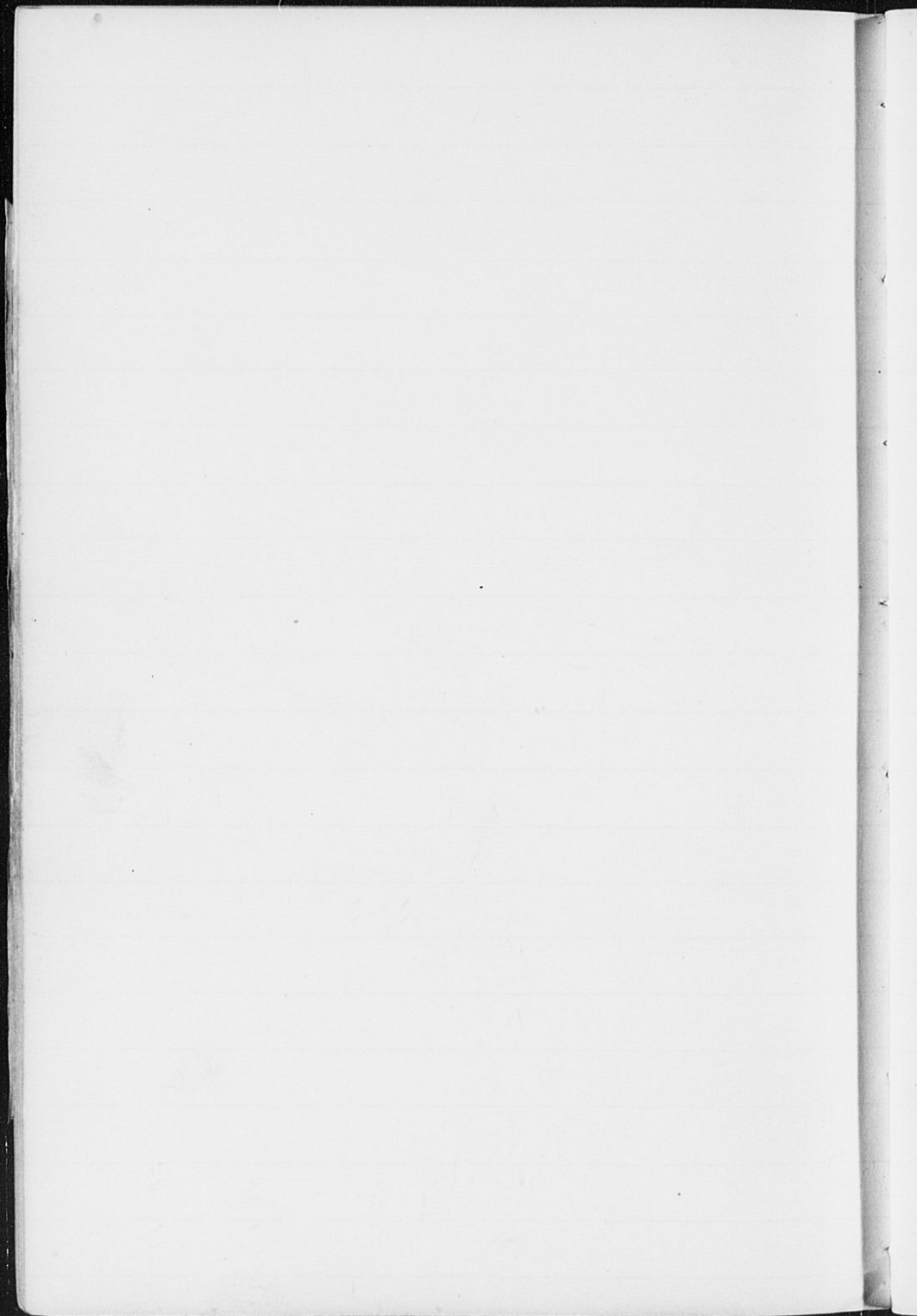


Specimens
of
Composition,
Letters &c.

Written by
The Girls
In School.

New Lebanon.
1856.



[1]
New Lebanon June 3rd 1836.

Dear Sister,

As we have a little time given us to write to anyone we wished I thought I would write to you, I am thankful that I was called here while young and I thank you for taking care of me and for the good instructions you have given me and with them I think I have gained some since I have been here, I know that I have a good home and a shelter from the storm. Now I think there is one way that I can reward you for the trouble you have taken with me that is by being a good girl and trying to remember what is said to me this is what I mean to do I think I have a great privilege of going to school while the sisters stay at home working for me and I will endeavour to improve it. I must now bring my letter to a close if it is much longer I am afraid it will tire you but before I close I must write a few verses

The Good children

Weak and faint, the blind man came
Up to the cottage door:

"He'd walked so far, his feet were lame,
And his dog could run no more.

The sun was shining bright and clear,

But he could not see the sun;

The rich ripe grapes were hanging near,
But he perceived not one.

Kind little Mary saw him come,

And so did John her brother;

And quick into the house they run

To tell their loving mother,

But soon the little girl appeared—

With a bowl of milk and bread;

And Rover's ears were both uprear'd,

When he heard her gentle tread.

He watch'd the bowl with wishful eyes,

And plain as words could speak,

"He said his tongue was very dry,

And he had nought to eat.

Then John brought out some wholesome food

He was a generous boy;
 And in his heart it did him good
 To see poor rover's joy.
 The blind old man was very glad
 When his dog received a share;
 Full fervently he blessed the Lord,
 And thanked him for Mary's care.
 And as he rose up to depart;
 "Go to the children said
 "May each preserve a loving heart,
 When age has black'ed the head!
 And this shall be my daily prayer—
 For I cannot, if I would,
 Ask greater blessing's for your share
 Than the love of doing good."⁹⁹

Farewell in love from

Martha J. Anderscott
 To Phoebe Vanhook
 aged 12 years

c. h. Lebanon June 4 1838

Dear Sister Eliza

I thought I would improve the precious opportunity of writing a few lines to you. I think you are very kind to teach me every thing that is good, & I know there is no other way to reward you for your kindness only to make it good honest thanks, & I am very glad I was called when I was from the wicked world, here I have plenty to eat while many ^{are} wandering about. & I have plenty of good clothes to wear. & also good instructors to teach me every thing that is good I have a good school to go to & a kind instructor to teach me every good thing

So farewell in love
From Dorothy Wright 13 years old
To Sister Eliza Sharp

5
New Lebanon June 10 1856

Dear Sister

It has been some time since I wrote to you or you to me so I thought I would now write a few lines to you. I am happy and contented I would not leave my good home for any thing for I think it far surpasses any I shall ever find as you may know.

Now I will change my subject my common business is knitting sewing and braiding besides my house work and kitchen work. We have commenced going to school about five weeks ago, I suppose you would like to know what I learn at school I learn how to write read and spell and I learn Geography Arithmetic Philosophy Grammar and Chemistry and a great many other things to be sure to mention Now I suppose you would like to know what books I study in because they are most all different to what they was when you lived here. I recit in the deeps book of nature which is a very interesting school book it

tells us all about the different tribes of
men their occupations and customs all about
the beasts birds and fishes and many other
things. I suppose you remember Bullions
Grammar we have studied in that book
this summer and now we have got a new one
it has the same author but the work is abridged
which has made it more plain to children
and does not say so much about one thing.

Our Books on Philosophy are very pretty in-
deed which if I had not studied I should
not have known ~~over~~ so much as I do about
great many things: we spell in our Analyzers
yet I cypher out of Perkins. Now I will tell
you about our Geography. Sister Polly Reed
has drawn a large map of the world. It is
a very handsome map and I could not begin
to describe it but I will try to tell a little
of it. The names of every thing on the map
is written in the corners and between the
spheres they are numbered on both places so
that we can find them. I have learned

130 Islands from it I go to school with
 32 girls besides my self we have got a new
 teacher who is also very kind to us I suppose
 you would like to know who it is it is
 Sister Anna Dodge. I must begin soon
 to end my letter Our place begins to look
 as beautiful as common the blizzards which
 have checked the trees have pretty near all blown
 off and the little fruits are beginning to form
 P Gave our love to Thomas and tell him
 I hope he will make out as well as he ex-
 pected to.

To Farewell

From Amelia Baker 12 years old

To her Sister 18 years old

New Lebanon May 31.

Respected Father

As it has been some time since you heard from me I thought I would write a few lines to you let know how I am getting along. I am happy & contented and enjoying good health as I hope this will find you. I am now 18 years old as you have informed me & I am going to school for last season my studies are Reading, Spelling, writing Grammar & Arithmetic Geography and Philosophy. The school is a very delightful place & every thing is arranged to give us courage to learn and our teacher does every thing to make our lessons agreeable. The sister that takes of us is very kind to us she has 12 girls younger than myself and we are engaged in almost every kind of employment in which I take a great deal of comfort. We do not have to work hard and at all when we do not feel able.

I shall be much pleased to see you whenever
 you can spare time to come this way for it has
 been nearly four years since I saw you last.
 I always respect you as a kind Father and
 thank you for providing for me such
 a good home. Dear Father there are many
 quite interesting things in the Village which
 I think you would be pleased to see if you
 were here. And I should be pleased to tell
 about if I could. But I am afraid I cannot
 interest you much with my description of genius.
 So I will finish my short letter hoping
 it be some comfort to you.
 Give my love to Isabelle and all my brothers
 and especial to James and the woman
 that keeps house for you.

