

Near Richmond Feb. 16. 1853

Dear William

Whether I wrote last or you I cannot now remember, but one thing I do know that we should write oftener, our Correspondence cannot continue very long as a few Months will bring me to the period allotted to man to live on the Earth, the Psalmist says "the days of our years are threescore & ten, & if by reason strength they are fourscore years, yet is their strength labour & sorrow, for it soon cutteth off we fly away"; I again **Behold** thou hast made my days as a hand's breadth mine age is as nothing before thee"; in May next ~~Wm~~ you will be 46 years & the 30th of June I shall be 70. you can look back to the time William when we all move to Wheeling it is just 25 years this Spring. I was your age 46 years & you was 21 & in 24 years should you live you will have attained to 70, my age, we look back & oh **What a View** of the years that have rolled away, never to return, to what purpose have we live **Have we answer** the great End of our being? these are Questions ^{one} of vast Moment, **What do we owe that Almighty Gracious being that gave us life & that Precious Saviour that has Redeemed us, that Saviour that was Wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for iniquities the chastisement ~~was~~ of our peace was upon Him & with His stripes we are healed,"** ~~read~~ **Wm** the whole Chap. 53 of Isaiah, If we have acquit^{ed} well, we shall hear our Judge say "Well done ^{thou} good & faithful servant thou hast been faithful over a few things I will make thee Ruler over many things, enter thou into the joy of thy Lord"; Well we have concluded not to sell our little Sweet Homes for a year I trust, Sam & his family are going to Town & I have engag^d a Man & his family to come here on the 1st of April & do all the Farming for '93 of all of all the produce & He at all the expence, except the milking, churning & taking care of the cows, I find him a House for which he ~~get~~ engag^d to cut & haul all our fire wood fit for our stoves, haul manure go to Market to mill & take care of Horses & Cows, so that I shall not be oblig^d to work no more than I can bear, my health is ^{very} good, & so is your Dr. Mother & Anne's tho they are unwell some times but ~~Wm~~ we have great Cause of Thankfulness for these favours, But I am admonish^d that "the time is short"; it is therefore important

"that I set my House in order" with this in prospect I have made
my will, I have very little to leave, but have ^{made} such a disposition
of my property as I think is right, I should be very glad to visit
you at your ^{new} home but a want of time & money will I fear
prevent me for some time but whenever you can come off Dr
Many or any of your Family we must not say that we shall be
gratified, you know it. ^{it is} 15 years this Spring since your Brother
& myself with you an Infant in arms were preparing to leave our
native shores the home of our childhood & dwell for a time among
strangers, but goodrieffs & Macy has followed us all along our journeying
to this hour, cannot we ^{say} Wm, Return unto the rest O my Soul for the
Lord hath dealt bountifully with thee", Oh May the little time
we ~~may~~ ^{must} yet have to stay here ^{be so spent} that we may contribute not only to the
good of ^{our own} families which ought to be our first care, but also to the general
good of Mankind, I am thankful Dr William for the noble stand you
have taken on the side of Justice & Mercy, in behalf of the poor oppressed
coloured Race. May your sympathies not only be extended to them
but may you be the Advocate, yes the untiring Advocate of ~~all~~ all
the injured & oppressed of every Nation & Clime as far as your Influence
may extend, ^{we} may carry out those precious precepts taught us by our
Beloved Author ^{that} ~~loving~~ all Mankind & then we know that we
Love our Neighbours as ourselves, May your Dr Wm be kept Humble
& while abounding in every good & Work, you will account ^{yourself} ~~not~~ ^{as}
but an unprofitable Servant, I shall write a few lines to Joe & Will
I shall make no apology for the many blunders & bad ink of this
letter, as I have no disposition to write again our Dr Love to
Mary & all the Children I remain

your Affectionate Father

May this motto govern you,
"Whatever you ^{say} or do all
to the Glory of God", JH

Joseph Howells

Dear Joe
Why do you not write to us. tell the dear Girls. I often think of
them and we want to see them very much indeed. I do not know
which of you all we want to see the most excepting your
Dear Father we talk of you every day and long to see you all

Monday Feb. 16. 1853

My Dear Joseph

I was gratified to learn from a letter that your Cousin Joe rec.^d from ^{you} last week that your mind has experience - some change, you begin to see things as they really are, & to see yourself in the light of Truth, that you need a Saviour, that can rescue ~~from~~ you from all the Evils under which Mankind groans, I mean Moral Evils these we can only be deliver. from by submitting ourselves to Christ & learning of Him ^{who} is meek & lowly in Heart, "by ^{taking} His yoke upon us," by "denying ourselves of all ungodliness & all worldly lusts we should live soberly, righteously & godly in this present world," may you cast off all the works of darkness & put on the armor of light, in this armor you can conquer all the Evils to which you are prone, but always bear in mind what the Blessed Saviour says, "Without me ye can ^{do} nothing," & Paul says, "with Christ strengthen ^{me} I can do all things," but ~~be~~ may you be kept humble. there ~~we~~ trait in the Christian, that is so becoming in the Christian Character & none more unbecoming, than Vanity, or pride, may ^{you} cultivate a close acquaintance with yourself, a poet says, I think Pope, "Man know thyself all wisdom centres there", I must conclude as I am going to town I shall write to Dear Willy again give my Love to him & believe to be your affectionate Grand Father

Joseph Howells

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Dear Stephen we want to

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William Cooper Howells
Editor of the Sentinel
Jefferson
Ashtabula County
Ohio

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"that's not my house in bed"