

Merrimac Jan 11th 1883

Dear Father:

Perhaps you will be surprised to hear from me so soon again, and more so when you hear what I have to say. I think before this, you must have got my letter, informing you of the death of Uncle Leonard. You asked me a lot of questions in your last letter, I do not know how many I answered, but will try and answer some of them now. Milk sells with us at twenty four cents per gal., not much profit in that this Winter, but if I can hold my own, and be improving the farm, I think I am doing well. You

spoke of
the cold weather 40° above zero. It
snowed here all day yesterday, (but did
not make much show), with the
thermometer ranging from zero to
ten above. I suppose you have
heard of silos, and ensilage fodder
that is being talked about so much
now-days. There has been one made
in town, but I have not seen it,
nor do I know how much it cost.
There could be one made in our barn
very ~~easy~~ and if I had one I could
winter my present stock without
buying any hay as I shall have
to this year. I want to keep
all the stock I can, and bring the
farm up so it will cut 60 to 75
tons of hay every year. I have
worked hard to that end, but I
do not want to work as hard
in the years to come, if there
is any possibility of Elbridge

ever having it in his possession. I
hear a great deal and I can see
better than I could used to that
that is what he is driving for.
And there is another thing that I
want to know about and perhaps
you ought to know of it and
it is this; many times I have
heard it said that you did
not settle Grandpa's estate accord-
ing to the will, and the other
day I heard that the heirs Andrew
Sawyer at the head were going
to make trouble; I have forgot-
ten just how the will reads but
as far as I can ^{mem} remember they claim
you did not settle here as the
statement required, someone said
you did not pay a poll tax here
and so did not gain a residence
here. I would like to know about
it for it might make a big dif-

Colerain Jan'y 11/83

erence with me, what I should
do if I was not going to stay
here. I think I told you in my
last letter that I had 12 cows, 4 calves
3 heifers, and a pair of steers. I feed
meal and shorts, if it had been
a better year for crops I should have
had cob meal of my own raising
to have given them, and so my
grain bill would not have been
as large as it now is. I sell
about sixty quarts, three dollars and
sixty cents worth per day.

I hope to hear from you
soon

Your Aff Son

E W Morse

Columb
apl 15th/83

Merrimac Apr 15th 1883.

Dear Father:

I was very agreeably surprised to received your letter of Apr/15th. I was very sorry to learn you had been sick, I hope by this time you are quite well again. It has been very sickly about here this Winter a great many cases of Pneumonia and Diphtheria many of which proved fatal. The sadest case was over on the plain Mrs Williams and two unmarried sisters Sarah and Betty Sargent all from the same house died in the same week. They leave one sister Mrs John P. Sargent who had gone to live with them since her husband died. I am very grateful for

the Draft it came in very handy indeed. I suppose you will like to know what I have done in regard to my embarrassment I spoke to you of some time ago. Elbridge persisted in advising me to fail and that before my crops were harvested. Nobody wanted to take a mortgage on personal property but would ask me why I did not ask Elbridge to help me but that he would not do only advise me to fail. My friends advised me not too. When I got where I had to have money Aunt Laura and Maria got five hundred dollars and let it to me and took a mortgage on all my property. I hear it said once in a while that Elbridge says he owns this farm and that he has had no settlement with you in regard to carriages you took to Cal. nearly

a doz. years ago. Elbridge has found out some time I do not know when that you have deeded this place to a lady in Manchester He has taken pains this Winter to spread that knowledge and it has caused a deal of cheap talk. Some say and I think it ^{started} with Elbridge that the time in which you could redeem it ~~I~~ expired this Spring and she was coming right along to take possession several have asked me what I was going to do and then would tell me they heard I had got my notice to leave. One story is that Elbridge has got the business to settle. I hope you will not think I have said to much about Elbridge if you were here you would not. He talks about me in such a way that it could be understood either way but most people are ready to receive

it as a slur and pass it along
to the next as such. Did not you
get a letter from me last Fall
telling of Uncle Leonard's death.

Mrs Sawyer has gone to live
with her sister Mrs Pillsbury
Aunt Maria is keeping house
here now and if she had only
come before I should not have
owed Leonard Sawyer's estate two
hundred and fifty dollars. I wish
you would when you write tell me
just what you expect to do and
what you expect me to do just as
if we were talking together. This
is the best part of my life and
I feel I ought not to lay out my
strength here unless I am to have
the farm for a series of year at
least. Do you realize that I
am twenty seven years old?
Are you not coming home this
Summer I do hope you will for

there are many things I should like to say that might perhaps give you a wrong impression if they were written. I heard the other day that Elbridge was going to Cal. but I think it must have started from something he said like what he told me at one time when he was speaking of not having had a settlement with you. He said if you did not come on soon he did not know but what he should go there. I do hope ~~to~~ you will write and let me know how matters stand for it is thought by my friends and not those of my mothers family that Elbridge is trying hard one way and another to get a claim

on this farm. Pardon me if I have spoken too plainly of a friend but I think it is very detrimental to a young man's credit to have a man like Elbridge telling round that whoever has helped me will loose it and when he finds any one that I owe tell them it is the best thing they can do to take thirty or forty cents on a dollar and intermate strongly that it is all they will ever get. I want to pay one hundred cents on a dollar and in time I think I shall be able if the crops are fair.

It is now my bed time as I want to get up about four so I will say Goodnight Remember me to Mother and say to her I believe I wrote last and thus she ~~ows~~ me a letter Hoping this will find you well and not cause you any anxiety I remain your Aff Son Edward

E. W. MORSE,
C. P. NOELL,
THOS. WHALEY.

OFFICE OF

Morse, Noell & Whaley,

BANK BUILDING, PLAZA,

REAL ESTATE DEALERS,

NOTARIES PUBLIC AND INSURANCE AGENTS.

Warrants Purchased.
Taxes paid for Non-Residents.

Money Loaned, Rents Collected, etc.

Letters of Inquiry
Promptly and cheerfully answered.

San Diego, Cal. May 5th 1883

Dear Edward

I received your welcome letter in due time, but shall only be able to partly answer it now. I am just preparing to make a long business trip out into the country, but I hope on my return to give you a long letter and send you another hundred dollars.

I am sorry you are annoyed with the gossip about my affairs, the farm and so forth, but I hope you will pay no attention to it - keep right along steadily with your own business, make close calculations, see that you, above all things, do not get behind hand again in your business, and we will pull through all right yet.

I am very sorry I could not have helped you more, and I wish you would say to Laura & Maria that I feel very grateful to them for assisting

*I have written in haste
anything you don't understand
ask me & I will write further
next time*

you and if we all live a few years longer, I trust and believe I shall have an opportunity to show that I have not forgotten it.

Elbridge has no claim upon the farm - it is possible he has an unsettled account against me - if so, it is a very small one which need not trouble him or anyone else, none of us will have a right to sleep over it.

I can now see no reason why the farm, in the course of a few years, shall not be absolutely your own as I always intended it should be. I will say no more about this matter, so that you can say ~~upon~~ ^{when} questioned that you know nothing about it. ~~It~~ only don't be annoyed or worried about it, the Manchester lady never will trouble you or the farm. Nor will Elbridge either!

The panic of 1873 was a terrible blow to me - about that time I believed I had property that would be worth in a year or two half a million of dollars, but the panic which did not reach California till about 1875 devalued all values here like dew before the sun. I have been unreasonably business complications ever since but hope is still strong and future prospects look bright - I trust a year or two more will set me all right. My credit and standing here has always been high - I can say without boasting very high, and I hope yet before very long to be able to come east and show some people what silly stories they have been guilty of circulating.

I must close now - I will write again when I return. I am very glad you write plainly. I wish you to do so always.
your affectionate father E.W. Morse

I have written in haste
anything you don't understand
in me & I will write fully
next time.

May 5th 3

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I must close now - I will write again when I return. I am very glad you write plainly. I wish you to do so always.
your affectionate father W.M. Brown

Edward

July 2 Aug 1883

Merremac July 4th 1883.

Dear Father:

I received your letter containing the draft all right but neglected to answer it as I have been very busy this Spring. you spoke of writing me on your return and I thought you could perhaps answer both at the same time. I suppose it is of no use thinking you will come on this year I had hoped to see you before some of my friends had a chance to talk with you; Elbridge for instance. I think I told you that Elbridge told me that if you did not come on soon he should go to Cal. In conversing with Aunt Maria yesterday she said

that Elbridge told Uncle Philip that he thought he should go to San Diego. A friend of Andrew Sawyer's came here for the machinery and ~~he~~ he just the same as said you would receive a call from Andrew. I should not be surprised if Elbridge and Andrew went together as the first does not wish to go without an escort. If Elbridge gets to you before you see for yourself what I have done I tremble for my future unless you are very careful what you do and say. He is very avaricious he is not the E. M. Morse you used to know I think. I should judge by what you said in your letter that the bill held by Elbridge against you was a small one and I sincerely hope it will prove so. But according to Elbridge's report which he takes pains to circulate it is a very large one. Mr Alden Morse told a person that

told me that he had quite a bill against you and he did not consider it worth a dollar. I got the draft cashed in Merrimac but shall not do so again for I do not want to have my business known by every body. Elbridge has reported that either I or my friends wrote you rather a saucy letter and that you got angry and sent word that you had plenty enough and could help me all I desired; that you see was made out of whole cloth or rather all he had to coin it from was what Poore told him that you had sent me some money. I have not written this to cause you worryment but so that you may know what and who you have to deal with. Elbridge and Alden both have a way of speaking of their friends in such a manner you would think they esteemed them

very highly and yet before they finish
they are sure to say something that
will lower them very much in the estima-
tion of a stranger. It was so very
dry last year and there have been no
very heavy rains this year that the hay
crop is pretty light of ground that
has been seeded down a number of years.
I have a large piece planted to corn
fodder that will help me out a great
deal if we only have frequent showers.
Some of the pieces I seeded down since I
came here are looking very well. The
New England Fair is joined with the
New Hampshire state fair this year
and is to be held at Manchester.
It has been held four years at Worcester
and if it should another year at Manches-
ter perhaps you would be here
to enjoy it.

Aug 30 I received your letter of June 23rd
in due time and the next day sat
down to answer it but was called away
before I finished it. I have been very
busy since, and when I did ~~not~~ have
a leisure moment I forgot all about
the letter, I hope you will pardon
me for the neglect. I am very
grateful for the check. You asked
me some questions which I will try
and answer in order. You asked
me how I was getting on I suppose
that means how I am paying my
indebtedness, I am getting the small
bills pretty well demolished. I have
quite a good amount of fodder in the
barn this year I bought quite a lot
standing thinking I could get it cheap
er that way. It took me quite a

while to do my haying this year as I did not have only Uncle Charles and a boy that lives with me to help me I could not afford to pay the fancy prices they only asked three dollars a day.

We had very heavy showers the fourth and fifth of July people in speaking of them say they never knew such showers but I think ~~we~~ we had one as heavy eight or nine years ago.

The factory in Patten's hollow at Amestbury was struck during one shower and in an instant was all on fire ~~how~~ how very fortunate that it happened on a holiday there was only one man in the building and he had time only to get out of the window and hold on to the sill until a man passing saw him and reached him with a ladder. I have got eleven cows as good as they will average about here and five heifers and as handsome a yoke of steers so every body says

as you often see. They are not very large for their age but are growing finely this summer. They are half brothers and are marked very much alike. Elbridge does continue to talk although in a little different channel simply because he thinks it will be for his interests to do so. Alden ^{was} ~~was~~ headed to say the only way he could get his pay was to sue you and have the farm sold. I hope what I have said will not cause you to grow older any faster. I have not worried much over it I think I am healthier than ever before in the summer. The apple crop is rather light this year although I am to have a fair crop and I expect to receive a good price for them some have intimated they thought apples would bring five dollars per barrel but I hardly think they will be so high.

Are you willing that I should
take the building back of the shed
and move it to a more sunny place
and convert it into a henery.
And also should you object to have
the small ell attached to the
"Old House" moved up to the north
end of the ell attached to this house
and a door cut through between
the sink and chimney or into the
pantry. It would be used as a
room in which to wash cans and
heat water for the cows

Please do not follow my exam-
ple in neglecting to answer

With love I remain

Your Affect. Son
Edward

Merrimac, Feb. 16th 1884.

Dear Father:

I have been expecting a letter from you for a long time, but have not received one since last summer, perhaps you can say the same. I expected to write you after my return from the "Fair" at Manchester, but somehow I did not find time, and so the time has rolled along, until the present, without our interchanging words.

I suppose you have heard before this, that I was in Manchester last Sept. I called upon Mrs Wilson, and enjoyed a very pleasant evening. At the Fair I was very

much interested in a herd of Swiss cattle. One man in a town near by, had on exhibition, a cow and bull six months old of this breed. His son a little fellow, perhaps eight years old, had him well trained; he had a harness for him, and put bits in his mouth, and drove him as he would a horse. He had a wagon for him and said he could drive any where he pleased at home. The boy undertook to have a ride on the Fair grounds, but there was so much shouting, and people going every way, that the bull got frightened, and ran into a tent, and the little fellow would not harness him up again. I have a great fancy to this breed, they are so tough, and because they

are raised in a cool climate, they are, I think better fitted for this part of the country, than the Jersey. I'm talking with one of the exhibitors, he showed me a record of one of the oldest cows of this breed, which gave twenty five qts a day, and not less than eighteen qts., for the three months May, June and July. The milk is not quite so rich, as the Jersey, but he claims they will make as much butter on account of having so large a flow of milk.

About Christmas time we had a fortnight of first class sleighing, since then we have had a great quantity of ice, but it was so thoroughly mixed up with gravel, caused by using wheels so much on the first snow, that it was not good sleighing and a great many

~~Am~~ have used wheels most of the time. Our snow storms are very light this year, and generally as soon as we have a snow storm, the next day is very warm, foggy, or it rains and carries it all off, so that we have not had more than three ~~or four~~ or four inches of snow, at any time. In Jan. we had a good quantity of solid Winter weather, the mercury falling as low as twenty five below Zero. I did not mind the clear steady cold, but the sudden changes are not so enjoyable. I think we have had our share this winter. I remember one morning, I think the glass was ~~was~~ ten or twelve below Zero, and less than thirty six hours it was fifty above, that is what I call going from Winter to Summer pretty quick.

