

New Lebanon, March. 20th 1826

Beloved Brother Isaac

I want to see you so very much
that I am in hopes if you get any better you will
come home and see me so that I can stroke your
head and kiss you once more as I used to if believe
that the time seems longer to a little boy than it
does to a man for it feels like a great while to me
now but I mean to be a good boy so that you will love
me and take care me when you come home. I get the
wood in to the kitchen go to milking with Daniel
and do as he tells me. and Sarah says if I do so well
all the time you will love and bless me. ^(give my love to your) So kind as to
William B. and to all the little boys and to daddy Isaac
every day

Farewell from little Benny

N. B. The Brethren that live in ~~the same~~ room all
wish to have their love sent to you

First letter ever written by Benjamin Gale

For Isaac N. Youngs

Waterloo

From Benjamin G.

N. Y.

1826.

November 20th 1836

Beloved Brother & Kind Friend

I have read the little pamphlet you gave me, with the greatest attention; I thought it contained many pages, with much reproof, admonition, & encouragement, yet it did not weary me in the least. But its felt like the reproof I advise of a friend, & caused it to sink deep in my heart. I assure you, it shall be the means of doing me a deal of good & no hurt.

Although in some respects there appeared to be a misunderstanding between us, or I do not understand your meaning, yet I do not take it hard in the least, nor feel anything against it in ~~any way~~, but return my hearty & sincere thanks, for your freedom & plainness in writing to me. The particulars I have reference to, I will here speak of, & do my best endeavours to explain to you.

Firstly. (in speaking of my unbelief) you said that I did not seem or pretend to have an unshaken faith, even whether there was a God or a futurity or future rewards & punishments. There I think is quite a mistake or misunderstanding between us; for I have not, neither have I ever had, the least doubt, or query, in any way, of there being a God & futurity, neither have I ever intended to manifest such unbelief to any one in the least degree, & where anyone has taken such a meaning from me, it certainly has been a lack of understanding between them & me. But in regard to future rewards & punishments, I have had doubts in what way they were, & many other things I might mention, I have had doubts in relation to.

But I feel to drop them all, & think no more of them, for I am confident they yield no comfort to me, but to the contrary, nothing but unhappiness.

Secondly. (in speaking of those that had left here) you said,

since -

I were so well agreed with them, you rank'd me with them. This I did not fully understand, whether you meant in particular respects you rank'd me with them, or whether it was in all things you had mention'd.

Be this as it may, I can say in confidence & in truth, that in relation to the orders, the gifts in meeting, the speaking of any one, or the gifts of any one, I never spoke against, mock'd, or made ridicule of in any way. neither have I felt against them, or the persons on the account of having them, this I feel a clear conscience in. But I know that some have done it for I have seen & heard it myself.

Yet in a great many things I do know I have been I am still very lacking in. I am convinc'd & fully sensible of it. And in a particular manner, the many hard speeches & unbecoming replies I have made to you from time to time, all of which I do feel heartily sorry for & do earnestly desire your forgiveness, wishing you to know I repent of them I have a sincere determination to leave them off. for this I believe to be the true way, & the only true way of repentance.

And if I may find forgiveness, in proportion to my repenting & forsaking, it is all I have confidence to ask for.

I might, by taking time enough express many of my feelings at this time, but I feel very incapable of expressing my feelings in this way, & indeed, I may say in any way, so I omit writing lengthy, believing my conduct will show my feelings & determination much plainer than I am capable of doing it with pen & ink on paper.

I close my short letter, with much love, & many hearty thanks to you, for your kind feelings, & notice in writing to me, I subscribe myself an unworth partaker of your love & many such kindneses.

Benjamin Gates
11
3

Isaac Youngs

Benj - G -

Nov 4 - 1836 -

New Lebanon, December 17th 1837.

Beloved Gospel Friends,

Thirteen long days have now passed away since you left me in our comfortable shop; where I have spent the greater part of the time since, in doing such parts of the work, as appeared most necessary, and attending to our calls whenever necessary & that's proper.

How many times have I recollected with the greatest pleasure, how comfortably and with what satisfaction a few of the past weeks have been spent, since our coming in to the shop this season. Never, may, never did I enjoy that satisfaction in any situation of my work whatever, as I have a few weeks we have spent in the shop together this season; knowing I had good company, that felt zealous & interested in work, and had an anxious desire for my prosperity and welfare, all of which gave me much courage & cause'd the time to pass very happily with me.

But the lonely lonesome hours that I have pass'd thro' in your absence, have not been very few I assure you. Yet believing your duty calls you where you now are; I feel measurably reconcil'd to my situation.

We are most continually hearing something new from Water-vliet, in some way or other. Two or three letters have been receiv'd from you; one was read in one of our evening meetings. (this probably was the first one) which gave us much satisfaction to hear from you. We have had many beautiful meetings in your absence, in which were manifested a great deal of simplicity and freedom, good faith, and determination; We have also improv'd considerable in the new manner of worship, and it feels like a real gift for all Believers.

