

Berlin May 22nd 57

Dear Father Yours of the 30th April came
and was gratefully received. You speak of a
letter which I did not answer, which letter
I did not get. We are all well also
Luther's family. The city is unusually healthy,
there having been but very little sickness during
the winter and spring. Our winter was rather
mild tho there was considerable sleighing and
some quite severe weather. Spring is very
backward. Corn is just being planted.
Spring wheat they say looks very well.
Hard times and high prices are driving quite
a number away from the city to till the
land some for gold and some for a living.
You remember a couple of men being here who
had given Harvey a mortgage on their land.
They last winter decided on to him 200 acres
and Hiram, and Hollis, both being driven by
hard times from behind the counter (which I
do not regret) have gone there, and are with
others, working the farms, and tending the
saw mill while Harvey and Herbat with

the Irishman that lived on the place last year are taking care of the farm, only hiring occasionally when work drives. Your neighborhood goes ahead of Berlin in the finishing of your church, the two frames raised when you were here last Spring are as yet only enclosed, nothing much done inside.

The Baptist Church has been favored with a revival, quite a number have visited with the church during the winter and spring.

I'm afraid we shall not be able to visit you this season. Harvey and Luther have both about as much as they can get along with to raise what money they will be obliged to, but I hope the time will come when we shall get through paying debts, then we can spend some time and means which it would be a pleasure to do visiting our once loved home. The first time I see Delea I will remind her of her promise to write to you. She was ~~the~~ last time I saw her wondering why Harriet did not write to her. You may be sure we are always glad to hear from you and I hope you will write often. Mary