

“OSWEGO, October 12, 1805.

“UNCLE HANSARD: I feel it a duty I owe to you to send you a few lines by Mr. Patillo, who will probably soon start for Granville.

“Knowing the little opinion you have of people moving to new countries, I thought it would be some satisfaction for you to hear that we were well pleased with the one we have found and feel well paid for the trouble of moving so great a distance. I must not tell you all the fine tales about our country lest I should tempt you to break up and move here immediately. This, I think, would be rather an imprudent step for you, considering how well fixed you are there. However, we should be glad to have you for a neighbor upon almost any terms.

“I have written to the gentlemen of the store some little account of our corn and potatoes. If I were to write you the truth about our garden, dairy, pastures, hay, etc., I don't know whether I would be believed, even where I was raised and am known not to be given to telling lies.

“In the course of a few years, when we get better fixed for living and raising crops, I suppose I shan't dare tell all the news for fear I shall be given up for a common story-teller. However, we shall have the pleasure, at least, of faring sumptuously, though we may be afraid to tell of it lest we shouldn't be believed. All that we shall ask will be for our friends to come and see us and know for themselves the truth of the matter. Such as have no wish to move from their old country I would advise to arm themselves strongly against temptations, for I don't know but even you yourself, who think so little of moving, would be tempted, strongly tempted, to break up and begin the world anew in this land of good things. But I must break off from this subject to tell you we enjoy abundance of good health and ask you how you, Aunt Sally and the little toads are. I wish you abundance of health and happiness, and hope you may enjoy both. Polly joins me in sending our best love, requesting you to present the same to Cousin Polly, Cousin Sally and their families. We shall always be glad to hear from you.

“Believe me to be sincerely yours,

“JOSEPH SPEED.

“MR. RICHARD HANSARD, Mecklenburg, Virginia.”

The following extract from a letter about Dr. Joseph Speed, written by his granddaughter, Sally Peters Speed, of Tompkins county, N. Y., is so expressive it is given here:

“Joseph Speed married Mary Goodloe Harper, sister of General Harper, of Revolutionary fame, who married a daughter of Charles Carroll, of Carrollton, one of the signers of the Declaration of Inde-