

West Amesbury Sept 16th 1849,

My Wife sends
her best wishes
to you, and
wishes you a
speedy & safe
return.

Cousin Ephraim

We received your letter here
yesterday noon, dated the 6th of July, and post
marked Aug 1st, having been 45 days in coming,
And right glad were we to hear from you
& to know that you were well & prospering
in your new location, It has been a long time
since you left & we have had no news of you,
if I except a letter received by Mr Surveys
friends, from him, dated at Talcikuanos May the 17th
which said you were all well & getting along
finely, you say that you have received no letters
from us, Alden & me sent you a letter the 14th of
May which ought to ~~of~~ have reached you before the
4th of July, also one since, your Father & Mariak
I think sent ^{about} the 1st of June, also Miss Gray
had sent one by the middle of May, it is singular
you should not get them, that ^{white} Feather; an emble-
-lem of Purity, I shall keep it ^{Sacred} untill I
take you by the hand again, which I hope to
be before another 4 of July, you would like to know
something of matters here I suppose, Well, to begin at home
first, - We have built that house & shall move in
to it about the first of Oct, It fronts the road
& stands where the old one stood, Hows that, It cost
from 10 to 12 hundred dollars, & how is that to, rather
expensive you will think, but nothing in California,

In regard to fruit there has not been so little for more than
twenty years, Corn, will be rather light, Potatoes, a good crop
but have commenced rotting badly, Peaches, are scarce, I have
about a dozen, you have but few, Pears, I have 10, Passe
Colmar, 1 Winter Nellis & 1 Duchess De Angouleme,
your trees have grown much better than mine the
present year, you or I, had no Cherries this year
David had about twenty Black Tartarians, quite lucky,
I bought no trees this Spring, for the want of time & more
I shall ~~get~~ get some another spring for myself & you, If you
get ^{any} this in season you can tell me what kinds to get
It is a pretty general time of health here, although the
Cholera has made sad work in some parts of the Country
Out west it has been very severe, all most depopulating
-ing some towns, In Boston there has been some few
hundred Deaths, In Lowell, Chelstow, Lynn,
Manchester, N.H. & New Market & some other towns
there has been some few Deaths, but is generally
abating, Daniel & Plooming are getting along finely
in their new relation, no baby yet, Ebin Fisher
Wiggin wishes to be remembered to you, says he
wishes he was in California, The news by the
last arrivals ^{has} created quite an excitement, there is
3 or 4 vessels about to start from N Port & perhaps one
from Salsburg Point, Elbridge Bachelor from the
upper Corner, goes in one from N Port, Ebin Wiggin
has offered to go, if he can be furnished with five
hundred Dollars; & ~~you~~ ^{you} pay those who send him one
half of all he gets, He has offered to go for me if I will
furnish him with 250 Dollars, he will find 200 Dollars & give me
one half of all he gets, ~~if I had the money, without hiring, I should send him~~

more next time
Mr. Morse,
your grateful friend

West Amesbury Oct 8th 1850,
Cousin Ephraim

I received your favour in 34 days from the time it was mailed, quick work considering the distance, I hardly know what to write you, or where to begin, yet I suppose almost anything that is transacted here would not come amiss, In the first place Phillips & his Wife start tomorrow for (Down east), They intend to go as far as Augusta before they return, I rather guess he will not go to California although he wishes he were there, Perhaps he would if he were single, This getting married is a cool to a fellow's ambition, in some respects, if not in others, It is a law of nature that when birds pair they ~~must~~ must have a settled nest, your Father-Mother & we all in good health, All our folks are well, and I trust this will find you in health, I lent my letter to Lydia Ann a short time after I received it and she has & not returned it yet, I think I shall take a kiss for the use of it when she does return it, with your permission

George & Mary remain single yet, but plan,
Daniel & Plowing got along finely, they have a little town spinner, about 9 months old, quite a pretty one,
Alster Colby has lost his wife by Consumption she died the last of September William Huskell & John Huskell have also lost their Wives by the same disorder the past month, Rhoda Ann Thompson & a Daughter

of David Sargent have also died by the same disease
within two or three weeks, otherwise it is a time of general
health, you inquire of me what people say of Calif
-ornia, People in general think there is plenty of gold there
but they think also that there is plenty of hands
already there to get it, is it not so, yet if I were
single and knew of a good chance to make money, I should
not hesitate to start any day, for I believe I have had
as hard work to get a living so far, as the majority have
in California, Alden has wrote you more letters than
any one else I think but he has not received any from you
just drop him a letter or two, I have received 2 letters and
one paper, and have sent 7 letters this included & between
20 & 30 papers, I have sent 12 Newburg Post Herald's to
San Diego & shall continue to keep the stream a running.
By the way I sent Webster's Serial in the 4 first papers
did you get it, you inquire about your trees, they
are doing well, you have no Peas this year but a plenty
of grapes, your Baldwin grafts over by the road have
borne some this year, they are growing finely, but want
a little more trimming, By the way I have sent to you
twice before now, to know if you would like to have me
buy you any trees, If you want rice to, just say what
kinds and I will purchase them My Dutchess De
Hogolome bears 4 Peas this year & they will weigh
about a pound apiece, What kind of that & what
is better they are better than the Bartlett, they
are ripe in November, I would not take all the
money that I have paid Hall for my tree now,

geny Lind the Swedish Nightingale has turned
the world upside down in & our large Cities
whether it will turn back again as in the case of the
California fever I dont know, but presume it will
\$625 dollars is the largest sum that has been paid as yet
I believe, to hear her sing one evening, Plenty of cash in
some pockets, Perhaps you would like to know how
David's Father disposed of his property - He gave Paicence
1200.00 hundred dollars, Nancy the Newton Farm & Plowing
the Old Homestead the other side the Pond, ~~The~~ The value
of each place is about 1500.00 dollars, That Sail Boat
is in Maximue Baver, We put it there last Spring &
spent between 20 & 30 dollars on it, guess it will not amount
to than pay the bills,

Oct 6 I have a chance to send to the office early this
morning so I must close, Elisa sends her best wishes
to you & thinks you had better come home,

yours in haste
E M Morse,

W. Ameybury No. Oct 7

40

Mr Ephraim W. Morse,

San Diego,

California,

Recd Nov. 17.