In love I remain your
 affection daughter
 Robina G.
 To her Father

New Lebanon, June 10th 1856.

Dear Uncle,

I thought I would write a few lines to you and let you know how we are getting along. I have written a letter to Cecilia about a week ago, I told her to take good care of our trunks till we had time to get them, and if she could I told her to come up here this month and bring the baby with her, for I have no thought of ever going away in the world to live. I have found out by this time that you have done a great kindness for us, and I thank you very kindly for it, and if it were only good I think this is the right course to take I know the world is full of wickedness they use all kind of language that they can think of. here the brethren and sisters are kind and peaceable, to each other, and I am trying to be the same and if I keep on trying I shall make it out. I would never want to live in a more beautiful place than this. we are at school and a beautiful one it is, the teacher tells all the pains that could be thought of, to learn us. she is kind to us all. our studies are spelling, Writing, arithmetic, Geography, Grammar, etymology, Philosophy. at home there is a kind sister that takes care of the girls, she teaches them how to sew and knit stockings, and how to go the right way to work, I have worked in the kitchen two or three weeks, and have been to milking, some, they have about four cows and each one has her name written over her head. the mountain

are very interesting. to behold covered with trees and pasture where
the cows and sheep go to feed give our love to all the brethren
and sisters that inquire after us, Farewell.

Yours truly,

from Frances W Evans

to

Friederick W Evans

New Lebanon June 3rd 1856.

Dear Mother.

As I have a good opportunity, I
thought I would write a few lines to you
and let you know how I am getting along.
I am happy and contented here to stay, and
do not wish to go away. we are now going
to school: there are thirty one girls besides my-
self. I will tell you what my studies are,
Geography, arithmetic, Grammar, Philos-
ophy, Testament reading, Writing, & Spelling.

I am very well & wish to know how you
all are. Please to take my love and give to all
the rest. Please to write as soon as possible and

send me word when you are coming up
for you must know I am in a great hurry to
see you. Farewell.

Yours truly,
from Mary Elizabeth Baker
to

Martha Baker.

Written by Susannah Lamon by
New Lebanon May 15th 1836

Dear Mother,

Perhaps it would be pleasing
to you to know where I am, how I feel and
what I am about. I have just commenced
going to school with 34 girls besides my-
self, and I will tell you what our studies
are. Reading, writing, arithmetic, spell-
ing, geography, philosophy, English gram-
mar and composition, besides reading
considerable in books which we borrow from
the school library. Maria is in school
she sits at the same desk with me and her
studies are the same as mine for we are both

in one class.

John is well happy and contented, running about the yards fields and gardens, skipping like a lamb in May, and George is well happy and contented, and is working in the garden with the other boys. So you see dear Mother we are happy, ~~But~~ ~~yet~~ we feel anxious to hear from you. we hope you are happy and are enjoying good health.

Please to answer this letter as soon as convenient, accept a large share of our affectionate love and give to all.

I remain your affectionate Daughter
In sweetest love farewell.

Anna Kendall.

To Margaret Kenall.

Written by Susannah Lamonty.

New Lebanon June 10th 1856.

Dear Brother,

As I have never written to you before & now having a good opportunity, I thought I would try my skill in addressing a few lines to you, I am happy & contented with my situation & would not exchange it for any other. I am well & comfortable & enjoy good health & I hope you do also. It is a very beautiful season of the year the trees are all in blossom & the pretty birds are singing & warbling their sweet notes of praise in of praise in the air.

I will now change my subject & tell you something of my schooling my studies are Reading, Spelling, Writing, Grammar, Geography, Chemistry, Philosophy & Arithmetic. It is a very interesting school as you would know from my studies. My school-teacher is very kind to us if there is any thing we don't understand.

stand she explains it to us. ⁽¹⁵⁾ We have a very handsome outline map which our former teacher has drawn from which we can get a correct idea of the form & situations of the various divisions, Countries, & Islands, we have just been learning the Islands in the Pacific Ocean, there are 130 in all & I have learned them so well that I can name any of them by seeing their situation on the map tho the school has only been in session about four weeks.

We have commenced studying Philosophy from a small work published by Mary A Swift it is a very pleasant study because it learns us how to express our thought on these every day scenes by which we are daily surrounded. I have four more seasons to go to school as I am 11 years old for we go until we are 15. I will now drop this subject & tell you something about my

work, I sew, knit, braid, do house-
work and sometimes take a turn at
going ^{to} milking which I consider is
very healthy business. But among
all these things, I never work when I
do not feel able & not hard at any time.

Sister Eliza Sharp still has the
care of the girls there are 15 in all. She
is very to us & spares no pains in teach-
ing us how to work & how to be good,
which is the greatest consequence of
all these things. As I have now told
you about my home & schooling and of
my work, I will draw my letter
to a close with my best love hoping it
may be of some comfort to you.

I remain your affectionate
Sister in love Farewell

Mary Elizabeth Rayson.

Henry Rayson

C77
New Lebanon July 8th 1856

My Dear Mother,

I was very much pleased when I heard father was going to England to see you and the rest of the children for I have many times wished to see you and wished you was here with me it is now five years since I saw you. I have enjoyed very good health and I hope you have too; I have often wished I could see you and Daniel and Emily and I hope you will give my very best love to them and ask them if they remember me. I have been going to school every summer since I have been here but I do not expect to go any more after this summer we have thirty one scholars this year which is more than we ever had before. I have learned to do a great many different kinds of work since I have been here such as weaving spinning braiding knitting milking and also to work in the kitchen. I have got a good home and good fathers and mothers, brothers and sisters, to

love and bless me and help me to be good.
We are surrounded with beautiful mountains covered with green foliage, the trees are covered with green leaves, the wild flowers are in bloom and the birds sing their merry songs early in the morning to cheer us up and I am so very happy I would not go away for all the pleasures and vanities of the world that you or any body else could give me.

Now perhaps you would like to know what I am studying this summer I study Geography, Grammar, Arithmetic, Philosophy, spelling and reading I also write a great deal Oh! how I wish Emily could come and go to school with me for there are so many little girls about her age that she would like very much.

Now Mother I must ask you how Betsey and Louisa are getting along whether they were well or not for I should like to hear from them very much and please to tell them I often think of them and wish they were here.

I am afraid I shall make you tired if I

write much longer but I cannot close without
 thanking you for letting me come to this good
 where I can be taught every thing that is good.
 I suppose you remember Ann Carpenter and
 her two girls and also Rachel Brichit they are all
 very well and happy and wished me to send there
 kind love to you all I will now bring my letter
 to a close sending my best love to you all

Farewell in love from
 Your affectionate Daughter
 Ann Offord aged 14 y old
 To her Mother

New Lebanon June 30th 1856

Dear sister Anne

I take the pleasure of writing to
 you these few lines to let you know that I
 am a going to be a good girl and try to
 learn all I can to reward you for the
 trouble you have taken with me since I
 have been to school though it is only my

first summer yet I can be good if I try,
I think ^{and} I have learned some already.
I wouldn't have such a privilege
if I lived in the world to go to such
a good school here we can live as sisters
but in the world the girls quarrel almost
all of the time; here I can realize the
wisdom and goodness of god there is also
many more temptations in the world
than there is here for to lead the soul
astray. and I feel more and more thank-
ful when I think how I have been led
from that broad road of sin to this
narrow path of holiness I have no more
to say at present, so I must close with my
best love

aged 12 years

From Martha Anderson
To her School Teacher
Anna Dodgson

An Account of my infant Voyage from England to America.

It is now Saturday morning and I had a little time to write composition so I thought I would write a short history and tell how it came to pass that I am living in this country.

In the year 1849 there was a man came from America to England he had lived with the people called Shakers and he seemed to think he knew a great deal more about them than he really did: however he came to our house and staid there some days and a little acquainted with Father and then went to seek a home for himself and when he had found one my oldest Sister Betsey went to live with him and keep for him. Father often used to go and see him and this man would talk a great deal to Father and told him what a good place this was and

tried to persuade him to come and bring his
his family but Father did not think it proper
to bring his family untill he had been and
seen them for himself some day father asked
Mother to give him all his clothes but he did
not tell her he was coming to America Mother
consented and put up all his clothes as he had
asked her to do he then came and bid all us
children farewell and said he never expected
to see us again and then went away & I never
thought any more about it till one day I saw
Mother reading a letter from Betsey and seemed
to feel very bad about it and it was enough to
make her feel bad for it said that father
was on the great waters to America after he
got here he wrote a letter to Mother and told
her all about the place & people and gave
her a very strong invitation ^{to} live with him.
but she did not want to come just then in a
few weeks she received another letter from
father he said he wished she would send on
a two of the boys accordingly she sent on the

two older boys in about two months she sent word for her to send on some of the girls but she was ^{not} hardly willing to do this for we were all very young but she being very poor she finally consented and sent the three of us with a family of friends who were coming over to this place.

