went to Lveinda Troubridge & asked her about it she did not tell me it was sent to me in Rhodes care but when I get hom Lottie met me at the door with the telagram Rhodes brought it down as soon he got home it was out with his milk when it came I cant think of any thing else. Poor Jane did depend on him so much what will she do now poor thing. I am so anxious to get the particulars it don't seem as though I could wait had it been Jane should not of been as much suprised I know when I was out there he had grow so old & did work so hard he was so good to me all the time I was there living on him I do not think either one of his Sisters feel as bad as I do had he been my own brother. & I do feel so sorry for

Jane with her poor health what will she do how will she bear it & then I think of the girls too of course he was your Father & you did dearly love him but you have some one to lean on & help you bear it I hope it will not be long before you will get time to write me all about your Father & all about your Mother and the girls. I wrote your Mother a long letter Sunday night but I felt so bad I hardly know what I did write all I could say was poor Jane I received your beautiful present last night Lottie thought it so very nice she put it in the parlor for fear it would get broken before I went home last fall late in the fall Emily Manning went to Denver in with her only daughter Florence for her health the doctors said she could not live here & that has done no good had a letter night before last saying the dr said she might live a few weeks but was liable to go any time they all feel terribly she is the only Grand child of the family. I got the last telegram Tuesday night at 5 oclock it did not come as quick as the first one did. I send Mrs. Dunham a letter Sunday night got an answer last night she felt real shocked & expressed lots sympathy I think she thought a good deal of your Father & Mother her health is real poor she said she had not heard direct from any of you for a long time she supposed the reason was because she did not write but her head plagues her so she cant write it makes it worse if she writes says she has not written any but business letters for a long while. Now do write some & tell Lulu or Salome to write as soon as they can I would dearly love to have one from Jane but know she must be feeling to sad to write I shall keep your Fathers last letters with the rest of my treasures. Love to all

Your loving Aunt Salome

You could not of sent me any thing that would pleased me any better think it lovely I thank you again & again for it.

(Carrie to niece?)

Logan Feb 18th 1894

My Dear Sister Carrie

At last I have got the chance to write to you and answer your very interesting and welcome letter. I did not have an idea it would be this long before I answered it. I was so much interested in it. but it came just before the Hollidays and Orson was away & the children sick. and lots more to see to when he is gone with the big lot of chickens I have got here. I had no sooner got that through with & O- came home, than the class took it in their head to get up a hygienic supper to surprise Sister Sorenson when she came down from Rexburg. So I had to go to work with a will to get that arranged for. We only talked of it a little over a week. & it took nearly a week to find where all the old members that had been to her 3 classes were living now & get them to come to make the arrangements so it only left from Wednesday after-noon till Saturday evening to do the cooking & arrange for tables dishes. & send out invitations. & get up a programme of exercises on Hygiene to be given the evening we had the supper. We wanted to invite 100 of the leading people in the town but the hearts of the members failed them and it was cut down to about 40 besides class members & husbands. They were afraid they did not know how to cook hygienic cooking good enough for so grand a company. I felt it would come out all right but only one other of my counselors had the grit to think it would. As it turned out we had enough left to have fed 20 more easy. & if we had tried could have done for the 100. But we had a most excellent supper. It was above criticism and a heavenly spirit was there just as such as we had used to have in the class. I know it helped the class-

members much. & they were encouraged. for a good impression was made on those who were there. We have new members joining every day we hold meeting the interest is fully up to what it was in the start. I had no sooner got the supper off my hands that Sister S- wanted me to help her get started in Wellsville & Hyrum she has a class now in both places I went to both places with her, & now she wants me to visit her with a lot of the class-members in both places. I have just got fathers Temple work he left in a (poor) condition straightened out. You know he died suddenly. & with this work on my hands I have not had a moment for any thing besides housework. We have had the Grip the last week & the week before. The children began first. & I took it after. It is such a disagreeable cold & feelings generally. But do you know my children will fetch in the tub & fix for their own bath if I am to buisy & long about getting ready. They have found out how good a bath is when they are feverish & have bad colds. & they were telling one another the other day what they believed in. one says, I believe in baths. & the other says & I know hot packs are awful good. for it cured my sore throat when it was so bad. & the other says, yes, & sweet oil helps us, ever when we ain't administered to. & they kept on talking like that not knowing I was listening to them. I'm so glad they have got such impressions instead of thinking of doctors. I hope they will always feel that way. I am so glad you did get to the class I know you would not take any money for what you have learned. & what I like is that we can tell now when we are in real danger. & do not get frightened over little things. I know if we will put into real practice what we know we will feel better physicaly & spiritualy and be brighter every way. I am going up to see Lucy today I have not seen her for quite a while & will try to run in & see Emma if I can. She has been sick, but is better now. Kates little girl was quite sick a while a go too. Father Smith was in the house Thursday. He did not seem to be feeling very well. This is all I believe for this time. I hope this will find you folks all well. & I shall expect now to hear from you oftener than I have done. & tell me how class members & others are feeling & how you & your little ones are getting along. After awhile I or the rest will have news to tell you. As I am over 3 months advanced in pregnancy. & I never could work like I can now. I have never lost a meal in the time. or been sick to my stomache once. If the rest goes on as favorably as the beginning. I shall have great cause to rejoice. I never enjoyed my-self as I do this time. This is in confidence to you. As I know it will interest you.