Sometime ago you said you hoped to come East, within two years. I hope you will come this year, for I do want to see you, it seems a long long time since you were here. What is to be done with the old house, it ought to be taken down by a carpenter and a great deal of the material could be saved to work into other buildings, which ^{are} needed on the farm.

If I am to live on the farm, I should like to have a house built on the old site, sometime in the future, in which a man might live and help me on the farm. if the old house had been inhabitable, I have had several chances, to hire a farm hand, very reasonable.

It being such good work in the old house, if it was preserved now, it would amount to a great deal. but if left to stand much longer it will be so rotten, it will be no good, for the water comes in every storm, in many places through the roof. I doubt very much if it stands, as a while much longer, and I think it policy to like care of it. A great many of the boys around here, like to see these old buildings burn. I fear we may have a serious "Bon fire" here, sometime, if any of them should get intoxicated, and I almost wonder it has not happened before. There ^{are} a number questions I would like to ask you, but you would understand them better if you were here, and so I will wait until

Summer, and see if you do not come on. Mr. Austin Lancaster asked me when I wrote you, to say that a Mrs. Merrill of Haverhill, wish ed to learn if you knew the whereabouts, of Mr. Geo. Kimball, who was a chum of Nat. Morill, I suppose before this you have seen an account of the disaster, off Gay Head, and that among the lost was a Mr. Fred Sargent of Merrimac, He was a son of Mr. Frederick Sargent, who lives opposite Mr. Alan Morse.

Hoping to see you soon
I am as ever

Your Aff. Son.

E W Morse

Edward
Feb 16/84

Edward
Feb 16/84

May 5/84
Edward

Merrimac May 5th 1884.

Dear Father:

Sometime in Feb. I wrote you a letter, but as I have not heard from you since, I thought perhaps you did not receive ^{it} on account of there being so many floods in the West about that time. This epistle will necessarily be short on account of my time being so well occupied. I am doing my ~~own~~ work alone now, I should like too all Summer if I could, but do not know if I could stand it. I have to get up very early in order to milk nine cows and do the rest of the chores, and get my team out, as early as the other milkmen. When I

wrote you I spoke about taking
down the old house, I suppose
you can hardly imagine how
dilapidated a condition it is
in, for do you remember it is
ten years since you were here?
A number of men of good judge-
ment have said it ought to come
down, and they do not see why
it has not been set on fire
before this, and when you con-
sider that two lodged in the
loft up last night and a
great many more that were in-
toxicated should have been there
I think it is fortunate for the
safety of the other buildings that
they do not come this way as often
as they used to. Florence and Alice
were up here and spent two days with
us a short time ago. Mr Philip
Jones of Lions Mouth died a

few weeks ago and Uncle Philip
who I believe was named for him
will it is said inherit a fourth
of his property. The reason I have
time to write is because it is raining
this P. M. It is now almost time
for me to begin doing the chores.
Wages are so high this year that
if it is possible I shall get along
alone. Boys that got nine dollars
and board per month last year are
getting twelve this season and one
young man seventeen is getting
eighteen and board. Not that I
could not find work enough for a
fair hand but to pay eighteen
or twenty dollars per month, and
as much more for board, I can
not, with my present income lower
my indebtedness as I wish to.
I saw Eldridge a short time ago

and he wanted to know if I had
heard from you lately I told him
I had not heard since last Sum-
mer but had written you and
was expecting to hear very soon,
he said I do not know about
that, it takes a year some times.
I told him you generally answered
my letters immediately, but per-
haps my last letter had gone
to sea on account of the floods
out West.

I will now bid you
"Good Bye"

From your loving son

Edward.

July 29/84
Edmond

Merimac July 29th/84.

Dear Father:

As it rains to day,
and I can not work out of
doors, to day I thought I would
spend the time, in writing to
you. We are having a very
cool summer indeed, although we
have very cool nights the crops are
looking pretty well, for we have
frequent showers, although not
many Thunder showess. For two
years we have had severe drought
after taking the hay from the fields,
and it has killed the roots, so
that this year, there was only about
two thirds a crop of hay in this

part of the country, notwithstanding the frequent rains. I wonder if you are having it as much warmer, as we are cooler than usual. To give you some idea how cool it is, I would say that on the evening of Fourth July, I went ~~to~~ to Amestbury, and an overcoat was not uncomfortable by any means, I do not ~~know~~ when I ever before in July or Aug wore an overcoat. In my last letter, I spoke of taking down the old house. I think it ought to be done, not because I wish to destroy old land marks or associations, but that property may be saved. I should not have been surprised, had the boys celebrated the Fourth, by making a bon fire of it. The boys in

West Newbury not only attempted, but were successful in destroying an old house, situated about the same, on the morning of the Fourth. So many men of good judgment, have spoken to me about the danger of it, that I take the liberty, of mentioning it to you again. I have got the haying most done, or perhaps to make it more definite, I can finish in two good days. I have five or six acres of oats to cut for fodder. It has not cost me much to get my hay this year, as I have done it with the help of the boy that lives with me. I think I shall dig a ditch from the road, up through meadow, back of the old house. People tell me that meadow can

be made to cut, three tons of good
hay to the acre, without great expense.
I thought I might begin operations,
by putting a ditch through there,
but I can not do any more this
year, for it will take all the
money I can get, and I fear a
little more, for they do not pay
in wonderfully well, to pay the
amt. I hired two years ago.

Remember me to mother.

Please write
soon for I have received no letters
from you, for a year.

From Your loving son,

E. W. Morse.

it has been so hot for the last week,
If you are not coming East, this
year, (but I hope you will decide to
come) I should like some letters to
pass between us. It does seem as
though we might talk under-
standingly, although you are
at one side of the continent,
and I the other. I should like
very much to know something def-
initely, as regards the future.

Perhaps I ought to tell you that
time works changes, you are
very well aware when you stop
to think, that it is a long time
since you were here, and that
the crygen has been steadily at
work on these buildings. The "old
house" in order to save any of it
which might work into other building
should, be taken down right

away. The shed and carriage house,
ought to be shingled or the roof
boards will be likely to rot, for
it has begun to leak in a
number of places. I suppose it
would be policy to paint the house
for of course it would preserve it,
and the paint is coming off in
a number of places. From what
you said in your last letter about
two years ago, I expected to have
seen you by this time, and that
is the reason I have not mentioned
~~about~~ the buildings before

People tell me that the meadow in
front of the "Old house," can be
made to cut more than four
tons of hay to the acre, by
draining, and working it over
I should judge it would not be
a very expensive operation. I had

thought to put a few stitches in there
this summer, if I possibly could, even
if I did not get them stowed up
this year. Mr Geo Sargent says
he should use stone rather than tile,
he has some of both but prefers the
stone.

Please write soon

Remember me

to Mother

Hoping to see you
before long,

I remain

Your Aff. Son

E. W. Morse

Copy
Letter to Edward
Dec 24/85

San Diego Dec 23^d 1845

Dear Edward

It is a long time since I have written to you and I suppose you have got discouraged in writing to me and getting no answer. For several reasons I have not felt like writing. One was that "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick" and my hopes had been so long deferred I was sick at heart indeed. I had nothing encouraging to write, I could only hope. I was confident that the good times would come to San Diego sometime, the only question was, when? and whether I should live to see them.

One year ago times were as dark here as ever before, but since then they have been growing brighter and brighter and to day it seems as if poor San Diego has started on a sure and prosperous career.

Real Estate in the business portion of the city has more than doubled in value since last March and is higher than ever before; Outside property has not increased so much, in fact very little comparatively. The population also has nearly doubled and business blocks of dwelling houses and other improvements have been added to the value of half a million of dollars. Everything looks encouraging and we who own considerable outside property hope and expect our time will come before very long now.

I enclose a draft on Boston for \$100 - for a new year's present, I hope by another new year I shall be able to do better, wish I could now, but I can not.

I would rather some of our friends did not know of this - they might talk too much - Could you not get it cashed quietly at Newburyport or Haverhill? Please remember me to your aunts and other true friends.

I am your affectionate father E. W. Morse



WRITE THE ADDRESS ON THIS SIDE - THE MESSAGE ON THE OTHER

E W Morse Esq
San Diego
Cal.

Merrimac Jan 12/86.

Dear Father:

I received your
kind letter Jan. 1st for
which I am very grateful
Nothing could suit me
better than a letter from
you for a New Years Pre-
sent. I intended to write
before this but have been
very busy will write soon
The thermometer register-
ed 14 degrees below Zero
this morning and has
not got above Zero to
day Please write soon

Yours Affctly.
E W Morse

Merrimac May 22/96.

Dear Father:

When I wrote that Postal card to you, I expected to write you a letter very soon, but somehow the time passed away without my knowing it. I was very glad you did not wait for me to answer your letter, before you wrote again, for I am very grateful to receive such letters from you, and our correspondence has not been very rapid of late. I suppose you have heard of the "Ice storm" we had during last Winter, It was the most curious storm known for a century at

least; at first it was a damp snow, which stuck to the bough, and then a mist that froze as it came, so that ~~and~~ an icicle in some instances an inch in thickness, encircled all the small boughs, instead of ^{on} top as is commonly the case; so you see the trees must have sustained a very great load. Shade trees seemed to suffer more than fruit trees I suppose the reason is because the fruit tree is more used to sustaining a load. some of the limbs I should think six inches in diameter, have broken off of the Oak, by the passage into the "Wm. Ben lot." The ash by the cider mill was broken down some so the shade will not be so dense this year. Some

of the limbs on the ash touched the ground for almost two days. The season this year is much earlier than usual the feed in pastures was as good I think the first of May as it is generally by the twentieth. In April we had very warm weather the thermometer marking almost ninety degrees. So far in May we have had a great lot of east wind, and it has been quite cool. Owing to my best horse getting lame, last year, I did not do as I expected with regard to farming operations. My Aunt bought a small horse but he would not work in a team, and as my resources are small, and it cost so much to hire, a small part of the ground remained idle.

If they had not bought a horse,
I do not know what I should have
done, for he worked in on the
milk route, and to do the riding.
The horse that was lame, is well
now so far as I know, and
is able to do a great amount
of work, but is too heavy to
drive on the road, the lame-
ness was in her ankle, on the
hind foot. She sometimes stum-
bles behind, but I do not
know as that is the cause
of it. As I said part of
the ground back of the barn
laid idle last year, and so
I shall plough up the whole,
a part of it is ploughed
now, I intend to sow half

of it to oats for fodder
the rest of it I shall plant
to corn. Perhaps you think it
ought to have been planted by
this time. Some have planted
but think if it can be planted
next week there will be a
good crop. I do not want
you to think I have not done
any thing this Spring for
I have got Peas Potatoes and
Beans planted the peas are
up (or above ground) and the
rest must be right along in
a day or two. The report
seem to be that are coming
East in June. I hope you
will come for I do want
to see you very much
I believe Mrs Sawyer wrote
to Andrew that you were
coming in June and
Mr A B Morse says

you are coming this year
Please write soon

Please excuse
this writing for my arm
is pained and I ^{can not} rest it as
I usually do,

From your Affec Son

Edward.

Edward
May 22/86

Merrimac Nov 1st/86.

Dear Father:

I suppose you have been looking for a letter from me for a long time. I am almost ashamed to write after so long a time but perhaps you will consider it, "better late than never". Your letter came all right for which I am very thankful. In reading the descriptions of San Diego I get an idea that I should like to visit the place where I was born but do not feel yet that I would leave this place permanently. For the past two months it has been very dry so very

dry that many wells have failed. Farmers can not find much fault for it has been a splendid Autumn for harvesting. It has been an extra good corn year. The apple crop is fair the Russets are extra but the Baldwins are poorer than any year since I have had any thing to do with apples. I saw a man last week from New York and he said Baldwins with them averaged about one barrel of first quality to nine second quality. Last Wednesday the drouth broke as they say; it has rained a good part of the time since and bids fair to make a week of it. The moon changes next Tuesday and I think it will clear then. Some laugh at me for thinking the moon's changes has any thing

to do with the weather: but I have noticed it seems too. You ask me if I am out of debt? No I am not. It is slow very slow paying old accounts and trying not to incur other debts.

My expenses are pretty large and you must remember that all the tools and machines I use I have to buy. The taxes for 83, 84, 85; and 86 were \$77.67, \$70.04, \$85.07 and \$66.53 respectively. I find, this farm to run in a profitable manner without capital or experience is more of a job than I expected. I put a large quantity of dressing on to the land and it must be better for it. I intended to drain the meadow in front of the house but shall fail of that this year. You remember the strip of woods in the "Uncle Ben lot" do you object

to my cutting them you will remember that it is young growth being cut when you were here. It is mostly poplar. I think the wood would pay for clearing and the land on account of the vegetation decaying there so many years would raise good hay without dressing for a number of years. I hope your trip you spoke of had a lasting beneficial effect on your health.

Please write soon and I will try to do better with regard to time in answering.

From your Affecⁿ son
Edward.

Nov 4. 1795

Edward

Merrimac Nov 28th/86.