Now I will tell a little about the voyage we started from home on Thursday morning at five O'Clock and got to the Ind about noon we went up on deck and all around they showed us where we were to stay I said it would be the very best place we could get but after we had been there a few days we found it was the very worst place in the ship. But now I must tell you how we all felt when the time came for us to bid our Mother farewell we were all down in the stowage we all cried a great deal but she told us she would come and see us in a few ~~months~~ months this quite pacified us and we bid her farewell. On Friday we started on our journey and passed by a good

many Islands which looked quite strange to us but on the third day something new happened we could see nothing but sky & water & we all got so sea-sick as we could be then we was told we must drink a good lot of salt water & then we should feel better but I did not like it much it was so salt one day (or morning I should say) we were clearing away breakfast when the sailors all said there was a great Whale upon deck & hurried us all up to see it when we got there there was nothing but a few fishes they said this to get the passengers up on deck so as to clear the place we were on the water 4 weeks & 4 days before we saw land the first thing we saw was a long strip but it was not land but something that looked very much like it the next thing was out pilot it was a great ways off that it looked like a lost ship the next day there was two steam boats ready for the passengers we were very busy getting ready & after we were on the boat ready to go on we found we were on the wrong one & then we had to be very lively to get our things out of the boat & take a little boat to the shore the best way we could. I have no more room for any more so I will close it for this time.

Composed and written by Ann Offord....
aged 14 years

Some Verses

And now some verses I will make
 About the route that we did take
 Up! up the mountains creiggly side
 There we did walk but did not ride
 Our beaver-hind both with us went
 And there with us 4 hours spent
 And also 30 girls did go
 And there we ran both to and fro
 And also now to furnish fun
 Right by the road a stream did run
 And there we paddled in and out
 Till we was wet all round about
 We took some thing for us to eat
 Some crackers cheese and cake so sweet
 This is the way we spend our time
 And here I will end off my rhyme

Composed and written by
 Amelia Calver

12 years old. 1836

To Anne Offord

Dear Sister Anne as you invite
To you a few short lines I'll write
Although I never get did rhyme
Yet I must do the best I can

I think my time is well employed
For many pleasures I've enjoyed
I've plenty of good food to eat
And plenty of good clothes so neat

I came away from my own home
To seek one far beyond my own
And I have found it truly you
And from it I will never stray

I started for New Lebanon
August 27th to come

I left my school and playmates to
But never thought of seeing you

I've learned to braid I've learned to weave

I've learned to make some omelets indeed
 I've learned to knit I've learned to sew
 And many other things you know

And now sister Anne as you are my friend
 My love and my friendship to you I do send
 And I hope we will keep the good way of God
 And ever be walking this heavenly road

Composed and written By
 Martha Jane Anderson April 12th 1842

To Minerva Reynolds.

As you an invitation gave,
 I thought it would some moments save,
 And I some rhyme would write to you,
 As I had promised I would do.

I've got to think what I shall say
 That you will like to read this day
 The first thing that I wish to tell

Is that my schooling goes on well

Our number is just thirty one
And don't you think we have some fun
We learn to read and spell and sing
And every other pretty thing

I suppose you know what class I'm in
And so that will be no new thing
Our teacher is both good and kind
And all her rules I mean to mind

And now my subject I will change
And all my words in order range
I'll say not more about the school
Lest you should think that I'm a fool

I'll tell you what I mean to do
That I will keep each wholesome rule
And never will I stray away
But live in peace from day to day

When I work in the shop with you
 To mind you is what I intend to do
 I never will be I do fount
 But try and keep our way our ground

I'll try and mind what is said to me
 A good obedient child I'll be
 I'll labor to be meek and low
 And never tell things I don't know

And now I think that I must say
 Farewell untill another day
 For the next time for me to go
 To other studies you must know

Composed by Ann Afford
 aged 14 years old

Little Girls Letters. 1856
Dear Sylvia.

I had ~~your~~ ~~eyes~~ ~~and~~ to
write a few lines to you. I love you
very much, I must not talk in
school, for if I do I do not mind the
rules. I love to play with you, you
give me most every thing I want.

Catherine Brickel 5 years old.

W.

New Lebanon Aug 2^d 1856.

Dear Anna, I love you very much,
I love you so much, and we are
little sisters, we must not be cross.
if we are cross no body will love us.
Dear Anna, I love you and we
love each other very well.

Ellie Hart 8 years old.

Continued Little Girls.

[31]

Dear Mother,

I mean to be a good
girl I have a kind sister to take
care of me, and to all the Little Girls.
I thought you would like to hear
about little Br, he is a good boy.
Mary New. 6 years old.

Dear little Ella Hart,

I love you
very much and love to play with
you, and love to be with you too.
And give you my love too we will
love each other and be kind to.
Never be cross to each other and
always try to be good girls and
try to do all we can, and do as
we are told.

Annie Barker aged 10 years.

New Lebanon Aug 12th 1846

Dear Sister Eliza,

It is now saturday morning I thought I would write to you and I am very thankful that I was call when I was from the cricked would and I feel very thankful for the pains you have taken to make me a good girl food I know If I had not been gather in when I was I would have been a ruined child I thing I have a great privilege to school while the sisters stay at home work hard for to get food and clothers and I hope I shall be a good girl so as to reward you for the pains you have taken to learn me to knit and sew and to good many more things I thing that this is the best school that I ever went to I never went to such a good when I lived in the world here I can live in peace I love to work in the kitchen with the good sisters who learn me to be good they

are so kind and loving towards me and I
 hope I shall be progressing now and now
 in the good way of God I also thing that
 the brethren are very kind to work out
 in the hot sun all day working to earn
 me food and clothing to keep me warm
 I feel very thankful that I have the
 privilege to learn to confess my faults
 here is also much more beautiful scenery
 than there is in the place ~~where~~ I used
 to live there is plenty of beautiful houses but
 there is not so many beautiful trees and
 mountains In the summer it is close and
 warm in city because there is so many
 people stirring about the streets they are
 full of carriage noising about in all
 direction so that you cannot cross the
 streets without being afraid of the horse
 coming over you I thing I had ~~later~~
 close my fear if it is much longer it will
 tire you but before I close my letter I will
 write you a few verses

Morning Hymn.

1 My God who makes the sun to know
His proper hour to rise
And to give light to all below
Does send him forth round the skies

When from the chambers of the east
His morning race begins

2 He never stops to rest
But round the world he shines
So like the sun
So like the sun would I fulfil
The business of the day
Begin my work betimes and still
March on my heavenly way

Give me O Lord thy early grace
Now let my soul complain
That the young morning of my days
Has all been spent in vain
So Farewell in love I cry

Mary Elizabeth Drake to Sister Elizabeth

New Lebanon Aug 13th 1856.

Dear Mother

As I have time I will write to you and let you know how I am getting along I am well happy and contented. and here I want to stay. I love my good home and I would not go away for any thing. I am still going to school but it will close in about five weeks from now. I also have a very kind sister to take care of me I work in the kitchen sometimes and the sisters are very kind to me. I like to very much. I have learned to milk since I have been here. I can milk two cows. I am very thankful that I have such a good home. here I can admire the wisdom and goodness of God here. We are surrounded on all sides by beautiful mountains. here are twelve girls where I live. I

want to know how you all are and
when you are coming up here to see
me. I should like to see you very
much will you be so kind as
to write as soon as you get this
letter for I fell very anxious about
you we have thirty girls in School
they come from this family 12 from
the family I live in seventeen from
the next and three from the other
family. I have no more to say at
present so farewell in love from
your Affection Daughter Abby
Elizabeth Baker To her Mother

A Story of Abraham.

- 1 As I this morning took my slate
I thought that I would try and make,
A very short and simple rhyme,
And thus improve well my spare time.
- 2 I've often read about a man
Whose name is called Abraham
And it is likely you have too,
But I will try to make it new.
- 3 This man lived many years ago.
And he was just and good I know,
Therefore his soul was blest with peace,
And in good works he did increase.
- 4 The Lord a son to him did give,
When he a hundred years had lived,
Then Abraham a feast did make,
And I'll another scene relate.
- 5 I suppose you know that he had had,

A son before who was quite bad,
And Sarah did not like this boy,
For he did oft' her peace annoy.

6 I'll tell you what this boy had done,
And you will see 'twas no good fun,
For Sarah said she saw him mock,
And she could not endure the shock.

7. So she to Abraham ^{now} did say
I wish you'd cast them both away
For they shall not be heir with me
And my son Isaac who is free.

8

When patiently he'd heard her thro',
He scarcely knew what he should do
For this did grieve him very much
And seemed his very heart to touch.

9 But now the Lord appeared to him
And told him not to fear the thing,
But hearken unto Sarah's voice

For thy son Isaac is my choice.

10. So Abraham ^{did} ~~wise~~ at dawn
 And sent them both away that morn
 And It is true he gave them bread,
 And water too as it is said.
11. And so they went away we know
 And to a wilderness did go,
 And here they wandered round about
 And every thing they had to doubt,
12. But now the bread and water failed
 Them Hagar and her child both wailed
 And on a stone she set her down,
 An Angel heard and lo! he came.
13. Then Hagar lifted up her eyes
 And saw a well of water nigh
 And Hagar to her son did give,
 And very happily they lived.

14 And now to Abram I will turn,
And see what good I there can learn
For God did wish his faith to prove,
And see if he still loved the truth.

15 So he was told that he must go,
And take with him his son also,
And unto Mt Moriah's land,
With his beloved son should stand.

16 So Abraham ^{good} in faith did go
And built an altar you must know,
He put the wood in order there,
And bound his son, his promised heir.

17 Then as he stretched forth his hand,
To slay his son at God command,
When lo! the angel of the Lord,
Appeared to him as I record.

