

Campbellstown Aug. 23<sup>rd</sup> 1843

Dear Brother

I have delayed writing too long but as I had no news to send I put off from time to time. I left Detroit on Tuesday afternoon late, and arrived home the next Tuesday afternoon. I took a deck passage and the air being damp and cool I was chill<sup>d</sup> nearly through & through. I walk<sup>d</sup> from Cleveland to Wellville on the Ohio river. I reached Wellville early in the evening of Friday. It took nearly the whole day of Saturday to reach Pittsburg on a Steamboat. I took the Stage at Pittsburg for Harrisburg on Sunday morning. It rained the whole time until I reached Chambersburg and was raw & cold. My trip cost me 40 dollars and was the <sup>most</sup> disagreeable Journey I ever performed. I found all well at home. I had intended walking the whole way except the part that had to be done on Steamboats, but the bad weather prevented me. Our haymaking was light and weather fine and so did not last any time. The harvest is also but middling and a great deal of blight in the wheat. The Corn promises to be good if the warm weather continues two weeks longer. We have had warm & rainy weather since the 1<sup>st</sup> inst. We have had tremendous rains for near a week, and one day it hailed to ~~the ground~~ it nearly covered the ground, but only for a few miles around. Harvest wages 50, to 62 1/2 per day. Wheat 90, Corn 50, Rye 50, Oats 31. I scarce know what to write. I rec<sup>d</sup>. a letter from James, and he and Agrippa were well, but times are very bad. The wheat crop was poor there. He said nothing about what they were doing in any line. From Newville the news is that Sister Ann's health is improving and that she has brought her husband another promising Son. We have formed our Lebanon County ticket. Since the adoption of the amended Constitution there is great electioneering for the offices from Congressman down to County Auditor. Each candidate tries to secure as many of the Delegates he can

in the several townships. I suppose more than half the Whig force of the County were at the township meetings to choose the Delegates. At our meeting for Londonderry there was at least 130 voters. We had an aspirant for the Sheriff atty in our township and he was a School man - which roused the anti school faction and they made a mighty effort to choose delegates averse to our man, but it goes hard for men to be brought out against their neighbor and he was sustained by a vote of 103 to 25. He also succeeded in the County convention by a vote of 15 out of 22. Our Candidate for Congress is a son of Thomas Ramsey a blacksmith who formerly lived in Hummelstown and belonged to the Derry Congregation. Dauphin Lebanon & Schuylkill elect a Congressman. It is a doubtful district. Our Sheriff candidate is Joseph Bowman a son of the widow Bowman who lived next place to Sawyers old place North. Walter Clark is the settled candidate for county Commissioner. Our money has all become good except Girard & United States. And this is but 31 percent discount. Our common currency is still State scrip & Borough bills. The Cattle & Sheep market is bad. Horse market worse, except for first rate horses and they will sell at all times & well. The half of the Turnace teams are mule teams. The cost full as much as horses but wear much longer. John Philips, son of Abraham Philips Esqr died a few days ago. He was his oldest son and left a wife & five children. Our town is quite lively. John Wolfersberger is putting up a stone Blacksmith shop & Wagonmakers shop 2 stories high on the old site. The two buildings are joined and are 72 feet long and have a Porch on the second story the whole length. He is also building a large stone house of 60 beds for his tradesmen to live in. He deals largely in Sheep & Horned Cattle. On all these he must certainly lose money. Richard Jones is head Carpenter. Richard is a tall fellow, Cold water man. Peas have been plenty, but peaches & Apples are rather scarce. The wagonmaker shop is frame.

Our neighborhood is flooded with western horned cattle & sheep  
at low rates. We expect a warm time in politics, for there are so  
many hungry aspirants for office, that they will raise the party  
spirit in spite of the people. There never was such a grasping for  
for office as there is at the present time. Every one appears to think  
that the most profitable business doing. I can say nothing  
yet how soon I may be able to start for the west.  
There are a great number of new houses a building in all directions  
and no people that I can hear of that speak of moving  
west. Few are able to move such a distance. Times with the many  
are as tough as ever. There has been no sales of land in this vicinity  
except Orth's old tavern stand and that was sold by the Sheriff  
for <sup>\$</sup>70 per acre Cash. 160 acres. It is considered cheap.  
The influenza has prevailed pretty generally over this region  
but there were no deaths by it. I did not see R. J. Grayson  
since my return, nor do I know what Mr. Grayson  
doing. The expected increase of family has not arrived but  
is shortly to be here. I am constantly at home or near  
the rest of this side must remain blank.

Harwell

Mr. John Leddes

William Leddes

Palmyra Pa  
August 25

25

1843

Mr. John Seddes

Ypsilanti

Michigan

