

HECTOR, N. Y., Feb. 19th, 1890.

MR. NELSON C. DURLAND:—Our dear cousin, for such you have ever been to those who were fortunate enough to receive or read letters from you from time to time. You will see that a new hand has taken up the role of correspondent. I have often thought that I should like to correspond with yourself and family, while we live, but as I learned of you through Uncle Henry Durland and Aunt Margaret Durland Adriance, from time to time, it seemed unnecessary to trouble you. I am forced now to take Aunt Margaret's place, as our Father in Heaven called her home, Jan. 4th, 1890. I came to her Oct. 11th, 1888, and staid until the sad end; yet, why should I say sad end, for life held no longer pleasure for her, while I feel assured that in Heaven was a place prepared, that her heart and treasure were there. I will send you her obituary in this mail. I have delayed a long time, I know, but after her death I was very weary. I stayed with her husband three weeks, and since I have been staying with friends, and resting. I was not sure of your address until to-day, when I looked over some old letters which I brought from Aunt Margaret's, and which she and I tried to look over, but never wholly succeeded, as she could neither read or be read to long at a time, after I went there, it wearied her so much. She enjoyed very much the letter received from your son, Solon, and was anxious

that I should answer it for her, which I promised to do, but had my hands full. I was very busy, for myself and caring for her, until Nov. 9th, when I also took her house-work (except her laundry work) on my hands, for she had such worthless help, and had a very little help, and none to depend on. Aunt has had poor health for about three years, kidney and liver disease; also what seemed a creeping paralysis of the right leg. She finally got so she could not lift her leg, but walked with the well one and shoved the right one. Last March she developed a cough, which was never much relieved. In June I believe, perhaps later, became unable to walk, except by holding something as a support, and early in September her limb swelled, and she became too weak to walk at all. Her appetite was poor all along, but about the 8th of December failed almost entirely. She went down very rapidly after this. She never had any pain in her lungs, but that nervous prostration and extreme weakness so terrible to endure. She was the sweetest and most unselfish person I ever cared for; our natural love would account somewhat for this. I have taken care of a great many people, as I completed a two years' course in a training school for nurses, in Orange Memorial Hospital, in Orange, N. J. Last April, 1889, I had worked for myself five months, when I came to Aunt. The lowest wages there, for a graduate, is \$15 per week and

expenses paid. I shall return in about a month. I was worn out when I came here, from private nursing, as we have to go out our second year, in families, and earn money for the support of the nurses' home, where we live during our course. The first year's work is in the hospital.

I am the oldest child of Mary Ann Durland, second daughter of your Uncle Peter Durland. I was forty years old the 23rd of last November. My mother died July 25th, 1855, in Thurston, Steuben county, N. Y. A few weeks after her father died. I was not yet six years old, my brother, Henry D., not four, and William Harvey a babe not ten days old. Our Grandfather Jacks' people adopted the babe, but at nine years of age diphtheria and croup carried him home to our sainted mother. Mother is said to have been a small, frail woman, with large black eyes, like her mother's family. Our father married again in two years, a very spunky little woman; contrast, for our mother was ever spoken of as very mild and affectionate, with a spicy vein of humor. My father, James N. Jack, died of heart disease, March 27th, 1886. There were five children in his second family. My brother Henry and I were tossed about until he was 14 and I 16 years of age, when we came to Uncle Henry D., to try and get some education (the desire of our father's heart, for he was a teacher.) Henry only staid three and one-half years; boy like he was spunky, and so was Uncle Hen-

ry, and he left. He now lives in Nebraska; he is married and has two children. I taught country school, but was able to lay up so little I sought a new field and home. I never felt long at a time that I had a home, and now have not a stopping place. Uncle Henry died June 11th, 1887, two months after I left, or went to Orange, and his wife, Henrietta Norris D., died at her brother's, in Chemung county, the 4th or 5th of March, 1889. The old place is deserted, now Aunt Margaret is gone. She lived on a little fruit farm adjoining Uncle Henry's on the north but on an east and west road, while our house was on the lake road, east side of Seneca lake, a lovely spot. The only one left now is Aunt Hannah Jane Durland Nichols, wife of Harvey Nichols, Sugar Hill, Schuyler county, above Watkins 7 miles, on the west side of Seneca lake. She is often laid up with a lame ankle, which breaks out and discharges, yet not when she does not keep on her feet too much. They, or rather Uncle Nichols, is farmer and speculator, and can afford to keep a servant, but don't. Her oldest son, William Durland, 1st, Adelbert Seth, 2d son, Grant Leroy, 4th son (and twin to Grace Minnie, who married a Rev. Mr. Hughey, of Auburn, N. Y.,) are in New York City, in business. Frank B., the 3d son, is in Minneapolis. Minnie died when she had been married ten months, leaving a babe 18 days old. It was bur-

ied on Christmas day, when only six months old. Aunt Hannah has light hair and blue eyes, Aunt Margaret was dark haired and dark eyes, red cheeks and lovely complexion, until a few years since.

