### Distant Brother

I now seat myself to write you a few lines. I am well with the rest of the folks except Father, his leg grows worse. It is so lame that he cannot walk without a cane. I have not time to write much and I must be brief. We recieved your letter Sunday the 24th. We was glad to hear that Barilla was alive [as we] thought the next news may be her death news, but we hope not we all hope that she will get well and come home and see the folks. The reason that Father does not write is because he is not able, his health is very slim and he wants that I should write in his room Byron, keep good courage and do the best that you can. We received two letters from Mr. Elston. He stated that Barilla wished Mother to come there and take care of her but she is not able to undertake so long a journey. It will cost more for her to go there and pay her expenses than it will to hire a nurse there and pay her. I think it best, and so does Mother, for you to get Judith Fox or Susan Taylor to take care of her or someone that she is acquainted with. As for money, it is a hardy case to get any. Here is \$20 that Father sends and it is all that he can get. Find out how high her bills are so as to let me know. Write again as soon as you can. Excuse the poor writing for I was in a hurry. Do not let anyone see this. Father says if here is not money enough to pay the bills, you must give your bill and try and pay it.

Joseph C. Taylor

### Absent friend

I seat myself again this evening to write a few lines to let you know of my health which is the best it has been for three years past. Till my babe was five months old my health was rather poor since that my health has improved very fast indeed and I know how to prize good health too for three months I had to hire a girl just to do my house work. Erasmus's health is good and he has been a very good natured child ever since he was three months old he is a fat fellow too i can tell you when he was five months old he weighed 21lbs 3/4 but he does not exceed Mary B. Boy hers is a fat a chunks as ever. ...

... Father was drafted to Paris as juryman had been there about a fortnight and calculated to return home the week following, but on Sunday returning from meeting had got to his boarding place turning up under the shed his horse took fright, tacked short turned the gig over throwed him out and broke both bones in his left leg. ... very slow he can bear but very little weight upon it he has not been out anywhere since he came home it was some time before he got over his ride coming home he does not look much as he used to I can tell you he is very pale and poor. ...

... Father wishes you was at home he needs someone to rub his leg oftener than Mother can get time to. Mother says you did not come home last fall as you agreed and you must be sure and come next spring and stay with her next summer and make some woolen clothes get rested and go again if you want to next fall I think one year is long enough to stay at a time. I do not approve of girls staying to the [illegible] till they get all run down and good for nothing to work in the [illegible] nor anywhere else. Stockbridge says one year is long enough before you rest - I hope you will not do as she did she laid out all her money in clothes is sorry for it says they will get out of fashion and be good for nothing. fetch home clothes to be decent and put your money out to interest and you will have something to buy more with when they get out of fashion. Fetch home your clothes and I will help you make them it costs so much to have them made. ...

... You must be sure and come home on Father's account if nothing more he is rather childish he has been sick so long and he wants Barilla [&] Byron to come home and see him all of the little boys say they want to see B. they were very much pleased with their pictures. Mason Wait married to Elizabeth Prince. He says Viola is going to marry Doct Woodoine of Boston. I do not like the plan of girls going off and marry somebody they know nothing about. Doct This or somebody worse. I hope you girls will not have any such foolish notions for you know not who nor what you are forming acquaintance with. You may think they are worth three thousands but may prove to be worthless miserable chaps. I would not give one good old steer or plough-jogger for all the [illegible] that could stand between here and

Lowell. Good evening write as soon as you receive this you must write to Father when you calculate to come home he will be anxious to know.

Florena Austin

## Dear Daugther

I now sit down to answer your letter. The folks are all well but Florena. She was here yesterday and spent the day. She looks miserable and is miserable. Her baby is very cross and almost wears her out. Your Uncle Sam is here, and his wife, and they send their love to you. Your Aunt Louisa has got a young baby and she is better than she was when you saw her last. We have heard from Byron since we wrote to you last. He is in Winthrop. He sent word he was coming home soon and we are now looking for him every day. We heard you was in Boston the fourth of July and told Freeman Smith you was coming home in the fall. We shall look for you at the time you promised to come home when you went away. Florena wants you should come home and help her for she has got a great deal to do on some home and go to school. Mary Ann is keeping the Roxbury school now. Louisa and Julia Ann are well. Julia Ann went to meeting with Mrs. Isaac Virgin last Sunday. I wish next time you write you would tell me what you mean by Joining the Association, what Association it is. Your Tiger Lilly that you brought home has grown most up to the eves of the house. It looks beautiful. From your affectionate mother

M. Taylor

Mr. Taylor Sir

Excuse the liberty I have taken to address one, to whom I am in a measure, a stranger, and although not personally acquainted with you, I trust, my Name will pardon my writing. As I have a chance to send by a gentleman who is going to Rumford in the morning, I thought I would write and see if I could hear anything of my friend Byron. I have had no tidings of him since the letters he wrote me in September. I have wrote him twice since, and that he might not want for news have send him Papers as often as once a fortnight. I have thought he might be sick and not able to write. If so I would thank you to drop a line to me, I should be glad to hear from him certainly.

