

ELLIS, Keziah C., of L., and William H. Thresher of Boston, int. Mar. 14, 1841.

Martha, and Henry Farris, both of L., int. Oct. 11, 1829.

Mercy H., and Augustus J. Stevens, both of L., int. Oct. 30, 1836.

Oliver, and Mary A. York, both of L., abt. Jan. —, 1837.
[Jan. 22. int.]

Rufus R., of Fitzwilliam, N. H., and Sophia Mathews of L., Nov. 10, 1839.

Sarah G., of Medway, and William H. Flagg of L., int. Sept. 9, 1838. [Aug. 26. dup.]

ELLSWORTH (Elsworth), Abby H., and Moulton S. Webster, both unm., of L., Oct. 24, 1847.

Ann Maria, unm., of L., a. 27 y., dressmaker, d. Nath[anie]l and Nancy, and John B. Leavitt, widr., of L., a. 33 y., carpenter, s. Morris and Mary, Apr. 24, 1844.

Ann W. S. (Elsworth), unm., of Ludlow, Vt., a. 19 y., d. John and Ann, and Hiram French, unm., of Ludlow, Vt., a. 24 y., mason, s. R. and Polley, Apr. 15, 1848.*

Benaiah S., and Sarah J. Emerson, both of L., Oct. 22, 1839.

Eliza, and Cyrus Lamprey, both of L., int. Mar. 12, 1846.

Henry G., and Elizabeth Downie, both of L., int. Mar. 31, 1833.

John, and Lucy Lamb, both of L., int. Feb. 24, 1847.

Joseph H., unm., of L., a. 21 y., teamster, b. Warren, N. H., s. Moses M. and Susan, and Francis M. Walles, unm., of L., a. 20 y., operative, b. Freeman, Me., d. John and Fanny, Aug. 5, 1849.

Nathan [Nathaniel. int.] (Elsworth), and Rachel Nason, both of L., June 14, 1841.

ELSTON, William, and Abigail S. Kimball, both of L., Nov. 21, 1843.

ELWELL, Harriet, unm., of L., a. 22 y., b. Thomaston, Me., d. Andrew and Harriet, and Aaron Harriman, unm., of L., a. 25 y., watchman, b. Eaton, N. H., s. John and Betsey, Oct. 16, 1849.

ELY, Sarah S., see Ela, Sarah S.

EMBURY, Gates T., of Plaistow, N. H., and Harriet E. C. Remington of L., int. Mar. 24, 1845.

* Intention not recorded.

