Burlington, Jan 16, 1828.

Dear Sir,

I received a copy letter, as is evident from the size of the sheet. I...
The next letter of Mr. Aikin's is under the following address:

Mr. Aikin.

I have just received a letter from Mr. Aikin, expressing his entire satisfaction with the arrangements made for the purchase of the new country. The terms, he says, are perfectly fair and equitable, and he is convinced that the interests of the Company will be amply secured.

In regard to the future prospects of the colony, Mr. Aikin is full of enthusiasm. He believes that the climate will be healthy, the soil fertile, and the natural resources abundant. He hopes that the Company will soon begin to profit by the purchase, and that in a few years it will be able to divide a large part of the profits among its members.

Mr. Aikin has also expressed his highest hope that the Company will soon be able to extend its operations to other parts of the island. He is confident that the Company will have no difficulty in acquiring additional land, and that it will soon be in a position to establish new settlements.

In conclusion, Mr. Aikin desires to express his hearty congratulations to the Company on the purchase of the new country, and to assure them of the most cordial cooperation on his part in all future undertakings.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
In your last just after I wrote to you enclosing a letter to Mr. Barnes some for the evening, I suppose to Waterhouse C. whom I sent the most blessed with your letter. For you did not say word about the return which I proposed to make to Mr. B. for his present of shell. I should like to know whether he would be pleased with such a return, that I may make it out during the present vacation. I would not have his expectations of any thing unreasonable raised, lest he might feel disappointed & I should lose instead of gain in his books of kind feeling. If you have said nothing to him, why it is so long since, it is perhaps as well to avoid doing so, in a very direct manner: but judge from your conversation with him what you think will please him & mention it to me. I am most inclined to also fit up in a next little case a suite of quite small but very perfect specimens in mic- 05ology. I told you sometime since that I thought I would get up a box of minerals to go to some of Mr. Homann's acquaintances in Copenhagen: but I did not yet time. Perhaps I may in the spring. So much for topics connected with Mr. Whitby not least for the present. I hope he this to have been something from your pen in time of the N.S. paper respecting your new course. If you as we can secours from the experience of the masters, they are just the thing. All many formentum especially young men, whose opinions are most fresh are in our favor. The outlines of proceeding are manifest enough in the laws: but perhaps a few of the details will be interesting to you. Our students are divided simply by their studies, with not any respect to their time of residence in College. Thus the class in Algebra, Geometry, French, Chemistry, etc. of a portion of the class is at present efficient naturally as the other, industriously they are able to tell behind the rest (for the mineral anaesthesia is to go forward only as fast as is compatible with the going well) that portion is made a separate section, conversing for recitation however with the rest (as you as we have had occasion to do this during the past terms) are made to review & study till they can go forward. Though we do not let all scatter just as it happens, we let each class, according to those who can draw well together, make all the headway they can: in my recitation room, our recitation room (for though I should hear a dozen claps, they all come to my room & stay the rest) I have no less than 4 blackboards. Thus I can set 4 at work at once & I can generally attend to the recitation of 4 as long as the same does not last 20 minutes.
Thus science is learned by a method of drill, as one may say. The student is in the classroom first thing in the morning, then he proceeds to his text and reads. After a short time, he is called upon to recite. The teacher dictates, and the student has to write down what is said. The teacher then reads the text, and the student has to follow along. After a while, the teacher asks questions, and the student has to answer them. This goes on all day, with no rest.
We have tried this method, but twice I have witnessed since its adoption very great improvement. Of course it is impossible to bring students up to the highest mark of effort by merely re-reading without a reasonable time being allowed. It takes a long time also to make a young student, who has not had Indian examples before his eyes, fully appreciate what is meant by doing well, & what is the best method for him to pursue in order to acquire the most in the best manner.