1850

West Amherst Mass April 8 } 40
~~~~~

Mr Ephraim W Morse,

San Diego,

Cal,

Rec'd May 18<sup>th</sup>  
" "



Van Ness



I received some Wheat from you also some Mellon  
seeds  
I shall plant them & I hope you will be at home

Amesbury April 6, 1851

Cousin Ephraim

Your favour of Dec 8 was  
duly received & thankfully accepted, I am somewhat  
acquainted with a young Lady which I think  
would make a good Instructor in that polite  
accomplishment you spoke of, and I will engage  
her if you have no objections, she has the requisite  
qualifications, being young and pretty, and as a teacher  
needs to enter his business with his whole soul in  
order to succeed, so I think this young Lady will  
go into it with a good relish, on your return  
By the way, you speak of the Nursery business as being  
very good in Cal, Better than it is here I guess, I have  
not purchased a single tree since you left, I am wait-  
ing for you to return, and go to Mr Galls with  
me, Patient man aint I, The fact of it is  
I have been so much engaged the last 2 years that  
I have had no time to spare, I think some of ~~the~~  
getting a few this Spring if I do, I will get you  
some also, I have no better place to set them, is  
the greatest difficulty just now, you will  
recollect that I had a Baldwin tree that bore  
the odd year & I grafted all my trees with that  
kind, you also had quite a number of that variety  
they all bear the even years, What is the philoso-  
phy of it, think you,



The season is rather early this spring, some few have <sup>is</sup> planted Potatoes in March, others have sown their spring grain the past week,

There is ~~not~~ but little news a stirring here just now though perhaps there is a thousand little circumstances which might interest you, one happened yesterday, George Sargent bought all his uncle Moses's Real estate, which closes up all his Property and leaves him worth \$100,000, a sad affair considering that he was worth \$600,000 12 years ago,

The carriage business is very good here now & has been the last year or two, this end of the Town is gaining very very fast the River Village in particular

We have a new Marriage Law here now, passed a year ago this Winter, A Gentleman can take his Lady home, get his Certificate, and go to the Parson and have it all done up in half an hour, without any previous publication, 'tis the talk, It suits the Girls first rate,

Alden has two Children, a Boy & Girl, so you see that we are getting ahead of you, Miss Fletcher, has Maria Monroe Sanborn, though you may have heard of it before

You have heard of our Fugitive Slave Law no doubt It has created a good deal of excitement in New England, It is a hard matter to put it in execution though it has been in a few cases I believe successfully, yet at the risk of the lives of the Officers,

The Negroes all go armed, and they <sup>the officers</sup> resort to all sorts of expedients to take them, It is a barbarous Law and

no honour to its makers, We have a good Democratic Governour in Massachusetts this year & a majority of the Senate and House are Free Soilers & Democrats so that we are having a little revolution in affairs this year,

The Whigs not being used to defeat in this State, feel decidedly bad, why should not they, they are like a spoiled Child; have always had their own way, I think it will do them good & I hope we shall have a long time to train them in, dont you,

you spoke to Phil about those revolvers again in your last letter, We shall not probably send them until we hear from you again, When you sent for them

the first time we hired a hundred Dollars and sent Alden and Phil to Boston to purchase them & they returned without spending the money, they cost 18 Dollars apiece & Adams Geo

would not take them through, less than 30 or 35 Dollars and leave them on the Wharf in San Diego at that,

they having no agent there, the risk was such that they we concluded not to send them without special instructions from you, Alden sent you a letter by the return mail stating the circumstances & we are waiting

for some definite answer from you, the funniest part of the story is that we having hired the money on time, let it to David M Tenkes.

He paid it where he was owing a man & it was stolen a night or two afterwards and it has not been heard from since, so you see that all who have

any thing to do with California, even indirectly lose by it, It is now between 10 & 11 o'clock at Night and I must close without filling my sheet I got but



little time to read or write except in the evening and then I feel more like sleeping than writing,

By the way, David complains that you dont write to him but says he has never write to you or sent you a paper, I told him he did not deserve a letter from you. if he had done thus If you do write him one I hope you will ~~see~~ scold him some

~~your~~ your Father - Mother - Mariah - Phil - Hannah &c are all well and I believe all your relations in this section are, you say that you enjoy first rate health, and I regard this as the best news we can have of those who are far away in California,

Mr Bradbury returned home last fall in tolerable good health, is well now I believe, He gave us a lecture on California a few weeks since, giving us a sketch of life in California, his experience in digging Gold &c it was quite interesting, He said he saw you there, & many others from this section, He brought home about one thousand Dollars somewhat better than he could of done here I presume,

you must be very careful of your health in coming home across the Isthmus it is very unhealthy at certain seasons of the year, Almost the whole are sick when they get home and quite a number have died when nearly home or in a few days after they had arrived, owing in a great measure to eating too much fruit &c

With my best wishes for your health and happiness I remain yours  
E M Morse

Eliza is asleep but she sends her best wishes to you  
Mary Francis is in her bath gear and talk all the time

Eliza Colcock  
so good bye  
a little ease but she is



West Am. Society Mass, Dec<sup>r</sup> 27 / Paid: 6

1852

~~At~~ Ephraim W. Morse, Esq<sup>r</sup>

San Diego,

Perb Feb 17<sup>th</sup> 52

Cal,



West Amherst Dec 16 1852,  
Comr Ephraim

Yours of Sep 30, was grate-  
fully received & duly credited, it being the  
only intimation <sup>since you left</sup> that I was remembered by you.  
(did not doubt it at all however,) you say that your  
Property disappeared very fast after you left, I  
should take that to be a natural consequence in Cal,  
& almost so here, there is some honourable exceptions  
however, but they are rare, there is but few men that  
it will do to trust under all circumstances, the tenta-  
tion is too much for their Integrity I would say to  
you, believe but little & think much, you say, compelled  
to stay <sup>away from home & friends</sup> so long, you feel discontented, I do not wonder  
at it, It appears to me I could not remain so long  
under any circumstances, but you must be of good  
cheer and think of the rejoicing day  
you want to know how much money I make  
Farming, or rather how much you could make  
and work about  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the time, why you could  
make a living, and that is enough for you  
or me, I had rather be at home with Family  
and friends than to be in Cal, with three thou-  
sand dollars a year salary, you may think I  
am some what altered, I be so, I think there  
is something here Money in the World that  
is worth living for, I wish you,



There is home & the society of those we love, is worth more than all the gold in Cal, Money is a good thing in its place but when it takes the place of Natural affection it disturbs the natural course of things. There is a harmony in every thing in Families - in Communities - and among States & Nations but when this harmony is destroyed things go wrong. The extent of the wrong depending upon its Natural Cause. Now the Principle of each one for himself is a wrong principle and its effects are felt by every Individual of the human race.

The totting Millions of the Earth bear <sup>the</sup> testimony to this truth: and also the Crops that go headlong to destruction: many of them, you want to know how much your expenses would be; just what you made them, what the income; enough to meet the expenses, (isn't that plain) you think that Farming in the western States is a better business than it is in Old Annsburg. That is you could buy up more, suppose you could, what of that, it is not the more that is the substance of life, (by a guy full,) That idea creeps in to every calculation of the farmer from the time he is born to the closing up of life and in the same proportion as it rules him, he is miserable (cause why) it is a false Principle you think a Colony of New England folks in such a place as you represent would be

