

CITY OF NAUVOO - MAY 6, 1841

Respected Uncle:

I arrived here last Saturday after a tedious journey of three weeks from the time I left Philadelphia. I am well at present and I hope that these lines will find you enjoying the same blessings. Nauvoo is situated in a very pleasant place. The soil is of the first quality and improvements are going on at a rapid rate.

I should suppose that there is something like 400 houses here and the chief has been created in the short space of two years.

The brethren seem very kind.

They have a battalion of men here called the Nauvoo Legion. They are determined that they will no more submit to mobs. They can raise 700 men, efficient for military duty already.

There have something like 400 brethren arrived here in about a fortnight. Some from England, others from Kentucky, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Philadelphia, etc.

The corner stones of the temple have been laid. The Nauvoo House is to be commenced immediately.

Board here is \$2.50 per week.

It is quite sickly here. Several have died within a few weeks with the winter fever and dysentary. ~~Fever and Ague is quite prevalent here.~~

I'm going up the Mississippi River about 600 miles to help get timber for the Nauvoo House. I get \$20 per month ~~and board,~~ and take my pay in land as money here is very scarce.

I am very well pleased with the place, it exceeds my expectation. Capitalist is wanted here very bad. I should like you to come out here after the harvest if you can and see the place. Any person bringing \$2,000 here could, I think, in a few years double the same.

I do not feel anything like denying the faith, but I hope through my service to increase it. Baptism for the dead is going on here every week, more or less. There was 450 baptized last fast day week and yesterday I saw Brother Appleby from New Jersey baptized 34 times for his departed relatives. No more at present but I remain yours, etc.

Edward Hunter