Dear Father:

I received your kind letter day before yesterday and will take this opportunity to explain about my affairs. Three years in Jan. I was owing my Aunt quite a sum of money, and also Geo. Sargent one hundred and fifteen dollars. I had fed out all my fodder and no money to replace it. I went to Elbridge and he talked as if he would help me. After finding out just how I was situated he said he would not take a mortgage on personal property. and told how he had been served before as

much as to say I would cheat him out of it after receiving such an accommodation. My Sunts wanted me to save my stock and also my credit and as I could not find any one to let me the money on my personal property they took a mortgage from me obtaining the money by a mortgage on their land. They got for me five hundred dollars but I gave them my note for seven hundred to secure them what I had had previously. I have paid Geo. Sargent and kept the Int. on the note paid. My expense for fodder is quite an item but I have a large lot of dressing to use as top dressing and so hope to secure more fodder an other year from this

fram. Perhaps you will remember that I told you that when I came over here to board I was told I could have work enough in the shop to pay my board but I soon found there was no work and I also found that in a very short time so it seem to me I was owing Uncle Leonard two hundred and fifty dollars above what he was to pay me for rent. That sum I had to pay the estate which I did two years ago. You will see the bills I have spoken of amount to almost four hundred there were a few other small bills that I have paid and that is the reason I have not got the note paid My grain bill is about four hundred dollars a year. I do

not know as I have got this
letter very systematically but I
hope it is plain enough for
you to understand my meaning

All friends send love
Aunt Maria Neal says you
are owing her a letter

Remember me to mother

Hoping your
cough will not return with
your return to Sandiego I
am as ever

Your Affec Son
Edward

San Diego 2/27/47

Nov 25/46

Edmund

Edward
March 10/47

Merrimac Mar. 10th/87.

Dear Father:

I received your letter in due time, but owing to quite an extensive revival, that has come to our town, in which there has been meetings almost every evening, since the first of Jan. I have neglected to answer until now. I think my last letter, was as you say plain to me and so I will try and make this one plain to you.

In Feb. /83 I found my self with a dozen, cows and four heifers, and two horses and no hay or grain to

give them, and also about seven hundred dollars in debt.

Some hundred and fifty of it, I was owing my Aunts, and so as I could not raise any money on my property because it was personal, they obtained \$500.00 by a mortgage on their land, which they let me have, taking, as security a mortgage of \$700. on my personal property, to cover the \$150.00 I had had previous to that time.

A good part of the \$500.00 it took to buy hay and grain to finish out the winter. The following summer

I had to pay the estate of Leonard Sawyer, \$200.00, my board bill, which I did not expect to contract when I came to board with Uncle Leonard,

for he said I could have work in the shop enough to pay my board. I also paid \$115.00 to Geo. Sargent, that I was owing for hay that I had had previous, to the time my Aunts got the money for me.

I have had to buy a good deal of hay and grain, and tools, and pay for labor, so I did not succeed in paying any of my note. As I said

before it took a good part of the \$500.00 to procure fodder for the stock, and as some of my creditors were willing to give me a little time, I have been paying that up, and trying not to form any new debts. When I wrote you last I had succeeded in paying all the outside debts so to speak, that is all but

what I owe my Aunts, the mortgage note of \$700. and board for my hired man. I suppose you understand that my Aunts came over here at the time they let me have the money, Mrs Sawyer leaving at that time. They have worked hard to help me keep my name and credit good, Although ~~Mr~~ Elbridge advised me to fail. Today I can buy an hundred dollars worth of grain and pay when I please. My Aunts boarded me for the house rent, and what I turned in that I raised, but at some time when I could, I was to pay the board of the hired man. Aunt Maria said she should be satisfied with the \$200. I have had help certainly six months in the year, and you can see what it would come too even at two dollars a week for four years. The \$500.

you sent me, for which I am very very grateful, I passed over to my Aunts, to pay that which they got for me. That of course leaves the mortgage note 200. which with the \$200. for board makes \$400. my present indebtedness^{ed} all of which is owed to my Aunts.

I believe I have spoken of it before, but I will mention it again, At times I have been very unfortunate in my stock, I lost an horse that I paid \$125. for, and half another, that cost \$60. The first one I think was a used up one, doctored up for sale. A cow that I payed 45 for got hooked, and died the next day, another that I payed the same

for, died with the stoppage when her calf was two days old, she was a great loss, for it was in the Winter, when milk was scarce. About three years ago, my best horse got lame so that I did not use her for a year. I think she is all right now, and good for ten years to come. There are a great many small expenses, that form themselves into quite a sum, a post here and a bar there. The hovel floor wears out pretty fast with so much stock. The well has got to have a curb and platform right off. The buildings need painting badly, but I presume you will attend to that when you come on this summer. We are all as well as usual and hope you enjoy the same blessing.

From your Affecⁿ Son
Edward

Return to E. W. MORSE,
SAN DIEGO, California,
If not delivered within 10 days.



Edward W. Morse
Merrimack
Mass



San Diego, Cal^a

March 21, 1887

Dear Edward

Your welcome letter
of March 10th is at hand.

I think I understand
the situation very well
-now. I am very
glad you decided to
keep your credit good
even at the sacrifice
of some comfort &
pleasure to yourself.
I am grateful to

your aunts for their assistance to you at a time when I was unable to do so.

I think you had better have the building painted this spring and thoroughly repaired wherever necessary and I will send you money to meet the bills.

I enclose draft on Boston for \$500 = Please use \$400 = to clear you from debt (which I understand from your letter it will do) and the balance

(\$100.) you will please present to your aunts as a partial token (but not to be the last) of my gratitude to them for their many and continual acts of kindness to you.

I should have liked to give them this amount in some useful presents if I knew what would be appropriate and best, but they can take the money and with your assistance can decide what best to purchase with it, and whatever

it is, consider it as a
present from me.

Everything is
looking well here
now - the city and
county are growing
very rapidly in population
and wealth.

New enterprises of great
importance are under
way and being projected
continually, so that the
future - the immediate
future of this city looks
very bright indeed.

I often send you papers
do you get them?

Give my kindest regards to your
aunt.

Yours affectionately

E. W. Morse

Norman House,

O. I. MAIRS, PROPRIETOR.

FIRST-CLASS LIVERY STABLE ATTACHED.

Independence, Cal. June 16th 1887

Dear Edward

We are stopping here a few days waiting for letters and papers which we had ordered sent to us from San Diego. It is a small town and not very interesting, and having plenty of leisure I thought I would drop you a line. It is really the first time for years when I could say that I had plenty of leisure.

We are on a camping trip to the celebrated "Yosemite" valley.

The usual route is through the valleys lying west of the Sierra Nevada range of mountains but we decided to take what is called (very correctly) the desert route lying east of the mountains.

There are wagons in the party, Dr. Jenkins & wife with one & myself

Miss Morse with the others. Our wagons were built & fitted up especially for the trip, with a great many conveniences as well as necessaries for camping.

We sleep in the wagon upon a comfortable bed which is rolled up and strapped in the day time. The sides of the wagon let down or roll up, as the weather is hot or cold. Our cooking utensils are carried in a light box under the wagon which is let down and wound up by a crank, to save handling. The Pantry department is in a light box in the back part of the wagon. The back part of the wagon is very light and lets down even with the wagon upon which the Pantry is drawn out at night to give room for the bed.

The wagon seat is hinged at one end and turns up at night thus leaving the whole body of the wagon free for the bed in which we have slept comfortably for the past two weeks.

We passed through San Bernardino and the Cajon Pass out on to the Mojave

Norman House,

O. I. MAIRS, PROPRIETOR.

FIRST-CLASS LIVERY STABLE ATTACHED.

Independence, Cal. 188

desert, on which we travelled for several days - one day for forty miles without seeing a drop of water smoothly through a dense heavy sand over a road which none but the most experienced could follow it was so little travelled. On one portion of it we crossed what is called a Dry Lake - it was about 10 miles long and 6 miles wide - composed of hard clay, as level and smooth as a house floor - the horses and wagon left not the slightest mark. It reminded us more of travelling on ice than anything else. We had started in the morning at two o'clock and got through about 5 o'clock the next night. We had soaked our grain & filled everything we had with water and gave the horses when about half way through for their

was not a spear of grass. There were however scattered bushes, in fact the whole desert is covered with bushes two or three feet high and on an average 4 or 10 feet apart, though in some places not so thick, and sometimes taller, with many smaller plants between. A large proportion of them are seen in blossom, some of them very beautiful. The desert was blossoming, truly, but all useless so far as man is concerned and, very little short of pure desolation - the continual grinding of the sand under the wheels was terrible.

We are now in a valley between two high ranges of mountains, their tops covered with snow. It seldom or never rains in the valley summer or winter. The streams from these mountains irrigate the valley. We here see the value of water - there will be a beautiful alfalfa field the clover standing two or three feet high looking luxuriantly while all outside perhaps is a dry barren waste, which could be made just as beautiful by the use of water.

your father E. W. Morse

Edward
June 23/87

Merimac June 23rd/87.

Dear Father:

How the weeks go into the past. I am surprised that so much time has elapsed since receiving your last letter I intended to answer it immediately and I hope you will excuse the slackness of it. I have been very busy and so kept putting it off from time to time until I am almost ashamed to write now in answer to it. I am very thankful for the letter and will try to do better in answering the next. I suppose you have heard before this that you have a daughter in this part of the

country. Perhaps you ~~may~~ re-
member a Miss Eliza Hoyt that
was quite intimate with Mother
and I have been told cut her
wedding dress although I am not
sure but that she was a
widow Guild when she cut the
dress. The lady I chose for
a life companion is a niece
of Mrs Guild this friend of Mother's
her name was Nettie Hoyt
her Father lives in West Newbury.

A short time ago I heard
Elbridge tell a man at the
Cummer that he asked you
what you was worth and
you wrote back that you
would not take a half million
for what you owned. It is
spread all over town the report
I mean and the folks are
asking me about it and talk

ing more than they need
any how. July 5th I thought
you would have this letter before
this when I commenced it but
I will try and finish it this
time as I have a few minutes
before dinner. I have had three
editions of the "Golden Era"
but I can not say that it has
converted me to the faith yet
that is to come there and live.
How ever I should have liked
to have been there and gone
on the camping trip to the
Yosemite valley with you.
You will perceive I got your
letter and I hope you follow
it with another descriptive of
the sights in the valley. I got
some photographs from Mother
a some time ago for which re-
ceive thanks. For a week or

two I shall be very busy haying
but after that I will try and write
again. I shall have more time then
I think for I have not got much
planted for the boy. I had for help
left just as I began to plant
and I could not find any one to help
I will see to the repairs and painting
of the buildings this Fall after
the flies have left. but I would
like to ask a favor of you and
that is to send me some money
that I may have it to work with
I want to erect a heapen for
I had a number die ^{then} ^{not} ^{then} last year
for keeping them in damp
cellars. Why I ask for this is
because it will take all my
receipts ^{for the present} to stock up with grain
for the Winter in the latter part
of the Fall and Winter I could
return it. Uncle Philip has the
Western fever bad but I do not know
as you will ever see him there
With much love I am as ever
Your Affec Son
Edward

NORMAN HOUSE,

O. I. MAIRS, Prop'r,

INDEPENDENCE, INYO CO., CAL.



Mr Edward W. Mer
Merriman
Mass.

Madera Fresno Co.
Calif.
July 28. 1847

Dear Edward
yes, I think
you were rather slow
in answering my
letter, you took
pattern by me perhaps
but a newly married
man has a good
excuse if anyone has.

I had heard of your
marriage and good
reports of the lady, and
am very well pleased at
the step you have
taken and on my part

shall try to make it
pleasant to both of you

I remember your
mothers friend Miss Eliza
Hoyt quite well, so that
when I see Mrs Edward
W. Morse she will not
seem so much of a stranger
to me as some others
would.

Elleridge has got
matters a little mixed
- I dont know what I
am worth, perhaps a few
hundred thousands, more
or less, but it is mostly
in real estate, yielding
no income, so that, so far
as the ready cash is
concerned I am almost
as short as ever.

I have sold \$50,000. worth

and put it into a fine
business building, which
will yield a rental of
\$5000 = a month or more
a Mr Wise & I owned the
lot together and we build
jointly - the building will
cost us nearly \$100,000.
It is the finest building
in the state south of Sac.
Transiero.

I propose to sell off a
good deal of my unproductive
real estate and build other
buildings for an income
I have not been able to
sell quite so fast as the
money was wanted for the
building and had to borrow
some \$20,000. and it was
a good thing I did, for the
real estate I mortgaged for it

has increased since then
more than \$20000. which
is therefore more than
\$20000. clear gain.

As soon as I reach
home I will send you
some money, which may
not be before September
as we have a trip of about
600 miles before us - we
were 700 in getting here
crossing the desert - the
Sierra Nevada Mountains
9500 feet above sea level,
Yosemite and the Big Trees.
The main stage road passes
through one of the live trees
a roadway having been cut
through for the purpose.
Our wagon and horses stood
completely within the tree
with 4 or 10 feet to spare.

Mrs Morse has written up our
trip for the papers and we will
send you one when we return.

We both send love to your wife
your affectionate father E. W. Morse

Edward

Nov 20/97

Merrimac Nov 20th 1897

Dear Father:

Perhaps you think I am not very grateful for your kindness to me but I assure you that I am. I have thought and set the time often to answer your letter but something would hinder and the time would pass without my doing it.

Sunday is the only day I can write and that seems pretty well occupied when I go to church or to West Newbury as we do some days. It takes until ten o'clock or past to get the work done even if I get up as early as four in the

Morning and than we begin again about four in the afternoon and so you see my Sunday is rather short and sometimes we leave a part of the work in the morning in order to go to church and have that to do as soon as we get home and so you see then we have no Sunday or rest only while we are in chuch. So much for prelude.

I do not know as I sent my Aunts thanks for their remembrance but I can assure you they are sincere and it came in very nice indeed for their income is small.

There is one thing I do not quite see through in regard to the talk of Mr Eldridge and Alden (in the past they

do not say anything now) and that is if the land they own in Cal. was received in Payt. for carriages how could they say that you had not paid for the carriages they sold you even if they did not value the land any thing. I thought when they were telling the carriages were not sold that you three were joint partners but if they had received land for them what difference did it make to them whiter they were sold or not. The "Old house" is not worth repairing a part of the ell you might say all has been down a year or more and a part of the roof on the main part has fell in. I have used it to keep my hens in but it

has got so old and cold that I
am going to build a new place for
my hens and a place to in which
to keep carts and the like I have
commenced the cellar now and
intend to pull the Old house down
and use part of it. I hope you
will not think I am to underfabri-
ing. ~~W~~ Uncle Charles has said
for a year that it ought to
come down for fear some one
would be hurt he calls it
man trap It is pretty shabby
in some parts. My hand is
getting tired and as it is almost
four I will bid you Good by
although I have good deal I
could say if it is not my smart
Kettie I think would send love
but is asleep I am
as ever

Your loving Son
Edward

Return to E. W. MORSE,
SAN DIEGO, San Diego Co., California,
If not delivered within 10 days.



