



Horatio P. Van Cleve and
family papers.

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Cincinnati March 27 57

Dear Charlotte

After so long a time I am
once more writing, hoping to now have an
answer in two weeks, just before your last
letter of Jan. 16th I had written one to you;
and ~~one~~ to Melvina; ~~to~~ neither of which have
I received any answer. ~~as~~
Mrs. Melvina had. Ellen has been here ~~since~~
some time in February - and you will be thankful
to hear that there has a daughter 4 days old
this evening, and that she is doing as well as
possible, having one of the best nurses I ever saw.
She had a long and distressing labor, but
her usual fortitude sustained her, and our
merciful God in whom she trusted forsook her
not - We have all been looking for Melvina, and
that was one reason of my not writing, as we had
supposed that he would have been here in this
month - Mr. Melvina is now in New York - hopes to be
here again in a few days - is anxious to conclude

his present business as soon as possible, but even
say nothing certain until his return. I have
not been very well for the last two days, but I
think nothing more than ^{from} excitement, and anxiety
for Ellen as I feel better this evening. All the
children are well and delighted with their
little sister Mary, and all her family are well
and I am very glad that you have not yet gone
back to Michigan, and all the past cold winter,
with certainly ~~but~~ satisfied when the pleasant
weather comes on. I think that I shall like winter
in this milder weather, but do not know if I can
endure the winters there. I am growing old
and rather useless, but if I can do anything for
Malcolm's comfort, shall feel happy, and he has had
a hard life, and if I can contribute in any
way to his domestic comfort shall feel that I
am not living in vain, and then it will be
a great happiness to be so near you. Mr. Miller
writes that he saw Mrs. Thompson and that she
had given up her ^{anticipated} visit to you next summer
and I am glad that you have received a grandniece
room in your house and I anticipate much pleasure
in sometimes occupying it. Now do write

on the receipt of this letter and tell me of
every thing I wish to know. I am anxious to see
our native Americans, and am pleased with your
account of them. Dear little Chick is a fine boy,
all your family have had good health the
past winter for which I am thankful, suppose
Miss Dalton will be engaged in his business
and I am glad that Malcolm is now able to assist
him in good business. I hope with him will be
a man, or at least write and let us know
when to expect him. Ellen sends love to you
and all, all quite well.
8th Ellen is still doing well, and I feel quite
well this morning, you don't know how anxious
we are to hear from you all. Let me know
what I shall particularly need, as I can so much
better provide myself here, than any where else.
Give love to the parent, best love to Mr. B.
and all the children. Let Anne, if she expects
to be married at any other place but her father's
new home she is mistaken for grandniece intends
to be present at the ceremony, and she may write

Mr Thompson to that effect and if he does not
think her of sufficient importance to make the
journey, he can put it off to a more convenient
season

The Duttons send love to Minnie & her even
is still raging here. Mr. Mellen is anxious to see
Mellotown in good bye again my dear child
much love to all - your Mother

Yours truly

with affect

Chas. Clarke

Pack Orchard June 29th 57

Dear Charlotte

On Mr. Mellen's return from Cincinnati two weeks since bringing Mr. Burdicks's letters I see how much you were all disappointed at my not returning with Malcolm — it seems now that I can hardly realize that I let him go without me; but it was not well when he left, and he said, as he should not go to housekeeping this year but pretty certainly next I had better wait until then — had I been quite well I should have said I will make Charlotte a visit this summer, attend Anna's wedding, and then, can better judge, what can be done hereafter — I don't think his advice was good, still 'twas meant in kindness to me, as I think both Mary and Malcolm thought me more unwell than I was, and unable to make the journey; and the more I think of it the more I regret that I did not insist upon accompanying him — let us try to feel my dear sister that this disappointment like our other many trials, will eventuate for our good — we think much, and talk of you a great deal — Mr. Mellen feels Mr. Burdicks's perplexities, and troubles, and will I know do all

in his power to visit him — it would be very pleasant —
could I have my remaining children where I am, or
near me, for the remainder of my life; perhaps it
may be so yet; let us hope still; if it is God's Holy
will, we know that — He will order all things for our
best good — let us strive to do our duty, and
leave the future to His unerring wisdom —

