

✓
Due to Israel E. Trask Twenty Thousand Dollars, which sum
I agree to pay him in the time of seven years from this date,
with interest annually at the rate of six per centum pr an. ---
I also further agree to execute a deed of mortgage of my
plantation to in Wilkinson County Miss: for the further security
of said Israel E. Trask ---

J.L.Trask

May 2nd 1812

✓

During the Years from 1783 to 1790 Wm. Prentiss was a merchant in London. He trusted goods to an immense amount of people in the United States. From their not making remittances he was obliged to stop payment, By the advice of his creditors in London he came to America to collect his debts. In 1794 he was arrested by one or more of his creditors, and was obliged to take advantage of an act of Insolvency on Maryland, expecting one of his creditors would be appointed Trustee to his estate. Such appointment could not be made because the Creditors were foreigners. In this dilemma, a Doctor John Crocker, a native of N. England, then living in the city of Washington, was appointed Trustee and gave bond for the faithful discharge of his duty.

Seth Barton, one of the debtors to the estate of W.P. paid Crocker, as nearly as I can ascertain, about \$2400, and obtained Crocker's receipt in full for all demands against the estate, tho' said Barton owed at least \$20,000. Crocker left Washington, went to Martinsburg in Virginia, and thence to where he now is, When called upon by the Chancellor of Maryland he did not attend.

Whether he received any other money from other debtors I know not.

In February 1803 I was appointed by the Chancellor of Maryland Trustee to the same estate. There is not in court a suit against Seth Barton, who hope to get clear by showing the receipt he received from Crocker.

Our great object is to get regular deposition from Crocker of the exact, or nearly so, amount that he received from Barton: which deposition will perhaps enable me to recover largely of Barton and can be of no injury to Crocker to give it.

Should you find that Crocker is rich, I would insist on

his paying the amount received of Barton, and interest from '95 '06 or thereabouts deducting eight percent commission and his expenses.

If there is danger of his securing his property so that it cannot be seized, it would be better to settle with him on ^{almost} any terms, even down to \$400.

You can state to him the suddenness of your departure, which prevented my obtaining his bond and other documents from the Chancellors office in Annapolis: but that if he does not settle to your satisfaction, arrangements will be made to prosecute him to the utmost, the business to be left hereafter with such agent as you may recommend or appoint.

For your trouble, expence, time and attention I shall feel myself authorized to allow a very large commission, not exceeding 30 per cent.

If Crocker absolutely refuses any deposition as the the amount he received of Barton, I would not have such refusal be an obstacle to your settling with him.

You will please to write to me as soon as your have any information. If necessary the bond can be procured and forwarded to your direction.

C. Prentiss

Col Trask

Oct 2nd 1813

To: Col. Israel E. Trask
Brimfield

Alna, Dec. 27. 1814

My Dear Sir,

I have this cold evening been turning my contemplations to that good man Mr. Williams. At Brimfield it was once proposed to place a stone over his grave, and I do think that friends who loved him would do well to agree socially in the object. The last time I saw my brother Hitchcock he seemed to think it would be done.

In view of such a result, I have begun to act in one part of the prosecution by sketching and enclosing lines for an inscription: (the dates are not given as correct: I do not know them, but shose to fill them up, to observe how they would strike the eye:) and as I cannot enjoy by your fireside a consultation with you on the composition, I will write a few thoughts.

The general character of my proposed inscription may appear from inspection: if not it will not for the proposed use, be worth elucidation. My wish is to avoid a mere formal hackneyed set of words: to give actual traits of character which are distinct and peculiar, not such as are common to every good man, but which were his: and in number neither too few nor too many for an epitaph;- and to let simplicity and discrimination mark both the matter and the manner.

"A dignified scholar." I thought of an accomplished scholar. Probably two critics out of three would prefer the latter. My idea is that accomplished, though a more glittering, rhetorical word is too diffuse in its nature, and too inapplicable in fact. The prominent trait in Mr. W's learning was not splendour or corruscation: it was deep, clear, intellectual, natural, and its whole impression such as no single epithet occurring to my mind describes better than dignified.

"A pleasant companion." I fear this expression will seem too low and common; but I do not love to lose the matter, and do not think of better words. I want to describe something like what the sweet singer described, when he said "Very pleasant hast thou been to me." Mr. W's colloquial, companionable qualities,, always neat, pure, cheerful, exhilarating, benevolent, were distinguished and peculiar, and contributed eminently to make him what he was. Then, therefore, I say Mr. W. was a pleasant companion I know sensibly what I mean. The words may not convey that same sensations to others.

Instead of the last nine lines, the six selected ones, which follow, have been suggested to my thoughts:

Unskillful he to fawn, or seek for power
 By doctrines fashioned to the varying hour:
 But, in his duty prompt at every call,
 He watched and wept, he prayed and felt for all:
 He tried each art, reprov'd each dull delay,
 Allured to brighter worlds, and led the way.

The last of these lines is a good one: I do not like the rest. They are too long; and on reflection and review they appear not sufficiently appropriate. However I shall not be dissatisfied with them if they please, and if the width of a stone will contain them.

An impertinent old wild client of mine has been sitting and talking with vexing pertinacious familiarity, till I know not what I have written; but be assured I am not vexed at you: e contra believe me your good friend

Josiah Stebbins

P.S. You and other friends at B . can adopt what I have suggested, or modify it, or lay it wholly aside for something better. My object is to excite attention to the subject, and more than that I am anxious to be ready to bear a part in it.

New Orleans

4th Augst. 1815

Dear Trask,

I can offer you no other consolation than that
from your kind and affectionate care of my son William's
loss is to me & my family felt & regretted as you would
mourn the loss of

Billy this plan . In my I
begged of you to draw for any sum which you might deem necessary
for the support & education of the boys consigned to your
friendly care. I ask again passing w^h to visit home.
This fall I wish you would him under the care of your
brother or any other friend

Yours truly

A.L. Dawson (?)

Col. I.E. Trask

✓

Articles of agreement made this ninth day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifteen at the City of New York, Between Jonathan Thompson of Natchez in the Mississippi Territory, Israel E. Trask of Brimfield in the State of Massachusetts & David B. Ogden of the City of New York.

First The parties agree to become purchasers on their joint account of three hundred thousand acres of land upon the Arkansas River west of the Mississippi, provided the consideration to be paid therefor does not exceed the sum of thirty thousand Dollars in the whole.

Second Jonathan Thompson is to make the purchase upon the best terms he can, and to draw upon the said Israel E. Trask and David B. Ogden for their respective proportions of the consideration money. David Ogden engages to give his time and exertions in securing the title, in any application which it may be necessary to make to Congress on the subject, or in any question which may come before the Supreme Court of the ~~United~~ States in relation to the title - Israel E. Trask agrees to give his time and attention in procuring settlers to go upon the said land - And the said Jonathan Thompson agrees to give his time and trouble in making the purchase, paying the taxes & having the land surveyed and run out.

Third All advances of money made by any of the parties in relation to the said lands to be charged to the joint account, and each of the partners to bear and pay their equal proportion thereof.

Fourth The title of the said lands to be taken in the names of said Jonathan Thompson and Israel E. Trask to be held by them however in Trust for all the parties hereto.

David B. Ogden
I. E. Trask
J. Thompson

To: Col I. E. Trask
Brimfield

Grove 6 Jan 1816

My Dear Sir

It was not until the 25th Ult (Christmas) that I arrived here where I found Mrs. T. in good health as also a fine daughter that day ages 4 months. I found on my arrival your letter of 27 Oct.. Our passage down these Mighty (long) Rivers was most tedious & unpleasant. Yet but for the impatience (of one always impatient) necessarily attendant upon so protracted an absence from home & so all like an approach towards it I should have been amply gratified for all my travels by again seeing the immense Western World & in my minds eye viewing on the course of a short futurity that wonderful region populous as antient Egypt expansive as the Roman Empire rich as Phoenicia. When a Tyre & Sidon & Thebes & Memphis more extpended than those of antiquity will again excite the admeration of contemporary ages & the incredulity of those that shall come after.

Respecting Arkansas, I have not seen Winter. He is at the City of Washington & does not return before Spring. Perhaps you might see him there. If so I should desire you and Mr. Ogden to contract with him as we contemplated. But I do not think so essential as I do not think he will sell before his return. The land will certainly be a great bargain at the price we spoke of but the country nevertheless is very inferior to the Ouchita. Of this last I think much better than I did. I got a letter from O. saying that the family of Morehouse in N.Y. would not contract as the young man here was fully authorized to sell & wishing me to attend to it. But young Morehouse is since dead. I have written O. & requested him to review his applacation there & have advised his offering as high as 25 Or 30,000 \$ in case 100,000 can be secured & I think we might go much hig her on that condition. I understand the quantity remain-

ing to the Morehouses is near 300000 & the very pick & cream of the whole grant. I have written fully to O. & if you are in N. York will of course see him. I hope & trust we shall succeed in getting these tracts of land or at all events one of them & it will answer all our purposes. I, humble as I am, have been heretofore called a visionary by some, but if all & more than all my anticipation of the future greatness of all this region are not realized more extensively & more speedily than I have expected I will not in future claim the privilege of combining or comparing any two the simplest ideas in the intellectual world. There are now afloat 5 Steam boats on the Ohio & Mississippi & provision is already made for building 15 others several of which are begun & 5 of them nearly completed. 12 monthly

beside those already built 2 for Brownsville, Pittsburg 3. Limestone 2. Louisville 3. Red Banks 1 Nashville 2. at least for the use of those towns. N. Orleans keeps pace & will do more than that. Even Natchez is already changed. You must not fail to visit us soon, because great things should be done in .

I most sincerely congratulate you on the birth of a son. I hope he may prove to you a great & lasting blessing. Please present to our good friend Mrs. Trask Mrs 's & my most affectionate good wishes. To your Mother & sister & their family my most Respect^l Compts. As ever thine

I have suggested to Mr. O. that I think (as I do think) that it would be better for all parties if Brown should take back the wilderness & close his business the with . I could sell the property for Brown well. You will see some of them in N. Y.

I shall not fail to give all the aid in my power. I have not seen him since we returned.

To: Israel Trask Esqr
Brimfield

New York Aug^t 26, 1818

Israel Trask Esqr

D. Sir

Our mutual Friend John Converse Esqr of Troy says you wish to purchase some pleasant situation near this City for your Family residence embracing good Buildings. Fruit. &c. and the land to be in^o good state of cultivation - not having the pleasure of an acquaintance with you. Mr. Converse has annexed a letter of introduction to you, which you on the other side - I have a number of remarkably pleasant Seats for sale near this City some in Newark Jersey some on Long Island and near the City, some of which perhaps will meet your approbation & should feel great pleasure in making a sale to you - Should you feel disposed to make a purchase you'll have the goodness to inform me nearly such situation as you want naming price &c or if you are soon coming this way will make them known to you & have no doubt a selection can be made to please your fancy -

Respectfull your ob^t ?

S Perkins & Nic hols

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Brimfield

Phil^a Oct^r 9 1818

My Dear Elizabeth,

You know my impatience when travelling, of course you will not be greatly disappointed in not receiving a letter from me in N. York. We arrived safe at N. Haven on Tuesday evening. Got into a packet & arrived at N. York on Wednesday evening. Thursday morning run about the City, arranged my business & at 12 o'clock stepped on board a Steam boat for Staten Island and arrived here about 10 o'clock this day, Friday, - Today I have called on Mr. & Mrs. Harding who go on to Pitts next week. Also on Mr. Ware (?) Dr. Brown, Mr. Overaker's family, and dined with our good old friends Mr. & Mrs. Hulings - talked much of you - they have almost persuaded me to think Phil^a is the best place in America to live in.

I have just returned from Mr. H.'s - & now write to you. When I get time to think of home I am more homesick than a schoolboy. If only I am permitted to return to B. again I will never separate from my wife & children. Kiss them all for me - tell them to be good children & Pa will bring them anything he can think of.

Pray with them for the preservation of their lives & healths & that they may become children of our blessed Saviour. Pray for me also and that we may be again permitted to meet in this world & ~~that we may be~~ to bring up our children in the nurture & admonition of the Lord.

I expect to leave this for Pitt: next Monday. I shall write you again before I leave here.

Your ticket is a blank. I have got another in the same lottery, which I will make a present of to you & mother & see if you will not have better fortune. I will enclose it in my next.

The two Williams are very well & are gazing about the streets.

I am now in haste. I hope to find in a day or two to write
again.

Yours as ever most affectionately

I.E. Frask

Compliments to mother & friends. Tell Sally to look well to the
children. Lucy must be careful of little chunky

To: Mrs Elizabeth Trask
Brimfield

Phila. Octr 12, 1818

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you the day after, or the same day perhaps, that I arrived at this place. I informed you that your & Mother's Ticket No. 9564 was a blank. I purchased another ticket No. 9454 in the same Lottery - which I present to you jointly - hoping you may have better success. I enclose both tickets to you.

I leave here tomorrow morning for Pitt. I have been very well, but am as ever, impatient to proceed forward on the Journey, as I cant turn back.

I shall expect to find a letter from you soon after my arrival at Pitt; Tell me all about the children. I am low spirited now & cant write. I expect to have the ^hcompany of Mr. Learned Down the river & Mr. & Mrs. Harding - Mrs. Inskup &c. But a fig on them all if I could only be at home.

I say I cant write - goodby- Love to Eliza, Israel & Sara - Mother & all.

I.E.Trask

Tell Sally to take care of her brood.
The 2 Wms. are well

To. Mrs. Eliza Trask
Brimfield

Pittsburgh Octr. 22, 1818

My Dear Wife,

On my arrival here I wrote a line to Mr. Pynchon informing him of the circumstance - and also to say to you that I would write to you & the children as soon as I recovered from the fatigues of my journey. I am now in good health & have forgotten the jolting of the Stage, & the bruises recd in crossing the American Alps. Our company was very good, polite & accommodating. The roads, except the crossing of the higher ranges of mountain, I found nearly as bad as when we passed them two years ago: and Pittsburgh appears quite as sooty as when you saw it. I am at the best Tavern in the place & have a snug room & coal fire to myself, where I alternately read and think of my dear absent family. I have no great appetite for my food however - our provisions are good but the cooks spoil them. I should like one of Sally's dinners very much. Baked beef - baked Turkeys & baked fowls & baked everything you know is the style of the Pbg tables. The river is lower than when we descended it last. A Steam boat is in readiness to descend - if we could only have a rise of four or five feet of water we could proceed elegantly and rapidly on our journey. I expect Mr. & Mrs Harding here tomorrow when I shall decide on the manner & means of proceeding hence. A Stage runs now to the Falls of Ohio. Perhaps we may conclude it best to travel in the Stage. I am extremely anxious to leave this furnace and this coal pit. My face has already become as sombre as a colliers ---

23rd. Mr. Harding does not arrive and I have concluded to go on board a flat boat tomorrow in company with some Gen^t & Mrs. Lawrence. A Steam boat will leave Louisville on the 20th of Nov^r.

I have been very much disappointed in not receiveing
a letter from you. I hope you will consider my anxiety to hear from
you and write frequently.

I have written to the children. Be patient with them
& instruct them - & pray over them.

I shall not probably wrote again untill I reach Louisville.
probably 20 days.

My. love to Mother &c.

In Haste - yours as ever

L.E.Trask

To:
Mrs. Eliza Trask
Brimfield

Wheeling Octr 30, 1818

My Dear Eliza,

I wrote to you from Pitt: I informed you of my plan of descending the river. The waters were so very low that it took us six days to arrive here. I concluded to leave the boat & take the stage. The two Bms go on still in the boat with Capt. ^{Printz of} Puzs fit York & his sister Mrs. Laurence (x) -. Mr. & Mrs. Harding & Mr. & Mrs. Bradish - Mr. Halliday & Mr. Isaac Ogden of N. York go on in the stage. If I should not find a steam boat ready at the falls, H^{all}liday, Ogden & myself will take horses & go through the wilderness.

Mr. Bradish says that Mrs. Burling will pass the winter at Worcester and that she wishes to see you -- She has no carriage. I would advise you to go & see her & bring her up to B. & pass a few weeks ---- You are a lady at large & ^{can} amuse yourself. I am anxious to hear from you and the children. I hope they are well. Dont give them any more sp^ts of turpentine - it is too weakening.

I will write you again from the falls. I shall expect to find a letter there from you.

Brother Wms. good friend Mrs. Halliday is dead.

Dont forget your promise to write me weekly.

Remember me to mother & family & friends. Tell Eliza, Israel & Sarah they must be good children. I send them my love & kisses----

Adieu - Heaven preserve & bless you.

Israel E. Trask

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Brimfield

Louisville Nov^r 14 1818

My Dear Elizabeth,

I wrote to Mr. Pynchon immediately after my arrival here & informed you that I was well &c.

I have since found Mr. P. letter at the post office telling me that you had been sick, but that you were better when he wrote. I felt great anxiety when I left Pittsburg both with regard to you & the children. I hope that I shall find your letters on my arrival at Natchez, confirming Mr. Ps accounts of your and our children's health.

I believe I wrote to you from Wheeling & informed you that I left the boat & took a passage in the Stage for this place. I found the roads very good for the most part, through the State of Ohio & Kentucky. I had good company & good health & met with no accident or disaster until within Thirty miles of this Town - when through the carelessness of the driver in the night we were upset. We were going at the rate of five or six miles an hour when we drove full butt against a large stump. I was sitting on the seat with the driver, as the most secure place, & was thrown with considerable violence off the carriage. The driver although thrown off in the same manner kept his reins & prevented the horses from running. Mrs. Harding was somewhat hurt. Mr. Bradish also. I escaped without injury. I felt a little sore however the next day in consequence of my fall. The river still continues unusually low. I shall wait five or six days longer for a rise of water & if no rise takes place within that time I believe I shall go through by land (?)

Wm. L. Harriet - Dr. Lehman & wife- Dr. Duncan & Mother & Sister - Mr. Harding & Bradish & many other of our acquaintance are all waiting for the rise of the river. Our boarding house is very much thronged and miserably kept. I dined yesterday with Capt. Gale on board his Steam boat, after a hunting party, & had an excellent dinner for the first time since I arrived here.

Wm. Browning & Pyncheon will probably be here in five or six days. We have had the pleasantest weather for traveling by land that I ever experienced for so great a length of time not rains. The air mild - & a smoky atmosphere - indeed a most delightful & long Indian Summer. Yet such has been my anxiety to prosecute my journey rapidly by Steam boats & expedite my return to my wife & children that the beautiful weather has offered me but little satisfaction and I have rather solicited the clouds, the tempests & the rains. Such is even our unsatisfied & discontented minds.

Give my love to the children. Tell them if Pa is only once more permitted to see them again he thinks that no circumstance of business shall ever call him away from them so great a distance & for so long a time.

Remember me to Mother & friends. I hope that Alice is a good girl. Tell Sally & Lucy to be careful of the children. And Upham - that he must make good fires to keep you all warm.

I will write again when I leave Town. Believe me as ever your most affectionate friend & husband

I. E. Trask

To: Mrs. Eliza Trask,
Brimfield

Natchez Jan'y 18 1819

My Dear Wife.

Yours of the 7th & 18th of Decr I have now the pleasure to answer. I have been so busily engaged for some days past that I have neglected my weekly epistle to you. I have been moving our hands from 2nd Creek to Wilkinson. I spent four or five days at the lower plantation - things go on very well. The negroes are very well contented with their new habitations. They say the land is very good & they will prefer cultivating its to the 2nd Creek place. Cesar thinks it is good Baccar land. William has got his house whitewashed inside & out and his house makes a great show. Harriet keeps the inside very neat, but they move next week to Woodville. Patters & Wm are doing a very profitable business W. Jas. is building an elegant house. I am now at Col. Grays in Natchez on my way to N.C. Col Gray keeps a private boarding house. I dindd yesterday at Gov^r Sargents. They enquired very affectionately after you. Mr. Thompson invited me to take up my lodgings at his house - but I prefer not to encumber my friends. Lydia is very well & still thinks she will accompany me to the north. I shall of course be delayed in my return to B. We have finally concluded to undertake a sea voyage. I shall return from N.C. to N. in Ten of fifteen days. We intend to sail from N.O. about the first of April. Be assured I shall feel extraordinarily anxious to make all possible dispatch to meet you again.

I am sorry to find by your last that Eliza has weak eyes again - try weak brandy & water as a wash. I observe that you have closed your correspondence with me. I forgot that I limited your writing to me to the 20th Dec^r -- and when I found that I rec^d

your last letter I became quite sad. Well I do think that if I am permitted to see my family once more I shall never leave them again untill my final separation from them. I am always unhappy when away from them. I think we have property insufficient at present with prudent management to make us as easy & as happy as the things of this world can make us. Lets us now endeavor to live tranquil - to devote our remaining days to the education of our children & to preparation to enjoy another & a better world.

The anxiety of mother with regard to Augustus is such as might be expected. Mr. Pearse as well as James appear to think that his penitence & repentance was sincere. He is at the disposal of a most merciful & righteous God. Let it be our care to watch over & pray over our children that should they be taken from us, we may have even here the hope & consolation that they are happy in the bosom of their Lord.

I hope ere this that the gloom which has for some time past obscured your mind with regard to your penitence & acceptance has disappeared and that you have now a most cheering hope that all is well. That your mourning is turned into a blessed rejoicing.

Tell the children how much I want to see them - they must be good children. Your account of them is peculiarly interesting. Little Sarah's prayer brought tears from eyes - and Israel's sermon to Sara was very impressive. Oh Father in Heaven protect them & make them lambs of Thy fold.

Remember me affectionately to Mother & all our friends. I am glad to hear Alice & Sally so well spoken of. I hope our family may become a truly pious & happy family and a blessed & united one hereafter.

I shall write Mrs. Pyncheon from N.O. Wm & Wm are in fine health. Tell Maj^r Morgan that his children here are doing well. Harriet is a good 's I trust a pious wife. Remember me to Mr. Vail. I calculate much on the happiness of our next meeting each other.

You must not expect another letter from me for a fortnight to come - its making me homesick to write to you. Comp^{lts} to Upham. Sally's & Lucy's friends are all well.

May Heaven protect you all -

I. B. Frask

To: Mrs. Eliza Trask
Brimfield

Natchez Febr 12, 1819

My Dear Elizabeth,

I returned from N.O. five days ago. My health is pretty good though they tell me that I have fallen off in flesh - the fact is I am homesick. I went out to 2nd Creek. Lydia & Betsy Stanard were absent to B.Rouge. Lydia returned last night - Wm. & Harriet came up with her - all well - I was very near jumping on board a vessel at N. O. bound for Baltimore but I thought it would not do to leave Lydia.

Our Spring is in great forwardness. Peach trees &c have been in blossom a week. Poplars, willows & elms &c are in leaf. I dined with Mrs. Dunbar on Monday - had fine head lettuce, her garden is in full bloom - strawberries in blossom & the jessamine scenting the house & garden around. Whyle you I presume are shivering with cold & surrounded by snows - however I presume the advantages will be on the side of N.E. next summer.

By the time this reaches you I expect to be on my way northward. If only life is spared I shall see you I hope early in April. Would it not be a good plan to have the two lower rooms painted before I return - with the space & stair way and if you please the chambers . You can speak to Mr. Williams or yr. other merch^{ts} & get material & have it done. I spoke to you before about a carpet. I think we shall spend our summers in B. so we may as well prepare things to be as comfortable as the state of things will admit of.

I hope that Elizas eyes are better. I am anxious about them, I would not let her study when her eyes are inflamed. Tell Israel & Sarah they must read to me when I return. I want to see them very much.

I shall go to Wilkinson in two or three days. I expect to spend a week or two there in arranging plantation affairs.

I shant write to you agin untill I am ~~ready~~ ready to leave here-
so good by & believe me always yrs.

I.E. Trask

Remember me to friends as usual

Duplicate

New Orleans March 30, 1819

We have this year examined our account of the year 1817./
the crop of that year/ and ballanced the same.

The crop of the Year 1818 being in part on hand we cannot
at present come to a settlement. It appears, however that from this
crop I.E. Trask has rec^d Sixteen Thousand one Hundred Dollars &
J.L. Trask Ten Thousand Four Hundred & 20 Dollars.

In addition to this James L. Trask has rec^d Seven Hundred
& fifty seven Dollars - also Three Thousand Six Hundred & Eighty
Dollars, and is to decount with said Israel for the same in the final
settlement of the crop 1818. Said James has also rec^d of said
Israel the further sum of fifteen Hundred Dollars in full toward
his half of a tract of land one Hundred and fifty acres purchased
of Wm. P. Trask. The said I.E. also holds Two notes against said
James one for Ten Thousand Dollars & the other for Seven Thousand Two
Hundred & Seventy Six Doll^s. payable the first day of March last.
now said James agrees to pay said I.E. Trask on the first note
interest at the rate of Eleven per Cent per an & on the other 6
per ct per an

(Signed)

E.E. Trask
J. L. Trask

Natchez Febry 18th 1820 ✓

My dear Sir;

I am about to take considerable liberty with you in the favor I am going to ask. My son Winthrop is so situated in Boston, in respect to his education and improvement, that I am convinced he ought to be removed. This conviction is so strong that I shall sustain the utmost anxiety until it is done. The only letter I have received from him since the 30th April last I enclose to you from which you will perceive that I am not without cause for my anxiety. I am led to believe that Dr. Gardiner attends to him once a day regularly in the languages - & that during the residue of the day that he is wholly unattended to and not sent to any competent school. I perceive by his letter that he is deteriorating in writing, spelling and every propriety of ~~letter-writing~~ correspondence. He is living with, and in house of, Joseph Head, Junr, of Boston, who is married to his sister on the Mothers side, and is a merchant in company with his Father. I have received no communication from Mr. Head since the 10th July last though I have written him requesting the statement his amount &c. I wish you to adjust Mr. Heads amount; I do not know what it is I enclosed him a check on my way home last year from which he settled an amount with M^{rs} Murray & Stuart the Painter. I observe in Winthrops letter a note about his being in debt - I do not understand the meaning of his 300 - but at present wish nothing paid that is not contracted or furnished by Mr. Head. I have inclosed to James Aspinwall, Merchants, of New York, a bill drawn by Wm. Kenner & Co. on James D. Wolf Esq. New York in your favor for 700 dollard at 60 days date 11th Instant, requesting Mr. Aspinwall to procure the *acceptance* & forward it immediately to you, This I am informed can be immediately discounted or negotiated in Boston.

Now as to the disposition of the child, to your good judgement & kindly feelings towards me I entrust that part of the friendly interesting duty I have taken the liberty of requiring of you. I believe you have great confidence in Andover Academy. I shall have confidence there. ~~I knew that~~ You know I do not like its religion, but its care and discipline may be more applicable to my boy than the leniency of the Episcopal church: And I wish him put under a discipline certain & sure to control him. That he should have full opportunity to pursue his studies of languages in the best & most classic manner. And that he should be made to read, write, cypher, and taught in composition &c. And above all that he shall be in such a situation that his time shall be strictly guarded & he made diligently to appropriate it. I wish you to show the Doct. Gardner & Mr. Head Winthrops handsome letter which I enclose. & I wish you to treat the child just as you will find, perceive and feel is proper. You know my wish is to fit the boy in the best manner for Cambridge College - and so far advanced as to enter at least one year ahead. If you can have him placed where all his industry should be called forth the coming Summer I think it probably I should send for him home next winter, and attend to him myself at least in part, which would give me opportunity of having fully his habits, disposition and general ~~habits~~ ^{are these}, before I sent him to college; this idea you will suggest to him or not as you may Judge most proper. I have written to Dr. Gardiner & Mr. Head mentioning you to them as my ^{kin} friend, who would hardly & solicitated perform what I had earnestly requested.