Eaton Jonathan, h 99 Merrimack.
 Eaton Job S, W I Goods, 23 Suff sq, h Barr's b, Lowell st.
 Eaton Greene, machine shop, h Suffolk st.
 Eaton Ebenezer, carpenter, bds Daniel Eaton's.
 Eckley Edward, Middlesex, bds Mrs Brazer's.
 Edes Charles B, clerk at L McIntire's, h Midx st.
 Edes Mrs Betsey Ann, h 29 Merrimack.
 Edgerley Jonathan, Middlesex, h Charles st.
 Edmunds Hial W, Massachusetts, h 63.
 Edmunds P D & T S, bookbinders Man b, h Cen st Chap hill.
 Edson Rev Theodore, Stone House Pawtucket st.
 Edwards John, (Fletcher &) wood & lumber near the jail, h 4 Midx place.
 Edwards Jabez, overseer Merrimack, h 140.
 Edwards Ivory, at D C & Whit's, h Mill st.
 Eagan Stephen, student, bds at Mrs Lucy Vanderlip's.
 Elkins John, laborer, h Fayette st.
 Elkins Miss Hannah, h 12 Suffolk.
 Elkins Daniel S, Suffolk, bds 12.
 Ellingwood G P, at J G Kitt'ges, bds Mrs E W Brackett's.
 Ellingwood Erastus, mason, bds 20 Lawrence.
 Ellingwood Robert, at D Dana's, h Cen st, Chap hill.
 Elliott S H, jeweler, 16 Merrimack st, h Tyler st.
 Elliott Joel, stone mason, h near Guard Locks.
 Elliott Amos, Tremont bds 14.
 Elliott Jason, Lawrence, bds Mrs H Daniel's.
 Elliott Hazen, boots & shoes, shop & h bank b Mer st.
 Ellis Edmund, carpenter, bds 25 Hamilton.
 Ellis Oliver, Massachusetts, h 41.
 Elott George, carpenter Merrimack, bds J Harper's.
 Elston Wm, boot & shoemaker, shop & bdg pl 3 War st.
 Elsworth Beniah, Lawrence, h 53.
 Emerson R S, compositor Herald office, bds 4 Dav'n st.
 Emerson Mrs Betsey, h 6 Massachusetts.
 Emerson Mrs Mary, h Lee st.
 Emerson Timothy, stone layer, bds Mrs M Emerson's.
 Emerson Isaac D, boots & shoes 38 Mer st, h Mer st Bel.
 Emerson Mrs Sarah Ann, h Market st.
 Emerson D Y, at J H Rand's, bds Mrs S A Emerson's.
 Emerson Joseph M, restorator, Mer st Bel, bds N Durant's.
 Emerson W m H, at L & Canals, h Middlesex place.
 Emerson Joseph E, Hamilton bds 6.
 Emerson Charles H, Hamilton, bds 6.
 Emerson Bela H, Hamilton, h 18.

Emerson Levi W, Hamilton bds 5.
 Emerson Solomon D, overseer Appleton, h 29.
 Emerson Mrs Susan, h 6 Hamilton.
 Emerson John F, Hamilton, bds 6.
 Emerson Mrs Betsey, h Midx st, opp App blocks.
 Emerson Joel D, at E M Read's, bds Sam'l Wood's.
 Emerson Luther, clerk at Benj Watson's.
 Emerson Alvin, Low Bich, bds S D Prescott's.
 Emerson Jeremiah, student, bds 104 Merrimack.
 Emerson Geo, shoemaker at Holton's, bds Mrs Worthley's.
 Emerson Samuel, wood sawyer, h Decater st.
 Emery Wm E, shoemaker 38 Mer st, h Crosby's court.
 Emery Josiah, Tremont, h 27.
 Emery Lewis, at Samuel Lawrence's.
 Emmons Benj, shomaker, bds Mrs Amy Hutchin's.
 Emmott Jonn, engraver at E Taylor's, bds J Dugdale's.
 England Michael, Mer print works, h 86.
 English A, painter at Newman's, h Chand b Ads st.
 Englisby Bernard, laborer, h Fenwick st.
 Ennis Wm, Appleton, bds 7.
 Enright Mrs Margaret, h Castle's b Ads st.
 Erskine Mrs Hannah, h 45 Lawrence.
 Erskine Levi B, newspaper carrier, h 17 Bascom's b Ads st.
 Evans Michael R, Massachusetts bds at Isaac Fitts'.
 Evans Geo W, Tremont, bds 20 Merrimack st.
 Evans James, painter, h High st.
 Evans Samuel W, Suffolk, h 11.
 Evans Miss Lucy P, h 26 Suffolk.
 Evans Miss Aseneth, h 10 Suffolk.
 Evans George, Suffolk, bds 10.
 Evans Joseph, carpenter, h Forest st.
 Evans Mrs Finette, h 36 Hamilton.
 Everett James H, (Ev Moulton & Co.) dry goods, 3d Univ Ch, bds 50 Merrimack st.
 Everett Edward, Middlesex bds Miss H M Bean's.
 Ewing Halice, h Mer sq, opp Colburn st.
 Ewing Samuel, batting mill, h Lawrence st near mill.
 Exley Joseph, Lowell, h 22.

