

Lisbon Farm Oct 12th 1862

Dear Andrew

Since the loss of my Cranberry crop. I have been nervous & very busy. thinking at first that all my time, energy and money devoted to this business had been thrown away. but observing that the berries were not injured where the ground had been cleared of the mulch of dead grass and other vegetable matter and decomposed. also where this mass had been covered with sand. I visited other plantations and bogs and found the same rule working every place. and at John Webbs near Goshen who has produced two thousand dollars annually from Cranberries for many years on seven acres of ground. was actually covering his vines with sand from trenches two rods apart. casting the sand a rod each way over the vines. I saw vines covered in this way last season. with a good crop upon them unhurt by frost. Here then was the idea for me to insure a portion of a crop from frost. and at the same time double the value of a heavy crop.

It was hope renewed. and must be done before the heavy rains set in. or it could not be done before the dry season of next year. men are not plenty the war has taken them. but first one & then another. I have had two or three with myself at it. for a week or two. I have now also near forty women and children picking berries. and I drive and care for my own horses. carting berries.

I was truly pleased to hear that the money from France had arrived. but I am sorry I have neglected to answer inquiries as to my expences. and must offer as an excuse the state of my mind and perpetual imployment (as you can see from what I have written above) The account of my expences were in pencil. in some of my diary books but they are gone to the Dogs now I suppose but so far as I can remember they are as follows

12\$ I payed you once  
5\$ payed for writing in Frence  
3\$ Notary Public at Mt Holly  
\$20

This is about all I think except loss of time and travel which we will not say anything about. With my best regards to Mrs Jones I conclude remaining as ever yours

James A Fenwick