

Three letters between Isaac Orsborn Jr., his parents and his brother William.

Scanned copies of the original letters were generously provided by Lydia Howes and were transcribed by David L. Martin.

Note: I have tried to render this as closely as possible to the originals. Spelling and capitalization were variable and inconsistent and punctuation was infrequent and inconsistent. My comments are in square brackets. DLM

1815 letter from William Osborn to his brother Isaac Orsborn.

*In the State of New York the County of Saratoga the Town of Halfmoon Isaac
Osborn Jr*

Fairfield May ^{the} 22nd 1815

Dear Brother

*I take this opportunity to inform that we are all well and in perfect health I will write to you first our situation I am now at home and we have prospered as well as could be expected we are quite disappointed with your letter because we had heard a few days before that you was coming home the last of this month or the first next Received your letter the thirteenth of this month it was in the post office three day before we knew it I sent you a letter last fall by a man that said he was going where you was said he had come from New York and seen you he said you had gone upriver from the place where you was at first so did not know where to direct it to perhaps you would like to hear[?] from Jeddiah [a brother] how he is situated soon after you went off or about the time last spring he bought ten acres of land of Mr Hubberd Tining his[sic] and bounded on the back end and the back road and has put him up a house this spring and means to try to fix it and move into it before haying he lives in Richard Atwoods house and has lived there [there?] last summer unto this day and last Saturday he bought ten acres more of land on the back end of Father land bounded[?] on the road[?] and joins that he had of Mr. Hubberd he bought this of John getchel he and and [sic] Father talk of swapping thirty acres of land so as to make their [?] farms shorter Jeddiah will have his of of [sic] the back end of Fathers and so we have the crop of this end of [unclear] has this year your tools that want sold and gun and equipage we have tried a few opportunities last week but could not sell them but we will try to sell them if we can I really wish you not let this hinder you from coming home because we have not sold tools perhaps in the course two or three months and get a horse for you Father has sold his gay mained mare last fall and last spring he sold the red colt and two[?] remaining We have some new neighbors here Alfred Osborn Jeddiah son Jonas kendall is married to Betsy Webber last fall and they have a son and there is a lovina Hanson the folks have all improved their time except Lydia and Deborah I wish you would send me a letter except you are coming home soon don't fail to come home unless you can nowise help it but if you cant do wrte what you are about and how you like and how you are stuated I should glad to have you come home and sell your tools yourself but if you cant I will send you word if we do sell them or not I shall let you know before next fall I expect to be at home this summer
[signed] Wm Osborn*

1817 letter from Isaac Orsborn to his parents and brother William telling them that he has moved to Mayfield.

*To Mr. Isaac Orsborn in the State of Massachusetts and the District of Main in the County of Summersett and the Town of Fairfield
[unclear] Oct 17*

October the 18th in the year 1817

*Honored Father and Mother I take the oportunity to inform you that I am well at present and my family and I hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same health. I must in you that I recved a letter on the 16th of October 1817. I must inform you that I have traded my place a way for another place in the Town of Mayfield, an I am well staisfyed with my trade, in swaping, places I have a large house a story and a half high, and [unclear] and a finished house, with a good blacksmith shop and two acres of ground, this Property is valued to be worth a bout seven hundred Dollars, an it is almost paid for, with good luck next fall I shal havit paid for, If nothing hapens more than I no of I shal come and se you a bout a year from this time, Honored Father and Mother I have not forgot you altho I am a great distance from you I have nothing more at present
[signed]Isaac Orsborn Jn*

*I must write a few lines to my Brother William Orsborn that I was very glad to receive your letter and I wish you would write to me as soon as you get this letter and now I think of it I want you to inform me how you prosper in the world and [what?] bisness you follow for livelihood and how you are a making out and I want you to write to me how my other Brother is making out. as for my one part I am a doing prety well and I hope it is the same with all the res of you and now I think of it I must inform you that my wife has got one child a bout a year old and now I suppose you want to no what it is I will tell you what it is it is a boy now I while you are a reding these lines if I shoudant have [then?] to write his name you would bin wondering what his name was it is Peter M Orsborn
My candle is a most burnt out and my paper is a most wote ful and my pen is poor my ink is almost fo[?]/s and my love to you shal never fail
Isaac Orsborn Jn*

You must to the Town of Mayfield and County of Montgomery in the State of New York I cant write nomor for the want of paper –

1824 letter from Isaac to his parents telling them of his son Peter's death.

Town of Fairfield County of Summersett State of Maine Mr Isaac Orsborn

Mayfield March 1st 1824

Worthy Parants I now spend a few minutes in writting a few lines to inform you that we are all well that is alive Peter is Dead. he died the 11th of January last short but very survere sickness the most of his distress appeard to be in his head

a very survere trial it was to part with him I hope our loss will be his gain we have two Children Hannah and Isaac I wish you to rite to me as soon as you can for I wish to here something from you all as I have not received but one leter sense we left your house we might here from each other if we cannot see each other that might give grate satisfaction I wish some [ove?] you to take the opertunity to come and see us for it is Difficult for us to come and see you as yet

I want to hear how meny Children Elizabeth has and if Deborah has eny. I wish to hear something from you all. no more at present Direct your letter to the Town of Mayfield County of Montgomery State of New York this from your Children until Death

[signed]Isaac Orsborn Jn Mille Orsborn