To write all the proceedings of our meetings would fill pages which would be quite interesting to you, But hoping the time is short before we shall meet with each other face to face then all these things can be communicated in a much more easy manner. Therefore it may not be proper

to write lengthy. It is rather an uncommon ^{time} healthy in the family, no one
I believe is confin'd to their room at this time. Brother Anthony B. attended
our meeting this afternoon, the first meeting that he has ~~attended~~ since he was
taken to the 2nd house.

I close these few lines with my best love & sincere
wishes, desiring your remembrance and prayers for me

Your lonesome Apprentice
Benjamin Gates
" " "

N.B. I read my little scrap to the Elders, & they all desired that I would take
their best love and put in for you. Also the Brethren and sisters in No. 7, &
8 desire a portion of their love might be given to you, and in addition to this
Brother Frederick Sizer, & John Allen who happen'd to ^{see} me with this letter
wish'd that a double portion of their love might be communicated to you.

B. G.

Isaac N. Youngs

From Benjamin G.

Walteralist.

Dec^r 1837.

Wm. Lebanon April 14th 1841.

Beloved & Holy Friend,

Think not that I have forgotten the little scrap, which I received from your hands some time ago. Nay, certainly I have not; tho' no answer have I made to it, in any way, yet often it has been upon my mind & many times have I read it with pleasure & much satisfaction.

Yea Beloved Friend, the blessing, love, & good feelings contained therein feel very comforting to me. I assure you, And for the same I return my hearty thanks, also my sincerest feelings of gratitude for the many past favors & kindnesses which I have received from your hands. Which have been many, yea, very many. Yea Beloved, I often reflect upon those times which we pass with feelings of thankfulness to you for that interested feeling you have ever manifested for my welfare, both present, & future.

I believe you know my faith, & my determination is to forever abide faithful in the way of God. Yea certainly it is.

And if in any way I am able to do any thing that will be a comfort to you & release you from your burdens, it is with the greatest pleasure I do it. And I can make you heartily welcome to all that I have done in the shop, that has in any way released you. I feel I have done no more than my duty.

I should be thankful if I had something more to depend upon for help. But I look and hope for the best, believing all things will finally come right. You have borne a great burden in the Tayloring line this I well know. And I take it not hard

in the least your being absent as you have the season past, knowing
your duty has necessarily called you others ways. But should it happen
that we should again work together in the business of tailoring it would
be very pleasing to me. Be this as it may I still desire your counsel
instruction notice, love, & blessing. Do remember me in
your prayers, & forget me not while I ever remain your true
and abiding friend

Benjamin Cates,
Receive these few hasty lines with my best love
Yours Truly
B.C.

Isaac W. Youngs.

From Benj^m G. — New Lebanon,

April 1841 —

New York.

New Lebanon, July 23rd 1848.

B^r Isaac.

It was but a short time after parting with you, before we found our selves home, surrounded with blessed gospel Friends, who feel near and dear to me above all other things on Earth. We left Albany $\frac{1}{4}$ before 3. East Albany at 3 and arrived at Canaan Corners $\frac{1}{2}$ past 4. There we hired a team & reached home 10^{min} before 6.

The Brethren have been greatly prospered in haying & will finish in 6. or 8. days more of good weather. Every thing ^{is} over prosperously here, & it is a general time of health.

I gave out your love liberally which was thankfully Rec^d. Tho' some were quite disappointed that you did not return with us, yet they feel reconciled believing you are doing much good where you are.

On consulting the feelings of Ministry & Elders - & those at the Office it seems to be the feelings of all unitedly for you to remain 3 weeks longer till the 14th of August. & assist our good friend about the Meeting House - Also the Elders of the North. think it best for James W. & George W. to remain with you.

I have collected the tools which you wished to have sent you and packed them safe in a box - which we shall forward the first opportunity. together with the clothing ~~together with the clothing~~ that B^rs James & George wished to have sent.

Now Beloved B^r. I will say something respecting our good Meeting this afternoon. which was truly refreshing and satisfying to the needy soul. It was agreed to have a meeting with ~~the~~ good friend Canterbury. at 2 O'clock this afternoon, Accordingly at the appointed hour we sung the appointed song (Will you drink with me at the fount of love &c). We had a very pleasant, loving meeting with them & exchanged much love, and good feelings which seemed quite Real altho' a great distance apart in body.

We also shouted a good store of love to our good Brethren and Sisters at Wisdoms Valley - And called to mind our Beloved B^r Isaac. & at the close of Meeting, All unitedly Rolled up a ball of love for thee, which I thankfully received and carefully placed in this letter, which you will besokind as to receive countifully. & feelingly, as it was given.

