

Forest City, Marquette Co. Minn
April the 14 1863

My Dear Cousin

I received your most welcome letter and was very glad to hear from you I am well at present and hope that these few lines may find you enjoying the same blessing. Samuel I do not think that I can write any thing that will be of any importance to you but I will do the best I can we are still building at this Stockade we have it almost done the snow is all gone and the weather is beautiful and warm the ground here is froze over four feet where we are digging the trenches for the stacks but ^{the} frost is going out fast the Captain tells me this morning that Andrew has his discharge he was a good deal better the last letter I had from him he was on furlough and was about to return to the Fort he will go home in a couple of weeks I am not working to day I have a man working in my place until Monday morning

I took my gun and went up the River
about three miles and have just got back
I see some Ducks and Geese but did not
get any Shots this is an awful lonesome
place there is but three birds in this
place and two of them are Irish and the
other Norwegian it makes me feel as though
I would cry up and blow away. Nothing more
of this I am glad to hear that I have so
many Patriotic Cousins such as Officers Boys
and others I think that I shud be as
much ashamed of them as they are of me
here after any body that want help to support
this Government is not friend of mine and I
do not care who hears if he is my Brother
Samuel you know what the people used to say
about me and Andrew and some of our own
folks there of the Ramsey Boys they will
be Hanged or go to States prison before
they be come men this was the common
saying now this saying sinks deep in my
heart it makes the very Blood run cold
in my veins I think that I will be an
example for some of these some people if I
live if I cant come back there I mean
you never may expect to see my face
nothing more of this

visit soon and after and give me all
the particulars tell me where you are going to
stay this summer on whose place
tell Jane M. that I send her my love and
respects and that I would write to her if I knew
where to write you may let her read this if she
wants so if you see her

now about that I wrote to you before
I am satisfied now you may say no more
about that
nothing more at present But remain
yours affectionately

David Ramsey
Minnesota Historical Society

April 4

Forest City[,] Meeker Co[.], Minn[.]
April the 4, 1863

My Dear Cousin

I received your most welcome letter and was very glad to hear from you I am well at present and hope that these few lines may find you enjoying the same blessing Samuel, I do not know that I can write any thing that will be of any importance to you but I will do the best I can [W]e are still building at this stockade [W]e have it almost done [T]he snow is all gone and the weather is beautiful and warm [T]he ground here is froze over four feet where we are digging the trenches for the stocks but the frost is going out fast [T]he Captain tells me this morning that [*David's brother*] Andrew has his discharge [H]e was a good deal better the last letter I had from him [H]e was on furlough and was about to return to the Fort [H]e will go home in a couple of weeks I am not working to day I have a man working in my place until monday [sic] morning I took my gun and went up the River about three miles and have just got back I see some Ducks and Geese but did not get any shots [T]his is an awful lonesome place [T]here is but three Girls in this place and two of them are Irish and the other Norwegian [I]t makes me feel as though I would dry up and blow away [N]othing more of this I am glad to hear that I have so many Patriotic cousins such as Kisers Boys ~~and~~ and others I think that I shal [sic] be as much ashamed of them as they are of me [H]ere after any body that wont [sic] help to support this Government is no Friend of mine and I do not care who he is [*even*] if he is my Brother Samuel you know what the people used to say about me and Andrew and some of our own folks [T]here is the Ramsey Boys [T]hey will be Hanged or as go to States prison before they Be come men [T]his was a common saying [N]ow this saying sinks deep in my heart [I]t makes the very Blood run cold in my veins I think that I will be an example for some of these same people if I live [I]f I can't come back there a man you never may expect to see my face [N]othing more of this

[W]rite soon and often and give me all the particulars [T]ell me where you are going to [?] Farm this summer on whose place [T]ell Jane M. that I send her my love and respects and that I would write to her if I knew where to write [Y]ou may [I]et her read this if she wants to if you see her

[N]ow about what I wrote to you before[,] I am satisfied now [Y]ou may say no more about that

[N]othing more at present But Remain yours affectionately

David Ramsey