

Mr. Stephen P. Blake

On board ship Prentice Liverpool England

To the care Barring Brothers

Ascewed First day of Winter

My Dear Son

How shall I adres(?) you shall I tell you of a(?) Mothers care(?) for you shall I tell you her fears(?) that her Dear Son may unthinkingly be drawn into sin one step taken maks(?) way for a mother. Stephen it is easier to refrain from doing wrong than it is to return back to virtue and the path of duty when once we have you out of the way. My Dear Son you may think this is needless but I know you are young and there is temtations on every side but I hope better things altho(?) it is with fear. Stephen my prayer(?) is that the love would convert you and make you one of his own dear children. O was it not for this refuge(?) I should sink but I can commit your sole and boddy into his hands and if aright(?) all is safe for all power is in his hands. You may think I address you strangely but it is my daly(?) thoughts you need not think you are forgotten by me or any of us becaus you are away. you may think it strang I did not commence with saying something your helth knowing you was not well when you left home but I felt very ovrusetious(?) about you untill I heard from you which was by the way of Mr. Crosby which gave me much joy to hear you was well for I well knew you felt was(?) than you was willing to alow for fear I should not think you was able to goe. I well knew you felt very sick that knight before you soild(?) I shall not forget very(?) soon how antious(?) I felt I crept up about one I dock and found you how ... to she and O how pleases I felt but God is good in bistoing(?) so many blessing uppon us my Dear Son how good the Love has ben in preserving you through danger seen and unseen how thoughtfull we ought to be for all our blessing Stephen I was very glad to hear that you was pleased with the new ship you did not say how you liked the Captain but I concluded by what you said about your fair you did like him also Stephen I hope you will try to study and get all the information you can this voyg(?) you must do it youself no one can do it for you we received your letter of the forth your Father set down and answered it but foun it was to lat to send it for you would have left New Orleans before it could have arrived then at this time he is awy and will not be able to write you he has hot some business now for a while it is a collecting bills for newspaper tourling(?) all over the country Oliver has wrote twice to you Uncle Abner says you must not them Cape Cod Boys go before you in any thing Uncle John will write to you my Dear Son I was very alow(?) to her you say you would be a good boy I hope you will be him to all grandmother sends her best love to you and Samuel and says be good boys and they all join(?) with me in sending ther best love to you and now Dear Son it is late and I must draw(?) by a chose so good by from your affectionate

Mother Ann E Blake

Dear Brother

It is with pleashure I now improve these leisure moments in writing a few words to you I cannot say much for I must leave room for Nelson to write some. I hope that you and Samuel are well we are all at home as I suppose you heard before, how do you like your new Captain and Crew? I should think it

would be very pleasant having Samuel and Mr Crosby in the same ship. I should to write more but I cannot stay because Oliver is a waiting to send the letter I would say to you that that you must not forget to bring one(?) home something. I aint particular what it is. Mother says that she has not wrote so much as she should like to but her time is very short I must bid you good by give my love to Samuel.
from your affectionate Sister

Sophia M. Blake

Nelson thought he could not write. Stephen I should like to have you buy me a 2 ¼ ... of bess(?) ... Dark Blue Breadcloth.

Oliver