

DEAR BROTHER,—Thinking that you are probably ever anxious to know how the churches are prospering and enjoying themselves, I take this occasion to write and say that peace and love prevail amongst the brethren here. We have received a visit from brothers Black and Sheppard, through whom we have been much edified and confirmed in the ways of righteousness and true holiness; and in addition to those who obeyed. I think many good impressions were made on the minds of others, which will be like the bread cast upon the waters and gathered after many days. It is good to have visits from the brethren occasionally, to show us our weakness and the want of diligence in the search of the Scriptures of truth.

Yours most affectionately,

LEONARD YAGER.

Rainham, July 26th, 1852.

DEAR BROTHER OLIPHANT.—I, for the first time, take up my pen to let you know that the brethren and sisters are well. We meet every first day of the week, and attend to the ordinance as commanded by our Lord and Saviour. As we are but few in number, and have not a good way of taking our families out, we have agreed to assemble in each of our houses in turn: but we feel the want of some of our able brethren in this part. I think that if it could have been possible for you or brother Black to have stopped for some time amongst us that there would have been a good many yielded obedience to the truth as taught by Christ and his Apostles. There are a few come out to behold our order; but a good many do not think it worth their trouble to come to hear us. We have had no visiting brethren with us since you and brother Black left us. We are living in peace, and, I may say, in love one with another.

We would be very glad to see you here again. If it is in your power, we hope you will soon pay us another visit. R.

Sydenham, July 12th, 1852.

NEWS FROM ILLINOIS.

DEAR BROTHER OLIPHANT:—Time has rolled on another year, in the course of which many of our dear friends have been called to give an account of their stewardship. Those that remain ought to reflect that they too are mortals, and will soon be called to their final reckoning. Take the mass of professors, how many live as though they were to live always. How few live with an eye fixed on the mark of the prize of the high calling—looking forward to the time when they will stand before their Judge. How watchful we ought to be over ourselves, with self examination frequently. There are so many devices of satan, and allurements by which men are drawn aside, human nature is so weak, many will go on deceiving themselves. When I examine myself I find there are many things I wish I had done different. If it was to be done again, I should change, perhaps not for the better—we are such short sighted erring beings, when we think we are doing for the best it often proves the reverse.