18 He told him not to touch the lad,
Since in his heart true faith he had,

So Abraham behind did ^{him} look,
And saw a ram and this he took.

And ~~here~~ my story I will end
And all my faculties will bend.
That I like Abraham ^{may} be tried,
Until my soul is purified.

Composed and written By
Ann. Offord aged 14 years old.

C. New Brunswick May 1856

My Dear Mother

Perhaps you will think
it unnecessary for us to write again
so soon but as Brother Fredrick
could carry a line from us we
thought we would tell you that
we all still feel happy and conten-
ted. with our good home and there
is not one of us that wish to leave

it for it is a good home indeed and I
never want a better one then this so
Dear Mother do not believe what the
people say for no person on this earth
could find a better home then this
do not feel bad about us One
more Mother I will tell you that
we all feel very happy and
contented we are going to school
yet and I have so many little
sisters that I can not help but
love them and feel at home My
teacher teaches me every thing that
is for my prent and fater wellfare
and I live in the house with the
sisters and one of the sisters takes care
of me and she is very kind indeed
and I love to live with the sisters
very much all the sisters are so
very kind to me that it makes
me merry and cheerful all the
time so Dear Mother do not feel

Discourage about us for we all feel at
home will you be so kind as to come
up and see us as quick as you can
and see if we are not contented with
our good home and I love my home
so well that I will write a little
song about my home.

An excursion up the Mountain
(to the E.F.)

Upon July the third I have found
We up the Mountain craggy ground
With thirty one and teachers too
A pleasant time we had tis true
We had a little dis tance got
When to a pretty little spot
The water in a stream did run
And we went in and had some fun
We in the water walked away
But soon got tired of water play
Then we got out upon the ground
Some cake we had and berries found

We still went on all wide awake
And passed thro Massachusetts yet
We to a little stream did come
And drank some water clear as run
We then went on untill we came
To where the stream ran on again
We there sat down and there did eat
Some cake and cheese so nice and sweet
And when our bottles we had eat
We went in water head and feet
And there we did four hours stay
In water and on land to play
Our teachers there did think it best
That we should take a little rest
And so we started home with glee
Feeling very merrily
We had a nice and pleasant time
So here I bid Adieu to rhyme

Composed by Mary Ann Carpenter
And Martha Jane Anderson

New Lebanon August 12th

Dear Parents

I thought I would write
A few lines to let you how I am getting
along I am in school and perhaps you
would like to know what my studies
are they are Reading Spelling Arithmetic
Philosophy Writing and once in a while
a little Grammar, I like my studies and
like to go to school Amelia sends her
kind love give our love to Maria
Mary and Jane I am very happy
and contented

And now my letter I will close
I can write some verses or some prose
And if you see any mistakes
I hope that you will try and make
the best of it you can

from Ellen Catron
to her parents age 9

New Lebanon August 12 60

Dear Mother

I now take the opportunity of writing a few lines to you hoping they may find you and my dear sister in good health my health is good I am still happy and contented with my new home and I am not sorry that I did not go home with you though I love you very much. Carson sends his love with mine to Mother and little Minty. Please kiss her for us.

From your affectionate Daughter
Helena Winters

Dear Sister I thought I would write a few lines to you as I never have. I hope your health is good I am in School and am in the first class but it is not likely I shall ever know ~~as much~~ as you do but I think this is the best School I ever went to in my life I read and spell and study Grammar

[47]

Geography. Astronomy. Arithmetic and
Philosophy. Carson joins me in love to
you and the little girls I live with send
their best love to you and Louisa and missy
I hope Louisa is well and happy and is
getting along well with her new trade
Helena Winters

To her sisters

Scripture Verses.

When Jesus Christ appeared on earth,
He taught to give the second birth;
To live upright both pure and clean
And also cleansed from every stain.

2

He said that little children should
Be honest loving kind and good
That they in love should ever be
And from pollution always free

3

He healed the lame the sick & sore
And cleansed the Leperous every pore

And many other things did he
He also walked upon the sea

4

He hushed the tempest & still'd the wave
Gave life to many in their grave
He fed five thousand at their wishes
From five small loaves and to small fishes

5

He said that he would always stand
A friend to each one in the land
If they would only follow him
And live like angels from all sin

6

The Jews & who did not like the way
To live from sin from day to day
Accus'd him they often said
Because (they said) he mischief made.

7

They said that he one day should die
They said they would him crucify
Altho' this thing he'd always known
It did not alter him one crumb.

He said to his disciples dear
You must not shed one single tear
But you must one another love
For soon we'll meet in heaven above.

I made these verses in one hour
About the Saviors holy power
Twice August third in '56
These lines together I did fix

Written and Composed by
Amelia Cushman 12 years old

New Lebanon May 28th 1854

Dear Sister

As I have promised to write to you this is the fulfillment of my promise, and with a trembling hand I sit down and endeavor to write a few lines to you, perhaps you will think me rather late in my communication but I have not seen any time untill now that has been very convenient so to do and now every thing seems to praises unto that great Being who made heaven and earth therefore I have no other one particularly on my mind that I wanted to write to, so I thought it would not be amiss if I improved the present opportunity in writing to you. I begin thus I feel very thankful for kind instructions to me from time to time and by these means I have been enabled to learn other good

thing, and now I feel it no more
than my duty to practice what you
have taught me and I feel to
make unto you one promise I will
be simple and obedient to what I am
daily taught and be kind to my
little sisters and thereby gain the
love of all. I am thankful for my
good home in the gospel for I
consider the gospel the greatest
treasure that ~~is~~ I can enjoy and
I ever mean to honor my privilege
by yielding strict obedience to my
Elders and Caretakers and render honor
and respect to my older Brethren
and Sisters and I know that in
this way I shall share of their precious
love and blessing. I have not much
to say at this time but perhaps
I shall feel more gifted the next
time I write to you. I trust
to your charity in relation to

this my very deformed and
deficient letter hoping you will
keep it as close as you would the
failing of a friend.

Farewell
From Sarah

Ann Carpenter

The Seasons

Now I will write my Composition about the Seasons. I suppose that you would say that winter comes first so I will begin with winter. I should like the winter a little better if it was not so terrible cold. They say that the Temperate zone is neither too hot nor too cold but I think that the ones that work in the heat and cold ought to be the judges.

Next comes Spring dancing along. I suppose it dances in good earnest for by the time it gets here it is so tired that it does not act like itself only for a few days just to make us think it is going to be very fine and then it snows and blows up as cold and every body gets put out at it for they are apt to think that they are going to have an "Early Spring".

Now comes summer but I do not see much of it till June is gone by.

I like the summer very well considering
that we go to school (instead of being out run-
ning on the mountains or in the orchard)
but I am like some other girls about one
thing that is I would like to go to school better
if I could read stories half the time

Now comes autumn I like it very
well because the school is out by that time
and then I am tired of it. and then the
apples and pears and the other fruit get ripe

Amelia Talver

Written or Composed by
Catherine Whicket 7 years old.
Now it is composition day
Thursday in the forenoon,
the south family girls came
and made a visit with
us. In the afternoon we
went to the second family
and walked in the orchard

and had a visit with my
 dear gospel friends, and had
 some pop corn and some
 candy. I saw a fox chained
 up in a box, he jumped
 out and jumped in again.
 Catherine B.

Our Walk and Visit July 2^d 1856.

I will tell you about the walk that we did
 have, on Thursday forenoon the south house
 girls came up and made us a visit and
 a nice visit it was, then in the afternoon
 we all went up to the second family and
 the south house girls with us, when we
 got up there the little girls were all standing
 in a straight row to meet us then they
 sang us a song and marched down into
 the orchard where there was seats all around
 then we sit down and had some
 pop corn to eat and some butternuts
 which was very good, then we got up and

sung a song after that a brother took
us down to see the chair factory then
we went down to see the wool factory
we first went down stairs to see what
was there then went up stairs where
we saw brother Thomas weave. he sent
and got us some candy and Sister
Polly & Sister Anna gave it around
we then sang two more songs and
thanked brother Thomas for taking so
much pains with us from there we
walked back to the orchard where
we come from after we got seated
the bell rang for supper then we
went in and had some supper
after supper we went and saw where
the girls lived and then went to the dairy
house and looked around there one of
the sisters showed us a brookskettle which
she said had been in use almost a hundred
years. from there we went up to
the house where the little girls sang

us a little song and bid us farewell
then we went and got home at
just half past five.

Sarah Ann. Carpenter.

Our Tour to the South June ^{2nd} 1834
Composition day has made its appearance
once more but I don't care if it has because
I have plenty to write about I don't believe
I ever enjoyed such a pleasant day as
the second day of July. But scarce any
body can have a comfort without at the
same time a discomfort. ~~Now~~ ^{xxx} ^{1st} ²⁰ I
will disclose to you our disappoint-
ment the first Monday we were
told we were going to have a holiday
tomorrow and we were all rejoiced
with the idea. But to our great
surprise we got up on Tuesday
morning and it was just as wet
and raining as it could be. But
we had to bare it as well as we

could, Wednesday it was just as wet
and rainy as it could be But
Thursday it was pleasant so in
the forenoon the South house girls
came down to the school house and
staid all the forenoon and we
had a very good visit. Then we
all went up to the second farm
ily and ~~staid~~ ^{staid} all the afternoon
and had a very pleasant time we
all went down in to the orchard
and sung some and eat some pop
corn then we all went down to
the factory and sang some then
and Lornes and his brother George
gave us all a stick of candy then
we went up to the house eat
our supper then after supper we
went and boated in the girls
house and ever thing was in good
order then we bid a good farewell
and parted So this is the way we

spent the day Thursday
 Composit^{ed}~~ed~~ and writ^t~~ing~~
 By Dorothy Wright

I feel very dull this morning I hardly can tell where my composition powers are all gone, I think they must be taking a nap and on my part they might sleep on, but nay the thing is required and must be done no getting by it, no getting round it. O dear! I wish something wonderful had happened to me. If I had just returned from Egypt, or France, or China. I should have something new & worth telling. I wonder how I should feel if I had been on the Ocean, but its nothing but a nice walk to the Second family.

