Brother

Winooski April 12 /57

Dear Brother;

I seat myself to write you again since I rec.d your excellent letter, fearing that my first may not have reached you or that your business is such as to preclude your writing me a reply so soon. All the excuse I can render for writing you, is, that I feel like it & consequently must write.

For the promptness with which you wrote me after arriving home (?) I must again & again thank you. You cannot well conceive with what solicitude I followed you back in fancy to your adopted home, & your imagination can better portray how vividly the dangers you have there passed through came up to mind as I parted with you at Burlington. While you were with us I almost forgot everything in the pleasure of your society But when you came to leave & my fancy again followed you back to "Border Ruffian" scenes the past & prospective struggles that you have & are destined to encounter, if you remain there, again came vividly to mind. In my last I ventured a prophecy that you would again have the horid scenes of last year to reenact. You must submit to slavery dictation or fight I cannot for my life see any other alternative You must either go into their election and try to vote them down or you must shoot them down. They have so far secured Government sanction, yea Government approval that they are emboldened to persevere to the bitter end or succeed in their hellish purposes. See how easily James Buchanan dropped Gov. Geary and made a Southern appointment. From the Executive department at Washington I can see no hope for your cause. What I most hope for now is that you may be able to produce good crops this season so that your population can be sustained the coming winter. I need not wish an extensive emigration to your Territory, for my wish could hardly keep pace with the facts & figures. I see that they are again trying to revive their old feuds by collecting taxes & rearresting for political crimes &c. I see