

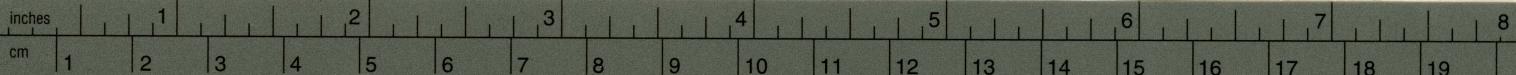
Burr Oak April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1865

Sabbath afternoon

This is a cold, windy day

~~solo by the fire side~~ I have been to church, now at home by the fire side, thinking it a favorable time to write somewhat to Jane & Wm & Ery, I fancy to myself how you look there in your strange home. Have all the surroundings pictured out in my mind. I received your letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> and one from Phoebe last week, She had not received yours at that time the 13<sup>th</sup>. I presume she has written before this time and given you the details of the singular disease which caused the death of your Uncle Cotton, A carbuncle we know must be very distressing, but seldom proves fatal to life, Aunt Electa writes that he was prostrate almost from the first attack, They had a serious time taking care of him 3 weeks, She says he was patient through it all. They were feeling anxious about Frank, has not heard from him since the last battles. I begin to think more about going to see my folks, but life and all earthly things are so uncertain we can know but little beyond the present.

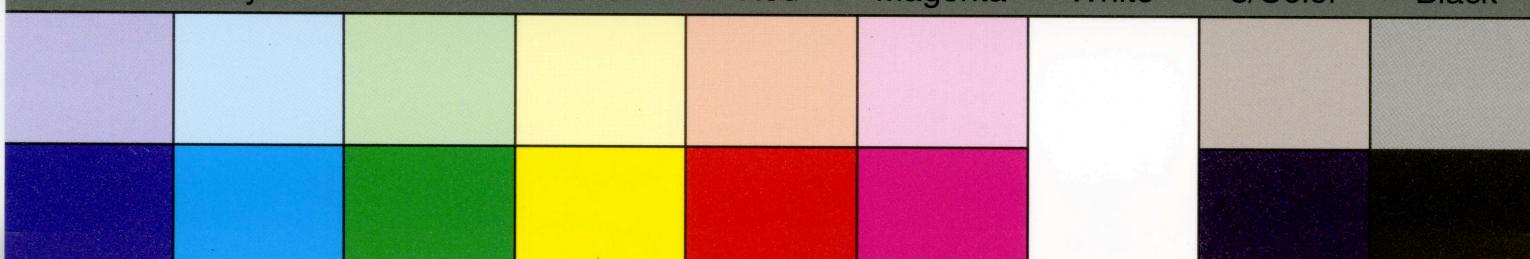
Now I would say something about the shocking event which has brought sorrow and mourning to so many hearts, but words seem too weak and insignificant to express our individual feelings and when we think of a nation bereaved of such a friend as Abraham Lincoln! A father to his country, a tried friend of humanity, we may only commune with our own hearts and be still. Yet there have been efforts made here as in other places to manifest the sincere love & great respect that is justly due to so noble a man as our late President. Last Sabbath an appointment was given out for the people to



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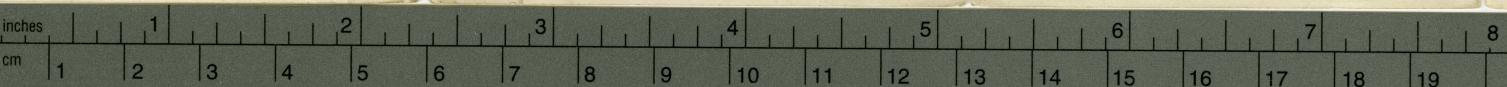
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Blue Cyan Green Yellow Red Magenta White 3/Color Black



