

Letters from O.A. Conaro to E.A. Stevens and Eli Conaro to C. Stevens – Austinburg, June 17th

Addressed to Mr. Calvin Stevens, Gilboa, Blenheim, NY

To Mrs. E.A. Stevens

I received your letter dated Oct 9th first Saturday in June. I had heard some of the news and some I did not. I never heard your Father Stevens death till then. I also received your last letter June 16th and was very much pleased to hear from my old friends in Blenheim again, and with my card also. I have not much news to write at present we are all enjoying good health and a comfortable living. Our people have gone to church to Geneva today. Eli and myself are at home with the children so I think it best to improve our leisure moments in writeing while it is free.

I hope you will not neglect writeing if the post Office is moved I think a letter worth ten cents any time. You wish you could have some of the Ohio Mothers. You say --- you have to make Osborn a suit. I wish you were herer to see some of them so I will tell you how I dress Laman? He never has worn a vest yet he wears a brown linen frock coat trimmed with boben and pearl buttons and dark alpack pants his coat pattern is almost the same of that pattern you sent to me in Blenheim before I moved. The parts is the same only larger, the coat is square corners in front instead of round and pockets trimmed with boben which makes it look very neat, a linen collar and a black ribbon. He wears sleeved aprons for every day. I would send you the coat pattern but I do not like it. I had considerable trouble to make it fit.

I think Lmans apron pattern is a very good one for a loose sack coat cut it open in front he has one so. I will tell you how I dress Joseph, Aaron, A turkey red dress and panteletts and a white apron and a black belt. I have just been making him a brown linen apron with short sleeves trimmed with boben and white pearl buttons. morocco belts are very fashionable here for childrena and some big girls wear them. I presume you have the same kind of apron patterns if not better or I would send you one. I presume you will get a better fashion of Louisa Ferguson, than I can send you. I think this letter will be very interesting to all who reads it. Be careful who reads this now I tell you. I hope you will visit Lydia Lane and Emeline Brown both for me and tell them the news. I hope some of you or all of you will take a short journey to Ohio next fall. My love and best wishes to all enquiring Friends, please to tell Lydia Lane to write me a good long letter, please to over look all mistakes and poor writeing.

Yours in haste, O.A. Conaro

E..A..Stevens

I must say a few words in the back kitchen of this Lady letter. I am glad to see that you have not forgotten us although far distant. I often think of you all. I see something all most every day that brings to mind my native home and friends and neighbours. We have had a cold and backward spring. Crops are doing well now. We are now horving our Corn potatoes and maybe a little Chase our last days now goes over one hundred lbs per day. We get five cent monthly for all we make this year we have four acres of corn one potatoes one turnips 6 of oats 11/a of Barley – we shall commence haying in ten days – apples are not very plenty with us this year, last year we had plenty of fruit of all kinds. We shall not

suffer for apples I think this year there is between four and five hundred trees on the farm – flour is from 4 ½ to 5 potatoes 50 cents corn 38 oats 25 butter from 8 to 12 cents eggs 6 and 8 cents. Store goods are about the same as with you except some few things & it cost about seven shillings per hundred to get goods from York to this place. I must say a few words for Father Lane's folks. I was there last evening they said I must tell Mrs. Osborn he never was not sorry he started for Ohio they have a good home and like it much. Mother Lane says send her love to you all. If I ever come back to live in Blenheim my mind must take a great change. I think store Business is quite as good here as in Blenheim. Tell all our folks we are all heads up at present – so good night.

Yours &c – Eli Conaro

C. Stevens