

~~was~~ traitors was in the known world. I want you to write to me soon and write what they are doing where you live in war time

I received a letter from Cousin Howard Briggs of Wis in April 22 and I wrote one in Feb to Cousin James G Briggs of Wis but have received no answer as yet give my love to Uncle and Aunt Betsey and family and Henry and reserve a share for yourself

My sister Mary is teaching school this summer in the District where father lives she has 25 scholars her health is very poor indeed my husband is at Greenport again fishing been gone three weeks I expect him home soon now his health is very good so is mine for me in warm weather

Willie is well and grows very fast he went to the 4<sup>th</sup> with me and enjoyed it much for he is all Soldier every inch of him write soon as you receive this and let me know if you have joined the army From your Union Cousin Lybil Brown

Portsmouth N.H

Sabbath eve July 7<sup>th</sup> 1861

Dear Cousin Mary it is a long time since I received a letter from you so I thought I would pen you a few lines to see if you was in the land of the living or not. I don't know but you have enlisted in the army or navy I suppose it is all war, war, up your way it is here this little state have sent two whole regiments and still there is companies enough formed since the last started (which was about two weeks ago) to form another regiment and our gallant young Governor is with them so you see that N.H does not calculate for any other state to out do her in defending the glorious old Stars & Stripes I went to Providence and passed the 4<sup>th</sup> very pleasantly there was a procession of first the old Soldiers of 1812 in their old uniform and their brass cannons each drawn by four red horses there



were 4 cannons and the ~~rest~~  
Old veteran soldiers seemed young as  
the rest of the companies their step  
was firm and strong although their  
hair was white as snow one of them  
walked ten miles to get there and  
then marched as long as the procession  
did which was untill noon then they  
fired a salute of an hundred guns  
with their Brass cannons the one that  
walked 10 miles has served under Gen  
Scott thirteen years was in the engage-  
ment at the battle of Sunday's Lane and  
says he thinks he could fight now as  
well as ever. the girls of the High and  
Grammar Schools were in carriages  
dress in white the cavalry were out  
and 9 companies beside in their  
uniform then there were two compani-  
es of Boys called Young America in full  
uniform there were about 150 in all  
of them with a little drummer and fife  
I tell you Mary they looked very pretty

indeed then there was an Oration  
delivered to them and then they dispersed  
it was an awful hot day I forgot to  
tell the fire companies were all out with  
their Engines and was called out of the  
procession after the march commenced  
twice to attend fires and got back in  
time to take their places before the march  
ended I saw Brother Jordan and Sister  
Latimer and her bear up there they  
are well but said Dear Father and Mother  
were both feeble in health this summer  
I wish I was a man I would been in  
the City of Washington and if I was I  
would ask them to reserve Jim Buchanan  
and Old Jeff Davis for me to shoot for I  
think Mary I could shoot them with a  
hearty good will at any time dont you  
let me be a man see if I could not fight  
for the Stars and Stripes but there is plenty  
of men that are ready to go at a moments  
call and the South will be as completely  
whipped as ~~it~~ ever any company of

morning from the seat of war their  
3 months are up but I think a great  
many will enlist for 3 years or during  
the war I think that A. G. and R. S.  
Soldiers did their duty nobly lost  
Gabbath in battle enough of this.

Pardon was here when I got your letter  
he came here last Wednesday night  
returned home yesterday morning  
Edwin went with him to see the  
folks Pardon says Brother Frank is  
sick he thinks he is going into the  
Consumption if he is not helped soon  
Pardon did not carry any girl to Prov  
the 4th Sails bear is Mr Tom. Goy  
Sister Mary's health is improving some  
Father and Mother's health is some  
better but their health is poor at that  
You must write often and all the  
news from that quarter give my  
love to all your fathers family.

Edwin sends his love to all and  
says tell you he is all <sup>whole length</sup> Union <sup>Yield Brown</sup>

Portsmouth R. S.

Sunday July the 25<sup>th</sup> 1861

Dear Cousin

Mary I will answer  
your letter as I suppose you are sick  
with the Measels by this time and I  
know how much comfort it has given  
me many a time to read letters from  
my friends. So I will write I am very  
sorry to think that Henry is very sick  
with the Measels they was very thick here  
in the spring and very light in all but  
a few cases of middle aged people who had  
them heavier. Dear Mary there is many  
sad hearts in our little State today  
that a week ago today was as light hearted  
as the birds. Last Sabbath many hearts  
ceased to beat on the glorious field of  
battle our little State mourns for its  
brave dead and amongst the rest is  
the beloved Col John C. Hocum whom  
I knew from my childhood he was  
beloved by all who knew him in his  
private life and how well he was beloved



by his Soldiers and by the public it is  
manifest by the God faces and tearful  
eyes of all when speaking of him.

