

## Laura Houghton and James Prescott Letter Transcript

[Page 1] North Union March 23, 1868

Dear Sister and Brother.

I have come to the conclusion that you do not want any more of my poor scribbling, but still I felt to say a few words on Spiritualism. From what I read in your last letter you seem to doubt what has been written to you on the subject. You say why do not mother and sisters communicate to one as well as Alva in answer to this I might say why do not our friends in this world all communicate to us alike; some do, and some do not. I might say why do not Father and Alonzo communicate to me just as well. If this world is typical of the Spirit World, They cannot all be ministers and teachers them any more than they can [love?] but they all move in their proper gift some to one gift and some to another. Now Jerome is what some might call a ministering spirit and he goes as he is moved [afar?] to those nearest to him and his Uncle [Page 2] Alva was one he loved and he had a gift to gather him and as soon as he saw Believers were the people of God he wanted you to know what he had found. By living the life of Christ we find power over sin here in this world & in no other way. If you choose to stay where you are, he did not want you to give up your property while you lived but when you leave the shores of time if you was willing to consecrate what little you had left to Gods Chosen people which he says he knows now to be the Shakers, you never will be sorry — I do not know any thing about Mrs. Barlows character; but I do not think any worse of her for what people say about her. There is no one [illegible] the slander of the wicked.

Eliza, I send you a few lines expressive of my feelings; so I thought [Page 3] you would like them. So now Dear Sister I hope you will overlook my poor scribbling and what I have wrote I hope you can read. You have a right to do as you will with your own.

My health is good at present.

Laura Houghton

Now Dear Sister take a good share of my love and blessing and give to Brother & Lucy. write soon.

L. Houghton

P.S. North Union, Cleveland, Ohio. "Shaker Box." March 24th 1868

Eliza.

Dear Friend.

Sister Laura has left a vacancy for me to fill out — I have not much to write [Page 4] at present, only I would say that we have given up trying to buy a farm at present. Money is so hard to be got, but if I should go to Michigan, or Br. Joseph Montgomery, and go by Ypsilanti, we shall most likely give you a call.

We expect emigration from the old World to our Society to commence this season from Sweden.

\$5000 five thousand dollars have been subscribed by one of our Societies located at Pleasant Hill, Kentucky, to bring over 100 Swedes this Spring and will soon be on their way to America, and how many more we cannot tell; And this we think is only the beginning of what is coming on our Societies every where; from different parts of Europe and America.

[Eternally?] Yours,

Jas. S. Prescott