Our last N.Y. paper but one brought us Gov. Clinton’s message—as usual a good thing. I am glad to see from this year a few strikes at the scandalous conduct of the political partizans of this day. It is long since I read anything on the subject of the next President. I became sick and tired of the duty long ago by the daily task—the partisan phrenzy—the through-going selfishness displayed by nearly all the writers on both sides. The party of the whole Constitution is far in a position. However, I have been a reason for my patience, it has been for many months past. One thing I am well informed of is that it matters very little for the country which of them be in power; the risks to be taken, the same general national policy would be pursued. Hence has been so. I conceive it to be mostly a mere question of interest in the individuals concern.—Politicians love power & will struggle to get & keep it, shall love to have their hands in their country’s feathers. As matters now stand, there seems a likelihood of Jackson’s election—a thing I should rather be sorry for, because I believe there are at least 20,000 men in the Union better qualified than he is for a seat in the national Senate. I believe to know, if he is elected he will use his endeavors to do well as much as any man. I see some slight movements in favor of bringing up Clinton—& some it is that that was not done a year since, for if activity justified I don’t think the election might have been made in time. I think the Whigs would have been glad to have had the “hero of N. Orleans” for the President. They felt tolerably secure in their gains that day. I hope the country may have better fortune next year than it has had this, for the last year has been the most disgraceful that I can remember.
Think the Backsions would have been glad to have left the "hero of N. Orleans" for another of them. They felt tolerably sure of the gaining that day. I judge they are a little ashamed of their man G., this praising him to loudly & constantly. But I see it is too late now to bring forward another, with many hopes & needs. — I am glad also to see Gen. C. leading the subject of declaring, even though as yet I have not fight him off. He is a simple man, but they are conscious when they compare the steps of office with the conduct of our leaders & I consider a liberal in every sense. A fine young man. Here and Irish may mean we are all the same, but most remarkable conclusively all the affairs from every one, in one thing and no better than he is, & then man to N.Y. or Ohio or to Canada. But I will avoid a request will be made to the execution of another state instruction to deliver him up. It is clear a chance to communicate the proof or make out & he is living as a terror to evil deeds & might too. Boston & Graham is even to justice in force, in your day — one thing to the other & returns to N.Y. — the matter is talked of all over the city & country — the convey of the guard — the circumstances of the affair are detailed in every newspaper. — The murder perhaps goes into Connecticut or Phil. for a few weeks — a formal question or two is put to a Regent who says he does not know who that his patient by an inquest who brings in a verdict of death by asphyxia. — First from some unknown person. The State authorities, where the deed was done & where all the parties belong do not make a figure further in their in extenuation of their a/bathing & kissing before God. The judges, judges can say then is no help for it still public sentiment shall put a stake to it!! Shame! Crime! — Talk about itifying it by public sentiment only. Let only all the authorities do their duty & hang the next five Guilt, all the Guilt, & imprison for life all the accessories & pay over. No, no, no, no, no, no, public or private sentiment will then stop it. You will it be stopped till practically as well as formally it be made unnecessary in the 17th year.
Benedict etc.

1834

M. M. Parker

[Handwritten notes and script of a letter, possibly discussing a range of topics including family matters, social events, and possibly financial or administrative issues. The handwriting is cursive and the text is dense, suggesting a personal and detailed correspondence.]
She is engaged to be useful in the home so in society is very ready to do all that the case. Her education is certainly very imperfect yet the more to taste, her trim being as it is, to think of making her very thorough is certainly much more perfect than what had the care little I have in view respecting her. I think it to be in any way a way that is better to do something towards earning her helping more directly than the case does. Will it not cut the best for her to calculate or getting a small school or steady employment to help? I should think that in the vicissitude where fortune is not unmixed, Richmond Green River, a place where she might set from 15 to 15 a week. She could teach, besides her board, she might teach reading, writing, arithmetic. Then she could, besides needle work, I think. I think she has a pretty good turn for teaching. I judge

Have you learned anything more of Mrs. Perkins' Latin diffusia? That work which I think you must save.

Dr. Sayville's. He published "L'Histoire Naturelle des Mollusques" et aliae. This description I have taken from Bowle's catalogue of most excellent writers. I do not know that it will be one of the points. If it is, it is very rich in numerous elegant and accurate plates, much referred to by Lavranos. If it can be obtained I would certainly get it. So too of the other, if quite strange, but that is of very importance. I am inclining to get a few standard works for the Col. M. F. Society. I wish you to see if they are in the catalogue that they are in the没法e which gives the names of printers or an English catalogue. "Mineral Geography." On the fossil shells of New England col figures & descriptions of J. S. Soule. C. & D. Nos. 55.

The plates would be just as good if it was available. I would be glad to have it. It would be a natural History of the Cinoidea, or shell-shaped animals, with the observations on the cause of the genus Asteria, Cretaceous, with a catalogue of P. J. James Parkinson. It is just as good, and equally as good inasmuch as.