

94.3 1/10

3/22/1863

Chazy March 22nd 1863

Dear Henry

Your kind letter
was duly received we were glad
to hear that ^{you} are so well and in good
spirits I hope it will continue along, long
time. I would written sooner but was
intending to go to Danvers, which I did
last Monday we could not both go so
Father got Henry Dustin to go and drive
the team for me I had a good visit found
them well and Henry and Betsey plan
a visit for you and Dustin to take a lot of
the Chazy girls up there and have a time
so much in anticipation

well it is about sugar time it commenced
snowing last night and has snowed all the
forenoon the prospect for sugar is not first
rate but I hope we shall make enough so
that the children can have some when
they come home

well Henry Mr H says he would
be very glad to have you help shear
the sheep they are in fine condition and
he thinks he has the nicest lot of lambs
that he ever raised, the wool is in high
demand now and probably will be for
some time to come which makes it an object
for the farmer to raise sheep Hay is high
and scarce grain of all kinds is high and
Money plenty goods of all description are
high especially Cotton the Farmers are going
to raising Flax which will be a very good
substitute for cotton

The snow birds are very thick
today while I am writing a flock have
alighted on the Woodhouse and on the woodpile
they are just as handsome as they can be
I wish I could catch one. That is an indication
of more snow. As reports is in circulation
that Dexter Watson is dead he was wounded
at the Battle of Vicksburg in the breast and
Thigh very likely he is dead

I see by the papers that they are enlisting
the blacks to help carry on the war they
are raising a Regiment in Mass Fred
Douglass is enlisting Blacks in this state
to join the Massachusetts Regt they have
2^d Regt in Kansas. and 2 Regiments of
Indians I say let the Negro fight

he has every inducement to fight to
put down this Rebellion they know if the
North conquers liberty will be their
reward and that poor despicable down
trodden race have suffered and groaned and
many of them died without one cheering ray
of light but I trust the time of their release
is at hand

Henry don't you grow tired of
writing so much I do yet I ought to be thankful
that I can write you have been a good boy to
write so often and I thank you for it I hope it will not
be long till we can lay aside pen and paper and converse
face to face

all in good health as usual . S Howard

~~with~~ with kind
wishes for your health I remain your mother

The
Samuel Brando has
paid that note I dont know if I wrote
wrote you that Albert M^r Fadden
accepted the receipt you sent and that
matter is settled satisfactorily