

[1861-01-19; combined letter from sister Myra and mother Sarah to Henry Sears; this letter is likely mis-dated, and probably is 19 Jan 1862, not 1861:]

East Dennis Jan ^{the}19 1861

Dear Brother Henry

we are smart and hope you are smart to. Grand-father killed his Steer Friday and weighed 471 lb. Father Mother & Chloe went to Barnstable Father went to get his bounty money so they went with him. Mr Eastwood is here this eve. Mother bought me a gold stone brestpin which Cost 75 cents Dr Badger gaver us two Lecture Last week he went down to Brewster wednesday noon and come back thursday noon becaus he had so much business to do. Grand Father has got one of his Electrometers and two papers of Composition & two boxes of pills. I have attended Church this after noon did not this fore noon on the account of mother I have had a letter from Josie Snow Last week. have you ate your doughnuts up yet Father mother Sethie and my self went to grand mother Howes thursday and spent the day. as I Can not [page] think of any thing else I will close. so good bye

From your affectionate sister

Myra Sears

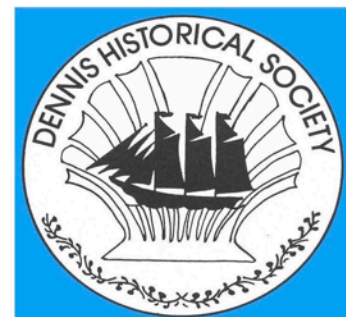
[Now begins Mother's portion of letter:]

My Dear Henry,

As Myra has written you about all that is new, I dont know as I can write much that is interesting, but I will do the best I can, We are all smart at home except Sethy, who had the misfortune to get burnt the day he went Grand Mother Howes's he fell against the stove and burnt his eyelid, cheek, and lips. the stove was not as hot as usual, and he was not burned bad think it will all be well in a few days. It has been a rainy day and I have been home all day we have the luck of stormy Sundays I went with Father to Barnstable yesterday and it rained all the way home but I went inside the custom house which paid me for going. Mr Charles Swift of Yarmouth lectured before the Lyceum on [page] friday eve the subject was public opinion I did not attend as I walked to the old meeting house that afternoon to attend the funeral of Charles Alexander's daughter aged 15 years She died of putrid eyrisipelas was sick but a few days which shows us how uncertain are our lives that we are liable to die at any time and it becomes us to be prepared Mr Lothrop preached the sermon to a crowded house. Next tuesday he preaches the sermon of Gilbert Ellis, at the same place, at one o clock. There was nothing of importance transacted at the school meeting, only they voted to build the house. It is not decided whether Bailey will build the house or not. Dr Badger is doing great business every body that has an ache or pain goes to get an electrometer he says grand fathers sore is not a cancer but a cancerous humor thinks it may go away bye & bye he is wearing an electrometer around his body we judge he had taken a hundred dollars already and do not know how [page] much more he will get. The sewing circle meets with Aunt Eliza this week think I shall have it soon. How long did you have to wait for the stage the morning you left I washed, and ironed my clothes,

before dark had my clothes ready to put out as soon as it was light enough.
dont believe I shall have them out as early tomorrow morning Grand
Father's steer weighed more than they thought it would and is quite fat they
say, have not got it cut up yet, I shall expect to hear from you tuesday,
hope you are well, and improving in your studies, Nana has been trying to
skate this week, he thinks the skates rather large but thinks he can skate
as it is getting late I will close hoping to hear from you soon

From Your Affectionate Mother
Sarah C Sears



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