

Worcester Oct: 14th - 1840

To Doct: John P. Green

Dear Son,

Your favor of Wednesday morning, without date, came to hand on the ninth instant, post marked the 7th M^o, in which you informed me, that you arrived the week previous on Wednesday after a pleasant journey, and that you immediately proceeded to Capt Sherman, and from thence to the boat for your baggage, and that your boarding place is at a Mrs Poalk's South Ninth Street near Spruce. Now, as I am rather advanced in life, & would be much pleased to know how you found the way from N. Y. to P. - a, and by what means of conveyance, being a little more particular, would gratify my curiosity, and of most benefit to your younger brothers, when they, (if ever) should travel that way, as well, as the expense of each mode of conveyance, if there were more ^{than one} ~~and what his Christian name is~~ than one route from N. Y. to Philadelphia. Where does Capt Sherman live? what street? or what number? where does Eng: Earle live? who is Eng: Earle? and what profession is he of as you are in the City of brotherly love please be very particular, that we can know, as much as possible for us to have without being on the spot, all these little things coming to us in a neat well written letter would please us, who are not, so fortunate, as yourself to have the pleasure of travelling to me that part of the world. by, & by we will have a volume published with the amounts you may favor us with, which would be very entertaining, and instructive, that those who come after us might know the way, the price, and manner of a very civil young Doct: getting from the heart of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the City of New Perm. on what month, foul, or fair, and what year, a letter of the diary kind would

Letter from William E. Green to Doc[tor] John P. Green
October 14th 1840
[John P. Green Mss. - A.L.S.]

Worcester Oct. 14th 1840

To Doc[tor] John P. Green

Dear son,

Your favor of Wednesday morning, without Date came to hand on the ninth instant post marked the 7th [*Ms. illegible*] in which you informed me, that you arrived the week previous on Wednesday, after a pleasant journey, and that you immediately proceeded to Capt Thurmans [sic] and from there to the boat for your baggage, and that your boarding place is at a Mrs. Soalk's South Ninth Street near Spruce. Now, as I am rather advanced in life, & would be much pleased to know how you found the way from N.Y. to P[hiladelphi]a, and by what means of conveyance, being a little more particular, would grattefy [sic] my curiosity, and of vast benefit to your younger brother, when they, (if ever) should travel that way, as well, as the expense of each mode of conveyance, if there was more than one part from N.Y. to Philadelphia. Where does Capt Thurman live? and what was his Christian name? what street? & what Number? where does Esq. Earle live? who is Esq Earle? and what profession is he of? As you are in the City of brotherly love please be very particular, that we can know, as much as possible [sic] for us to learn without being on the spot all these little things concerning to us in a neat well written letter would please us, who are not, so fortunate, as yourself to have the pleasure of travelling to see that part of the world. by & by we will have a volume published with the accounts you may favour us with, which would be very entertaining, and instructive, that those who came after us might know the way, the price, and manner of a very lived young Doc[to]r's getting from the heart of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to the City of W[illia]m Penn. on what month, foul, or fair, and what year, a letter of the diary kind would

afford much pleasurable information, as well as entertainment to let us know what you saw, how the country appeared, & if you saw any improvements in agriculture, that might be usefull, we should be enabled to adopt them. It is a duty we owe our fellow creatures, to do them all the good we can, when we have it so much in our power, without any very great expence to ourselves, or if we can afford it a little expence will always be well repaid, if we do not receive it by the acknowledgements of those to whom the favours, & civilities are rendered; we have a heart felt satisfaction which no one can deprive us of which will afford us great delight in private meditations, and, so, you will see that we always get overboard. Your letter was well written, and but a few words misselt, which ought not to be from a young man of your opportunities, an easy correct manner of writing, with a frequent practice, will make it very, pleasant, and agreeable to you, and pleasing to your friends, and more than this, it gives you an agreeable flow of words, with an uninterrupted flow of language, which always is becoming in a profession, where so much depends, on the manner, and matter, to make ones self agreeable, & enables you many times to become usefull where a distant, & somewhat hesitating manner will have to be overcome, before you can come at the patient, to have him or her communicate freely to your ear - and whatever the Patient, or friend intrusts to your confidential ear, you know a sacred duty, implicitly excludes us from communicating to others. I write perhaps you may think too particular, but what I have written is the result of my very unimpaired opportunities for observation, and those will not be missed unkindly by one for whom I have the highest regard - You will occasionally, as you may have opportunity look out the Gardens, where you can have ones, note whatever you see extraordinary, & none, it will afford you very many, & pleasant subjects for conversation, which will render you often a person to be sought for, both, as a friend, & companion, and also may be of use to you in after life. I have much I would say to you that might not be unsatisfactory to you, & hope the