The number of girls in our

school was twenty five, nine of the South family, and fourteen of the Second family.

The South family came down here in the forenoon & all went with us in our studies.

When recess time came we walked around the East house, and then around the School-house.

In the afternoon we went up to the Second family and such a long string; I turned around to look but it was so long I could not see the end.

When we got there the Second family girls stood up in two rows and pitched a song; when they had sung it once through they marched down to the Orchard where there was benches fixed around. We visited each other and got acquainted & showed

them some of our Reading books. From there we went to the Chair Factory. One of the brethren took us up stairs & down and showed us all the things..

next we went to the Carding-Machine, and saw the looms.

then we all placed in two straight rows and the Sisters gave us some candy that Thomas and his brother had got for us; then we sang two songs and started on to the orchard again; on our way we stopped by the house above the Carding Machine and there was a little grey Fox all chained up in a box. we tried to coax him to come out but he looked so scared for he eyed us all over.

We sang one song and then pitched another and marched

on to the Orchard singing as
we went, There we waited till
a bell rung for us to come
up; some of the Girls carried
benches, & the others followed
on. When we got up to the house
we went into the Deaconesses
room and waited for supper;
Pretty soon, ^{the bell} rang and we all
went down into the dining room,
we had very good supper, & I
think the Sisters were put to a
great deal of trouble to get supper
for so many. From there we went to
the school house, next to the Girls
shop, after we had been all over the
Girls premises, ^{we} went & stood before the
Great House, the second family Girls
sang as a farewell song then we started
home. I think we had a very
pleasant time & all enjoyed ourselves pretty
well. Composed & written by
Suzannah Lamouley.

A Ride in the year 1856

We started at 8 o'clock A.M. there were 5 girls including myself one of the Sisters and the driver. We had a span of nice white horses and took the upper road leading to Lebanon Springs passed the large boarding house at the Springs.

We saw the school house that one of the brethren went to when he was a boy and I say for it if it was in the winter that he went to it I think that we must have suffered with the cold for I rather guess that the snow was as thick in house as it was out but I suppose that it has had time to grow very old since that time.

We crossed the east mountain and it seemed as if my back would break before we got to back riding again for it was jounce jounce all the time and had it not been that we changed seats every few minutes it would have been very tiresome; however the mountains were fine

crossed and we could see the smoke from
the factory at Pittsfield altho' we were at
some distance from it. We saw Pittsfield
found it was the largest one I ever saw.

As we were riding along we met a
carriage with two or three women in it
after we had passed I heard one of them
say "dear little creatures" I could have
told them that we were not creatures
but I guess that they would have believed
their own eyes for I guess that we looked as
near like creatures as any thing

We soon came in sight of Pittsfield &
a busy town it was too and I will tell you
what I saw there that attracted my atten-
tion. I saw three churches that were so high
that it dazzled my eyes to look at them. I
also saw the Livery Stable, Plunkets Store,
Pittsfield Bank, American Hotel, &c.
there were 2 large Flags hung over the
Street by the Store each striped with red
and white stripes and 31 blue stars

representing the 31 States. But there is one thing that I must not forget to mention it was a fountain that spouted up 6 or 8 feet. I saw several pretty nice houses and I should have thought they were as nice inside as they were out if there were not some little dirty ragged children with their hair all tangled at most every window.

Now I must tell the rest of my story. We rode on till we came to Hancock and then we stopped and had some dinner and we saw the geese and the girls stayed 4 hours and then came home pleased with our ride having rode 18 miles.

Composed & Written
by Amelia Coker

13 years

An account of our ride 1837
We started about 7 o'clock in the morning & rode 4 miles to Hancock there we stopped & Elder Sister got out & we rode on we were about $\frac{1}{2}$ way between Pittsfield & Hancock when there came up quite a ^{small} ~~little~~ ^{shower} ~~xxxxx~~ we put up our umbrellas & kept ^{more} of the rain so we got about to Pittsfield it stops raining I was quite pleasant we stopped in at a Hotel & went into a sitting room & stayed about ten minutes while Andrew went to transact some business; while we were there a woman with a little girl came in; they were boarding there I wanted to see the shakers. Andrew returns and we prepare to leave we then ^{went} round Pittsfield & saw fine trains of freight cars three churches so high I could not see the tops of them several large stores with

articles for sale Hotels & Boarding
 Houses Meat Markets &c. In the
 center of a large green park there was
 a fountain that spouted up water
 10 or 12 feet. Some men & boys had
 fire crackers & people were bustling
 about upon the side walks & in the
 street they were preparing for independ-
 ence. We then returned to Ham-
 scock where we got dinner we then
 went into the visiting room Young
 considerable. We then went out to
 the girls shop they all rose up to
 speak their names but they mu-
 mbled them so I could hardly
 make out one & I greatly saw the
 necessity of speaking plain I went
 into their school room & it looked
 very natural we next went into
 the house & on to the office & from
 there home, in a covered wagon borrowed
 of the Hancock folks. Mary Rayson.

Our Pleasant Walk.

Composition day has made its appearance again but I don't care any thing about it for I have plenty to write about. Last Tuesday we expected to go and visit the second girls but we could not go because it rained and we were very much disappointed so we spent that day very gloomy. The next day we were expecting to go but it turned out like the others day so we made out to pass the day very gloomy and sad at our great disappointment but Thursday morning when we got up it was a very pleasant morning the south family girls come down to the school and we had a very pleasant time of it. We all went and took a little walk

round the house then we all
went in the school house and
this finished the forenoon had
another visit In the afternoon we
all went up to the second family
to pay the little girls a visit they
meet us with a welcome song
and we all had a very pleasant
talk with them I'm sure I did
then we all went down in the
orchard and had some cold water
and pop corn & then talk a little
then all walk around the orchard
a little while then we all went
to the factory and saw brother ^{Thomas} and
they showed us all the machinery
that was a going then we all went up
to the kitchen and had a very
good supper after supper we went and
saw the little girls school house
and then we all meet together
and the second family girls

sung a little song and then
we parted now I will ^{draw letter} say to
a close so Farewell in love
From Elizabeth
Drake to Anna
Loddyson

A Ride to Town.

When we arose in the morning
we were informed that we
were going to ride to Hanc-
ock. It looked rather cloudy
but we was not any concern-
ed but what it would clear
off. We got ready to start
about 7 we road on very
comfortably until we arrived
at Hancock but we did not
stop there. we road on till
we got to Pittsfield and
stopped at an Inn & was
treated very kindly. The

had some lemonade which
was very good then we fixed
to leave the Inn I rode around
the Town when we had done
riding around there we started
on for Hancock & arrived there
with some rain we went in
& rested & talked some then
we took dinner & then we went
to the Dwelling House & visited
& sung considerable from
there we went to the girls
shop & visited and sung some
from there we went to
the dairy and see some older
sisters which were very kind to
us they took us around & we
see the Cheeses which looked
very nice from there we
returned to the Office &
by that time we had got
all of our visiting dis. up

It was time to start for home
It rained so hard that they
lent us their covered wagon
to ride home in & by that
time means we arrived home
very comfortably and by
that time we was pretty tired
but not so tired so but what
we could tell all about our
week and visited and for my
part I think we enjoyed a
very great privilege with the
folks at Hancock

To Hancock

Helena

New Lebanon 1867

Dear Sister.

I have a few moments and I thought I would write to you; I think we get along very well with our studies although I am the youngest in the class but that is nothing straining for I always am. And now I will tell you how I like my studies.

The first is Writing I like that very much for I think it is of very great use to me: in the next place Grammar I think it is not so agreeable as writing, although I suppose it is of as much use to me: then comes spelling I like that too then recs; I like that as all the rest of the girls do. after recs Geography I like that

very well; and that is all the studies
we take in the forenoon except
the out line map which comes
just before recess then we
are dismissed for the forenoon
P M

The first thing in the
afternoon, we read the Testament
then we read in our class reading
books I like that very much
after reading Physiology I like
that some not much when I
am sleepy for I think it is
a sleepy study. & Astronomy
next I like that also after
astronomy recess in the P M
as I said before I like that.

after recess in the afternoon
Arithmetic I am now in ^{the} review
in English now, and, I like that
Now I don't see but I like
all my studies very well

I dont know whether you like like
yours all as well or not. I know
that you are a better scholar than
I am in a great many things
but I have more summers yet
to go to school than you.

Now I suppose that I have
not told you any news in telling
you how my studies go.

So farwell
From Eliza Calver age 10
To Mary Elizabeth Drake
1857 August 13

New Lebanon May 29th 1858

Father Forrester

Having the offer I now
prepare to express my gratitude to you
for the student. I have been a reader of
it for the space of six years, and it has ne-
ver failed to amuse, and instruct me.