*Edward W. Morse
Merrimac
Mass.*

Merriam Jan 26th 1888

Dear Father:

Your letter of inquiry is at hand and I will do my best to give you the information desired, and as plainly as I can. I did not take the farm in charge until 1877, as you will probably see if you look it up. At the end of the year 1877 I presented my bill for rent, but Uncle Leonard said he would not pay it as he had already sent you a statement. Perhaps my letters to you at that time will show you the same, as I had to ask you for money to pay for a

horse that I had previously bought. I am very sure that in July 1878 I asked him for the rent from Jan. 1st to July 1st which was fifty dollars, so that I could pay a note that was then due. I think that was all the money he ever paid me as I came over here to board in Jan 1879 and we never settled while he lived, so I had a big bill to pay the estate, which I ought not to have had, for he promised me work in the shop enough to pay my board as I have told you before I think. I have tried to make it plain that he paid me nothing for the years 1875-1876-1877. I do not see why you should be charged for work in 1877 for there was not any thing ^{done} except harvesting the hay and

apples and it cost me an even hundred dollars to get the hay

I hired Uncle Leonard's Mower and paid him .25 per hour I also had his horse an hour or two to rake

Jan 27th I have just looked over Uncle Leonard's bill against me and I find it just as I thought that we did not settle while he lived. I do not find any thing to show that I paid for the use of the mowing machine the year 1877 but I presume I did or it would have been on the bill that I settled after he died with the two years following that I used the mower. As I said before the

bill for work in '77 must be small for he did not do any work on the farm but Elbridge used his oxen a little while building the barn but I suppose Elbridge

Edward

July 20 - 28

1888

settled for that. ^{page 28th} I thou
ght I would write a little this morn
ing and send it to day so it could
be on its way to morrow. Has
the cold weather out west reached
you? For two weeks past we have
^{had} it very cold and windy the ther
mometer this morning was 8° below
Zero and a day or two ago it was
14° below. At Forton June it was
20° below the same day it was 10 by
my glass. I can't stop to
write more now so will bid you

Good bye

Affec^t your son

Edward,

Merrimac Mar 7th 1888

Dear Father:

I believe I do not owe you a letter but under the circumstances I think perhaps I ought to write you. One of the neighbors said I ought to telegraph you the news so you could tell Aunt Maria some when she gets there as well as to hear it all from her. Perhaps by this time you will want to know what the news is it is simply this you have arrived at the happy stage of being Grandpa. We have a little son ~~o~~ who came to us about three yesterday afternoon

His name is Charles Ephraim
being named for both his Grand
fathers Nettie and her boy
are doing well to day Although
I thought when he was born
we should not have him to day
it was a hard struggle and
the doctor worked well I
will not write much more
for I want to send it tomor
row. I have felt pretty well
played out to day and have
kept in the house. I woke
up the day before the boy was
born with a bad cold and
sore throat and thought per
haps I was going to have the
mumps as they are about
here. Nettie tried to give me
a sweat I began to sweat
late in the afternoon and
sweat all night Nettie

taken sick in the night
and I got up ^{at} three as there
was no man on the place but
me and fed my horses and
harnessed one so Uncle Charles
when he came could go for
the nurse and then went
through with nine or ten hours
of work and anxious care with
nothing to eat for forty eight
hours except a cup of milk
and a cracker.

I will now bid
you good night

Please excuse
the writing for I have been
sitting on the bed and used
a pamphlet for writing desk

Your Respect Son
Edward

Edward

March 9/88

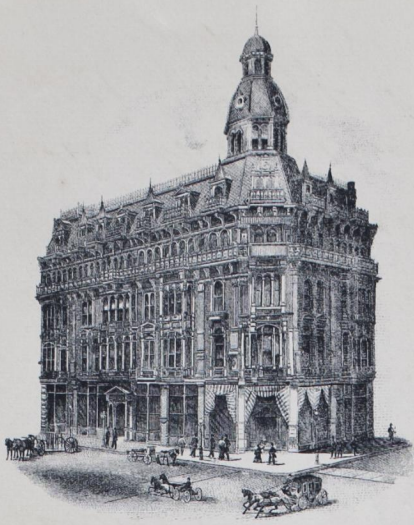
Boy }
Charles E. }

Return to E. W. MORSE,
SAN DIEGO, California,
If not delivered within 5 days.



Mr. Edward W. Morse
Merriam
Mass.

WESTMINSTER
MAR
30
1893
MASS



Office of E. W. Morse,

Room 26, Pierce-Morse Block,

P. O. Box 14.

San Diego, Cal., Mar. 19, 1888

Dear Edward

Yours of 9th inst. received, with news which of course reminds us that we are growing old for I suppose whenever one hears for the first time that he is a grandfather, very naturally he feels somewhat older.

Well we send you both our congratulations on the event. Take good care of both during this terrible cold weather we hear of in that country.

I should judge that you had a pretty hard time when that baby was coming along, it is lucky that they don't come along every day.

Our folks arrived here on Tuesday the 13th having had a very pleasant trip. One of their trunks got lost on the way, but came to hand to day all right. Daniel stood the trip.

as well as any of them, and feels better for the journey.

They see a good many new and strange things to them, but I think rather like the country, and especially the climate, which is warm and pleasant, no fires required in the house day or night.

We rode out to one of the Chinese vegetable gardens yesterday and they picked a mess of strawberries for us.

I haven't got through with my busy time yet, but hope to in a month or two - it seems impossible to close up business as I anticipated, and I don't know when I can. I am tired and need rest and leisure, but circumstances seem to have conspired against me and I have been forced to take hold of enterprises, to help them, through, that were of such great importance to San Diego, that I could not refuse.

I think you still have some debts to pay and the little stranger will cause considerable extra expense, so I send you a draft for \$500⁰⁰ to help in both matters.

yours truly
E. W. Morse
your affectionate father.



Edward W. Morse
Merrimac
Mass.

as this is a matter which
concerns only you and I
I think I would say nothing
about it and then your
neighbors won't talk so
much

* Office of *

E. W. Morse,

Room 26, Pierce-Morse Block.

P. O. BOX 14.

San Diego, Cal., May 15 1884

Dear Edward

I have long contemplated giving you the farm, but have delayed making the deed, thinking I would do it while I was making you the visit we have been hoping to make, so long. But as that visit is still somewhat uncertain for this year though by no means given up yet, I have concluded to send you the deed. You must



send it to the Register of
Deeds Salem, Mass. to be
recorded.

I heard your wife was
quite unwell, I hope she has
recovered before now.

Phillip and Maria and
Daniel Weed and wife paid
us quite a visit. They returned
home by the way of San Francisco
and I suppose will have
arrived home before this
letter reaches you. They
can tell you all about
San Diego. I was very
busy while they were here
and could not give all my
time to them but tried to
make it pleasant for them
in showing them about the
country - over the line into
Mexico &c. They took one
meal in a foreign country
but said they did not see that the
viands tasted any different.

Your affectionate father
E. W. Morse

OFFICE OF

◀ E. * W. * MORSE, ▶

Room 26, Pierce-Morse Block.

P. O. Box 14.

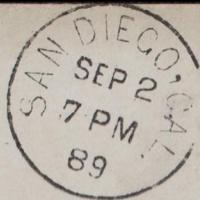
San Diego, Cal.

Aug 27th 1888

In Care of W. Morse
Merimee Mass.

Merimee John Gintys
*5699 on Merrick at Bank
Boston Mass, covering One hun-
dred and Twenty five dollars
Yours truly
E. W. Morse

Stewart
Mr. Morse left for the Country yes-
terday to be gone a few days
Stewart



Mr Edward W. Morse

Merrimac

Mass.



MERRIMACK
SEP 9
1889
MASS.

Edward
Sept 2^d 1888
+ Apr

Merrimac Sep 2nd 1888

Dear Father;

I am ashamed to write you after so long a time and so have taken only a half sheet. The 29th of Apr. I began you a letter and will enclose it. Nettie is far from well now but is able to drive out and can stand a long ride she takes most of the care of the baby but I think it is too much for her but she thinks we can not afford two girls. We have had an awfully hard time in getting help both indoors and out. I have had only Uncle Charles and he has had chores of his own to do so it has been hard

for both of us and I have not had time to work the form as I ought for I had to stay in the house all the spring what time I could spare from the milk rout and Charles (uncle) went on that often. I lost a lot of sleep in the Spring and it is not made up yet if I sit down and remain quiet especially ride alone I ~~go~~ right off to sleep. I suppose by this time you are wondering what about Mr Charles Ephraim Morse he is smart or you would think so if you was to hear him now, he is a good baby so we think he sleeps all night sometimes and hardly ever wakes but once. The deed for which I am truly thankful I sent to

Memphis Apr 29th

Dear Father:

I received your letter containing the check all right and as it is the anniversary of our marriage today I thought I would write you a few lines. Kattie has had a very hard time one thing after another as draw backs until now she is just able to sit up a little while, with spread round her and has not walked any as yet. Her Aunt nursed her the first four weeks and she is first class nurse although she is sixty four years old but her folks were taken.

sick and she had to go
home. The nurse we than got
is an "Old Maid" Nettie does not
take kindly to her nor I either
she is so fearfully set you
can not tell her any thing about
Lieber I think perhaps she

Sept 2nd have recorded but they
said it needed your seal so I
will return it to you. It some
how got wet and does not look
as well as when I received it.

I was sorry you did ^{not} come on
this summer but I had a lot of work
to do before ^{you} come. I think it
will be so I can answer the
next one you send and so
please write soon.

Nettie
sends love Please remember me
to Mother
Trours Your
Aff. Son Edward

Merrimac Sep 9th 1888

Dear Father:

I learned yesterday that I had a new correspondent in San Diego Stewart by name. I was very glad to receive that letter as I had spent all my cash, I bought a new mower and a new tedder this year for which I paid one hundred dollars. That you may not think me extravagant I will tell you what I have used in haying. The first three years I had Uncle Leonard's mower. In 1880 I think for \$16.50 I bought a two horse mower that I have used for seven years with very little repairs

The rate of taxation this year with us is 18.00 per thousand and should think the way they put out the money it would have to be twenty five next year. I should like the milk business first rate if it was not so much trouble. A day or two ago I called on three men that were owing me almost a hundred dollars and I could not get a cent. Uncle Philip wishes he could go out and see his land again this year. I do not have any longing to stay in San Diego but I think I should like to see the country and the place where I first saw the light. If it was not for the baby, and Nethe being sick perhaps you might see us out there.

I have got post looking for you this year but shall hope to see you early next summer. We are having a good crop of apples this year. As I am going over to the village now to see if the baby and a new horse or sheep that I got for Nethe to ride with are afraid of the band a Brass band I mean I will close with love to all. I am as ever
Your Aff Son
Edward

P.S. I gave this to Nethe to read and she says she shall resent the idea of my getting a sheep for her to drive
Edward

Edward
Sept 9/84

Merrimac Dec. 1888.

Dear Father:

I have received the letter containing the contents of your gift the second time for which I am ~~truly~~ truly thankful. We have had a large quantity of stormy weather this Fall but not very cold except a few early frosts that destroyed a great quantity of garden products. We are having a snow storm today but I do not think it will amount to much it is so warm. As I am writing I can look out the sitting room window upon as pretty a winter scene as I ever saw. Give me New England with all its

Northern blasts. I was not at the first part of the town meeting last Spring and so I did not know that the taxes had got to be paid the first of Dec. or be sold out. I supposed by paying Int. after Dec. 1st it could run on as it had years before. I knew a new Col. was elected but I understood he was to collect back taxes for he is one that likes to show his power in petty cases. I did not know of my mistake untill Dec 1st when I came across a notice that all taxes must be paid that day. The worst part of it was I did not have five dollars and I had a note coming due the 4th / 7th that would require all I could get in on the milk bills. I went to the bank to see if I could get some money on

a note I found I could if I could find an endorser. After trying several I went down to see if Mr D. O. Weed would do it but he would not, they did not seem to have much faith in me but very kindly informed me you ought to give me several thousand. I knew D M Froehsburg who has been a good friend to me would do it but I thought the folks at the bank would not like to take his name as he is heavily mortgaged. As a last resort I went to him and he said he would put on his name, with ^{my} Sunts and so I got the money it was only an hundred enough to pay my tax. You say some milkmen sell by tickets they do in the cities near here and I wish they would in this place I have spoken of it a year ago or

more but Elbridge eggs it can't be
done here. I do not know why for
some of my customers have asked
me why ~~we~~ we did not; they say
they like it better those that have
tried it in other places. I think
by the looks of Charles E Morse
he wishes his Grandpa "A Mercy
Christmas" Nettie and I do at any
rate.