I am now staying at a cousin of ours, who is a Mrs. B. Ely, but was formerly Miss Amanda Elizabeth Durland, only daughter who grew to womanhood of Peter Durland, son of your Uncle Robert Durland. She became the second wife of Mr. Ely last December four years ago. She was 53 years old Feb. 11th; her brother, Robert Caskey, on the lake road, is 57, and Albert, of Evansville, Ind., was 46 the 13th day of Feb. Peter H., if living, is 55; he left his family in Junction City, Kan., in July, 1887, they have had only one rumor which said he was living, but he did not want his family to know where. He wrote them from Emporia, but Monroe Smith, Mrs. D.'s brother, went there and could get no trace of him. If living, he must be crazy, as he had shown signs of it, and was too true and kind a husband and father to do so rash a deed otherwise. He is tall, once very fine looking, but now, or later on, thin, with gray hair, eyes blue. That is all of their family. Robert C. has three children, Con M., the eldest and only son, aged 19, a teacher, May Bell, aged 15, and Anna T., aged 13. Robert has had asthma all his life.

Your cousin, William Durland, died in Elmira, Chemung county, Oct. 22d, 1889, aged nearly

87. I will enclose all we have in print. His son, Jabez Chadwick, led his father a wretched life. His first wife was a sweet woman. After her death, and that of his three boys, all suddenly, of diptheria, he seemed to grow hardened, and slowly but surely intemperate. His second wife was obliged to leave him. He and his father have lived alone five to seven years. Jabez was the cause of the place being sold, and they were very poor. I longed to do for the old man, but was too poor myself, and only a woman. I could not have seen an uncle suffer, but he trusted the son too far.

Liveetta married a carpenter by the name of C. L. Austin; they were not very interesting. Cousin William and his wife were very amiable old people; I trust he was at peace with God. I am trying to persuade Mrs. Ely to send their pictures to you. They live on the east and west road, between the lake road and the old place of Uncle Robert Durland. Agustus C. Huff and wife, she that was Miranda Howell, daughter of Sally Durland Howell, live at Peach Orchard, The other sister, Mrs. Harriet Ely, lives east of her one and one-fourth miles. Robert Howell lives at Logan, still farther, or two miles east of the lake road. The other brother, Oliver, died several years ago.

Cousin William Durland was the last of his family. Nelson Casky, of New Jersey, brother of Robert Durland Casky, and whose father was,

- I think, a brother to your Grandmother Durland, died suddenly, this winter, in Mount Olive, Morris county, New Jersey.

Cousin N. C., it is my turn to ask questions. First—have you not one or two children who will at least undertake to get together a history of the Durland family of North America?

Where did your people marry and live before going to Indiana? What was your mother's maiden name; also that of your wife? Grandmother Durland was Nancy Sovereign, of Morris county, New Jersey; she has a half sister still living near Drakeville, N. J., named Betty Wolf Wilkinson, aged 82. Who was Joseph Ireton, and who was Aunt Katy? What was Aunt Anthony Hilt's given name, also Aunt Runyon? How many and who were the members of your father's family—of brothers and sisters give full names, please. Aunt Margaret could have told me much, but it tired her so much. Please tell me all you know of the four original brothers from Holland, their names, homes, children, &c. What relation were they to your father William, and my Grandfather, Peter Durland; great or great-great Grandfather, or what? What was the Lawrence, Kan., man's Canadian ancestors' name? Who was killed by falling timber? Did you ever write to or see the Durland you spoke of in Kentucky? What of the Pennsylvania Durland? What was your sister Jane's married name? What is your Arkansas neph-



ew's name? Did your son William die in the army? Do you know anything of Uncle John Durland's family?

I find a letter, dated Nov. 4th, 1887, from Columbus Edward Durland, did Uncle Henry answer it? Can you let him read this and copy what he likes; What is his son's name?

Well, dear friend, I am so sleepy I must say good night. Cousin Lib. (Mrs. Ely) is an exceedingly jolly woman. I only wish you could and would visit her. If you had only come four or five years ago. Lib. is a very fine woman; she had a lovely mother, Ermina Hager Durland. I am fond of Robert Casky and family; also was of Peter and family; they went to Kansas in 1880. Mr. Ely is a very nice man, aged 69 years. They have a cozy home; so has Robert C. Durland. He farms, speculates in sheep and cattle, also wool, and has grapes, plums, etc. Please answer this as soon as received, if convenient. Mail, at any time, directed to Hector, N. Y., will be forwarded to me. Yours, with the love natural to one akin, with very much respect and a desire to have your life and health prolonged many years, through God's blessing.

DELPHINE E. JACK,  
Hector, Schuyler county, N. Y.