The health of our country is entirely - the calamities of death ^{are these} from recollection - business is brisk. Our Legislature has been adjourned one week today. Many of them assembled with greater

malignity against Natchez than the yellow fever exhibited, - but the use of Art and sedulous care in the Senate left the Court House - the Seat of Government & Bank & every thing else unimpaired by their unhallowed touch. I lately heard from your brothers in good health, I feel the trouble I am imposing on you, but hope I shall be ever mindful of the obligation you will put me under.

Mrs. H. joins me in kindest respects to Mrs. T. & yourself.

With sentiments of the most sincere respect

& esteem, I am, Dear Sir

Yr obt servt

Ly. Harding

P.S. Winthrope's letter which I enclose you come on a large sheet of paper, which I tore off to save bulk.

Boston April 7, 1820

Col. Israel Trask
Brimfield

Sir

On the 19th Ult. I rec'd a letter from our mutual friend Lyman Harding esq. of Natchez informing me that he had written to you on the subject of superintending the education & conduct of his son now under my care: From the tenor of the letter I have been constantly expecting the pleasure of seeing you, but as some weeks have elapsed I am induced to beg the favor of a line from you with regard to your determination. Mr. Harding also mentioned that he had remitted you a bill on New York for \$700 which he requested me to assist you in negotiating here, which service as well as every other, in my power I shall be happy to render you. It will give me great pleasure to avail myself of Mr. Hardings introduction to your acquaintance & in the meantime

I remain

Your obt. serv.

Joseph Head Jr.

To. Colonel I.E. Trask
Brimfield

Andover May 23, 1820 ✓

Dear Sir,

After I wrote you last Harding appeared to behave better; & on the whole gave Mr. Adams & me considerable satisfaction. But lately he has been less respectful - less orderly- & more troublesome. I told Mr. Adams recently, I could not keep a boarder who required so much inspection, & was, after all, so irregular. Mr Adams said, he had given him much trouble, I was injuring the school - & that he should dismiss him. Last night, at the close of ^{the} school, he stopped young Harding, & told him, that he must not return, I told him the reasons. Harding was affected, & showed many signs of strong & tender emotion. I have seen Mr. Adams, & proposed a further trial, on condition that Harding will pursue a new course as to his studies & his conduct. He has very good talant, & may as a scholar. He promises well. But it is now left for further consideration, If he is disposed to return with proper expressions of regret for past irregularities, & with proper resolutions for the future, we shall admit him to a new trial. But we cannot keep any boy, who makes so much disturbance. I have labored with him often & affectionately, & so has Mr Adams, - & sometimes with some apparent effect. But it has soon passed away, & he has returned to his disorderly habits. Still there is something in him, which incites my love, & my hope, that he will reform & will be brained up for great usefulness. I have entered into the feelings of his parents, & have endeavored to treat him, as a child. But he has been living rather at random, & has formed habits, both as to study & as to conduct, which must be corrected, or he is ruined. Should he return again, Mr Adams proposes that I should put him into a room with such a scholar of the Academy as he, (Mr Adams), shall choose for him. His object is to furnish Harding with a room-mate, who will be more of a companion

than one of his instructors can be, & yet one, who will have a good influence over him, & set him a good example. Such a scholar would be one of the Beneficiaries, & must be boarded, as they always are, for little more than half the common price. This would be my loss; -- or if the Beneficiary were charged with the usual price of board it would be his loss, to live here, instead of living off a mile or two in a farmer's house. The arrangement, though probably very much for Harding's good, & proposed altogether for his sake, ought therefore, in reason, to be met by additional drafts upon the fund which is devoted to his use, - something above a dollar a week in addition to the \$350 which is the common charge. This would, however, be saved, & more, by curtailing his expenses in other ways. His habit of spending money is extravagant & thoughtless, - & greatly injures his improvements. For while he has anything to spend, he is perpetually contriving some way to spend it. It will be greatly to his benefit to have no spending money, except what a judicious guardian or friend shall see to be proper. I have no doubt, I could easily manage that part of the business, by gradually withdrawing him from those thousand boyish ways, of which he is so fond.

It will be well for you to write him, & direct to Mr Head's if you write within ten days from this, - as he chooses to spend the vacation in Boston. I have not written to his father, and hardly feel as though I could, till I have something better to communicate. The stroke he received last night was a heavy one, & likely, I think, to lead him to consideration & amendment.

Possibly you may think it best to write to his father. I shall
by & By. It would do good for you to write to Winthrop. He
is doing pretty well, Mr Adams says, in his studies, & shows
real talent. If he returns & pursues a right conduct he will be
a first rate man.

Do write, on receiveing this, & tell me, whether his father
would be able & willing to bear the additional expense for an
arrangement, which Mr Adams thinks of consequence to his studies,
& to his habits? What expense, weekly, or quarterly, would he be
willing to defray - taking in the whole, except his clotes?
I name this subject not because I have any solicitude about it
but because I wish to regulate his expenses according to his
father's wishes.

Yours with great affection

Leonard Woods

To: Col^l Israel E. Traske
Brimfield

August 8th 1820

My dear Sir,

The fear least I should be detained here during the Winter has induced me to determine upon going immediately to New Orleans, before the sickness commences, least it would be unsafe in the Fall. I shall either embark on the Steam Ship on the Ohio Packet Capⁿ Toby. Greatly do I wish to see Winthrop --- if kindness, if affection will be of any avail, nothing on my part shall be wanting to effect a change in his character. The exertion I am making to see him is considerable - but, my dear Sir, I feel as if I was performing a duty I have ardently prayed for direction in the undertaking. That Almighty Being who knows the heart and listens to the prayers of those who seek Him, will guard and protect me. My sister will accompany me and an old and faithful servant, - Polly. As to Winthrop's coming to this country you will ~~no doubt~~ see with me the great imprudence of such a step. You know him, this is not the country for young Men and would not the finger of anger or contempt be pointed at him who has done such an injury? I shall hope to see you Sir as soon as possible after my arrival in Boston. I will write to you Immediately. I trust my dear Sir, you will continue to exert your influence with Winthrop, I deeply regret that you have already had so much trouble. Heaven will reward you for all your kindness - for all your goodness to the widow and the Orphan! -- You will have the goodness to read and seal the enclosed -- And believe me dear Sir -

Your obliged and afflicted friend

Elizabeth Harding

To: Col. I.E.Trask
Brimfield

Near Woodville August 16th 1820

My Dear Brother,

Since I wrote you last I have been to the River Plantation,- The Crop of Corn there is late and not very good - the negroes have been sickly,- the clearing, fencing, Building and furnishing provisions &c. have been troublesome,- there is one hundred acres cleared which will answer for Cotton another year. - I am not pleased with the humanity of the Overseer & shall put another in his place as soon as possible,- I have attended to the repairs of the roads & many other things, and for three days attended the meeting of the Presbytery at Woodville, - and now have the pleasure of acknowledg^{ing} your favor of the 3rd July, - I feel grateful for the kindness, hopes & good wishes expressed in your letter. It gives us great satisfaction to hear of the health & happiness of our friends, -- the friend of your Sister.L.. rejoice that she is married and hope that her prudence and goodness of heart will not only render her husband happy but will also ensure everlasting happiness to herself -- I have always considered Sister Eliza one of my warmest friends , and your mentioning it warms the brotherly affection and tenderness I feel towards her,- you may say to our Mother that I have seen her old friend the Rev. Mr. Bullin, he speaks of her in the warmest terms of friendship and respect - one would supposed that he had loved.

I informed you in my last, of the death of Mr. Harding. - I am informed that Mrs. Harding and Mr. Griffith administer on the estate at Natchez and that James Chambers has gone to the

to take out letters of Cur tership on the property there. I am doubtful how things will be managed for young Harding,- I think it would be well for him to appoint some correct man his gardien to manage the proprty for him until he becomes of age,-

The estate is something in debt - with management they might be paid without sacrificing the property, - The half Brother of young H. that came out from Boston last year is too much of a Sailor, & too thoughtless to ----

I presume before this you have seen our friend J. Thompson who has informed you of our money affairs &c. He left Mr. Ticknor agent to manage business, - I have not seen or heard from him lately, but shall go to ~~W~~ ^Watchez in a Day or two and see what has been done.

I have much money to pay, and at present nothing to pay with, - Do you not think it would be well to pay out this fall, and with the Crop & bank Stock try to settle all the demands against me - and then you can receive all of our Crops until the last farthing is paid. -- We over drew the amount of our Crop so much year before last, that it took the greatest part of the last years Crop to balance accounts. -- There is a large sum now due Messrs & Co - I will try to give you a statement of them shortly.

Brother Wm. dont enjoy good health this Summer, tho he is now tolerably well---. Sister H. is seldom unwell -- She attended meeting at Sacrament last Sunday with her most promising son who was five weeks old, and was Christened James Lawrence his two Grandmothers would be delighted to see him. They intend to return to Brimfield next Spring, and will probably stay there, if their father will give them a piece of land and build them a house on the pleasant rise of huckleberry hill, - If this should be the case you will see that I will be left alone, no one but my unpleasant self to occupy the House I am now building. - It would be pleasant to visit you next summer as you propose, but,

I hardly dare hope for anything in this world, and all things being uncertain. Now would it do for Emily and her husband to come out this fall & live with me, or go in business at Woodville,- If I should be able to travel next year I should feel more satisfaction to have some one here besides overseers. -- If they could be attentive to our business we could afford to pay them a salary that would more than pay the education of their son who could be left at school. Will they Cum . Will you Cum.

Our Negroes at this place are sickly, we have from 15 to 20 sick any day, - We have had all Most contant rain for Seven weeks.

Brother Wm. & Sister H. join me in love to our Mother and all our friends. -- Thank Brother Pynchon for his favour of the 23rd June. - and for the important news mentioned in it. I will write him soon , tho I consider when I wrate to one it is for all. Wm. P. is well. My love to all ----- as ever yours

J.L. Trask

our Cotton is not injured by the rott, but will be late in spinning. our Corn Crops is good, - we find much difficulty in Sc-ing fooder.

Affectionately yours

J.L. Trask

Duplicate

To Winthrop S Hardung

Baton Rouge
Near New Orleans
September 3, 1820

My dear Son,

I cannot describe to you the disappointment I have endured in not reaching New Orleans. I left Natchez about a fortnight since with the hopes that a few weeks would land me in Boston, but to my great alarm we met a Boat on the River filled with sick people just from New Orleans; some of its passengers. The Captain of the Boat I was in very imprudently received in board which alarmd me so much that I was induced to land at this place, where I shall remain until it is sufficiently healthy for me to venture to New Orleans. I trust I shall see you this Fall, in the meantime, my dear Winthrop, let me entreat you to apply yourself to your studies, remember you have a character to retrieve which nothing will so soon effect as a due application of your Time to those important pursuits which will stow your mind with useful knowledge and make you an useful, respectable and valuable member of society and inspire me with such confidence in your affectionate regard for me that I shall soon consider you as a protector. Eh, Winthrop you surely will attend to my request when you reflect upon the awful calamity which you have occasioned me - but I will not again remind you of it. I trust in GOD your heart has felt the affliction sufficiently to make you anxious to restore as much as possible the repressed and broken spirits of your beloved Fathers widow, whom you must consider as a Mother, not only on that account but because you were solemnly entrusted to my care. I am your natural Guardian, I wish to become legally so, and as Mr. Duncan, an ~~eminent~~ lawyer in this State a particular Friend of your beloved Father, has, at my request promised to become your second guardian I hope you will write to me immediately giving your consent. In consequence of the

state of your dear Father's mind previous to his death he has left no will, of course our Estate must be settled by the law. -- I hope you will pay implicit regard to the advice of Col^l Trask, I already feel under great obligation to him for his kind and friendly attention to you. I am staying with Mrs. Howel the sister of Mrs. Manox the lady whom you saw in Boston a few summers ago.

With the hope that I shall soon see you my dear Winthrop I commend you to the care of the Almighty trusting that you will prove a dutiful and affectionate Son to your afflicted Mother -

Elizabeth Harding

Fail not to write by return of Mail and direct your letter
Mrs. Lyman Harding care of Samuel Steen Esq^r Baton Rouge

State of Louisiana

Boston Oct 12. 1820 ✓

My dear Sir

Long, too long is it, since there has been an interchange between us, and were it no for the consciousness I feel of the warmest and sincerest friendship, and the recollection that my hands have been unceasingly employed I could hardly forgive myself for having ~~that-I-should-have~~ so long neglected to let you hear from me by letter. You will dear Sir forgive the omission and believe me that nothing will afford me more satisfaction than to keep up an acquaintance, not on the score of begging - a trait in my character, which I acknowledge may expose my professions to some suspicions - but on the score of real personal esteem & friendship ---- And I hope my dear Sir, when I see you again, I shall not have to make a begging visit of it. Do not understand me that I am unwilling to continue an old employment and much less to present any good object to you for a more generous & cheerful giver I am willing to say I have not met with ---- but I have I confess some other feelings to gratify beside those which propel a man from place to place to get money for charity --- I love the society of Christian friends -- and begging in itself considered has ever been to me a most unwelcome business. ----

You possibly might have heard of my passing near you during the last summer but my engagements were such I could not visit Brimfield - You will be happy to learn that the Permanent fund for the Secretary now stands at 7,000 dollars & will probably ere long be larger ---- The Board have had a trying year but the Lord I believe will carry them through whole ----

Have the goodness to present my very sincere congratulations to Mrs. Williams, on her recent connexion with so respectable and good a man as I have been assured her husband is --- I have had

I have had great satisfaction in an interview with him this morning
 --- And doubt not that he is all that he has been said to be. May
 the Giver of all good make them happy in the possession of every
 blessing.
 temporal & spiritual good My regards you will not forget to
 make with very cordial affection to your dear wife & children &
 to your Mother.

O my dear Sir. My heart bleeds for New Orleans --- Alas ---
 what a thick cloud of darkness --- dear, departed Spirit of
 Larend (?) - it lives no more on Earth but has been received I
 in Heaven, there to
 doubt Not ~~where-it~~ shine forth as the brightness of the
 firmament & as the Stars for ever and ever. I have just had a let-
 ter from Mrs. E. B. Warren an Andover student who spent the last
 winter in Mobile and Blakely and will I think supply the pulpit in
 N.C. until further provision can be made.

May I hope to enjoy a great pleasure as to see you in Salem
 again. I have sometimes feared that the slave - like life which
 I lead and which prevented me from showing you more attention, will
 prevent you from visiting me again --- but if you will consent to
 honor my humble residence with your Society again, with that
 of your family, you will confer a great pleasure On Yours Most
 sincerely E. Cornelius

To: Col I.E. Trask
Brimfield

Farmington C. Nov. 20 1820

Dear Sir

I ^{annex} inclose for your inspection a statement of young Hardings
account: from which you will see that the balance due me is
One hundred & eightyone ²⁸/~~100~~ Dlls. without including Towasend &
Hulls' & 250 Dlls if that be included. As the articles furnished to
Winthrop last summer by them were probably charged to me, it may be
well for me to receive the amount & pay it over to them. Any way
however that you prefer will be satisfactory to me. The money
charges in my account might surprise you had I not given you some
intimation of the Arts that were practiced to draw money from me.
To my ordinary charges I have added, as I was authorized by you
something more for the extra trouble and expenses incurred by me
in the care of this youth. Please inform me by return mail, whether
it is your pleasure that I draw on you for the amount due to me,
or obtain it in some other way. It would be an accomodation for me
to receive it soon.

Yours Very Respectfully

Edw. Hooker
A.I. Harding to E. Hooker

1820 July

Murray's Eng Grammar & Key large edi tion	\$ 2.75
Cash pd Olmstead for work done to watch	2.75
Cash furnished 1 Ditto 1 Pair of suspenders 1.25	3.25
Bill of Goods at M. Cowles store viz 2 pair English silk stockings at 1 1/4 / 4.67 2 silk vests at 1.25	2.75
2 1/2 black cambric .02 1/2 4 1/2 yds Camb, gingham at .50cts 2.25	10.55
Cash to buy pencils . 25 for 2 penknives .55	.80
Additional bill at M. Cowles' viz silk vesting of each kind abovementioned to complete the pattern -1.	2.13
2 1/2 yds brown linen for coat lining.70 lyd hum. thread .06	.29
Cash to pay for mending pantaloons.25 pitcher & tumbler	
	.31
Inkstand & quills.37 Cash to pay postage on 2 letters &c	.50
	.87
Cash to bear expenses to New Haven & buy a pair of boots	13

13.00

	Bill of clothing furnished by Hull & Townsend	67.72
	Interest on same from Sept. 1 if it should be demanded	
	say	1.00
		<u>105.38</u>
	Postage 20cts Pocket money 1. Door lock.33	1.53
	Fairchilds bill viz Making frock coat 2.50 silk .18cts } making 2 vests 2. Silk, twist &c .42 }	4.13
	Cash paid Mr. Brodwill for use of waggon to New Haven 1. } & to Mr. North for use of horse 2.80 }	2.80
Aug.	Augre of letter paper 34 Pocket money 1. Postage .20	1.54
	To Mr. Dickinson for making a study board for you	.66
	Cash furnished you to pay Phelps for keeping horse for you } over Sunday before he was sent back to North after your ree }	.81
	turn from New Haven. -----	
	Cash for weekly allowance of pocket money	1.00
	Postage.30 Cash for pencils & other small things .37 1/2	.67 1/2
	1 1/2/ quire letter paper & 25 quills .75	.75
	Pocket money 2. Postage.12 1/2 to attend musical concert.50	2.62 1/2
	Pocket money 1. Cash paid Darrow for shoes 1.83	2.83
	Pocket money 1. (Sept. 9th) Bitto 1.	2.00
Sept.	Cash to carry to New Haven at the Comm't	3.00
	Additional Cash at New Haven 5 Dhs Cash to buy a pair of } boots there 7.00 - Cash paid Bishop for three days board &c }	5.77
		5.77
	Cash to pay for taylor work .42	.42
	Cash paid by Morgan, for you, for your passage to New Haven	2.00
	Cash to Mrs. Brockway for sewing done for you	.58
	Cash paid by Elliot for you on the road to New Haven	1.00
	Cash paid by Smith for you for passage & back to Farmington	3.00
	Postage on letter to guardian .10 Pocket money 2.00	2.10
	Pocket money left with you for a supply during my absence } from home }	8.00
Oct.	Pair of shoes of Mr. Darrow charged to me-acc't not yet in } probably }	2.12 1/2
	Board, instruction & other ordinary expenses connected with } them from July 6 to Oct 23 at 300 pr. year \$91.00 }	91.00
	Extra Charge for damages done & unusual trouble occasioned } as authorized by agreement 36.17 1/2 }	36.17 1/2
		<u>\$300.00</u>
	Deduct fifty dollars left with me in July as per rot	50.00
	Balance due	<u>\$250.00</u>

To: Mrs. Eliza Trask
Brimfield

Mr. Williams

Boston Dec 1820

My Dear Wife,

Although I have not time this morning to say but a word, yet I will say that word. I intended to have written last night but after sitting five or Six hours in our convention room I got too impatient & too much fatigued to write,

I hope to see you & the family in a fortnight. Tell the children I shall expect to find them very learned on my return. Why did not you write by Mr. Williams. I should have thought that Sally might have sent me a piece of cake or a piece of cold pork. I dont find any cooking here that suits me so well as hers.

Tell Upham to have a good woodpile cut & housed by the time I arrive. Request MrsWilliams to secure your winter pork for you - also stuff for sausages &c.

I understand that Mr. E. Williams will be here again in a few days. I wish you would write by him, & if anything is wanted at home say so.

I am sorry to find you delaying matters & things. I hoped to find everything done & well on my return.

Kiss my children Twenty times a piece fo me. Love to all

Yours most affectionately

I.E. Trask

To: Col. Israel E. Trask

Springfield

New Haven May 1st 1821

My dear Sir

Since writing to you from Boston that I would have the pleasure of seeing you this Spring, I have been induced to promise my Father, that if my health improved sufficiently for me to undertake the journey, I would visit him during the vacation. I left Boston on Thursday last and arrived at my brother Mr. Nathan Hardings on Friday morning - it was my wish and intention to have passed a day with your family and offered my apologies for making so short a visit, upon enquiry however I learned that you had removed and as going by the way of Springfield would have lengthened my journey I have considered it proper to write you from this place. Should you visit New Haven at any time it will afford me very considerable pleasure to see you Sir, or any of your family. Have the goodness to present my best respects to Mrs. Trask and offer as my apology for not paying my promised visit my great anxiety to see my Father whom I have not beheld for nearly 3 years. I shall probably leave this tomorrow, pass a fortnight or 3 weeks in Philadelphia and return to New Haven. My son accompanies me to my Fathers and will remain there with me - he begs his best respects. I flatter myself his correct conduct will in future be entitled to the approbation of the wise and the good ----- Permit me Sir to consider you among my very best and most valuable friends and believe me most truly and respectfully

Yrs

Elizabeth Harding

I am in daily expectation of a remittance from Mr Duncan which will enable me to discharge all demands for Winthrop when I must request Sir you will mention the amount due yourself

To: Col. Israel E. Trask
Springfield

New York 2^d May 1821

Dear Sir.

I have rec^d your favor of 30th Ult^o --- On the payment of Four Thousand Dollars, Mr. Morris will be authorized to give you the Deed of the Property purchased of me - and will take your Note for balance payable as mentioned in the original Note. I hope you will be able to make such kind of pay^t as will enable me to realize the money here without loss by discount. ~~My~~ My friends Mess^{rs} Dwights will probably put you in the

way to effect that object. I shall without delay make a Contract for some kind of Stock, payable in a few days from the Amt^t expected of you. A day or two since I rec^d a letter from W. Foster offering to purchase the Strip of land - but as you had the refusal, I now say that you may have it at the Cost & Interest. The one part was purchased of Doc^t White at 100 Dolls on the 1st July 1811 the other of P. White Jr. at 70 Dolls -- 29th July 1813. The property may be worth more, or less, than what I ask you out as I did not buy it on speculation I must at any rate, be right in obtaining for it Cost & In^t. --- If Mr. Morris will make out a Quit Claim Deed, I will immediately execute & return it --- The money may be left in the hands of Mr. Morris.

I am Sir
With Esteem
Your Svt

James Blycen

To. Col. I.E. Trask
Brimfield

Theol. Semy. Andover
May 11, . 1821

Dear Sir,

It is the lot of some men to be remembered by many of whom they have but little recollection, or perhaps have entirely forgotten. Whether I am so happy as to have a place in the memory of him I am now addressing I cannot say: but his politeness and attention to me while engaged as a missionary in South Brimfield, will not permit, that his name should very soon be erased from my mind. To your former kindness, dear Sir, will you add that of excusing the liberty I now take in writing, & also not mentioning to any one the subjects, which I am about to lay before you.

Your will perceive by the little pamphlet of Mr. ~~Stuart's~~ ^{Stuart's}, which I send you with this, the importance that some of our young men should pursue to considerable extent the study of Oriental Languages. It is important both for the interests of sacred literature, & also that there may be men on the side of truth, who shall be able to combat the enemy with his own weapons. Few however have the inclination to pursue a study to any considerable extent, which in the outset costs so much time, expense & hard labor. There are scarcely five men in the U.S. who can be mentioned as having any competent knowledge of Oriental literature. Mr. Stewart is one of these & Mr. Everett of Cambridge another.

Whether I have talents or not, I have the inclination & have determined to devote some more time to study. I completed the regular course in the Seminary about a year & a half ago, & by the advice of Prof. Stuart commenced my studies again last fall, intending to spend two or three years here & at Princeton, N.J.

But had I a little more money, than what I now have, I might spend these two or three years in France & Germany with three times

the advantage that I can here. I might say six times the advantage. de Lacq of Paris, Arabic interpreter to the king, has lately published a grammar of the Arabic language, superior to any ever before published. He is undoubtedly the first Arabic scholar of the age. Now could I be a few months say five or six with him I might learn more than I should here in three times that number. Besides I should get the true pronunciation of the Arabic, which no one here at present has. I might also at the same time perfect myself in the French language.

By a residence of a few months in Germany I should become more thoroughly acquainted with the German language, than I am at present which is a very important acquisition at the present day, as the Germans have pursued the subject of Biblical criticism with more interest and much farther than any other people in the world. Besides this I should have the advantages which arise from visiting foreign countries, which is very desirable.

Now while devising some plan by which I might enjoy the advantages of which I have been speaking, it occurred to me, that possibly you yourself might be willing to lend me what money I need for this purpose. I was led to this thought by what I saw of your generosity myself, & by what I have since heard from others. I am satisfied, ~~and~~ ~~satisfied~~, that you have the interest of Zion at your heart, as well as the interests of literature. For any money you might be pleased to lend me I can give you no security, but should I live to return it, it shall be my first object to earn money to pay you fully for all you should let me have. I should be glad to have so much as would enable me to spend my time in the most profitable manner. But I think I would go if I could not have more than five or six hundred Dollars. The expense of board & tuition at Paris

or in Germany is not so much as it is here, or not more. The expense of going & returning would be considerable & I should need to purchase some books & clothes. Five hundred dollars a year would be as much as I should need probably. But I would venture with half that sum. And now, kind Sir, if it be consistent for you to grant me the aid, which need (namely the loan of money to be repaid with interest, should I live to return) I shall consider you as a father, & as a benefactor to the cause of sacred literature. But should you not deem it expedient to grant this I shall still esteem you, & shall still remain your sincere friend

Jonas King

Will you be so kind as not to mention this to anyone provided you should not think proper to aid me, and also let me have an answer as soon as convenient. If I rightly recollect, your Sister Mrs. Carter (now Mrs. Williams I am advised) has a little son ten or twelve years of age. Would she not like to send him out with me, as his advantages would be far superior to any he could have here? I take it for granted she intends to give him a liberal education. Prof. Hodge of Cambridge sent one of his little sons to Germany, & says it ^{cost} him no more for his board & tuition there, than ~~the same~~ at Andover.

To: Mrs. Trask
Springfield

Brookfield May 26 1821

My Wife,

I found all our friends well at Brimfield. Lydia will visit Springfield on Fryday next week & pass the Sabbath.

I enclose a prescription for the whooping cough by Dr. Keyes - show it to Dr. Stone.

Ride out with the children tomorrow & every day. Pay yr visits to Mrs. Howard & Day &c.

Mr. & Mrs. Vail & family well. Mr. & Mrs. V. go to Boston on Mondây.

Adieu

I.E. T.

