

# A LETTER FROM SNOW HILL



The Snow Family reached its destination in Franklin County, Indiana Territory. A section of land was purchased, the virgin forest cleared and the soil brought under cultivation. The new settlement was called Snow Hill and still bears the name.

A large barn was built which was also used for religious services until a community church was built. Today the barn is rapidly deteriorating but the picture taken Oct. 19, 1930 shows how it once looked.

A letter written by Lemuel Snow, March 10, 1823, after nearly ten years in the new home was preserved in the Historical Museum, Boston, Mass. Contentment and gratitude characterize the contents.

my wife's great aunt  
→ Elizabeth Turrell, Chairman  
American Heritage Committee  
Gov. Othniel Looker Chapter  
117 Jefferson St., Harrison, OH 45030

Franklin County, State of Ind.

Dear Children:

It is now more than one year since we have received a line from you but having a favorable opportunity we again improve the same in writing to inform you that we have not forgotten you. We trust you have received two letters from us since that time. We sent one by Mr. Upham who moved from this country back to Nantucket in said letter we gave directions to call on your Uncle Hodges to deliver our part of the goods left us by our earthly parents to you, if he has not done it we have written to Uncle Hodges to do it. Your Brothers and Sisters here are all well and send their love to you and their friends in Barnstable.

Our health has been very good this last year which we desire to bless God for not only for that but for all blessings he has seen fit to favor us with he also blest the labor of our hands so that we have had feed and raiment enough and to spare. We sent a venture to Orleans by Lemuel, but by an unlucky shock against another boat when landing at Natchez the boat sprung a leak and we suffered considerable loss. Asa come tell us if you please what is doing in Barnstable, do the people rejoice under the smiles of a kind providence are you blest with peace and plenty make a nice improvement of those blessings. Have you a growing family, set before them no other example but such as you would be willing for them to follow teach them to profit by every means in your power or to instruct them, spare no pains in schooling your children let your government be mild and steady use no harsh correction but guide and govern without anger. If you love your family and wish for their welfare set a good example before them at all times, use no language before your children but such as you would like to hear them use, be sure to correct or reprimand them as the case may require for every wilful disobedience train them up to virtue that they may be likely to be a blessing in their day to you, and to all who may be intimate with them. Let reason guide you in all your undertakings and be just with yourself and always remember that God has given you talents to improve which is your reasonable service, do good to all men as you have ability and opportunity, live in humble obedience to the just commands of the God and father of all the mercys he has so bountifully bestowed upon you, arm yourself against every temptation and may love and harmony prevail in your border, deal kindly with all under your care. May God bless you in your family, may you live together in harmony here and may you be entitled to everlasting joys in the world to come.

March 28th winters gone the spring begins to open upon us, we have been busily employed some part of this month in making sugar, we have made a little over two hundred vailt. We hope in your next letter you will write particulars and inform us what Uncle Hodges is doing at Nantucket and why your Uncle

Hinckley moved into Jesse Crosby's house, and whether you have bought any more of the great pond farm. Likewise we would like to know how the times are with you, whether shipbuilding has failed in Barnstable and what business those fellow who have not farms turn over.

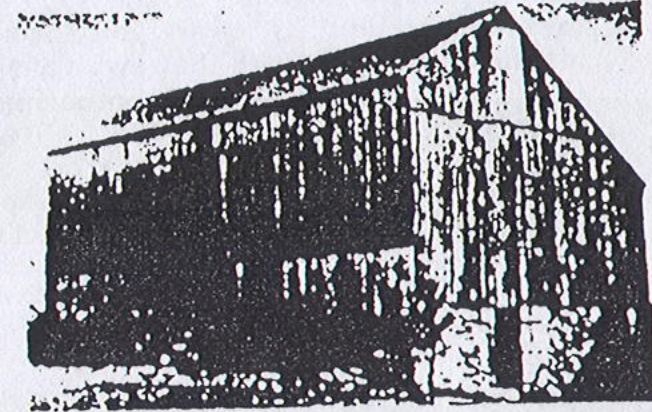
April 26th, 1823 it is more than a month since we began to write, the reason is because Mr. Benjamin Lewis expected to set out for Barnstable the first of this month but the weather being unfavorable he postponed it to the first of May, nothing new have taken place in our families since we wrote thereabove except Hercules has a daughter about two weeks old. And Joshua is in our opinion on the mending hand.