The Story of the Land of the Sun, or
what Hattie & Willie saw in Cuba is
very interesting, I could read volumes
of just such a narrative.

The Geographical Questions, Con-
undrums, Enigmas I think are
the best that I have ever seen; for
they are so puzzling that it sharpens
up any ones thinkers to find them
out and after they are found out
you are certain of knowing more
than you did before; for if I ever
have to puzzle to find any thing
out I never can forget it.

By the instructions that Mr. Kent

gives his pupils, I should think
that they would be almost perfect
in the science of Common Things,
for it is a combination of several
sciences, all of which are very use-
ful. I hope it will continue throth
out all your succeeding numbers of
1858 so that we can all gather in-
structions from it

May you prosper in your
useful publications

No more at present

Amelia Calver

New Lebanon June 25th 1852

Farther Forester

I have been one of the privileged readers of the Magazine for nearly three years and I think it is a very interesting & sociable book to read in it has so many pretty & useful anecdotes in it. I think the story of the Sun is one of the prettiest stories that ever I read, & I hope it will continued on. The story of common things is another very useful story. it really seems when I am reading it as though we had all gathered together on purpose to talk over our lessons and a great many other things that are useful to us. And there is something else besides stories that I like it for there is

the Enigmas, I like to get when
I think they are a going to be easy,
& the conundrums &c. and above
all the geographical questions
to exercise the mind & put
it all together it all together it
makes a very delightful study.

I hope it will continue to
be printed as long as possible.
I wish you success,
your truly, Helena Winters

New Lebanon July 2 - 1833

Dear Anna

As I have a little time
I thought I would write a few lines
to you to let you know about my
walk we had a very pleasant walk
we went up to the mill and saw
William saw stone and when we got
through we went up to the well and
saw a man go down a hole and when
we was going in the house we see some
men building a stone barn and saw
some chickens. I have know more to say
at this time.

so farewell

Emma Cox

Anna Dogson

New Lebanon July 2 1859

Dear Anna

As I have a little time I thought I would improve it in telling you about my walk last week on Thursday when you let out school at half past three. after the first Coter Girls had got started for the Brickyard Sarah come with Bernilla for us to go to the North Family. we first went to the Stone mill and saw Elder Brother and William saw Stone and after we had seen them Elder Brother told us how he hurt him he said when he and Calvin was prying up a Stone they wanted it to go towards the west. and Elder Brother was afraid it was a going to tip so he thought he would put a roller under it. so when he was putting it under the Stone. William come along that way and he said Elder Brother it looks as though it was going to Break so Elder Brother thought he would step out of the way. before he could

it Broke and fell onto his hip and made
him real lame. and after we had seen the
mill we went to the well and we saw an
engine. and we seen a man go down a great
big square hole. and then we went into the
girls shop and staid a little while. and we seen
some Pollywogs in a pond this is all I
have to say for this time So fare well
9 years old Catherine Bricker
Anna Dodgson

Stowe Lebanon ¹⁸⁴⁹ July 17

Dear Sister Anna

Oh! June has
come I love June be cause it is
my birth day The other day when we
went out to pick seed I saw a nest
on the ground with four eggs in it
and I went ther a littel lute after and
ther were four Dear littel Birds in
it and I went ther a gain and
ther where all flown a way now

mois

Lepson 1

jean

Cet homme est mon père.

Cette femme est ma mère.

Ce garçon est mon frère.

Il est le fils de mon père et de
ma mère.

Ce garçon est le fils de cet homme
et de cette femme.

Cette fille est la sœur de ce garçon.

Elle est la fille de cet homme et
de cette femme.

Lepson 2^m. Cet homme est mon grand-
père. Il est bien vieux.

Elle est bien vieille.

Cette femme est ma grand'mère.

Je suis ton ami, et tu es mon ami.

Je suis ton cousin.

Tu es le père de ce petit garçon.

Il est bien petit.

Tu es le père de ce petit garçon,
et cette petite fille est ta sœur.

Je suis grand et tu es petit.
 Je suis vieux et tu es bien jeune.
 Cette jeune fille est bien bonne, et son
 amie est bien mauvaise.

Leçon 3

Vous sommes vos amis.

Vous êtes nos amis.

Ces hommes sont soldats.

Ils sont les soldats du roi

~~Qui~~ Qui sont ces femmes?

Elles femmes sont les amis de notre mère.

Qui sont ces hommes.

Ils sont matelots.

Ils sont les matelots du roi.

Vous êtes, les amis du soldat.

Ce grand homme est l'ami de ~~notre~~
 notre père.

Votre père est son cousin

Ces garçons sont bien petits

Vous êtes leur père, et ces petites
 filles sont leur sœurs.

Ce cheval est bien grand et bien bon.

Leçon 4

Le Lion est le roi des animaux.

L'aigle est le roi des oiseaux.

La rose est la reine des fleurs.

L'argent est plus dur que l'or.

L'or est le plus beau des métaux.

Le cheval est un bon et bel animal.

L'aigle est un oiseau bien grand.

La rose est la plus belle des fleurs.

L'or et l'argent sont plus beaux
que le fer.

Le fer est un métal bien bon.

Notre père est un ami du roi.

et notre mère est ^{une} amie de
la reine.

Ces jeunes garçons sont bien
mauvais, et leurs cousins sont
bien bons.

Ses cousins sont plus grand
que ce jeune garçon.

Le second l.ân e'l san-gê-e. The 2^d of the Wild Boar.

Un Âne l'impertinence de suivre ^{un} Sanglier
 et de bricoler après lui pour l'insulter.
 Cet animal courageux en fut d'abord
 irrité. Mais tournant le tête et
 voyant d'où venait l'insulte; il
 continue tranquillement son chemin
 sans honorer l'Âne d'une seule
 parole. le silence et le mépris
 sont la seule vengeance qu'un
 galant homme devrait tirer
 d'un sot.

suivre. to follow or following.

d'abord. at first

sançonner, to honor, or honoring

de l'homme, of the man.

chercher, to seek or seeking.

F Troi zi em. le sing. The Monkey.
Quelle vie basse et ennuyeuse
est celle que je mène dans les
forêts avec des animaux
stupidés, moi qui suis l'image
de l'homme! s'écriait un sing
dégoûté de demeurer ~~demeurer~~
dans les bois. Il faut que j'aille
vivre dans les villes avec des gens
qui me ressemblent, et qui sont
civilisés. Il y alla; mais il s'en
repentit bien tôt; il fut pris,
enchaîné moqué et insulté.
Fré kan té Fréquenter vôt
semblables et ne sortez pas
de votre sphère

F Quatrième Lechat et la Chauve souris. Cat-ghe Bat
 Un Chat ayant été pris dans un filet
 promit à un Rat qui l'en avait
 délivré de ne plus manger ni rats
 ni souris. Il arriva un jour, qu'il
 attrapa une Chauve-souris dans
 une grange. Le Chat fut d'abord
 embarrassé; mais un moment
 après, il dit; je n'ose pas te manger
 comme souris, mais je te mangerai
 comme oiseau. Avec cette distinction
 consciencieuse il en fit un bon
 repas. Les personnes de mauvaise
 foi ne manquent.

F Cinquième Les deux Grenouilles. The two Frogs.

Deux Grenouilles ne pouvant plus rester dans leur marais desséchés par la chaleur, de l'été, convinrent d'aller ensemble chercher de l'eau ailleurs: après avoir beaucoup voyagé, elles arrivèrent auprès d'un puits. Venez, dit l'une à l'autre, descendons sans chercher plus loin. Vous parlez très à votre aise, dit sa compagne. mais si l'eau venait à nous manquer ici comment en sortirions nous

Lesson Eighth.

Le lion est le plus fort des animaux.

Le fer est le plus utile des métaux.

Il est plus dur que l'or.

Combien d'oncles avez-vous.

J'ai un oncle et quatre tantes.

Allez-vous chez vous ou chez moi

Je ne vais ni chez moi ni chez vous;
je vais à l'école

Où va cet homme

Il va chez lui, et ces hommes
vont chez eux.

Je vois le lac. Je le vois.

Je ne ^{le} vois pas.

Je ne vois pas le lac.

Je vois le chat.

Je le vois. Je ne le vois pas.

Je ne vois pas le chat.

Je vois, le balai

Je le vois

Je ne vois le pas.

Je ne vois pas le balai

Je vois le bois. Je le vois

Je le vois le pas.

Je ne vois ~~A~~ pas le bois.

Composed and written by Elvah Leavenworth when
14 years of age.

The reward of disobedience
On the banks of the Susquehanna
river, there lived in a small, but
neat cottage, a family by the name
of Sanford.

The father of this little family was
a respectable, and industrious farmer.

He owned about three acres of
land, half a mile back of the house,
besides the half acre, on which the
house was built. This he cultivated
with great care; for the productions of
his farm, (which he sold in market,)
were their main dependence for sup-
port.

Early in the morning as regu-
larly as the morning came, would farm-
er Sanford, be seen with farming tools
in hand, making his way to his farm
to dig up his vegetables which he put in
a small hand-cart, and drew to

the house, where Susan Sanford, (a neat, and industrious woman), took them, who washed, sorted, and tied them up in bunches, which Emma and Ellen, the children, carried to the market on their way to school. The schoolhouse was a mile and a half from their house; so they started in good season, for they always meant to be there in time, and they also had the vegetables to take to market, and this was some hindrance.

