My dear brother John,

A few days since A. H. S. received a portion of your journal. Its closing date being I think Aug. 20th. Also one or two letters in one of which you mention the reception of his letter at the 16th of Aug. 1857, which was dated in the Feb. preceding—making about six months passage of the letter from New York to you. This letter was sent in the most direct manner with which we are acquainted—and yet you see how long it takes Breach to deliver by the most speedy conveyances. We all very much regret that you cannot more readily hear from us. It is from our fault on our part—as we have sent many letters. We have sent papers and books before this reaches you—You will probably have received a large box forwarded by A. H. S. Containing sundry articles—which you requested him to purchase and forward. Andrew is very attentive to do all he can for your interests—few brothers would be so much to. He has done his best to collect your debts—most of which are of an utterly dishonorable character. For instance George Adams,
Incomplete letter from [sender unknown] to John [P. Green]
January 14, 1851
[John P. Green Mss. - L.]
died long ago a poor, worthy fellow — who would probably never have paid you one cent had he lived for twenty years. I merely mention this as one instance of many where you have in your kindness of heart loaned money to oblige a person without taking proper security. Anote is nothing from an unprincipled person - but the least security. I hope you will be more careful in future how you lend money to whom you lend it — and due to the delicacy — I fear you will spend your strength for naught. I feel regret to learn that your situation is uncomfortable and we all alone wish to have you return without delay — you have and are to be pursuing a mistaken course, dear John — you cannot be happy, even if you had acquired millions. While you refuse to become a humble faithful follower of Jesus Christ — God has never promised to keep those who continue in sin, who refuse to obey this commandment. It matters not that you have professed to follow Him — if you have "turned again to the weak and beggarly elements of the world." If you follow the world you must have your portion in the
died long ago a poor, worthless fellow - who would probably never have paid you one cent had he lived for twenty years - I merely mention this as one instance of many where you have in your kindness of heart loaned money to oblige a person without taking proper security - A note is nothing from an unprincipled person - not the least security - I hope you will be more careful in future how you lend money & to whom you lend it - and all to the security - I fear you will spend your strength for naught - We all regret to learn that your destination is so uncomfortable and we all, as one, wish to have you return without delay - You have pursued, and are still pursuing a mistaken course, dear John - You cannot be happy, even if you had acquired millions, while you refuse to become an humble faithful follower of Jesus Christ - God has never promised to help those who continue in sin, who refuse to obey His commandments. It matters not that you have professed to follow Him - if you have "turned again to the weak and beggarly elements of the world" - If you follow the world you must have your portion in the
world—You must perish with the world. There are but two paths—the straight narrow way which leads to eternal life—and the broad road which leads to eternal death. You cannot be so blinded as presumptuous as to think for a moment that you are in the only safe way. Do you love Jesus? He says, "If any man loveth me let him keep my commandments." Do you keep God's commandments? You may be morally restrained from outbrea- diers in many ways—but do you love God with all your heart and mind and strength? And do you love your neighbor as yourself? Where is the evidence of this? Surely not in playing chess—attending theatres etc. on God's holy day which He has commanded us to keep holy to use as a means to turn aside from our ordinary pursuits—to spend in the worship of Him in public and private—a means to seek communion with Him. No doubt absent if not all around you disregard the Sabbath. If that any reason why you should do it—lost the least—You dwell in such an atmosphere you are doubly responsible that your light doth shine that
world— you must perish with the world— There are but two paths— the strait narrow way which leads to eternal life and the broad road which leads to eternal death. You cannot be so blinded to presumptuous as to thing for a moment that you are in the only safe way— do you love Jesus? He says “If any man love me let him keep my commandments” — Do you keep God’s commandments? You may be morally restrained from outbreaking sins in many ways — but do you “love God with all your heart soul— mind and strength” and “do you love your neighbor as yourself”? Where is the evidence of this? — Surely not in playing chess — attending theatres & c — on God’s holy day — which He has commanded us to keep holy — to use as a season to him aside from our ordinary pursuits — to spend in the worship of Him — in purlie and [Ms. illegible] — a season to seek communion with Him — No doubt [Ms. illegible] if not all around you desecrate the Sabbath — Is that any reason why you should do it — not the least. If you dwell in such an atmosphere you are doubly responsible to let your light so shine that
others may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven. You have had many opportunities to learn God's will. You have been better taught. You know better and you don't treat people as you want to be treated against the day of wrath. By thus despising God's command, by thus rejecting His word, the teaching of His providence, you are turning your blessing into cursings. Where is the proof that you love your neighbor as yourself? Do you, who have received light from above, endeavor to impart that light to others by asking the renewing influence of the Holy Spirit to rest upon their hearts? Do you all in your power to be an instrument to win their souls to Christ? Do you seek to strive to live near to God in prayer, submission to His command, not only that you may be blessed in your own soul, but that your may prove a medium of blessing to others? Believe not yourself, my dear brother, by the vain hope that you will at last be saved. Though you continue in sin, do you think you can repent at the last? You must repent of your sins before you can be saved. Christ has promised, 'Thine that coveted'.
