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Amherst.

Feb^y 22nd. 1884.

My dear Cousin Frances,

Your kind letter came to me on the eve of my departure to open Court in New Glasgow. I can not express to you the pleasure I have experienced in feeling that my few words of consolation have met with your kind approval. With the exception of yourself, I have no relatives now on my Father's side with whom I can exchange those courteous and Christian sentiments of regard that should mark the intercourse of persons connected by the links of relationship and blood. The silent dead remind the living of the tie. You say truly that the poor whom we have with us always found in your Father a hand and a heart ever open to their wants, and from the place where he spent the closing period of his life, it will be a consolation for you to know there comes from the recipients of his bounty many, many kind words and reports of good deeds unobtrusively done, that is the best and noblest incense that could be scattered over the "old man's grave". His age was 93, not 97. I am so glad to think that Stewart has been making enquiries with respect to our ancestors and I am happy to think I can give him some information that I trust he may not regard as uninteresting.

Our great Grand-Father, Joseph Morse, was the son of the Hon. Joshua Morse, of Medfield, Massachusetts. The family settled there in 1640, and were the original proprietors of Medfield. The Hon. Joshua Morse was a large landholder, a man of wealth and the representative for years of

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