

Mr. M. J. Keehy:

158

the exchange contracted

Dear Sir - To-day you are to ~~emerge~~ ^{escape} from your ~~dark~~ ^{dark}, dismal, cellar room, ~~and~~ ^{and} for a decent and convenient habitation, located where you will have the clear sunshine & pure air of heaven without stint, ~~and~~ ^{and} where the prospect to the eye is as beautiful & picturesque as it is extensive, ^(the view is a beautiful view.) and where you and your family will be delivered from those repulsive surroundings which misfortune and poverty have compelled you to encounter. Instead of being utterly destitute of all household necessities ~~and~~ ^{and} utensils, and conveniences, you will be furnished with such a supply, ^(I mean to say) as will enable you to get along quite comfortably for the present. The contrast

to you all will be scarcely less bewildering than pleasant; and in your happiness at this unexpected turn of things, be assured that Mrs. Garrison and I will very deeply participate. ^{and} ~~When you first made your appeal to us,~~ ^{we were not a little surprised} ~~hardly know what to do, or where to look for assistance;~~ ^{your destitution was so great, that it seemed beyond immediate mitigation, to any appreciable extent; and} ~~our depression~~ ^{our sympathy was active,} ~~almost in a~~ ^{state of paralysis.} ~~been most~~ ^{most} ~~by a few benevolent~~ ^{friends,} ~~whose names you shall duly~~ ^{be communicated to you, and to whom you are especially} ~~indebted for whatever of comfort you shall find in your new situation - we being~~ ^{little} ~~more than the medium through which~~ ^{their beneficence} ~~flows.~~ ^{is} You cannot be much more joyful than ~~feel~~ ^{feel} at this change of circumstances in your condition; and we trust and believe that we shall have no cause to regret what has been achieved in your behalf, as a suffering family.

It is proper that you should know on what conditions you enter upon your new premises, and how far you may dismiss ^{anxiously} ~~anxiety~~ from your mind. Acting as the agent, for others to whom I ~~belong~~ ^{am} self responsible for the judicious expenditure and prudent supervision of the means put into my hands, ~~as a sacred trust,~~

New England Mutual Life Insurance Company.

ON THE LIFE OF

Amount,	Date,	Premium,	Policy,
\$		\$	\$

Prentiss & Sawyer, Printers, 19 Water Street, Boston.

I am authorized to say, that, in order to prevent any legal attachment of them as against yourself personally for any pecuniary liability to which you ^{are} now or ^{may} hereafter be unfortunately exposed, ^{all} the goods and utensils which you will find in your new abode are to be at your service, and for the convenience of your family, just as much as though they were formally presented to you, while at the same time they are lawfully to be in my possession, and subject to ^{such} discretionary alteration which circumstances may seem to require. This will be a safe and desirable arrangement, on all sides, ~~and will~~ without in the least interfering with your liberty of use, or making you responsible beyond the necessary wear and tear of the household apparatuses aforesaid. I trust ~~this is~~

I trust this is only "the beginning of the end," and that you will ere long find some kind of employment whereby you will be able to earn an independent subsistence, and to furnish yourself and family with comforts which it is not now in my power to procure for you. Indeed, it is indispensable that you should find something to do, for ^{individual} charity is soon exhausted, and toil is the price that ^{it takes} must be ~~paid~~ for bread. I need no assurance that you are ready and eager to do whatever your hands or head can ^{grasp} ~~grasp~~ ^{grasp} apply ~~them~~; and you need never that I shall do what I can by ^{you} ~~find~~ ^{such} ~~a~~ ~~situation~~ as you require, though you must not rely too much on my efforts in that direction, as I have ^{very} limited business acquaintances.

As for your rent, you need not give yourself any uneasiness about it for the present. I will see it paid with all due punctuality, until I give you further notice. At no time shall it be burdensome to you, ~~and you~~ ~~may~~ ~~be~~ ~~relieved~~ ~~of~~ ~~it~~ ~~by~~ ~~an~~ ~~exchange~~ ~~of~~ ~~places~~.

And now, ~~dear Mr. Shady~~, in answer to the inquiry that may arise in your mind, why I have taken so marked an interest in your case, allow me to say - I have done so, first, because your family was in a state of extreme destitution, obviously through no misconduct, but by a succession of calamities. Second, because as you were once in better circumstances, I felt a special sympathy for you as an intelligent and educated man, ~~and~~ ~~felt~~ ~~to~~ ~~not~~ ~~born~~ ~~to~~ ~~ignorance~~ ~~and~~ ~~degradation~~. Third, because you were ~~of~~ ^{an} Irish ~~extraction~~ ^{man}, which, in this country, is next to being of African extraction. Fourth, because you have long been an earnest teetotaler, and still ~~hold fast~~ ^{keep} ~~to~~ ~~the~~ ~~principles~~ ^{pledge} under

circumstances calculated to cause you to ~~revert~~ ^{revert} from it through despondency of mind. ^{Policy,} ^{Premium,} ^{Date,} ^{Amount,} ^{ON THE LIFE OF} ^{New England Mutual Life Insurance Company.} ^{No.} ^{steadily} ^{humbly} ^{adhered} ^{to} ^{the} ^{cause} ^{of} ^{impartial} ^{liberty}, and ^{struggle} ^{cause}, attempted to interest you ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{U. S.} ^{cause}, though with little success. May you ever retain a character for uprightness, and be willing to die of starvation rather than sell your manhood to obtain food or power!