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

Boston June 18th 1821

Dear Sir,

Last Friday I left Andover for this place not doubting, but that I should be able to find some French family here in which I might reside for the purpose of learning to speak French. But in this I am disappointed. There is not a single family (respectable) of that description. I shall not be able to find any this side of New York. Besides I shall be obliged to go there to find a passage to Havre, as there are no vessels going from this port to any part of France -- none, that I can hear of. Mr. Thomas, the young man from Carolina I think would not be willing to go so far from home as Europe. He is much attached to me, but he is more attached to home. He declares if he can get home he will never go away again. I do not feel anxious to have him go with me, as it occasions so much anxiety of mind, & hindrance from study. Had he been brought up in a proper manner, I mean he received proper religious instruction, I should feel it would cause me but very little trouble to take the care of him. He has been sick considerable of the time since he went to Andover with the Fever & Ague, which he probably brought with him. I have not yet heard from Mr. May, but I think the strong probability is, that Mr. Thomas will not go. I should be glad, as there is no French family here (there are instructors, from whom I might receive lessons an hour a day, but that would not be of much consequence to me) I should like to go on to N.Y. as soon as may conveniently, & from there the first good opportunity to Paris.

You mentioned to me, Sir, that you thought of visiting Andover in the course of a few weeks. Will you be so good as to drop a line in the Post-office, directed to me at Boston, stating what time you think of coming, as I should be glad to wait till that time, that I may have the pleasure of seeing you once more before I leave the

country. Mr. Stuart says he shall be very happy to see you, whenever you can come. I have just heard of the death of one of my best friends, & who was my kind benefactress in Charleston So. Ca. Alas! how uncertain is our life. She was thrown from her carriage, & bruised very much & expired after about three days. She was returning from an errand of mercy to the sick & poor, whom she was in the habit of visiting every week. Her husband has written me a very affectionate letter, requesting me to go on with my studies, so, that I shall receive the same from him, I presume, two years to come, as I have the year. What we have to do in the world we must do quickly. I feel this more & more, & I long to have completed my studies, that I may be actively engaged in doing good. I feel an increased deadness to the world, nor do I sigh after its wealth & its honors. I only wish for so much of it as will ~~qualify~~ enable me to qualify myself for the highest degree of usefulness of which I am capable, & I think I am willing God should deprive me of all the rest. You have my prayers, that God would reward your great liberality to me and others, by giving you not only prosperity here, but by giving you richly of his grace, which as dying sinners we all need.

Will you accept the very sincere esteem of your highly obliged friend --- J. King

My best regards to your good lady, & to your children.

To: Col Israel E. Trask
Springfield

Windsor 21st June 1821

I did most sincerely rejoice My dear friend, to hear of the arrival of the little stranger, of Mrs. Trasks returning health, & the tranquil happy state of your family; & should have told you so in the gladness of my heart, - but - I had the misfortune to break a small bone in my right arm, which greatly injured my health & prevented my writing. Since that period the dreadful & overwhelming stroke of providence in the loss of my beloved Maria has almost overcome my feeble frame! I began to fear that all the billows of Divine wrath were about to be poured on my unsheltered head! but he who has thus ~~secretly~~ ^{secretly} charted has mingled me in the bitter cup, & enabled me to look through the thick gloom: to ~~the~~ those bright regions, where I humbly hope; my dear child, is now enjoying the most perfect bliss, in the presence of her God, & Savior & when a few more rising & setting suns, if I am found in the way of righteousness, may again unite us, never more to be separated.

Soon after we left the dear Girl, she was seized with a cough, & extreme debility that increased so gradually, as to excite no alarm among her friends but she had a presentiment from the beginning that it would be fatal! & tho' happy in the possession of every worldly enjoyment; resigned herself with much submission & secret security: to the Divine will, & thus through ^{as} lingering & painful ~~illness~~ ^{illness}; neither her _____ nor ease of mind never left her! & when the last dread moment arrived, she expressed no alarm! her departing spirit seemed to linger on her lips, to tell her friends, that her hope & trust were in the atoning blood of a Saviour, & that she found it an all sufficient support.

I have been thus particular, as you have so kindly interested yourself in our conversion (?), & know my sorrows you should also know my consolation.----- have been flattered with the hope that what remains of the family would be with me this summer, have just heard that D^r. Wheaton cannot get leave of absence 'till September, & he will neither permit Laura on the dear to leave him.

Am much obliged by your kind invitation to visit you in your new & pleasant abode, nothing would give me more sincere pleasure, than to be with you, & hear the tender appellation of Grandmother from children so edly dear, indeed the friendship of your family, is now one of the strongest ties that binds me to life & I should be sorry to be forgotten by any one of them. hope the recent babe will be taught to lisp my name, & to own me as a relation but whether I shall ever see him is hid in the gloom of uncertainty, my prospects are dark, & dreary, I dare not look forward of good, but humbly hope that he who has hitherto supported, will not now forsake me.

Be the messenger of love to Mrs. Erask could she read my heart I could readily com how large a share she holds in it, without incurring the of insincerity. Respects to your good Mother love kind love to the dear Children.

To hear from you often would cheer my lonely hours I wish to indulge the hope of seeing you & Mrs. T.... in my solitary it is now a delightful reason for travelling.

Have not forgotten Dr or Mrs Starrs polite attention hope they are well & happy

Adieu my dear friends remember in your prayers your afflicted sincerely affectionate

Jacob

To: Israel E. Trask Esq.
Springfield

Brookfield August 3 1821

Dear Sir

In the course of a few days in Boston I have become acquainted with Mr. Jonas King, your particular friend who is about to take the tour of Europe for the purpose of acquiring oriental literature. As there is no adept in this country, in the languages and literature of the east, I am struck with the importance of appointing Mr. King a Professor of oriental languages and literature in our Collegiate Institution. It is the opinion of gentlemen who are best acquainted with the talents and taste of Mr. King, that, should he have health and the benefit of pursuing his studies in the best schools in Europe for two or three years, he will return to his native Country better qualified to teach the oriental languages and literature than any man in America. I need not mention that our missions in the east render it indispensable that missionaries should be acquainted with the languages and literature of those Countries before they leave their own. And that an Institution which has for its principal object the universal spread of the Gospel, should be in possession of the means of affording to its beneficiaries all the education which is requisite in any part of the globe. A propitious providence seems to have thrown in our way a most important opportunity ^{for offering} ~~of~~ ~~means~~ and equipping our Institution beyond what is usual in our Colleges, without involving us in any immediate expence. It also permits us the opportunity of encouraging a young man of rare talents and piety, born and educated in the midst of us, in the laudable attempt to qualify himself for some important station in the literary and religious world. And we cannot but be to the deed by the example of those

benevolent individuals who have furnished him his out-fit and the means of defraying his expenses. By furnishing him with a commission as a professor of oriental languages and literature in our charity College may be of immense service to him in his introduction to the literary and religious characters in Europe, and and it may be of equal service to us, to have an agent in Europe who understands all our views, and can and will make our benevolent object known to those characters and will not hesitate to solicit their benefactions in books, apparatus &c. These important considerations, with many others which I could name have determined me to make an effort for Mr. King's appointment immediately, as he will probably sail in the course of next week. I have consulted the Rev. Professor Steuart, and the Rev. Mr Dwight of Boston and Rev. Mr. Fay of Charloston: and they all concur in the measure, and have written Mr. Westar on the subject recommending Mr. King's appointment. The meeting must be on Monday or Tuesday next, I am now returning from Boston, and can only invite you in this informal manner to come to Amherst next Monday if you can; if not please to write signifying your assent to, descent from the measure.

I am very respectfully yours

Rufus Graves

Israel & Trask Esq.

To: Mrs. Eliza C. Trask
Springfield

postmark N.Y. Oct. 11

New York Oct. 12. 1821

I have the pleasure to inform you that we all arrived safe here on Tuesday morning. My cold left me the night before I left you, & has not called on me since. We expect to sail in the Hamcel, Capt. Price on Saturday next. She has very fine accommodations & a good master. I am almost tired of being punctual to appointments. I have to wait now four days for the sailing of the ship.

I have made a purchase of 2 setts of andirons & shovel & tongs - & 3 fire fenders - 2 Table brushes & 51 yds ingrain carpeting. They go on board the sloop James Rockwell for Hartford this day. & will probably reach you under the care of Messrs Dwights, in 10 or 12 days. The man will also put up some rotten stone to clean with, Ho says British Brick spoils brass. You rest the shovel & tongs on the fenders & dont want side hooks.

I wish that Frank would get Col^o Bussel or someone else to contract for 50 loads of clay to be hauled into our barn yard.

If Frank should not suit you in my absence, you can turn him off & get someone else.

I hope you are all well. Dont let my boy cry - hire some one to attend him constantly & keep him warm & quiet, let him have enough to eat. My love to Eliza & Israel & Sarah. How does Israel bear Sallys absence? I hope you will not starve Miss Vail. Remember me to her. You must both of you write to me. Date yr first letter October 20th & direct to hatchesz.

Tell Mr. Osgood I was sorry that I could not see him before I left S. I am in haste now to send this by todays mail. I write

again on Saturday. May our Heavenly father bless you all

I.E. Trask

To: Mrs. Eliza C. Trask
Springfield

New York Oct^r 13 1821

My Dear Elizabeth,

I wrote you day before yesterday & informed you of my health &c I now have the pleasure of writing again and renewedly to communicate information of health and assurance^s of love & respect. We expect to sail tomorrow abt 10 o'clock, on board the Ship Hamlet, Capt. Price. She is a fine ship & has a good Master. There will be seven or eight female & 10 or 12 male passengers. Mrs. Williams & Lydia & Sally stay at Mrs. Cinter's (?), old Mrs. W. also came with them. I put up at Mrs. Bradish's. I have hardly seen them since I have been in Town. I presume they all send love - especially Sally - to Israel.

The way before me seems so tedious, & the absence from you & my children so long in perspective when I look at them that I endeavor as much as possible to put them out of view - but still my heart wanders to my home: and in my morning & evening prayers, in my minds eye I see my wife children and hear them, as I trust in faith, to the protecting & all powerful arms of a
of a blessed redeemer
your remembrance & in
of our children and

our worthy friend Miss Vail - and at your united & individual prayers be fervent for spiritual & temporal blessings during our tedious absence from each other.

It is now late in the evening, I am fatigued with the preparations of the voyage & must now bid you good night. May He who neither slumoreth nor sleepeth keep you & our little ones & our household this night & at all times under his kind protection & preserve you from all evil.

Sabbath morning --- Through the blessing of I am brought to behold the light of another Sabbath, but I am afraid that I shall not be able to keep it holy unto the Lord. The wind I believe is for the sailing ^{of our own vessel} from ~~from~~, & we have orders to embark speedily. So now Adieu. Tell Eliza & Israel & Sarah & William how much I love them & how anxious I am to see them. I hope they will ~~all~~ be good children, & pray for papa as he does for them.

Remember me to Mr. Osgood & family - Mr. & Mrs. Mms & Pyn and all our good friends in S.

Yrs

Signature cut out

To: Mrs. Elizabeth C. Trask
Springfield

New Orleans Nov^r 5, 1821

My Dear Wife,

I have the pleasure to inform you that I arrived in this city last night in good health. We had a short & boisterous passage to the Bal - only 13 days from N.York. I was very sea sick the whole passage, but I presume it will prove serviceable to my health. We had head winds after getting into the river & have been detained one week. Mr. & Mrs. Williams have not yet arrived in Town, I have just sent a carriage for them - 10 or 12 miles below this, & expect them up in a few hours. I intend to leave this for Natchez tomorrow in the Steam boat. This city is healthy. I shall write to you immediately on my arrival at Wilkinson My present

ation is to make all

with my business &

then for the north b

For I am as usual very homesick. Sea sickness & homesickness are diseases for which I never expect to find a remedy.

Now let us call upon our souls & all within us to praise and bless the holy name of him who has continued his loving kindness to us. May blessings which have been shown to me be extended to you & our little ones & our household.

Tell our Eliza, Israel & Sarah & Wm. I remember them constantly in my waking moments, and in my sleep they are, with their dear mother presented to me in vision.

As I am under the necessity of exerting myself today to prepare for my departure tomorrow, I must bid you adieu. Remember me affectionately to Miss Vail - to the rest of the family & our friends in S. And believe me as ever your affectionate friend & Husband

Signature cut out

To: Mrs. Eliza C. Trask
Springfield

Woodville^r Nov 26 1821

My Dear Wife,

I came out to W. this morning in the full expectation of finding a letter from my dear home. I have been disappointed, but notwithstanding I am low spirited I will write to you if only to tell you I am disappointed- & again to say to you, how solitary & miserably I feel when absent from my wife & children. It is true I counted the cost before this journey & absence from home, previously to my setting out - nothing but an apprehension of its necessity with regard to our property could ~~could~~ have induced me to it though on my arrival here & looking into the state of our affairs I do not now think that it was so very necessary for me to take this trouble. James is very neglectful, it is true, about his account & in giving statements by letter of our business - but he is honest & industrious & tender hearted. He manages very well. I find the negroes well treated. He has plenty of provisions & every thing looks well about the plantation. I should think we would have 10,000 bushels of corn this year. We have more than 500 hogs - sheep & stock are increasing. Mr. Welch is very industrious & useful in attending to the stock & the ^economy of the plantation, & the women & children rejoice in the presence of sister Emily, since their mistress could not come out. She is kind & attentive to their little wants. Emily is a good housekeeper. Her spirits are very different from what they were when you saw her. She was then despairing, almost without hope as to a comfortable subs^stance. She now finds she can be useful to her husband, a good hearted man, can also render very essential services to his brothers.

2. ✓

Her house is neat & everything more comfortable as to the rooms, beds, furniture &c than you would expect.

Our cotton crop is good. We have about 400,000 lbs cotton already gathered.

As to the fears which I suggested to you about J. - his attachments &c are all fudge. And I told him today that I would write to you & tell you so - for he is ever anxious to maintain a place in your affections & in your respects. He will visit you next spring & I am persuaded that you will respect him & love him as well as ever.

I shall go to 2nd Creek tomorrow. Mr. & Mrs. Williams & Sally arrived safe & in good health at 2nd Creek 10 or 12 days since. I was up there a day or two after their arrival. I staid only one night then, one night at Natchez & then went down the river to our Cut-off Plantation.

Everything at 2nd Creek looked so gloomy I could not stay there. Mr. & Mrs. W. appeared to be homesick - they will return as soon as possible to the north. Then you can twit her if you please.

I shall endeavor to make all haste to leave here by the middle of Jan. I dont know whether I shall go by Seaford land . I rather think however my impatience & extreme anxiety will induce me to venture a sea voyage notwithstanding its horrors.

Now my dear children - Eliza, Israel, Sarah & Wm., for I hope you all still live & are well, let me tell you I love you very much. I hope you are good children & are attentive to the instructions of your Ma & Miss Vail. Your Papa is very anxious to see you.

I cant write when I think of home. Pray for me as I do

for you. Tell Miss Vail I will endeavor to write to her in a week or two. I dont absolutely promise it though. I wrote to you from N.O. - & twice from the plantation. Our old neighbor Mrs. Dunbar is dead. But few of our old neighbors & acquaintances are now living here.

My love to all our family - to our neighbor friends - you will specify them. I will write again in a few days from Natchez or 2nd Creek. Believe me sincerely & affectionately Yours

Signature cut out

Natchez Dec^r 1 182

My Dear,

After I finished my letter I found the mail had left Woodville, and as I expected that I should be at Natchez the next day I put it in my pocket to it in the office here. I was detained a day or two at the plantation in consequence of heavy rains and arrived here last evening. In the meantime I have had the pleasure of reading Yr favor for the 20 & 23rd Oct. I am happy to hear of your & children & Miss Vails health. but I am very much disposed to scold you for letting Solina leave you without procuring other help during her absence. I hope to receive another letter in a few days. You cant imagine my anxiety for you. I intend to leave here by the 15th Jan^y & go by Sea, cold & boisterous as may be the passage. I cant bear to think of the delays a land journey at this season of the year must to occasion. So at the ract. of this you may cease writing me.

I saw Lydia and Mrs. Williams yesterday they are well & was pleased to hear of the health of George. Sally I believe is almost willing to return with Lydia. If we loved in Brimfield she would certainly return I shall not urge her her. Two Dolls pr week her many cloaths

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield Mass
United States of America

Paris Jany. 3rd 1822

Very dear Sir,

Aided by your generosity & benevolence, I am length
at the long wished-for place & am pursuing my studies under the cele-
brated master in this city. The unostentatious & truly christian
manner, in which you offered me your kind assistance, has made as
deep an impression on my heart as the favour itself, & forbids that
I should express to you all the feelings of my soul. lest it should
be repulsive to that generous & noble mind, which, when in Boston,
would hardly permit me to express the common thanks, which are due
for a trivial favor. May the blessing of the Almighty rest on you &
your family during the year, on which we have now entered, & may all
the years of your pilgrimage here pass along smoothly in peace & pro-
sperity. May you every day have refreshings from the presence of the
Lord, & be ripening for a glorious immortalit beyond the grave.
According to your requests I did not draw any of the \$500 untill
the 1st of January.

I find for the most part, the advantages here, which I ex-
pected, though it is somewhat more expensive. I can live comfortably
& respectably, for about four hundred Dollars a year. I have no
doubt but Providence, who has thus far liberally supplied my wants,
will provide the means for me to stay here, so long as shall be best,
& longer than that I ought not wish to stay.

I have just become acquainted with a gentleman from St. Peters-
burgh, who is one of the wealthiest merchants in that city, who is
intimately acquainted with Prince Gallitrim & the Emperor Alexander,
as he is with most of the royal family. He says if I will come to
St. Petersburg, he will introduce me to them, & if I wish to pass
into Arabia & Persia, in order to perfect myself in the oriental

Languages, I shall go out under the protection of the Emperor. He is truly a pious man & his whole soul is engaged in doing good. He says, when he goes to the Prince Gallitrim to ask him to contribute to any charitable object, he opens his desk, where he has his bank notes, & tells him to take out just what he thinks proper, what he thinks he & often him takes too & brought to my mind a project for going into Persia, but I do not wish you to it at present as I may fail. All I wish is to ask you, if I should go out to Persia & Arabia under the direction of some society in London, or St. Petersburg for the purpose of disseminating the scripture, & preaching to the Mahomedans & at the same time ~~perfect~~ myself in the knowledge of the Orient. Lang. so that when I return to America I may be able to teach those, who may go there as missionaries, that I may form acquaintances there to which I could introduce the missionaries, that I might search out the proper places for the establishment of missions, et cetera. I say if I should wish to spend two or three years in this way, would you it be agreeable to you? Because I do not feel myself at liberty to do this, without your consent, as when you let me have the money to enable me to come here it was with the expectation, that I should return at the end of two or three years.

Will you have the goodness to write me on this subject. At present Asia is in confusion, but I hope by another year, that the troubled ocean will be calm.

I have just formed the acquaintance of the Baron de Staël, Holstein, son of Madame de Staël. He is a protestant, is on the side of truth, & takes an ^{active part} in pe~~re~~ ible find him a very interesting young his acquaintance very much.

Please to present my best regards to Mrs. T. & your children ---

Wishing you grace, mercy & peace through him, who loved us & hath given himself for us, I am, dea Sir, yours in the best of bonds,

J. King

to: Hon. Israel E. Trask
Springfield

Mr. & Mrs. Osgoods compliments to Col. & Mrs. Trask ---

They feel unable to express the grateful sensations excited by the very munificent present of Col. Trask & lady, accompanied by the assurance of their affectionate regard. It must ever be highly gratifying to a pastor & his wife to receive testimonials of the love of their people. Pecuniary favors can be gratifying, so far only as they are tokens of esteem in those who confer them. Mr. & Mrs. O. have abundant evidence of the christian friendship & affection of Col. & Mrs. Trask. & sincerely hope that nothing may occur to induce them to withdraw it. That the kindness and sympathy so often expressed by those with whom they are united in the tenderest bonds, may stimulate them to greater exertions to promote their spiritual good, is their constant prayer.

Springfield March 11, 1822

To; Col. Israel Trask
Springfield
Favored by T.S. Grimke Esq

Boston, Sept. 23, 1822

My Dear Sir,

These lines introduce to your acquaintance Thomas S. Grimke, Esq. whose name and character I mentioned to you at New Haven. You will find him a gentleman of great worth & intelligence. He will be happy to see what may be interesting in your beautiful village; particularly I presume the U.S. arsenal.

I expected to have met you again at least for a moment, before you left New Haven. If your draft of \$1500 should be undisposed of till sometime in October, I think I should be glad to obtain it.

Yours very respectfully,

J. W. Evarts

Col. Israel E. Trask

To: Col I.E. Frask
Springfield

Natchez Feby 24th 1823

Dear Brother,

On my arrival here I found a letter from Mr. David Falcott informing me that one of my acceptances for \$200 had been protested at the U.S. Bank - on the 11th Inst. and that he would wait my answer. + I have written him that the arrangement was made with Kinner & Co. to take up the drafts as they might be presented to the Bank. The officer of the Bank promised to notify them when the Bills were lodged in the Bank for collection, - I presume this protest has taken place without the knowledge of Kinner & Co As they promised me there should be no disappointment.- It will probably be paid as soon as they get my letters.-

I wish very much to hear from you & family. I have not received any answers to my letters. I would wish to know whether my Cotton has been received at Boston, what the prospects are &c. I informed you that there was two hundred and fifteen Bales Shipt to Boston agreeable to your advice,- Cotton has been selling since for 16 1/2 cts at Orleans at this place as high as 15 cts - I have sent another hundred Bales to Kinner & Co for them to do as they please with it - rather sell or ship.

I left our Sister & all my family well, tho the weather has been very severe this winter, about 10 days since the Thermometer was down to four in this neighborhood. I saw it at Eight at Woodville. - the weather is now pleasant.

The Steam Boat Tennessee on her way up the River a few days since ran on a Snag and Sunk in a few Moments, upwards of thirty persons were drowned.

Mr. Thompson is unwell. I am doubtful whether he will enjoy good health again - .

Remember me to all your Children Sister Eliza My Mother and
all our family.

It is now ten o'clock and I must be at home this evening.

As ever

Yours &C.

J.L. Trask

(PS) Mr. and Mrs. Thompson wish to be remembered to you all. He
would be glad to have you write to him, - He says tell you that
they wish they could come and live in the Country with you in-
stead of living in this bad Country. ----

The draft of \$1000, has been paid
at this Bank (drawn by Brother Wm.

To: Col. Israel Trask
Springfield

Andover April 2, 1823

My dear Sir,

Our dearly beloved brother, Dr. Worcester, left a son, bearing his own name, who completed his education at Harvard College, last year. He is an uncommonly bright scholar, & every way promising as to his talents & acquisitions. He is very sober-minded, & in a state of mind favorable to religion. It has been the particular desire of Mr Cornelius & others, that he should be withdrawn from Cambridge, where they were quite desirous of retaining him, & pursue study here. But as he has not given direct evidence of piety, & of a determination to enter the Sacred office, he could not be supported by our charity funds. Still as he was desirous of studying here, Mr. Cornelius, with the approbation of his mother & friends, applied to me last fall, to see what could be done for his support, I told him I liked the thing altogether, & would make efforts to obtain money to pay his bills in commons this year, which will amount to \$60, he engaging to do the same in reference to clothing & incidental expenses. Samuel Worcester has been here through the winter, & has exceeded our expectations as to scholarship, & general promise; - besides he has appeared increasingly serious. When I engaged in this thing, it was my intention to present the subject to you, Sir, knowing as I did your high respect for Dr. Worcester. And now, dear Sir, I feel that there is no need of soliciting your generous aid. I would only say, that if it be consistent with all of your other plans of doing good, to support this dear young man the present year, you will, I doubt not, contribute directly to the cause which is most dear to your heart. With sincerest respects to you & your lady -

I am, beloved Sir, your friend & servant

Leonard Woods

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield Mass.
United States of America

Jerusalem 2nd June 1823

Dear Friend & Patron,

My last letter to you was written at Grand Cairo. Since that I have traversed "the great & terrible wilderness," passed through the land of the Philistines, & arrived in safety on the mountains of Judea. I have now my lodgings in a little upper room on Mt. Calvary, whence I often remember my beloved friends in America, among whom you & your dear family hold no middle place. At Bethlehen, & in the field of the Shepherds, in Gethsemane, & on the Mt. of Olives, have I also remembered you & prayed for you, that the blessing of the Lord Jesus Christ may rest on you, and that his love may be continually shed abroad in your souls; that you & your family may be like a tree, planted by the rivers of waters, & on whose branches the dews of heaven may descend "as the dew of Hermon, & as the dew, that descended upon the mountains of Zion"

I often look forward with very high emotions of pleasure, to the time, when I may, perhaps, be permitted to see your hospitable dwelling, & grasp that benevolent hand, to which, as an instrument in the hands of God, I am principally indebted for the many privileges I have enjoyed the two years past. May you be rewarded a thousandfold in this world for all your kindness & in the world to come may you have everlasting life.

My eyes are at present very weak, I hope you will therefore excuse this short letter, which I must conclude, by begging you & your family to accept the assurance of the high esteem & affection of your friend & servant on Mt. Calvary,

J. King
Affectionate regards to Mrs. Williams. I wrote from France twice to the Trustees of the College at Amherst. Will you have the goodness to inform me whether my letters have been received. I shall probably ac-

cept of your kind offer by drawing on you occasionally for a little money, with which to purchase some Arabic books. This may be very easily done through Mr. Evarts of Boston.

"The Lord bless thee out of Zion" & cause his face to shine upon you.

To: Mrs Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

W. Bliss

Boston June 4 1823

Dear Betsy,

I write by Mr. George Bliss to inform you that I shall probably be at home next week on Thursday. I have enjoyed good health & as my mind has been pretty ~~entirely~~ employed I have not been so homesick as usual when absent. Mrs. Hook & her children & Dr. Carmichael of Miss¹. arrived here two days ago. Mrs. H. is going on th the eastward to visit Mr. H.'s friends. Dr. C. has gone back to N.York & has left the family under my care - now if Mrs. H.'s brother in law does not arrive here in the course of the day I have engaged to accompany her as far as Portsmouth.

Tell Mr. Osgood & Judge Hooker if you see them that the friends of the Amherst College wa~~x~~ stronger & stronger. I think that we shall get our charter this session - certainly next.---

Look well to the garden & cornfield & spur up Shepherd. My love to the children & tell them to be good & industrious in persua~~ding~~ their studies. Tell Is¹ I will not give him anything unless he studies smartly..

In haste - yours sincerely

(signature cut out)

South Hadley Ms
30th Aug.
Col. Israel Trask
Springfield

Amherst Aug. 29. 1823

Dear Sir,

Esq. Dickinson being in a hurry, has requested me to communicate the substance of a letter just received from Mr. Humphrey, supposing that it might be of use in your negotiation with Mr. Beecher.

Mr. Humphrey writes as follows. -- "The result of our church and parish meeting is this moment communicated. They decline uniting with me in calling a mutual council; but express their willingness that I should take such further measures as I should think proper. Every thing as I understand has been kindly said. What course I shall next take I do not certainly know. Perhaps I shall call a council myself; and perhaps I shall go into Connecticut, and make up my mind upon such advice as I may there obtain from judicious and enlightened Clergymen and laymen. The people here say that if after all the light I can obtain, I think it my duty to go, they will not object. I will venture to say as much as this; it looks more and more as if Providence was opening the way for me to go. I think I shall be able to give my ^{final} answer in a fortnight; perhaps a little sooner."