Hoping to hear from you soon I am Your true sister

Carrie M. C. Smith

If I can find the account of our supper I'll send it to you.

C.M.C.S.

Send it back for I have another lady friend I want to see it

(Ephraim Jensen to Orson)

7/23/1894

Orson Smith

My Dear Brother: words are but air-bubbles and serve only as empty signs in trying to express that sympathy bedded deepest in the soul; yet they are all we have to convey tour fellows the tender thought nearest the heart.

In your loss (if it may so be called) I most sincerely feel you have the undivided condolence of this whole community and many, many, are the heart strings that will

twine the closer round yours, because of those for a season severed by Him who does all things well. She was given you by Him, who then, more than, He, had the better right to call her to himself.

We poor mortals, propose and plan, but remember dear brother, that He who made us, best knows, the parts to strike out, other to insert that would serve His purposes better; then what might seem your present loss or miss fortune, may prove her present and your immortal gain. Then let us join and say “The best way of reasoning between the thing formed and the one who formed it, is to yield in humble submission to His will.” On with Solomon – “what God sends is always well though why tis often hard to tell.”

Look to God for tis He alone tis who heals the broken heart.

I pray for you.

Your humble and most sincere friend

Ephraim Jensen

Logan July 23rd 1894

I feel your grief will share your sorrow
Most willingly bear your cross,
But the Grace is yours e'er dawns the morrow
That counts this life but dross
E.J.

(Edward Stevenson to Orson)

July 25th 1894

President Orson Smith
Cash Stake of Zion

Dear Brother

...Now Bro. Orson ... can ... but praise God ... as he has called home one of his faithful Daughters. She has gone home again to her own Father and her Mother – the Father and Mother of her noble Spirit. Your loss is her gain therefore I say in the name of the Lord dear Brother be comforted in the Lord. For we now live in the day of Gods power. Soon we will love Joseph again. nor more peace on Earth only in the Priesthood and God. ...

Your bro. Edward Stevenson

(Orson to W. H. Strawbridge)

Logan Feb 22. 1900

W. J. Strawbridge

My Dear Friend

Your letter of the 16th is just at hand. I have received one letter from you since your return from Mexico. That is the one announcing your return & this one recived today so if any others were mailed they have gone astray. I made the proposition of refunding to you on half of the cost of a pumping plant which would cost about 3000. laid on the

beach at Nome. It might be purchased for much less. It has be(e)n some time wince I bought engines & am not familiar with the present prices. But if it cost less all the better. An 8 horse engine I think would be large enough The engine & pump complete with 200 ft 6 in. heavy hose & gasoline sufficient for a 4 months run may not cost more than 1200 in S.F. then the freight would be added. I have engaged passage from Seattle and will leave for that place Apr. 10th I think. I expect there will be a great rush to Nome & thousands will be greatly disappointed & if I did not have some interests there I would not return & I would not hold out the least encouragement to any one to go there. From the way the papers have blamed the country I know the public will be misled. But I supposed you were well enough acquainted with Nome to be swatisfied as to whether you would return or not. I would say this. That if you have arranged to go into Mexico & if you have found that values there are satisfactory that I would go there in preference to a 5 months siege at Cape Nome. Do not take my judgement in the least. I may be disappointed myself & I should mortally hate to take you there to be disappointed too. I am going back this season but I think it will be to wind up what I have there. But if you conclude to go and will take in the plant I will pay you for half of it as I stated in my letter. I do think that money will be made there this summer. In fact I have no doubt of it & I think we will stand as good a chance as any one else. The crowd going does not discourage me a bit But I know one must be patient and constant. Full of stick tointuitiveness & it will winn. I am sorry I did not gete your other letters. For I would have answered them promptly. There is plenty of time yet to get what is needed & reach there a soon as work can be commenced. I thank you for your wishes for my success whether we go together or not & I assure you I reciprocate the sentiment.