With love I am as ever
Your Affct. Son
E W Morse.

for \$1000
Darius reference to Enslin

Leaving money
about Darius
Darius

Dec 1884
Edmund

OFFICE OF

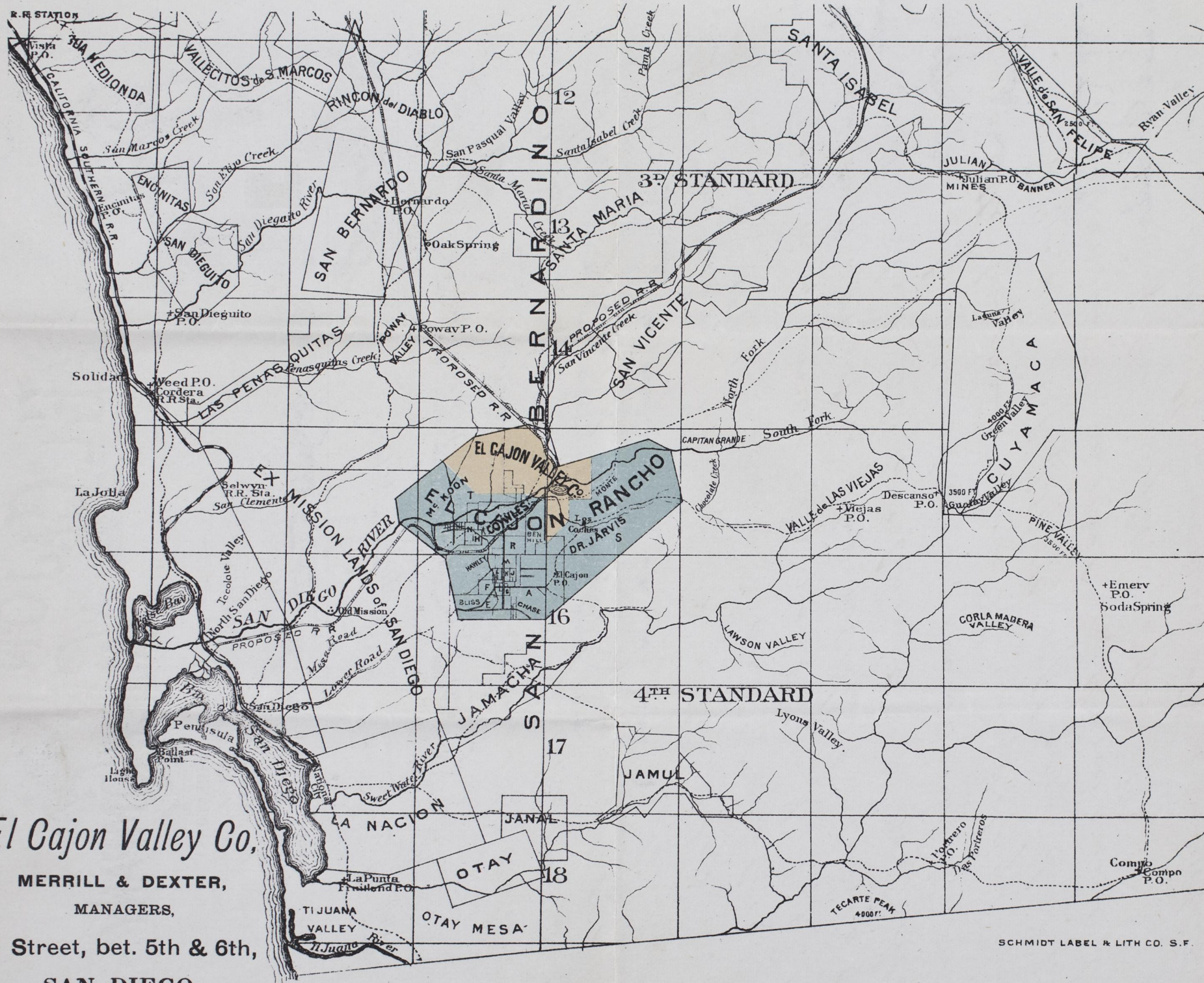


San Diego, Cal. Dec 20th 1888

Dear Edward

Yours of Dec (blank) came duly to hand. Reports from all parts of New England confirm your statement of very stormy weather. I have been so long away from the regions of storms, that I can hardly realize what a storm is in reality. but I do realize what a wonderful climate is this San Diego climate - no cold, no heat, no storms, no wind beyond a gentle breeze, more than 300 days in every year delightfully soft and balmy from sunrise to sunset, with no wind at all during the night. - whee!!!

I am now sitting in my office writing this with windows up and doors open, neither too warm nor too cold but just right.



El Cajon Valley Co.

MERRILL & DEXTER,
MANAGERS,

E Street, bet. 5th & 6th,
SAN DIEGO.

OFFICE OF

EL CAJON VALLEY COMPANY



SCHMIDT LABEL & LITH. CO. S.F.

(DIRECTORS)
E. W. MORSE, President.
GEO. H. MANSFIELD, Vice President.
PHILIP MORSE, Treasurer.
JOS. D. DEXTER, Superintendent.
I. M. MERRILL, Secretary.

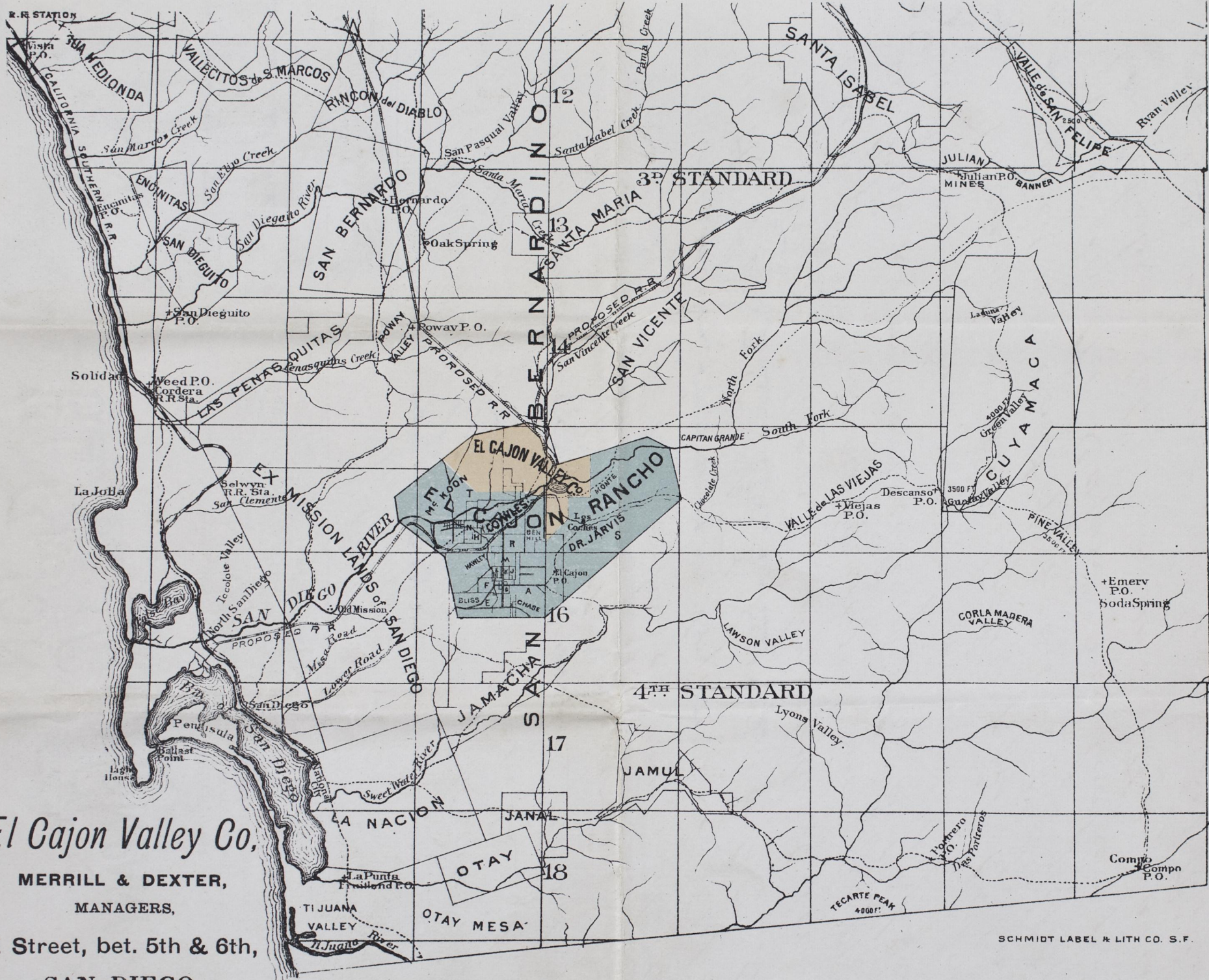
San Diego, Cal.

188

I admit that your winter scene is very beautiful, as you describe it, but with me "distance lends enchantment to the view" —

we can see from here some distant mountains whose tops are white with snow, but fortunately they are more than a hundred miles away. Sometimes snow falls within 25 or 30 miles of the city, but not more than once in several years.

The country is now looking finely, having renewed its coat of green — the fields of grain on the "Cajon" are looking most beautiful, on some the grain is already up 3 or 4 inches. Let this country have plenty of water and the verdure would be perpetual.



El Cajon Valley Co.

MERRILL & DEXTER,
MANAGERS,

E Street, bet. 5th & 6th,
SAN DIEGO.

Edward

April 28/89

Merrimac Apr 28th 1889

Dear Father

I have not forgotten that it is I who owe you a letter but I did not hardly dare write, I hope you will not think I did wrong in putting a mort gage on the farm. You have sent me a lot of money but somehow it melts away very quick when you have to pay one hundred and twenty five dollars for a Manure spreader and fifty five dollars for a mowing-machine. I needed some money very much in fact had to have it and did not like to dispose of my cattle at a time when they

would not bring much and so
I put a mortgage on the farm be-
cause I could not on personal prop-
erty but not enough to exceed the
value of the personal property so
unless something unforeseen
happens there is no great danger
to the farm. Today is my birth-
day anniversary. Tomorrow we
shall have been married two
years. We intended to be married
on my birthday but it rained and
Kette was not very well and so we
waited until the next day. We were
married in a storm but we have
not lived in a storm ever
since in fact it has been fair
all the time but we could have
had more enjoyment perhaps
if Kette had not been sick
so much the past year.
I lost a cow worth fifty dollars

she had a calf tied in the barn
with the rest of the cows and
when she went to get up her legs
slipped out ~~sidewise~~ sidewise about
a fortnight after she got hurt she
got up but in lying down her
legs slipped out the same
way and she never got up
again. About the same time
I lost a horse the direct cause
being rum I purchased some
salt hay of Geo Sargent and
he was to haul one load of it
Walter his oldest son went down
and got so drunk he did not
shake up over half what he ought
to and so I had to go the next
day and I had poor luck from
the time I started until I got the
load home and to end with in
going into the barn the old
horse slipped down and must

broken something inside him
for he lived only about an hour
he was old and did not die in
debt to me but would have amount
ed to have worked this year,
I suppose you see now I have
a good reason for being tem-
perence. Charlie has just
found the art of creeping
until within a day or two he
has when he wanted to get any
thing out of his reach roll
over and over. You did
not say in your last letter
if you were coming home
this summer you see I call
this your home yet. but
Alden said you were I hope
it is so. We all send love
come soon

Your Aff. Son
Edward

Merri was Aug 24th/87.

Dear Father,

I received a letter from you a long time ago that should have been answered but I have not found time that may seem strange but it is so. Nettie has not been very strong since the baby was born and Charlie has wanted a deal of attention he has not been what you would call a cross baby for they say a baby is a good baby when he will be good with tending. As I said Nettie was not strong and so when I have been in the house

I have taken Charlie so that she might have a moment's rest. We have had help most of the time but Charlie says it must be his mother that held him so Nettie has had ^{time} night and day to tend. Last Spring I gave up a part of my milk route down to the Port there were quite a number that took only a half pint and they were all so slow in pay that I gave that part up. This summer a man started in to peddle milk at three cents per qt. and that took some more of my customers so my route is quite small if Nettie had been well I think I could have made as much making butter for it would not take so much of my

time to market it. We have had a very poor season in which to get hay and many have not got through yet myself included. There was a big crop of grass but not much sun to cure it once or twice it stormed a week at a time and there have been hardly three days in succession of good hay weather. A large quantity of hay was put in when a storm was coming and I think there will be a great deal of poor hay this winter. You may have seen an account of the "Hail storm" we had all through Mass. We did not get it in Merrimac although it hailed hard in Amesbury and on all sides of us.

they are making
a fuss about
your bed
Edward

Edward

Aug 24/89

Keys of Books

A few days later we had
a light hail storm but it
did not do much damage
I was at Amesbury that
day and there it did not
hail at all. I rather
expected to see you this
year I hope I shall not be
disappointed another year.

We all send love

Your Affec. Son
Edward

P.S. You said some time ago you in-
tended to have left me the key to the
secretary. Uncle Charles said if you
could send it he would pay for it
for he would like to know if there
are any papers there that would help
tell the bounds of his land that

Edmund

Sept 13/89

4300.

Merrimac Sept 13, 1889

Dear Father:

About a week ago I received a letter from you and I have been trying ever since to answer it. You got the idea from my writing I should think that Charlie is a sickly baby. We think he is a very well boy, only being sick while teething or something of the sort. When he was born we tried to keep him from crying it troubled Nettie so much for I should have said when he was a new baby and he never got ~~off~~ over the idea that he was not first in war first in

peace and first in the
hearts of his countrymen.

Kette gains in strength I
think but not as fast I
could wish. Charlie is
very fond of being out of
doors and as it made it
great deal easier for his
mother to take care of him
we have rode out a good deal
so much so that people have
found fault "for people will
talk you know" I went ^{part}
ly on my own account for I
have not felt quite as strong
since last year for some
nights I did not get over
three hours sleep when

Kette was first taken sick
or I might say for the
first three months. The
man I had last Winter

wanted two dollars per
month more than I could
give him so I had to fall
back on Uncle Charles and
as he had his chores to do
after helping me milk it
would be quite late when he
got back again and so
perhaps the farm work has
suffered a little but I think
if by raising a crop of weeds
health can be gained it had
better be done. I had almost
forgotten your question in
your last letter. I got the
check for three hundred dollars
all right but was so long in
answering it that I forgot about
it. I do not want you to think
it was not just as acceptable and
as much needed as though I
acknowledged it the next day

for as I told you in my
last letter every time I came
in the house I took the
baby so that Mamma could
rest I scribbled quite a
letter while keeping the flu
es from troubling Charlie
while asleep

We both or all I
should say send love

From your Aff. Son

Edward

Merrimac Nov 10th 89

Dear Father:

I received your letter containing the key all right but I could not find any thing that would be of use to Uncle Charles. I found plans of land but none of that price. you asked me if I was making sides I have not made any since the first year I came over here.