others may see your good works and glorify Your Father in Heaven - You have had superior opportunity to learn God's will - You have been better taught - you know better - and you but "treasure us for yourself wrath... against the day of wrath" - by this despising God's commands - by this rejecting His word - the teachings of His providence - and turning your blessing into cursings - Where is the proof that you love your neighbor as yourself? Do you, who have received light from above - endeavor to impart that light to others, by asking the receiving influences of the Holy Spirit to rest upon their hearts? Do you do all in your power to be an instrument to win their souls to Christ? Do you seek & strive to live near to God in prayer - this obedience to His commands - not only that you may be blessed in your own soul - but that you may prove a medium of blessing to others? Deceive not yourself, my dear brother, by the vain hope that you will at last be saved - though you continue in sin - no - you must repent of your sins & forsake them - or you must reap the doom of the impenitent. Christ has promised - "Him that cometh
Wants are such, he sends with my compliments from all here, that you are now in receipt of his former letter of 3rd Jan. 1811, and I thought you might be interested in being informed that the present letter is simply a request that you may be appointed as the President of the United States, and I hope that you are now in receipt of the same. It is simply a request that you may be appointed as the President of the United States, and I hope that you are now in receipt of the same.
unto me. I will in no wise cast out" - Go to Him - earnestly seek the renewing influences of the Holy Spirit - may that your soul may be washed in "the blood of Jesus Christ which cleanseth from all sin" - that you may every moment receive the aid of the Holy Spirit to enable you to forsake all sin of thought, word and deed of omission and commission - If you deny yourself the religions - social & civil privileges of the land of your birth - that you may honor Christ by serving Him, in endeavoring to induce those around you to become His followers and friends - then - you may be right to stay where you are but if not - if your object is simply to obtain a certain amount of this world's treasures in a foreign land to return home to take comfort in this world in spending your substance - you err. You are purchasing earthly comfort, (which after all you may never be permitted to enjoy,) at too dear a rate - even at the expense of the improvement of the talents God has given you - at the expense - of all social and domestic comfort - and more
dreadful than "I am regarding your final
lep sole. "What shall it profit a man if he
 gain the whole world and lose his soul?"
What reply will you give to this question? Who can
 estimate the worth of the soul? Who can
calculate its loss? I think, dear John, that
you are unwise not to leave an atmosphere
so unfavorable to spiritual and intellectual
culture - unless indeed you remain solely to
be the instrument of saving the souls of men
among whom you reside. What are riches?
What is anything without God's blessing?
Can you expect this blessing without seeking
it? Will it be bestowed, if asked unless
you seek for grace to provoke all sin.
We have written repeatedly to you, and always
have urged your return - assuring you
of our willingness to do anything in our power
to aid you to become established in business
in North America. You have scarcely received
one of our letters - you, you would have acted
edged them. We would gladly write you more
frequently had we any assurance of the letters
reaching you. Be charitable in your conclusion.
dreadful than all - you are hazarding your priceless soul - "What shall it profit a man if he
gain the whole world and lose his own soul?" What reply will you give to this question?