Delightful, so it would, and why not here in Cal Hill is it because we could not have the more, you would like to know the news that is stirring here I suppose, but I am just the poorest hum to visit the July meas you could see up, however I will try my hand at it, Festly - George Sargent is not married, nor ever will be in my opinion, Mary is in the same fix wont give my opinion in her case, David is rather expecting an Office under Pierce's Administration I think, but I don't know, I should think his chances stood 3 out of 4, what I suppose I don't know, Patience is under also her mother, Sally Ann is not married, you need not worry about the invitation, I suppose I come next in order, well I am doing something in the wool & Lumber trade, get a living & something more, next in order comes your folks, they are well and are getting more I guess, Mr Powell has not been so well this fall as usual he has had quite a number of goats' Composts I believe, Next in order comes our New School House just below your brook, We beat the Lower Corner out & out went we smart, By the way there ~~there~~ was a curious incident happened in reading your Letter, it was this I ~~had~~ read it partly through, laid it down on the table and went and got 3 beef steak Apples & 2 Old Man Apples began to eat one & took up your letter to finish it and behold it read in this wise, I wish I had that Apple you are eating of while you are reading this, We had a beaute Carriage came it, I assure you



you suppose I have received a Pittium and several Puffas from you  
I have received nothing of the kind, and Sam wants tuning I think  
you inquire about the Druffings, I would say in regard  
to that matter that I believe them to be the Communications  
from departed Spirits, In order to give you my experience  
and convictions in this matter would require more space  
than I have to spare here, but I will state a few things  
which I have never seen explained on any known Principle yet  
For instance, my Wifes hand will be moved for hours in  
succession and write over sheet after sheet, conveying <sup>them</sup> information  
~~entirely~~ entirely independent of her thoughts or mine,  
I have asked hundreds of questions most of them answered  
differently from what I supposed, <sup>that would be</sup> some very very much so,  
I will give you a case ~~to~~ where I was well acquainted with  
the facts A young Girl here in the place, an intimate  
friend of Caroline was taken sick of the Colic  
and died in a few days, she was a fine specimen of <sup>a</sup> girl  
healthy & strong, decidedly more so than the average of females,  
she was cured by Dr Ben, consequently the result,  
Caroline sat up with her a Night <sup>or two</sup> before she  
died, she was strictly forbidden to give her Water  
She gave her water however, but it was at the urgent request  
of the girl, for she was all most dead for the want of it,  
no bad effects followed, but Caroline was blamed very much  
for it, Now for the rest of the story, At a sitting at my  
house a few evenings after her death I inquired if the  
Spirit of this Girl was present, it wrote yes I inquired if she  
had any communication to make it wrote yes I then asked it to  
write it, it wrote, Tell Caroline that she did right in giving  
me water that night & also tell her that ~~these~~ communications  
come from ~~from~~ Spirits, she said also that she should have  
got well had they put her in a warm Bath, these answers written  
many more were independent of us entirely, what think you of them



There are quite a number of ~~Support~~ Papers advocating  
this Philosophy now, and it is gaining ground  
very fast, society is being reorganised, and the light  
of truth is just breaking in upon the World,  
it teaches a new doctrine of the future state  
The leaving this world, and entering the other is  
described in the most beautiful language, it is a  
change not to be dreaded, but to be desired,  
there is nothing to be dreaded in entering the future  
state but everything is in the most beautiful  
harmony with the Nature of the Spirit.

I shall send you some papers of this description  
in a few days There is one Published in Boston

the New Era or Slaves Opened to Man

I will send you this Paper for a few weeks &  
then some other one,

Business in general here is good, I think very good,  
they say, Garrison & co made 9 thousand dollars  
last year, if they did, and other people some  
as well accordingly I think we are getting a  
little to wish more, this is a great  
Country (any how) I think your Wife  
would like to see E W Morse up (dont you  
what little experience I have had in the matter  
would lead me to think so, but there, there is  
~~the~~ ~~the~~ the good time coming, so note it be,  
as Gov ge, says, I wish you would come home  
so that we could go into the tree business  
again or we shall lose all we have some.



It is getting very late in the evening and I  
must close, Elisa sends her very best regards to  
you & says you must come home and take care of  
your Wife, Oh these girls are made for affection  
aint they, Dear things -

I am getting weak so I will leave off,

You must excuse the remainder of this page for  
I am getting Sleepy

Now for my best wishes for your health &  
prosperity and for your safe arrival into the  
arms of your Dear Wife I remain yours in  
Friendship Love & truth

E. M. Morse,  
to E. W. Morse Esq.



E. M. Morse  
April 12<sup>th</sup> 1859

West Haverburg April 12<sup>th</sup> 1859  
Cousin Ephraim

There being a  
small snow storm a driving about  
us this afternoon and nothing particular  
to do, the thought suggested itself to  
my mind that a line from my humble  
self might not be unacceptable to you,  
In the first place when are you coming  
home; or have you been so long from Bee  
hill that it is no home for you, but I am  
to fast, no person can forget his birth place  
and the associations of his youth for they  
are among the dearest recollections of his  
life, home with all its pleasant memories  
will cling around us wherever we may  
be or whatever position we may occupy,  
it is a safeguard also against many of  
the temptations of life, it follows us  
(those pleasant memories) like a kind angel  
whispering words of hope and trust - light-  
ning our cares and cheering us in our disponding  
hours, Home is inseparably connected with  
true friendship perhaps no friendship is so  
emphatically true and lasting as those of our -



youth, they are made at a time when our feelings and emotions have not been tainted by contact with the world. The friendship and love, for instance, that we bear for the companion of our choice, chosen in the spring time of life, what is there truer - Dearer than this, and all this for mans supremest joy, yet have been appreciate these inestimable blessings, you will say I am getting sentimental in my old age so I will leave the matter for you to consider in your most sacred moments,

Now a word about business, I have a light Couch, built for a foreign market, will seat from 6 to 9 passengers according to size, strong ~~and~~ thorough in every respect and will cost here including set of double harness, not far from five hundred Dollars. Now can you sell it there, and if so how can I get it there, We ship Carriages to Brasil - Chili - Peru and California - and why not to you look the matter over - The possibilities and probabilities - and let me <sup>know</sup> as soon after you receive this as convenient,

or business

We can furnish ~~any~~ other Carriages, of almost any other description also, just look ~~into~~ into this matter a little and perhaps we can turn a penny, Now I really wish you would come home for I have done almost nothing in the Tree line since you left, and I think if you were to return we should have fine memories of trees that would be good to look at if for nothing else by the way I have 2. Dear trees that I would not take 50 Dollars for. They were among those bought when you were at home. so you see I <sup>have</sup> lost nothing by the operation thus far, In regard to general news I hardly ~~now~~ know what to write in part only what is strictly local would be of any interest to you, One thing the Catholics are about building a new Church it will cost from ten to fifteen thousand Dollars so you see we are getting Rich. People must slide into Heaven on Downy Beds of ease or not go at all new days, It is wonderful how riches pane the way. It is my opinion that there is a screen loss somewhere in this Department, Luther is quite sick of Dropsy, he has been fruiting for several months and we can hardly hope that he will continue many weeks longer.



