



LETTER OF NARCISSA WHITMAN

This last page of the letter to her sister Jane, September 18, 1838, shows the smudge of her little girl's hand. Alice was eighteen months old. The final two sentences read: "You see Jane, Alice has come & laid her dirty hands on this letter & given it a fine mark. I send it as it is so that you may have some of her doings to look at & realize perhaps that there is such a child in existence." Courtesy and permission, Houghton Library, Harvard University.