

To Mr. Howarth  
Fredrick Campbell  
Marey Bond  
Nease  
Laurney  
Loun

Frederick  
May 31 1819  
W.L. Birnie

Dear Brother

I now again, sit down to try to write, as I often have  
but, start, & quit on acc<sup>t</sup> of a trembling hand,  
my hand trembles and eye sight fails, in  
somuch that I can do nothing, I cannot make  
a joint nor cut to a scribe, as to getting a Des-  
cant woman to keep house for me, I think that  
would be out of the question as a woman cannot  
be hired here for less than from 5 to 6 \$  
week, which would make expences very  
high, as to my Circumstances they are nearly  
the same as when I had the happiness of  
seeing you here, only that I necessarily compete  
to set one half of a lot going where I  
live, the Lot & a half that I still own  
is more than I can tend to, but set them out  
on the Shares which supplies me with  
plenty, my field on the hill, I set out on  
the Shares also, it is planted in Corn  
& I expect to have Corn in abundance for  
every Purpos, as this is a fine season for