

San Bernardino March 28th, 56

Dear Mrs Morse

I have perused your letter (by Mr L) and short as it is, it gives me pleasure to think you still remember with any degree of satisfaction your visit to San B. - We are happy to hear that you arrived safely at home and have not been the worse for your journey, but we feel to lament the death of Sister Ladd's. Oh, how her family must miss her; and how lonely must be the home she has left! no doubt the change is gain to her, but the hearts of her husband and children must be desolate indeed!

I can easily excuse you for not writing sooner, considering all the little "extras," but Sister P and I often wondered you did not just send a line to say how you were coming on; your husband's joy no doubt fully compensated him for the loss of your company a few days; by the opposite we learn to appreciate every thing; tell him to let you come again!

I really do not know what to say about our coming to your place this season, we should be most happy to do so, so say Sister Pratt and Ellen

Leaving home is rather difficult, however we
will try what we can do.

Little Ellen was delighted with her presents
and I thank you very much. I have been very
sick this Spring, was confined to my bed
more than a week; it was a female weakness
I cannot describe the pain I endured: I am thankful
to say I have recovered, and have now my usual
health. Last evening we called on the br Ladd
at Sr Pratts. Miss Ellen played and sang in
her usual style, the other young ladies assisted, and
we were highly entertained: towards the close
of the evening we all joined in singing some
mormon hymns.

Bro Matthews folks have been living
in their new house for some time; it is finished
in good style, they are all doing well.

I presume Celus would be glad
to come down with us, if she should, it is to
be hoped she will not have a salt drop
along, to be made.

Bro Pratt is appointed to go on
a long mission to the Society Islands; perhaps to be
absent several years; the family will be very lonely
without him. Bro Matthews is likewise appointed
to go, to the lower country, and many others to differ out
places. The season has been very dry and we have
been much afraid the crops would fail.

Last night we had a beautiful vision, now
we feel encouraged, and think the Lord is on our side.
The whoring canybe has raged terribly here.
Three small children died living near me,
one was the little girl sister Pratt had living
with her, five years old; another was sister Gulbivian
(the family living opposite us,) a fleshy babe one year
old. My little girl has had it but, it has
not seemed to hurt her much.

The general news Mr Ladd will tell you.

Mr Coxe is just as obliging as ever, would come
with us, and be happy to do so, if the ladies
think it best. I consider him a real ladies
man; what more could I say to his credit?
This is what sister Pratt says, for she is helping
me dictate the letter.

She sends her high regards, likewise
her daughters; and wish you much joy, both
in the present, and in all future anticipations.
may heaven bless you, and grant you the desires
of your heart; and may your gentle nature never
feel the bitter pangs of dis appointment; you may say
it is a vain hope for mortals, while on earth, but the
wish is a natural one, towards all whom we love.

I have thought of a little news respecting sister
Pratt. She has a sister moved down here from She Ho
and her second daughter who was living with her.
They live on the same block which makes it pleasant for her.

I believe this is all I need to say this time.

Give our love to Sister Wane, and tell her we shall
give her a land call if we should come to San Diego.
Present our respects to Mr. Morse and tell him
we think very well of him on his wife's account,
and should be happy to have a further acquaintance.

Please write again and believe me with
sentiments of esteem Yours, &c. Delila Cox

Delila Cox
San Bernardino