

Dear Brother,

Grand Traverse Nov 4th 1844

I have nothing special to communicate at present. We are all in good health. One of our church members has been very sick with a quinsy she is slowly recovering. All have been very busy in gathering their corn. It is all housed now. The crop is abundant. A new trader is on his way to this place to winter here. He is a young man of good reputation who will not have any thing to do with liquor and deals on fair and reasonable terms with the Indians. So said. My friends Biddist & Brew I presume are grieved at this as they have had the trade until a year past. We will silently rejoice to see men sellers and extortioners displaced by those who will furnish useful articles at a reasonable price. One advantage the people derive from their new establishments they can exchange their corn and potatoes for other useful articles. A story was circulated among some of the Indians at the payment that this land was in market. I came from a village at the head of the bay went to the land office at Souda and it was reported they had purchased where they live. As near as I can learn however from reports they have deposited their money at the office with a promise.

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ise from the land agent that he will write to Washington stating the application they have made and hereafter inform them if the purchase can now be made. It is possible but not probable that it may lead to appropriation for the sale of the land. I thought it might be well to inform Mr. Louie of this circumstance that the Committee may observe if the land is brought in the market. I do not suppose the government would sell this land with the building without our knowing it. But as there are persons who would be ready to purchase it might take all the improvements it is a duty to be on the lookout. Besides the Indians look to us for information in case it is to be sold and duty to them requires that we should not be indifferent. Mr. Louie can I presume have an understanding with some person at Washington to give him information before the land is offered for sale.

I have not yet received the Hymn Books but understand there is a package of books on the vessel which I suppose is them. I wish you would procure a piece of that twilled cotton like what I got for the bails. There was not enough in the two pieces which I got. I have been busy in fitting up a little house for one of our Church members who is lame and

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has an aged mother living with her. I have
chimney and plastered it over and they will now
be very comfortable. The old woman has sons
who should have done this but they made
excuses until I did it myself. It is not very
ministerial kind of employment but many
like things I have to do. I was much gratified
to receive a letter from Br. Rankin. I have
commenced an answer but have not comple-
ted it. Maria is quite out of patience with
Susan for not writing to her. She has been
anxiously looking for a letter but always dis-
appointed. Susan I suppose has too much at
Princeton to attract her attention to think
of absent friends. We received a paper of
the death of Mary Ann Hoy. Remember
to Elizabeth tell her if our babies are not as
pretty as hers they are very sweet, very in-
teresting very attractive. They are babies of the
woods little resembling their father. She will
say, from this description. How pleased we will
be to see ^{you} at our log cabin. It is small but you
should find a welcome to the best part of it.
I should like to get a letter from you once not
written in the hurry of business. Such as you used
to write when in our little stone house at
No^s Hamiltons. Would ^{you} not like to spend an
evening as we used cracking nuts and eating apples.

23. Dec. 11

Land open say: land not in market -
not entitled to preemption, because
the land has been surveyed - & been
paid for application.

asked - If the whole was important?

It was when I had a hard cold.

Is there not one Indian village over it?

and on the top

Rev. Saml. Wells

Wm. L. L. L.

Our Pained Beliefs

[Signature]

Small Long flat - noting the buildings.

Pardon Valley Pa

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Wm. D. Burkhart
1760

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