FAIRBANKS ASA, Massachusetts, h 24.
 Fairbanks H, (& Farwell) provisions, Midx st, h School st.
 Fairgraves George, Midx, bds Amos Boynton's.
 Fairwell William, Middlesex.
 Fanning Andrew, Lowell, h Jefferson st.



Merrimack Company Boardinghouse, 1847

Lowell Historical Society

BOARDINGHOUSE LIFE

Lowell, Mass. Sunday July 14, 1844

Distant Parents,

It is with pleasure that I seat myself this morning to write to you to let you know of my health which is very good at present. Having a few leisure hours I improve them in writing and I have a chance to send it by Mrs Walker. I don't know as I can write half a letter as my mind is not upon it, but I will write what I can. Louisa talked of going home with Mrs. Walker but since she had her last letter, she said if she was agoing to start the next day she would not go. What she has heard I do not know. I like in the mill, but my overseer is not the best, or I might say, the cleverest. I do not make much. I did not make only six dollars and a quarter last month beside my board. I pay five dollars for my board a month. I don't know but you will think strange that I have changed my boarding place again. But I will tell you a few of the reasons why I changed so much. The first place I went to was on the Corporation. It was a very good place indeed. They kept about thirty boarders all the time. They kept six in one room. Else has some trouble with two girls she roomed with and she would not stay. We went to the second place. Our boarding woman was done very well for about three weeks. If I may say it, she was cross, lazy and nasty. She would build up a fire just before she went to bed, put on her coffee and let it steep all night.

In the morning she would get up, build up a fire and go to bed again. We would get up, get our breakfast and go into the mill. (that was when we went in before breakfast). When we came out for dinner we would have what coffee was left from the morning for dinner. We would have a little dry bread, a cracker or two apiece and that was our dinner. We would have a piece of pie once a week and that was our living for about three months. I was sick there and I don't wonder, do you? I left there in about a week after I got able to work. I now board with Mr. and Mrs. Elston on Central Street. They are first-rate folks. Judith, Else and I are all the boarders they keep. I have as much as I want and just when I want it. That is all I have to say about my boarding places. ...

... I have wrote all I can on the other side so I will write a like or two on this side. I want you to write as much as I have. Fill up your letters full. I bid you all farewell as I don't know as I shall ever see any of you again.

I have a small bill to pay to the doctor in the course of two or three weeks.

From your absent daughter,

Barilla A. Taylor

Letter from Barilla Taylor to her parents, excerpted, July 14, 1844

Virginia Taylor Collection

BOARDINGHOUSE LIFE

REGULATIONS
FOR THE
BOARDING HOUSES
OF THE
MIDDLESEX COMPANY.

THE tenants of the Boarding Houses are not to board, or permit any part of their houses to be occupied by any person except those in the employ of the Company.

They will be considered answerable for any improper conduct in their houses, and are not to permit their boarders to have company at unseasonable hours.

The doors must be closed at ten o'clock in the evening, and no one admitted after that time without some reasonable excuse.

The keepers of the Boarding Houses must give an account of the number, names, and employment of their boarders, when required; and report the names of such as are guilty of any improper conduct, or are not in the regular habit of attending public worship.

The buildings and yards about them must be kept clean and in good order, and if they are injured otherwise than from ordinary use, all necessary repairs will be made, and charged to the occupant.

It is indispensable that all persons in the employ of the Middlesex Company should be vaccinated who have not been, as also the families with whom they board; which will be done at the expense of the Company.

SAMUEL LAWRENCE, Agent.

JOEL TAYLOR, PRINTER, Daily Courier Office.

As few of the young women have their parents residing in Lowell—most of them coming up from the country for the sake of the employment for themselves— they live chiefly, but not entirely, in boarding-houses expressly built by the corporations for their accommodation. These houses are neatly built of brick, in rows or in short streets broken up into what, in America, are called ‘blocks.’ Usually, they are three stories high, with a garret, and contain six or seven bed-rooms with two beds, calculated for two persons each, so that the whole will duly accommodate from twenty-four to thirty girls, and some, I believe, more, when full.