you have doubtless been apprised of the  
health of your Brother for the last few  
months, she is now somewhat better now  
and has been for several weeks, what her prospect  
is of regaining a good degree of health I  
could not say though the symptoms are some-  
what favourable at the present time,  
I have had the fortune or misfortune of  
attending the Great & General Court  
of Massachusetts the past Winter.  
We have just closed up a Session of a little over  
three months, and have to return again the  
first Wednesday in September to revise  
the Statutes, which will probably take  
about three months more, so you see I  
have a pretty fair chance to see the Elephant  
Cousin David was a Candidate for  
Senator, and there was but one thing that  
prevented his election that was he did  
not get votes enough, that single fact  
has crushed the hopes of thousands,  
your little boy was one to see us the other  
day he is a fine looking fellow, ~~and I see~~  
~~the same bright sparkling life~~, I see in him the  
likeness of his lamented Mother but cannot see the  
Father there, but my space is full and I must close  
by wishing you well in all that is good and true

E. D. Morse



State House, Boston, Mass. Dec 5<sup>th</sup> 1859  
Dear Cousin

Elbridge Dec, 4<sup>th</sup> 1859  
I should have answered  
your letter before this, had it not been  
for the peculiar circumstances of the  
case. I have been undecided for a long  
time whether to respond to your call  
for carriages or not. The state of your  
Father's health has been such for the last  
seven months that I was ~~aprehensive~~ apprehensive  
you might be called home in haste,  
you may be aware of the facts in the case  
but I presume not. The facts are these  
Last spring he had a cancer form on  
his under lip and continued to grow for  
some time or three months when fearing for  
the result he came up to this City and  
had it removed by the application of a  
plaster, & it very nearly healed up at  
this time but soon began to form in  
three places each side of the former  
one and finally ran together in one large  
lump and at this time blowed out  
forming what is called a Roso Cancer  
In this state of the case he some six weeks  
since came to Boston and had a surgical operation



performed taking out a large portion of the  
lip, but by cutting down to the bottom of  
the chin on both sides and thus raising ~~it~~  
~~up~~ the somewhat loose portion of the flesh  
and skin up. There is but little deformity,  
It has <sup>now</sup> completely healed up and the indications  
are that it will remain so, yet time alone  
must decide that matter, I have for this  
reason refused sending Carriages to you feeling  
sure that you would return if the state  
of your Father's health should require it,  
If his health should remain good and you  
should remain there I will endeavor  
to answer any calls in the carriage line  
which you may suggest, It would be of little  
use to you for me to send carriages to San Diego  
and when they arrived there you were in the  
States, you will perceive from the heading  
of this letter that I am in the City  
of Boston yet serving the dear people,  
We are Revising and Consolidating the general  
Statutes, this has to be done once in about  
twenty five years, We commenced the seventh  
of September and shall close up in the course  
of a week or two, so that I have to stay ~~stay~~  
in the City of Boston some thing more than  
half the year, you wish to know if I  
was elected by the Republican Party and

if so you pity me, I will assure you  
that I need none of your ~~expressing~~ sympathy  
in that direction - sure it's sure it's for a  
more laudable purpose. Don't spend your  
sympathy on the republican party for they  
are abundantly able to take care of themselves  
Don't spend it on the Democratic Party either  
for they could not appreciate it, the  
two articles that they deal in most are  
Money & meanness. The one they get from  
Uncle Sam, the other is an inherent part  
of this political organization and just as  
essential to life as are the lungs in  
the animal economy. Slavery should  
be confined to the States where it now exists  
and not allowed to extend itself over free Territory,  
this is the doctrine of the Republican Party and  
on that issue will be fought the next Presidential  
contest, We are share of every free state now but  
California, but the Democratic Party we  
not share of even the whole South, So you  
see that the chances are all in our favour,  
There are some other things in your letter which I  
might answer, one in particular, you say the negro  
race is inferior, what has that to do with it  
Do not you and I meet every day those that are  
inferior to us, and do we not ~~also~~ meet those that  
are our superiors also, you will admit that every-



well then if the race is graded from <sup>just above the</sup> the Baboon  
to the most Intellectual of the race, where are  
those that you would rightfully enslave, they should  
come from all classes and conditions in society, I should think  
and we had better go in for a reorganization of society  
on the principle of right, and enslave all those below  
a certain grade of mind and thus make the thing just  
and equal, not pick out one particular race to  
hold in bondage to the exclusion of all the rest. Let  
all classes and conditions of society have all their  
just rights and privileges under this God given  
institution, I will not trouble you further in this  
direction for fear you will get converted to the right  
before the Democratic Party does, that would be  
a misfortune under present circumstances when they  
are so short for hands, would it not I recollect a  
passage in the Bible which readeth in this wise  
Ephraim is joined to his Idols let him alone,  
There is nothing of particular interest here at the present  
time that is to say nothing out of the general course  
of things, My Family are all well and will be  
pretty well grown up when you get back, I will  
let you pick out the slaves in my Family when  
you get back, We should all be very happy to have  
you come home in fact we think you should  
taking all the circumstances into consideration, you  
may lose by leaving there, and you may lose by  
not being here yet that is something I know nothing  
about There now if this is worth reading you can do so  
if not just pass it over to one of your understudies and make  
oblige your particular friend and Cousin E. P. Morse



Mr Fairview



Mr J. H. Morse

San Diego

San Diego Co

Cal



Elbridge

answer his letter  
ask him about getting  
Edmund a horse  
advice to Edmund  
or

Edmund wants to haul  
the wood or

Howe told him not  
to expect any assistance  
from me!

I want his Photograph



No. 2

# The Western Union Telegraph Company.

PACIFIC DIVISION.

### ALL MESSAGES TAKEN BY THIS COMPANY SUBJECT TO THE FOLLOWING TERMS:

To guard against mistakes, the sender of a message should order it REPEATED; that is, telegraphed back to the originating office. For repeating, one-half the regular rate is charged in addition. And it is agreed between the sender of the following message and this Company, that said Company shall not be liable for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery of any UNREPEATED message beyond the amount received for sending the same, nor for mistakes or delays in the transmission or delivery, or for non-delivery, of any REPEATED message beyond fifty times the sum received for sending the same, unless specially insured; nor in any case for delays arising from unavoidable interruptions in the working of their lines, or for errors in cipher or obscure messages. And this Company is hereby made the agent of the sender, without liability, to forward any message over the lines of any other Company, when necessary, to reach its destination.

Correctness in the transmission of messages to any point on the lines of this Company, can be INSURED by contract in writing, stating agreed amount of risk, and payment of premium thereon at the following rates, in addition to the usual charge for repeated messages, viz.: one per cent. for any distance not exceeding 1000 miles, and two per cent. for any greater distance. No employee of the Company is authorized to vary the foregoing. The Company will not be liable for damages in any case where the claim is not presented in writing within sixty days after sending the message.

