

Geneva March 14th 1844

Miss Kittie Ruder

My dear Grand daughter

Your very nice & very interesting letter of the 7th was received on Monday morning the 10th and I thank you for your kindness and love which prompted you to write me while your previous letter was still unanswered. I have thought of you all and still continue to think of you all almost every hour and have often at times to write to you but have as often failed to do so. For the last six months I have not been well at all. My trouble has been altogether in my right ear. Firstly on the morning of Sept 6th I awoke with a sharp pain in that ear which did not leave me for a week or more. as the pain subsided a dull heavy sensation still contin<sup>ued</sup> and seems to be getting worse & worse every day.

We have had a very cold & unpleasant  
winter consequently I have been out doors  
very little. I am very anxious to see warmer  
and more pleasant weather so that I can  
get out and take the fresh air which I hope  
will benefit and relieve me of this disagree-  
able sensation in my head

I presume your Pa is putting well posted  
with regard to Uncle Lyman's movements  
and doings as well as his success & prospects  
with his recent device or improvement  
in locomotives. The letters I have received  
from Uncle Lyman upon this subject I  
have sent to Uncle Albert requesting him  
to forward them to your father & I presume  
about the time you receive this he will  
receive one from Uncle A which I sent to  
him on Thursday this week

Please say to your Pa that last Friday  
Cousin Ann Lyon was down here. She is  
stouter and larger than I ever saw her  
before I think she will now <sup>wish</sup> as much as  
I do 180<sup>lbs</sup>. She reports that her mother

Health is very poor that her cough is very  
bad that Uncle George Moff is very feeble  
and very helpless. Peter Wyckoffs wife is  
still <sup>confined</sup> to her bed when she has been for the  
past three years. I have not been up to Elmira  
or Haverhill since last May but now design  
(if I am able) to go there as soon as the  
weather will permit. Please say also to your  
father that I met at Cousin Frank Bells  
her that was Miss Elizabeth Fayser of  
Dundee. who is now married and lives  
next door to Cousin Bells. She wished to be  
remembered with love to Steen

And now dear Kittie, I thank you very  
much for your very kind and pressing  
invitation to visit you next summer. I should  
be very happy to do so if my life & health  
are spared & should Uncle Lyman find time  
to visit you all which I know he is very an-  
xious to do I may possibly go to Lexington  
with him. Blizzards Cyclones & Tornadoes  
are so common and frequent of late that I  
think Lexington is perhaps as safe a retreat

Dear Mother  
I am so glad  
to hear that you are  
well and recovering a little  
from your illness. I will  
write you again soon and  
tell you all the news.  
I am very glad to hear  
that your health is so much  
improved and have no doubt  
it was close confinement  
in the school room that was  
the cause of your illness.  
I am also much pleased and  
proud of dear Pearl's progress  
and improvement in her  
studies. How are the dear  
boys? You forgot to tell me  
all about Harry, Lyman &  
Walter. I suppose Harry &  
Lyman go to school or is the  
distance too great for them  
to go? Oh how much I want  
to see you all one more  
time.

You will please give my  
warmest love to your dear  
father & mother and all the  
children Pearl Harry Lyman  
& Walter and tell them  
Grand Pa thinks of them  
all every day. As your father  
will be pleased I presume  
to hear from Penna I enclose  
a letter I a few days ago  
recd from Alida French a  
daughter of my brother  
Lyman. There are some  
items of news from  
the West.