The one I visited was not selected, but taken at a venture. It was in the evening, just as the young women were leaving their work. I was shown through almost every room from the attic to the ground floor. Everything was clean and orderly, presenting a comfortable appearance. The rooms were better than I had often had at some of the hotels; the beds of a commodious size, and the furniture sufficiently good and neat. Some of the young people had just come in, and two were in the parlor, with whom (one of them more particularly) I sat and conversed for sometime. She was tall in person, of slight figure, and rather tastefully dressed, (I think in a muslin dress,) with a gold pencil case suspended by a silk cord round the neck. She conversed freely, in good language, and without either affectation or restraint. I told them that I came from a large manufacturing town in England, and that I was wishful to see the American factories and factory-workers, that might tell my parishioners something about them. This intimation, indeed, was calculated, perhaps to interest them, but certainly to put them on their guard. But I did not observe that it produced any check to free and frank communication.

In this place, I might just notice, that their manner of living in their boarding-houses is amply liberal for the payments they make. They have three meals a day, combining tea or coffee, at each, along with substantial provision; and differing but little, in the variety, I believe, except that hot meat is the prevalent advantage given to the dinner. The two systems of boarding-houses, that of the corporations and that of private arrangement, serve as a check upon each other; so that if any abuse were to creep into either, or if the quality or quantity of provision, or the amount charged, should be unsatisfactory in the one class, the inmates¹ would, in most cases, (except where no private lodging-houses are situated near their mills) have the opportunity of removing their residence. For though some of the corporations require their female operatives to reside in the houses built and owned by them, and most of them consider it right and proper that they should do so, yet where the mills happen to be situated in the midst of private houses, large numbers of the hands sometimes board away from the corporations.

¹ Inmates: In this context the word refers to a person who dwells with others in the same house, i.e., the mill girls.

The Price of Board. We have received a communication written in reference to the price of board in the boarding-houses of the various Corporations. The writer thinks the price is too low, and that it should be raised. It is a subject about which we know very little; and it is one of those questions which, we think, the newspaper press, strictly speaking, have little to do with. It is a question which lies between the boarding-house keepers and the Corporations, and by them it must be settled. It is a private contract between the parties. The question whether one dollar and twenty-five cents per week is a sufficient remuneration for the board of a female, is a practical one. We believe that has been the price paid by the Corporations nearly ever since Lowell had a being. If, then, after these many years of trial, it is ascertained to be inadequate, we think it is the duty of the Corporations to raise the price. Our theory is, that there should be allowed for board a sufficient sum to procure good healthy food, and plenty of it, and that the persons who keep the boarding-houses should be fairly remunerated for their toil and care, not only that they should make a living, but that they should be enabled to support and educate their children and lay by something for old age and want.

Our correspondent says that under the present prices the boarding-house keepers find it difficult to make both ends meet, and that many of them have their furniture mortgaged, and many of them fail, leaving their shop-keepers' bills unpaid. If these be the results of the low price of board, we want no argument to prove that the sum paid is too little, and that it should be raised. It is not only unjust, but cruelly unjust to work and toil, as we know our boarding-house keepers do, and then, after all, not be able to make a living and pay their honest dues. But if these results should be from improvidence in the management of certain boarding-houses, why then it leaves the question an open one, which ought to be thoroughly investigated by the parties, to see that justice may be awarded to all. The price of board should not be so low as to induce boarding-house keepers to provide poorly and inadequately; but, as we have said before, it is a matter about which we know comparatively nothing. We have, however, heard very frequently complaints in regard to the present price of board, and from persons of the highest respectability. We think that there is a very general sentiment in the city that the price at board is too low. If by these remarks we draw the attention of gentlemen to the subject who in a great degree have the control of it, we presume that we have performed all the writer of the communication desired us to do; and as the writer is a boarding-house keeper, we hope that the facts which he possesses will be laid before the parties in whose lands it rests.

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