I am Sir, with much esteem your obt^t Serv^t

Austin Dickinson

Col. I. Trask

To:
Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

New York 8 Novr 1823

My Dear Sir

For once I will be better, in the way of writing, than you requested; and let you hear from me on our way home. I do not pretend in this thing to be nearly equal to Mrs. Rice, but as she is engaged in communicating to other friends, I have no objection to take it on myself to write to those we so much love at Springfield. I have not my wife's talent at writing news letters; but happily for me, there is very little of this sort, at present, to communicate. We had a horrid ride from your house to Hartford, rendered so by the presence of a tipsey woman. At our dear brother Hawes', however, in his society and that of our inestimable friend Mrs. H. we soon forgot the "troubles of the way". After spending one day reconnoitring at Hartford, I discovered that at present nothing could be done there worth staying for. And so we came on to N. Haven, where we enjoyed a pleasant Sabbath, and on Monday came to N York. At this place I find that by attempting to do anything, I should throw myself directly in the way of very important operations, which the bretheren are on the point of commencing in behalf of the Theological Seminary, at Princeton. I hate interferences in the plans of Christian benevolence, and have therefore made arrangements to prosecute our design in this great city next spring. Things being so, I should have pushed on to the south, had not another long spell of worse than Bostonian, - of Knickerhocker weather kept us here all the week. Indeed it was not only unsafe for me to travel, but my wife has been most of the time too unwell to go out of her room. She is, however, I am happy to say, so much better that I hope soon to see her face lighted up again with its usual cheerful and healthful animation.

I found at the boarding house where I stopped in N York, three converted Jews - A Mr. Simon and his wife (quite an interesting Scotch lady) a Mr. Prinker (I think he is called) and young Jadownicky. They are all intelligent, appear to be pious, and are ardently devoted to the conversion of their bretheren. Last evening, we had here a party of about thirty christian friends, a number of them from very remote places; and spent the evening in cheerful and friendly conversation concluding the whole with prayer. It was common feeling that the evening was delightfully passed away; and some felt that in the communion enjoyed here, there was an earnest and foretaste of Heaven. God in his mercy grant that after having finished our work here, you and I, and all we love, may meet in that place, where communion with all that is holy & happy, shall be perfect, and parting is unknown forever.

I think that by some mistake, I left at your house a Greek Testament - Knapping. Edition - halfbound, in the German style. It is a favorite and very valuable book, and should you find it, I must get the favour of you to send it, in strong envelope, directed to me, to the care of Mr. Sidney E. Morse, of N York. Please to embrace the first safe opportunity of sending it as directed.

I do not know by what words to express the affection entertained for you, and your dear family, by both Mrs. Rice and myself. And I do not know by what actions we can give testimony of our friendship. Our prayer is that the fulness of the blessings of the gospel may rest on you all. Present us affectionately to your mother, to Mrs. Trask, and all the children. Mrs. Rice will not be satisfied unless I ask Mbs. T. to kiss little Edward for her a thousand times.

My health had been steadily improving since I left your house; and I have good hopes that it will continue to grow better, until I am perfectly restored.

With truest regards yrs. John H. Rice

To: Col I.E. Frask
Springfield
Mass
U.S.A.
Care of J. Everts esq
Boston

Baircot 10th Nov. 1823

Col. I.E. Frask,

Dear Friend & Patron,

I have not had the pleasure of receiving any letter from you but once, I believe, since I left America. That one letter I received when at Grand Cairo & it truly offered me much joy. I have since written twice to you, once from Grand Cairo, & once from Jerusalem.

With regard to what we are doing here, I have no need to inform you by letter, as you will probably see from our journals, or parts of them in the Missionary Herald.

I am now pursuing the study of Arabic which indeed is a very difficult language to acquire so as to speak fluently & write well.

I have taken the liberty to accept your kind offer, & have drawn on you through Mr. Everts of Boston, the sum of fifty Dollars, for the purpose of purchasing books. When I go to Damascus, I suppose I shall want to draw about fifty more. There are very few books here, & what there are, it is difficult to obtain.

May I not hope to hear from you before I leave Syria? Please to write a few lines [&] let me know the state of your health & that of your family. Be assured you are continually remembered by your sincere friend & servt,

J. King

Best regards to Mrs. F. & your family.

In much haste, as I am on the point of setting out for Der El Kamer - Expect to go from thence to Nazareth, & thence to Jerusalem - Forget not to remember me in your prayers. May the



← grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you & yours continually

To:
Col. Israel E. Trask
Springfield

Windsor Jan'y 12, 1824

My dear friend,

I do not write to trouble you with apologies for not writing when it was out of my power - but to tell you that contrary to my expectations, and those of all my friends (for the last two years) I am still numbered among the living, with enough of the "vital spark" remaining, to make me remember with affection one, who was my father's friend, and who I trust is likewise mine own friend. The time since we last met has to me been a time of sickness and sorrow - but the recollection of that brief renewal of feelings that belonged to years that are past has often recured to my mind, like some pleasing illusion, that I am unwilling to doubt, and yet, can scarcely realize. I wish that you could persuade yourself to take a journey this way, in the spring, and prevail on Mrs. Trask to come with you, for it has long been a favorite wish of mine to be personally acquainted with one, for whom I feel a sincere regard, though I have never yet had the pleasure of seeing her. This request, is I know selfish in the extreme - since I cannot offer one inducement, except the gratification you would experience in making glad the hearts of the widow and the fatherless.

My mother often mentioned with gratitude, the kindness she received, and the happiness she enjoyed, while at your house, and seems to feel the partiality of a parent, both for yourself and Mrs. T - her health is not good but I am in hopes that milder weather will restore it.

I should esteem it a particular favor to be informed of the situation of yourself and family, for we have not heard directly from you for a long time. If your health and happiness are equal to you^r

deserts, or to my wishes, they are without alloy; but in this mutable state there is always room for apprehension, and since I have been severed from almost every individual to whom I was united by the ties of kindred or friendship, I feel doubly anxious for the precious few that remain.

My mother joins me in presenting our respects and love to your mother and Mrs. Trask.

Your old and sincere friend

Laura Jacob

A dimness of sight with which I am afflicted - must be my excuse for writing so badly.

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

Boston Jany 16 1824

Ma cher ami,

As I cant visit you tomorrow evening I will just send my apology. The business on which I came will not be brot forward in the Legislature untill next week. It is hardly probable that we shall succeed this session but "hope springs eternal in the human breast." We may be blessed next legislature. I shall endeavor to reach home a week from tomorrow.

I have been sick & confined to my room three days. I was taken with violent pains Sabbath evening after my return from the evening lecture - at 12 o'clock sent for Dr. Hale - he was very kind & attentive sat up with me most of the remainder of the night. I went out yesterday, pretty well recovered, though somewhat weak. I yielded last evening to the repeated solicitations of our friends, & came to their house where I now am very comfortably & pleasantly situated. I feel quite well today & shall go abroad as usual. If you or the family should be sick let me know of it. - direct to the care of Messers Parker & Stevens. Let the P.M. charge the postage.

My love to all the children & to Mother. Tell little Bill I want to see him I think the most of any of them. I hope they will all be good children. Mrs. Parker sends love to you all.

I am affectionately yrs.

I. N. Trask

To:

Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
R Brimfield

Springfield March 12, 1824

My Dear,

I send out the carriage for you today in expectation of your return tomorrow. I could not find out by the people returning from B. anything with regard to the situation of Lydia, only that she was quite low. Edward is very much afflicted with a severe cold. He was a good boy coming home, & very peaceable. But at night he was restless and feverish. Lucy brought him into my room before I was up in the morning yesterday, he was glad to see me - but looked over very anxiously to your place & not finding you set up a most piteous moan. I was about going into the streets after breakfast - he saw me putting on my greatcoat & hat & came up to me looking very anxious would not consent to let me go. I was obliged to set down until he was flattered off into the other room --- Last night he slept very well. This morning he is cheerful but appears weak & his cold is very bad. You had better set out early in the morning. I can't leave the children to come after you though I am anxious to see Lydia & her husband. If it should be thought necessary to visit B. again in the beginning of the next week can't Spencer come after you with Mr. W's carriage? I think it is probable I shall want to use my horses.

Remember me to Mr. & Mrs. Williams & believe me truly Yours

I. E. Trask

Bill stands by me & insists on the pen. of writing to you as I have resisted his opportunity to go out in the carriage to see you. Here is his letter.

Ma Ma come home

we to see you
want

Wm Trask

To: Col I.E. Trask
Springfield

Woodville July 1st 1824

Dear Mother,

I have this day drawn on you at sixty days sight for two thousand Dollars - which I hope will be honored by your acceptance (payable at New York, I should not have drawn on you if it had been possible, with our interest to have got a long without. - When you redraw on me it will be best to have the Bills payable at the House of Wm. Kenner & Co. New Orleans.

I returned from Natchez yesterday as yet it is healthy there. My family are well except the Negro Children they have the whooping cough & are very sick.

I have written several letters to you since I have received one from you. in my last I requested you to forward me a power to endorse your name on my paper in Bank. I hope you will do so as it is difficult to procure endorders, as the property is mostly Mortgaged to you. Your endorsement for Trask & for \$10,000 I informed you was withdrawn.

Remember me to your Mother & all your family,

As ever

Yours

J.L. Trask

To: I.E. Trakk Esq.
Springfield

Amherst Col. Inst. Oct 20, 1824 ✓

Mr. Dear Sir,

I fear this letter is too late to reach you in Springfield; but I send by the first stage, since the investigation closed. It could not have been expected, that the Committee would publish their results before they left town, as they were directed to report to the Legislature next winter. Whatever I say, therefore, must be without authority from them.

This I can say, that the facts disclosed, have so far as I am informed, made a very favorable impression of the public mind. It is already understood, far & near, that our friends are in a much better state than had been supposed.

The Agents of W.^{ms} College, continued to the very last, to work hard for their money. They attacked us in every possible way, but they were met at every point & defeated. I wish you had been present, when your guarantee Bond was read. It fell upon them like a clap of thunder & put them all in confusion. They complained that it was unfair; objected to its being read; & it was two hours, I should think, before they recovered their composure.

Their affidavits, the Committee would not receive as proof of anything not admitted; but summoned perhaps a dozen men from various quarters, at the instance of Mr. Bartlett & Co. the great object was, to prove that deception had been practiced by Col. Graves & others in obtaining subscriptions. In my opinion, not one of the charges was substantiated by evidence, & I think that must have been the opinion of the Committee.

The opposition shrunk from the investigation of Johnson's Bill. Mr Willard said they were not ready & Bartlett that they had not expected it would be brought up. But they could not escape so. We gave them a broad challenge, & told the Committee if it was not accepted, we should take it as an acknowledgement that the Trustees had been basely slandered in that matter. The Committee resolved to investigate & the result was triumphant.

In short, we confidently anticipate a favourable Report on every point (~~this of~~ ^{tom} ~~by~~ ^{W45} ?) winter. But I cannot enlarge. May God have you & yours in his holy keeping, during your absence; & return you to us in safety. Remember me very respectfully to M^{rs} Trask & believe me,

Your obliged friend,

H. Humphrey

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

Wheeling Oct. 25 1824

V

Dear Wife

I arrived here last night excessively fatigued with jolting in the stage & of sleep. I have also been for three or four days past much afflicted with a cold & cough. I hope that a few days of rest & care will again restore me to my wonted health. Near Trenton/ N, Jersey I had a very Providential escape from injury in the upsetting of the Stage at night. The boys of Trenton had made a fire on the center of a stone bridge and just as we had entered on the bridge with considerable speed, the fire with the shouts of the boys frightened the leaders of our team & they turned suddenly & doubled on our wheel horses, upset the Stage, broke the pole & with a sudden leap, most happily for the passengers, cleared themselves from the carriage & run off. There were nine of us in the Stage - a lady with an infant child in the arms of its black nurse - we were none of us much hurt. I recd a few slight contusions on my right side & leg. Then thinks I to myself I am glad my wife was not in the Stage. In descending the Alleghany mountain the axeltree of the Stage broke. Then thinks I to myself again I am glad she is not with me. In riding late at night & rising at 2 oclock in the morning think I to myself again I am glad she is not with me. But now I am safely arrived at Wheeling and the weather is very pleasant & the river very ^{low} long and our Tavern very good & snug, thinks I to myself I wish that wife was with me.

Harriet & Randolph it seems have left here by what conveyance I cant yet learn. No Steam boats have yet gone. The water us as low as when we were here last. I shall wait the rising of the waters. There is a handsome light Steam boat here waiting for three feet more of water to take her off. I will write to you & inform you of my departure

from this. I had very pleasant companions of voyage and many are now waiting the rise of the waters to descend the river with me. I saw our friends Mr. & Mrs. ^{Huays} Huangs (?) in Phila. He is a thorough Unitarian or Humanitarian. Mrs. H. is sorry for it. I talked with him some on the subject & found his heart as hard as any cold blooded philosopher of the Priestly or B ham school could be. I called on Mrs. Sargent also. She has become quite healthy & lives in magnificent style. Wm. S. Her oldest son died last Spring or Summer, a victim to intemperance. The other son Washington has gone to Bayou Sara to marry Mrs. Persy's daughter. I can tell you no more news at present.

Now my dear wife I commend you & the dear children to the care of divin^g protection. May your prayers not be hindered for me and ^{the} children. My love to all the children. I hope you will write as I requested. Tell Israel I hope he will be a gentlemanly & good Scollar.

Love to Mother I hope she will enjoy comfortable health this winter. Remember me affectionately to Miss Vail & the nieces &c.
I am, & hope to remain a long time your most sincerely affectionately,

I.E. Trask

Tell Eliza, Israel, Sarah Williams & Ned I want very much to see them. Be good children remember Pa & be obedient to Mama & Miss Vail

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask,

Springfield

Louisville, Ky/ Novr 18, 1824

My dear Wife,

I arrived here five days ago from Cincinnati in a Steam Boat, from that place, I have been waiting the rise of the river since my arrival, as Steam boats cannot proceed further until the water rises. The river is now rising a little and a Small Steam Boat below the falls will leave here tomorrow or next day for Natchez --- I have taken my passage in her in company with a number of my Natchez & New Orleans acquaintance among them Maj. Minor & Mr. Ralston & -- Sister Harriet was very fortunate, she went on board a Steam boat the day after her arrival here. & we heard yesterday of their safe arrival at Natchez on the 28th Oct^r.

I have been severely afflicted with a cold & cough almost ever since I left home. I have been nursing myself since my arrival here & am now nearly relieved from my cough. You will not hear from me again until I arrive at Natchez. Tell Sarah I had a view of Indian Creek - a very pretty little village has been built there since she travelled in this country. I think they would have called it Sarah'sville had they been informed of the very interesting young lady who first made her appearance there.

I am extremely anxious to hear from you. How the children are. What progress they make in their studies & in genteel behavior. I hope Eliza & Sarah (especially Anna, will strain hard to conquer those irritable and bad humours which sometimes are so apparent in their faces & actions. I suppose Israel's vacation has expired. I hope his health is good though my fears are many with regard to his health. My love to him. The little fellows Bill & Ned I presume sleep with Ma & will do very well. tell Wm. & Ned my love to them . and that I expect to find Wm. a good scholar on my return.

The brother of Loo Baker on his way from Natchez to N. Jersey was murdered & robbed a few days ago between Lexington & Maysville by the son of Mr. Desha the present Govⁿ of Kenty - the young man is taken. I am told the proofs are certain, Gov^r Desha was an old acquaintance of yr father's & a relative of Col Baker. A most distressing situation the father must be placed in to sign the death warrant of his son.

I am so completely under the influence of cough drops this morning that I can hardly keep my eyes open to write.

Remember me affectionately to Mother & Miss Vail & family. I commend myself to your prayers. Adieu my dear - may we all be permitted to meet again richly laden with Heaven's best blessings.

Compt^s to friends. Tell Mrs. Osgood the young Gen^t he recommended to my care is with me - a very modish amiable young man. Dr. H.'s views of his piety would probably differ from Mr. O.'s ----- with my ardent prayers for your health & happiness I am as always your very affectionate friend & husband.

(signature cut out)

Plantation near Woodville
Decr. 4 1824

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you last from Louisville (K.y.) the day previously to my departure from that place - I arrived here on the 1st inst. and as Emily had just finished a letter to her mother, and added to it information of my arrival, I have delayed writing until now, in order that I might recover from my fatigue & no small degree of debility in consequence of sickness on board the steam boat. The first night after I left Baltimore I took a severe cold which as usual seated itself on my lungs. I coughed severely at night but hoped that it would pass off with a little nursing after I should arrive at Wheeling, where I might be permitted to rest. I was somewhat relieved from my cough, when with my usual impatience at delays in my journey, I got on board a boat with indifferent accommodations for Cincinnati. Cold weather and exposures brought on my cough again - a weeks delay & nursing at Louisville did not relieve me - A SteamBoat in readiness, & the only opportunity which might probably offer for some time, induced me to embark on board of her, although I was more unwell that morning than I had been before. The next day I was feverish and threatened with a lung fever or pleurisy & the third morning a Dr. Smith on board a good physician and a most excellent young man urged the necessity of bleeding and medicine. I complied and the day after was much better. I was anxious to take the Missi waters: on the 5th day in the morning after our departure from L I was favored with copious drafts of my favorite beverage - its had the desired effects - my appetite returned my spirits revived, I felt restored to health. I received the kindest attentions on board the boat from the Capt. & Dr. S. as well as the passengers. We arrived at Hatches on the 30th Nov. in the morning & passed the day there. Our old friend S. Postlethwaite with his fine

expression of eye & countenance, & with better appearance of health than I have seen him for these last 8 years, cordially welcomed me & urged me to take up my abode with him in his Princely mansion. But this was my place of destination. I dined with him & spent the day most pleasantly. His wife was more cheerful & agreeable than I had ever seen her before and appeared highly pleased that her daughter had married a worthy clergyman. Friend Sam^l appeared deeply impressed with religion - and his religious affections lively & active. A few moments after I saw him he told me that he had just rec^d a letter from his brother Dr. P. in Pa. giving him the most agreeable intelligence. He paused - I thought perhaps he had obtained a fortune, fame or honors. With a softened voice & great pathos - he added my brother has become a Christian & has joined the Pres: Ch. in burgh. That our old neighbor & friend Philander Smith several months previously to his death became a warm & *devoted* christian. That although infirm in body he made a journey to Bayou Sarah & Baton rouge just before his death for some of his 2d *week* acquaintances called it a missionary town, to talk and pray with his children & friends --- His son Jedediah at St^l Fran^sville soon followed his father to the world of spirits - a few weeks previously to his death he gave evidence of being a converted man & of having obtained the victory over his enemy through our Lord Jesus Christ. Benj^m you know. He also has become a Zealous disciple of our blessed Lord. William who was educated at Cambridge a good Schollar, a fine young man and of great weight of character was married a year ago to a daughter of friend J. Henderson also had become a member of the Pres. Ch. & was considered an ornament to his profession *and a pillar* ~~pillar~~ (??), rising, polishing & finishing was a fortnight since called to another and better world. The church mourns his loss. I should have said their apparent loss.

Friend S.P. further said that converts were increasing. A Mr. Van Court preaches & teaches at 2nd Creek & Jersey Settlement Mr. Hulbert occasionally assists. That at Jersey I think 15 new members at a late sacraments partook of the symbols. That his son-in-law M^r. Potts was on a missionary tour through this county. Thus he talked and I can assure you I listened with great delight. After passing through the Barca of the West his conversation was like a sweet spring of water and I thought I could experience something of the fellowship of the saints. At dinner there was company ladies & Gent^l. He devoutly implored a blessing and after a cheerful meal & sprightly conversation I was requested to return thanks. I have not space left to make . Your reminiscences of older times & of the state of society here will induce you to exclaim it is the Lord's doing it is indeed marvellous. Friend P. accompanied me to the Boat at evening. The next morning I was at Ft. Adams and at 12 oclock arrived here. I found our friends all well & at evening the boy brought from Woodville yr letter of the 29th ult. Oh that my soul could praise the Lord for his goodness & his loving kindness to me & mine. I have rode on horseback every day since I arrived. Dear old friend Cayatano is the same kind of colt as when you were here- he carries me very easy and I am now quite well. I will tell you in my next about business. About the warm greetings & anxious inquiries of the negroes. They all expected to see you with me.- presents of eggs & sweet potatoes have flowed in abundantly. And now I have only time and room to add my love to the children. Thank Eliza for her parts of the letter. Augustus is the same white headed white faced boy as when Eliza saw him, he is much pleased with the presents.

Tell Israel, Sarah, Wm. & Ned I remember them most affectionately.
Bill shall have a horse if he is a good boy and learns his book.
Brother Wm, Hawk & children drive here today fr Randolph. They are
all very well - to my mother my best respects- Miss Vail is never
forgotten by me. Oh tell the children that Sally is married and
lives at Natchez. I have not seen her. She does & behaves well.
& now A Dieu Je vous commend Uncle Jas. Aunt E & all send love.

I.E. Trask

To: Mrs Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

New Orleans Jan^y 10 1825 ✓

Dear Elizabeth,

In my last I informed you that I was about to leave the plantation for N. Orleans. I arrived here on the 1st inst. and am now happy to inform you that I am much recruited in health & in spirits. The good French bread, fish ducks &c of this market with good French cooking has restored me to my wonted appetite & usual health. I came here for the purpose of purchasing some cotton, hoping that I might make something at least suff^t to bear my expenses here but cotton has risen & I am doubtful whether I shall purchase any, I expect to leave this for Wilkinson in about a week. I will write to you as soon as I arrive there & give you some information as to the time I may probably set my face towards home. I was *dear* yesterday with the *pkt* of your fav^r of the 29th Nov^r -- and was very much gratified to find that the family were all well. Now let me request that you will visit your neighbors more frequently. That you will labor less & live better than you probably do at present.

I am writing now in the counting room of a store and amidst the noise & bustle of business I can hardly think. So I shall be short. I suppose Israel returns to Monson at the end of vacation. I am happy to hear of his health for I was concerned about him. Eliza & Sarah I hope improve in their literature & manners. I send them a kiss. Wm. I hope will be a good scholar by the time I return & Ned a great talker - tell them Pa remembers them & will bring them something.

My love to Mother & family - remember me to all friends.

I cant write more. I believe that I have told you that
I am in excellent health. And I am certainly most affectionately

Yours

I.E. Trask

To: Mrs. Eliza Trask
Springfield

Plantation near Woodville
Jany 31 1825

My Dear Wife,

I wrote you last from New Orleans and promised that I would write again on my return to this place. I returned here a week ago & found your letter of the 17th Dec^r and was truly grateful for the information it contained of your health & that of the family. I intended to have written an answer to yours the day after my return, but was fatigued and procrastinated untill the next day and so it has been tomorrow & tomorrow ever since. Mr. Williams has just arrived & says you were all well on the 31st Decr - but I was so vexed that none of you wrote by him that I have taken up my pen to scold you. When I reflect however that I am very lazy & negligent in the letter writing business myself I have to have some sympathy for those who are equally lazy & negligent.

Blessed be God. My health is very much improved. Mr. Williams say I have grown veru poor. I suppose that you would hardly know me now if you could see me / especially if you should meet me in a dark night. I would write to Eliza & Sarah & thank them for their parts of your letters but I am really so occupied in various ways that I cant have time to think or write. They improve in their letter writing. They should practice so constantly that it will by & by be no task for them to write folios. Tell Bill & Ned that I was much pleased to hear very favorable reports of them by uncle Williams.

When this reaches you I shall probably be bustling in my preparation to get on board the Steam boat to ascend the river. I hope to leave Natchez about the 1st March for home. And it is very doubtful whether you receive another letter from me for

I hope to travel as fast as the mail and if no accident happens may reach my home about the 1st of April. I shall probably take a negro boy to attend me as I find I want a good deal of waiting on when sick & feverish & homesick. A lad about 16 a favorite house sev't of the late Mrs. Thompson has travel'd with me to & from N.O. and I am so much pleased with him I have agreed with Jas. to purchase him.

Mr. Williams & Randolph Morgan will probably accompany me - & perhaps Albert - his father however is such a vandal it is rather uncertain whether he will make any provision for him.

As soon as the snow is off the front yard in March I wish you would order some manure to be spread over it. Also as early as possible have some hauled from the distillery or ~~as~~ ~~when~~ on to the garden. Emily has been unwell- she is getting better. Jas. Mr. Welch, Am & Harriet & Am Branning the nephews & n~~ieces~~ are all well.

My love to every body & especially to yourself. I am truly yours

I.E. Trask

I have bought seven hundred bales of cotton but I fear I shall loose by it.

To: Col Israel E. Trask

Ashwood Place
Feb 22, 1825

G. Poindexter present his respects to Col. Trask and sends him the agreement relative to the Albert ~~unit~~ to be allowed for his support maintainance and education. The six Bales of Cotton will be sent to the River between this and friday next. They are heavy sales and will probably bring more than \$400. Some of the articles of cloathing which Albert will want, I apprehend will have to be purchased with money, not more than 30 or 40 dollars. I send you an order to Mr. Mr. Stanton and Col Schuyler for such articles as either of them may have; and I have sent my Nephew to Woodville to endeavor to raise the small amount in money which may be wanted. There will be no failure in the payment of your bills.-

Ashwood Place

February 22, 1825

I George Poindexter of the county of Wilkinson and State of Mississippi do hereby of my own free will and *accord* with a view and for the purpose of affording *any* reasonable opportunity to Albert G. Poindexter to obtain an education to one of the learned professions which he the said Albert has heretofore neglected to his great injury; do hereby agree and bind myself to pay annually to Col Israel M. Frask of Springfield in the State of Massachusetts, who has undertaken to put said Albert to a proper school and to manage the fund appropriate to his education & the sum of six hundred dollars payable half yearly in the manner hereinafter presented and so soon as the said Albert is fully qualified to enter Yale College which must appear by the certificate of the professors the said fund of six hundred dollars hereby given as an annuity for the support maintenance and education of said Albert is to be increased from that time forward to the sum or annuity of seven hundred and fifty dollars.