Truly yours
O. Smith

(Orson to S.S. Co.)

Logan Feb 25, 1900

Gentlemen Your acknowledgement of receipt of 50.00 dollars at hand But your letter says covering two second class tickets. My order was for 1st class Please give me the tonnage of the ship Aberdeen. Do not see her listed with your boats. & do not see her rating. I will forward deposit covering 5 more tickets. this week. & amt covering two tons frt (freight). Please send particulars about this boat.

Respect
O. Smith

(Orson to Seattle Steamship Co.)

Logan Feb. 26 1900

Gentlemen I enclose herewith deposit on 5 second class tickets to go on same boat as the two orders before.

Your truly
O. Smith

(Orson to W. H. Strawbridge)

Logan Mar 6 1900

W. H. Strawbridge.

My dear friend. I have been away for a few days & have thus been delayed in answering your letter. I fear your Mexico deal will delay you so late that it would put me out to wait so long before buying what I need. I should be at it at once because some of it may have to be constructed. I will await an answer to this & soon thereafter leave for the coast.

You ask about the cost at the plant. I cannot tell as all kinds of material has advanced so much. However I think an engine 8 horse power will be \$550.00 Elevator 200 gold saving machine and sluice boxes 300.00 & other necessaries 200.00 after one plant is in satisfactory operation we could duplicate our order as many times as we desired. And as ships will be running every 15 days we should not be delayed long & might have ½ dozen plants in operation very soon. I take it that a light plant would be best because of transportation facilities out there.

I think each plant will come within a cost of \$1200.00 of the kind I have in my mind.

I must act at once if I get what I want.

I trust I shall hear from you soon.

Respect

O.S.

(Orson to Seattle Steam Ship Co.)

Logan Mar 7 1900

Seattle Steam ship Co.

Gentlemen

Enclosed please find Steamship Aberdeen receipts as per your request. Please transfer to Oregon receipts I expect to be in Seattle in a few days & will want tonnage room required for 2 tons frt (freight) at best

Respect

O. Smith

(Orson to family)

Seattle May 20 1900

Dear family.

We left this port at 2 P.M. and moved at the rate of about 9 miles per hour. There are 533 passengers all told on board. and every nook and corner is filled with beds. Our room is no 41 with three bunks occupied by myself in No 1 at the top. No 2 by S. F. Allen and No 3 at the bottom by a Mr. Abbott of Seattle. We are supplied with a wash bowl and towel and soap a looking glass and spit cans. The boys are forward in the bow of the boat with a canvas bunk on which to lie with their own bedding. Not a very desirable place. I have wished I had reserved them a berth with me. All goes well and by 9 AM on the 21st we pass Cape Flattery and are in the Pacific Ocean. And have encountered no bad sea weather. This is a very fortunate occurrence. for as it is the swell of the Ocean makes almost everybody sick and oh what a difference in the morning. Men, women and children are sick and no one seems to escape it. I feel it quite severely