Emma was twelve years of age, & Ellen was eight.

Emma, was remarkable for her kindness to Ellen, and she, also, loved Emma very much. And thus they always agreed together whether it was in play work or any thing else.

One very warm and pleasant day, the teacher told the scholars that as she had some important bui-

siness to attend ^{to} that afternoon, she was under the necessity of giving them a half holiday.

This seemed very pleasant to Emma and Ellen, though they were fond of study, yet a half day of release-ment was quite welcome to them.

They soon reached home, for so happy were they, that ^{they} could not content themselves to walk. They ran in to the house, and related the news to their mother, who told them they could play on the platform by the water's edge, but they must not get on to the raft, which was tied to the platform.

After dinner was eaten, they ran down to the platform, and after playing on it about half an hour, Ellen said, "Emma I wish Ma would let us get on this raft, I would like to know how it feels." "But," said

Emma, "you know she said we must not get on it." "Well, I don't think she will care if I just stand on it two minutes," said Ellen, "I mean to try it." And notwithstanding all Emmas entreaties, Ellen stepped on the raft, and in so doing the rope with which it was tied gave way, and the current being strong, she was soon away from the platform, and, before Emma could reach her, it was bearing her swiftly down the stream. She ran to the house, and, almost breathless, told the story in hurried words, to her mother, who immediately ran down to the platform.

But in vain, for little Ellen was far down the stream, almost out of sight, and her little voice died away in the air, as she cried for help, but no one could assist her.

Susan wrung her hands in agony.

as she saw her child going, where,
she knew not.

When farmer Sanford returned
to his saddened home, he was grieved
to hear of his daughters disobedience.
But, losing no time, he got
the skiff ready, and with two of his
neighbors, was soon gliding down the river.

There was a gentle breeze, and
thus they were enabled to move with
speed; and before many minutes,
they came to a turn in the river,
and at a short distance, Sanford
saw the raft. They sailed up to it,
but no Ellen was seen.

There was some land, that jut-
ted out into the water, and the raft
running against it, was stopped, and
Ellen was enabled to get off. She
had wandered a short distance from
the raft, but seeing nothing but trees,
and woods, she sat down to rest herself,

and she had fallen asleep.

Farmer Sanford and his neighbors, hauled up to the shore. They then got out and walked on a few rods, and there they saw her, lying on the ground, lost in slumber. The father took her, and carried her to the boat, and they were soon on their way back.

Ellen soon awoke; and great was her joy to know that she should soon be in her comfortable home.

Emma and her mother, stood on the shore watching, and waiting for their return.

They soon drew up to the platform. The neighbors, after receiving many thanks, returned to their homes.

There was great rejoicing in the Sanford family. Ellen learned a lesson that she never forgot,

The reward of Disobedience

Meditation on the Contrast in Gods creation
As I was sitting by the open window on a
summers evening my thoughts roamed on the
picturesque scenery before me presenting
many fit subjects for contemplation.

Two of my Associates being with me
we directed our conversation upon
the striking contrast in the size and
beauty of the various things about us

Theres the stately evergreen tree noted
for attaining its verdure all the year
around contrasted with the gentle
lady slipper which the least touch of
frost withers. The sturdy Oak however
strong the wind never bends compare
it with the willow that bends with
the breeze

Notice the Great Californian
club tree with the first frost the branches

falls and nothing left but a stake, then think of the little phony pump living through all the frosts and is the first to peep its head out in the spring.

The mild sensitive plant with the slightest touch of the finger folds its leaves up. But it all becomes lovely again it differs vividly from the tall elm tree that takes so many strokes of the axe to sever its huge stem.

Likewise let us observe the difference in the animal creation.

The shaggy lion is not afraid of any one, while the timid little hare runs when the trees rustle.

The peacock in his gaudy coat thinks himself the gayest of any one but has no tune, while the homely ground sparrow sings with the sweetness of the canary.

~~The difference in the animal creation~~

Then think of the cow so gentle a creature
that we can put her head or stand by
her side, while we run from the tiny
rat as tho it possessed the ferocity of
the tiger.

Do you not think that we have
ought to praise our Heavenly Father who
gave us reasoning powers to become
wiser and rise above the inferiority of
animals surely and we should so
improve these powers that we stand
in our place as the noblest of
Gods creation.

Composed and written by
Sally Maria Rayson aged 14

An Excursion

[103]

One pleasant morning in the month of September a company of merry laughing girls started out to have a ramble in the woods, taking their course up a steep hill: they at length reached a pleasant hill where they all sit down to rest and have a social chat. after they had rested as long as they wished they walked on till they came to an open place, where there was quite a large pond, they had brought some fish lines and hooks with them so the younger part of the company stopped to see if they could catch some to ~~cook~~^{broil} for dinner, while the older portions ^{kindled a fire and} made preparation for dinner. But the little fishes however had no idea of being caught so easily. but one silly little fish who was not

so sensible as the rest set at naught its
mothers counsel and said I am going to
have that nice large fish for my dinner
I do not believe there is any hook there
and running after it as fast as he could
(like a greedy little fish) not thinking
of the danger and nibbling away ~~very~~ fast
all the time thinking to himself that his
mother did not say rightly there was no
hook there, but alas, for the poor little
fish the hook suddenly caught in his
little jaws and he was instantly
drawn out of the water by a little girl
whose line it happened to be, this
little girl (not being very experienced
in catching fish) did not think that if
she laid it to near the water it would
jump back again she laid this one very
near the waters edge while she tried to
catch another when the little fish saw
how near he was to the water said to
himself perhaps I can get back

at least I will try so saying he
 gave one jump and was back in
 the water again and he returned
 home a wiser and better fish.
 I think that this little ^{fish} was
 very much like us when we wish
 to do something that our friends
 do not wish to have us do we
 disregarding their advice go and
 do it and cause both ourselves
 and them a great deal of trouble.
 But I suppose ~~that~~ you want to
 know how the girls are getting
 along with their dinner. Be well I
 will tell you: after they see that
 they could not catch any fish some
 of them walked around the pond
 and others sit down on a large flat
 stone and talked about different
 things till dinner was ready then
 they all sit down ~~and~~ the grass
 and ate their dinner, after

dinner was over and the things
put up some of the girls sit down
to enjoy the prospect that was
before them and some of them
more playful than the rest set
out to have a run accordingly they
all run to the top of a high hill
and run down again to the bottom
doing this till they ^{were} tired and as
it was growing cool they threw some
more wood on the fire and all
gathered around it, one of the
company read an interesting story
while the rest listened. at sundown
they started for home, on the way home
they conversed about the flowers
and several other things which gave
them instruction as well as pleasure
now I think that this is the best
way to derive knowledge and at at
the same time receive pleasure now
I think that my story has been

long enough so I will draw it to a
 Compound and Written by
 Lucy Maria Crosby

"Nature Looks Fair."

It was a pleasant June morning.
 I arose with delight, at the first sound
 which greeted my ear, which was the little
 birds, warbling their joyous notes, as if
 anxious to improve the cool air of the
 morning, to the best advantage.

Feeling the impulses of marvellousness,
 and awe, with which the influences,
 of a summers morn is wont to inspire
 the mind, I hastened, to place myself
 in a sightly position, that I might the
 better contemplate, on the beauties about me.

The dense forests, the verdant groves,
 were arrayed in green, while the fields, were
 assuming a golden tint, declaring that
 haying, and harvesting time, was even
 nigh at our doors.

The beautiful damask, the white, and yellow roses, the sweet pink, the scented locusts were spreading their fragrance in the air which was wafted by the gentle breeze to even the ascent in which I was standing the rippling streams were descending the mountain winding their way as far as the eye could reach till lost amid the foliage of the western hills. Surely! I exclaimed, this romantic scenery, fills me much pleasure, and, fills me with reverence towards the Wise Maker, who has placed all, these wonderful objects, within our view. But! how superbly grand it would be, to have added, to this now lovely scenery, the distant ocean, with the ships that glide upon its bosom; also a spreading lake, with, the graceful swan, swimming on its calm blue waters.

Every thing, in the creation of God seems born to be happy, even the

tiny ant, sped on its way, as tho, the
 Earth, was made for it. to dwell upon, and
 enjoy. Contradicting, the opinion of many,
 that insects, cannot enjoy life, while
 death is so inevitable. Their enjoyments
 are equally as great, according to their
 reason, as the sportive lamb or flitting
 bird.

"O Lord how manifold are thy works,
 in wisdom, Thou hast made them all."

Composed and written

By Sally Maria Rayson

Nature Looks Fair.

In spring, nature looks fair clothed in
 its mantle of green; the trees in full
 blossom, the yellow dandelions spotting
 the fields, causing them to appear as
 though they gold.

In summer how delightful it is, to
 behold the verdant groves, the rippling

streams, winding their way, leisurely
through green meadows and also extensive
fields of ripening grain, waving in the
gentle summer breeze.

Then to add a charm to the scenery
already ~~made~~ picturesque are the flowers
of every variety and hue; there is the bright
damask rose, the pure white rose, the
blushing pink rose, the golden yellow
rose.

There is the modest violet, that grows, so
lowly beside murmuring brooks and rills;
shrinking from sight beneath the shadow
of scentless shrubs, far less worthy of notice.
In autumn nature is lovely clothed in
a mantle of every color from the dark green
to the somber brown; the trees are laden
with fruit the rustling maize with its
matted tassel plainly speaks of the golden
ear ready for the harvest.

The birds are silently retiring to the sunny
south; the vacancy of their music being

supplied, by the sad but sweet notes of the
crickets.

The fall of the ripening burs gives work and
play alternatively to the busy squirrel and
merry laughing children; who vie with
each other, in the quantity they can obtain.
Then come the whistling autumn winds,
the silent falling of the leaves and the story
of the beautiful blossom, the ripening fruit
the abundant harvest is told.

But the face of nature has not lost all its
beauty; for winter is lovely; and ~~as~~ the
flakes as they fall looking like tiny feathers
of purest white; yea thousands of things will declare
to us that nature is fair and even in winter
we can exclaim in rapture surely nature
is fair.

Composed and written by
Lucy Crosby

Nature Looks Fair.

It is a lovely day in the month of July the trees are decked in green the flowers exhibit a variety of color. The rippling stream is winding her way through many hills and valleys bending her course to the Atlantic.

The first thing that greeted my ^{ear} this morning was the warbling of the little birds it sound so sweet to hear them sing their merry notes I think that summer yields us the most pleasure for nature looks the most pleasing to the eye. when the days are so pleasant I think that we should feel so to. And then at the close of evening the ~~rays~~ sun sets his beauty rays far over the eastern hills in mellow luster.

I must not forget to mention the beautiful flowers there is the modest pink spreading her perfume for us to inhale and the rose which so pleases my sense of smell. the lily is a sweet flower but its odor does not greet my olfactory nerve with as much delight as the others which I have spoken of.

Often when I am walking out the beautiful grass ^{looking} like green velvet the fields of grain that wave at every zephyr and look like an ocean of green.

There is the sturdy oak that never bends the beautiful pine so stately and erect and the weeping willow which appears so graceful.

Then should not the praise of our ~~the xxxxxx~~ Father in heaven the great artist of these beautiful picture of nature be our theme eternally certainly. Doretha Horton July 1868

Nature Looks Fair.

It is a beautiful morning, and upon the fair face of nature the thickly, clustered forest trees spread their noble branches. and give a shade to many a weary traveler. The high hills are covered with verdure. The sky over heads look like ^{the curtains} ~~curtains~~. The birds tune, their shrill notes and cheer the hills, and valleys with their sweet music. But the flowers must not be forgotten, the pink rose is my favorite flower its fragrance, and looks are alike delightful. many flowers are useful they all adorn our gardens, there is the golden field lily. the pure white lily. the lady slipper. Flowering almond. just think the fruit will soon be ripe, The cherries, apples, pears, currents, blackberries, and many other fruits. The little stream that, takes its course through the woods never stops, to tell us why it is such a hurry but glides swiftly to the rivers from thence to the great Atlantic. see the waving fields of grain, that move at every gentle breeze. The sturdy oak that spreads its generous branches far and wide, but never bends while the graceful weeping willow, the admiration of all is ever bent, in seemingly veneration. The morning ^{glory}, the blue bell, shrub, the yellow, and white rose, the delicate pinks, lilac, tulip, daisy,

and many ^{other} flower that are beautiful. winter with
 his icicle fingers freezes the ponds rivers and the streams the
 beautiful snow that its crystal how so bright when we walk out
 in the moonlight nights in winter, Jack frost ~~to~~ we often
 meet on our way, and pinches our fingers with his cold
 hands. but how fair nature is - even in this dreary season.

Composed and written

By Amanda Beck
 When 13 Years of age

Nature Looks Fair.

What a beautiful morning it is, every thing appears to take pleasure in the summer, the little Birds chirp their happy song, while the bees that are wiser far than buffaloes or lions are. ~~They~~^{They} are engaged in storing honney for the winter, and the squirrels are scampering about as if hasten the ripening of the nuts, that they may commence their harvesting, the dense forest trees, are waving their beautiful heads in the breeze, how curious it is to think, how many different kinds of trees there are Oak, Ash, Cedar, Walnut, Cherry, Mulberry, Maple, Elm, Pine, Hemlock, & Spruce, all which are of some use, some are of ~~great~~^{great} use, these trees bring the gentle breezes which fan our brows, while the brilliant brightness of the sun,

dazzles our eyes, and over powers them
 with light, and the rivulets also that
 glide their way to ocean, that look
 as they go as sparks of fire, and the grass
 which God has spread over the earth,
 for an ornament and a use to man,
 it appears as a carpet of green velvet I
 think that God has fully displayed
 his wisdom, and power, in creating these
 great and wonderful things.

Composed
 and written by,
 Harriet J. Hazling. 11.
 years of age.

Nature Looks Fair.

The beauties of nature, how fair to behold,
As the buds do appear in the spring
And gradually open, revealing to all
Those glories which spring time, doth bring.

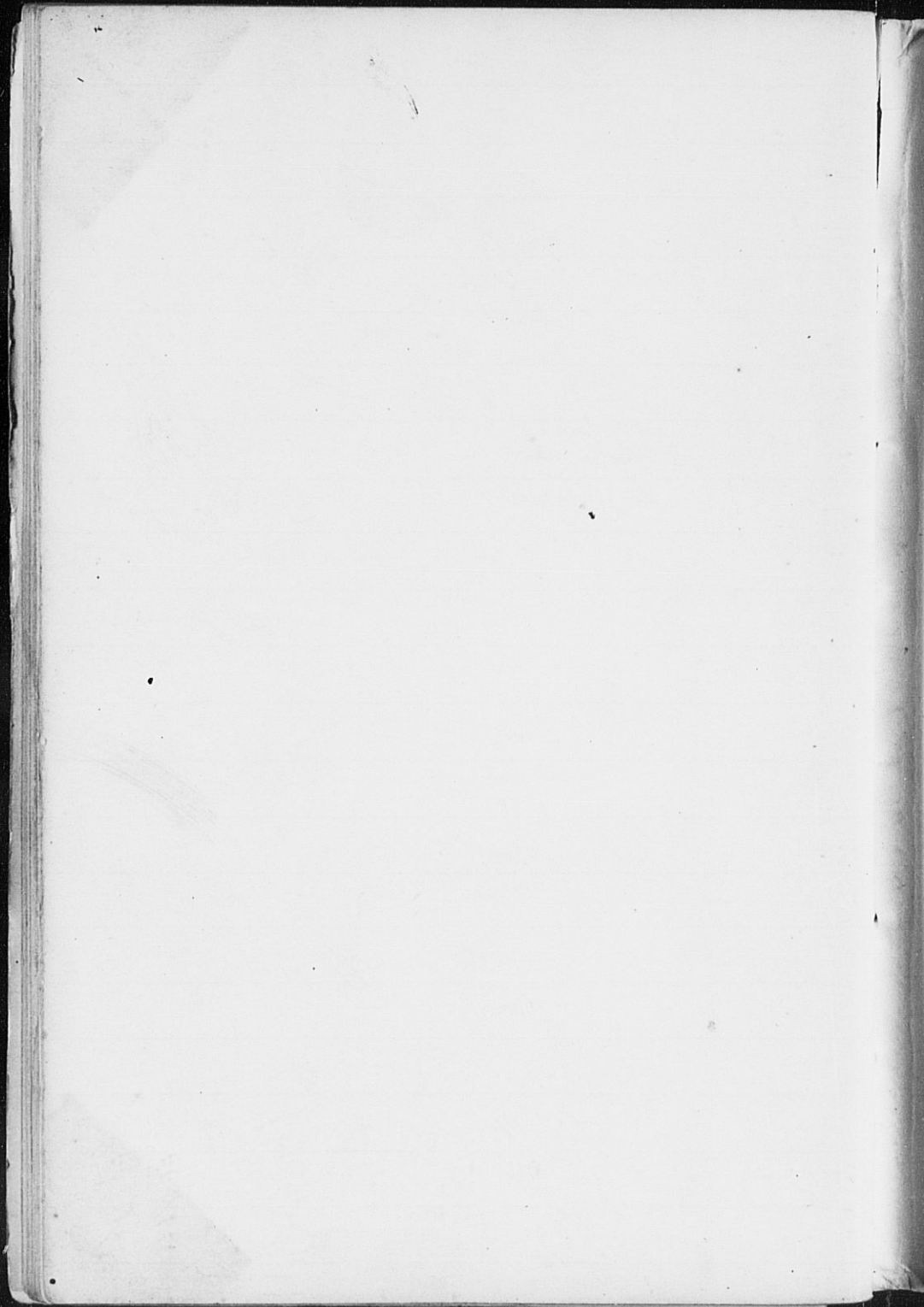
The trees, all enrobed in their foliage green,
The flowers, that spring up at our feet;
These, these are the beauties of nature, that seem
To enliven our spirits complete.

The trees calmly waving their heads, in ^{the} breeze,
The rills, that run murmuring by,
The low humming buzz, of the diligent bees,
All speak of the Great God on high.

The mountains, encircling on every side,
Enclose us, in quietude sweet,
Reminds us ^{him in} of whom we confide,
Nath whose hand we can find a retreat

O the beauties of nature, of these we'll sing,
Their glories, and beauties of eptoll
An offering of praise we will joyfully bring;
And praise the wise maker of all,

Rebecca Turner, July. 1868



bring or rec'd old?