

Lisbon Farm Oct. 23d 1842

Dear Uncle

I had intended to have written to you by Margaret who I trust arrived safely among you. but by some chance I neglected it until late. so that I now take my pen in hand to tell you what we are doing and how we are getting along. In the first place I can say we have got the sil under the shed. and I believe the leaks about the roof are stopped. at least I made an effort to do it and it has not leaked since. I know of nothing that wants doing about the house. except the roof on the north side of the old portion of the house is completely moss-grown and would perhaps last longer if it was scraped & tared or white washed. and some paint on the outside of the windows cornices would perhaps make them more lasting. I am glad to say that I had enough of that property of mind for the which the Anglo Saxon race are distinguished. to enable me to plough in the piece of buck wheat which was sown for that purpose. against the advise of all my neighbours for if I had not it would inevitable been frostbitten before it would have been fit to cut. The potatoes in the field by the rail road bridge where but a medium crop there was eighty five bu of the early and 200 bushels of the late. both the potatoes & beets & rutabaga suffer by scalding. the field is all broken up except where the rutabaga are sown with wheat generally and it will be sown with timothy and clover in the spring. The field over the rail road is cleared and sowed with rye except three acres and a half which is reserved for wheat. it was my intention(sic) to sow it with cloverseed alone in the spring. the field back of the barn is sown with rye. intention to sow with orchard grass and clover seed. it was also covered with lime from Pemberton. I am now attempting a little improvement in the field between the rail road and the one back of the barn. by running the fence down close along the railroad. taking in those watery places at the base of the hills where I am going to place an under drain ten or fifteen yards long so that it may receive the waters from the springs. and empty them in a little trough for the cattle to drink from. I have also run a fence across the orchard the one part I intend sowing with oats and grass seed feeding the oats standing. the number of acres which I shall next spring sow in grass will the year after next a quantity of hay and pasture if it takes. The marl I obtained from (Railroad bridge field 13 S. Ellis is now at rail road landing and I shall (Field beyond R.R. 14 shall put in on next week. I also intend marl (Orchard back of barn 5 ing the lower meadow with our own marl. and as (meadows now in corn 8 much more as possible during the winter. I ( Acres 46 may also say that the plaster you sent has ( arrived. I have not purchased any sheep yet nor cattle I shall be obliged to call on you for the money when I purchase them. There is one little thing that I fell the what of very much on the farm. that is some means of weighing things. and I have not any doubts that cousin Ben would purchase a patent Patent ballances that will weigh 500 pounds on one side that is I want such a thing as they weigh own at the iron house at Hanover with only a smaller size will answer my purpose. I shall be at Pemberton on Tuesday night for Margret as she returns.

With love all. I remains yours as ever  
James A Fenwick

If you can persuade cousin Ben to obtain that article for me I should like to have them sent up by Gloans stage.