The year is commenced when the said Albert enters School and the said George having advanced to the said Col Israel M. Frask the quantity of six Bales of cotton the nett proceeds of said Cotton are to be applied to the credit of the first year, and the *balance* to make the sum of six hundred dollars is to be drawn for at end of six months after said Albert enters School the draft to be on the said George Poindexter, Woodville Mississippi at sixty days sight payable at the House of Wilkins & Linton New Orleans: and so on progressing at the end of six

months the said Col¹ Israel E. Frask is authorized to draw on me for one half of the annuity hereby stipulated to be paid, for the benefit of the said Albert as aforesaid, and to regulate the amount as herein before stated. - This agreement or obligation, to continue for the period of Three years and one year longer if the said Albert behaves in a manner to justify the expectation that he will complete a classical education -

Witness my hand and seal this 22nd day of February

1925 -

Geo. Poindexter

seal

To: Col. I. E. Trask
Springfield

Derby, April 25 1825

Col. Trask

Dear Sir

Boindexter has I suppose informed you of our safe arrival. Mr. Coe has taken him into his family where he is doing as well as I expected. The term closed within a week after our return and it is now vacation with us which continues three weeks. He is still attending some to study. I find important for him particularly to be constantly engaged. It is difficult for him to be unoccupied but appears willing to study. The several propositions you mentioned appear permanent in his character but is quite willing to take advice and is governed by it. I am quite satisfied that the best course to pursue with him in particular is to give him constant employment which by introducing something of a severity in his exercises we shall probably be able to do. There has nothing immoral as yet appeared in him except a habit of using profane language. I reproved him for that, he thanked me for it and said he would endeavor to quit it., and has so far as I know since I mentioned it to him. I cannot say with certainty how he will continue to do but believe with cautious management he may get along respectably. I take this opportunity to acknowledge the receipt of fifty Dollars on his account which will be applied for his use. Please to give my respects to your family and believe me to be Yours

Truly and Always

J. Holbrook

Brookfield Ms
May 26

To: Israel Trask Esqr
Springfield

Brookfield May 26, 1825

Dear Sir,

A meeting of the inhabitants of this town was held on 23rd Inst. on the subject of a Canal between Springfield & Boston by the course of the Chickapee & Quaboag Rivers. A Committee was appointed to call a meeting of Delegates from all the towns interested to meet at the house of C.P. Hitchcock, West Parish, Brookfield, on Tuesday, last day of May Current. I to give notice by a communication inserted in the Springfield & Worcester papers (we fear however that the notice was too late for insertion in the Springfield papers) As the object is of vast importance to the towns near which it may pass, as well as to this State generally, we have taken the liberty to address you, dear Sir, requesting that your influence may be used in Springfield, that a Deputation may be sent to meet those from other towns & that the subject may be fully discussed.

In behalf of the Committee

I am with great Respect

Your obt Servt

John Homans

Israel Trask Esqr

Canal Meeting
1 ~~8~~ 25 May 20th

- 1 Resolved. That in the opinion of this meeting the navigation of Connecticut River may be so improved as to permit of the passage of Sloops up the river as far as Springfield.- And that the same would be important to the United States on account of their establishment in this vicinity & greatly beneficial to the interests of this section of the Commonwealth.
- 2 Resolved. - That it is expedient that an Agent or Agents from this vicinity, be appointed to attend upon the Commissioner of the United States in his contemplated survey at Enfield & through the County of Hampden.
- 3 Resolved That the Committee appointed at this meeting on the subject of a contemplated Canal from Connecticut River to Boston Harbor be authorized to appoint such Agent or Agents for the above purpose as they judge proper.-----
4. Resolved that the Senator & Representatives in the General Court from this County be requested to use their endeavors to procure the appointment of an agent on the part of the Commonwealth, to attend upon the Commissioner of the United States in his Surveys through this state.

John Hooker pr order

2

Springfield May 30th 1825

At a meeting of the Inhabitants of Springfield and its vicinity held at the Hampden Coffee House on the 25th inst & by adjournment to the 26th for the purpose of taking into consideration the subject of a communication from the inhabitants of Brookfield in relation to a contemplated Canal from the Connecticut River to Boston Harbour It was among other things resolved in said meeting.

That it is expedient to appoint three delegates to attend the proposed meeting on the 30th inst. at the West Parish in Brookfield

whereupon the meeting made choice of the following gentlemen as delegates agreeable to said resolve Viz:

Col Israel N. Trask
Hon Jona: Dought jr.
Col Roswell Lee
Albert Justin Willard
Secretary

To:
Israel E. Trask Esquire
Springfield.

Amherst College June 29, 1825

My Dear Sir,

The very lively interest which you continue to feel in the prosperity of this college, & your kind remembrance of those who are charged with the immediate government & instruction, cannot but "strengthen our hands & encourage our hearts." With you, I regret, that the Trustees did not authorize the erection of a new building the present season; as we shall want the room exceedingly, & the public, I am persuaded, will bear us out in providing all necessary accommodations for the students, & will, in some way, furnish us with the means of defraying the expenses. Mr. Leland thinks that a college may even be put up & enclosed after Commencement. Whether it is expedient to attempt it, the Trustees will judge when they meet.

We all feel very solicitous that the Parsons estate should be purchased for the College; & measures are now in train to ascertain whether it can be had & on what terms. Mr. Leland thinks they would be glad to sell. Since you wrote I have examined the whole front more carefully than ever before, with reference to the building lots which it would furnish; & I find that there is room for 7 or 8 good houses with very convenient yards. And what would make these lots much more valuable, is the opportunity that every purchaser would have, to extend his rear as far back as he pleased, & thus have room for fruit, a little mowing, pasture &c. Our judgement is that the whole farm, or at least that part of it which is connected with the house, may be purchased at a much better rate, than merely to take the front; especially as the land back might be sold to good advantage. Another such opportunity to purchase for the benefit of

College, will never again be presented. If we do not have the control of that property it is impossible to foresee what nuisances may be put there by other persons, who will after a while purchase for the sake of bringing stores soda shops fountains mechanics shops &c as near the college as possible.

You will be sorry to learn that Mr. Adams has declined the professorship of Math. & Philos - . We are at a loss where to look next, unless we turn our eyes towards Conway. Mr. Abbott has also declined. The Presidential Com. have appointed Mr. Snell till the board meets & he is doing well.

Col. Graves has just received a letter from Mr. King, in which he says, that he expects to leave Palestine in Oct^r & hopes to reach this country next spring of summer, & enter on the duties of his professorship immediately. intelligence we shall publish, & I think it will bring us some scholars.

Why cannot our two friends be persuaded to endow a professorship, whether our College comes here or not? Mr. W. has received the books you mention from Boston. Accept of our grateful acknowledgements for the wine but give yourself no trouble about forwarding it. Mrs. H. unites with me in best regards to Mrs. Trask & I am with great respect your obt^d servt

H. Humphrey

To; I.E. Trask Esq.
Springfield

Greenfield July 18 1825

Dear Sir,

It having been determined, that we would explore explore the route of a canal, from the mouth of Deerfield River, to the Hudson river, we shall not reach Springfield, before the 27th; & if you contemplate a route, for a canal, from that town to the Hudson, near the junction of the Erie Canal, with the lad, we shall be happy to make a reconnaissance of the line, as we return; & will thank you to inform us thereof, by a letter, directed to us at Albany. -- or Stockbridge, or to meet us at any intermediate point.

Very respectfully your

most obt. Sert.

Wm. Dearborn

(?)?

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

Monson (?) Novr. 28 1825

Dear Sir

I wrote a line to you by mail a few days since requesting the favor of a line to Mr. Cornelius, but have yet received no answer. I have received a line from him stating that he will be absent from home on the week on which I proposed to visit him - that he is to commence a long tour which will require him to be absent a considerable time - & that he expects to pass through Springfield & hopes to call on you. Supposing it quite doubtful whether I could see him at Springfield, & thinking it possible you may be about when he shall call, I have concluded to go to Andover and endeavor to see him before he commences his tour. As it is possible however I may fail in my object, I beg leave to commit to you the following abstract of a statement, which the Standing Committee of the Trustees of M. Academy have furnished me to carry to him - And I would ask the favor that should he call on you, you will present to him the facts in such a way as you shall think proper, also that you will make such representation to him as you may think circumstances require.

It appears to me best that something definite should be done in relation to this fund, and that it is best to know whether the D. Society will use it or not. If not then let the Trustees stick on their own course. If I do not misjudge the fund may be of use, and also Monson is a favorable place for a number of beneficiaries to pursue their preparatory education. Will you be so kind as to take an interest in the business, should you see Mr. C. & get him enlisted to furnish us some scholars, or let it be decided whether anything is to be expected or not. Permit me to ask that you will present the subject in its full length to Mr. C. & enlist his patronage--

Yours respectfully

S. Colton

To: Col. Trask
Springfield

Smyrna 28th May 1826

Dear Friend & Patron,

It is a long, very long time since I have received any letter from you, & I know not whether the letters, which I have written to you, have been received. This discourages me from writing often. Since leaving Syria, I have met with many things, calculated to try me, & I have felt the need of Patience. It is good for us sometimes to have trials, as they tend to show us, what is in our corrupt and wicked hearts. I believe that people are often deceived with regard to themselves, & think that they are better, than they really are, merely because they are placed in quiet & easy circumstances. You have perhaps heard before this, of my books & effects having been taken by Pirates last November or December. What was left by them on board the vessel by which they were sent, I received only a few days since, through the kindness of Capt. Hamilton of His. Brit. Maj: Ship Cambrian, to whom I feel under very great Obligations. I lost all my clothes, & all the minerals & curiosities which I had collected during my residence in the East, & many of my Books, as also a few medals, which Mr. Fisk had sent to a friend of his at Northampton. My plans for the present year have been all deranged, & when I shall be in America I cannot say, though I hope in the course of the coming year, possibly at the close of this.

The affairs of the Greeks are now very bad, almost hopeless. Messolonghi has fallen, Corinth is besieged & troops are marching in three divisions against Napoli d. Romania. The sea is full of Pirates so that is very dangerous for any vessel to sail from this port without

a convoy.

Since my arrival in Smyrna I have directed my attention principally to the Modern Greek, which I am now able to speak with some fluency.

I sometimes feel low (spirited) and somewhat discouraged - but when I think of my dear friends in America it revives me. They however are distant from me - But there is one friend, who is everywhere present, & who is ever ready to give us comfort & courage, when we call upon him - Jesus the friend of Sinners. That you and your dear family may ever enjoy his friendship & his love, is the desire of your affectionate friends & Servant, J. King

To: Israel E. Trask Esqr
Springfield

Salem Oct 21, 1826

My dear Sir,

I have waited till my future sphere of labour should be determined before I wrote you in reply to your welcome letter of Aug last. I know how much you and your excellent wife feel interested in my efforts, and I have been anxious to address you in my new relation to the church as Sec. of the Ed. Socy if it was the will of Providence that former ties should be sundered. I will not try to describe the scene through which I have recently passed. I will only say it has been one of the most trying and eventful in my whole life. The tearing away from two thousand hearts which for 7 years had been twining around my own - has cost a struggle & presented a spectacle which nothing but a firm conviction of duty to God & to the souls of men could have enabled me to sustain. I have never made so great a sacrifice of personal & private enjoyment before - but I trust I can say, the Lord hath helped me & granted me other comforts, which were greater than I had enjoyed before. I was satisfied after having declined six or eight different applications of a similar nature, that I must take the responsibility of judging myself no longer. I consented to leave it to a Council. My church also consented & the result was a dissolution of my connexion with my beloved church & people.. To God I commit myself, & go forth to this new & most arduous enterprise with feelings not of despondence, but of apprehension. I feel weighed down to the Earth with the greatness of the change. The Society is in a most suffering state. 400 dollars was the wretched pittance to divide at our last

quarterly meeting among nearly 200 beneficiaries. Of course we were obliged to take from the accumulations of past years, or wind up our operations. The income of our scholarships (50 in all) cannot be realized till one year from the time when they were given. We want 200 Scholarship before we can come up with the present demand of the Society & we shall want much more as it advances. But the present is a time when we are in peculiar straits. We are in the situation of a man who is tearing down an old house, in order to erect a new & much larger one, & has nothing to shelter his family in the meantime. I am preparing a pamphlet explaining our new system which I will send you in a few weeks. Do all you can, my dear Sir, to encourage our friends in Springfield to finish the 2nd Scholarship: & please to write me on the reception of this and give me the names of the Com^{tt} of Superintendence of both Scholarships - the name by which the 2nd shall be called - that I may publish them in my general list which will be made out for the pamphlet referred to. As soon as I can, I shall enter on the work of solicitation in places where I have not before been. I thank you for the facts respecting Benson Academy. I have written to Mr. Colton & shall do all I can to promote that valuable auxiliary of our Society. Remember me to my friend Mr. Osgood & those good men & women "who helped me." My dear wife joins me in affectionate remembrance to yourself & Mrs. T. Our future residence will be at Andover Mass. where we are going in a few days.

As ever yours

E. Cornelius

To: ~~Mr~~ Israel Trask Esq
Springfield

Hatfield Jany 3 . 1827

My Dear Sir

If it had been possible I should have stopped on my return to H. and given you and Mrs. Trask an invitation (in propria persona) to my installation. It will take place next Wednesday, that is a week from today; and as the sleighing will probably be fine, I shall look very anxiously for yourself if not one or two children in addition. I think it not improbably that Mr. and Mrs. Wilner will be over. It was a matter of disappointment that I could not make you a visit on my return, but I hope when my domestic arrangements are completed that I shall not only see you at your own house, but have also the pleasure of receiving yourself and family at mine. My respects to Miss Vail and my love to the children. I hope Ned has not forgotten me. If he has I shall come and refresh his memory. The daughters I trust have found "the ring", and are no longer trembling beneath the fires of the burning Mountain. Remember me, affectionately to Mr. Osgood & my Springfield friends

Yours in the best of bonds

J.B. Waterbury

Israel Trask Esq

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

Near Woodville Jany 20th 1827

No. 11

Dear Brother,

Your favor of the 13th Decr. has come to hand.

I feel much distressed & unhappy that my crops & proces of them should fall so much short of our expectat~~ions~~ions, and that I should be the cause of one moments unpleasantness in your *feelings*. I think it a duty that I owe you & your family to do all in my power to ~~serve~~ you, & endeavor to meet all your expectations, and if depriving myself of all earthly comforts would add to your happiness, I would be willing to make the sacrifice. --- As to my debts, they are much as I stated to you when here, I had not settled with Lewis at Ft. Adams for two or three years whos account was principally for Storage, receiveing freight, Shipping Cotton &C, which amounted to more than I expected, -\$1900, for which I gave a draft on Shepherd & Co. payable 1st Jany 1827, which amount, with the purchase of my bagging, cordage, groceries &C I presume is the \$3000 : you mentioned. I have since drawn on them, to meet the Call in Bank and to pay my last years ~~600~~ ~~500~~ one thousand Dollars, \$1000: which reduces my Bank debt to \$7690 - which is but little more than the Bank debt I have had to pay for our friend Thompson, which caused me to purchase ~~the~~ negroes on the river place, - It is supposed that his estate will pay about 75cts on the Dollar, - but if it pays but one half it will discharge the note I gave for the negroes. My act. against the estate has been allowed -- amounting with interest to \$10,800: --- I mentioned to you that I was owing the house of Renner & Co. about \$6000: for which I was garnisheed, - The trial has not yet come on, it will probably be decided at May term, - If so the money will have to be paid next fall. -

I informed you that Dr. Carmichal & myself were sued on account of our endorsement for Thompson at Philadelphia, which we expect to get clear of.- The note of about \$1300 which I had paid and had a recpt. for the Same, and was in suit when you was here, went against me, but we expect a new trial, as the jury decided contrary to the charge given by the Judge, - I believe I mentioned that I was owing the Estate of Clement in New Orleans, on an old settlement for the River Plantation about \$2000: - There is two notes given Brother Wm. for his place, & deposited in someones hands in Brimfield for \$1000 cash. The two notes we signed to Mr. Ruffin for his lands last winter amounting to \$3750. each, one of them fell due the first of this month But as Mr. Ruffin is dead the Executors will not insist on having it untill next fall.

I am owing for my last years expenses,- Gin Wrights Storage of Cotton ~~Cotton~~ Merchants & Co.- not more \$1000. - I must purchase some pork for the negroes, & cotton seed to plant.

I have shipped 200 bales of cotton, and expect that I have upwards of 250 bales to gin, my gins got out of repair 3 weeks ago, th work men are now putting them in repair.

I do not see how it is possible that I should be indebted to Messers Henshaw & Dwight the amount you mention untill they have paid you the draft I gave you last spring.- I am surprised they never have written me since I pointed out to them the mistakes of \$3117.23 made in their first account - I am fearful that there is something wrong in them,- I have written twice to you respecting it & *requesting* you to attend to their acts^{ts}. but you have not mentioned the subject in any of your letters to me. They agreed in there letter to me that I might draw on them, over the amount of my shipments \$10,000: by continuing the shipment two or more

years.- which should remain on interest till my crops amounted to a sufficient sum to pay it off,- More certainly they cannot at the present low price of cotton exact the payment of this accommodation, nor so long as I continue to ship all my crops to them.- I consider that you was ~~Swindled~~ out of 12 or 15 thousand Dollars by your other merchants in sales of your last purchase of cotton,- now it is necessary to look into the transactions of these merchants, where it so much concerns you,- I do not feel satisfied respecting the loss by fire of the 30 Bales of cotton, amounting at that time to nearly \$4000:- If I pay them double commissions for guarantee & C I consider the Cotton when in their hand at their risk, - but in that I may be mistaken.

Now if you think it a duty you owe your wife & children to risk your health and life again in this country, and take the management of this Estate, (although I have some pride to go through with whatever I undertake) I consider it my duty to give it up to you, - and as I shall then be alone in the world I have no doubt but what I can gain a support. - But if you still consider me worthy of , and are willing to try me a while longer endeavor to do all in my power to meet your approval. But I hope you will not charge me with wrong if it should be the will of God to blast our Crops.- If cotton had continued at the price it was when I purchased you out, say 20cts and my crops had not been blasted,- I would long since have paid all my debts, except what I am indebted to you & would now been able to give you my whole Crops.

Brother Wm. has been confined to his room & mostly to his bed by sickness, six weeks,- the rest of the family are well,-

Sister Emily is in tolerable health, she wished very much to see her Mother before she dies, - and would be glad to see her Son, - but I shall not have it in my power to bring her to the North this year.

Give my love to the children, Tell Eliza & Sarah that I have received their much esteemed favors - and will write them soon. All join me in love to you & family.

AS ever Yours,

J.L.Trask

To:
Israel Trask Esquire
Springfield Mass^{tt^s}

Boston Feb. 26. 1827

Dear Sir,

I am interested directly, & for others, in the Ware Manufacturing Company. Mr. Wilder, the present agent, at Ware, has other concerns, demanding his attention, & is desirous of quitting, when the Company can be otherwise supplied. It is an object of the greatest importance to obtain an efficient & permanent agent. The aim of this letter is to obtain from you, all the information, which you may be able and willing to impart, touching the fitness or unfitness of Mr. Hall, for the agency at Ware. Mr. Hall is to give place, I am told, to Mr. Henshaw. I write you this letter, as a private stockholder: x, as I must request you to consider this enquiry confidential, so shall I hold your reply, should you express an opinion, unfavorable to the party concerned.

Very respectfully yrs.

L.M. Sargent

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

New York 7th Sept. 1827

To Col. I.E. Trask,
Springfield,

My dear Sir,

I have only time to say to you, that I have arrived at New York in safety, & that tomorrow I shall probably leave for New Haven, or Providence, in order to go on to Boston. From thence I must go to Bolton, to visit my friend Mr. Wilder, & then I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you soon after. With best regards to Mrs. Trask & your children, I am in great haste,

Yours in the best of bonds

J. King

Will you have the goodness, on the reception of this, to address a line to me to care of J. Warts Esq, Boston informing me when I may find you -

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

Worcester 13th Sept. 1827

My dear Friend,

I received your letter of the 11th at Boston this morning, just before I left for this place. I expect to go to Ware, by the Stage-coach at 9 tomorrow morning. I shall remain a day or two with Mr. Wilder. How happy I should be to meet you at his house & go on with you to Springfield.

I write this line by passanger, as I am told, it would not reach you by mail till Saturday. If you have opportunity will you write me a line as soon as you receive this, directed to Mr. Wilder.

In great haste yours truly,
J. King

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

Philadelphia Oct 19. 1827

My Dear Betsey,

I arrived here last evening in pretty good health, though somewhat fatigued. I have concluded to take the Wheeling route & shall probably be obliged to go to Cincinnati by the stage road. I was afraid to encounter the lake navigation at so late a season. I leave here at 12 o'clock, in the same way we pursued when here last. I spent two days in N.Y. Mrs. Mathews has a son a few days old. Our friend King I left quite well. He is with good friends and I hope he will do well. He is very much admired in N.Y. I shant write again untill I arrive at Cin^{ti}. My love to the children - tell Lydia I think often of her - Tell Cesar to attend to the things carefully.

Adieu Yrs in hast

I.L. Trask

Plantation, Novr. 18th 1927 ✓

My Dear Wife,

I have the pleasure to inform you that I arrived here yesterday in very good health, with the exception of soreness & bruises occasioned by riding out from Ft. Adams on a dull hard-trotting horse furnished me by Mr. Lewis. Emily had set out the day before my arrival for the neighborhood of Natchez in company with Mrs. Ruffin & Harriet had left here the day after in company with Mrs. Adams, also for Natchez. James is at home. The people on the plantation are generally well. All inquire anxiously for Missis & the children. The young negroes all inquire after Master William & Edward. The older ones smilingly inquire after the baby Lydia. The drowth had been unusually severe throughout the country here. The corn crops have been severely impaired - but Jas. has one of the finest cotton crops ever raised in the country. He expects to make six hundred bales. There has yet been no frosts sufficiently severe to check vegetation. The cotton fields are in blossom. The peach trees also, a wilderness of rosew are in full & beautiful & ~~fr~~ ^{fr} fragrant bloom in the garden. The willows and forest trees are green and the air is at summer heat.

Natchez has been visited with yellow fever but few of the old inhabitants have fallen victims to it. I did not land at Natchez. Fort Adams and Fort Francisville have also been visited with the same ^aclanity. I do not hear of any deaths among our acquaintance except Mr. Griffiths the lawyer the son of our Wheeling friend. Rev. Mr. Pilmon who married Mrs. Elliot died a few days ago of apoplexy. Mrs. Postlethwaite & family had returned to Natchez were all well.

We had rather a slow passage down the river - our cabin was very crowded - but I had the good fortune to obtain a comfortable stateroom to myself & found several very pleasant & interesting company. There were seven or eight ladies on board, a sufficient number to keep in check the noisy and dissolute on the whole. I have had quite a pleasant and prosperous journey - and have on this and other occasions abundant reasons why I should call on my soul & all within me to praise the Lord for his goodness & loving kindness. My only anxiety is now for you & our little ones. But I trust that the mercies of the Lord will still be extended to you & that we may in due time be brought to meet each other richly laden with his blessings.----

I hope soon to hear from you. Tell the girls to write me. I expect that William & Edward will be good boys - dutiful to Mama & attentive to their books & instruction. Tell Asa & Lucy their friends are all well and rejoiced to hear that they have not conducted like Spencer.---- They would be glad to see them. I must remind Cesar to be attentive to the economy & cleanliness of the barn - and to keep good fires for you. I trust he will be faithful and Lucy also to all their duties.

I conclude in some haste that this letter may reach Woodville in time for the mail.

Love to the children - & family all + Remember me to Mrs. Osgood, Packard & Hooker ---- &cet &cet

Yours affectionately

I.E. Trask

In my next I shall probably be able to say when I shall set out for home. It shall be as soon as possible.

To; Mrs Eliza C. Trask
Springfield

Plantation Dec^r 5th 1827

My Dear Wife,

I am happy to inform you that I received your favor of the 3rd of Novr late evening. It gave me great pleasure to hear that my wife & children & family were all well. I wrote you immediately after my arrival here on the 18th or 19th Novr. Since then I have been in very good health - have stayed on the plantation riding around it twice a day when the weather permits. We have summer weather yet. On the 1st & 2nd Decr we had two smart white frosts - but the roses are still in bloom & the weeping willows are still quite green. The drowth has been extremely severe - so much so that forest trees on the poor hills have in many instances died. The cattle are very much emaciated through the country. Yesterday I got all hands into the field near the house to clear it of cotton & corn so as to let the stock in. Next week I hope they will have good pasture from about 6 or 700 acres. James is as careless as ever about such things - always in a hurry and nothing done as it should be done. He has a large crop of cotton - a poor one of corn. I think he will have 600 bales of cotton. We had roast Turkey

on your Thanksgiving day. The Rev. Mr. Chase & Mrs. Gildart's family dined with us. Mr. Chase informs me that your uncle P.C. has joined his church. Mrs. Betsy P. Stanard ~~(S)~~ also & one of her brothers. Mr. C. says he is a very fine young man. I wish you would answer your cousins letter. They say she is a smart intelligent & handsome young lady. Your two cousins Ehipps are elders in the church at Homochitto. My brother says they are smart young men & lead in their public worship in the absence of the clergyman with great propriety. I go tomorrow on a visit to Dr. Carmichaels, Mr. Brandeis' & Pinckneyville. I expect to spend two or three days

with them. I intend to leave for New Orleans about the last of this month, & my present intention is to cross over to Mobile & pass through Alabama & Georgia to Spl^d. I hope to reach home sometime in Feby. You will not forget the ice house. Have you a good stock of charcoal? if not apply to Mr. Day & get a quantity - say 150 bushels - try to keep yourselves warm. Tell Lydia papa when he returns will whistle for her & dance her. I must write to Bill & Ned. I have not yet seen Harriett. She will spend a month or so longer at Katchez. She goes visiting yet as much as ever. Remember me to all friends. after rec^t of this you may stop writing to me - for I hope to be on my return about the middle of Jany. I am sincerely yours -----

I.E. Trask

Uncle James & ^{Aunt} Emily all send love

To Masters William & Edward Trask

My Dear boys,

I was very happy to hear by your mama's letter to me, that you were good children and that you attended to your books & were mindful of the instruction given you by your cousin Eliza. I hope you will continue to be good boys - that you will attend to what your mama says & be obedient to all her precepts. You will give my compliments to Cesar & Lucy - tell them that their friends are all well here - & want very much to see them. Tell them also that I am glad to hear so good a report of them as I have rec^d from their mistress. I ^{hope} they will continue to do well. Cesar must keep neat - be careful of the hay & have the horse in good order when I return. I suppose you have snow now & plenty of ice - the weather here is warm as summer. Robert has just brought in a full grown apple from the garden of the second crop. I walked out in the cotton field yesterday & helped the negroes pick cotton

two hours. The negroes say they want to see Massa Wm & Ed. Old Sago said "when you fetch um". I said perhaps by & by. "Ah Massa" by & by me be dead & me neber see um". I had an apple or two in my pocket & began to eat one, when one little negro cries out Massa give me a p[ie]ce of apple then another and another do give me a piece. So Pa had to divide his apple just as he would do to Bill & Ned. Some of the young negroes are the best cotton pickers. Isaac has picked as high as 245 lbs in a day. The birds are very numerous about the fields. Yesterday Pa heard a mockingbird singing very prettily just then the blue jays and ~~the~~ other birds set up their screams - mocquer stopt a minute, looked round - then mocked them - then sang- at last he seemed so vexed with their discordant notes that he flew off. Granny Judy wants to see you. She says she raised a great many ducks for you this year but you could not come. The pond is full of ducks & geese & the yard of Turkeys & chickens. The wild ducks too come & light in the pond. Then we shoot them. Adieu . Give my love to cousins Lucy & Eliza Pyncheon & sister Lydia.

Yrs I.N. Trask

Tell mama she must take care of her lame shoulder. I want to advise to get a chamois skin & to make a jacket. I wore mine & have no rheumatism. I suppose Eliza & Sarah are at .
Write to Israel & tell him he must write to his Ma.