WM. ORTON, President, } New York.  
O. H. PALMER, Secretary, }

G. H. MUMFORD, General Agent, } San Francisco.  
JAS. GAMBLE, General Sup't, }

*San Diego Apr 12 1877*

Send the following Message, subject to the above terms, which are agreed to.

To *Elbridge M. Morse*  
*Merrimac Mass.*

*Your propositions and suggestions*  
*accepted. Build Barn will write*

*Your suggestions and preferences agreed to*  
*go ahead with barn.*

Words.

Rec'd by \_\_\_\_\_ Sent at \_\_\_\_\_ M., by \_\_\_\_\_



E. Bridge W. More

Copy of telegram

Apr 6 12/77

Western Union Telegraph Company



Menimoe May 23<sup>d</sup> 1882

Dear Cousin

It being  
aware of those old hard weather storms  
incident to this climate to day I  
thought perhaps I could not do better  
than to write you a line on business  
matters, I think we are decidedly slow  
in our business matters, yet I think  
there may be good reasons in each case  
the most prominent one however is  
the terrible hard times that we have  
gone through the last few years,  
it came very near writing my  
doom, There are several matters that  
should be closed up at an early day  
1<sup>st</sup> The Wood & Lumber Account  
2<sup>d</sup> The Hay sold & Taxes paid &c  
3<sup>d</sup> Building the Barn &c  
4<sup>th</sup> Carriage business

over



In regard to the wood & Lumber I can  
send you the whole matter in detail  
or give the total sales & Expenses,  
also give the sales of Hay, also Taxes paid  
cash paid for building Well fences &c  
I can send you cost of Beans growing  
amount paid each person for Lumber &c  
These matters should have been settled  
long ago ~~although~~ I have expected you  
here before this time and have settled  
the whole matter, If you can come  
this season please write me to that  
effect, if not I must go out there  
or we must settle by sending  
statements,  
your statement in regard to  
Coveage matter was satisfactory  
except in one particular, you will  
remember that interest was to be  
allowed us on any amount in your  
hands at the bank rate in San Diego  
you can refer to your papers in that particular, I wish you to write me in receipt of this

The times here in New England were the  
hardest ever known, for seven long  
years, <sup>from 1823</sup> it was one continual long day,  
no let-up, real Estate considered the safest  
property here could not be sold or mortgaged  
I know of cases of attempted sales under the  
hammer and not a bid could be got,  
Personal property also was of no value  
so to speak, I was offered one hundred  
thousand Pine boards at six dollars fifty  
cts per M just the price we paid  
for getting over on the sticks in  
fact the person held them 2 years before  
he could realize at that, I was offered  
by the same man one hundred cords  
of Pine wood cut & corded at one dollar per  
cord so you see everything was down to  
zero and below, but a change has taken  
place the last 2 years and business in now  
very good and values are getting back  
to old standards or will in 2 or 3 years more  
over



Elbridge  
May 23/82  
about settlement

and not delay for no cause whatever as you  
will surely agree with me that these  
matters should be settled at once and  
without delay.

I should be pleased to go out  
to San Diego if I could afford it but  
my finances are hardly equal to the  
cost.

We are enjoying a good degree of  
health for people of our years  
but are liable at any time to  
take the last train over the river.

Our regards to yourself & yours

Yours truly  
E. M. Morse



Merimee Sep 20<sup>th</sup> 1882  
Cecilia Eskrum

I wrote you  
some months since in regard  
to a settlement of the various  
matters between us but have  
had no response as yet will  
you please refer to that letter  
and answer me with as little  
delay as possible

Yours very truly

J M Morse

We are comfortable so far as health  
is concerned, have had the hardest  
winter in New England that has been  
known for one or two hundred years no  
rain from the 5<sup>th</sup> of July to the 9<sup>th</sup> of  
September - a good hay crop but corn and  
potatoes a complete failure

J m m



E. M. Morse  
Sept 20/82

have written but  
no answer



Minneapolis Oct 24. 1882

Cousin Ephraim

I wrote you several months since in regard to a \$ settlement of the various matters between us. I also wrote you in September in regard to the same matter but as yet have received no response, will you please refer to my first letter and give me answer at once

Yours Very Truly  
J M Morse



E. M. Morse

Oct. 24/82

Have written but  
no answer



Merrimac January 17. 1857

Cousin Ephraim

I address you at the present time in regard to a matter of considerable interest to me but of very much more to you. Parties in the old County of Essex are about getting up a history of each town in the County giving a complete history from its settlement to the present time and a prominent feature of the work will be engravings of the prominent and representative men of the past and present among those of the past in their time was your Father John J. Morse Esq. William Nichols Esq. and Joshua Colby Esq. These three men were strictly representative men, men of much more than



ordinary, upright, men of integrity  
and honor that was indispensable  
now it is proposed to put these men  
giving a <sup>copy</sup> <sup>of each</sup> <sup>of</sup> <sup>it</sup>  
into the work, but depends upon you  
and the relations of the other parties  
to furnish the necessary funds in  
each case. The cost of each engraving  
will be one hundred fifty Dollars  
they will appear in eight thousand  
copies. The ablest men of the County  
are engaged on the work, among  
them may be named John F. Whittier  
the poet of Walden & Fame.  
There has gone from here to your  
place recently a Lady School  
Teacher by the name of Anna  
Edwards she is rated as one of our  
best Teachers, I may also say that  
she is one of the most respectable  
young Ladies in Town and you  
will be pleased to make her a visit  
ance. Please let your Wife make her

a call, she will be much pleased  
with her. In regard to the first  
matter you will please give it  
your favourable consideration  
I trust the work will be sold  
by subscription at <sup>18.00</sup> Dollars per  
copy. Many thanks to <sup>you</sup> for your  
first remittance, give my  
regards to your Wife, I have  
just learned that you have sold a  
lot of Land to be used for banking  
purposes for the sum of twenty  
five thousand Dollars there must  
be a great advance in real  
estate in Long Days to warrant  
such a price. If you can  
get half that for the lot I  
own I am well pleased.  
Yours very truly

J. M. Mosse

Please Answer



E. M. Morse  
Jan'y 17/87

Hist'ry &c

and  
27<sup>th</sup>



a good deal of Mr Pearson and you will  
please give him my regards

E W M

Merimee Feb 7. 1887

O W Moss Esq

Dear Cousin

yours of 27<sup>th</sup>  
at hand, I was more than pleased  
at the contents of your letter. First -  
that you were so prompt in your response  
to mine, second, that you so readily  
responded to my request to have the  
engraving of your Father inserted  
in <sup>the</sup> history of Old Essex County.  
many thanks to you for this.

If you will write me something of  
your recollections of your Fathers life  
and services it shall be inserted in  
the work. He was a School Master  
as they used the term ~~at~~ <sup>in</sup> those days  
for many years - & justice of the  
peace for a long term of years, and when



I was a representative to the  
General Court & got him appointed  
as justice of the Peace & afterwards  
he was then nearly 80 years old.  
He settled Estates for many years -  
was in the Custom House at  
Newburyport for 8 or 9 years under  
Andrew Jackson's Administration,  
was Selectman for several years  
also collector of Taxes - decided  
at ~~the~~ County Conventions, and was  
nominated for Senator for several  
terms but was never elected for  
the reason <sup>that</sup> the dominant party  
at that time was ~~an~~ anti Democratic  
It would be well to give ~~him~~ the date  
of his birth and death, also his Father's  
name - nothing else, I recollect a remark  
made by William G Bourdman a  
prominent man in Newbury, some  
years ago, he said John & Moses William  
Nichols & Colb Colby were men that did not

need watching, this was the exact truth  
in each case;  
Thirdly - I am so glad that the long dark  
night is over and that your hopes are more  
than realised, your check for \$1500.00 duly  
