

*[Written by David Sweetland in Ohio to his brother Samson Sweetland in Hope, Lincoln County ME; they are brothers to Lydia Sweetman who is the mother of Rufus Knight]*

Gordon Ohio May 27 1824

Loving brother I take Pleasure to rite to you & Let you know how we are & how I had received your Letter we are all well in helth throu the blessing of kind Providence to us & I hope these Lines [??] will find you all injoying the Same blessing you rote to me of my brother Samuel & his wives Deth & my Sister Clark Deth this is the lot of all Living it is appointed once for man to Dye ay we not morn as those that have known hope Seeing our Saviour, all those who in these Lifetime ware Subject to bondage throw fear of Deth you Spoke of your brother Steven being well his family I was glad to her from him & I want to Se you all as well as hear from you but I never expect to Se you any more you rote to me that our [glasses] was almost run & of the blessed hope Set before us may god of his infinight goodness grant his preference to be with us which in Life his Loveing kiness which bettor then Life you wished to know how Long I have been in this Place. I have bin now in this Place Eight years the forth Day of Next July you Spoke of our brother Samuel embracing that Common Salvation which was Spoken of by angels & all the Cloud of witnesses I suppose I knew My brothers mind in those things better then any other Parson when I was with him. I wroat a Letter to our brother Clark at attleborough about two years this June & his oldest Sun gave me an answer & rote that his father had then bin Dead about one year & that he Died in a full belief of that Same religion which you spoke of Samuel & I have written to you of his Deth thinking it mite be you had never heard frome him the Last time they rote to me of Clarks Deth they never Spoke of our Sister Ruth the other time they Said Shee was Alive I had a letter from Benjamin our Brother Thomas's oldest Sun in Varmount State he told me he was very lame with the rumety but was well other ways

My Dear brother as Concerning that Common Salvation which the Cloud of witnesses Spoke of Let us run the race with Patience that is Set before us for as much as ye know that we was not redeemed with Corruptible things as Silver & Gold from our vain conversation [??] by tradition frome our father but being born square not of Corruptible Seed but of incorruptible by the word of god which Liveth & Liveth forever We may Say as the holy apostle we have walked by faith I believe we may Say that flesh & Blood hath not reveled these things to us but our

heavenly father which is in heaven Seeing old things was for a way In our understanding & all thing became new the Schriptide States to us that the Light Shall Shine brighter until the Parfect Day it opens to me planely that our formal gospel of our Lemitaneary was Such as Paul Spoke if an other gospel & yet ther Could not be an other I have not rote but Little Lately & I am aged & it is a burden to me or I Should be glad to write to you & let you know my mind Conserving the Definance & unreasonableness of those things they Say the are Christs Sheep & name them Selves his Church & Saviour Said my Sheep he in my voice & they know it & a Stranger they will not follow Let us reason on those things & So weather those things agree with the Sacred Scripture our Saviour Sade to his heavens [?] if He Lifted up I will Draw all men unto me and they Say these thing Can never be & all the Cloud of Witnesses agreed in his promis to us in the Sacred Scripture yet they Say this Cant be that all men Shall be Saved & Come to the knowledge of the truth he gave him Self and for all to be testified in Due time & his blood Clereth from all Sin & the spoken Sin in his first Epistle general to the Churches Sath C2 vo2 he is the propilation for our Sins & not for ours only but also for the Sins of the whole world. All these Sacred truths they Deny Can these be the Shee of Crist I tell you nay what then Shall we call them Why they must be the people which the holy apostles spoke if Speaking Damanable haresy & Doctren of Devels Denying the Lord god that baught them these are wandering [??] Clouds with out water rageing waves of the Sea fomeing out then one Shame Let us remember that god has Said I am alfa & amega the fin Hand the Last & behold I create all thing a new my death [??] other may god of his Infinight goodness Do that for us & all his Creations that we can not Do for our Selves now or each other I remane your Loveing brother from [?] your well David Sweetland