

Why did you want to know the name
of my grandfather. Is there any one by
the name of Anthony in your place

Ruthven March. 9. 94

Helen. We received your welcome ^{letter} last evening, and will
now reply, but may not write much news that will interest
you. I have been sick all winter. I was not out of the
house but twice in six weeks & then not over five minutes
I am a little better now, and walk out a few minutes
Every day. My disease is Bronchitis. I Expect to get
better as warm weather comes, but I do not Expect to
Ever have good health again. My disease is of long standing
and gets worse each year, I am nearly seventy six years
old and It is hard to cure old people of long standing disease
your cousins, the Brookshank girls are not married yet. Two of
them are teaching school and one remains at home. There are
also three young men in the family, one of them married
James Freeman lives in Oregon, and the report is that he is
doing well. He never married. Aunt Ann lives in Parker
South Dakota. She and Polly Ann was well a few weeks ago
Sallie went and made Ann a visit last fall. I was not able
to go with her. You Enquire the name of my grandfather
I think his name was Seth. He was from Taunton ^{Mass} Massachusetts
He and all the Anthony's there were Quakers, and were natives
of new England states. Yes I knew of Laura's death. Nelson
and me keep up correspondence several times a year, and
Nelson sends me a paper Every week, and has done so for
over two years. It is very hard times here, but little money in circula^{tion}
and hard to get. We have had a warm pleasant winter. There is no snow
here. Farmers are sowing wheat

I wish you may not know that she that was
born 8th Mooney lives in Kansas. If you wish to write to her
direct to Mrs John S. Rice, Clinton Greenwood County

For several years I have wanted to go to Kansas to see you all
but I have never had the money that I could use for that purpose
and now I have not the health to travel, besides I am now told
to go far from home. I do not expect any of you will ever
come here, and the only thing left for us is to write to each and all
of our friends that are so far distant apart
Give my best wishes to Marretta and to Catherine. Sallie will write
some, and I will close.

John A. Anthony

Ruthven Iowa

Well Helen it has been a long time since we
heard from you before. I began to think you had all forgotten
us. Was very glad to hear from you once more. Perhaps
you never heard about our little boy. Frank our youngest
was married four years ago the eleventh of May. His wife
had a little boy the 24th of the next March. When the baby was
twelve days old ~~his~~ ^{his} Mother died. And we have had him ever
since. He will be three years old the twenty fourth of this
month. He is lots of company for us old folks. He is a great
boy to learn. He knows all his letters; large and small, and
knows the boy stood on the burning deck, Twinkle
little star, Mary had a little lamb, and several others.

But here comes Fred and I will stop and put
him to bed. I wish you would write oftener.

You must excuse this writing, for Fred comes up against
my elbow and makes me make some horrid marks.

You asked about your little girls picture which
one you sent us: you never sent any, or at least we never got
it. I did not remember that I ever heard you had a child. Aunt