received, you could have delayed sending the  
check as ~~we~~ are not to pay for it until  
the book is delivered perhaps a year hence,  
so that you can dispose of it in some  
other way if you see fit, I would wish  
you to come on and see us but I suppose  
you will want to stay in San Diego  
until the bubble bursts or rather  
until the fever abates, as it surely will,  
give me in your next the specification  
and increase for the last 2 years, also  
increase in valuation, In your letter  
to me you began to say what my lot  
was worth but forgot to put down the  
figures. I suppose it to be worth say  
\$1000.00 Dollars and will double in value  
in the next year - <sup>about eight</sup> <sub>over</sub> four is that



E. M. Morse

Feb 7/87

Essex Co. books re

Lot estimated @ 1000,

{ also about my father }  
John S. Morse }

It has increased in value very much more  
~~than~~ than that the last year.

My Wife wishes to be remembered to your  
kindest regards.

I have subscribed for a copy of the  
History of Essex Co and I presume  
you will want a copy if so please  
say so in your next - Price is \$18.00

Dollars. you think the cost of the  
engraving is high you are 100% alone in  
that opinion but they make their own  
terms and we have to submit. The  
best engravings cost \$2000 there are one  
or two that pay that here.

Very Truly

Yours

E. M. Morse

of Stone is Pearsons and what is he  
about, what is he worth, I think a

(Two Volumes)



Received April 6<sup>th</sup> 1889

E. W. Moore Esq

Dear Cousin

I have just received a line from the parties who are getting up the History of Essex County calling for a sketch of the life of your Father will you write it out and send it to me at as early a day as possible. Do not delay in this matter Thanks for the paper just received San Diego is burning & so, and will continue to for some time to come without doubt. I think my little 7x9 lot will feel the influence of the heat and burn with the surrounding lots. We have been patient waiters and I hope will be no longer.



It takes pluck and grit and a level  
head to fight the battle of life  
successfully. That with honor  
and integrity generally wins the battle,  
even. I see you ~~have~~ have retired from  
the Firm of Morse Whaley & Decker,  
I presume you have retired from active  
business and have enough to do now  
to care for your own private affairs  
I congratulate you on your <sup>discovery</sup> success  
Please write me about what you are  
worth at the present time. This is asking  
a good deal I know but you can do as you  
like about answering it as you see cause.  
I should say you were worth say from  
two to three hundred thousand dollars  
how is that; I shall send you a state-  
ment of that Lumber matter shortly,  
also the cost of the Barn as also the  
amount due me. I will say one thing  
~~more if there has not been~~ the last I know

There had been no monument <sup>at</sup> the  
grave of your Father you no doubt  
had forgotten it in your own and  
 perplexities of the last few years.  
now that those Dark Days are over  
you will allow me to suggest that  
something should be done in the  
matter. Of course you will send  
to your son & sister in regard to the  
matter and have them do what is  
proper ~~and~~ in the case. you will  
pardon me for calling your  
attention to the matter

Very truly yours

E W Morse



E. M. Morse

April 6/89

87

Essex Co History &c

Monument to J. S. Morse

and April 29<sup>th</sup>



Received sum of \$1887  
J W Moore Esq  
Lai hi

your  
enquiry in regard to Philip's  
circumstances I will answer to  
the best of my ability. He  
owns a House at the River Village  
for which he paid about \$800  
Dollars his Brother John Neal  
advanced him the whole amount  
on a Mortgage so that Philip  
does not own a Dollar in the property  
but pays the taxes and interest,  
Maria has about \$2000 Dollars  
at interest nothing he not over 500



Child is to receive some 5,000 ~~thousand~~  
Dollars more or less from the Estate  
of his Uncle Child Jones on the  
Death of his Widow. The unfortu-  
-nate circumstance is however that  
the Widow is but a trifle older  
than Child so that his chances  
of receiving much benefit from  
that source is small. He is now  
and has been in the past able to get  
a fairly good living but will soon  
feel his age and will be unable  
to pay his bills as freely as he  
would like to. His three ~~children~~  
children are at home which adds much  
to his expenses. This information  
I get from a reliable man at the  
River and I should say was ~~reliable~~  
substantially correct. You do not  
ask my advice in the case. Allow me  
to say ~~that~~ however that I would help

your sister yearly if it was my case  
she would not waste a Dollar but  
would be very grateful for ~~it~~ the  
contribution,

Your Postal received by due course  
of Mail, all right,

Yours Very Truly

J W Moss

What is the lot worth now,



E. M. Morse

June 9/87

E. M. Morse

acc of Phillip + Maria's  
circumstances



Merrimac N 23 1887  
E W. Morse Esq

Dear Sir

Your post at  
was received, pass along the check at  
your convenience. In regard to <sup>the lot of</sup> Land you  
can sell it for two thousand Dollars, <sup>net</sup> or  
take it yourself as you may think to  
be for your interest. A gentleman from San Diego  
some two months since thinks it a very valuable  
lot and advises not to sell it, but I shall be  
perfectly satisfied with the whole sum and  
I shall be pleased should you double your  
money in it or more, and I don't see why  
you should not, to illustrate, Aldon has  
a lot directly opposite the Town Hall in Merrimac



107 feet by 50 feet about double the size  
of my lot. his lot is worth 3000 Dollars  
to day and increasing in value yearly  
and there is but one thousand inhabitants  
in the village, San Diego will be a great  
city and all its lands centrally located will  
constantly increase in value, I am much  
pleased to learn from Philip, that his  
land is worth ten thousand Dollars or more  
I hope he will get 15 thousand for it  
it will be a great help to them, he  
tells me that himself & Wife will leave  
for San Diego about the first of November  
Nothing would please me better than  
to go with them but my health  
forbids it,

With best regards to yourself  
and Wife  
yours truly  
J. B. Owen



E. M. J. Corse

Sept 23/87

Sell lot for \$2000.





Albany Nov 8 1887  
E W Morse Esq  
San Fran

I wrote  
you about the 23<sup>d</sup> of Sep in regard  
to that lot of Land in San Diego &  
in one week from that time I should  
not have sent it but have been  
waiting ever since for a line from  
you, I had information from ~~San Diego~~  
San Diego a few days after I wrote  
you that the lot was worth much  
more ~~that~~ I than the price I named  
and since that time have had repeated  
assurances that it is worth much more  
say several thousand Dollars, and  
yesterday I saw a friend of mine  
who recently returned from your  
place who tells me it is worth



very much more than the price  
I named to you, then again a  
resident of San Diego tells me that  
it is worth quite a number of thousands  
I know perhaps ten thousand. These  
things have quite unsettled me in  
this matter as also my brother Alden  
as he is to have one half of the  
proceeds by an arrangement years ago  
I do not like to retreat from my  
statement to you but I feel that  
you will give me about what it is  
worth under any circumstances, when  
I told Alden what I wrote you <sup>he</sup> he  
was not quite satisfied, that was  
after the later news had been  
received. I think it would be as  
well not to dispose of it for awhile  
at this distance you must be aware that  
I could not be expected to name a fair  
price for the lot.

I am glad to know that Childs  
is to get twenty five thousand  
Dollars or more for his lot it will  
relieve him at just the right time  
Please write me in receipt of this  
your very truly  
J M Morse

Sold half to Alden and he don't wish to  
sell therefore withdrawn



E. M. Morse

Nov 8/87

Let do not sell



WHIPPARY  
S.M.

Merimue Nov 27, 1887  
O W Morse Esq  
Dear sir,

yours of  
Nov 17<sup>th</sup> received and must ask  
your pardon for not replying  
at once, but at this distance it  
is difficult to determine what is  
best to do, but we have finally  
determined to have you send the  
Deed of the  $\frac{1}{2}$  lot at once and it  
shall be signed and returned  
~~at once~~ as soon as executed.

By your statement of the case it is  
a fair price for the lot at the  
present time, I regret that my  
last letter did not reach you in season  
