Gumbe Ford, Feb. 4th 1838.

My dear Sir,

Yours of the 26th ult. is but just received having been somewhat delayed on the way. Relative to affairs at home, I am purely at a loss to know, what advice to give; particularly as you will to resign the care you have taken for us. We truly feel ourselves much indebted to you for the interest you have hitherto manifested. It has relieved me of much anxiety I must otherwise have experienced knowing with the peculiar ties of my brother, you (if any one) could manage to please him. I presume however, in reference to him you may have found it an unthankful office, and am not surprised that you are desirous of giving it up. We have no claim upon your service and as you wish it - must content (to very reluctantly) to release you; for I know of no other person in our place so well calculated to get along with Calvin or who would be willing at any rate to interfere.

As Mr. Doble has moved out, and the house is not in a situation to receive tenants it would seem now a favorable time to make some repairs. We had intended before this time making some alteration and a little addition which would make it a more separate and convenient liniment. But in our continued sickness we have been under the peculiar of using the greater part of what we had reserved for this purpose, and shall not be able at present to make a thorough repair. — — We are willing to have a partition put up across the east end of the kitchen, leaving an alley-way of about 6 feet,
By this Calvin must understand: we relinquish our right in the back room, on condition he also does in what is now his part of the kitchen, fireplace, and oven. We must however reserve to ourselves the privilege of going through his part into the cellar, either front or back, as we wish no door in the partition. As this is equally for his accommodation I see no impropriety in requiring him to finish off his side of the partition. He will probably object as he has been to some expense in his room; if so, do not wish to have it urged, for surely have no wish to exasperate him toward us. We shall be obliged to have an outside door cut through corresponding with the one on the east side.

It will not be possible for us to come home before Conference, which will be held the first week in April; and may then have our appointment, where it will be impracticable, so that, it cannot be done at present, unless you or some one else interested, for us, will take the general oversight, in which case we will most gladly give further directions. — At any rate we had rather have the house remain unoccupied, than admit the family of which you speak; for you well know if C. is opposed to it (and I have hardly been possible for him to be satisfied) how exceedingly unpleasant it must be to live so connected with him. —

It would be very gratifying to us, if you can conveniently continue to manage our affairs, and pledge ourselves to be satisfied with your proceedings. I feel extremely delicate in urging this matter, knowing it has never been of any pecuniary advantage; and has, no doubt, been attended with much trouble and vexation. Of course, if you cannot, consistently with other duties, act for us longer, we excuse you, with hearty thanks for the service already rendered. However would like to have you mention what I have written to C. and inform us by letter how far he is complying, also if there is any one willing to take your place.
Pardon me if I intrude on your time. I would improve this opportunity to relieve myself of a burden of gratitude, which has long oppressed my heart. But fear of intruding myself, has hitherto detained me. The memory of the unnumbered favors, the repeated offices of kindness, my own dear Mother and her afflicted family have received from you, with your beloved wife, and children, is still fondly cherished. O my dear brother Bower! it never will be possible for you, or them, in this world, to know the comfort you have been the means of bestowing—how much your sympathetic and generous offerings have smoothed the roughness of that thorny path, in which it was the pleasure of our Heavenly Father we should walk. Often of how often has the heart of my indescribable Mother been made to sing for joy, when in some dark necessity, we have received at your hand unexpected relief, and often has the heart in thankful giving to God, and prayed for blessings on you, and yours, as being the willing instruments through which he designed to fill some measure on our afflicted hand. No doubt, in this you have secured to yourself one never-failing source of happiness—that which always results from a conscientious duty; it cannot diminish it to know of doing good to others; but these generous deeds are still held in grateful recollection—not only by me, the can do nothing toward their requital, but they have been recorded by the hand of Him who has promised to repay even a cup of cold water, and if so slight an offering be thought unworthy of compensation how much more shall generous gifts—That you and yours may continue to be blest, and profuse in this world, and when finally called—as all must be—to yield up your accounts may you and each of yours receive the approving welcome addressed to the faithful Beharad Einthein into the joy of thy Lord—To an inheritance that faileth not away. Which, in the sincere prayer of Yours Unworthy, R. Hammond.
A.R. Remember us affectionately to your dear wife, also Mrs H. your daughter. Was sorry to hear of her continued feebleness. May the Lord grant the enjoyment of good health to the comfort of her little family and usefulness in the world. — We are all in comfortable health. Mr E. is gaining rapidly. — If you have forwarded more money to us than you have received from us, tell us, & it shall be repaid.