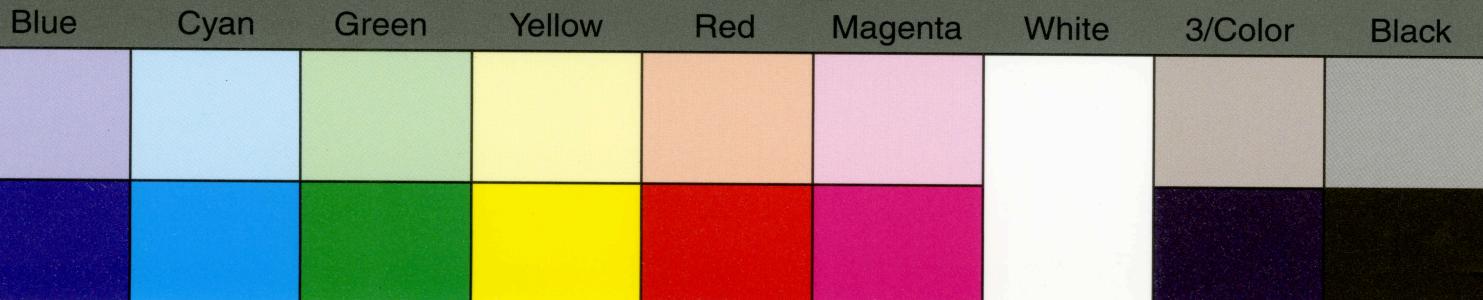
to meet at 3 o'clock at the methodist church, from thence they marched down to the Depot grounds where some preparations had been made, The three ministers were present and each made a speech appropriate to the occasion, It was truly a solemn time The old flag appeared impressive, draped in black, almost every house has the emblem of mourning, — on wednesday the baptist house was crowded tho' the rain prevented many from attending, Elder Lamb gave a discourse as well as he was capable of doing, In the evening Mrs Wiltsie spoke at the Schoolhouse on the same subject. She had lectured here the friday before, and could not then say when she would come again On monday afternoon I received a letter from her stating that she would be here wednesday evening, the time was short to get notice circulated, no school, so there seemed to be no chance to publish the appointment; A donation for Elder Douste was to come off that afternoon and evening under such circumstances we could not expect much.

However, to our surprise, the house was crowded, more than could be seated, a very respectable and attentive audience Even Mr & Mrs Phelps, Some of the Wiltsies and many other church members were there, I believe all were astonished The discourse was splendid, Some said she had her subject well studied; she solicited aid for the poor soldiers, took over twelve dollars, and nine dollars on friday evening before Now it occurs to my mind I must tell you of another death Isaac Tolls wife, The gay and musical woman has passed from earth to the spirit world,



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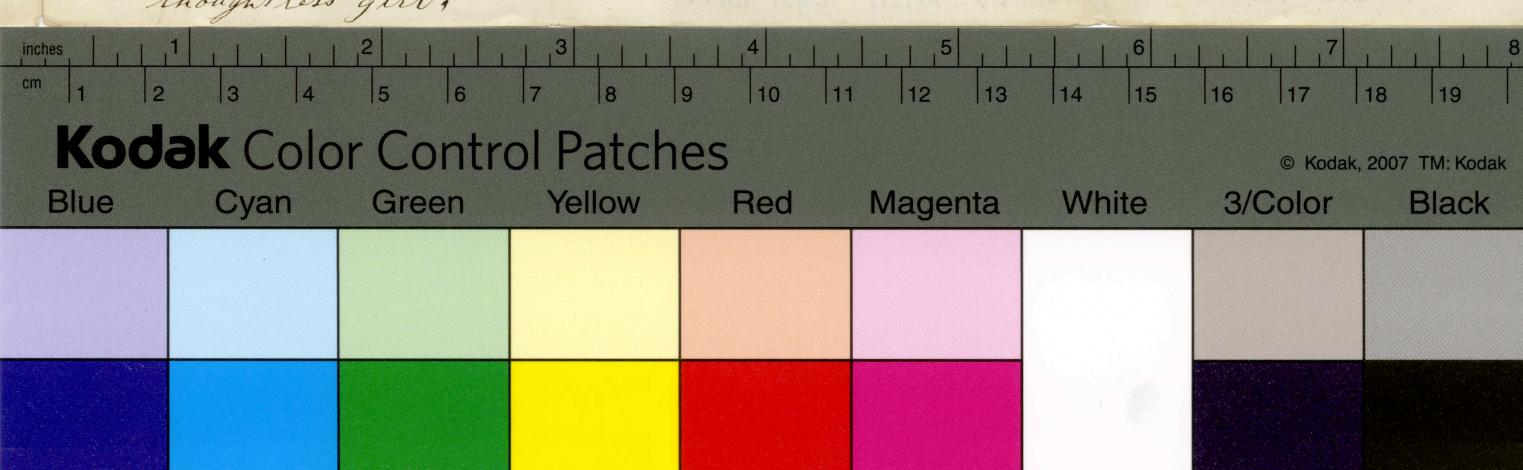
It is now getting late in the evening I shall not be able to finish my letter to-night. My eyes are quite weak they were very sore when my cold was so bad, my health is pretty good again, my ear has come to its hearing again

