

Sharon September 23<sup>rd</sup> 1832

Dear Sister it is with pleasure that I embrace the opportunity of sending a few lines to you and the rest of our family I would inform you that my health has been very good this summer I received a letter yesterday from Susan and was sorry to learn that you was in a low state of health I want very much to see you if your health is no better when Mr Downer returns I shall come and see you for I can not bear the thoughts of never seeing you again in this world Ruth you must be sensible that we are all born to die and bound to judgement and that our happiness in the world to come depends upon the improvement of our time here below and if we are prepared to meet Death we shall be the gainer by the exclusion of worlds I wish very much to know the state of your mind I wish you to send a few lines by Mr Downer if you have an opportunity I have wrote to you but I expect that you have not received my letters for they were sent to Belvidere instead of Johnson I would inform you that Rebecca and Lois are well I was there last week I would likewise inform you that Aunt Esther has been sick the principal part of the time this summer she is a little better now she had a fever first and has been in a low way ever since I have no more news to send you so I must draw to a close by subscribing myself  
your affectionate Brother  
Lemuel Cotton  
Ruth Cotton