Today when our pastor took the Bible  
in his hands in our pulpit to read  
from its sacred page he held it up  
before us all saying "Behold the gift  
of our beloved Col. Hecumiss you could  
hear the smothered sob from all parts of  
the house he gave it to the church soon  
after his return from the Mexican  
war. our pastor was so affected that  
he could not speak for some few minutes  
he stood with his head bowed upon  
the Bible while his whole frame shook  
with grief. Mary he is a Union pastor  
he has an only son in the army in the  
Naps regiment from Taunton.

Belwin lost one cousin in the battle  
a lieutenant in the Greenish company  
by the name of George Bradford and  
in the same company the Sargent was  
killed he was cousin to me so we too

Mary have to mourn for the dead  
when the pastor said how many have  
been made sad by the loss of friends  
in the late battle he cast his eye all  
over the house then said I know of but  
one in divine presence she has lost a  
beloved cousin he was but 12 young men  
but his name is embalmed to his  
native state and his beloved country  
yes Mary I was the only one in the  
church that could mourn for a relative  
I forgot to say his name was Charles  
Bagley What news for a Father and  
Mother Brother and Sisters and Mary  
one of these Sisters married a Southern  
man and he is a rebel and traitor to  
have those to meet in battle.

There is two regiments more called  
for from this state and they will in  
a few weeks be enlisted and ready  
Friday there were over 800 enlisted in  
Broo from all parts of the state.  
our 1<sup>st</sup> regiment arrived home this



children in two short weeks consigned  
to the grave and with a dreadful  
disease for it is a hard death to die  
I must soon stop for I have just  
written to my sister in law in her  
affliction Our folks are all well but  
my mother her health has been very  
poor all winter ~~but~~ but gains this spring  
again give my love to Uncle and Aunt  
Henry and Betsy receive a share for your  
-self you must excuse my poor writing and  
spelling for my arm and hand is tired  
So now Good bye for the present

From your loving

Cousin Sybil Brown

Portsmouth

N.H.

Portsmouth N.H.

April the 7<sup>th</sup> 1861

Dear Cousin

Yours of Jan the 20<sup>th</sup>  
was duly received and was perused with  
pleasure I suppose you have waited some  
time and looked in vain for its answer  
I will endeavor to answer it now and  
tell you the news that will interest you  
When I received your letter it found my  
sister Mary very sick here with me she  
came here the 9<sup>th</sup> of Jan to stay with me  
whilst Edwin was away so I should not  
be so lonely she took cold before she left  
working in the Mill her health is very  
poor all the time and her cold aggravated  
her cough and she was very sick for three  
weeks and had a Dr he patched her up so  
she enjoys about the same degree of health  
as before her sickness. she went to Newport  
last Friday to spend a few days with one

of our friends that lives there coming back here again. Brother Pardon received a letter from Cousin James & Briggs he sent it to me and I wrote to him about a fortnight ago I think after awhile I shall find out and form an acquaintance by letter to some of my cousins at a distance. My health is very good at present and the rest of my family are well.

The Widower that you wrote about is married he was married about the time that I received your last letter to a lady Widow at Greenport L.I. N.Y. so you have lost him. the schoolmaster is single yet but is courting I hear so I shall have to look up another bean for you when you visit N.Y. your imagination did lead you astray in their persons for they are both dark complexion and black hair and eyes the schoolmaster very tall indeed measuring nearly 7 feet. You spoke of your fathers telling stories I heard him tell some funny ones

in my short acquaintance with him it is the nature of his family for my mother can tell stories by the Pail full so can all her sisters if they like so I guess it is natural that he should tell them and his Mother your and my Grandmother Cousin Mary was great on telling them I can look back to the time when I was a child and always pleased when she sent word she was coming to see us for then I thought she would tell me lots of stories if you would like to know how she looked dear Mary look at Dear Uncle Thomas for he looks more like her than any of the children that I have seen when he was down here. We received a letter from my husbands brother yesterday telling us of the death of his Sisters little girl three months younger than my Millie she died with the Diphtheria she buried a boy only a fortnight ago with the same complaint ~~too~~ he was thirteen years old two sweet



