

South Branch  
July 29<sup>th</sup> 1849

Dear Father

I after so long a time like a  
disobedient child set down a few moments to write  
to you father you must forgive me for not writing  
before, I feel that I have transgressed the commands  
of a kind father, when I saw Norton in Baltimore  
I told him that I would write to you but he told  
me that he would tell you where I was and that  
you would write to me but I have neither heard  
from you or him since, which leads me to think that  
you did not care much about me.

but I cannot forget the home of my infancy  
nor the sweet smiles of a dear mother  
tell mother I have not forgot her yet, often  
when my head is tossed to and fro on the pillow  
with burning fever I shed many a tear for her,  
you tell her that she must forgive her  
disobedient son for not writing before,  
give my love to Norton and wife to Lettice  
Elizabeth and John, and my sincer love to a  
fond mother, an all enquiring friends  
tell them that I should be glad to see them  
all but in all probability, I never shall.

I am in good health at this time, and I hope  
these few lines will find you the same  
I have had bad luck in the last job I done the  
work came to 4000 dollars and we lost 6000  
dollars on the work, we took the work for  
rubble masonry and then they required cut work  
which cost 6000 dollars more, but we are contending  
for the extra work, if we should fail in getting  
it it will leave me on a level, I have had some  
good luck since I left home and some  
damned bad luck, the times are very dull here  
in Virginia at present but I hope they will

mends soon if they dont see shall have to stay  
and eat as we go. tell the girls to get married  
if they can and if not do as I do stay single  
I am as jolly old Bachelor as ever you  
see. my mate at this time is only  
20 lbs but I have made 240 lbs since I came  
home I wear whiskers as big as a lady's muff  
with hold for the devil and up this  
first wife.

I have nothing in particular to write  
with would be interesting to you. I hope  
you will write as soon as this comes to hand

Direct your letter to Green  
Valley Post Office Hampshire ~~County~~  
~~County~~ Virginia

My Best Respect

Your Son Joseph E. Robinson

GREEN VALLEY DEPO. N.C.

21. 2. 1831

1831

Mr. Broadbury. Robinson

Merchants Village

New Hampshire