

I have not accepted of the situation
yet I don't to see if I cannot do
better. All of the folks here are as
well as usual

as I cannot think of
anything more to write I will direct
this to & else give my love to all
write soon & all of the news

Yours truly Henry S
Johnson

Tell Henry & Cholly

that I should like to have them
write to me

8th

Morrison Ill Feb 18th 1861

Cousin Lewis

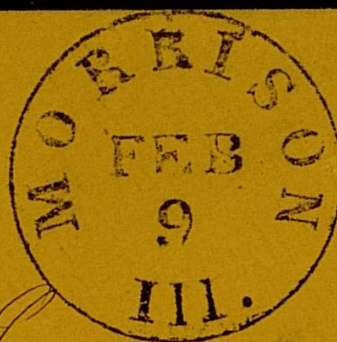
Your letter, dated the 16th of Dec
I received a short time ago, it has
been a good while & coming, but
I got it at last, it seems as if the
distance was a great deal farther
now than it was when I first came
here I used to get your letters
within five or six days after date
but now it takes two or three
months to get them

I am well now
but have been quite sick, I caught
a hard cold, then the intermittent
fever set in & I was pretty sick
for about two weeks, I have been
at school about a month before I
was taken sick (at Jyon Taba), at
Brands Commercial College, it is
one of the best schools of this kind

in the Drill West, he teaches
Comercial Law, Book Keeping Engineering
~~and Surveying~~ Railroad Engineering Steamboating
~~and~~ ^{ing} Gunmanship & Mathematics
French & German, I purchased a
perpetual Scholarship, that entitles
me to the privilege of the College
until I get a perfect knowledge of
all that is taught there, but it
be six months or ten years, I do
not think that I shall go any more
this winter. not until another fall
I should have gone if all winter if
I could get what was due me, but
I could not so I must wait until
I can, this has been a very cold
winter the snow is from a foot to
fifteen inches deep, it has been pretty
good sleighing until now the most of
the winter, the roads are covered full
now & it is pretty hard to get out
it is the coldest times here
that I ever saw there is not

any thing going on, it is
regular dead times money is scarce
grain is low & every thing is at a
stand still, there has been a great
smash up in the banks, some 40 or
more have failed, it has owing
to the withdrawal of Southern
securities, but most of them
they think will pay a part of their
indebtedness. Wheat is worth
70 cts even 18 oats 12 1/2 & other stuff
proportionally low, gold is plenty
but arduous deer & homely skittish
the exception of one or two schoolmar-
ms they are captivating, as schoolmasters
generally are, but they have not caught
this chick yet & providence forbids
their doing it, when I get caught it
will be with some better bait I
hope than suckers

there is a prospect of good
shags here this summer. I have been offered
\$15 dollars per month for eight months



Lewis S. Burdell
Bridport
Addison Co
Vermont