April the 15 1841

Dear Niece I now take my seat to answer  
you're the 7 I hardly now in what way to  
address you the sad news your epistle brou  
ght to us of Sisters Death has all most  
unfited me for any business but that  
is the way we have got to go sooner or later  
and if we are prepared it matters not when  
god calls for us for this is nothing but a world  
old of cares and troubles my health is not  
very good I have suffered a great deal with my  
eyes for the past year and they are very  
weak now I sprain'd my ankle last December  
for five weeks I never bore my weight  
on it I think it will always trouble me  
it is the same one I have sprain'd before  
we reciev'd a letter from Truman you neathear  
of you spok of Antone'tt whether sh lives  
their or not I heard she was marid and  
that is all I know of her I want yo should  
write more particular about your family  
and the rest of our friends in that part  
you wanted to know whether Lucius lived  
at with us he does at present and is to  
work at the tanners trade with his father  
but I suppose you are aware of his being twenty  
one next july how much longer he will  
remain with us I know not he says he is  
agoing to visit that part of the cuntry that  
you wanted I should inform you what had  
become of Rodney Heart he is maried and  
has too children he lives hear on the old  
holm stead I must bid you adieu for the pres  
ent from your affectionate aunt Mary S Briggs



Dear Sister I must say a few  
words to you to let you know I havent  
forgot you altho I havent heard any  
thing from you in several years that  
I could step in and converse with you  
it is such a task for me to write I am so  
much out of practice we are ageting  
along as well as could be expected  
with our means Sisters Death was a  
sad news for me I wish I could have  
one of her girls I would be a mother  
to her but I suppose it would be  
useless to say any thing about it  
to Mr Clap give my respects to  
all the relatives and write  
again soon and tell me what  
has become of Henry I must bid  
you good by

Savina Frink

Proxania Brigg



Westfield: April 21<sup>st</sup> 1861

Dear Uncle it is a long time since I saw you but I can remember how you looked I had a letter from our friends in Rhode Island and learned your post office address and thought I would write you a letter I am a farming way up here in Wisconsin I have got 80 acres of land a pretty good house and about 50 acres improved we raise good wheat here it is a fine country, I heard of Williams death but a short time ago I wonder he did not come and see me he was not over one hundred miles from me in Illinois I did not know it until I heard of his death I married my wife in Mass Her name was Margarett North We have three children all boys Oscar & William I and Georg the oldest is 14 years the next nine and the youngest 10 months James Briggs lives in Wisconsin he lives about one hundred miles from me and also Mary Ann my oldest sister lives near him she is married got one son



Maria my youngest sister lives  
in California she married a man  
by the name of Williams sister Mariett  
is dead she married a man by the  
name of Salsbery she left one child  
a little girl Orlando and Benjamin  
are both dead so there is but four of  
us left mother has been dead about 4  
years Silas Hamilton lives near  
neighbor to me he was a son of  
Harry Hamilton I have see all  
of that family here but one Joanna  
she lives in this state but I have  
not seen her, give my respects to  
all that remember me in that country  
tell your children to forgive their  
unworthy Cousin and all write me  
a letter and tell Aunt Roxey that I  
remember her very well and should like  
to hear from her, please direct your  
letter to Sagansville Bank Co  
Yours truly N. A. Briggs W. S.  
to Thomas E Briggs



Nov 27 1861

Dear Cousin I take this opportunity  
to write a few lines to let you know  
that I am a live and well. you  
must forgive me for not writing  
sooner I have not been to home  
much of the time since I left your  
state I shall probably remain at home  
the rest of the winter. I had a very  
pleasant time coming home I started  
on tuesday ~~at~~ arrived home saturday  
I stopped in Cleveland all day thursday  
& in Detroit friday I tel you I had a  
gay old time there for the 1st  
Cavalry Company was there I tell  
you it dose not seem like the same  
place here. the boys have all gone  
to the ware I had a letter from

one of them about a week ago &  
he says they have fine times & how  
I wish I was with them but there  
is now use of talking ~~at~~ for Ma  
says now I was sorry to learn that  
Henry was sick but I hope that  
by the time this gets to you it will  
find him better. I suppose that you  
had a fine time up to send ~~me~~  
to the party the night before I left  
I hope that Louisa did not slight  
any one altho I was not invited  
I shall remember that of her some  
time I must bid you good  
by now give my love to all  
but remember and keep a little  
for your self ~~from~~

From your Dear most  
affectionate Cousin

Lucius C. Frank Loper  
To Miss Mary Briggs





THOUGH ABSENT

NOT FORGOTTEN

Miss Mary D. Briggs

Stykersville

Spring Co

Ny

PAID  
11 NOV 1874  
MICH