Carrie has been over to see me since I commenced writing she is very kind and attentive since you left. So is Mrs Cooffs and all the folks, I have not seen any time to be lonesome Mr. Ward has bought a cow, I have all the milk that I need, and Saturday Carrie ~~churned~~, got a fine roll of butter, They intend to sell the milk in future, Last week was a busy time with me had visitors without, Old Mrs Vance from Brinnon staid with me 3 nights, had Mrs Gates one day, came in the morning, and Mrs Gerry part of two days, staid over night, but not with me, I find it rather difficult to get up a meal of vituals in order in my little cluttered room, but make out to get along somehow, went over to Wards to bake bread and pies, Thursday I got time to sew some on my dress, for the first since you left, Friday did a large washing, (for me) Saturday finished the dress, it looks nicely, so the ladies say, and I think so too, — Now without, the excitement and doings that transpired last week Sarah Jane was married to Dorsey, The wedding came off Thursday morning, and they started on the cars, for a wedding tour, like other folks.— Minta & the Col. made quite a spread, They invited Mr & Mrs Schmidt Mrs Mrs Parker and their daughter Mrs Sutton, Mr & Mrs M<sup>c</sup>Donald, Elder Douste and lady, of course, Ell Crane and his lady were appointed to wait on the bridal pair, stood up with them &c. Rena was invited she says everything was very nice indeed, But there seems to prevail a general feeling of pity for the thoughtless girl,

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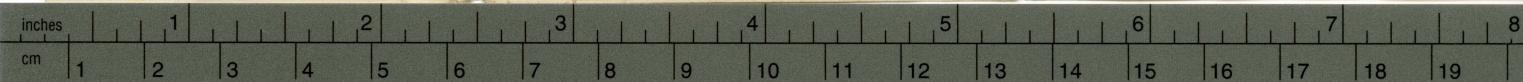
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I don't think of much more to write just now  
I read your letter to Father & Mother Betts They seemed  
to feel some better about you. I was not surprised  
that you had rather a bad time of it at first, expected it  
would be so, We were glad to hear that Evi's eyes are well  
when I heard they were sore thought probably it would  
result to the benefit of his general health, as I think mine  
did, tho' I pitied him and you too, I heard from you  
so often. The time did not seem long since you wrote  
to me, write when you can conveniently. Father Betts  
talks of sending a bottle of ink, because you write with a  
pencil every time, Charles was at home yet the I heard  
The children don't mind their cough much, I believe it is  
not the regular whooping-cough, Now I think of a little  
more to tell you, tho' not very interesting George M<sup>r</sup> Mellin  
was married week ago last sunday to Mrs Livermore's daughter  
also Mrs James' daughter to Take Whitman, Thus we hear of  
deaths and marriages Yet the world moves on in its course,  
We think that Rena has got into the element that  
suits her pretty well at last She appears quite like a woman  
Has plenty of work, employs 3 women besides herself &c, &c.  
Mary Ann Weaver got hurt badly by falling, was not able to do  
anything the last I heard from her, It is now about 10, O'clock  
have not had my breakfast yet, you will think it is time  
for me to stop writing I hope W<sup>m</sup> will try to be more care-  
ful of his health, and not work himself all up, be more patient  
all things will come about in due time — Yours in love D C  
I want to say to Everett He better get a few  
more hens, if he can, I want to hear something } Harriet Farley,  
about Mrs Schthrop next time you write



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