

April 29 1830

Dear Isaac

I have just a rose from Tea and will now devote to your  
service a few moments I am at a loss what to write I think  
however it is my duty to let you know something how we get  
along I have at present four hired men Seth Williams  
come here last week and said that you engaged him last fall  
to work on the road and he was out of business and must hire  
some where and if he could hire for the summer he  
must Josh thought best to set him to work he has set <sup>Henry and Seth</sup> them  
to chopping off some part of the Pine with the timber that  
will do for logs he is to cut in to saw logs and that for rails as  
such and the remainder for wood. we are well all but my  
self and I am the same shiffling creature we are rather short  
in our grainery and cellar to wheat we are generally you  
will think strange that I should mention this but I thought  
it might be of service to you on account of your business  
on the road. we have had a ~~very~~ great Family this winter  
or at least we have had a great deal of company and  
of course we have made use of more Provision we have

a great stock of cattle and we have many ways for grain  
to get away we have been as prudent as we could but

I feel very poor but you know that is nothing strange  
for me I have been sick so long and have earned so little

I feel discouraged, there is a great scarcity of Potatoes and  
grain or at least wheat we might have sold two hundred  
bushels if we could for seed we have taken our Potatoes  
out and they were good and none rotten but every one  
lost theirs that were in cellars and that has caused the  
want we had poor Pork and it did not spend like that  
which is better fatted we have not enough for our own  
consumption setting aside your load we have sold some  
to Gould McGill and those men that worked last

Fall. we have twenty the best lambs that I ever  
saw. I hope I shall not frighten you I thought  
possible it might be of use to you to know how  
scarce Flour and Pork and such things were.

Father and Caroline have just returned from the upper village  
Presbytery the Presbytery meets there today and to morrow  
Father says Mr Slater is not as well he thinks he will  
not get up thinks it doubtful, I must close for the night

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however it is my duty to let you know something how we get  
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Catharine at the Fourdan school however they have not  
kind yet I believe I have mentioned every thing but  
the scarcity of tallow oil and then like there is no tallow  
in the stores or at Durand's and I believe it is very  
scarce we have made use of all ours we have had  
so much to read this winter that we have consumed a great  
many candles I believe you will be weary of my complaints  
and I will close,

ever yours in sincerity  
Mattha Finch

Isaac Finch

*Letter from Martha Finch to her husband Isaac dated 4/28/1830 He is in Washington DC serving in Congress 1829-31 no envelope and on lighter paper that that used, folded to serve also as the envelope*

April 28 1830

Dear Isaac

I have just got a \_\_\_ from Teo (Tea?) and will now devote to your service a few moments I am at a loss what to write I think however it is my duty to let you know how we get along I have at present four hired men Seth Williams came here last week and said that you engaged him last fall to work on the land and he was out of business and must hire somewhere and if he could hire for the summer he must Josh thought best to set him to work he has set them (Henry and Seth) to chopping off some part of the Pine Lott the timber that will do for logs he is to cut into saw logs and that for rails as such and the remainder for wood. We are well all but myself and I am the same shifflys? creature We are rather short in our grainery and cellar to what we are generally you will think strange that I should mention this but I thought it might be of service to you on account of your business on the road. We have had a great Family this winter or at least we have had a great deal of Company and of course we have made use of more Provision we have

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A great stock of cattle and we have many ways for grain to get away we have been as prudent as we could but I feel very Poor but you know that is nothing strange for me I have been sick so long and have earned so little I feel discouraged. There is a great scarcity of Potatoes and grain or at least wheat we might have sold two hundred bushels if we could for seed we have taken our Potatoes out and they were good and none rotten but every one lost theirs that were in cellars and that has caused the want we had poor Pork and it did not \_\_\_\_\_ like that which is better fatted we have not enough for our own consumption \_\_\_ing aside your \_\_\_\_\_ we have sold some to Gould? McGill and those men that worked last Fall. We have twenty the best lambs that I ever saw. I hope I shall not frighten you I thought possible if might be of use to you to know how \_\_\_\_\_ Flour and Pork and such things were. Father and Caroline have just returned from the upper village the Presbytry meets there today and tomorrow Father says that Mr. Slater is not as well he thinks he will not get up thinks it doubtfull. I must close for the night

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