Mrs. Walker was well when I saw her last. I have had Barilla moved to the cemetery at Lowell on the 14 of Nov. 1845. Also the stones put up, the whole of them is \$12.75. I had a name put on, the cost of which was 1.12, the putting them up, 50 cts. These I claim to pay for, which will leave the cost to you at only \$11.12. They are all good straight stones and engraved in good taste. I have wrote all the particulars in my letter to Byron, and I will not repeat it here. I am looking for him in Lowell in May or June. We have quite a body of snow at this time, but have had a light winter in respect. It is poor sleighing in the city now but good out in the country. But I have wrote more than I intended and must close.

If you should write to me, please say in care of Day, Convers & Whittredge, Central Street, then I shall be sure to get it.

Please accept my best wishes for your Health. Also my respects to Mrs. Taylor.

Yours truly Pliny Tidd

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This is a record of the land, animals and crops owned by famers in Roxbury, Maine in 1850. It provides a "snapshot" look at the types of products farmers were producing, acquiring, and consuming.

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Schedule 4. Prodictions of Agriculture in the Town of Roxbury in the County of Oxford State of Maine during the Year ending June 1, 1850 as enumerated by me, on the seventeenth day or July 1850. Jhurla Wilson Ass't Marshal.

	Acers o	of Land		pı			Li	ve Stock, Ju	ine 1st, 18	50.			Produce during the Year ending June 1, 1850.							
Name of Owner, Agent, or Manager of the Farm	Improved.	Unimproved.	Cash Value of Farm.	Value of farming Implements and Machinery.	Horses.	Asses and Mules.	Milch Cows.	Working Oxen.	Other Cattle.	Sheep.	Swine.	Value of Live Stock.	Wheat, bushels of.	Rye, bushels of.	Indian Corn, bushels of.	Oats, bushels of.	Rice, lbs. of.	Tobacco, lbs. of.		
James P. Mitchell	20	140	200	30			2		2	6		50								
Phineas Fabor	80	120	1,400	50	4		3	2	11	2	1	417	25		60	50				
Solomon M. Merrill	25	75	300	20	1		2	2	1	5	1	101			25	20				
Isaac Jenne	20	80	200	12		2		2				40	10	6	30	20				
Moses M. Merril	25	50	400	100	1		3	2		9		155	9	33	50	100				
[illegible] Mitchell	30	130	470	30	1		2	2		22		157		16	30	40				
Benjamin Mitchell	30	33	300	30			1	2	11		1	138	12		50	30				
John Beare	40	120	150	75	1		1	2		10	1	155	5	30	30	20				
Joshua M. Merrill	15	85	150	110			2	2				64	5	5	15					
Leonard K. Morse	12	188	150	10			1	2			1	60	5							
Abele Taylor	23	30	200	20			1			9	1	30		8	40					
John B. Terombly	23	150	200	20			3	2			1	75	11	5	4	5				
Jacob Smith	35	65	500	25				2	1			60			10	18				
Elbridge Rundlett	15	85	150	10			2	2	1	3	1	75	11		28					
Nathaniel Philbrick	40	60	300	70	1		2	4	6	6	2	297	9	3	10					
Ebeneser Gale	50	100	650	100	1		5		5	10	1	240	12		39	20				
Nathaniel Taylor	40	90	650	100	1		3	2	2	10	1	233	9	6	15	40				
Charles Roy	50	50	500	35	1		2	2	4	11	1	178	5		20	45				
Charles Thompson	20	30	150	15			4	2	1	11	1	100	10		20					
William Porter	70	150	1,500	50	2		4	2	2	12	1	190	6		75	260				
Lang Wright	50		800	50	1		4		1	19	1	135	10	5	50	75				
Perry Halle	50	50	500	25			2					30		17	10	30				
John Walker	25	175	700	125	2		4		4	6	1	180	7	7	20	8				
John Richards	100	60	600	50	1		2	2	2	13	1	204			20	100				
John Reede	80	200	1,000	100	2		5	2	6	27	2	316	27		60	30				
James Huston	50	125	500	20	1		1	2			1	160		10	13	40				
Amasa Richards	50	100	500	75	2		2	4	6	12	2	260		20	110	25				
Rufus Bunker	40	60	550	25			4	4	13	19	2	275			15	200				
John Huston	40	60	550	25			4	4	13	19	2	353			50	300				
Stephen B Taylor	100	200	1000	100	3		5	11	12	21	2	291	20		28	95				

This is a record of the land, animals and crops owned by famers in Roxbury, Maine in 1850. It provides a "snapshot" look at the types of products farmers were producing, acquiring, and consuming.

