

How Isaac Pinck
Washington
D.C.

Jay March. 21. 1850.

Dear Father

I thank you for the good advice you sent me
which I received last Friday and I hope I shall
be enabled to use it to the best advantage we are in good
health mother has been sick ^{and} ~~and~~ has had the measles
Henry and Cataline Janett and Earl and Henry ~~will~~
~~are~~ are getting over them. We ~~have~~ have had some bad luck
we have ~~been~~ lost one sheep one calf four lambs the
black mare has lost two colts we have got two calves with
lambs Mr Goodwell has met with a considerable loss the water
drowned 25 sheep & head of cattle the boys think that we have
8 or 9 tons of hay Michael says if Father should see the brown
mare ~~he~~ would not take 200 dollars for her I want a harness
for cat I have had her harnessed 5 times in the single
sleigh and ^{once} ~~in~~ the one horse waggon Joshua has got
Horses from Mr Pierce and is working them he has begun
to draw stone off from that piece above the old house

I want Father to write to me and all the rest I want ^{not}

To know whether to take up these little apple trees ^{or} ~~or~~ ^{all but} ~~all~~ ^{com} ~~com ^{all}~~

If so where to set them Father be pleased to excuse
this is the first that I ever composed

Isaac Finch

Isaac C Finch

Jay March 21 1830

Most worthy Parent

Having been waiting and anticipating great pleasure in receiving the letter from my dear Father ever since his departure from home and having at last quite despaired of receiving it I was not a little surprised to find that he intended not to write to the children separate and was quite contradicted, and the next mail brought Lisa a letter and the next, Elizabeth one and the next Susan's and mine. I was almost forgotten but I have received a most excellent Book for which I am very thankful for and hope I shall profit by it. We have had no school for a number of weeks and account of the children being sick with the measles they have been taken out at a time. Some of them have been very sick James and Carl had them the most severe but was very sick indeed but has recovered he thinks very thing of the boys summer caps and if Father could bring him one conveniently he would be very much pleased and I think he will be able to talk by the time Father returns. Mother has been quite sick so that she was confined to her bed for a number of days. Eleanor wishes Father to send her 3 of those picture Books for her Brother and Sister and she will pay for them she wishes them to be sent by the next mail. The weather is all as usual we the Sister is still gaining except the loss of your Daughter.

Yours affectionately
Isaac Halsey

Elizabeth, Susan, and
James Halsey

Done & made

Letter dated March 21, 1830 from Isaac C. Finch (16 yrs old at the time of this letter) (Catherine's Rhuamah Finch Pierce's brother) to his father Isaac Finch. The letter was sealing wax sealed so no postmark and is addressed simply...Washington DC "Father" Isaac Finch served as US Congressman from 1829-31. During the war of 1812 he served as Maj in the 26th regiment of Infantry. (See other letters written by him during war) Also served in the NY State Assembly from 1822-24

Hon Isaac Finch
Washington
DC

Jay March 21. 1830

Dear Father

I thank you for the good advice you sent me which I received last Friday and I hope I shall be enabled to use it to the best advantage We are in good health Mother has been sick Caroline {some funny letters} has had the measles Henry and Caroline Janett and Earl and Henry William are getting over them. We have had some bad luck We have lost one sheep one calf four lambs the black mare has lost two colts We have got two calves _____ Lambs Mrs. Goodwell had met with a considerable loss the water drowned 25 ? sheep & ? head of cattle the Boys think that we have 8 or 9 tons of hay Michael says if Father should see the brown mare he would not take \$200 dollars for her I want a harness for _____ I have had her harnessed 3 ? times in the single sleigh and once in the one one horse waggon Joshua has got Horses from Mr Pierce and is working them He has begun to draw stone off from that piece above the old house I want Father to write to me and all the rest I want to know whether to take up those little apple trees on _____ all bad comp_____ If so where to set them. Father be pleased to excuse this is the first that I was composed

Your Son

Isaac Finch

Isaac C Finch

Pg 2 is a letter signed from "Ruhamah Katherine Finch", Isaac's daughter aged 18 at time of letter

Jay March 21 1830

Most Worthy Parent

Having been waiting and anticipating great pleasure on receiving a letter from my Dear Father ever since his departure from home and having at last quite despaired of receiving a line but all had finally _____ that he intended not to write

and was quite _____ the next mail brought Elisa a letter

Adaline

I think I was almost forgotten but I have Received a most excellent book for which I am very thankful for and hope I shall profit by it. We have had no school for a number of weeks on as most the Children being sick with the measles they have been taken one at a time? And some of them seem very sick Janett and Earl had them the most severe Earl was very sick _____ he thinks _____ thing of the boys and if

Father could bring him one (or over?) conveniently, he would be very much blessed and I think he will be able to talk? _____ Father returns. Mother has been quite sick so that she was confined to her bed for a number of days, Eleanor wishes Father to send her _____ of those picture books for her Brother and Sister and he will pay for them She wishes them to be sent by the next mail We _____ love Mr Slater Is still gaining?(farming?) accept the love of your Daughter

Ruhamah Katherine Finch

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