Mr A. F. A. Communic 1868

B. Davis

R. Davis

P. A.

Cap. Crowell,

My Dear Sir,

Yours of the 26th ult. is but just received having been somewhat delayed on the way. Relative to affairs at home, I am surely at a loss to know, what advice to give; particularly as you wish to resign the care you have taken for us. We truly feel ourselves much indebted to you for the interest you have hitherto manifested. It has relieved me of much anxiety I must otherwise have experienced knowing with the peculiarities of my bother you (if any one) could manage to please him. I presume however, in reference to him you may have found it an unthankful office; and I am not surprised that you are desirous of giving it up. We have no claim upon your service and – as you wish it – must consent, (tho’ very reluctantly) to release you; for I know of no other person in our place so well calculated to get along with Calvin [6] or who would be willing at any rate to interfere.—

As Mr Doble [7] has moved out, and the house is not in a situation to receive tenants it would seem now a favorable time to make some repairs. We had intended before this time making some alteration and a little addition which would make it a more separate and convenient tenement. But in our continued sickness we have been under the necessity of using the greater part of what we had reserved for this purpose; and shall not be able at present to make a thorough repair. – – – We are willing to have a partition put up across the east end of the kitchen, leaving an alley-way of about 5 feet. [over page] By this Calvin must understand we relinquish our right in the back-room, on condition he also does in what is now his part of the kitchen, fire-place, and oven. We must however reserve to ourselves the privilege of going through his part into the cellar – either front or back, as we wish no door in the partition. As this is equally for his accommodation I see no impropriety in requiring him to finish off his side of the partition. He will probably object as he has been to some expense in his room; if so, do not wish to have it urged for I surely have no wish to exasperate him toward us. We shall be obliged to have an outside door cut through corresponding with the one on the east side.

It will not be possible for us to come home before Conference, which will be held the first week in April; and may then have our appointment where it will be impracticable; so that, it cannot be done at present, unless you or someone else interested for us, will take the general oversight; in which case we will most gladly give farther directions. – At any rate we had rather have

5 Both Cumberland and Diamond Hill are in the northeast part of Rhode Island.
6 It would appear that this is Calvin Sears (b. 11 Jan 1808; d.s.p. 11 Dec 1881) who m. 23 Jun 1857, Phebe Cole. It was his sister, Rebecca Sears (b. 11 Apr 1822, d/o Henry Sears & Rhoda Howes) who married, 1 Dec 1846, Rev. Charles Hammond. By 1890 Rev. Charles Hammond was living in West Thompson, CT.
7 Dennis records show a marriage intention, 5 Nov 1845, between David W. Doble of Truro and Miss Phebe A. Wildes of Dennis.
the house remain unoccupied, than admit the family of which you speak; for I
well know if C. is opposed to it – (and it would hardly be possible for him to
be satisfied) – how exceedingly unpleasant it must be to live so connected
with him. –

It would be very gratifying to us, if you can conveniently continue to
manage our affairs; and pledge ourselves to be satisfied with your
proceedings. I feel extremely delicate in urging this matter, knowing that it
has never been of any pecuniary advantage; and has, no doubt, been
attended with much trouble and vexation. Of course, if you cannot,
consistently with other duties, act for us longer, we excuse you, with hearty
thanks for the service already rendered. However would like to have you
mention what I have written to C. and inform us by letter how far he
complies; also if there is any one willing to take your place. [next page]

Pardon me if I trespass on your time. I would improve this opportunity
to relieve myself of a burden of gratitude, which has long oppressed my
heart; but fear of intruding myself, has hitherto deterred me. The memory
of the unnumbered favors, – the repeated offices of kindness, my own dear
Mother and her afflicted family have received from you, with your beloved
wife, and children, is still fondly cherished. O my dear brother Crowell! it
never will be possible for you, or them, in this world, to know the comfort
you have been the means of bestowing, – how much your sympathies and
generous offerings, have smoothed the roughness of that thorny path, in
which it was the pleasure of our Heavenly Father we should tread. Often –
oh how often – has the heart of my widowed Mother been made “to sing for
joy,” when in some dark necessity, we have received at your hand
unexpected relief; and often has she knelt in thanksgiving to God, and
prayed for blessings on you, and yours, as being the willing instruments
through which he deigned to strew some mercies on our afflicted band. No
doubt, in this you have secured to yourself one never failing source of
happiness, – that which always results from a consciousness of doing good
to others; but surely it cannot diminish it to know these generous deeds are
still held in grateful recollection – Not only by me, who can do nothing

Yours Unworthily

R. Hammond.
N.B. Remember us affectionately to your dear wife, also Mrs H.[8] your daughter. Was sorry to hear of her continued feebleness. May she soon be restored to the enjoyment of good health; to the comfort of her little family and former usefulness in the world! We are all in comfortable health. Mr R.[?H.] is gaining rapidly. If you have forwarded more money to us than you have rec'd from Doble will will [sic] see it refunded.

Y’rs R H

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8 This is Betsey (Crowell) Hall, wife of Christopher Hall. She died of consumption, 7 Apr 1855, aged 38 years.