					Produc	e duri	ng the `	Year e	ending J	June 1, 18	50.															
														نِ		Hei	mp.					9S.				ed.
Gainned Cotton, bales of 400 lbs. each.	Wool, lbs. of.	Peas & Beans, bush. of.	Irish Potatoes, bush. of.	Sweet Potatoes, bush. of.	Barley, bushels of.	Buckwheat, bushels of.	Value of Orchard Products in dollars.	Wine, gallons of.	Value of Produce of Market Gardens.	Butter, lbs. of.	Cheese, Ibs. of.	Hay, tons of.	Clover Seed, bush. of.	Other Grass Seeds, bushels of.	Hops, lbs. of.	Dew Rotted, tons of.	Water Rotted, tons of.	Flax, lbs. of.	Flaxseed, bushels of.	Silk Coccons, lbs. of.	Maple Sugar, lbs. of.	Cane Sugar, hhds, of 1,000 lbs.	Molasses, gallons of.	Beeswax and Honey, lbs. of.	Values of House-made Manufactures.	Values of Animals slaughtered.
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# Barilla Taylor's Family

### **Parents**

Stephen Burleigh Taylor b. Apr. 4, 1797 d. Sept. 5, 1879 born in Pennacook (now Rumford), NE; spent 7 years on the sea; married Melinda Hinkson in 1822 whereupon he took over his father's farm in Roxbury, ME; fathered 12 children; died in Roxbury, ME

Melinda A. Taylor b. April 22, 1802 d. May 27, 1887 born in Belfast, ME; married SB Taylor March, 1822; bore 12 children in Roxbury; inherited husband's land upon his death; died in Roxbury, ME

## **Siblings**

Florena S. Taylor b. July 8, 1823 d. Nov. 7, 1905 married Amos Austin in 1842; had five children in Byron, ME; moved to California in 1858 to join her husband who had left 2-3 years earlier; died in Salinas, CA

Byron Chesley Taylor b. Aug. 15, 1824 d. June 25, 1854 married Charlotte Gregory; lived in Bangor, ME; fathered two children; died of a heart attack leaving his wife destitute; Charlotte was forced to send the children to other homes

Joseph Converse Taylor b. June 16, 1826 d. Mar. 28, 1866 called J.C. or Con; never married; worked a number of jobs, including railroad work, land clearing, and as a clown for the circus

Barilla Adaline Taylor b. June 29, 1828 d. Aug. 22, 1845 called Rilla or Adeline; never married; worked in the textile mills in Lowell, MA from October 1843 - August 1845; died in Lowell, ostensibly from a work-related illness

Morvalden A. Taylor b. April 13, 1830 d. May 31 1925 married Sarah J. Barnard Feb. 7, 1855; fathered two children; moved to Albion, MN in fall of 1857; family followed one year later; fathered another child; farmed and milled; moved to California; died in Roxbury, ME

Oliva Maria Taylor b. May 21, 1832 d. Sept. 15, 1837 her birth and death are recorded in the diary of Rufus Bunker, a Taylor neighbor who kept a journal from 1833-1860 (at Rumford Historical Society)

Stephen Marvin Taylor b. Feb. 14, 1834 d. 1920 called Marvin; moved to Minnesota in 1853; married Elizabeth Maly in Feb., 1868; farmed

Melchoir E. Taylor b. June 8, 1836 d. Nov. 10, 1913 married Philena Dean in July 1864; inherited family farm from his mother; died in Roxbury, ME

Orellana F. Taylor b. July 9, 1838 d. Aug 25, 1897 called Jack; married Fanny Small in 1860, then Hattie Oldham (date unknown); owned a store in East Sumner, Maine

Renaldo Eugene Taylor b. Aug. 16, 1840 d. Jan. 2, 1917 married Mary Hodgen in Boston, MA (1st) & Kate Jeffreys in Gridley, CA (2nd); fought for Maine in the Civil War; became Postmaster in Gridley, CA

Philand Delano Taylor b. Jan. 15, 1843 d. Apr. 19, 1919 married Addie Thompson; moved to California with Renaldo in 1870; returned to Roxbury in 1873 because his wife refused to move; lived on part of the Taylor family farm

Araminta Adelia Taylor b. Feb. 5, 1846 d. Oct. 5, 1886 called Adelia or Delia; married Joseph Gleason (1st) & David Lebrok (2nd); had two children; died in North Waterford, ME

## Grandparents

In addition to Barilla's immediate family, Stephen Burleigh Taylor's parents lived in the Taylor home until they died.

John Taylor b. Aug. 24, 1762 d. Mar. 25, 1840 born in Newmarket, NH; fought in the Revolutionary war; married Comfort Burleigh in 1787; fathered five or six children; moved to New Pennacook (now Rumford) in 1793; bought land and moved to Roxbury in 1813; died in Roxbury, ME

Comfort Burleigh b. June 18, 1866 d. Mar. 25, 1841 born in Newburyport, NH to Joseph and Comfort Stevens Burleigh; married John Taylor in Sanbornton, NH in Feb., 1787; raised five or six children; first child born circa 1788; died in Roxbury, ME