Dear Sister,

I have too long neglected this duty which I promised to fulfill. If you will forgive me this neglect and I will try and do as I more like a brother, it is what I allowed to gain strength by indulgence (as all will it will)

I hope in the nearness of your acquaintance this feeling of less more con

venient Letter how I teach and instruct the mind, but I will

make an effort to treat the spell to do better. I have also

indulged the fond hope from you to Bear Plant Circumstances

would admit of my making a visit to all my friends

but this far I have been disappointed but it is now

my intention if spaces it worth while until another sum

that I will make you a short visit. But we know not

what a day may bring forth. little child I think who

last with you that it would be the loss of time ere

I should be with you again. That some who were then

living in the full enjoyment of health. I should behold

now more in the flesh, but such are the insatiable desire of

providence can how can painful they may be to visit your

duty and your comfort to submit to them without repining

and with the true Christian feeling of resignation of Holy

et set ot him. The Lord gave and the Lord hath

taken away Blessed be the name of the Lord,

Catherine's letter brought me the melancholy intelligence

of the death of your dear husband. The hearts of happy

written me during his illness but I have never read it

therefore I was quite unconscious for the painful intelligence.

It would have been a very great satisfaction to me could I

have been with you before or even at his last hours but
It was not permitted to me to remain here. The more I was to hold communion with his blessed spirit, and to prepare my heart for meeting with him, the more separated I was from my friends, and the more I was to live in this world that I was to remain worthy of being a united and happy family in heaven. I believe, a communion of saints or Christians in a state which very few people have ever seen, if we thought they were of departed friends, and that they are not as we have supposed, and as we have been cognizant of and watching over us would it not be worse, it must have a salutary influence on all our actions, when we are in the presence of those we love so it is our delight to do all that is pleasing to them and avoid doing anything that would give them pain. If it is just our custom to think of deceased relatives and that they may be permitted to watch over us, by allowing our minds to dwell more upon such things, whether true or false, it would have this beneficial result that we should think of our present state of probation and consequently the more we are from sin and error, the better prepared for the great change that awaits us. The time is short and we shall soon know all. So as we are, so shall we be known. If we are wise, we shall strive to live every day as if it were our last, and if we are suddenly called, we shall be prepared to go. While it will prove a blessed preparation, and send our last hours more tranquil and happy, now and for ever must the dread summons be to those who think death must be strife to banish it from their minds.
I write to our aged Father lately which I hope he has received. I was in hopes to have received an answer
earlier. I then for delays in writing you until now expecting a letter from Father. I hope you will write a long letter after
you receive this and I promise to reciprocate. I know of no cause why we should be so much estranged from
each other. It is not right and we must not allow to be so anymore. I know and acknowledge that the
fault lies at my door but it shall be there no
more. Please remember in love to all our dear relatives. I have not forgotten them and I hope they have not
forgotten me. I shall be glad to receive letters from
any of them that may feel inclined to write on
Thursday to Catharin that I will soon write
to her again. I am under a great obligation to
her for owing her patience in writing to me during
her illness. I could neglect her, she has proved the
effect of perseverance and. She shall have haired
I have not heard nor seen any of your family that are
in the west only what Catharin knows to me then we are perhaps me but I may in time. If I am shrewd, make another
forthright in that case I would endeavor to make the
again. I beg to be remembered to all and by all in your
prayers and prayers and thanksgivings for many other
and prayers that we have been the recipients of. And that
this one may be granted to us to meet again in this world
is the constant prayer of "Our home to gone neglect that
but now repentant of. I trust affectionate Brother
J. Barber.
Dear Sister

I have too long neglected this duty which I am now about to fulfill. I beg you will forgive me this long silence and I will try and act more like a Brother. It is a habit I allowed to gain strength by indulgence (as all habits will) of this one of Procrastination this putting off for a more convenient Season how treacherous and seductive it is but I will make an effort to break the spell and do better. I have also indulged the fond hope from year to year that circumstances would admit of my making a visit to all my friends but thusfar I have been disappointed but it is now my intention if ____ & ____ untill another summer that I will make you a short visit but we know not what a day may bring forth. Little did I think when last with you that it would be this lapse of time ere I should be with you again & that Some who were then living in the full enjoyment of health I should behold no more in the flesh but such are the ____ ____ of providence and however painful they may be to us it is our duty and our wisdom to submit to them without ____ and with the true Christian feeling of Holy Job? & say with him the Lord gave and the Lord hath taken away Blessed be the name of the Lord Catherines letter brought me the melancholy intelligence of the death of your dear husband. She spoke of having written me of his illness but I have never received it. Therefore I was quite unprepared for the painful intelligence. It would have been a very great satisfaction to me could I have been with him before or even at his last hours but

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It was not permitted and I must be resigned and the more strive to hold communication with his blessed spirit and so to prepare for a joyful meeting where sorrows and separation never come and it is my sincere and heartfelt prayer that we may all so live in this world that we may be found worthy of being a united and happy family in Heaven. There is I believe a communion of saints or Christians in ____ which very few I fear realize. If we thought more of the departed and that they are not far removed from us and very possibly cognizant of and watching over us would it not or Should it not have a Salutary influence on all our actions? When we are in the presence of those we love it is our desire to do all that is pleasing to them and avoid doing anything that would give them pain ____ it not our wisdom then to think much of departed relatives and that ______ They may be permitted to watch over us in our journey through life both waking and sleeping and as it were Guardian angels over us by allowing our minds to dwell more upon such things whether true or false it would have this beneficial result that we should the oftener think of our frail state of probation? and consequently be the more ____ from subliminary? things and the better prepared for the great change that awaits us all the time is short and we shall soon know all. See as we are seen and know as we are known and if we are wise we shall strive to live every day as if it were our last & then if we are
suddenly called we shall be prepared and if otherwise it will prove a blessed preparation and render our last hours more tranquil and happy. How awful must the dread summons be to those who seldom think of death & when they do strive to banish it from their minds

Pg 3
I wrote to our aged Father lately which I hope he has received. I was in hopes to have received an answer ere this. I therefore delayed writing you until now expecting a letter from Father. I hope you will write me a long letter after you receive this and I promise to reciprocate. I know of no cause why we should be so much estranged from each other it is not right and we must not allow it to be so anymore. I know and acknowledge that the fault lies at my door but it shall be there no more. Please remember in love to all our dear relatives I have not forgotten them & I hope they have not forgotten me I shall be glad to receive letters any of them that may feel inclined to write me Please say to Catherine that I will soon write to her again I am under a great obligation to her for having persistence in writing to me notwithstanding my cold neglect. She has proved the effect of Perseverance and she shall have her reward. I have not heard nor seen any of your Family that are in the west only what Catherine wrote me they are far beyond me but I may in time if I am spared? make a tour farther west I n that case I would endeavor to find them Again I beg to be remembered to all and by all in your prayers and praises? and thanksgivings for many blessings and mercies that we have been the recipients of and that this one may be granted to us to meet again in this world is the constant prayer of your here to fore neglectful but now repentant & I trust affectionate Brother

A Barber

(Looks like an A but I can find no trace of a brother with a name beginning with A)