but not enough to send me to bed. The boys are in bed all day very sick and no doubt with themselves at home. The weather still continues fine and on the 22nd some begin to get over the sickness. Since no one dies of sea sickness there is not much sympathy. But every body laughs. At every other body. when they fly to the rail to feed the fish. But it is no laughing matter with some for they are very sick. The 23rd find all up and feeling very well. their appetites are coming back and the cooks have some thing to do. It is truly wonderful what a ravenous appetite once gets at sea after the war is over. The boys feel fine and seem to be all right now. Everett comes back to my room every day and occupies my bunk when I get up and says he cannot eat the food prepared for the 2nd class passengers. I do not think he will ever complain again about his food at home. Ezra stays it out and gets what he needs and looks well. I visit him two or three times a day and take him fruit when I can get it. These have been the most beautiful days at sea I have ever experienced. the water smo(o)ther and the air warm and pleasant we promenaded the deck all the time. We have seen a number of whale and porpoise. Today is the 25th and a beautiful morning I am up a(t) 5 AM and after walking the deck I am writing this letter. Eve is here mending his pants. David Napper was the sickest of the boys but is all right now. I have the best of health and have enjoyed the trip this far. Much better than I anticipated the wind began to blow from the north about 10 AM and continued all day causing a rough sea to the great discomfort of the passengers some of whom had just recovered from the first attack. The billows ran high and the boat pitched high in the air. but moved on about 10 miles per hr. 26th wind still blowing but not so hard. All seem to be feeling better. But getting anxious to sight land. We are now 1440 miles from Seattle and 310 from Dutch Harbor we have seen some sea weed and driftwood this morning. A stormy Petrel fell on the deck and was picked up by one of the passengers and measured 16 inches across the wings. They are a beautiful bird that live out on the broad ocean. and are noted for the speed they fly. It is foggy and raining here genuine Alaska weather which we expect to meet during the months of June and July. It is amusing to me to note the different ideas of the passengers. of Nome and its conditions and how much they are doomed to disappointment It will be a surprise to many and not being used to out door life atal will be discouraged on the start. The weather fair all day head wind but not hard Saw many whales spouting and some thrashers. Sunday May 27th. still going 10 miles per hour. with everything favorable and all well. almost all on board are well now and on deck. The boys feel well but cannot eat the 2nd class food their tables are swung from the ceiling on ropes and they stand around and eat. Of course this causes a swinging sensation and none but hungry ones can eat under these circumstances. And being a little delicate about the stomach on the sea. Makes it more difficult to take the food. So they do not get hungry enough yet. All are anxious to get on land again. To night we are within 154 miles of Dutch Harbor where I will post this letter tomorrow. And I hope it will return to you by the time we reach Nome it will give you a good idea of our trip and make you feel at home with us a little. When we reach the Harbor we shall be 1750 miles from Seattle and 750 from Nome. so if the ice is all out of Bering Sea we will reach our destination in about 6 days more. God bless you all and preserve you in health and prosper us in our labors. I shall so love to see you all again. And if I have been enabled to accomplish the object for which I have come here I shall rejoice with you in the love and peace of Home sweet home love one another my dear family as I love you Nothing can make home happy but love. Christ so loved us

that he lay down His life for us. May we not pattern from His example and at least love one another I know you will try for my sake. and you will be richly rewarded. We are well and feel that you are and when I think of the earnest prayers of my darling children my heart fills with a joy unutterable. And I can imagine I hear their sweet lips mutter the sacred words: God bless papa and the boys. You cannot know my dear ones what a comfort and consolation you are to me. All my earthly joy and Happiness is in you and my duties How I love to see you in the paths of love. purity gentleness. And patience. These will win for you an eternal crown of glory. Kiss my little ones for me and share them all together. I am with unbounded love

Your Husband and
Father

(Orson to Hon. Joseph Howell)

June 11, 1903

Hon. Joseph Howell

Dear Sir. I herewith acknowledge receipt afor your esteemed letter of reccomendation. & note of J. L. Green. I found that Green had removed from Seattle to Spokane about 2 years ago. I therefore enclose the note to you. We are on our way & I will post this as we pass the above post. Will write you again later on.

Most truly yours,
Orson Smith

(Orson to Ezra Obray Smith)

June 12, 1903

My dear b(o)y Ezra

Adaline informed us of your arrival home and your reception at Mrs. Baileys. All of which I am pleased to hear & I trust your life may never be less happy than now. I have no doubt that you will do what is right. There is nothing would be of more satisfaction to me than the honorable marriage of my children. I hope you will watch over your sisters a little & give them a word of counsel when you can. & in any way you can help them. you help me. You have my blessing & good will. I miss you from my home but you go to a home of your own which is natural & right Eve(rett) misses you so much & he has longed to see you. If you can encourage Lyman to attend school this next winter I wish you would do so. He needs it. With kindest regards to Ella and

God bless you both,
OS

(Orson to Lyman Obray Smith)

Fort Wrangel
June 12, 1903

My Dear boy Lyman,

I hope this will find you well & still at work. I do not know what I should do without your help this summer & I do hope you may not get weary or discouraged. I want to see yhou go to school again and get some education to help you in later life. Be

kind to your little brothers & do them all the good you can. Eve(rett) just helped to unload some freight & has blistered his hands. It is new kind of work for him but he will get hard and tough before he gets back. Look well after your work & keep in good feeling with your employers. Do as much as you can to keep the garden clean & in every way possible help out. Be most of all kind to your mother. Help her all you can. She has done all she could for you & do not forget Aunt Mary & all your sisters whatever you do for them I shall feel you do for me.