Uncle Leonard charged so much for the power that I could not afford to do it. After he died the power was taken away and it took so much of my time on the milk route that I could not do any thing with the sides.

as I should have had to make it with the horse. The ^{great} reason why I did not make cider is because I do not want to make for those that sell or drink to excess and if I make for one I should have to for all. Dec 1st

When I began this letter I expected you would have read it before this but I have been waiting for Charlie's present to be made ready. He sends you a brand new present a cabinet of himself. Mr. J. A. Lancaster was over here a week ago and brought a spoon from you for which we are very thankful. Mr. Lancaster was much pleased with San Diego and the people in general and you in particular.

Thanks Giving Aunt's Laura and Maria with four of Uncle Otis children that live with them were with us.

I think I never knew it to rain so hard for so long a time as it did Thanks Giving. It snowed quite a little the day before and than almost cleared. In the evening it began to snow again and than turned to rain and it did rain all night and the next forenoon so that the roads had ditches some a foot deep and the meadows and hollows were one sheet of water. In the afternoon it cleared but it took two or three days to run off the surplus water. Please excuse this writing for Charlie

has just commenced walking
and he runs up at an un-
expected moment and pulls
my arm to see what I am
doing. I am using the Sep
number of the Golden Era
as a desk and my hand as
a support. The cuts in these
books we think are fine and
we think we would like to
see the buildings themselves

We all send love
From Your Aff Son

Edward

Edmund
Nov-10 & Dec 1st
1879

Merrimac Jan 10th 1890.

Dear Father

About a month ago Charlie sent you a Christmas present, of himself. I have not heard from you since and we are longing to know if you received ^{it} all right.

We have had a peculiar Winter so far. Some time in Dec the thermometer fell down to 12° above Zero but most of the time it has ranged round ~~to~~ the freezing point some of the time it has reached as high as sixty. We have had much foggy damp and warm weather

and it has been very sultry in this vicinity. Four weeks ago we had a snow storm and about six inches fell and some got out their sleighs. I went delivering milk in a punga three mornings.

This morning the thermometer stood a eight above Zero and it was snowing quite fast it has snowed all day but is dry and very much like frost. At noon the Mercury had gone up two degrees but now at four o'clock it has got back to eight and will probably be down to Zero in the morning. We call it Winter weather especially after having it so mild through Dec. 7 P. M. It is snowing a little now but not making much on the ground. At five o'clock the thermometer regis-

tered six above Zero, and now at half past seven it is no colder. I should not wonder if it moderated and snowed some more before morning. Hoping this letter will find you well and preparing to come East early in the Spring. I remain as ever

Your Affectionate Son
Edward

Edward
Jan 10/90

+ answer }
inside }

pressure of the past two years.

Two years ago these lots were worth \$150,000. and I have no doubt will in another year again be worth as much but I was tired of waiting and working like a slave to get money enough together to pay taxes, street assessments, interest &c so I have taken the first opportunity to try to get into easy circumstances.

The building operations I went into and some manufacturing enterprises and others, for the purpose of helping the town, ran me heavily in debt, which was totally unexpected for in 1887 I was selling lands so rapidly that I could not possibly think I could be straightened for money, but

E. W. MORSE,

Room 26, Pierce-Morse Block.

P. O. Box 14.

San Diego, Cal. 1888

my agents did not sell as rapidly as they might have done and at the close of the year in 1887 all sales of land suddenly ceased, absolutely ceased, while taxes, street assessments, stock assessments, and bills for building materials, had to be met. Altogether, it was a rough experience and coming just at a time when I felt so secure of an income, made it worse.

On the latter part of 1887 I was receiving an income ^{at the rate} of over \$20,000 a year, but it suddenly fell off so that during the past two years,

I have not received enough to pay expenses and interest.

It was only a question of endurance however, for the country is all right and growing rapidly all the time.

Our climate is drawing people here every day, for it is certainly the finest in the United States if not in the world. We have had Tomatoes & Bananas growing in our garden all winter with roses & lilies in bloom.

Northern California has had a great deal of rain and snow but the line of Northern California is as far from San Diego as South Carolina is from New York for this is a big state and has a great variety of climates.

Your father E.W. Morse

Jan 31st 90

Dear Edmund

Charles's present came to hand all right and we were pleased to have the picture of such a bright little fellow. To look at until we can see the original, which we still hope may be sometime during this year.

I have made a contract for the sale of six lots in the city, amounting to ninety thousand dollars, to be paid within six months which if carried out according to contract will release me very materially from the great financial

my agents did not sell as rapidly as they might have done and at the close of the year in 1887 all sales of land suddenly ceased, absolutely ceased, while taxes street assessments, stock assessments, and bills for building materials had to be met. Altogether, it was a rough experience and coming just at a time when I felt so secure of an income, made it worse.

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Your father E.W. Morse

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Return to

E. W. Morse, Box 14c

SAN DIEGO, San Diego Co., Calif.,

If not delivered within 10 days.



Edward W. Morse

Merrimac

Mass.



Merrimac Mar 10th 1890

Dear Father:

I received a letter from you a short time ago which made me real glad for in it you said you expected to come East this summer. I was glad to learn you had made a what I should call a large disposal of real estate or perhaps I should say a large return for a small amount. I received a paper from you a few days ago giving an account of the milk business by the ticket system. I have wished for sometime to dispose of my milk by ticket but the other milkmen say it cannot be done in this town and so I suppose I shall have to loose my profit a while longer in poor bills. A few days ago I mailed you a book containing a business directory of the ~~town~~. We have had a peculiar Winter for this part of the country. The first snow that made sleighing only lasted three days. At intervals of two or three weeks we had sleigh

ing that lasted from two to three days and then
we had snow so that I went with a spring eight
days. Some of the time between the spurts of sleigh
ing the mud has been half way to the hub. Yester
day finished a spell of eight days sleighing and to
day it is all mud. The day before the last snow
came it was very muddy and so when it began to
thaw it left very fast indeed. I hope you will
come on early and stay a long time. We all
send our best wishes for a safe trip. Hoping
this will find you well and almost ready to start
for the East I remain as ever

Your Affec. Son

Edward
March 10/
1901

Apr 4. 1890

Apr 4th 1890 Merriam

Dear Father:

I received your letter Sat. the 29th and was sorry to learn that it might be you would not come East this year. Tuesday I got a book containing a sketch of the life of some of the men of San Diego. I do not think they put in a very good picture of you. I should not have known it had I not read your name at the bottom. Charlie did not know it. I showed him some of the others and he would say 'man' and when I came to yours he said 'man just the same, but he knows your picture in the Golden Era or in the Album every time and will say 'Gramp Morse' as soon as he puts his eyes on it. Uncle P. J. Neal had the La Grippe about four weeks ago. Alice says he calls himself well but when work is spoken of he does not feel

just like hard work. Apr 7th Mr D M
Tewksbury has been sick for about six weeks ever
since he got in his ice I do not know if he
has ~~any~~ grippe or what his trouble is I have
been thinking of calling on him and shall do so
soon he has been a good friend to me. I see
by the last book you sent me that it is
understood that the old house is still standing
I think perhaps I ought to correct that to you
at least. After Sarah Rowell died the "Old
house" was used as a sort of store house and
from that time it went down rapidly even before
Uncle Leonard died some parts of it were unsafe
The children used to run in there and so we pull
ed down part of it and the rest must come
down before Charlie gets to running about
out doors which I expect will be as soon
as it is warm enough.

Nettie Charlie
and myself send love Hoping to see the
place of my birth sometime I remain as ever

Your Affec^t Son

Edward

Merrimac Apr 27th 1890.

Dear Father

I received your letter Friday the 25th containing the check for two hundred and fifty dollars all right I do not know how to tell you how thankful I am for it. Doctors bills and hired help have made me very short indeed for funds this Winter and I do not know what I should have done without it.

Mr. Imekburg is very much better than when I wrote you before, it was a second attack ~~that~~ of the grippe that he was sick with. May 8th

Dear Mother, I received the chain you sent all right and we are very grateful, Charlie is very much pleased with it. We think it very pretty indeed. I am so very busy that I can not write more now and so will bid you good bye

Your Respectful Son

E W Morse

Edward

Apr 27/90

\$250.

Merrimac July 13th 1890

Dear Father:

If you were here I think I should know how to talk with you but it is all together a different thing to put it on paper I want to ask a favor of you. I suppose you will be surprised and will want to know what has become of all the money you have sent me. Nettie has been sick and we have had to hire a good deal done. I have raised and perhaps foolishly a great many of the heifer calves I did not have good hay and so gave them meadow hay and so they did not grow as fast as they ought but I have got some very good heifers and they will soon be of some income all the income they have been so far is the dressing they have made and that is put out on the land but

the returns are slow. The sales from my milk are small and as I had more to feed than paid their way I had to run some bills. Nearly two years ago I raised eight hundred dollars on a mortgage. Last year I did not haul out all the dressing and so this Spring I had I should think almost a thousand dollars worth under the barn in the Spring I took out about one half and the rest I shall take out as soon as I finish haying. I have got along with my haying pretty well this year. The farm cuts more hay than it did when I came over here but not as much as it is capable of doing if I can top dress the pieces I worked on first. There are parts of the farm that with little expense would raise ^{four} times as much as they do now. I do not want you to think I am losing the farm for I believe my stock tools &c would more than pay my indebtedness. One hundred ^{with interest} dollars ^{five} for one machine

surely for another forty for another thirty for another besides a lot of lesser ones eat into quite a sum of money. Now the favor I ask is that you will loan me (or give Charlie so I may have the use of it and I will stake my honor that he shall have it back with interest) a sum that will enable me to settle my bills and give me a chance to start another branch of business with the milk route and I can do it and thus save having a forced sale of my personal property. The sum of five hundred will do it besides the mortgage which can remain where it is until I can take it up by small payments. If I once get out of debt I will not get there again if I can help it. Nettie and Charlie are asleep and I feel that I ought to be there for it is half past ten now and at four in the morning I must be up. I wish you was here to hear the young man prattle he says he wants

"
A By-^{er}" and big stake to drive the cows
he means a byle he talks almost every
day about buying one he has seen boy
a dozen years old riding them and one
boy goes after the cows on one and
so Charlie thinks he must have one
to drive the cows with It was his
own idea no one saying any thing to
him about it I think you would
be surprised to hear the requests he
makes Please excuse the look
for I have written it on a book resting
on my lap

Please write soon

Your Aff Son
Edward

July 13. 1890

THE CITY AND COUNTY OF SAN DIEGO.

The past and prospective development of the City and County of San Diego, California, and also the many inquiries concerning the same, have induced the preparation of the following brief mention of some of the more salient points of general interest :

The City of San Diego—

Situated upon the northerly side of the Bay of San Diego, about seven miles from the entrance to the harbor; latitude 32 deg. 49 m.; 480 miles southeast of San Francisco. Population about 5000—now steadily increasing. The site is one of the most picturesque and beautiful in the world. The Bay is about 15 miles long, and contains an area of more than 25 square miles. The land has an easy slope or grade for half a mile, and then rises more rapidly to an elevation of 150 to 200 feet, giving every part of the city a fine view of the Bay, the ocean, Coronada islands, Point Loma, Table mountain, and many other objects of interest and natural beauty. San Diego is 400 miles nearer New York city than San Francisco; also nearer China, Japan, Australia and the South Pacific Islands—a commercial advantage of great value. The city has seven churches, good schools, a public library and reading room, numerous secret orders, and places of amusement; also gas, water, street car and telephone companies. Many costly business blocks and stately residences are in process of erection or just completed, and the city is now improving more rapidly than at any previous time.

The Bay of San Diego—

The only land-locked harbor between San Francisco on the north, and San Quentin on the south—a coast line of 700 miles. Of ample size and depth, easily approached in all weather by either steam or sail—ships once within the Bay are as secure from harm as if lying in the docks on the Mersey. But very few harbors in the world have so many and important advantages.

The County—

San Diego County is situated in the southern extremity of California—the Pacific ocean on the west, and the grand Colorado river on the east. The Coast Range divides the County into two grand divisions. The eastern side has some good land, but is noted chiefly for its valuable mines and minerals. The western side slopes toward the ocean, is interspersed with plains, valleys and table lands, running streams, timber and productive soils. It is well adapted to the diversified pursuits of agriculture, horticulture and grazing. It is this part of the County which is now being rapidly improved. The area of the County is equal to that of Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island combined—being 14,969 square miles. Population of the County in 1880, was 8618; in 1884 it had increased to 13,000. Assessed valuation in 1880, was \$3,525,253; in 1884, \$8,140,000.

The Interior—

Along the California Southern and the Southern Pacific Railroads, and in other parts of the interior of the County, are many thrifty towns and settlements, which cannot here be described or mentioned, but just such localities as many would like for health, profit and a pleasant home.

Farm and Garden Products—

The whole range of farm and garden productions of every kind, raised anywhere in the United States, are successfully and profitably grown here, as well as a long list of tropical and semi-tropical fruits—such as figs, lemons, limes, oranges, olives, bananas, and many others—all unsurpassed in either size, quantity or quality.

Minerals—

Gold, silver, iron, copper, tin, lead, etc., abound. Some of the best paying gold and silver mines in the State are situated in this and the adjoining County of San Bernardino.

Exports—

The principal exports are of wool, wheat, honey, oil, fish, fruit, salt, hides and shells; also many other articles in varying quantities.