We wish for you to write to us as soon as you receive this letter and inform us of all that takes place among you and your mama wishes to know where Elizabeth Hinkley lives and where Aunt Anna lives and how she holds her age. Its now a very growing time having rye and wheat is half leg high, this is a busy season of the year and while we rise early to feed our teams, we should meditate on the numberless blessings we have been fed with from the bounty of heaven and resolve to improve every day to his glory who has fed, clothed, preserved and protected us from our infancy to the present time by residing sutable thanksgiving and praise for every blessing he has seen fit to bestow upon us.

Also remember the poor and needy give them those thing they stand in need of as you have ability and opportunity and while we study our duty to others we should keep in mind what we owe ourselves, for charity begins at home.

Then let us govern ourselves accordingly strive to bare all your woes and disappointments patiently.

Cherish family union and never suffer yourselves to be overcome with passion, shun to do evil learn to do well fear God and keep his commandments which are very broad and extend to every talent you possess for the improvement of which you are accountable. And though we are at so great a distance from you that we cannot have an interview together, yet it gives us great satisfaction to hold a correspondence with you by



Barn built by Lieut. Lemuel Snow on Snow Hill, Indiana, in 1815. Today the barn is nearly in ruins. Picture taken Oct. 19, 1930.

letters whereby we may be informed of each others concerns and give one another advice from time to time as we think may be likely to console us in times of trouble and guide us in times of prosperity. It is near planting time may you sow and plant in faith, and reap in joy that when you shall be called to give an account of your stewardship you may come rejoicing and bringing your sheaves with you, and though we shall never meet here in this world of trouble which is of short duration, we may be so happy as to meet together in the world glorified spirits never more to be separated but to live and reign together with him who hath redeemed us. Adieu.

We have had four grand children born since last November, Lemuel a daughter named Laura, Betsey a son named Warren Marsh, Hannah daughter named Electa, Mary a son named Lemuel Snow. Our children are all well except Joshua Nye he has been very unwell for three or four weeks with the fever and ague. Remember us to Aunt Anna, to Mr. Asa Jenkins and his family and to all our old neighbors and friends in Barnstable. We expect Mr. Benjamin Lewis to set out from here for Barnstable in a few days by whom we shall send these lines, and you will have a chance to write and send by him when he shall return we wish for you to inform us something more about Joshuas widow and her little boy if you can. We sent her a letter last spring before we received your letter that informes us that she was married we wrote to her if she could make it convenient to come and live with us, but she has not answered our letter, the widow Jenkins and her family are well.



May peace and plenty attend you, may love and tranquility await you through all the checkered senes that await you in this world. May no delay in preparing to meet your judge when he shall call you, gain diligence to make your calling and election sure. May your lives be preserved in love in this world and to the joys of the gloryfield saints in the world to come is the wish of and prayer of your affectionate parents.

Lemuel and Lydia Snow

P.S. April 14, 1823, Thomas do you love your studies, then strive to get knowledge and among all try getting good understanding so that you may become a shing light before your brothers and sisters. Obey your parents in the Lord and always be mindful of her that bore you, and always endeavor to ease her of every burden. Love your brothers and sisters and cultivate peace and harmony among them. Attend to learning while young and waste no time allowed you for that, strive to preserve peace among your playmates, tell no lies. But remember that he that made you sees all your actions and will call you to an account for every willful disobedience to his divine commands, Leander be not behind any of your age in well doing, nor in learning, may the time of youth be improved by you in such a manner as to make you useful in mature years and a blessing to your parents. Olive you also may be useful, improve your time and talents for that purpose, among your Brothers and Sisters, May these hints be kindly received and profitably improved by you as they come from your aged Grandfather. For Thomas, Leander and Olive Jones.