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

Plantation Dec^r 21 1827 ✓

My. Dear Wife,

Yours of the 13th Nov. has just been rec^d. It relieved me from much anxiety - for I began to have sleepless nights & unpleasant dreams. I had heard of the seven snow storms & cold ~~weather~~^{weather} in your part of the country and I began to imagine many ills were surrounding you and the little ones. I was afraid Ned & Bills fingers & toes were cold & that Lydia had a severe cold & no beefsteak - that Eliza & Sal. had no elastic overshoes - that Israel was laid up &c &c - besides this Cesar did not take good care of the horse & cow and that you had no fires & that you were all in danger of freezing & starving. But your letter has cheer^d me & I now entertain no fears that you will suffer - especially since you gave so good a report Cesar & Lucy. What weather you have had & what weather we have had. The blossoms still put forth in the cotton fields. Peach trees are in full bloom & you can hardly imagine the beautiful appearance of the garden avenue flowering with roses garden lillies &c &c . What frosts we have has have been light & for a week or two past the thermometer has been at summer heat.

I leave this for N.O. tomorrow morning. I expect to be there on the 8th Jan^y to witness the great parade in commemoration of Jackson's Victory over the British & in anticipation of his Vistory over the present administration and I fear over the Constitution of his country. I will then write to you and say when I will set out for home. I dread an encounter with Boreas across the mountains & in N.E. - but I dislike still more a longer separation from wife & children. You said nothing of Israel in your last. I hope he write^s to you.

Adieu I must write^{to} the boys

Compl^{ts} to Mr. Park W.O. + W & all

I.E. Trask

Dear Ned & Bill,

As I wrote last to H&M & Ned I will now write Ned & Bill. We continue here pretty much the same as when I wrote you last - the weather pleasant & the wild ducks plentiful - good corn bread & hog & hominy and I am in fine health & should feel quite happy if Mama and the boys & girls were here to enjoy these pleasant things with me. Our old friend Sally came all the way from Natchez yesterday to see Pa & inquire about her Missis & the children. She has gone back again this morning. Your friends little Lucy & Grany Judy are all well & wish very much to see you. Rob^t has a small dog - & he will bring ducks out of the pond - all things are going on smoothly - and Pa hopes soon to see you & tell you all about matters & things - Love to Lydia - Cousin Lucy & Eliza - Tell Cesar & Lucy their friends are well here. I hope they will continue to take good care of their business. May God bless you my dear children & preserve you from all evil is the prayer of your Pa

I.E.T.

New Orleans Dec^r 28th 1827 ✓

My dear Wife,

I arrived here on the 25th inst^t. in very fine health. I had the pleasure of receiving your favor of the 21 Nov^r previously to my leaving the plantation. I had written to you on the morning of the same day I rec^d yours. I plead guilty to neglect in not writing to you from Louisville -- but I made no stop there, and as I have told you before I don't like to write often for its making me homesick for several days after writing.

I am extremely anxious for you & children always when I am absent from home. I wish that it may never be necessary for me to leave you again for length of time. I hope you will not all freeze this winter be careful to procure any thing that may be necessary for your comfort.

While you are shivering with cold at Springfield we are enjoying a beautiful spring climate here- the thermometer was at 78 yesterday - we had green peas for dinner. Orange trees have been in blossom & mosquitoes abundant. The Missis^sⁱ has I believe never been known so high at this season of the year as it is at present. Its rise at Natchez I understand is upwards of 50 feet, and here it is nearly at high water mark.

I called on our friends Mr. and Mrs. Foster this morning they are well & enquired very particularly after you & Bill & Ned. The little girl Elizabeth is a fine little girl. They have had her likeness taken. She wants to know when Edward will come here, Mrs. F. has another little girl about 7 or 8 weeks old. I have not called on Josephine yet. I shall go there tomorrow and in my next will tell E.^d all about her.

In my next Iw will write when I intend to leave here -
 & which way I will go. I am afraid to encounter a northern
 winter earlier than Feb.1. My present plan is to leave this place
 about the 15th of Jan^y - & go by the way of Mobile & Georgia.
 A steamboat runs up to Montgomery in the Alabama from thence a
 Stage runs through Georgia to Washington. I have thus far es-
 caped rheumatism but I am fearful of a cold change of weather.
 I do really want to see you. I pray most ardently for you & the
 little ones. My love to them - & others --- Adieu - Yours

I.E. Trask

Tell Mr. Packard I will endeavor to find opportunity & inclination
 to write to him after the celebration of the 8th Jan. I expect James
 & half the upper country here on that great day. The most respectable
 people here & the sugar planter on the coast do not seem disposed to
 join very cordially in the honors to be conferred on the Hero of N.00
 on that day. I find that Jackson is not a very great favorite in
 La - among the best inhabitants but I fear he will be our next
 Pres^{dt}.

Does not Israel write to you? He has not yet obeyed my orders t
 to write to me. I have not room here to write to the boys. I can
 only say to W^m & E^d take good care of your ma - that is - be obe-
 dient to her - endeavor to please her & attend to every thing she
 says - be very attentive to sister Lydia. I shall expect to find you
 very much improved in your litterature & to hear a good report
 of your conduct from your mother.

Adieu my dear boys - affectionately

Y^r Papa -

I.E. Trask

To:

New Orleans Jan. 29th 1828 ✓

My Dear Wife,

Your perceive that I am still lingering here - but I can now tell you that I shall set my face towards home, by the way of Mobile & Georgia tomorrow or the day ~~after~~ and such is my anxiety to be at home that I shall travel with all possible speed. I forward this by the Ship New Orleans which freights the cotton I have purchased (as I mentioned in my last) and I have thought more than once of getting on board of the Ship. but fears of a rough voyage & sea sickness & perils by Sea have prevented me from risking myself on the waters. I have recd no letters from you since your date of Decr. 6. But though my apprehensions for your health & the children & your lonely situation frequently disturb my happiness I still indulge the hope that you are well & doing well and that we may meet each other not many days after the rec^d. of this letter. Many urge me not to set out so soon for the north. But I am so impatient of delays & I am so anxious to see my dear family again that I shall venture to encounter the cold at all risks. We have still summer weather here after the white frosts. The cold will probably be severe to me at first but I have warm clothes & can guard against it. My health has been remarkably good. I have as yet not been afflicted with any rheumatic pains & I hope to escape them. If I should not be able to keep up with the mail I will write you when I arrive at Millidgeville (Ga). You can hardly imagine how beautifully the gardens appear in this neighborhood. I dined with a large party a day or two ago at Mr. Notts a mile below the city. He has a very pleasant situation. The osage hedge & the flowering shrubbery were in high perfection - it appeared like enchanted scenery. My evenings are spent in my room, I read some & think of & pray for my dear wife & children. Last evening I at-

tended on a lecture of the famous Mr. Owen. He is endeavoring to reorganize Society - or rather to break down all ^{the} barriers which have hitherto existed against vice & immorality. Or in other words (his own) to destroy the family circle & all its consequent circumstances, & change the existing moral, political & religious notions of the world.

Take for instance a sentiment exactly as expressed in his lecture in the presence of some husbands & daughters & wives "He (that is man) dares not ask himself who made chastity a virtue - or how it came to be considered as such - What crimes it has brought forth, when prior to its invention by the Priesthood for their supposed gain, were wholly unknown to the human race - or what miseries it has in consequence inflicted on mankind." He of course denies the existence of any revelation from God to Man. And as far as I could gather from questions put him, denies the existence of Jehova. Yet this man finds many advocates for his system. And as he tells me, has expended Five Hundred Thousand Dollars & forty years of his life to carry into effect his plan of making Man a rational being !!! The Lecture was in the Legislative Hall - and we were somewhat amused with one of the representatives who came in tipsy - who at the conclusion of almost every long sentence containing some of his absurdities, exclaimed in an audible voice - that is a false conclusion - that is a lie - &c &c. A gentleman mentioned to me an anecdote of this same representative in the Legislature ~~which-amused-me~~ He had made a motion which was controverted by a French member in the house, who introduced an amendment in in the French language, not understood by Mr. Lancy Moore the mover, on which Lancy rose and ~~addressed~~ addressed the clerk instead of

to
 the Speaker , in these words, Mr. Clerk, please tell that
 Gentleman of the blue bottled nose , & tell him too in his own
 d.....d lingo, if he does not withdraw his ammendment I will ride
 over him roughshod. This same Judge Lancy Moore (for he is a
 Parish Judge & a high toned Jackson polititian) I take it repre-
 sented a district in Louisiana, through which an officer of the U.S.
 was passing a few months ago and calling at a house requested the
 man of the house to give him some milk & watter - he had no milk -
 some whiskey & warter then - he had no whiskey- he bought a barrel
 of whiskey five or six days ago but it was all gone. Why says the
 officer you must drink a great deal of whiskey, if a barrel last you
 only five or six days. Oh no says the host a bzarle of whiskey is
 not much in a large family of children & no milk.

I have just recd. information that a Steam Boat leaves here in
 the course of the day for Mobule & have concluded to jump on board
 & go home. Tell the children I want to see them. Bill & Ned I
 am sure will be very much improved & I shall find them fine boys.

If I make any stops on my route I will write you.

Adieu my dear wife. Compliments to friends.

Yours truly

I.E. Trask

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Springfield

Near Woodville April 25th 1828 ✓

Dear Brother, ~~I ha~~

I have arrived at home, from Orleans, I found our Sisters and family all well,- your favor of March 8th was received in my absence,- I am thankful that you have again arrived in Safety to your home and affectionate Wife & family,- I felt great anxiety for your Safety & health on the route you had taken, having travelled over the Same ground my self in 1822,-

I mentioned in my last to you that I should probably go to Orleans in April,- I left here on the the 4th took a passage from Pt. Adams to Natchez in a Steam Boat, having some business at that place, where I had to wait a few days for a passage down the River - while there on the 6th & 7th we had a general freeze, the ice was thicker than a Dollar - it killed all the Cotton that was up & the most of the Corn - I had not commenced planting Cotton on account of the overwhelming rains &C,- My Corn that had been worked was much injured, we have had some replanting to do, but the Stand at this time is generally good - The Cotton that is up looks healthy and well.

In consequence of the change of weather & being on board of the Steam Boat, I took a severe cold and was very unwell during my Stay at Orleans, I returned home Sick, but have taken Medicine and am nearly well again. Mr. Reynolds went down in Boat with me, - I have transferred my business from Messers R.D. Shepherd & Co. to his House,- I settled the Kimmer & Co. debt with Slocum & *Raynes* by giving them Messers Reynolds & Byrnes acceptance payable in one year from the first of Ma next. I likewise settled the Demand of Clement through R.D. Shephord & Co. at 90 days,- I have sent

their house 350 Bales of Cotton - have agreed to send the remainder of My Crops to Messers Reynolds Byrnes & Co. to ship to Boston,- You can inform Messers J.R. Mills & Co. that they will attend to my business for the future.

I was unwell while in Orleans & having business to attend to, that I did not call on Gov. Boond . Speak of going down to see the Lafouch sea in May, though I doubt very much wheather it would be prudent to go in the Sugar business at present,- it would be attended with much expence and with little profit for Several years,- I think the Same Capital laid out in Slaves at the present prices would be more profitable on my present tracts of Land, than making Sugar at 6 1/4 cts. but I will endeavor the look out & advise what will be for the best.

Mr. Shepherd received a letter from Messers Mills & Co. Stating that My Cotton was selling at 14 1/2 Cts. Messers Reynolds & Byrnes received a letter from your Merchant in New York, Stating that your Cotton was selling at 11 or 11 1/2 Cts. If ^{So} you will make something by the purch~~ase~~, - at Orleans Cotton was worth from 9 to 12 1/2 Cts - It is expected by some that it will be still hire.

We shall not have so much of the inferior Cotton as we expected when you left us, - the weather being so bad that we could not save it. It will be some time before we git our Cotton all gined ,- My old gin wheel has given out entirely, We will not be able to run but one gin for some time, I shall have time to hear from you again before I have the last picking ready for Shipping, by which time you can say wheather I shall Ship to New York or Boston.

I expect to get Sister Harriett & Children fitted out for her Fathers in a few days.

Has Mr. Browning received the draft sent to him, he has never acknowledged the Rect. of it.

We have received letters from Augustus Welch Since I wrote last - he promises to be more punctual in writing for the future, - he writes that he is much pleased with the Institution & is glad that he did not go to Yale, - he is pleased with his course of Studies, - he does not attend to Latin & Greek - he States that he has sent you a Catalogue of his Studies &c which I have not received, - When ~~at hand~~ I wish you would examine him in his Studies, his improvements manner of living & C.

Albert Poindexter has been here of late with the Doct^r. McClery that had taken Charge of him, - he was sent for by his Father, who has agreed to furnish him with \$500. per year, by his withdrawing the Suit of Chancery, - which was done & Albert is now staying with the Doctr. at the Avial near Read River.

My Sisters join me in love to Sister Eliza your Self and all your Children, & our friends ---

Yours &C.

J.L. Trask

(PS) The waters are falling in the Missi we will probably be able to plant there in about ten days

To: Mrs Elizabeth Trask
Brimfield



Shepherd

Tuesday Night Aug. 17 1828

My Dear,

Finding by Mrs, W/s letter today that there is a probability of L's continuing in this life for a probably longer period than we expect d when I left you - I have thought it best to send for you as Wm. & Ed. are both sick. Edw^{ds} diarrhea continues he had a very restless night last night. I sent for the Dr. this morning but he did not arrive untill 2. O'clock. Wm. was attacked with a very severe fever & cholera about 9 oclock this morning. The Dr. has visited him twice today. His medicine has not operated very well, but his fever is somewhat abated, tho his symptoms of attack was somewhat alarming the Dr. thinks this evening that the fever may go off.

I have directed Shepherd to start early in the morning so as to give his horse time to rest & return in the afternoon. I send the chaise because I think the near horse will not be able to perform the trip.

Remember me to Lydia & Mrs. Wms.

I am truly yours

I.E. Trask

I have just felt Wms pulse - his fever has vary
much moderated

9. oclock

To: Col I E. Trask
Springfield

Near Woodville Oct. 4th 1828

Dear Borthers,

My last to you was dated the 9th Septr. Yesterday I
Yesterday I received your of the 1st Sept. I mentioned in my last
that I had received a statement from Messers Miller & Co. They did n
not mention that they would be under the necessity of calling on you
to refund any part of the overdrafts. If I had of known that to be
the case I might have continued to pay the 10 per cent interest at
Orleans, rather than you should have been put to any inconveniece.

The fifty Bales of Cotton have been sent to Orleans, with orders
to be Shiped to New York, agreeable to your orders. Messers Reynolds
& Byrnes have not informed me wheather that, my last 55 Bales have
been sent on yet or not, - There was no vessel up for Boston at the
time they received the 55 Bales, and the Yellow fever & other fevers
which has, and now prevails at Orleans, May have prevented Shipping
from going out.

I have got on but Slowly with my gining. One of the gins had to
be stopped for three weeks for repairs, - I think they are now making
better cotton than they have ever done, but they gin very Slow but
1 1/2 to 2 Bales per day (each gin) of the Mexivan Cotton. We have
now 60 Bales pressed, and the most of it at the River, 50 Bales would
have been Shiped this week, had it not been for, the almost con-
tinual rains for four days which prevented us from halling, - The
rains have Sprouted and much injured the Cotton and made it bad
picking.

I think the Crops will be much lighttter (generally) than they
were last year, - but from the quantity of land I have in Cotton, Say
800 acres I think if the waather do not continue unusually unfavor^uable

that I shall make a tolerable Crop,- From what we have picked & the appearance of the Cotton open & C I would say that we will have from 450 to 500 Bales and if the frost should keep of as it did last year, and the worms do not injure ^{it} materially we will have much more, ---- The worms in ^{places} are destroying the leaves forms & young bolls, 100 acres of my best Cotton is much injured by them, --- We have picked at this time 260:000 weight of Seed Cotton & had it not been for the rains this week we should have had 200 Bales picked.

If my bills for expenses,- Bagging, Cordage, Bank Curtails & C. - Should be protested it would ruin me, and be of grate injury to you, But I hope, as usual, that all will be for the best, - I shall not be under the necessity of drawing for the amount of the Kinner & Co debt, accepted by Reynolds & Byrne & Co untill the first of May.

As to Lucys Claiming her freedom, it is no more than I expected when she left here,- Betty feels much hurt at Lucys conduct, and denies that she ever advised her to such a course, and says that she could not be hired to accept her own freedom, and be obliged to look out for a home & support like other free Negroes,- I have no doubt but what Cesar will make the same clame, - It would be better for us under the present Circumstances to have them where they could pick from 10 to 12 Bales of Cotton per year.

I feel much mortified at the statement you give of Augustus, - The character you give ^{of} him is altogether different from what it was when he left me, except that of his ressemblence to his Father, he was then uncommonly industrious for a Boy, eather at his Book of at work & when attending to any orders was strictly faithful. He was prepared to enter College one year sooner than I

had reason to expect, - I cannot now account for his Stupidity unless it is from some neglect or harsh, austere treatment, His feelings are easily hurt - I never spoke to him in a harsh manner but what the tears would flow down his cheeks, - He is not apt to complain, but in a letter some time ago, he mentioned that he was not pleased with his Boarding & that other Student lived much better at the same price, - I will not show your of him to our Sister untill I hear from you again for her hopes and expectations for the future are all placed on this lonely Boy.

Emily & My Self are in good health our Negroes are generally healthy, we have but 10 or 12 on the Sick List at this time. I have been called several times while writing this to attend to the Sick. We have lost since my last, one Child - 6 weeks old, and, old Abraham over the River he was about 70 or 80 years old, Eating Clay or dirt was probably the Cause of his death

All join me in love to you and family --- ---

As ever

yours,

J.L. Trask

Hatchez Decr 26 1828

My Dear Eliza,

I hasten to inform you that I have arrived at this place in perfect health. Let us see, I left home on the 9th inst & in seventeen days from that time am at a distance of 2560 miles from you. I could wish that my return might be as rapid and propitious ----- I have not yet experienced a single day of rainy weather - & no severe cold. I wrote to you from Cincinnati; that night towards morning I arrived at Louisville & at dawn of day was called on by Capt. Vail with an invitation to take my passage with him at 9 o'clock down the Missi. We have had as you will perceive by the date a quick passage - and on the whole as pleasant a one as we could reasonably expect.

On my arrival here I found that they had been deluged with rain for many days. I walked up the hill or rather waded in mud. I shall remain here until Monday (This Friday) & then go down to the plantation. I hear that they are all well there.

I will write to you on my arrival at Wilkinson & tell you of matters & things in general.

And now I am very anxious to know how you are at home - whether you suffer by the cold - how the boys behave & whether Lydia is well ----- I hope you will be able to find some girl to assist you in your domestic affairs.

I am not sure that this will reach the post office in time season to go on by this days mail, but I will hasten in hopes that it may. It will tell you that I am well - that I am anxiously solicitous to return to you again - and that you have my prayers & wishes for your health & happiness. Love to the children & believe me as always truly & affectionately Yrs

I. E. TRASK

To: Mrs. Eliza Trask
Springfield

Plantation, near Woodville
Jan^y 6 1829

My Dear Eliza:

I wrote to you from Natchez on the 26th ult: & informed you of my quick & prosperous journey to that place. I passed my Sabbath at N. & heard Mr. Potts preach two very good sermons. I visited our friend Mrs. Postlethwaite. She was unusually pleasant & expressed an anxious desire to see you. I imagine from her attention to dress, which was rather neater than usual, that she is on the look out station. I arrived here the evening before New Year. Jas. & Emily are well & our old friends the negroes expressed a great deal of joy to see me again & made their usual inquiries about Missis & her children. The little negroes of Wm. & Ed.'s acquaintance asked a thousand questions about them and as many wishes to see them. The weather is unusually fine for the season. The garden is full of blushing roses - in addition to the long walk Emily has now a fine hedge of roses around the garden & the effect is very fine. Jas. has nearly finished a picket fence around the house place & garden & things are in good order. A short crop of cotton has enabled him to pay some attention to the improvement of the plantation. He makes only 400 bales of cotton this year - which is 200 short of the last crop. The average failure of the cotton throughouth the states of Missi. & Louisiana is about one third. The consequence of this is a rise in the price of the article - so much so, that I shall not purchase. Jas. will go with me to New Orleans in a few days --- on my return I shall be impatient to hasten my departure for home. I think now that I shall begin to move towards hom in Feb^y If I could only fly to my home as rapidly as I left it I should soon be with you.

I can hardly expect to hear from you untill about the 20th of this month. I shall be impatient to hear from you. I hope Israel and

the boys are doing well and that you are all well. Does not Lydia think it strange that Pa stays from her so long- she must come out next winter & see the roses & fine flowers - tell her she must not work too hard nor spoil her eyes by reading too much. I suppose that Edward has nearly gone through the whole of our library by this time. Little Lucy wishes that he was here to eat the good corn bread & hominy & molasses he was so fond of. I really wish I could send you a few
 sses of these articles - they are really very fine.

Tell Lucy her friends inquire anxiously about her & express a hope that she will not follow Cesar's example. Hannibel Cesar's brother was ready to cry when I told him of Cesar's departure.

From the mildness of the weather here I conclude that you have not yet had neither snow nor ice with you - we had green peas at Natchez which you know is very unusual in Dec^r.

Now good by - Love to the children & compl^{ts} to friends.
 And believe me as always truly yours

I.E. Trask

Jas. & Emily send love to you all

To: Mrs. Elizabeth G. Trask
Springfield

New Orleans Jan 22 1829

My dear Elizabeth,

I have been here five or six days and am most heartily tired of this place. My health is good, except my usual malady of homesickness. I am impatient to set out again for my home and nothing but my fear of cold weather prevents my setting out immediately for the north. The weather is very mild here - but from recent arrivals, information from New York, indicates a cold winter in your part of the world. I intend to leave this place in the course of five or six days for the plantation, where I may probably remain until the 1st of March & then take a Steam boat passage up the river. I have recd no letters from you but I shall expect one or more on my arrival at the plantation. Mr. Byers is with me at Mrs. Harris' - he is well & intends to leave here shortly for Charleston S.C. If I had not passed ~~that~~ that dreary country once, I should go with him.

Our old friend Mrs. Flood was murdered the night before last by her son in law. You remember that her daughter Catherine after losing her character for innocence married about two years ago a young Spaniard of respectable family at the Havanna. He was a dissipated unprincipled young man. He treated his wife with such cruelty that she was induced to leave him & live with her mother, but notwithstanding the prohibitions of her mother Catherine had frequent interviews with him. Mrs. F. with her infant grandchild in her arms stepped into the kitchen & found C. & her husband conversing together there. She spoke strongly to the Spaniard & ordered him off - he immediately drew a stiletto & stabbed his mother in law & she fell with his child in her arms. She immediately expired.

What a wretched family - her oldest son not long ago returned home after an absence of a few months and entered her room in a state of intoxication, exclaiming that he was burning up - threw himself in his mothers arms & expired - the other son is living I believe in Phila. intemperate and desperate.

Such is the consequence of irreligious education. May so be taught to bring up our children in the nurture & admonition of the Lord that it may be well with them here & hereafter. ---

My love to the children tell the boys I hope to hear good accounts of them on my return. I long to hear the prattle of Lydia again - Adieu- May Heaven protect us from every danger & ^{every evil} may & restore us to each other again richly laden with blessings. -

Truly Yours --

I. E. Trask

To: Mrs. Eliza G. Trask
Springfield

New Orleans Feb. 9th 1829 ✓

My Dear Eliza,

Finding that the packet does not sail for N.Y. until this afternoon - and fearful that you might think yourself neglected if I wrote to Israel & admitted to write to you I shall say a few words.

I have been quite unwell for a fortnight - but am now as well & better than before I had my bilious attack. I shall set out for the plantation in four or five days. And shall endeavour to leave Natchez for Louisville about the 1st of March.

We have fine clear cold weather yesterday & today, after three or four weeks of warm rainy weather. The river is very low. I hear you have had a plenty of ice this winter. I hope you have not frozen your fingers .

I expect to reach home about the 1st of April. Lest I should be delayed I shall add a note which you may show to Mr. Day. There is a note in Bank for \$100 due on the 1st Ap^l to the Steam Boat Co. in Hartford for 2 slaves - also an instalment for Bank Shares, I believe \$600 - in case I should not arrive in season I wish you to request Mr. Day to manage the pay^{ts} for me. Should Mr. Day be absent speak to Mr. J. Howard.

I shall make all possible haste to see you. Love to the children & E.P. &c. I have as yet had no letters from home.

In Haste Yrs affectionately

I.E. Trask

To: Mrs. Eliza C. Trask
Springfield

Plantation Feby 17 ~~1824~~ ✓
or 1829?

My dear Wife,

I arrived here last evening from New Orleans. The day was cold - the roads were frozen - & the country was powdered with snow. I got out of the Steam boat at 3 oclock at night and you may readily imagine what a dreary & uncomfortable time I must have had at Fort Adams. About noon with some difficulty I procured a horse, such as they call a horse at that place - towards evening I arrived here half frozen & quite as much dead as alive. What with kind attentions, warm water, & hot teas & calomel last night & epsom salts this morning I am now in the afternoon quite well, except a little soreness from my hard going horse. I should hardly have ventured out yesterday in the cold but for my great anxiety to find intelligence from home. I was much gratified to find your two letters of Decr 26th & Jan 9th. In reading your letters whylo my sympathy was much excited on account of your toils & anxieties in attending to our sick children yet my heart was sensibly impressed with feelings of Gratitude that they have all been carried through the dangerous malady with so little of suffering &c. Tell Lydia Pa is glad she has had the measles favorably & that he hopes soon to see her & kiss her himself. The good report you give me of the boys is very cheering. Israel has made great progress and as for William I always thought he would be a good schollar, & I doubt not that Ed. as soon as he outgrows his indolence will also be a smart student --- At any rate I hope they will all be good & dutiful children. I wrote to Israel, inclosing one to you, from N.O. Tell W^m I wr^{ite} to him & E^d next.

I am apprehensive that you have now a very severe winter - the weather has not been so cold here for many years. I left N.O. on the 13th - a very warm & pleasant day. At night we had a heavy rain

& the wind turned round to N.W. towards morning & it became very cold. On the night of the 14th buckets of water on board the boat was frozen quite hard - and during the night snow & sleet fell in abundance. Yesterday it did not thaw the snow in the shade - & this is quite a cold day, though the weather is somewhat milder. --

There has not been such a series of cold days, in the month of Feb. I presume since the winter we were married - and that if I mistake not is twenty five years ago - & this day is the anniversary . Twenty five years is a large portion of human life- & yet it has passed like a dream that is told. In that space of twenty five years how much time misspent to be regretted - how much of pain & sorrow, how much of mercy to call forth our gratitude - indeed well may we say in looking on the past if the Lord had not been on our side our feet would have slipt & we should have fallen.

I must hasten to close my letter to send it to you. I shall endeavor to hasten home --- but if the season should continue cold & backward I shall hardly venture to leave here untill the middle of March. Jas. & Emily are well & send love to you all. All are well here.