afford much pleasureable [sic] information as well as entertainment to let us know what you saw, how the country appeared, & if you saw any improvements in agriculture, that might see usefull [sic], we should be enabled to adopt them. It is a duty we owe our fellow creatures to do them all the good we can, when we have it so much in our power, without any very great expense to ourselves, or if we can afford it a little expense will always be well repaid, if we do not receive it by the acknowledgements of those to whom the favors, & civi[l]ities are rendered, we have a heart felt satisfaction [sic] which no one can deprive us of which will afford us great delight in private meditations, and, so, you will see that we always get our reward. your [sic] letter was well written, and but a few words misspelt [sic], which you ought not to be from a young man of your opportunities. an easy correct manner of writing, with a frequent practice, will make it easy, pleasant, and agreeable to you, and pleasing to your friends, and more than this, it gives you an agreeable flow of words, with an uninterrupted flow of language, which always is becoming in a profession, where so much depends on the manner, and matter, to make ones self agreeable, & enable one many times to become usefull [sic] where a distant, & formal hesitating manner will have to be overcome, before you can come at the patient, to have him or her communicate freely to your ear - and whatever the patient, or friend, int[er]ests to your confidential ear, you know a sacred duty, compleatly [sic] excludes us from communicating to others. I write perhaps you may think too - particular, but what I have written is the result of my very circumscribed opportunities for observation, and I hope will not be received unkindly by one for whom I have the highest regard. You will occasionally, as you may have opportunity look at the gardens, where you can have [*Ms. illegible*], note whatever you see extraordinary, & name, it will afford you very many, & pleasant subjects for conversation, which will render you often a person to be sought for, both, as a friend & companion, and also may be of use to you in [the] after life. I have much I would say to you that might not be unsatisfactory [sic] to you, & hope the

very fine points & have thorough set will put you on the
about, & when you get a short filled place to command by word,
if no private convenience offers, solely, & without putting your-
-self too much under obligations to others. Lydia wishes me to
ask what you may per haps for house, & what kind of a family
you board with. Paddy wishes me to urge you to give her love
- us as you can, it will make you known, & a young man
to be known for good habits, good sense, and agreeable manners, is
in a way to even make his fortune. I was pleas'd to see in your
letter that you felt in good spirits, & that you had made some
beginning to see the City, & the places which are most worthy of your
notice, & which to be ignorant of would argue an unfortunate
neglect of civility which a deal of good sense could not excuse.
Dunt Watney says she shall not send your shirts, as you have enough
for the winter, but if she gets them done she will forward
them, as soon, as a private opportunity shall present.
I should like to know what books Doct. Green sent for by you,
or he asked (me when I told him that you desired to be recommended to
him & his wife) whether you wrote any thing about the
sent for. I should be pleas'd to see the copy of his certificate to you, &
also a copy of Milton Earle's letter of introduction, as well as Mr.
A. Chase's. I shall write you as I have opportunities, &
hope you will not neglect the opportunity which you may
have to write particularly; I am in hopes that you will
not only become easy, & agreeable in your manners, but of
a friendly, familiar demeanor, which will be very different
from the late partners in medicine. As I expect you will see
many of the friends of the Dillingham family you will not fail
by your attentions to make them agreeable to you, and if you
can find any employment for yourself in the medical line perhaps
you may get him a place where in the course of a year or
two he may set up in the apothecaries line, as well as Dentistry,
which seems to be his hobby - at present. I hope you will feel full
confidence in your own energies which are not small, if you
will put them forward, you have every thing to encourage
you, good health, good habits, great application, great unfeigned
attention, &c. &c.