The Climate—

No place on the continent can show so favorable weather and health records. No heated terms in the summer or cold spells in winter—no malaria. Physical labor is here performed with the least discomfort the year round. Professor Agassiz visited San Diego in August, 1872, and then said: "This is one of the favored spots of the earth, and people will come to you from all quarters to live in your genial and healthful atmosphere." Many have been disappointed and imposed upon by the ingenious and extravagant assertions of interested parties in favor of other places. Therefore we urge you, *if interested*, to examine the Signal Service and other reliable records. You will find that San Diego may rightfully claim the best climate to be found anywhere. Mean temperature—spring 60, summer 67; fall 63, and winter 54 degs.

Health and Pleasure Resort—

Florida, Mt. Desert, and other places are good at some particular season—but San Diego, all the year round, as a summer resort, is the best in the world. All the conditions required to insure the greatest amount of recreation and benefit to the pleasure seeker, or those in declining health, are found in the City and County of San Diego—such as first-class hotels, boarding houses, good roads and drives, hunting, fishing, sailing, sea baths, hot springs, clear skies, and many other features of interest to visitors.

In Conclusion—

If living east of the Rockies, and you contemplate coming to San Diego County to live, we say: The climate, the seasons, the face of the country, modes of farming, and many other things, are more or less different from the Eastern States—differences that might not be equally pleasing to all. Come and see for yourself. But if this is not convenient, for further information write to the Secretary of the Chamber of Commerce, San Diego, California,

E. W. MORSE,
C. P. NOELL,
THOS. WHALEY.

OFFICE OF

MORSE, NOELL & WHALEY,

Real Estate Dealers,

Notaries Public and Insurance Agents.

Warrants Purchased.
Taxes paid for Non-Residents.

Money Loaned, Rents Collected, etc.

Letters of Inquiry
Promptly and cheerfully answered.

San Diego, Cal.

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Edward
Costa
July 22/90
Letters to him
with \$2500

ask and answer it just
as fully as you feel like
doing.

We had hoped to make
a visit East this summer
but I am afraid now, that
we cannot do so - it is
not impossible, but rather
improbable. But if we
don't get there this summer
you may surely expect us
next summer, for even if
matters here continue to improve
no faster than during the last
year we shall expect to be so
comfortably fixed that we can
leave home and be away as long as
we please, without being troubled
by business matters.

I want to see Charley and
his mother also.
We both of us send our love
to you all.

Yours affly
E. W. Morse

4. I will send you \$200
now and \$250 more
in about a month or
six weeks. However, should
you need the \$250 sooner,
to save trouble and the
disgrace of a suit against
you, if you will
telegraph me "Please
send draft" I will
immediately send out
the money, for I can
borrow it through instant
here is very high, and I
don't want to borrow
any more money if I
can possibly help it.

I don't want you to get
into any trouble, I would
rather sacrifice a large
amount than to hear
of your being sued for
it. I would like

to have you write me just how much you owe, and to whom, what interest you are paying & also how much stock you keep, how much milk you sell, number of gallons and for how much, what it costs you per gallon to deliver, how much you make a year out of milk. How much do you pay out a year for hired labor, How many loads of manure do you make a year, How many tons of hay do you cut. Do you use all the hay and all the manure on the farm?

Have you ever estimated how much you make a year out of the milk business.

Have you ever estimated carefully how much it costs you to live, actual expenses

If you had been living on the farm during the past three years, and had had no milk business, but having the money I have sent you could you not have lived more comfortably and easier than you have done. Which means, has the milk business been a profitable one.

Now I would like to have you, as soon as you can after getting this letter, sit down to your

2-

was used up because of sickness. - That which has gone into the farm towards increasing its productive capacity is invested capital, which will yield a good return for the future. But if I had not sent you this money, what would you have done? And it was a very narrow chance that I was able to do so.

I was loaded up (as it is called) with undesirable real estate heavily in debt, because of my buildings costing enormously more than estimated, heavy taxes and enormous assessments for street paving and storm sewers, also stock assessments in several corporations in which I was a large stockholder, so that I had to borrow largely and pay heavy interest, - and all these things coming on so unexpectedly and all at once made terrible hard times for me - I think the hardest time I ever saw - Now all this time I was considered rich, am now, but I was a good deal like the man cast away on a desolate island, a chest of gold the only thing saved from the wreck, but with nothing to eat or drink. I had a large amount of real estate but there was no sale for it, I could not pay my assessments or my interest with real

estate, so I was almost as
badly off with my large
holdings of real estate as if
I had had nothing.

I wanted to help you
out of your trouble but
I could ill spare a dollar,
I knew things would come
round right in time; I had
no fear for the outcome, if
I could hold on for a year
or two, and I did not want
to sacrifice my property for
one fifth of its value.

So I struggled to hold on
and am succeeding very
well, I have made one
big mistake, but I don't
think I will have to make
a other, I think I can "see
through the woods" though it
is quite a long distance
through yet possibly, and I
see no rocks ahead.

-1-

Cham Linn July 22/70
Dear Edward

Your letter of 15th
came to hand yesterday.

Yes, I must say as you
thought, that I was quite
surprised at your being
so much in debt.

I think I have sent you
about \$2700 during the
last 3 years, nearly \$1000
a year. I suppose you
had some of that to pay
previous debts, but I thought
the balance ought to be
enough to hold your own.

Of course sickness is expensive
and must be met, but I do
not suppose all this money

Edward
Aug 27/90

Salisbury Beach Aug 27th

Dear Father

I thought when I received your kind letter I should answer it right a way but perhaps you will excuse it when I say it was impossible. I have had to be nurse and house maid and farm hand and it has kept me at work about eighteen hours out of the twenty four for the last three or four weeks. Charlie and his mother and Aunt Maria Gray and four of Uncle Otto's children are down here.

Aethel felt quite comfortable the first two days down here but yesterday while I was up home she carried Charlie part way of to the beach and he is quite heavy weighing thirty five pounds. We are stopping in D. M. Twenbury barn on the marsh. I am very grateful for the help you gave me and I hope you were not inconvenienced by it.

you asked me if I knew just how much it cost to ~~produce~~ produce a quart of milk. No I do not. I do not sell but about thirty five quarts of milk now. A year ago last Spring I was selling from ~~the~~ sixty to seventy quarts but a part of the route was at the River village and there were a number of half pint customers and so I gave up that part. one man was owing thirty six dollars but I have got off but six of it in the year and half past another owed me six dollars and he owes me over two now another was owing ten and he still owes it I have not asked him for it. his wife was sick and died soon after I left and I thought I would not hurry him. Since, I have found out the town paid the funeral expenses and so I think I am out on that ten he is a drinking man.

Aug 31st We are still at the beach. Nettie felt so much better the first days she was down here that ~~we~~ we hired a house for two weeks.

We went up here Friday and came back yesterday.

When I gave up a part of my route I had about fifty quarts left. but A fellow from Newton

came down and sold for three cents per quart the rest of us had five cents. In the Winter when the other milkmen had six cents he put his price up to five and sold for five this summer when the rest of us dropped to five. In July a drought came on and the milkmen raised their price to six cents earlier than usual but he continued to sell for five. When he commenced to sell he took some of my best customers. I could not sell for three now I could not blame them for getting their milk two cents cheaper. What I want to do in connection with my milk business is to sell sawed wood I bought a machine but did not have much spare money and so tried to fix the horse power myself. I did not succeed but think I have got the idea now. This summer we had hard luck in getting help in the house and so I have been maid and so have not accomplished as much edit doors as I was in hopes to. When I went on

to the farm there was no tools or carts not even an ox yoke that Uncle Leonard did not claim there was I believe a pair of cart wheels with wooden axle that was yours and so you see it took some money for carriages and tools as I told you in my last letter. It does not seem much like Sunday here. A band in front of the house are giving us some fine music and the man "flying horses" is doing a big business also the beer tents. I owe the Bank 800.00 of H. Cleary 125. balance on last year groceries and grain (I have paid cash this year) and E. M. Morse 170. for hay that I fed out last winter also Wm Sawyer about 35. on a horse trade. I hope this letter will find you all right and I do not want you to sacrifice for me for I suppose ~~you~~ I could sell what I have got and could live somehow but I thought I could make a better living if I got out of debt and still kept my present facilities for gaining a livelihood.

From Your loving son
Edward

Merimaac Oct. 12th 1890

Dear Father.

I have been looking for the letter containing the second part of that draft I expected it and plowed accordingly. Perhaps I may have said something in my last letter that changed your mind but I did not intend to. If you were here and I could talk to you I could explain it satisfactorily I think but it is hard for me to put

my ideas on paper under
standings. When I wrote
that five hundred was enough
to pay my bills I did not
recount the tax of nearly one
hundred dollars but did add
the months milk receipts and
so you see as I paid my
tax it did not seem as if
I had done much with the
half you sent me. I do
not know much I have written
as Charlie is troubling me and
I am very sleepy so will
bid you "Good night"

Your Res^d. Son
Edward

Edward

Oct 12/90

Below may be found answers to many of the inquiries made by persons seeking information relating to Southern California.

Climate very even; average temperature for January 57°, and for July 65°. But few days in a year when the thermometer indicates a temperature above 80° or below 40°, and when these points are reached it is only for an hour or two, and often less than that time.

Climate for the *entire year* is in all respects equal to that of Naples, Nice, Mentone or Florida during the most enjoyable month.

Rainfall about ten (10) inches during the rainy season, which usually begins in December and ends in April, as a rule—seldom does rain fall on more than three or four days in a month, and then oftener in the night than in the day time. February, 1884, affords a remarkable exception to this rule.

Wheat and barley usually yield excellent crops, whether cut for grain or hay, if sowed on summer-fallowed land, on which seeding may begin in August, and on new land as soon as rain falls, and continued as long as the land remains thoroughly moist.

Corn is not raised in large quantity. Irish and sweet potatoes are of excellent quality and yield good crops. All garden vegetables fresh every day in the year, and in quality, no country produces better, nor so extensive in variety.

All kinds of berries do exceedingly well. With a little extra trouble ripe *strawberries* and *tomatoes* may be had every month in the year.

The following named fruits are raised in absolute perfection: olive, orange, lemon, lime, citron of commerce, shaddock, etc.

That the *best* oranges raised in the State of California are grown in San Diego county, is proven by the premiums awarded to Kimball Brothers, of National City—representing the county of San Diego—at the great World's Exposition, New Orleans, La., April 4th, 1885, as follows:

A silver medal and \$75.00 for the *best fifteen* varieties oranges, raised in the State of California.

A silver medal and \$50.00 for the *best ten* varieties oranges, raised in the State of California.

A silver medal and \$25.00 for the *best five* varieties oranges raised in the *State of California*.

Also a silver medal and \$50.00 for *best ten* varieties oranges, grown in United States or Foreign country.

A silver medal and \$10.00 for best plate of oranges grown in United States or Foreign Countries.

Also on special varieties of oranges, as follows:

First Premium for large St. Michael, paper rind St. Michael, Maltese Oval (blood), Acapulco, Creole and Osceola.

Also silver medal and \$50.00 for *best general exhibit of citrus fruits*, other than oranges, grown in the *State of California*.

Also first premium on Eureka lemon and first premium on limes.

Also silver medal and \$15.00 for *best collection of five* varieties pears, grown in United States.

\$10.00 for *best plate* pears of any variety, grown in United States.

\$10.00 for *handsomest* plate pears, 12 specimens, grown in United States.

\$10.00 for best plate Japan persimmons, grown in United States.

Also in equal perfection are raised the *almond*, fig, raisin-grape, as well as all other foreign and native varieties, guave, Japanese plum, etc.

Our northern fruits of the following varieties are equal in quality to those raised in any part of the United States: apple, pear, peach, nectarine, plum, prune, quince, Japan persimmon, etc.; these are planted at any time after rain falls—to March or later. San Diego county raisins are equal to any imported.

No irrigation is employed for wheat, barley, potatoes or any kind of vegetables, where only one crop is expected in the year; but where continuous crops are required irrigation must be employed, the water being raised by the aid of windmills from surface wells, ten to fifty and sometimes 100 feet deep; water, except close to the shore of the bay, is of excellent quality and absolutely inexhaustible. An ordinary well will furnish from 5,000 to 25,000 gallons per day, a quantity sufficient to irrigate ten to forty acres in fruit trees.

I would not advise planting fruit trees without first digging a well and putting up windmill and pump. Wells cost \$1.00 per foot to dig, and may be walled up with brick or wood; brick cost \$7.50 to \$10.00 per M; lime, \$2.00; cement, \$3.00 to \$4.50 bbl.; common lumber, \$25.00 M.; clear surfaced, \$35.00; flooring, \$35.00; shingles, \$2.50 to \$3.00; lath, \$4.50 M; wood, \$6.00 to \$9.00 per cord. Windmills, capacity 5,000 to 25,000 gallons of water per day, \$80.00 to \$140.00, all set up and ready to be connected with pump.

By far the largest area is "mesa" or table land, of a reddish or chocolate color, and is a sandy loam from one to three or more feet deep, which, after careful analysis by Prof. E. W. Helgard at the State University of California, was pronounced at least equal to the *best in the State*. As a fruit-producing land it has no superior in any country.

Valleys are usually composed of a sedimentary deposit, and are exceedingly productive, except where there are occasional spots of alkali, and these are very limited in area.

The mesa subsoil is a splendid clayey soil, and contains a large percentage of vegetable matter, and is remarkably retentive of moisture. Beside the two classes of soils, there are many modifications of them adapted to the production of a great variety of fruits.

We, Frank A. and W. C. Kimball, are the oldest firm of real estate dealers in San Diego county, and have property for sale in various sections of the county. A few months since we sold the Rancho Encenitas, (4,431 acres,) to a colony of Germans, comprising some 700 persons, nearly one-half of whom are now on the property. This property is situate 30 miles north of San Diego Bay.

Also have Rancho Janal (4,437 acres) for sale; splendid fruit land; only seven miles east from San Diego Bay. Good location for a colony. Tracts of 5, 10, 20, 40, 80, 160 or 1,000 acres at \$5.00 and upward per acre.