I will write again in about 10 days. Give my compts to Mr. & Mrs. Pynchon & Sarah & express to them the satisfaction I feel in hearing of their becoming members of our church. May the Lord be with them & direct them in all their ways. Tell the boys to persevere in their good conduct; it will tend to their happiness as well as that of their friends. Love to all, kiss Lydia. Tell M.P. to write to E.&I. & tell them as I have had no letter from them I shant write to them.

Remember me to friends. Give my thanks to Mr. Osgood, if you should see him, for his friendly calls.

I advise Jas. to plant potatoes today. As you know it is a fortunate day in our calendar.

Adieu - May *God* attend you ---

Always yrs

I.E. Trask

To: Mrs Eliza Trask
c/o Jas. L. Trask Esq.
Woodville Missi

New Orleans Fryday morning
Jany 8th 1830

My Dear Betsy,

I have the pleasure to inform you that I arrived here last evening about 8 o'clock in health a great deal improved. I felt a little fatigued ~~last~~ the night after my trip to Pt. Francisville but I slept well & the next day was much better in consequence of my exercise. Mr. Richmond & myself occupy one room at Mrs. Harris'. We have delightful weather for the period of the day. Tell Jas I have delivered his letter & have attended to his orders. As sugar is rising I have with the advise of Mr. Byrnes ordered a hogshead to be forwarded with his other things. Say to Jas. also to hurry his 100 bales of cotton to be forwarded as soon as possible. The cotton for N.York has not yet left here. The vessel will sail tomorrow.

As this is a holiday there will be no business attended to here.

Mr. Curtiss is at Mrs. H.'s - he inquired particularly after you & Eliza - most particularly after Eliza -- as I thought ---

As I wrote in haste to send the letter by this days mail - I can say no more.

Adieu. God bless you & preserve you.

I.E. Trask

Oh, our friend R.R. Kean is here - Mrs. K did not come . I was just informed that the Spanish match between Miss Ellery & Don Garcia is broken off. Kean is as noisy as ever & complimented my wife as usual. You know that I can do no less than return the compliment on Mrs. K. Love to Eliza - compts to Jas & Emily

I.E.T.

not forgetting Granny Judy

New Orleans Dec^r 27th 1830

My Dear Wife,

I arrived here on Saturday about 10 at night. The boat I got on board at Ft Adam was from St. Louis - a wretched dirty boat commanded by a Yankee. But I had this consolation he was well acquainted with a great many of my uncles & cousins & knew me as soon as he saw me. I am now at Mrs. Harris have got a tolerable room - am as comfortable as a man can well expect to be who is absent from his dear Beautiful & accomplished young wife *Eliza (or) Ann* I was in such agitation when I wrote the last sentence that my hand trembled & blurred the *dear name*.

Mrs. Worthington and others of our fellow passengers inquire very particularly after you. So much so that I am somewhat flattered & some little jealous that they have fallen in love with you. Would you believe it. There is a report in Town that Eliza was engaged to Mr. Waln of Phil^a on our journey up last spring.----- Does not this *not bea Spfld. & Boston?*

I shall write to the girls tomorrow & the boys also. The mail leaves on Wednesday. Tell Jas. I shall ship the 200 bales of cotton if it arrives. It is now Monday morning and is not yet here. It is insured however. All but one of the offices refused to insure on board the Liberty.

I have bad lights - a miserable pen & trembling hand and am apprehensive that you will hardly be able to read my letter. I can however assure you that I am quite well and very anxious to see you. ----- Cotton is on the decline - as good quality as Jas. is selling at 9 1/2 . I shall buy some I think tomorrow.

If I should not leave here for the plantation on Saturday next I will write to you on that day.

Woodville 26 feby 1831

James L. Trask Esq

Dear Sir

I state with pleasure that I believe your Cotton Plantation near Woodville, to be the largest in the County of Wilkinson, and very valuable - also that I have heard from various sources that your crop of 1830 has amounted to about Nine Hundred Bales, the product of this, and another plantation in Louisiana, on the River Mississippi -

I am D^r Sir

Y^r Ob^t Sub

L.R. Marshall

Col. I.E. Trask
Care of Messers Goodhue & Co.
New York

La Grange August 18, 1831

Dear Borthers,

Since I wrote you last (10th Inst.) the weather has been rather sultry and showery. The Sun has had a Singular appearance,- Sunday evening when about two hours high it assumed rather a dull silvery cast, and then became a pale blue,- Monday evening it had the same appearance ~~until~~ about 1/2 an hour high, when it became green,- A black spot was visible ~~on~~ the Sun - some say as large as a small star, or the size of a half dollar,- others pretend to say they saw several small spots. -- The servants were busily engaged looking at it through smoked glass, - though the light was not sufficient to dazzle the eye,- Tuesday morning it had the same dull appearance, resembling the moon rather than the Sun, I have not seen it since as it became Cloudy and Showery,- Yesterday morning it commenced raining moderately, - the wind due North,- about ten o'clock the wind and rains increased and in the evening blew extremely hard,- about twelve at night wind changed to the South, and now at 12 o'clock it is blowing fresh from the South west & continues to rain.

The overseer and some Negroes have just returned from the fields where they have been cutting trees from the fences and they say the Cotton is much injured,- leaves, forms and bowls on the ground, and corn that has been set up since the last Storm on the ground again,- What effect this will have on our Cotton Crop you can judge as well as myself (unless I go into it)

The appearance of our Crops at this time is rather disheartening to those who must make their living by Cultivating the soil, & by the ^Wseat of the brow,- For the week past we have discovered considerable rot in the Cotton - many of my neighbors

have complained of it,- We have found 5 bowls on a stalk rotted,- If the weather should continue unfavorable much longer our first bowls will be lost, and an early frost will destroy our flattering prospects of a Crop.

Our family is in usual health and join me in love to yourself & family.

I have as yet received no communications from you, I hope that all is well with you, and that we shall soon hear from you.

As ever

yours

J.L. Trask

(PS) 19th It has stopped raining for the present,- The sun has shone out, and looks bright & clear, - I have been in the Cotton fields this morning & find it more injured than I expected, - The Cotton is much broken, forms & small bowls torn off by the wind & rain. The rot now makes a formidable appearance,- there is hardly a stalk but has more or less of it,- and is not confined to the lower bowls, but is found halfway up the stalk,- I have not seen anything like it since 1813 & 14 > It appears like wet weather rot, which is probably the fact as we have not had more than five days of clear weather for a month past. ---- If I was to judge from my own Crop I should say that there will not be half Crops made in the Country, - but it may not extend to all. -- Even five days ago our prospects for a Crop was flattering, but, now is as gloomy as our most bitter enemies could wish. --- I will endeavor to write you again in the course of ten days, on the subject of rot. ---
J.L. T.

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Care of Goodhue & Co.
New York
forwarded Sprijgfield

La Grange August 29th 1831

Dear Brother,

Since I wrote you last giving a description of the Storm &c (14th and 19th Inst.) we have had six days of fine Sunshine, which stopped the rot - and caused the Cotton to open, - We intended to have commenced picking today, - but yesterday it began to rain, and it still continues too hard to attend to any outdoor work. The wind is from the North East, - How long such weather will continue the Lord only knows. As for as I can gain information in this part of the Country the Crops were not so much injured by the last Storm, as my own. The rot is not so general, - mostly wet weather rot - but, if the weather should continue the same it has been for the month past, both Cotton and Corn will rot in the field. Last year on the first of Sept. we had 100;000 - weight of Cotton picked at this place, and we lost no time from bad weather, or want of Cotton to pick until Decr.. From the fairest calculation that can be made our Crops will fall far Short of the 1st years Crop, - but from the fickleness of the season - we can make no calculation for tomorrow.

I presume before this reaches you - you will have heard of the great damage done by the late Storm at New Orleans. I have not seen any account of it in the news papers, - but have been informed by those who have received letters from there, that the Storm was greater than any ever experienced there ---before, - There was not a vessel but what was more or less injured. Some of them were dismasted, - two Steam boats sunk together with all the Flat boats at the landing - Flowers were blown down, and Cane Crops

much injured, - The Missi. rose from 6 to 7 feet, and the water from Lake Pontchartrain overflowed the rear of the Town as far as John Hagan & Cos. nearly opposite Reynolds Byrnes & Co. It is stated that there is but little Cotton left in the Market at Orleans. I have not received any late communication from my Merchants at that place.

There has been some Sickness of late and a few Deaths in & near Woodville,- I brought I.T. Browning out with me on Tuesday last, Sick with a Chill and fever,- Doct^r Wood was with him yesterday, - today I think his symptoms more favorable,- and he will probably soon be up again,- The rest of my family are well, and join me in love to you and yours, --- No letters from you yet

As ever most
Respectfully
Yours &c
J.L. Trask

P.S.

August 30th 1831

This is the third time I have written poscripts to you respecting the damage done to my Crops by Storm and after this I think it time to stop. --- After writing the within yesterday morning the wind & rain increased and blew from the S.E. --- About 4 o'clock the trees began to fall, and before dark many were blown to the ground,- The winds increased till twelve - raining incessantly without thunder or lightening. We braced & barred the doors, and used every precaution to insure safety, --- This morning we appear to have little to be thankful for except our lives, - there is no one lost,-

The forrest trees are broken & torn up by the roots,- nearly all my yard trees are blown to the ground, there is but one left in the circle at the East end of the house, a

all at my door are lying by the side of the steps,- many in front,- and in the front circle are down, and all but one of those around the Lake,- The grove by Bettys house fell upon it,- and nearly all the Pride of China in the back yard are prostrated,- together with some valable nut trees , --- The fences were broken & blown down, - the fields exposed to the depredations of the stock,- most of the Negro cabins were unroofed, and several of them mad, or escape with their lives. --- As respects the Cotton I scarcely know what to say -- it appears bad enough,- where it was most exposed, - the leaves are principally torn off, and have left bare the few bowls which still remain,- It has entirely destroyed the little that was open - Still it does not appear as bad as one would have expected from Such a Hurricane. I can make no calculation upon the length and breadth of the Storm.

All hands are out watching, Clearing and putting up the fences, - My yard fences & gates were so blocked up that it was all most impossible to get out with a horse without cutting a way.

With melancholy feeling

I still remain

Yours &c

J.L. Trask

If you have not sold your Cotton I think it would be well to hold on -----

31st 2 oclock

I intended to have gone to Woodville today to put this letter in the office,- but I am informed that it is with great difficulty that any one can get there, the roads are so blocked up with timber,- I understand that it is equally bad from this to Pt. Adams --- I send a boy in with this, but I am doubtful whether the Mail will be able to proceed with it at

present, - I have all hands engaged today removing the timber from my house and yard - they will not clear it all off in two days. The weather is clear and very warm. Browning is up and able to sit at the table at our regular meals, - and will be able to return to business as soon as the roads are cut out. We are so much confined that we cant go out to learn what the general ~~situation~~ of the Country is - but there can be no doubt but it is bad enough.

J.L.T.

To: Mrs. Elizabeth Trask
Springfield

Mr. Ed. Morris

New York Novr 21, 1831

My Dear Elizabeth,

I found Israel on my arrival at New Haven somewhat unwell with influenza - in other aspects well. He has your black shawl & old white shawl - they are subject to you ~~order~~. Elise was quite unwell on my arrival here with influenza. She is still so. Mrs. Perit (?) is nursing her. Everybody in N.Y. except your husband, as Sal says, are attacked with influenza. Eliza has purchases articles according to your order for yourself & Sarah & will forward them by Mr. Ed Morris.

Now my Dear Wife I can only say that I leave town tomorrow morning for Missi. I endeavor not to think much about the trip but I really wish I was at home with all my family, for I think I should find enough there to occupy my mind & time in quarreling with Sal & the boys.

You will tell Wm. & Ed. that I shall write to them when I get to the plantation and they must write to me on the 20th of Dec^r. Bill must write one page & Ned the other.- & tell me all about their studies, how they like & &c. I hope you will write on the 1st Decr. and once in ten days after untill the 1st of Febr. I shall write to you from Wheeling & Louisville & Natchez.

I am writing in the compting room of Goodhue & Co. & there is so much talking that I cant hear to think.

Adieu. Love to children. Remember me to Dr. Belcher & Mrs. B. and all our good friends in Springfield and believe me as always

Yours -

I.E. Trask

To: Mrs. Elizabeth C. Trask
Springfield

Frostburg M.^d Dec^r. 1 1831

My Dear Wife,

The day I left Baltimore I was attacked with influenza, but I reached Hagerstown without great inconvenience. The morning I left Hagerstown was very cold & snow & sleet fell the greater part of the day - the severity of my disease increased - so I concluded to stop at a tavern twenty fove miles from Cumberland. I passed Saturday & Sunday at this place - was kindly nursed - and on Monday afternoon with recruited health reached Cumberland. Monday night was severely cold & unobsterous & my room was large with many appertures for the admission of fresh air - and though I had a large coal fire I took an additional cold. Tuesday morning I left C. at 3 o'clock & reached this high bleak village, distant 10 miles about 6 O'clock. I found myself so unwell I thought it admissable to make a halt. I have been very well accommodated here & very kindly nursed. This morning I felt myself sufficiently recruited to proceed on, but to my disappointment the stage was full. So I must wait another day. I feel quite well today & not a little excited by the cheering company of Mr. & Mrs. Clay who arrived yesterday in their own carriage & have just left on their way to Washington. They seemed to be almost as much fagged with fatigue & cold as myself. Apprehensive that you would feel alarmed if I should delay writing untill I reached Wheeling I have obtained the best writing apparatus the house affords to inform you how I am plodding my wretched weary way. We have had nothing but snow storms & snow squalls, once I left Baltimore and an intensity of cold unparalleled at this season. I am now apprehensive that the Ohio will be closed with ice before I reach Wheeling & that I shall be obliged to wait a thaw before I can proceed further. ~~It is~~

It is two days ride from this to W. I trusted the deceitful appearance of Nov^r smiles ten days too long. You would be astonished to witness my patience & cheerfulness. It is true when alone in my chamber by my gloomy coal fire & long gloomy cold nights my thought are towards my wife children tears involuntary flow - but they are soon checked. Faith & confidence in our God who hears prayer - and who has so frequently protected me from dangers both seen & unseen from my earliest days to the present moment, affords me consolation at this time, that all is for the best and that in due season I shall be restored to my family again richly laden with blessings.

I will write again as soon as I arrive at Wheeling. The Stages may be full & I may be delayed yet a week.

Adieu Dear Wife. May Heavens best blessings attend you & dear children are always the prayers of your friend & devoted husband

I.E.Trask

Remember me to E. Pynchon & all friends -

One or other of you must write once a week or the time of rect. of this.

Wheeling Dec^r 15th 1831

Dear Wife

I am happy to inform you that I have recovered from my influenza & half a dozen colds - That I am now very well and am only waiting the moving of the waters to depart here on my way to Missⁱ. We have had extremely cold weather ever since I have been here. Last night there was a considerable fall of snow & today the air is more mild & the atmosphere indicates a thaw. I wrote to you on the 9th inst^t I believe, & informed you that the navigation of the river was then obstructed by ice - the melting of the snows for a day or two would remove the obstructions & steamboats would run again. --- If the River should continue closed a week longer I think I shall go to Louisville, via, Lexington, Perhaps to Cincinnati. I regret extremely that I had not requested you to address your first letter to me at this place for I am anxious to hear from you and the children. I am afraid you are all frozen up this cold weather & that you have colds & influenza and that Sarah and Elise have bad coughs & that a thousand ills have befallen you --- but this is my folly - the same Good Being who has heretofore protected you all during my many absences will I trust hear my prayers & still continue his watchful & protecting care over you.

I suppose that Eliza will soon be with you. I hope that F. will take no for an answer & not trouble her with further importunities. Although he has many good qualities I could not endure the thought of my daughter's connecting herself with such a Unitarian association. I should tremble for her piety & future happiness.

I have thought since I have been on this journey & have been unwell & low spirited, that I ought to have made my will before I left you, but on the whole I dont know but the laws of the State provide for the division of property in case of decease, for my heart

2.

Barwell as I could do it myself. The settlements of my estate would not be very difficult. I have but few debts against me. Mr. Williams holds a note against me for \$12 or 1400. I have a large account with Goodhue & P. which would be simple however in its adjustments the balance either way depends on the sales of cotton - much of it shipped to France. The debts due to me from Jarraco consists of Bond & mortgages in the Keeping of Goodhue & P. ^{or} for the sum of One Hundred & Seventy Thousand Doll^s payable in two years from next Jan. in^t to be paid annually. The sum of \$10,200 in^t due 1st Jan. next to be paid to G & P. in N.Y. I have in addition One Hun^d shares in the Canal Bank of New Orleans (\$100 a share) only half of the installments paid in - G.& P. have also the evidence of this property. One Hund^d acres of land in Belchertown & one undivided tract in Louisiana - I believe constitute all the property I am worth - Stop though the Harding house in Boston I forgot - there is a mortgage on that that cant be taken up untill Dec^r 1832. There may then remain to me if the property be sold about \$1500 or \$2000 over and above the satisfaction of the mortgage --- I owe Sister Fynchon \$ 400 the legacy of E.P. I have paid her \$100. --- Thus you have a general statement of my debts and dues. In case of my decease I hope that my friend Mr. Perit would consent to become guardian to my children. But I trust through the goodness & tender mercies of our God my life may still be prolonged & that I may be continued the Guardian of my wife and children.

With sincerest affection,
Yr husband I.E. Trask

Love to children. Remember me to Dr. & Mrs. Belcher & Donald -
Dr. & Mrs Bliss. family, Morris., M. Bliss & to many others.

*I hope I can't mention them all. I hope you will buy me
home before spring, as I suggested to you in my last.*

Wheeling Jan^y 3rd 1832

Dear Wife,

I am still detained in this unpleasant smoky place. Yesterday we had very encouraging signs of rain & an extensive thaw - at evening the wind was fresh from the south & the snow began to melt. Showers of rain ensued & continued until about one o'clock when the wind suddenly veered about to the Northwest and now at 10 o'clock (A.M.) we have very cold freezing weather. When I awoke this morning I felt extremely disappointed at the sudden transition of the weather, and with the prospect of my longer protracted stay in this place. It is doubtless all for the best in a general point of view - for He who rides the winds has so ordered it - and I hope that it may also be best for me. My patience has been tried but ~~fr~~ I can say now with sincerity of heart God's holy will be done.

I had the pleasure a few days ago of receiving a letter from friend Penit^x. He writes on the 24th of Dec^r that Eliza had rec^d recent intelligence from Springfield and that you were all well. He also mentioned that Elise had been quite sick after I left N.Y. but had recovered. I have been extremely anxious for my wife and children, especially when noticing in the Gazettes the great mortality occasioned by the influeze in various parts of the country.

It is now only the 3rd of Jan^y and it seems to me one of the longest winters I have hitherto experienced. We have had at any rate the usual amount of cold apportioned to the whole winter season and I have strong hopes that a few days may bring us a milder atmosphere. Travellers from the West & South say ^{the}

that the winter is equally severe in those directions. The
Miss^l is frozen over at St. Louis - the Cumberland & Tennessee
& Ohio to their mouths. New Orleans dates to the 17th Dec^r speak
of ice & extreme cold weather in the city.

My health is quite good notwithstanding the cold weather &
the unpleasantness of the place prevents me from taking as much
exercise as I ought to take. I have a good reading room at
friend McKee's - who you know is a good pious man & loaned me
books when we were here so long a time. I have also many com-
panions in misery here, waiting like myself for the moving of
the waters but they are not of much consolation to me, either
in companionship or misery ----- I believe I should return to
Spfd but for the hazard of crossing the mountains. We hear
every day of stages upsetting - of broken bones & contusion
& broken necks of horses. I have concluded to wait here for a
thaw. You may address a letter to me at this place to the care
of Messers Knox & McKee. Pay postage, that in case I should
leave here previously to its arrival they may forward it to me
at Woodville.

I shall not write to you a gain until the river breaks up.

Now I commend you and yours, as I do daily, to Him who is
abundantly able to keep you from all evil, to bestow on you every
needed blessing --- my ardent love to our children. Eliza I pre-
sume is with you & hope is in good health. How is Sarah's cough?
Attend to warm cloathing. I hope the hear of the boys that they are
all well and are doing well. Remember me to old friends and believe
me as ever your most devoted & affectionate husband.

I.E. Trask

Mrs. Trask at Springfield

Cincinnati Jan^y 7th 1832
SteamBoat Choctaw

Daer Wife

I am happy to inform you that I am thus far on my way in excellent health. The^{re} is yet a great quantity of floating ice in the river which renders the navigation very difficult. We have been obliged to stop very frequently to mend our wheels, and a great part of the way we could only float amidst fields of ice. It is now nine days since the river broke up, and what is very extraordinary, the ice in large blocks and masses continues to float from a distance of six hundred miles above this place and I am informed that ice has been seen as low as Natchez on the Missi^si. We leave here this afternoon and I shall not write again untill I arrive at Natchez. Our passage may be a long one, unless the ice should disappear below the falls. The Choctaw is a fine substantial new Boat. She has excellent accommodations - a good open hearted Virginia Captain - an excellent Steward & good servants and a pretty good cook and all seem very attentive & ready to do as nearly as I could wish. I am at present the only cabin passenger on board. We shall have only six or seven more from this place. If you were with me now I should be quite at home. But we are never quite contented - there is always something to wish for - my first best wish at present would certainly be that my good old wife who has sailed with me now some twenty eight years on the troublous sea of life, and who had endured its tempests & its dangers with so much patience & cheerfulness- and who has so long so kindly nursed & soothed me amidst so much sickness & amidst so many afflictions, was ^{again} gain with me. Yes Dear best of wives - if you was only here I should certainly be very happy. at least I think so now. But then our children-

we should wish to have them also with us - and we should feel anxious to hear from them and should feel ^{our} solicitude in regard to their healths & well fare. This life can never be free from care & solicitudes - we must always have something to desire & wish for. May our most ardent desires, our most fervent prayers & *lively* wishes all be directed to the obtaining an access to that haven & home for ourselves & ~~our~~ children where cares & solicitudes and separations cease & where we may dwell in perfect happiness together for ever & ever.-----

I think of nothing to tell you - and of no *orders* to communicate --- unless *it* is to look out for a house, so that we may have a home where we may ^{rest} ~~not~~ a little while for a few short years.

The children all share my love and remembrance. I hope they do well - may they be a consolation to you as well as to your affectionate husband

I.E. Trask

to,
Mrs. Elizabeth C. Trask

Springfield

Mass ^{ts}

La Grange Feb. 4. 1832

Dear Wife

On the 30th ult. I wrote you from this place & informed you of my safe arrival and of my good state of health. I have since the date of my last received your favor of the 2nd of Jan^y & was greatly rejoiced to hear of your improved state of health & that our dear children were all well. With regard to the proposals of Elisa Pynchon, I hardly know at present what answer to give. I should be glad to have E. in our family whenever we may be so fortunate as to find a home but as that want still remains uncertain, I should think on the whole it to be well for her to continue with Hawk. It will be of great advantage to her, especially if she should continue as an instructress & attempt a school of her own, to be with Miss H. and gain experience under such excellent tuition.

I have not yet made up my mind as to what I shall do relative to the plantation. Jas has had a wretched crop of cotton, but a plenty of provisions. The crops generally through the country are bad. And it would be the worst time one could select to offer the place for sale. Another reason for postponing the sale ~~for the present~~ is a railroad from St. Francisville to Woodville will in the course of another season be in operation. When the road is finished Woodville will become a place of great importance. And real estate in the neighborhood will inc in value. Jas. ^{last} ~~last~~ ^{season} ~~season~~ purchased six acres of ground adjoining the Bank, for about Three Hund Dollars.- when the rail road is completed & the lots laid off, I think it will fetch him \$30.000. I hope he has drawn a prize once in his

life. I shall decide on some plan of management in a week or two, when I go to New Orleans.

I have not rec^d any letter from Israel yet. I suppose that he has spent his vacation with you and hope he has become a good steady boy. I shall hardly be able to leave this for the north until about the last of March. I sincerely pity your lon^eliness — my own situation enables me to feel for & sympathize with you. The few negroes of this state in consequence of some late laws enacted by the Legislature find their situation so unpleasant that many are ^elaving the country. Carey is going to Liberia to look at the country - and if he is pleased with it Sally will imigrate with him on his return. Aunt Lucy is here, as laughing & crying as ever. Clarissa has quite recovered her health. The negroes all look well. They have raised provisions enough for market to fetch them about One Thousand Doll^s. And they have been wise enough to lay out their money for more sunstantial comforts than muslins, silks &c.

I have not seen the Elliots nor any of the neighboring acquaintances yet . Judge Randolph died last Monday , a victim of intemperance.

I hope I shall receive another letter from you in a day or two for I am very anxious for you in regard to your health this cold winter. The winter I think is over with us here- for six days past the weather has been quite warm. Vegetation has commenced & the singing of birds has come. My mocking bird is chattering in the garden and we have a pet squirrel which amuses me a good deal. You must exercise more. up to S.^o ~~at~~ & see the boys.

I have not written to any of the children yet except Eliza. I do dislike letter writing so much I can't write to them. Did not some one of our children once lament that letters ever were invented ? I can almost join in the regret.

The savage state, if the civilized communities would not molest them, has certainly much to recommend it.

My health is unusually good . All are well here. Remember me to all. You know who. And believe me as ever

Yr affectionate husband

I.E. Trask

To;

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Trask

Springfield

Mass^{ts.}

Single

New Orleans Feb.y 20.1832

My Very Dear Wife,

I arrived here two days ago from the plantation - I intended to have written to you before I left there, & to have acknowledged the rec^d of you favor of the 8th of Jan^y -- also Sarah's & Elize's of the 24th Jan^y -- but I procrastinated & said tomorrow & tomorrow I will write - Immediately after dinner today I resolved that I would procrastinate no longer -- so I took up my hat and came resolutely and with a determined step marched off to the counting room of my merchants & ordered the clerks with an energetic tone to furnish me with pen & ink & paper and setting down at the table I had the consolation of feeling that the battle was won --- I have nothing to tell you except that I am well - My health has been remarkably fine - Since my arrival at the plantation we have had summer with us & when I left there on the 17th - (although Fryday - I considered it my fortunate day as you know I always have-~~7~~, the flowering shrubs in garden & in forest were in full bloom - but on the 19th & 20th we had a ~~severe~~ northeaster which must have put them all aback - In the city here there was quite a severe fever I hope you escaped it --- I congratulate you on the return of Eliza --- she will afford you company in the absence of our madcap Sarah -- and if she could only acquire a little patience and resignation to the petty occurrences of life, I presume she would prove to you a great source of consolation - But I am afraid she inherits too much of her father's disposition - that she is really a descendent of the children of Israal whose ings & discontents occasioned the calamities & miseries & dispensations to which of old they were subjected -

I am very grateful to Mr. Osgood for his kind attentions to wife & children - Excuse the inquiry - Is Mrs. Osgood in good health? I hope she is not failing. - You may inform him that I was never in better health - and the ladies of the I. W. think that I have found the El Dorado - so long sought for by the old Spaniards - and that I have renewed my youth --

Israel has not written to me - a chip of the old block - I think that letter writing on the part of a man is rather a silly employment - it is a very pretty employment for ladies - and I am very glad that my wife and daughters are so accomplished in it - they write very well --- S's composition on beauty has been very much admired - a copy has been requested - But Elise writes the best letter ---

There was a great parade here yesterday - the centenary of Washington's birthday - illuminations last night & set & set. but I did not go out to see them - I was thinking about wife & children & viewed all the pomp of military parade as fudge and the orations as school boys declamations -

I hope to be able in a very few days to decide on the time of my departure for the north. If I wasn't afraid of the cold weather I think I should leave on the 1st of March. Tell Mr. Day I will write to him as soon as I can collect sufficient information relative to the situation & prospects of the Canal Bank - I am sorry to hear that friend Donald is not well. Remember me to Dr & Mrs Belcher - and all our friends and acquaintances. You will not forget Hawk, ---- If I was a complete letter writer I should write to her frequently.