With much love,
Your Father

(Orson to family)

Skagway, N.W.T.
June 13 1903

Dear family. We landed here today & go out to camp right away. I drop you this line to acquaint you of our move. I expect we will be at work tomorrow & will write as often as possible. We are well and trust you are the same. Most loving yours

Orson Smith

(Orson to David Eccles)

Atlin City, Alaska B.B.
Aug. 14, 1903

Bro. David Eccles.

Dear Sir.

On what terms, and at what price will you sell me the farm which my father owned, near Smithfield, Utah.

(Orson Smith)

(Several journal entries are found with the letters)

Dec. 31, 1933 At SS 10 a.m. ... Dined at Watsons fine dinner. 2 PM listened to Handels messiah radio rendition was of the finest ever I heard. ... Mary had a bad day. Worried some and felt nervous. 11 months since the disease was discovered on her. Her Faith courage and Patience has been Wonderful. A great example and inspiration to the family. and friends.

Jan. 1, 1934 New Years. Day. Rained all day and I have been home all day except diner at Wm. Watsons. Mary about the same today. The Bells and Whistles woke me at Midnite ushering in the New Year. 8 p.m. I listened to the Raido (radio) account of the disasterous Los Angeles floods. Much damage and loss of life. Further reports promised.

Jan. 2, 1934 Our storm over. No frost and buds are starting on the trees. Some Violets in bloom. Never saw such a winter here. Settled tithing for 1933. Mary better this AM.

(Aunt Meg to Smith Stevens)

Sunday Night
August 11, 1935

Dear Smith & Maxine

Your contribution to Father's funeral arrived and was much appreciated I can assure you.

It seems like an awful dream (dream) that he has gone for it was so sudden.

Salome came down a week ago Friday went on to S.L.C. & on the way back Saturday brought Geneve picked me up and we all went to Poc(atello).

We called up to see Father & I never saw him look better or more happy. He said, "Go and have a good time & rest," and he almost decided to go with us then said another time he would. Saturday he was in the temple & did a lot of Sealings. Sunday went to S.S. in the morning a funeral at Lewiston in the afternoon & church at night. Monday morning he went out to water & a faint spell came over him & when he got over it he found himself lying on the ground. He went into the house when he could & told Auntie about it but said not to tell anyone. He felt better & later ate his dinner but would not lie down. He wrote a letter to Olena and addressed it and finally decided he would lie down and went to sleep. Auntie prepared supper about 5:30 & sat down thinking he would soon wake up. At 5:45 she tried to awaken him but could not. She lifted his hand & it fell. She was alone but got a neighbor to phone Will at the store also a Doctor. When Will arrived he said he could feel the heart flutter faintly. And the Dr. said when he came had he been there earlier he could have done nothing but remarked he had never seen a more beautiful passing. His feet were crossed as he was used to doing & his hand layed over his chest.

There was no struggle not a muscle seemed to have moved he had just slipped out.

We are greatful for him to have gone that way but it was an awful shock to Auntie & to all. We received the message shortly after 6 o'clock and as soon as possible left for home & arrived about ten P.M. Went up home to see Auntie bless her she has been so brave through it all.

He was brought to our home from the undertakers & remained from Wednesday evening until time for the funeral Friday at 2 P.M.

Every one remarked how wonderful he looked. It will be easier to state who did not come home than those who did. Those who were absent were yourself and Don, Carri & Ione, Jack & Billie, Emma & Hattie, Owen & George.

I will send you a copy of the funeral later. Father spoke of you so much of late & hoped you would come home this summer.

We did not make a big party for him this birthday but Salome came down & brought a lovely birthday cake & we had a nice time.

I suppose it was to be as it was, and it is for us to carry on as he did, through the storms and sunshine of life with faith & fortitude.

He has set us an example of courage & faith in God. A clean pure life & I feel that our heavenly Father has rewarded him by letting him pass without tasting death.

I hope you are both well and that everything is fine for you. I congratulate you Smith on your "Scholarship" and appreciate the paper you sent home. Yours with love
Aunt Meg.