

(The original of the following letter to John B. Thatcher, Jr. from his Mother, Rachel Hannah Davis Thatcher, written the morning she died, is in the possession of Beth DeYoung. She has a number of his papers that she obtained from Max Thatcher that he obtained from his father. According to Moses Thatcher, as recorded in a letter to John reporting her death, she died about 10 A. M. Jan 10th. The part ---- is illegible in the copy she gave me the summer of 1990, as it was in a fold. Weilding T. Shaw)

1882

Gentile Valley Idaho Jan 10th.

My Dear Son

We received yours of the -----and were glad to hear that you were well, and hope this will find you still enjoying good health. I had a letter from Father last week, he was well, said he had finished my Secretary and took it to the painters and told him to take time and make a good job of it. He has been working in his shop this winter, and the boys do the feeding and out door work. Aunt Hannah wrote to him and told of Uncle Josey's death, she says she thinks you are rather young to be sent out preaching. I think that our boys are more earnest in trying to fulfill

(page 2)

their missions than some of the men are, and the sooner they take hold of the work the more good they will be able to do for themselves and others. I am glad that you received your money and when you need more don't be afraid to let us know. Sarah told pa when he was down last, that you had to have the filling taken out of your teeth, wasn't it a good job? or what was the trouble. I have sent the

News to you all the time, we didn't have any paper wrappers or mucilage, so I wrapped them in a piece of paper and tied them with a string, have you got any that have been sent that way? Perhaps they havn't been forwarded from Rochester, we are going to send for some wrappers and then I

(page 3)

think you will get them allright. Your father had a letter from Col. Fulmer last week, he wants to buy a part of Aunt Sarah's lot or the house and lot both if pa will sell. I don't want him to sell it if we can get along without, we will need the fruit until we can raise some here, and I think propperty will increase in value for some time yet, in Logan. Col. signs himself Your Matrimonial Nephew.

We have had a great deal of rainy weather this winter, but it has been quite cold for two or three days past, there is a little snow, but not enough to make very good sleighing. Our house is real warm if it is an old cabin. I believe it is warmer than our house in Logan.

(page 4)

Arta came in Saturday and wanted me to take a sleigh ride he was going to take his wife and Sister Hale. I wouldn't go. I had my floor partly scrubed, and the children were getting ready for their primary, and several persons were after their mail, and pa was busy in the store. I never had so much to do in my

life, the mail comes every day
about 2 o'clock except Sunday
and the folks are calling at all
hours for their mail, and I can't
get along with my work very well
when I have to stop so many times.
I don't know whether there is any
sense to this letter or not, I have
had to stop writing so many times.
Hem says he sends lots of kisses
to you.

With love to you and Bro.
Noble, I remain your loving Mother.
Rachel H. Thatcher