

our children
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home to visit us
on the 48 annive-
rsary of our marri-
age. our son had
not been at-
home since
last N. Years
we were so glad
to have them
all home again
Our sincerest
love to your
father & mother
yourselves
and family
affectionately
P. D. & M. S.
Allen

Richfield, Oct. 26, '96

Mrs. Mandie Bates and husband

Our dearest friends.

We are glad
of your remembrance of us
as old time and special friends
and thank you much for
the very cordial invitation
sent us to your peoples anni-
versary, and of the dearly loved
friends of our youth. How
quickly the time has passed
since we were associating
together with our little family
and enjoying much comfort
in a true and sympathising

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Friendship, I feel very thankful for all of these earthly friendships formed, and only hope & pray that that they may all be consummated in the Home above.

I am so sorry that I have to write you that we feel that neither one of us are able to make the visit. We would enjoy it so much more than we have words to express it. Mr. A has suffered very much with his ankle trouble this summer. It is very sore and painful & he is obliged to favor it in every possible way. And I am not at all strong this past summer. I think if any thing will make us young and nimble again 'twill be when we hear that McKinly has gotten the Election. We rec'd your sons graduating card, I am so glad that your sons are trying to make a mark in the world, for there are so many boys & girls that are mere ciphers with all their privileges.

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[From top of 1st page:] Our children have just been home to visit us on the 48 anniversary of our marriage. Our son had not been at home since last N. Years. We were so glad to have them all home again.

Our sincerest love to your father and mother, yourselves and family.

Affectionately,

P.L. & M.S. Allen