Splendid building sites overlooking bay, ocean, islands, mountains in U. S. and Mexico, in single lots or blocks, price \$25.00 to \$100.00 per lot. Lands by the acre near the Bay, \$50.00 to \$200.00 per acre.

Cottages of 3 to 5 rooms rent for \$5.00 to \$10.00 per month. Groceries a little higher than in the Eastern States; flour, \$4.00 to \$6.00 per bbl.; meat, 6 to 18 cents per pound.

No section of the State offers greater inducements to men with *brain* or muscle, when these are united with good habits and industry.

At the California State Fair, Sacramento, Sept., 1884, there was awarded to Frank A. Kimball, representing San Diego county,

First Premium on best display of semi-tropic fruits; and

First Premium on best budded oranges, on best seedling oranges, on best budded lemons, on best seedling lemons, on best Mexican limes, on best citron of commerce, on best almonds and onions, and Second Premium for raisin-grapes, and for wine grapes, and for apples, and a *Special Premium* of \$50.00 for "meritorious display of products of the soil."

Yours respectfully,

FRANK A. KIMBALL.

FRANK A. KIMBALL.

Yours respectfully,

Premium of \$500 for "meritorious display of products of the soil."
on best given of commerce, on best almonds and walnuts, and Second Premium for raisin-grapes and for wine grapes, and for apples, and a special
First Premium on best budded oranges, on best seedling lemons, on best Mexican limes,
First Premium on best display of semi-tropic fruits; and

At the California State Fair, Sacramento, Sept., 1884, there was awarded to Frank A. Kimball, representing San Diego county,
No section of the State offers greater inducements to men with brains or muscle, when these are united with good habits and industry.

ddl; meat, 6 to 18 cents per pound.

Cottages of 3 to 5 rooms rent for \$2.00 to \$10.00 per month. Groceries a little higher than in the Eastern States; flour, \$4.00 to \$6.00 per
lot. Lands by the acre near the Bay, \$20.00 to \$200.00 per acre.

Splendid building sites overlooking bay, ocean, islands, mountains in U. S. and Mexico, in single lots or blocks, price \$25.00 to \$100.00 per
Tracts of 5, 10, 20, 40, 80, 100 or 1,000 acres at \$2.00 and upward per acre.

Also have Rancho [anal] (4437 acres) for sale; splendid fruit land; only seven miles east from San Diego Bay. Good location for a colony,
nearly one-half of whom are now on the property. This property is situated 30 miles north of San Diego Bay.

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As a fruit-producing land it has no superior in any country.

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By far the largest area is "mesa," or table land, of a reddish or chocolate color, and is a sandy loam from one to three or more feet deep.

5,000 to 25,000 gallons of water per day, \$80.00 to \$140.00, all set up and ready to be connected with pump.

\$25.00 M.; clear surface, \$32.00; flooring, \$32.00; shingles, \$2.50 to \$3.00; lath, \$4.50 M.; wood, \$6.00 to \$9.00 per cord. Windmills, capacity

I would not advise planting fruit trees without first digging a well and putting up windmill and pump. Wells cost \$1.00 per foot to dig,
and may be walled up with brick or wood; brick cost \$7.50 to \$10.00 per M.; lime, \$2.00; cement, \$3.00 to \$4.50 bbl.; common lumber,

fruit trees are raised the wayward, fig, raisin-grape, as well as all other foreign and native varieties, guavae, Japanese plum,
\$10.00 for best plate Japan persimmons, grown in United States.

\$10.00 for Washington plate pears, 12 specimens, grown in United States.

\$10.00 for best plate pears of any variety, grown in United States.

Also silver medal and \$15.00 for best collection of five varieties pears, grown in United States.

Also first premium on Burks lemon and first premium on limes.

Also silver medal and \$50.00 for best general exhibit of citrus fruits, other than oranges, grown in the State of California.

First Premium for large St. Michael, paper rind St. Michael, Maltese Oval (blood), Acahuac, Creole and Osceola.

Also on special varieties of oranges, as follows:

A silver medal and \$10.00 for best plate of oranges grown in United States or Foreign Countries.

Also a silver medal and \$50.00 for best five varieties oranges, grown in United States or Foreign country.

A silver medal and \$25.00 for the best five varieties oranges raised in the State of California.

A silver medal and \$25.00 for the best fifteen varieties oranges, raised in the State of California.

Brothers, of National City—representing the county of San Diego—at the great World's Exposition, New Orleans, La., April 1st, 1884, as follows:

That the new oranges raised in the State of California are grown in San Diego county, is proven by the premiums awarded to Kimball
The following named fruits are raised in absolute perfection: olive, orange, lemon, lime, citron of commerce, shaddock, etc.

All kinds of berries do exceedingly well. With a little extra trouble ripe strawberries and tomatoes may be had every month in the year.
every day in the year, and in quality, no country produces better, nor so extensive in variety.

Corn is not raised in large quantity. Irish and sweet potatoes are of excellent quality and yield good crops. All garden vegetables fresh
begin in August, and on new land as soon as rain falls, and continued as long as the land remains thoroughly moist.

Wheat and barley usually yield excellent crops, whether cut for grain or hay, if sowed on summer-fallowed land, on which seeding may
to this rule.

Rainfall about ten (10) inches during the rainy season, which usually begins in November and ends in April, as a rule—seldom does rain fall
on more than three or four days in a month, and not often in the night, or in the early time. February, 1884, affords a remarkable exception

National Avenue and Ninth St.

National City, Cal.

1884

Edward
C. Kimball
San Diego

Below may be found answers to many of the inquiries made by persons seeking information relating to Southern California.
Climate very even; average temperature for January 57°, and for July 95°. A few days in a year when the thermometer indicates a
temperature above 80° or below 40°, and when these points are reached it is only for an hour or two, and often less than that time.
Climate for the whole year is in all respects equal to that of Naples, Nice, Mentone or Florida during the most enjoyable month.
Rancho about ten (10) inches during the rainy season, which usually begins in November and ends in April, as a rule—seldom does rain fall

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San Diego Oct 24/90
Dear Edward

We were up north when your first letter came and I found it here on my return your second letter is also received.

I should have written sooner but I wanted to send you a little money when I wrote, and was waiting to collect some or to make a loan if I failed to collect. I have been unable so far to do either, that is, a party.

Come sooner or later according to circumstances which I can not control.

When you write again I wish you would say more about the farm and also about the neighbors. How much hay did you ~~cut~~ and what other crops did you raise? How much stock do you keep and what kind &c.

What does J.M. Tubbsbury do who carries on the farm or so also of E.M. Morse, Geo. August ~~is~~ ^{John Daniel} Weed and what is Phillip Neal doing. And how are your aunts Laura and Marie. Give my love to little Charley and his mother.

Your affectionate father E.W. Morse

you have had a pretty
hard time of it, but I
think the clouds have
a silver lining, and if
we wait patiently, we
shall see pleasant times.

The Persian proverb says
"all things come to those
who wait" and surely
in our case we can do
nothing better than wait,
I can do nothing else,
I must wait, but I
have abundant faith
that prosperity is in the
near future.

I will send you some
money as I can spare it
until you get out of debt, but
it may come slow, but if
so, you must not get
discouraged, for it will

who owes me failed to pay
me, and a party who
had promised to loan
me upon a mortgage, a
large sum of money, failed
to keep his promise, so
that I have been very
short, and am so yet.

But I shall probably
make a loan within a
few weeks, when I will
send you something.

I hope the sea
air at the Beach was a
benefit to you, as
change of climate is often
and I think usually
very much better than
medicine.

From what you
write me I can see that

Edward
Dec 5/90

ansd Dec 13/90
see inside

Merrimac Dec 5th /90.

Dear Father:

When I received your letter I thought I would have answered it before this but I did not seem to find time and I thought perhaps you might write again soon and could answer both at the same time. As I said in my last letter I do not want to have you sacrifice your property for me for I suppose I could sell now and come out with a

whole life so to speak but
I thought if you could help me
with out sacrificing to much
I could sell in the Spring
to better advantage. You
asked me what my stock consist
ed of. I have three horses.
I have eight cows that have giv
en milk and a foal a doz
en heifers an calves quite a
number of the heifers will
be ~~used~~ reckoned as cows
next year. Charlie just
came to his mother and said
his back was broke if that
is the case. I suppose he
will be a cripple for life
Daniel Weed has been confined
to his room for some time
but the last I heard

he was getting more comforta
ble. I have not been to the
Port lately and so can not
say much about Uncle Philips
folks. David Trenchbury
loses the operations on his
farm but does not work
as much himself as he
used to before he was
sick last Winter with the
'Grippe'. Please write as
soon as you get this so I
may know what to do if
you can send me a little
without crippling you it will
be acceptable and will bridge
me over. I had two men
this last summer and I
think I did not reckon
that in when I spoke

ment, I do not see any reason why this form can not give me a living and if I was square with the world I should like to try again if I own Hell I can not keep a money in my pocket and so can not buy grain to advantage!

Your Aff Son
Edward

of what I was owing I owe about five hundred dollars for every thing pasture and I have hired help &c. ~~for~~ a last year Charles Gray hired a pasture and as he was working for me I told the party that I would be responsible for it he soon left working for me and as he failed to pay for the pasture I have got it to do. My milk route now does ^{not} give me quite enough cash to run the establish

On July 23rd he writes

I now sell about 35 gts
a year ago 60 to 70 "

Owes the Bank

800.

J. H. Cherry

125.

E. M. Mann

170.

W. Sanger

35.

Owes for two men & taxes not recorded in
his first statement

- { He has
3 horses
4 milk cows
12 hickies & calves

On Dec 5th 1870 he writes I owe about \$500 for
everything, help, pasture that I find re
sponsible for Charles Gray re for pastureage

I think he means \$500 in adⁿ to the \$400.

Milk route does not give quite enough cash
to run the establishment.

He says he can't see why the farm can not
give him a living and if he was once square
with the world would like to try again.

From about say 1/26
to Aug 31, 1888

May 28, 1889

Apr 19 1890

July 22, 1890 "

May 12, 1891

June 27, 1891

July 28 " "

Sept 19 " "

24.00.

307.

250.00

250.00

120.00

96.00

134.00

166.00 \$3715.00

Edmund's case
to be kept with
letters & etc
{ copy on diary
at office

Mem^s of his stock
with route or
1881

Dec 13th 1890

Dear Edward
your letter
of Dec 5th is at hand this
morning. I am afraid
you dont exactly understand
the situation here yet.

I am willing and anxious
to sell property even at a
big sacrifice, in order to
get money, but the trouble
is there have been no buyers
for the past 3 years.

During the last 2 or 3 weeks there
have been a good many strangers
in town, and the real estate
men say there have been a
good many inquiries about lands
and a few sales, and they think
a good many sales will be

made during the next
few months. I also expect
some parties who are owing
me a large amount of money
will be able to pay me
something soon, so I certainly
think I can send you some
money before very long.

I dont see what use
would gain by selling off
your property - ~~if you~~
you make a living with
it?

I expect to leave you
considerable property when
I die, but if by sacrificing
some of it now, I can send
you some money I shall
certainly do so if I can find
a purchaser.

Hold on awhile longer,
there are better times ahead.
I dont want you to sell off
any of your property at a sacrifice,
for I dont think there will be any need
of it. I dont understand what

[Vertical handwritten notes on the right margin:]
I dont see what use
would gain by selling off
your property - if you
you make a living with
it?
I expect to leave you
considerable property when
I die, but if by sacrificing
some of it now, I can send
you some money I shall
certainly do so if I can find
a purchaser.
Hold on awhile longer,
there are better times ahead.
I dont want you to sell off
any of your property at a sacrifice,
for I dont think there will be any need
of it. I dont understand what

you mean about Charlie
saying his back was
broke.

you did not tell
me, how your wife
was this winter, hope
she is better than she

[Faded handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mostly illegible due to fading and overlapping.]

[Faded handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page. The text is mostly illegible due to fading and overlapping.]

Merrimac Dec 22nd 1890.

Dear Father:

I thought I would be prompt this time in answering your letter the man that works for me brought it this morning only an hour ago. I forgot when I told you that Charlie said his back was broken that you did not know he was an echo or a great mimic he probably had heard some one say it and so he got up off of the floor and come to me saying his back was broke. Nettie is a great deal better than she was in the summer she does a considerable amount of work now last summer ^{a part of the time} she did not even wash the dishes and as we had no girl you see I was kept pretty well occupied in the house doing the work she telling me how. You advised me not to sell when I could not realize the full value of my property that is what I would like to do if I knew

how it could be brought about. I still owe J. H. Cleary nearly one hundred dollars and he keeps asking me for it he is pretty hard pushed. If he succeeds in making a failure of it I shall have to pay it at once. If that should be the case I do not see any way but for me to sell all I have for I do not see what I could sell now and still continue the business. In a month or so if every thing goes well I shall have a cow or two I could spare I owe to M. Morse one hundred and seventy dollars for the hay I bought of him last year and twenty dollars for pasture he asked me a while ago to pay him some and as I had not got any he wanted to know if I would give him a note, what he wants is to get me under his thumb and then have a claim here. I turned my cattle out on his "fall feed" for which I am to pay fifty dollars on the installment plan. I suppose I ought not to have had anything to do with him but I thought I was sure to be able to pay him for the hay.

Dec 23rd. I am going to work on Mr Swetnam's ice pond to day so I will not write

much more and send it this morning Charlie and his Mother send love and with me wish you a "Merry Christmas" and a "Happy New Year" The sums I have mentioned do not equal the amount I told you in my last letter but perhaps I could by paying the others a little each have them give me a little more time. You will remember I told you I had got to pay a pasture for Uncle Charles that party is a lawyer and as I got a notice through the office I thought I must attend to it right a way and so I told the fellow I would pay it the first of Jan.

Yours Affly Son
E W Morse

Edward

Dec 22^d - 23
1890

copy of answer Jan 2/91

I wrote on Dec 31st that
I would send him a
\$100 - Jan 2/91 but
I have now \$125⁰⁰