Be ~~then~~ of good cheer. Join with your wife and Maria in a song of thanksgiving, and "hope on, hope ever."
 Yours friend,
 W. L. G.

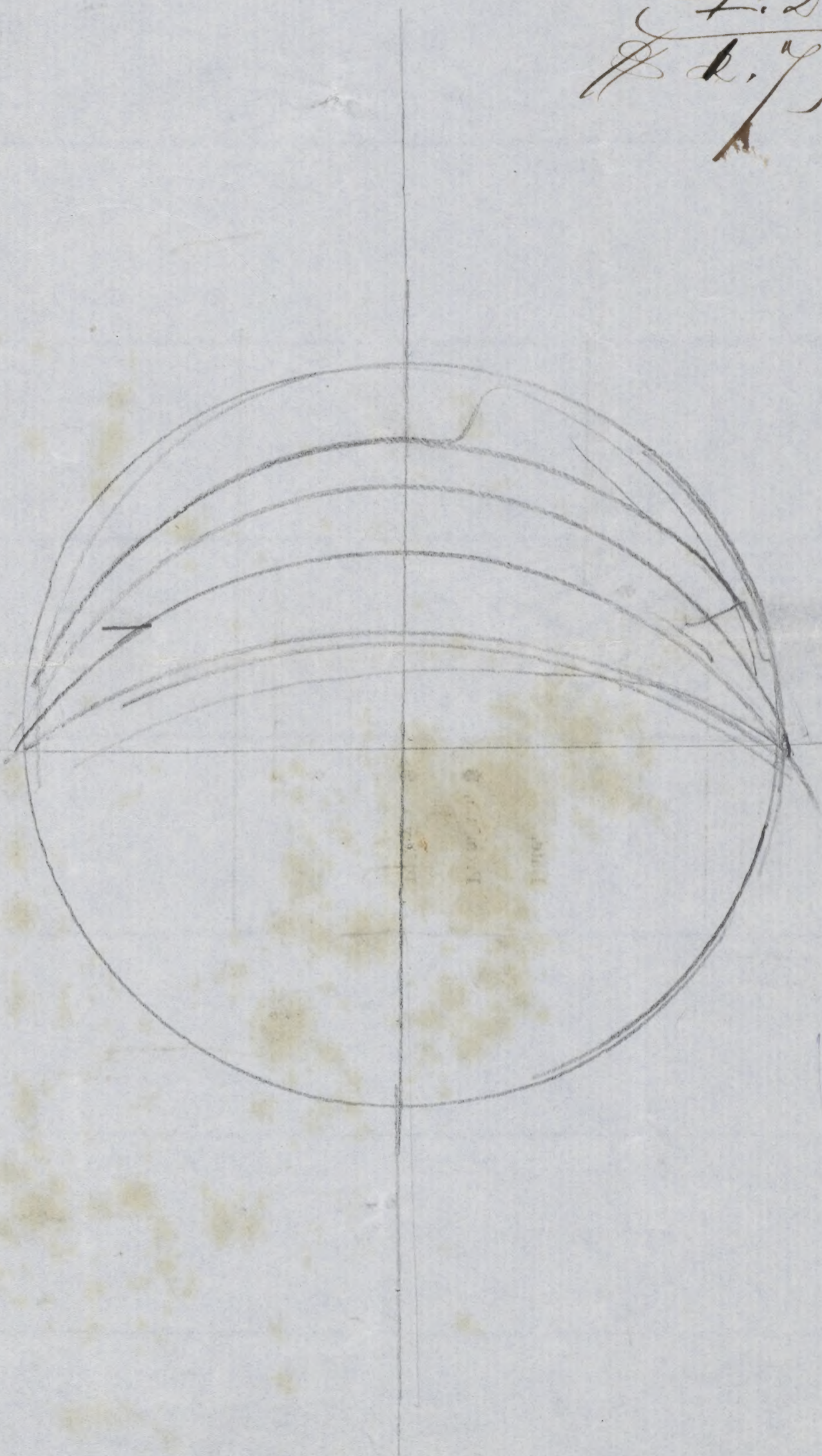
P.S. Please keep these matters to yourselves, for various reasons. While Mrs. G. has ~~been~~ ^{been} active in your service, she unites with me in the desire that you will not feel yourselves called upon to multiply your acknowledgments. Of course you are thankful, as we should ^{be} ⁱⁿ ^{such} ^{circumstances}.

Preniss & Sawyer, Printers, 19 Water Street, Boston.

$$\begin{array}{r} 56 \\ 2 \overline{) 112} \\ \underline{112} \\ 42 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 14 \\ 3 \overline{) 42} \\ \underline{42} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} \$ 1.54 \\ \underline{ 1.25} \\ \$ 2.79 \end{array}$$



1882