



Miss R. C. Brooks  
Nowell, Mass

Plymouth Co.

Amburst, March 17th. 1889

My dear sister:

Martha's letter written the 6th. inst. was received in due season; and you must tell her that I should write to her this time but for the fact that I have something special suggested by her letter to say to you. First though I must ask you to tell her that we were very sorry not to have a visit from her this vacation. Is it too late yet? I should think she might come up for a share at least of her vacation. I should have written earlier to urge it but for the fact that I have been unusually busy. Week before last I started Monday afternoon for Washington to attend a conference of workers in Experiment Stations. Preached Washington at half past eight Tuesday morning and left at ten o'clock Wednesday night reaching here at two in the afternoon of Thursday. Then Friday I went down to Boston & Revere by the afternoon train and Saturday into Boston on bus-

ness connected with our <sup>(Boston)</sup> Japanese boxes which had reached there as luck would have it just as I was obliged to start for Washington. Saturday afternoon I came home and Mother Hall came with me to finish out her visit - cut short by the serious turn in Dr. Harriman's case and the departure of he and Sue for his parents' home in Vermont -

Then came the boxes Tuesday and the customs officer the same day. He was a very easy man to get along with: willing to take everything for granted and anxious only to get back to Boston. We opened the first boxes at about half past two and at quarter past four I took him to the station. You can imagine that unpacking and arranging our things has kept us busy since all our spare time. Things came in almost absolutely perfect condition, not anything of importance broken. How much we wished you and Mat could be with us to help us enjoy the home coming -

When do you think you shall be able to come up? The weather is getting warmer,

Spring is almost here. I have been sorry to learn from time to time that you still have considerable pain: the summer suns will I feel sure roast it out of you, however, and they are almost here.

Martha wrote that you were thinking of trying to get on without a girl. I shall not feel easy about you if you are alone, nor will any of your brothers and sisters. You had better keep Annie if you like her until you are able to come up here which we will hope will be soon. I hope you will let me pay her wages; they do not amount to very much for me, I shall never miss the money; and remember, I want an assistant as soon as possible, so you must lose no opportunity to get well as fast as possible. You would be sure to lift something heavy or do something imprudent if you should be alone which would put you back.

Our term here closes on Friday, but our vacation is for only ten days; and I shall

be fully as busy as during term time.

The children are both very well now, and I want very, very much to give you an opportunity to see the baby: but hardly see how we can come down. He is nearly weaned now and is tied to his cow. Has Milton got a good new milch cow, or is there one anywhere in the neighborhood?

Eva is making short clothes now, and I suppose she will put baby into them before very long. He just begins to turn over on to his stomach and back again, and is quite strong on his feet. He can almost pull himself up already.

His grandmother thinks him a wonderful child: says that she doesn't think callers appreciate how pretty he is &c. She is going home Wednesday I believe. Alf's wife's sister has pneumonia, and so Mrs. Alfred naturally would like to be able to go home freely to help in caring for her.

I speak before a farmer's institute in Hadley next Saturday on Japanese Farming. I told them I had no time to prepare and should only give an informal talk.

With love to all, Will

Wm. P. Brewster