as in that case we should probably  
have held on six months longer a more  
once



and then looked the ground  
over again, My last letter put you  
in a bad fix but would have been  
*all right* before the sale, and I regret <sup>it and</sup> took your  
pardon as it must have been an unpleasant  
visit to the agent, one of the principal  
reasons for coming to the above conclusion  
is our age, Alden is 77 years of age ~~and~~  
and I am within about one month of my  
70th year and not in very good health and  
am closing up my business as fast as  
possible, We ~~are very~~ want you to  
come home to the Ad Place the coming  
season by all means as we want to  
see you once more on this side the  
river, If I saw a young man I  
should not sell that lot for some time  
to come as I have great faith in  
the future of San Diego, and believe  
it will be a great city in the near  
future, yours truly E. M. Mason



E. M. Morse  
Nov 27/67

LT



1  
January 25<sup>th</sup> 1888

Herrin, Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1888

(S. W. Wood Esq.)

Dear Sir

you have  
of course learned ere this of the  
sad affliction of Cousin Daniel C  
Wood, this under the circumstances of  
his having newly completed his  
arrangements to visit San Diego  
and to make you a visit of which  
he expected so much, and also of the  
combined pleasure of the trip through  
a wonderful country out and back  
is very sad indeed, and we all feel  
very deeply for him and his ~~wife~~  
Wife, but such is life, I understand  
his health has not been as good as usual  
the past year, we must all recollect  
that we <sup>are</sup> nearing the limit of life.



and must expect to take our places  
in the line of promotion ere long,  
This is also very unfortunate for Shilps  
and his Wife as they expected much from  
each others company,

I expect that you are very busy, all most  
to much so to even read a letter from  
us or in business matters, but I want  
to hold your attention just long  
enough to attend to one or two matters  
pressing me rather hard the longer they  
remain the harder they are to bear.

The first is I want you to sell that Lot  
of mine in the month of February, I gave  
you some of the reasons in my last letter  
to you. I will now give you one other  
reason I owe money to quite a large  
amount and have owed it some dozen  
years and at my age and state of health  
I wish to pay it off with the least possible  
Delay, I have kept my business matters as close

as possible during my entire life and I doubt  
if any man knows my circumstances or ever did  
at any time during my life, had I not done  
this I should have failed before I had  
got through with your Lot, I will show  
you about how I stood at the time  
I commenced on your Lot, I owed personally  
about \$2000 = Dollars I then hired of the  
Salisbury & Amosbury Savings Bank  
\$3000 = Dollars which I paid to you, I then  
paid out over 3000 = Dollars more to manufac-  
ture the Lumber and put it on the sticks,  
I then owed over 8000 = Dollars. I began to sell  
the Lumber at \$15.00 Dollars per M. before  
I had sold much the Panic struck us  
and without the help of friends I should  
have lost everything I had, but I pulled  
through, sold Lumber as I could and lost  
- sold again and lost and finally I  
got the balance manufactured into three  
Boxes and sold them in Haverhill. I get -



twelve Dollars per thousand cut of most of it  
 but lumber constantly decreased in value  
 untill it settled to about 9.00 Dollars per  
 M per inch and 7.00 Dollars per  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch  
 with occasionally 5.00 to more per each kind  
 and that is the price of lumber to  
 day. Had it not been for the Panic we  
 should have done very well indeed, but on  
 the whole as lumber has sold up to the present  
 time it was well to cut it at that time,  
 but had it been cut 2 years earlier it would  
 have sold readily and a much better price  
 That I finished my lumber business  
 and I have bought nor sold since  
 previous to that I had always been fairly  
 successfull had no fault to find, I do not  
~~wish~~ wish you to understand that I am a  
 poor man for I am not but am fairly  
 well off.



The second matter that I wish to  
 call to your notice is the bill I sent  
 you last April or may I wish you to  
 add the interest since then and send me  
 a your check for the amount with as  
 little delay as possible, included in that bill  
 is a bill due the estate of Leonard Seeger for some 200 dollars of more or interest  
 The third matter is this, a Gentleman  
 and Lady of my acquaintance who  
 stayed some little time in San Diego  
 some few months <sup>since</sup> made the acquaintance  
 of Mrs H.C. Bushyhead and her husband  
 and I have corresponded with the Lady  
 some two or three times in regard to  
 San Diego its reputation & growth  
~~what~~ character of the people who  
 are adding to your reputation & so  
 and I enclose her last letter to me  
 of January 15<sup>th</sup> feeling that perhaps  
 it may aid you in the side of the dot



6  
you will see by that letter that Mr. Burleigh  
thinks it can be sold for \$35,000.00 three thousand  
five hundred Dollars at the present time, this  
is perhaps not unreasonable as the Lots are  
constantly increasing in value. In any event  
I would like to have you consult  
with them as perhaps they can aid you  
in finding a purchaser at a better price  
if so you will make it right with them.  
I wish to have you return her letter to  
me when you next write, and I do not wish  
you to say that you have her letter as  
perhaps she would not think it quite the  
thing to do, but you can say that I wished  
to have you call on them to advise in the  
matter (if you think proper to do so)

The 4<sup>th</sup> ~~matter~~ is of another matter altogether  
perhaps you will call it begging.

What would you think of giving to the  
Town of Merrimac a Public Librar  
Building for a Public Libraray

7  
Mr. William P. Furgent a former  
resident of Merrimac gave the Town  
a Town Hall costing some 20 or 25 thousand  
Dollars. Dr. James R. Nicholls another  
former resident of Merrimac gave  
the sum of one thousand Dollars to found  
a Public Libraray and <sup>has</sup> constantly given to it  
<sup>many others have contributed to it ~~separately~~ also</sup>  
each year since, while now the accommodations are  
very much cramped, a Building costing  
some ten to twenty thousand Dollars  
would be <sup>a permanent</sup> ~~an~~ ornament to the place as  
well as <sup>an</sup> honor to the donor,  
Trusting that you will personally  
consider the matter &

I remain your truly  
G. W. Dress



E. M. Morse  
July 25/88

Mr Bushyhead to  
his bill



Perinne April 28<sup>th</sup> 1855

E. W. Morse Esq

Dear Sir

Yours of  
March 26<sup>th</sup> recd, I did not suppose  
~~you~~ that you would put that  
lot into the hands of the parties  
unless you agreed upon a percentage  
for selling, <sup>in writing</sup> as you undoubtedly  
did, as it would not take long  
to eat it all up, Mr. Bushyhead  
~~you say has been offered 20000~~  
~~two thousand dollars for it he~~  
thinks I would not be satisfied  
with less ~~that~~ than 30000 for it  
and also says that it will advance  
in value in April or May in which  
opinion you concur. Well now I  
want you to sell the lot in May or



you see the most it will bring  
whether it brings 2000 or more as I  
want the money for it, I have no  
doubt of the future of San Diego  
but I have some doubts about the  
future of E W Moore in this  
life and hence my purpose for selling  
if it brings (10000.00) ten thousand dollars  
in five years from now I shant  
find any fault as I shant be here.  
~~As you~~ If you should learn before it  
is sold I should have but  
little faith of ever getting a fair  
return for it, ~~I wish you could~~  
~~find time to sell it~~ Let me say  
one word to you about Edward and Wife  
His Wife is in very poor health indeed  
cannot sit up much if any and under the  
circumstances they are in had condition, will  
say no more except to recommend that you  
come this way within a month or two at  
the best

Give my love to Wife, and Child, and  
his Wife, also to Samuel and his Wife  
how much in Child. It will now  
write me an account of this, say  
the next day  
— — — your Servant  
E W Moore



E. M. Morse

April 28/88

Lot + Mrs. Burdett



Beerrime May 10<sup>th</sup> 1888

J. W. Messer Esq

Dear Sir

I recd

you the last of April in regard to  
the sale of that lot - instructing  
