

Sciota Valley

April 27 /59

Dear sister.

Your letter just came to hand and as it has been so long on the road I hasten to answer it. I am happy to say we are all well we moved from Madison to Hardin Co a year ago this month and we never had better healths in our lives, we came here after we lost our mill, to rent land cheap. We live on Annas husbands farm 10 miles from them. Anna married a man that makes property fast but he bears a hard name they live in Kenton the Co seat of Hardin He trades and pleads law I have a kind husband but yet I feel lonely for the want of friends the people here don't seem like those we was raised with I like it better in some things you spoke of your country being such a place for dress it can't beat the Plains Some of our old mates and neighbors are getting quite aristocratic they rattle in silks and jewelry and ride in 3 hundred carriages if you should come back you'd not find the people as they used to be However there is our old neighbors the last time I saw them was as warm hearted as ever young Patrick are left alone William is in Calaforna Levi is dead and Isabel is married old Levi is dead and Eliza has gone to live at your

Newman Mitchell is one of the wealthiest men on the old Neighborhood their two eldest children are married the next three are dead Isaac was well and doing well the last news he had but one child they calls her Lydia Ann we had a letter today from T. Ellsworth they was well and none of them married yet there are five grown children at home I haven't saw Lydia for 3 years and we are now 70 or 80 miles apart Alma is not married yet She and her little girl are with Betsy Ann Green in Ill's Jane Hogle married well live near Pleasant Valley Sarah is not married yet I can't think of much news to write from the plan as I have not been back since we left it being 50 miles Harlow left a poor afflicted child I found here whereabouts and have been writing to her I had a letter from a friend of hers stating she was almost deaf and not able to work half the time we are hard run since we lost our property but I felt it my duty to offer her a home with me they say she is genteel and lady like and well respected where she is known What a family of orphan children belong to our family it seems we all have our portion of trouble we look around us and see many we think have to trouble but alas every heart has its sorrows you have a great responsibility resting upon you to raise so many children and train them in the way they should go but comfort yourself by thinking how many there are left with more children and nothing to support them with. I suppose you have a great plenty Sam told us that he had bought your and Grand Paz interest at Millers and that he payed you 26 hundred in gold a few days before he left and that he divided the first payments with Hiram so that Hiram had as much land as he had you wished to know whether it was your money or Grand Pas Miller could not raise I was a little surprised I thought Sam gassed? Some but thought the money here belonged to him it makes me think of a remark I heard when I heard of Hiram's death that was Sam would cheat the heirs out of that property here if it was entrusted to his care Lake Vanney was in Hardin the other day I was asking him if Col Miller had raised the money for Colver he said he had and Sam had been to Canada buying stallions 18 or 20 and then was at Mrs. Howards and was soon going to

start home He was here in Nov I believe he came some ways out of his way to visit me I thank him for it but he did not stop but one night he brought yours and ?Olonz? picture yours got very much soiled that is the case but it look like the original if it would only talk I gave Same mone and Pearls sitting on my lap when he was a babe rather a poor picture the have all kinds of new types now that was taken six years ago I have but two children Lake is a great boy he thinks himself a man I think Hulda must have some trouble having Sam gone so much he told me he was not at home some times for six months but there is a hope of seeing them again I have had two litters from Mothers brother Isaac Dimond he lives in Michigan he is 68 years old and says he is hearty and can work like a beast he is coming to visit Lydia and us in the fall he has five children I must stop for I am tired of writing tell Mat to write whether she is woman enough to take care of a baby and have the other girls write.

My respects to Grand pa and Grand Ma
Huldah and all

Direct to Dudley PO Harden Co Ohi

Martha Scranton

To Maria Colver

David Brinker forwarded your letter from Rosedale

Transcribed by Marcia Philbrick
From photocopy of letter received from
Southern Oregon Historical Society
106 N. Central Ave.
Medford, OR 97501
March 2002