The Beloved Ministry also send their kind & best love. They are in us good health as usual. Sr Asenath has Recovered and is quite comfortable.

B^r Abraham will return the first opportunity and will be able to give you all the information desired. It will therefore be useless for me to write lengthy.

With this besokind as to receive my. Best gospel love, first a double portion to yourself - & then give a portion to the good friends at the Office and to all as far as you feel - together with my hearty thanks for the kindness received while with them.

In love I remain your Friend
Benjamin Gates

N.B. Besokind as to inform the Deacons.
that Bro Abraham will be glad to have some
one of them meet him in Albany, about
noon on Wednesday next, ^{26th} to carry him home.
Guns tools will also be there.

B G. —

Faint, illegible handwriting at the top of the page, possibly bleed-through from the reverse side.

From Benjamin Gates
July 1848.

7

Isaac N. Youngs

Albany.

JULY 24
NY

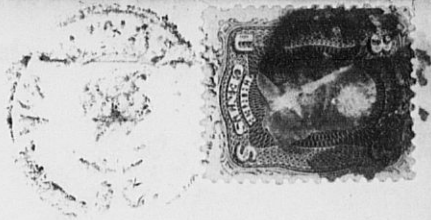
Shaker Box... 5 L. 5b.

Care Shannon Wapley



B Gates - Nov 15th

Phila



Isaac A. Youngs.
Mount Lebanon
Columbia Co
N Y

Washington Nov 17th 1864.
Beloved Bro Isaac.

In my last. which was short & hasty. I promised to write again from this place. I arrived here this morning.

After closing my former letter in Phila. I found there was time sufficient to have written you much more lengthy. We were detained one long hour at the Baltimore Depo. in Phila. waiting for the Train from New York. very much behind time on account of the vast number of passengers. Trains so heavy laden cannot make their regular time.

On arriving at the Depo in Phila. while waiting for N York Train, I observed in the Crowd. a very noble specimen of Humanity. A large noble. trim. Stately, looking Man. resembling very much our Deceased. & Beloved Bro Garret. K. Lawrence. tho' some darker complexion. He attracted my attention very much. I took him to be a Foreigner.

and wished very much to know something of his history. Every time I looked at him I saw his Eyes were fixed steadily on me. In fact we were both eyeing each other with great inquisitiveness. Of the two I was the most anxious & was determined to speak to him.

Taking a circuitous movement around the room. I approached him. And asked. Can you tell me how long before the Train leaves for Baltimore? He replied in Broken English I do not ^{know} it should have gone some time ago.

At this moment. a young Woman came out of the sitting room. And commenced talking with him in the Russian Language pointing out at the same time a large pile of Trunks & Boxes on one ~~of~~ which I observed was printed in large letters. Russian Minister The noble looking man. was the Minister from Russia & the young woman. his Daughter. The remaining moments previous to our starting passed off very pleasantly in conversation with him & others of his suite. I have always maintained a

peculiar regard for the Russians as a Nation
When quite young. I read the History of Russia
& was impressed quite favorable in regard to them.

At 2. O'clock we left Phila^a for
Baltimore. Should have left at 12^m Just
before leaving. I stepped in to an eating Saloon
thinking it probable the last opportunity for
Dinner before arriving at Baltimore. No
meats had they but Chicken (more properly
Old Hens) & Turkey. I called for Turkey.
and received the Hip Bone of an Old Gobbler
Old enough to "Note & guess" I scraped a little
dry meat from the Bone. And this with a trifle
of mashed Potatoe. two small bits of Bread & Put
a cup of Tea comprised my whole outfit.

All that was Eatable. I
devoured quickly - & called for my Bill. I
was politely told by the Darkey attendant. that
my Bill was. "Eighty Five Cents" I forked
over the ~~Dust~~ saying all that I had eaten
was. worth not more than 10cts. In fact
my Appetite was only sharpened to its very
edges. I took a lunch from my Box.

which I brought from home. I had intended that for my supper. but I was too hungry to delay - untill six O'clock. so I appeased my craving stomach with one of Elisha's Hoe Cakes

Arrived in Baltimore 2 hours late. no connection with Washington Train untill Midnight or after. so I took a Bed at the United States Hotel and passed a very quiet comfortable night. Slept soundly.

It is really worth noticing how much more comfortable one sleeps when the stomach is not filled to excess. As Bro Nicholas Bennett once said - "When people fill their stomach full just before going to Bed. They cant sleep. they tumble about. & kick out the Bed Clothes". I find that saying to be a fact.

Now, Bro Isaac. I have given you a long Warn. altho about trifling matters. I hope while you are perusing same, you will wholly forget your Pains & troubles - & for the moment be Cheered & Comforted. With my best Love. & earnest desire for your remembrance of Me -

Affectionately - I subscribe yours -
Benjamin (J. W.)