Who can estimate the worth of the soul? Who can calculate its loss? I think, dear John,
what you are unwise not to leave an atmosphere so unfavorable to spiritual and
intellectual culture - unless indeed you remain solely to be the instrument of saving the
souls of those among whom you reside - What are riches? What is anything without
God's blessing? Can you expect His blessing - without seeking it? Will it be bestowed if
asked unless you seek for grace to forsake all sin - We have written repeatedly to you -
and always have urged your return - assuming you of our willingness to do anything in
our power to aid you to become established in business in North America - You have
scarcely received one of our letters - if so - you would have acknowledged them. We
would gladly write you more frequently had we any assurance of the letters reaching you
- Be charitable in your conclusions [.]
Be not hasty to condemn your best earthly friends. Andrew has done the best he could to secure your debts without success. He has tried to invest your money to the best advantage. Not even one expression in your letter could lead one to suppose he had acted other than the part of a kinne toward you. Think, dear John, you will sometime bitterly regret your grudging approaches. True it is trying to patience to live in constant expectation and constant disappointment. But it would be far better in kindness to assign probable reasons rather than unjustly charge neglect upon those wholly undeserving of it. You have reached maturity 2 years. You know that few, if any, have friends more sincere and kindly interested in them than you have in your own family—and if you judge it best to separate yourself wholly from them—and incur the disadvantage of seldom securing and uncertain modes of communication—why charge neglect upon those who strive to do what they can for you—instead of patiently enduring the results which cannot by us be avoided—I have already sent a small
Be not hasty to condemn your best earthly friends. Andrew has done the best he could to secure your debts without success. He has tried to invest your money to the best advantage. Not even one expression in your letters would lead one to suppose he had acted other than the part of a knave toward you - I think, dear John, you will sometime bitterly regret your groundless reproaches. True it is trying to patience - to live in constant expectation and constant disappointment - but it would be far better in kindness to assign probable reasons - rather than unjustly to charge neglect upon those wholly undeserving of it - You have reached maturity of years - You know, that few, if any, have friends more sincerely and kindly interested for them, than you have in your own family - and if you judge it best to separate yourself wholly from them - and incur the disadvantage of seldom recurring - and uncertain modes of communication - why charge neglect upon those who strive to do what they can for you - instead of patiently enduring the results which cannot by us, be avoided - I have already sent a small
Library to you - in these words - several volumes, papers, pamphlets & tracts, Bible, Testaments &c. which it appears you have never yet received. I shall by this ship which sails in a few days send you your "Hannah More in Hale Cottage," "My Mother" and several other volumes, with some papers, tracts, Testaments &c. I may give you a list of them. You can read them blind or give them as you see best. I shall also send a variety of garden seeds, both flower and vegetable. Which I hope will safely reach you. And trust you will leave them behind to benefit some one - and return yourself to our home - Farming you will like, and it will be conducive to your health. I will try to give you a list of the books and you will please acknowledge all you receive. Never for one moment, thinking dear John, that you are an outcast, that you are forgotten or uncared for by one of us. Very much to the contrary is the real state of the case. And not a day passes but you are the subject of our warm & earnest interest. Whatever you lose or neglect my dear brother, do not neglect
library to you - in other words - several volumes - papers - pamphlets & tracts - Bibles, Testaments & c [etc.] - which it appears you have never yet received - I shall by this ship which sails in a few days - send you - "Hannah More in Hall Cottage" - "My Mother" and several other volumes, with some papers - tracts - Testaments & c. I may give you a list of them - You can read them & lend or give them as you see best - I shall also send a variety of garden seeds both flower and vegetable which I hope will safely reach you, and I trust you will leave them behind to benefit some one and return yourself to "our home" - Farming you will like and it will be conducive to your health. I will try to give you a list of the books and you will please acknowledge all you receive - never for one moment, think my dear John, that you are an outcast, that you are forgotten or uncared for by one of us. Very much the contrary in the real state of the case. and [sic] not a day passes [Ms. illegible] you are the subject of our [Ms. illegible] & earnest interest - Whatever you lose or neglect my dear brother, lose not - neglect

Transcribed by Emily S. Dunster