Love to children . It is growing dark and I am glad of an

excuse to close my letter. I would rather have one glance of
sight of you all than to write a thousand letters.

You may always rest assured that I am always

Truly Yrs.

L.E. Trask

to:

Mrs. Elizabeth C. Trask

Springfield

Mass^{ts}

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Care of Messers Goodhue & Co.
New York

La Grange April 6, 1832

My dear Brother,

When I left you in New Orleans I thought I would write to your family immediately, on my return home -- but I have ~~be~~ been so much engaged, and a part of the time from home, that this is the first attempt I have made to write either to you or your family who are, ere this, I hope happy in the ^osociety of each other.

I found our Sister and all other friends well. The woman, Lucy, was alive, and is now recovering slowly. The pet squirrel did not recover from his fall. He was dead and buried before my return. The Black people are generally in good health.

George L.P. left us eight days since for the North. He has gone up the River. We hope he will be prudent and wise and will meet with success in his undertakings. He was anxious that I should meet him in New York or Baltimore to assist him in procuring some property for his use. I promised, if consistent with my own interest, that I would try to leave here in June and meet him in one of those places: but it is uncertain whether I can leave.

He has left his wife and little daughter Lydia with us. Lydia ~~h~~ has improved very much since you left us and is one of the best children I have ever seen.

We have been to the Second Creek place. The hills have washed so that we could scarcely ride over them. The buildings and fence are almost entirely gone. George offered his interest in the place if I would go on and assist him in his purchases. But in its present situation the place is hardly worth ^{re}ceiving as a present.

We have had no rain to assist vegetation since my return from New Orleans, until last night, when we had a fine rain, and Nature once more looks smiling. While we were troubled with the rain that

rendered it so unpleasant at N.O. they had hail, sleet and freezing weather here. Corn was cut down by the frost on the 18th of March - but it is beginning to show itself again without replanting. We have not planted much cotton yet on account of the extreme drought - but we shall go on with it and hope for a plentiful harvest.

The great rise of the Ohio which has caused such general devastation on its banks, has not effected the Miss. so much as was expected. The River is rising very slowly (if any) at this time. At my River place we have from six to seven feet bank in front -- and in rear it wants 14 or 15 feet of high water mark. We do not expect overflow at any place --- although it may happen.

When at Natchez two weeks since I heard you had purchased 2000 Bales of Cotton, which was then on the rise, and it was supposed you would make something handsome if you sold at New Orleans instead of shipping. It was mentioned in the Natchez of the 30th that there had been a general sweep of all Cotton in N.O. at 12 1/2 C'ts but when at Woodville on the 3rd Inst. I learned that all the Merchants had all sold except Reynolds & Byrnes, Hagen and Linton - that 15000 Bales had been sold in one day, and that agents had bought all they could at Natchez. Many other rumors are afloat respecting the rise of Cotton. but I have received no account from my Merchts. at 0 on the subject.

I have recd. a letter from your friends Messers Goodhue & Co. New York, (directed to you) giving some favorable news respecting Cotton (13th March). My 100 Bales was not sold, and was worth at that time 11 a 11 1/2 c't's . I hope it will be worth 15 Ct's before it is sold.

All join me in love to you and family. Tell your daughters
to write us frequently --

And believe me as ever
Most affectionately
Yours-

J.L. Trask

(PS) I have supplied George with money for his journey, and have his
draft on Mr. Williams at 30 days Sight for \$300: payable at the office
Bank of the United States in the City New York,- I have written to
Mr. Williams advising him of the Draft,- and think it best to have
it Accepted at the Bank. If you should be in New York I wish you would
be so good as to attend to it,- I should dislike very much to have
it returned protested, - It will be some days before I shall have
it discounted, as I shall have to go, or send to Natchez for that
purpose.

J.L. Trask

New York 10 June 1832

I.E. Trask Esq.

My Dear Friend

Your very acceptable letter of 13th inst, enclosing Twenty dollars for the American Tract Society, has been duly transmitted to our Treasurer, & as a compliment to your good lady, we have with this liberal donation, made her a Life Member of our Society, as pr Certificate here annexed.-----

In thus offering her this feeble testimony of my respect, I beg leave Sir, to assure you that my prayers are offered, that the Silent Messengers which this money may put in circulation, may prove instrumental in bringing many to a Saving "Knowledge of the truth as it is in Jesus," and at length, enable them, through His atoning Sacrifice, to unite with her, you & yours, in a Song of Moses & the Lamb, around the Throne of GOD's glory. ----- The Kind Sympathy you express towards Mrs. W. & myself is duly appreciated.-----

I think we can now Say with Sincerity - "The Lord gave - the Lord hath taken away, and blessed be the name of the Lord." -----

I remark what you Say about Amherst I regret that you did not find the Cottage to your liking. -

With leave of Providence, Mrs. W. will leave for Boston in ten days, where we should be delighted to see you & yours.- I am sorry to say much excitement exists here at this moment in consequence of the Cholera in Canada & fear that this city cannot escape being visited with this dread of nations.----- This fear of cholera, will have a disastrous effect on Commerce here, as it has had in France.-----

Our friend ^{Purit} Pint (2) I presume will have inform you that 6 or 700 Bales have been shipped, which probably will do better than to have remained here under the present depression of prices --

the want of room obliges me to close
I am etc

W.I.Wilder

I.E. Trask Esq.
Guilford
Con,t

To: Col. I. E. Trask
Care of Messers-Gees----& Co.
New-York
Springfield
Amherst

La Grange 25th July 1832

Dear Brother,

Your favour to Sister Emily of the 30th June was received yesterday. The preventatives against the Cholera will be attended to, - though we hope that fatal disease or scourge to the human race will not reach this part of the country. If it should it would be distressing indeed, - particularly so with my black population, who would be deserted at once by the overseers & those who have no personal interest in them, - but while God spares my life I shall endeavor to attend to what I consider my duty towards the afflicted & distressed, - From the experience I have had with diseases generally in this climate, I agree with Dr. McLean (mentioned in the Springfield Paper) -- that is to give a powerful cathartic at the first symptoms of the disease - I would then give the other remedies - If you can obtain his Pamphlet on the Cholera, I wish you would send it to me.

In my last to you - 15th June, - I mentioned that I had given up my trip to Lexington with Augustus. He is now reading law with Gildart & Eventith at Woodville, - I mentioned that George had returned home, - his negroes have not yet arrived, - They were to be shipped by Woolfolk, Baltimore, - George has been to Orleans expecting to meet them, he had them insured, and returned without them, - He is now very uneasy respecting them. - his carriage &c have arrived from New York.

Sister Emily and the rest of our family are in good health, - Browning had a few days sickness after his return from Orleans. Hall My Overseer has been very Sick with the fever, but is now able to ride out, - Wyatt was very ill at the same time, with the

2nd attack - and 12 other sick negroes, - but the plantation is now quite healthy, - Four of the women have had children within a few weeks, - all doing well, - You may suppose that I have had as much as I could attend to since I wrote you last, - having Hall, Wyett with the other sick & Plantation to attend to, - While attending to the sick &c, I had rails Split and 40 acres of new land enclosed & planted in Corn, which is now up and growing very finely - (a piece of land that Mr. Hall thought he had not time to plant in the Spring)

I mentioned in my last that we had been without rain four weeks, - About the last of June partial showers commenced in this neighborhood, and the most of the plantations had a plenty of rain, - On the 7th Inst. after finishing planting my Corn, we had rain on it, and small proportion of the Cotton Crop, - Since then we have had showers on one half of the Crop, but did not get a general rain over the plantation until yesterday, - Chambers Crop is much smaller than it was at this time last year, - Hall thinks his cotton is better than it has been for two years past, - The Crop on the River place is good, - The drough has injured the Corn Crop very much.

There has been much sickness in this part of the Country, but not many deaths, - At Natchez on the 9th Inst. Old Mr. F. Cabot died - aged 77 -- On the 17 Samuel Postlethwaite died, son of Henry P.

I received a letter (Natchez 19th June) from Edward Green New York requesting me to pay his friend Forninghut (?) \$8 - for the New York Advertiser, - I never have subscribed for that paper, but it has been sent in your name & probably been paid for by you, if not let me know, and if you chuse

Stop the paper, - I would like to have the Springfield paper continued,

I have not received a letter from Eliza yet. All join me in love to your family,

As ever

yours,

J.L.Trask

To: Mrs. Eliza Trask
Springfield

New York, Monday, Novr. 12. 1832

Dear Wife, I have been severely afflicted with colds since my arrival here, but I am now well enough to set out for Phila tomorrow morning with Sarah. A letter recd from Miss Hawks this morning mentions that she opens her school today & has provided a place for Sarah. It is somewhat doubtful now I think whether I shall be able to reach Springfield before Tuesday next week, but I shall exert myself to be with you on Saturday. I have ordered some groceries, Coffee, Tea, Sugar, Spices, Butter &c to be sent in the Hartford Steam boat tomorrow perhaps they may reach you before I arrive. The carpeting &c I shall take on with me. I have purchased a piece of wide raffia sheeting which will be forwarded with the other articles.

I hope Israel takes good care of the affairs at home - and that you are all doing well. I presume that your furnace is in order. If not tell the man Wilcox I shall quarrel with him. Let the portiers at the wing doors be put up -- and everything warm & snug against my return, for I shall be very cold & full of colds .

Yours affectionately -

I. L. Trask

The daughters are well.

To: Mrs. Elizabeth C. Trask
Springfield

New York May 27 1833

My Dear Wife,

Perhaps you may be willing to pay postage for a letter although the contents of it may only inform you that your husband & your favorite daughter are well - but I can further inform you that in consequence of rainy weather & some few other circumstances I have been prevented from going on Phil^a. to the present moment. We are to leave here in the Rail road line for Phil^a. tomorrow morning at 10 o'clock. We expect to return here on Saturday, so you must not expect to see us at your house until next Tuesday or Wednesday. Eliza dines with me today at friend Peritz's.

Will you do me the favor to examine your cough - & if it is no better get another bottle of the remedy. Remember me kindly to your son & request him not to injure his health either by bodily or mental exertion --- Affectionately Mrs.

I. C. Trask

P.S. Master F. is well & very attentive to me.

Northampton April 17th 1834

My dear Sir

Your sons returned with me to Springfield on the 1st inst. as you directed. I am very happy to have it in my power to give you good accounts of them while they were with me. William is particularly deserving of commendation both for conduct & progress in his studies; Edward did very well generally, but at times was disposed to be somewhat obstinate; this however was rare & if I were not very strict in giving you a report of his conduct I might have made no exception. I should have been highly pleased to have had them continue my pupils, if circumstances would have allowed us to remain in this vicinity. I subjoin an account of such articles as I have furnished them since my previous ^{act}, for which I have given Messrs Tappan & Whitney an order on you, payable on your return.

With great respect

Your friend & Obt svt

Jos. G. Cogswell

To: Col I.E. Trask
Springfield

Windsor Vt Aug 26 1834

Col Trask

D Sir

I take the liberty of addressing you by letter. My object is to make some arrangement for my brother Charles, who left us 2 years since to seek his fortune in Weather World. not without the consent of his Friends but contrary to their advice and wishes, he was only 19 years old. and unprepared to make a successgul adventure, which the result proves. --- He now writes us from Woodville Miss. and wishes aid to complete his Studies of Medicine which he commenced before he left us - whether he wishes to finish at the South I am unable to say, but it is the wish of my Father, that he should return to us, he wishes for assistance which my father feels disposed to give him, but we have know way of forwarding to him. but by the Mails, and they may not be safe ----- My Father wishes to know if your business in that section of the Country would allow you without much inconvenience to put funds at his disposal sufficient to enable him to return to us - if he is disposed so to do - and what it would probably cost for him to return. In his letter he requests Father to send him 150// but does not distinctly say what his determination is. for fear that he may get disheartened we should be glad to give him early assistance, and hope it will be convenient to aid us. wishing to be understood that we prepared to refund. for any assistance that you may render him -- Charles is an intelligent and fine fellow - and his misfortunes are I think to be attributed to the peculiar propensities of our name a lone of charge of vanity --- My father wishes to be remembered affectionately to your family - and your brother who Charles writes is at the North, he would be very happy to have him visit Windsor I am with much respect yr obt servt Wm E Trask

P.S. You will very much oblige me by answering as early as convenient.

To: The Rev^d D. Poor
Principal of the S
Batticotta
Jaffna

Colombo 10th Decb. 34

Honoured Sir,

By the Providence of God I am getting on well and wish ~~that the~~ and wish that the hands of God will be pleased to protect and enable you to assist the Nation in temporal as well as in Spiritual Blessings. and I have sent along with Rev^d Knight a Small Book containing the Explanations of preparing Birds &c. and beg that you will be pleased to let me know, if I can be of any Service to you, and am happy to do. and bound under obligation of doing any Service as long as I am in the World, and whenever I go, I am still under the protection of your face & hands As Mr. Mills is in great haste to Start for Colombo, I draw it short, and say, that I have nothing particular to let you know, but that a great Inundation took place about the 29th Nov^b /34 and continued for 4 days which caused a great deal of loss to the Public in consequence of destroying many houses & many are drowned & sent off by the Flood.

I am very sorry indeed for not hearing any intelligence from your Face for these long time, and hope that you will be pleased ordinary Intelligence the next opportunity & pray to give my best Rememberance to all the Missionaries &c- and the Seminarist.

I am

Yours obed^{tly}

I Trask

J. Trask
Rec^d Apr 21/35

To: Col. I.E. Trask
Care of Messers Goodhue & Co.
New York

La Grange Feby 1st 1835

Dear Brother

I have received your two favors of the 20th and 26th Dec^r. . We are happy to learn that Israels health is improved & hope that his journey will be a pleasant one to him & that he may return again to his Parents & friends in good health. We are likewise happy to hear of the good health of the rest of your family, and the Wm. stands so high in esteem with his nine acquaintances, we hope he will continue to be worthy of applause and that Edward will be equally worthy of esteem by all his friends and acquaintances, -- and we hope soon to hear of your lovely Daughter's being happily married,--

I am pleased that my Bill to you by Bayard & Byrnes & Co was recd in due time, - I shall endeavor to make arrangements for the other payments agreeable to your request.

My River plantation, my 2nd Creek lands, and My Spring place, have been advertized for sale,- but I doubt much, wheather I will be able to sell,as the hole face of the Country appears to be set towards the new puchis. I am informed that lands there with very little improvement are selling from fifty to one hundred dollars per acre,- If I can get 50,000 Dollars for my River Land I shall be satisfied, that it will probably be worth dubble that sum in a short time. I have spent several days at the River place since I wrote you last,- Setting my a/c with Adams,- I find that my Expenses for repairs, Building &c has been on that place the last five years \$10,000 -- The gin & mill is compleat. The dwelling

house,- Negro Cabáns,- Black Smith Shop all nine with Brick Chimneys &c - If I should not sell this Winter or Spring - I shall enter the back concession which will enlarge the tract to 3000 Acres,- Adams proposes borrowing money, and going to Virginia to purchase Negroes, so as to make his force equal to mine,- and take charge of the place,- but I will sell if I can, without
~~to-gate-a-~~

You speak of cotton shipped to Liverpool-- My 178 Bales sold at 8 1/4 & 8 1/2 d - ~~made~~ me over the average at Orleans \$57.24 - the other shipment about the same proportion.

My 111 bales of cotton was sold during the fall - 50 Bales @ 7/8 - 61 at 12 cts - 42 Bales from my river place was sold previous to this from 18 down to 14 cts - 115 Bales & a nother Shipment of 40 or 50 Bales, I have no a/c of Sales of, - I have no late accounts from Orleans, but I understand that there has been some small rise of Cotton in the Market,- the last of my Cotton will soon be in market,- which will amount to what I mentioned in a former letter, 600 Bales at this place,- and about 125 or 30 at the River plantation.

We have had a warm winter,- but three slight freezes this winter, - but we have had rains without mercy,- it has generally passed every third day, we have had much wind Thunder & lightening.

Many of our Black family have been down with colds,- I lost a valuable girl at the River place. My overseers, so far appear to conduct very well, we are preparing for planting &c.

Sister Emily, Charlotty & my self are in good health, and join me in love to you & family. Nep lies by the side of me & if he could express himself would send much love to you,-

Yours J.L. Trask

(PS) Remember me to Messers Goodhue & ~~Pitt~~ And the Mr. Poter
not forgetting Miss Mathews

To: I.E. Trask Esq.
Care of Messers Goodhue & Co.
New York

La Grange Feby 5th 1835

Dear Brother,

I was making arrangements yesterday to go th
Natchez for the purpose of making a remittance to you,- But at
Woodville I received yours of 2nd Jany --- Stating that if you
did not receive positive assurance by the 12th Inst. of my in-
tentions that you would draw on me at Sixty days Sight,- Agree-
able to which I presume before this you have drawn for the amount
mentioned \$10,000 --- I shall accept - and endeavor to meet it at
maturity -- When I make a settlement with Reynolds Byrne & Co --
If it is in my power I will make you further payments.

I wrote to you on the 2nd Inst. and have nothing further ^{at present} to
add to my communications - except it is freezing weather, and all
remain in good health,- Those of your inquires I mentioned in my
last

My love to all your Dear family

and believe me as ever yours

J.L. Trask

To: Mr. I Remsen Onderdonk
New York

Springfield July 11th 1839

Mr I. R. Onderdonk,
Dr. Sir

Yours of the 11th was received this morning and in reply we have to say that we have already paid to your wife Eight Hundred & fifty (850) on a/c of her interest money for the year 1839-

We have hitherto paid each of the heirs of the late Col. Trask Twelve Hundred dollars a year --- Of course there is nothing now due to your wife

Truly Yours

E.A. Morris for

the Exrs of I.E. Trask

Baton Rouge Nov 26 - 51

M.L. Meeker

Mrs. Trasks lands

Dear Sir

Sence I saw you in Woodville I have had a conversation with the Lady that wishes to Purchase the tract of Land in this Parish laid down & known as the Carter tract about 11 or 12 miles from B Rouge on the Comite (?) River, the Lady Mrs. Hooper wished me to say to you that she did not think she could give more than \$2:50 pr acre part of the land is Subject to Over-flow & of little value I have Seen the plot of the Land & it Contains 482 Acres four hundred & eighty two Acres: too & half Dolls is about the value of such lands in this parish & Situated as this tract is &C.

the Lady also says that she would expect time in payments of the Same Say one or 2 years, there would be no doubt about the Punctual payment at the time she would agree to pay & I would have no hesitation in assuring you of the fact.

We would like to know from you as soon as you receive this if there is any probability of the owner agreeing to take the price. I told Mrs. H that as she asks one & two years payments she ought to give \$3:00 pr Acre & she will in My opinion give that Sum You will please to understand that 482 acres is all that is in the tract & we want to know if Mrs. Carter is the Sole Owner of the land:

I can in another letter Send you a Plot of the Land but we wish to hear from you before we go to any Expense in the Matter & what are your views of its value &c

With considerations of high

regard I remain your friend

To Major Frask
near Woodville

M.L. Meeker

Mi

J. L. Trask
& M.L.Meeker in regard to Land

La Grange Decr. 27th 1851

Dear Israel,

Your letter of the 30th Nov^r was received on the 20th Inst. I was somewhat surprised at the Short notice given to supply your Mother with money, - the 1st of Januar^y - I wrote immediately to Messrs Nicholson & Co. to telegraph to the Messers Brown New York, to pay the Eleven hundred Dollars request- ed to Messers Goodhue & Co for the use of Mrs. E.C. Trask, I hope it will be attended to.

I am very sorry to learn that your Mother is not so well this winter as she was in the summer, - You and Wm. will do all you can to make her happy and comfortable,- I am happy to learn that your Brother Edward is yet in the land of the living, after a few more hardships, he may learn to take care of himself, and be respected by all,- Tell Caroline to keep up with good courage, Edwa- rd may have a good home for her, and her beautiful daughter yet.

It is now the third day of Christmas, you know the fatigue and anxiety we have during those days. The Negroes have made a good Crop of corn, for them, 1600 Bbles. Each family have their Bbl of flour, also they have Sugar, Molasses, Coffee, and a quantity of finery. They are the most independent people in the world, have nothing to care for, but their own amusements. My Crop's larger than it was last year,- I planted for one thousand Bales,- I will probably have between Eight & Nine hundred bales, and a good Crop of Corn. The Crop of Cotton on the River place has been good - more than the hands can pick,-

I sent 10 of my hands from this place, but the weather was wet and cold so that not much could be done, - and more cotton is hardly worth picking. ---- The cotton brings so little in Market that the Crop will not amount to Much, I have had 231 Bales sold at 7 1/8 cents. It has been raining, thundering, and high winds for the last three days and much damage done.

Augustus and family returned to the River place the last of Oct^r, they were all well and fine days since.

Mr. & Mrs. Elliot called on us, two or three weeks since, both looking in good health. They sound much pleased with their visit at Springfield.

I enclose a letter from a gentlemen of Baton Rouge, re - specting some lands of your Mothers in that neighborhood, you can make a statement to me for your Mother respecting it, - I have nothing now to write, - my right hand is almost too lame to write, and has been so since my rheumatism attack last year.

Charlotte joins me in love to you, and your Mother and William,

I remain as ever

Yours

J.L.Trask

1852 A.T. Welch

Woodville Oct 5th 1852

Cougin William,

Uncle requests me to say to you that he rec^d your letter enclosing your Mother's Powr of Attonny to sell her interest in the tract of land near Baton Rouge, just before he left home for the Hot Springs Arkansas, and wrote you to that effect, since which time he has not heard from you.

As soon as the weather gets cool enough, he intends to go to Baton Rouge to attend to the business,

Perhaps your Mother is not aware that half this tract belongs to the children of George Poingexter by his second marriage, who are still living. George told me during his life, that he had sold his interest to a man by the name of Peyton for a horse (stud), but Mr. Meeker writes to Uncle that there is no conveyance of the title from George, on Record, which leaves it still belonging to his Estate.

As soon as Uncle learns more of the business he will write you.

The Cotton Crops in this section have suffered severely from rot, and army worms are at work in many places. How much the Crop will be shortened can not be ascertained until next Sept. and I fear prices will not improve until it is too late to benefit planters.

Mr. Elliot has returned but I have not seen him.

I have been spending some time here with my family and return home tomorrow. Uncle's health is now quite good, and all the rest of us are well.

Remember me kindly to your Mother, and to the other members of the family when you see them. Uncle joins me in kind regards to all. Truly Yours

A.T. Welch

La Grange Near Woodville Mi

26th August 1854

Mrs. M.C. Trask

Dear Madam

Your favor of the 7th Inst. came duly to hand.

The interest that may be due you on my debt on the 1st January next, shall be punctually paid; and as to the twenty five hundred dolls which you state you shall want the same time, two shall be paid at the time you specify.

However you may desire the payment of the \$2,500 at an earlier date; all I request of you is to give me timely notice (say two weeks before you draw upon me.) --Should you conclude to embrace this offer of mine; draw a draft upon me payable at the office of Mess. Carry & Person New Orleans two weeks subsequent to the date of your letter notifying me of your intention to do so. - The draft you may draw at sight --- Since my return from the North my health has been too bad to attend to your land & interest.- Your relative Gen Carter has never yet answered the letter which I addressed to him concerning it.

An overseer of a widow who desired the purchase the land called upon me some months ago, and offered to purchase it for her at \$3 per acre. This offer I declined feeling assured that it was too low.

I remain

Very truly yours Etc

J.L. Trask

La Grange June 10th 1855

Dear Aunt,

I came over from the Cut Off yesterday to attend to some business for Uncle and find him just recovering from a long and tedious confinement from sickness not having been out of his room for two or three weeks until the last day or two.

Uncle desires me to say to you, that since his return from the north, his health has been such as to prevent him from going to Baton Rouge to attend to the sale of your land, and that it will be impossible for him to do so. He has however made enquiries about it, and red'd an offer of three dollars an acre from the person owning the adjoining place, but the person will give no more. Uncle is unwilling to sell at this apparently low price, for the land may be worth more, without your directions to do so. If you desire him to sell at this price, he wished you to inform him, and he will close the sale, make titles, and remit you the proceeds. Uncle also requests me to say that he has not received from you any acknowledgement of the receipt by you of the \$2,500 paid to Goodhue & Co. on your Bond in January last. And further to inform you that he intends to pay the balance due on the Bond next January, that you may be prepared to make some investment of the money.

The family here, except Uncle, are well. I left my family, consisting of four children two girls and two boys, and their mother in fine health.

Give my love to Cousin Eliza and Tappan when you see them. And tell Eliza I should like to have an opportunity to shew children with her. I sometimes think my oldest girl Emily,

looks something like Eliza, of course then she is pretty.

Uncle joins me in kind wishes for you all.

Truly yours

A.T. Welch

P.S. Since writing the foregoing in conversation with McVinters (?) he suggests, that inasmuch as the heirs of Geroge Pöindexter may not be able to establish any claim to the land, and your title is unquestionable, that you had better fix upon the sum you will take for your interest in the land, instead of fixing it at so much per acre. And probably that you may be able to get at the rate of 30 per acre for the whole tract. Say \$1,300. If this can not be obtained, Uncle can then make ~~the~~ the best terms obtainable. By this means you assume no responsibility as warrantor of the title.

A.T. Welch

Grand Cut Off Sept 14th 1855

Mrs. E.C. Trask

Dear Aunt,

It becomes my sad duty to inform you of the death of Uncle James who died on the 25th of August, after a protracted illness, which he bore with christian fortitude. He had known for some time that there was no hopes of recovery, and he was perfectly resigned. I never saw anyone more calm and collected. His mind was remarkably clear and strong to within twenty four hours of his death.

He sleeps with his three brothers and sister, being buried in the place he had reserved for himself between the graves of Uncle Israel and Uncle William.

The party wishing to buy your land in La. agree to the terms we proposed. To pay \$3.00 per acre in three payments without interest for the whole tract, and to take a quit claim deed from you for the whole, that is your interest.

The gentleman who has been negotiating the sale of the land, says that he has been attending to the same for some 12 years past at the request of Mr. Stannard who was your agent, and charges for his service 5 per cent of the amt of sale, which it would probably be best to pay.

It will now be necessary to send another Power of Attorney, which you can send to me, and I will attend to the business with pleasure.

Give my love to Cousins

And believe me

Truly yours

A.F. Welch

Address

"Black Hawk Point" La.