

New Bedford <sup>14/25</sup> 1841

Dear Deborah,

I should have  
acknowledged the receipt of  
your last letter ere this, had  
I not thought - I should have  
seen you - It was my inten-  
tion last week to have taken  
advantage of the Excursion  
Ticket at half price for the  
Unitarian Convention &  
spent a night or so with you,  
but it so happened that we  
had three vessels with Wheat  
& Corn arrive that ~~it~~ gave  
us all extra work & Mr  
Denun took a severe cold  
& I could not conveniently  
leave - so I put it off thinking  
I should go this morning  
but our Business is such  
that Mr Warner intended to

go to New York this afternoon to  
purchase & I have again  
deferred it. We fortunately  
made our purchases before  
the rise. When do you expect  
the folks home. I want to see  
them much & if they are coming  
soon should prefer waiting  
till I could see them also.

I have taken Joey into the Mill  
with me. he has been in over  
two weeks. Mr Warner Broth  
enlisted for the War & I took  
advantage of it & put Joey in  
his place. He is making  
the whole Business a study  
doing every thing he can. I  
put a great responsibility  
on him. He is "Boss" next to  
us. He has the key of the  
Front door of the Mill runs  
early so as to let the men go into  
work. makes sales, writes



in the Books, and does a great  
deal of Manual labor, which  
is the best thing in the world  
for him - he is very accurate  
in his figures & calculations,  
which is important. He has  
mechanical ingenuity - The  
situation is a responsible one  
for one so young, but he has proved  
himself in every way compe-  
tent - he never was a failure  
of work & seems very happy.  
Besides he is earning something.  
He is much better than he was  
& I think he is <sup>in</sup> as good a situa-  
tion as can be for his condi-  
tion - I am proud of him -

He is a thorough Abolitionist  
regularly reads the Liberator  
& Standard & is thoroughly  
informed - Frank & Hunter  
Fanny & Ruth are all well  
It is no satisfaction to write I went



like you do many things - Arthur  
has seen some fighting - he was  
in the Squadron at New Orleans  
in the Nightingale, one of the vessels  
which got aground - We have not  
heard any thing directly yet, but  
presume he is safe - as no one  
one was hurt so the report says  
I presume you saw in the papers  
the death of Frederick Parke - His  
death was occasioned by drinking  
some Cider at dinner, which was  
in a Bottle, which had some  
time or other had "Cobalt" in it.  
He lived 48 hours or so - His wife  
drank but very little but she  
was quite sick though now out  
of danger - The article in the Centinel  
in the Atlantic corresponds exactly  
with Col Maggi's account - In the paper  
containing the Epitaphs I sent you some  
time since you will find one of them  
dated 1701 - Maggi is Lieut Col of 21<sup>st</sup>  
Regt at Annapolis proving himself an  
excellent officer - Mrs Morgan & Clara  
are well & stay most of the time, day  
particular at North Mills's family where  
are all well -  
Love to all -  
Yours aff. friend  
Joseph Ricketts

Ms. A. 9. 2. 30. 71