you to sell in May or June, I  
wish to change that somewhat, I want  
you to sell it in the month of May  
as I need the money very bad,  
sell it for the most it will bring,

Yours Very Truly

J. W. Messer



E. M. Morse  
May 10/88

{ sell lot for the  
{ most it will bring



Providence July 26<sup>th</sup> 1888  
 E. W. Morse Esq  
 Dear Sir

Yours

Seed was received Monday<sup>th</sup> 23,  
 sent to Boston by Express to  
 Leaven of some person who might  
 be a Commissioner for Call.  
 Went up yesterday and had it  
 acknowledged before Edward of  
 Jones the com, and mailed it  
 in Boston and as I wrote you  
 nothing I thought I ~~write~~<sup>would</sup> send  
 you a word to day,  
 The trade is entirely satisfactory  
 under the circumstances, but should  
 have liked the 2250 = trade better  
 or better still had it been sold for  
 3500 = or even 3000 = thousand, but bubbles



will foam and heat and foam again.  
but we did not wish to wait ~~for~~  
~~the~~ longer and am glad it is sold.

at the price named in the deed,  
we are in tolerably good health  
and hope to remain so a few years  
yet. We ~~are of the opinion~~ would  
like to see you out here and if reports  
are correct in regard to your health  
it is your imperfect duty to change  
climate for two or three months or so  
if no more, and do it at once, delay  
in such a case is not your duty.

Please come we shall all be very  
much pleased to see you,

By the way I had a talk with your  
Father a few days since he charged me  
to tell you to come home to the  
old place for a while at least  
and look after things, I am I fully  
convinced with him in the suggestion  
your very truly  
(J M) Mearns



E. M. Morse  
July 26/88

Sale of lot entirely satisfactory  
{ your father says come  
home and look after things



Merimac Aug 27<sup>th</sup> 1888

O. W. Moss Esq.  
Dear Sir

you had  
received and got it acknowledged  
last Saturday, am sorry for the  
consequence, I am sorry to say  
he feels pretty poor about these  
times, and I hope he will be able  
to realize on his call perfectly  
within a year or two and feel more  
at his ease in many matters.

Very truly yours  
O. W. Moss



E. M. Morse

Aug 27/84

Seed quoted



Will answer the balance of your letter in my next,

Berrimue Dec 3<sup>d</sup> 1888

E W Morse Esq  
Dear Cousin

your enclosing  
draft duly received as also a later  
one wrote after receiving mine,  
We were very thankful for the draft  
of \$100 - and shall wait patiently  
for the balance, in answering  
my last letter you express yourself  
as thankful for letting the account  
stand until you come on next year,  
I think you must of read between the lines  
somewhat - however it is all right,  
I think Shakespeare expresses my feelings  
when he says the times are <sup>most</sup> Devilish hard  
your truly, E W Morse



E. M. Grove  
Dec 3/84



Merime Dec 21. 1888

S. W. Mum <sup>jr</sup>

Yours received yesterday and  
will mail <sup>the</sup> to day. Dear Sir

Our system of Discount is very  
simple and works satisfactory.  
Our Financial year commences Purchase of  
of each year.

The Tax list is Delivered to the Collector  
about July 1<sup>st</sup> of each year, and  
under a note of the Town he is directed  
to make a Discount of six per cent  
on all Taxes paid within thirty days  
from from the receipt of said list  
This brings in about two thirds of  
the assessments.

It is also noted that all Taxes shall  
be paid on or before December 1<sup>st</sup>  
and that interest at the rate of six  
per cent shall be charged on all Taxes  
remaining unpaid after that date.  
This brings in the Taxes all along from  
August 1<sup>st</sup> to Dec 1<sup>st</sup>



Then the interest charged from December  
 1<sup>st</sup> being in the largest part of  
 the balance, but the interest continues  
 on the small balance until paid, and  
 Taxes are <sup>to</sup> Lien on all Real Estate unless  
 it has changed ownership,  
 by a vote of the Town the Treasurer is  
 authorized to hire such sums of  
 money under the direction of the  
 Selectmen as may be necessary  
 in anticipation of Taxes, This cures  
 the whole game and is very  
 satisfactory, if there should be  
 those that delay unconscionably  
 the collector should proceed to  
 garnish and sell according to  
 the Statute, that brings them to the  
 collector at once. I send you a Town  
 report by this mail so that your



3  
may see articles in the Vermont  
in relation to this matter.

The Discount and interest in your  
city would be placed at a higher  
rate of course, but I do not see why  
a system something like ours  
would not work well in your  
case, you will see by the Tax  
bill I send by this that it is voted  
August 6. This is about one month  
later than usual.

I have written the scheme in  
pencil and have no time to  
rewrite and correct it, I trust  
you will get some idea of  
what you want from it

Very truly yours

E M Morse



E. W. Morn  
Dec 21/88

about discount }  
plan of taxes }



E. W. Morse  
Feb 10/90

Phil + Maria <sup>2000</sup>  
6000  
8000

Merrimac Feb 10<sup>th</sup> 1890

E. W. Morse Esq

Dear Cousin

Your draft  
of \$5000<sup>00</sup> was duly received, have credited  
on account, you have my most grate-  
ful thank for the same, I have just  
taken from the Post Office a couple  
of papers from you in which I  
find you have sold six sets for  
\$40,000 thousand dollars, I trust the  
\$40 & \$40<sup>00</sup> you spoke of has arrived and that  
you will remit the balance or the  
largest part of it at once, I wrote  
a line to you the 28<sup>th</sup> of January and  
you must have got it the 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> of  
February stating my necessities - somewhat  
Don't forget to assist me in my pressing need,  
your letter to me was dated the 31<sup>st</sup> of  
Jan



January this was my 71<sup>st</sup> birth Day, ~~then~~ and  
was most certainly a good beginning for  
the 72<sup>d</sup> year of my age, Philip as we call  
him will get from 5 to 6 thousand  
Dollars from the Philip's gone's property,  
this with what his wife has, some  
one 2 thousand, will be quite a help  
to them, I think they are getting <sup>along</sup> nicely  
at the present time, I cannot from  
my front windows see any part of  
your House or even the Cupolo of  
the Barn, the wood on the side hill  
east of the House is dense and thick  
and some of the trees are fifteen  
inches through at <sup>the</sup> butt, and I should  
say that there was more than one  
hundred cords of wood east of the House  
pretty good land for wood,

Very Truly yours  
O. W. Morse



Merrimac March 6<sup>th</sup> 1870

E. W. Morse & Co

Dear Cousin

Yours of

Feb 22<sup>d</sup> came to hand yesterday, I am glad to know that you have sold some of your real estate, this sale will without doubt place you in easy circumstances and I would ~~would~~ keep so if I were you the remainder of my life, you have been through enough to take life easy, the balance of your real estate will constantly increase in value ~~and~~ as the city increases in wealth and population and probably thirty <sup>or less</sup> years from now your real estate will be worth 2 to 3 Millions

over



but that will do you no good as you  
will have Jesus, <sup>over</sup> the river long ere  
that. keep yourself in good working order,  
and in as good health as possible is  
about all you can do in the few remaining  
years yet to be, I expect that San Diego  
in the great future will be a city of  
one or two million inhabitants I do not  
see what there is to prevent it, you speak  
of our mild winter, it is so, the warmest  
winter on the whole that I ever knew  
the Pond in the rear of my house has  
been frozen over several times but has  
broken up each time until now it  
is some 9 inches thick but rotten so that  
it is not possible to cut the usual  
seasons supply. We all wish you would  
come home to the Old Place this season  
and I would not delay to a future time  
as delays have their uncertainties, you cannot  
help enjoying the trip out and here to the full

bring your Wife and stay the season through.  
Are you "Booming" San Diego and County  
at the present time if so I have a  
plan that would reach almost every  
Season in Massachusetts - Maine &  
New Hampshire at a trifling cost  
expensively, I think it would send  
thousands to your County, if you  
think well of it let me hear from  
you,

Let your Draft be of good size so  
that I can feel relieved from the  
pressure I am under,

With kind regards

Yours truly  
J. D. Morse



E. M. Morse

March 6. 1890

nothing special