Dear Father and Mather Sisters and Brothers I take my pen in and to right to you hoping to find you all Whell as it leves me and my Whife at present Dear farther it is with great pleshure that I wright to you to let you Now that I have got married this last Spring it is a great dele better for a man to married then to live Without in this Countrie. Whe have got a farm of eyghty acres of Land I Bought forty acres myselfe and my Whife she had forty acars to Whe can live real comfortable togethar. I did not have such a verey hevey Crop of wheat this fall I had tow hundred and fiftey syx bushels of twentey five acars. I did not have time to whorke my land last year I had to put it in with a yoack of Cattle I have got the same Cattle yet and a pair of horsis to this year and that dont't Mach it a great dele Better. Because I dont have hanny bodey to help me you must sum of you Cum and help me. Help is pretty scarce in this country. Now this whar time thay have in great Bisnes to dow as thay dow they have got all the restor to dow and so thay have you dow. drafting thay have got all escaped one. But I dont' know how it Whill be with hus the next time. Marey whas in great Bisnes to right to now of our ages so she could.
Marey just rowt to get our ages so she culd expose me to a draft they came round twice to get aur ages she towld that I whas thir-ty six years oul'd the second time thay came I tould them I was fourtey seven and that was oul'd anoufe to clear me of a draft I think it was mene in Marey to wright to get our ages so that thay could macke a lyer of me I wish you whould not send a whord aboat my age aney more Joseph gows round telling how hould he is and I ham the next oulder them hym thay ave acted sick a foule about it Whe heye got about twentey acars of wheat put in this fall and it louckes prittey whell I whas gowing to put in thir-ty acars in but I did not have time to dow it I whill tell you I have to whork pritey hard this sumer I have got my corn to husk yet I did not plant mutch this year I had about four acars this year and I had about five acars of oats I had fiftey bushels I should lick to se you hall hear if you whill cum you must send the word how frederick is if you can you must right to Aaron Lockwood Concord Jackson Cuntey Michigan North America
Concord, Jackson County, Mich. November 16th 1863
Dear Father and Mother, Brothers and Sisters,

by marrying your son, and Brother, gives us a claim upon each other as relatives; Aaron wishes me to write some in his letter. I feel some delicacy in commencing a correspondence with those I have never had the privilege of seeing, yet when I reflect it is the only way at present of conversing with each other by the silent language of our pens I'm taking the present opportunity for making your acquaintance; it would be highly gratifying to me if I could step in your dwelling and converse with you all face to face. I often think you must have many anxious fears about your sons being drafted for soldiers, they have escaped so far yet how long they may the Good Lord only knows as there is another in January calling for about two hundred thousand more soldiers. Aaron tells his age old enough to clear him of the draft if others had not meddled probably would. It seems hard as Aaron says he
has helped them a great deal. Our once happy Country is in a deplorable condition to put down this wicked rebellion is costing much treasure and many lives. My prayer is that peace may be speedily restored with all its attendant blessings, our constitution maintained and right prevail. William and Joseph's family are all well, they were all here a few days ago William talks of boarding with us this winter and going to school. Poor fellow has worked hard this summer, I hope he will enjoy himself this summer. I intend to take special care of one your sons and will be a kind sister to the others if our lives are spared. I hope you will think enough of us and these imperfect times to answer them soon. Aaron says you always write to Joseph but never to him, please don't let him say so any more by your not answering this. We should have written before now but we thought Mary had written you all the particulars. Please excuse poor writing as I have written in a hurry. Please receive my warmest love and best wishes for you all. Adieu.

Mr Wm and Mrs Lockwood. Mrs Selina Lockwood
Concord, March 26, 1866

Dear Father and Mother, Brothers and Sisters,

With pleasure I brake the long silence between us by once more addressing these few lines to you hoping they will find you all enjoying better health than I enjoy at present though I would be thankful to God that I yet live and my health so far recovered as to be able to write to you once more, a privilege a few days ago I never expected to enjoy for I have been very sick and nigh unto death one night I grew worse so much so I never expected to see the dawn of another day in this world; yet I felt that all was well with me, I felt a calm and happy composure in God that this world can neither give nor take away. This dear Friends is the kind of religion we shall all kneed in a dying hour if we would see heaven and bright glory with God and his Angels. I am now fulfilling my promise if I was ever able to write it should be my first business to write to you; you should hear from us once more. I hope you will forgive our negligence in not writing oftener, it affords us great pleasure to hear from you all. In future I hope our correspondence will be more frequent though I have but little of importance to communicate; We feel very thankful the cruel Rebellion is
put down, our union established and slavery demolished, yet I feel our Government is not in as safe keeping as it would have been if Lincoln had lived. Well William how are you doing old England with your friends by this time I suppose we shall see you with your English wife coming some of these days please tell me when we can both for your poor old can have a bottle of potatoes boiled and some beef roasted for we hear the cattle are all dying. They are in a general time of health here although there has been some sudden deaths about Concord. Old Esy Megees wife was found dead in her bed so was old Mr Moral and old Mr Hungerford and old Mrs Worth. How it stands us all in hard to be prepared for death for many times it comes as a thief in the night is in the above cases. Aaron feels quite encouraged now his place is paid for. Brother Andrew and I settled our affairs by his paying me one hundred and 25 dollars that helped Aaron some, but poor fellow felt bad when he thought I was going to die. My health has been poor most of the winter yet I was never as fleshy in my life yet my flesh the Doctor says was not good. I was confined to my bed about 3 weeks. I am dropsical and think I will end my days sooner or later. I have left all the particulars for Aaron to write. Mr Heldred returned last summer says if Wm does not come back soon he shall go and fetch him. I will close, hoping to hear from you all soon. My best love to you all, Truely yours, Mrs Selina Lockwood.