very few fists I have thrown out will put you on the alert, & when you get a sheet filled please to forward by mail, if no private conveyance offers safely, & without putting yourself too much under obligations to others. Lydia wishes me to ask what you pay per week for board, & what kind of a family you board with. Patty wishes me to ask you to give her love to all the Thurman Family. get [sic], as many agreeable acquaintances as you can, it will make you known & a young man to be known for good habits, good sense, and agreeable manners, is in a way to soon make his fortune. I was pleased to see in your letter that you felt in good spirits, & that you had made some beginning to see the City, & the places which are most worthy of you[r] notice, & which to the ignorant of would argue as unfortunate neglect of curiosity which a deal of good sense could not counsel. Aunt Betsey sais [says] she shall not send your shirts, as you have enough for the winter, but if she gets them done she will forward them, as soon, as a private opportunity shall present - I should like to know what books Doc[to]r Green sent for by you, as he asked (*Ms. illegible*) when I told him that you desired to be (*Ms. torn*) him & his wife), whether you wrote any thing about the (*Ms. torn*) sent for. I should be pleased to see the copy of his certificate to you, & also a copy of Milton Earles letter of introduction, as well as Mr. A. Chase's. I shall write you as I have opportunities, & hope you will not neglect the opportunity which you may have to write particularly; I am in hopes that you will not only become easy, & agreeable in your manners, but of a friendly familiar demeanor [sic], which will be very different from the late partners in medicine. As I expect you will see many of the friends of the Dillingham Family you will not fail by your attentions to make them agreeable to you. and [sic] if you can find any employment for Sam[ue]l in the medical line perhaps you may get him a place where in the course of a year or two he may set up in the apothecaries line, as well, as Dentistry, which seems to be his hobby - at present. I hope you will full fill [sic] confidence in your own energies which are not small, if your will put them forward, you have every thing to encourage you, good health, good habits, great applications, great (*Ms. illegible*) & (*Ms. illegible*) [*Ms. illegible*], a good

many friends & in the way of maintaining more if all
the means put in your power are attended to
Make arrangements with some person who will do any
Commissioner business in the way of such plants books &c
as occasion may require. except any movement of
-tion for you, & believe me, as ever your friend & father

Mary A. Green

Lydian wants Patty & Princy send
best love to your ~~Mother~~

Dr. John
Rev. John O. Green
Care of Capt. Thos Sherman
Philadelphia
Penn.

My dear brother John were it not for the
hurry & drive of battle - I how day I would
write you a letter but as it is, a few words
will suffice to let you know that I have
not forgotten you & dearly love you and dai-
ly remember you in my prayers & from your affec-
tionate sister
Gladia

of love

Mrs M. M. & King's
Green

many friends & in the way of making more if all the means put in your power are attended too [sic] - Make arrangements with some person who will [*Ms. illegible*] commission buisness [sic] in the way of seeds plants books & c. [etc.] as occasion may require. Accept my warmest affection for you, & believe me, as ever your friend & father
/signed/ Wm. E. Green

[P.S.] Lydia Aunts Patty & Betsey send best love to you
/signed/ Wm. E. Green

[P.S.] My dear brother John were it not for the hurry & drive of battle - I [*Ms. illegible*] day I would write you a letter but as it is, a few words will suffice to let you know that I have not forgotten you & dearly love you and daily remember you in my prayers from your affect[ionate] sister Lydia

[P.S.; written upside-down] Ab. the Medical & [*Ms. illegible*] tickets all that were found in your package - /signed/ Wm. E Green

[Addressed] Doc[to]r John P. Green
Care of Capt Tho Thurman
Philadelphia Penn -

Transcribed by Emily S. Dunster