My best love and good wishes to Anne, she is
just entering life, or rather just assuming it.
responsibilities, may she long enjoy the happiness which
I have no doubt will be hers — all that Grandmother
wishes to knit all her grandchildren a pair of winter
socks, and ask him if he wishes to be included, among
the little ones — we should all be delighted if
they could visit Punch Orchard on their way to Newport.
Ellen had intended to have written you a long letter
to day, but she had a bad colic last night, which
makes her feel so weak and good for nothing
that she can hardly sit up — remember us all with
affection to Mr. Banclive, and the children — I shall
not have time to answer Fizz's letter this evening, but
will try to do so when Ellen writes, the girls must
try and make themselves so good, and useful,
that you will be better able to spare Anne —

I have written twice since Malcolm left, and have
hoped every post would have brought your answer, but
our mail is still ~~so~~ uncertain, that I attribute my
disappointment to that cause — has Malcolm left
for the Bk. post country? and has Ellen's mother gone
with him? how do you get along with your large family?
did Malcolm leave you a man, or woman, or both,
to assist you? let me know about every thing when
you write —

Your mother

with much love

B. A. Clarke

Cambridge Nov. 1st 1857

To P. Van Buren Esq

Dear Friend

Dear Sir

Dear Sir

I received your letter of the 21st inst. he cannot say anything to
hear of the rumor but he does not credit it.
He gave Walter to it & sent it to him.
He received any unfavorable news of the
news. I have not yet received any of your
money for your land. but hope to soon.
I received a letter from Mr. Thomsen on the
same day I received yours. I wish you
would let him know that when he talks with
him, he expected to have funds in my
hands. that I had to pay for him between
1200 & 1300. upon the day of his purchase
under his letters was to have paid - but could
not. I had to pay it - this took all the
means of Mr. Clarke in my hands. I have
had much money to pay out this year
and many affairs are very urgent
here. When Mr. Clarke last left I sent
Charlotte \$15 - on the 8th of the 11th I
sent \$300. It has given me some trouble
to get along with my money matters - but
hope not to be troubled very much here
or very much longer. though many matters
are very hard here.

J. A. Dawson

Frankford Nov 15th 58

Dear Charlotte,

Your letter of Oct. 21st came a few days since.

I am very happy that Anna is so happily married, and that you were with her, also that every thing went off pleasantly; I trust that your trip will have strengthened you for the hard winter, and enable you by the divine blessing to support all the trials which may be before you. I hope that Mr. Vanleeve will soon be better, by rest, and your good nursing, he will I know keep up his trust in a kind Providence, who does not willingly afflict or grieve the children of men; and that he will look beyond the sorrows, and disappointments of this life's journey, to that brighter land where afflictions are not known give him my best love, and say that my prayers ascend daily for him, and all the dear ones at Minnesota.

I hope that the Indians will not be troublesome, but feel anxious for you all. Mr. Mellen is now in Cincinnati will be in Frankfurt most

the winter, getting his Mack water Chamber —
Mary has moved into her new house, and invited
me to spend the winter, but, as it would leave
Ellen so much alone, I decided not to go. Mary
will be confined this month, I hope she may have
a son — do you hear of Malcolm — how are the
children all, Lizzy and Ellen will be young ladies
before I see them should I live; I have been quite
sick this fall, indeed ever since Malcolm left, have
had very low spirits, felt that I should live but
a very short time — am now very much better
feel renewed energy, take an interest in all
that is going on, and am I hope submissive and
under my great afflictions, trusting that it may be blessed
to my everlasting good — Our dear children improve
daily and seem in perfect health — little Ellen is a
sweet child very lovely and interesting I often
think that her mother is so blessed because she has
endeavored to be a true mother to our little motherless
ones — as their mother did by Willie

Ellen has written Mont. and Anna, will write you
very soon, sends much love to all — I want
you should write as often as possible, or if you
have not time, Lizzy, or Ellen, or Cliff, can just

say how you all are, and particularly how
Mr. Dwell is — remember dear Charlotte that you
have at Rock Orchard true friends, who will assist
you under all circumstances, and that we all feel
that you judged ^{best} when you went with Anne to
New York — is Malcolm at home? tell him to write —

May Heaven have you now and ever, in
His holy keeping — prays you

Affect. Mother
C. A. