

89.9.1980

Had. run out my sheet I am obliged to recur to y<sup>r</sup> little scenery for closing  
retutations, or leave them understood. In y<sup>r</sup> latter case your understand-  
ings, I imagine, would not have been severely taxed. For you knew well  
our love to you all, & respects for friends, are invariable, whether expressed or  
not; & you will ever believe me affectionately a father N. Tilton.

Dear Daughters,

15 March - 49

Yours of 23 ult. came duly to hand in com-

pany with one of same date from Monmouth, M<sup>e</sup> by William F. Tilton,  
my old correspondent on y<sup>r</sup> genealogy of the Tiltons. When at Pitts-  
field in Sep. 1840, I was informed y<sup>t</sup> he was not living - y<sup>t</sup> he died  
of fever y<sup>t</sup> summer at Springfield. Suppos<sup>d</sup>. my information correct,  
& had. never since heard from him, you will not wonder y<sup>t</sup> I  
was little less surprised than if one had risen from y<sup>r</sup> dead. Pre-  
sum<sup>d</sup>. from y<sup>r</sup> contents of his letter, y<sup>t</sup> it was himself, & not his  
ghost, y<sup>t</sup> wrote, I ventured to return an answer - stat<sup>d</sup>. my in-  
ability to acct. for y<sup>r</sup> mistake of his had. made no greater  
change than y<sup>t</sup> of locality - y<sup>t</sup> I was glad to learn y<sup>t</sup> his situa-  
tion is so eligible, as he represented - & finally y<sup>t</sup> I was advanc-  
ed in life - y<sup>t</sup> my health is greatly impaired - y<sup>t</sup> my hear has  
almost left me, - & y<sup>t</sup> I feel inadequate to genealogical research-  
es. — The other part of y<sup>r</sup> household, except y<sup>r</sup> two youngest,  
are gone y<sup>r</sup> afternoon to y<sup>r</sup> funeral of Mrs Anne Henderson, wif-  
of Joshua, & Eunice's eldest sister. She is by death reliev<sup>d</sup>. from  
long & extreme suffer<sup>g</sup>., & bro<sup>t</sup> to be buried from her father's, while  
her liberated & happy spirit is hovering around her surviving  
& afflicted friends, & p<sup>o</sup>etically echoing to them y<sup>r</sup> scripture  
invitation, "Come up hither". — Yesterday Jonathan Watson  
was buried. He was about my age, I believe, & a member of our  
church - he died suddenly in his chair, while sitting with  
his family as usual around y<sup>r</sup> fire. — To y<sup>r</sup> who are prepared, y<sup>r</sup>  
sudden com<sup>g</sup>. of y<sup>r</sup> Lord must be far from unwelcome, while  
their surviv<sup>g</sup>. friends are spaced intense distressed at y<sup>r</sup> painful &

cordial for her soul, & of the thanks from mine.

From which time to this of the former has been a very comfortable  
gradually wasting disease, & parting farewell of a friend most dear.  
But as we come not into life self called, so we go not out at y. time,  
nor in y. way & manner we may choose. What is to be y. mode  
of our exit we know not yet. We only know y. y. Judge of all y. earth  
will do right. — Mother's cough is not a little harsh & weak-  
ening recently, particularly in bed, but rested better last night —  
otherwise as when you saw her last. I have been out but little  
since Jan'y. — read by day & sing psalms & hymns in evening  
to myself, in my guttural tone — commenced as a lullaby to pain  
& continued from habit & want of social friends. I am look'g into  
y. New Eng. Farmer by Cole of Boston. Science in every age &  
cultural pursuit is y. theme of y. day. Farmers must go to bed  
scientifically, get up scientifically, eat their breakfast scientifically  
& walk mathematically. How w. our ancestors stee, could they  
take a peep & see with what a gusto their descendants are repu-  
diat'g ancient modes of agriculture, & all y. old implements of  
husbandry! But the day is near at hand to leave our theoretical  
for practical farm'g. Weather is very mild — sleds almost broken  
up, & y. wintry garb of earth has become very ragged. I  
make no calculations on doing much myself — all will de-  
pend on y. feel'g of y. day & hour. Our horse has a lame foot, loca-  
tion & cause beyond our ken, nothing being obvious to sight or feel.  
Hence am I more confined to y. house than I wish. We have no  
Back Gammon on box — forward thereof another sometimes recreates  
herself with Mr. Puzzle — but he is no match — she will clear y.  
board times indefinite, as fast as it can be set, & no mistake. —  
William Furnis, there is going to follow y. multitude, whether to  
do good or evil — can you tell? Did you see in y. paper an acct. of  
a steamer at N. Y. for Califor. under attachment, of \$50,000, <sup>by</sup> Mr

<sup>Portland</sup>  
Furnace, as y<sup>r</sup>. Advertiser states it, meaning Furniss probably?  
The Marshall placed his deputy with other men on board to secure y<sup>r</sup>.  
vessel. But y<sup>r</sup>. captain played a ruse upon them - he got up steam  
to keep boilers from rust<sup>ing</sup> - soon after moved her out into y<sup>r</sup>. stream  
say<sup>ing</sup>. he wished to see how she would act - he then head<sup>ed</sup> her for sea.  
y<sup>r</sup>. crew immediately left their hid<sup>den</sup> place, & put y<sup>r</sup>. officer & men  
into y<sup>r</sup>. boat & set them adrift - y<sup>r</sup>. boat came ashore, but the steamer  
er went to sea. The next Advertiser says y<sup>r</sup>. grand jury have in-  
dicted the captain & mate for piracy. Fine must unf<sup>ortu</sup>nately rest.

- The most romantic enterprise of y<sup>r</sup>. day seems to be y<sup>t</sup>. of Capt.  
Himball from down east. who, after great & long preparations,  
has just sailed from Boston, with a colony for California, & from  
thence to Oregon. May y<sup>r</sup>. Lord speed them with safety to their des-  
tined home, & there fill them with content. - We notice our steamer  
er returned <sup>from Cal<sup>a</sup></sup> with \$500,000 in gold dust, belong<sup>ing</sup> to y<sup>r</sup>. passengers, who  
are too numerous, to share individually a very large sum, yet y<sup>r</sup>.  
Cal<sup>a</sup>. gold must give a spur to business. - And so our "fair  
"cousin" Margent is going to manage a King's household. We  
trust she will never occasion any invidious comparisons be-  
tween her predecessor & herself. - Mr. W<sup>W</sup>, names she in  
Portland you, no doubt, know is married to a Virginian. But  
how their mates, dropped at so distant points, of y<sup>r</sup>. earth, happened to  
find each other, you may not know, unless W<sup>W</sup> learnt when at  
Portland. As we understand she had a brother who, on a visit to y<sup>r</sup>.  
White Mountain, was taken with bleed<sup>ing</sup> - & sent for his mother & sister.  
They came, & put up at U. S.'s hotel, where James board<sup>ed</sup>. Hence y<sup>r</sup>.  
acquaintance & subsequent marriage. The brother died. She he, a  
sister at Dover, N. H. and they were married at her home. W<sup>W</sup> ag-  
ree, we learn, tho' we have not seen her, is much pleas<sup>ed</sup> with her new  
daughter. They have located in State-street - of course have left no  
room to rise in point of streets. And we hope they will never fancy

nor count e fall in any other point. James, & his brother Robert too,  
knows well y. value of money. We do not know but y. & y. latter has  
also repudiated a bachelor ship ere this, & will of course relieve his  
mother from some part of her heavy burden. We sh<sup>d</sup>. be right glad  
just to look in upon them, but cannot yet. — Sunday. I was too  
late to get this ready for mail Sat. morn, but will do it up y. afternoon ready  
for next mail. I have, in y. meantime, propos<sup>d</sup>. to Helen to add a letter to  
go in c<sup>o</sup>., but she does not act nor feel like writ<sup>g</sup>. We all know how to  
sympathize with green hand, not forgett<sup>g</sup>. y. were green our selves once.  
She is becom<sup>g</sup>. quite stout & fleshy, while Louisa is still slim & hump shouldered  
as her y. one. Mar<sup>t</sup>. bid, fair to sow her own boat with, or ag<sup>t</sup>. tide. The three  
minors are much at y. barn look<sup>g</sup>. after increase of stock, & wait<sup>g</sup>. still for  
their increase. Lambs mostly come. — Three or four calves are turn<sup>g</sup>. beyond  
y. time expect<sup>d</sup>. — H. M. L.'s attent<sup>n</sup>. out of school, I imagine, is taken up, like  
y. Bostonians, fever full of questions, in y. increase & improv<sup>em</sup>. of y. bird spec<sup>ies</sup>.  
He must add his name, with y. of Geo. Baigge, to y. associat<sup>n</sup>. for breed<sup>g</sup>. best  
variety of hens, & securing a full supply of eggs in winter. Love from cousins to him.  
— We learn noth<sup>g</sup>. from Ex. since last of Dec. — all well then, & at C. V. too, as Mrs  
Nelson wrote. — You speak of com<sup>g</sup>. up, in Ep. if pleas<sup>d</sup>. Only assure us y. you will  
not start if unpleasant, & you will save us from great anxiety. This look<sup>g</sup>. for  
friends at set times, without a weather proviso, is not y. thing. — In regard to  
y. same \$200 I hardly know how best to decide. Henry will have to make a  
payment, in June com<sup>g</sup>. And if he cant sell his lot at Biddleford, in y. mean  
time, he will need to hire. In confidence — I would say to you y. another  
paid y. Southgate mortgage, & for certain reasons, permitted it to be as-  
signed to H. — I now wish it had been assigned to herself, as she w<sup>d</sup>. have a legal  
right to hold it. But if it be secured, & assigned to a third person Henry  
will hold it as his own, in case he redeems it. His own mortgage will take  
one half the farm, which I am wish<sup>g</sup>. he sh<sup>d</sup>. hold in fee; but wish him to  
wait for the other half until, we may no longer need it. However, if  
Mr. M. L. consent to forward y. sum by you, & object to our joint note for  
payment, H. can give another his note for y. Southgate deed, & forward  
y. to Mr. M. L. for security. This, I understood, he agreed to accept when  
he was here. If nothing sh<sup>d</sup>. be effected you can take back y. money on  
your return. — Mr. Hedge's there is gone, & we, in mental vision, beheld  
his late flock scattered as sheep on y. mountains, with<sup>g</sup>. a shepherd. Let  
them cling to each other in strong & heart felt sympathy a little while, &  
God will send them another pastor after his own heart. The ev<sup>g</sup>. of Mr.  
Peabody of Poto. did not consent to bring such heaviness of heart on his ch<sup>h</sup>. society.