

My Dear Mother

July 18, 1843 London, Canada

It is with pleasure I take up my pen to inform you of some of our adventures since we left you. We arrived in Boston on Friday morning and left there on Monday at 3 o'clock. In the rail cars for Albany we stopped that night in a very pretty little town called Springfield and arrived the next day in Albany in a canal boat for Buffalo at 11 o'clock, a distance of 200 miles, we were only eleven hours traveling, and I did not feel so much fatigue coming that distance that I would riding a few miles in a common carriage.

Wednesday morning we left Albany in a canal boat for Buffalo, which was the most disagreeable part of our journey as we had very poor accommodations, and the weather was cold, and met the most of the time we had a weeks passage. Then we arrived at Buffalo we made up our minds to take up with much advice and set our faces towards Canada and Mr Jacksons people went on to Illinois. There afternoon we went on board a steamer and across Lake Erie for Canada where we arrived on Saturday morning at a place called Port Stanley, just three weeks from the day we left home, and stopped there till Monday. Then we got a team and moved our things to St Thomas a distance of 10 miles where we hired a room for a short time to get our selves rested after our long journey and to look out for some land, we had not been there but a day or two when a son of Dan Newcome and a Mr Higgins a son of Abba Higgins, had heard of our coming and called to see us and gave us a very pleasing invitation to come and see them, they live four miles from St Thomas, George was there two or three times but as I was not able to travel about much I did not get to see them. Mr Higgins gave us the offer of a room in his house, but as there was no land near that quarter to be bought, we did not accept his offer as we were anxious to get a place of our own, after looking around for about a fortnight he met with a chance of buying one 100 acres of very good land for three dollars an acre in a place called Westminster six miles from London and 15 miles from Mr Newcombs, there happened to be a vacant house close by the land we have bought that we got leave to move into till we can get one built of our own where we moved the 28 of June 1843, and took possession of our farm, there is 25 acres of the land cleared and a fine crop of grass growing on a part of it. George has even planted. Laying, he thinks he will have about 10 loads of prime hay, he has bought a yoke of oxen and a cow, he paid eleven pounds for his

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Oxen and four for his cow; cattle are dearer here than common this summer, owing to the last winter being so hard and hay so dear, they say it was sold here in the spring as high as 5 pounds a ton. We bought flour since we came here and had it brought to us for two dollars a cwt. and butter for 5d a pound, pork for 2d and I think it full as healthy here as in Nova Scotia, it is very pleasant to live amongst our friends but in regard to getting a living, I think from our present prospect we can get a living here much easier than there. If we are blessed by a kind providence with our health and strength, and with out his blessing we cannot expect to prosper in a place, and I hope and pray that we may ever be enabled to put our whole trust in that God who has ever supported us in all our trials through life since he first gave us our being. In regards to our health we all took a bad cold on board the usual boat, and some of the children were quite sick for a few days after we got here, but we have reason to be thankful they are all getting quite over it and at present we all enjoy a very good share of health.

I had a little daughter born the 10th of the month (July) and though in a strange country, I found kind friends to attend me and feel now quite as well as ever I did so soon after being confined. The people here seem very kind and friendly, You must please to excuse writing. Hoping this will find you enjoying good health and every blessing this world can afford you We remain your dutiful and affectionate children. George and Eliza Wood

(This letter sent to Mr. James Newcomb July 16, -1843

To Cornwallis Nova Scotia)

people
My Dear Father and Mother:

I have now to inform you that after a journey of three weeks we have all arrived safe in Upper Canada.

Mr Jackson and Mr Elderkin and their families all went on to the Illinois a distance of 700 miles farther than we have come, and we are very glad since we came here that we did not go as the accounts from there and not as favorable as the accounts were, we had before we left home. There is several families in this neighborhood that went there the time of the rebellion and say they were glad to get back to Canada. They say the taxes are very high, and it is a very sickly place.

We have bought a place 15 miles to the westward of Dan Newcombe and 25 miles to the Eastward of Eliakine. We have not seen any of Eliakine's family but George has been several times to Dan, he says they have a fine farm and appear to be doing very well.

It is only three years this spring since they came to Canada. ^{at present} I have written the other side of ^{to} Uncle James's ^{that} But I have not time to say much more, people and must refer you to that for particulars.

I have written all on one page to save postage.

Give my kind respects to Abraham and his wife

I want very much to hear from them, please be as kind as to write me as soon as you receive this George joins with me in love and kind respects to yourselves and all your family and all other inquiring friends tho far distant believe me even to be your dutiful and

affectionate Child Eliza A Wood

to Mr & Mrs Obadiah Newcome