

## Old Letter 2

### On the cover:

Postmark: Vincennes

4 1/2&2 [?]

Paid 25

Mercy Bradt Niagara [Mercy Burtch Bradt]

Upper Canady 16 Miles Creek

Crookses Postoffice in Newark

### Inside, first page:

Dear Sister Mercy I have wrote so often without any return that I dont know what to write it seems like lost time and money I have blamed the post masters for burning the letters to keep the money the last I sent I went to Charles town I thot that perhaps they had not yet learned but no return I think perhaps sickness or death as we are all liable -- I still have that comfort left that I can praise my God for the life and being I have Still preserved by & thro him & tho my health is small yet I enjoy the privilage of hearing the Gospel of Glad tidings preached -- my eyesight fails me some tho I ride and hunt squirrels on Lavry [? His horse?] I have done about half day work in hoeing corn have mowd some tho tis two hard for me the Old Complaints hold me. I take little or no doctter stuff how anxious have I been to hear from you tho your last give account of Uncle Petters death [Mercy's husband] which was truly alarming to me & I think sometimes I could say Welcome Death & expect it not far of[f] my troubles are great & I & Lucy lives allone & we have plenty provided but my task is two much no boy to do an errand for me to fetch cows nor no chores I had two many cows for my fodder 1 dyed one sold 2 let which lightens my burden I wod fain go to Wabash where my orchard was covered with apples last year & lay & rotted - but the Old Woman stands in her own light and will not leave her girls together to live so I wish to wait her pleasure as well as I can but that is the best place I expect to go there in a few days to make some cyder I have plenty hay for my stock this winter - but we have had exceeding hot weather this summer - wheat come good price 37 1/2 or half[?] bushel flour at 75 Course every thing cheap but no money much. - Duwit Clinton was here tother day to see the falls & start the cannall 3 miles my thots are swifter than the fire in the Mountains I am thinking where is Joseph where is the rest of the boys beaky brother Israel Stephen & Thomas & familys Aunt Abby - Luddingtons & connections - among the Musketoes is—[?]-at Thames [perhaps near Brantford, Ontario on the river now known as the Grand] --O I wod not live there for all that is on it; I wod move toward the Sanduskey for a moderate climate I think my old age forbids it altho my courage should not fail -- Theave (?) has a Great Settlement moved lately from Wabash come not far from Pitsburg the Harmonites a worthy people & industrious making wine &ct --- Eddee went down to the Natchez & played the violin he returned before the hot months, very hearty and rugged he went of[f] again somewhere I no not I was at the Wabash in Apriel people were generaly healthy --- I have had charles [?] here in Getting [?] in the mill way but I think it would be making me more trouble & to lay up treasure in heaven is more Nessessary for those that expect to see their Redeemer in the latter Days to stand upon the Earth

Overleaf:

Sister We have many reasons to Praise God who ruleth the armies of heaven and the inhabitants of the earth We remember when we ware young and lived without God in the world following after the ways of the Gentiles in all manner of Lascieivousness therefore let it suffice us that we have gone after their evil ways - & call to mind that our pilgrimage here is to give us an opportunity to prepare for another tabernacle not built with hands which is eternal in the heavens & as God has given all mankind the privelege of his free Grace which he has manifested by sending Jesus Christ to suffer death that he should be made alive again that thro his Resurrection man should of the same partake to have the bonds of Adams(?) death burst asunder that all the Creation should once more apear before God --- and as he promised Adam that the seed of the woman should bruise the serpents head and when the Messiah apeared he hadfull power over Devils Conquering Death & now makes known his Covenant that as he had Conquered Death and the power of Hell which came by Adam that he now bstows them life freely thro his own sufferings & his own Gift of free Grace -- breaking down the partition which was Moses law which could give life to none --- which verrily if it could made man perfect there would been no need of another mediator --- and I would give you warning to give the most earnest heed to the things concerning the precious soul for heven will be all Our Eternal blessings and comfort My mind is now somewhat tossed I think of the Divine Goodness that waves me about like a plannet and takes his place again at the Revolution there of

I am now in the town of Vincennes and a numerous throng about me for tis Elacttion to day --- O talk with Israel perticular to fit and prepare for the Great and last charge before the Angel will stand one foot on the sea and the other on the land & swear that time shall be no longer -- I commend you to the care of the Almighty God and subscribe myself your affectionate Friend & brother til Death.

first Day of August 1825      Stephen Durell  
Vincennes Indiana