

Donville Wt January 26<sup>th</sup> 1855

Dear Aunt

When recd  
her package yesterday and with it your  
note and I take this opportunity to  
try to excuse myself for not writing  
it was neglect in the first place as  
longness it may be for you know that  
I am troubled in that way but surely  
no ill will for I thought of you often  
then sickness came and all must have  
their share, then death, sister Abba  
died the first of September Eliza's  
wife 25 of December, Caleb's cousin Mrs  
Lammum buried two little girls in  
one grave the eldest 4 last June  
the other 2 in July November 28  
and her eldest child a girl of 6 1/2 years  
December 28 she has one left a babe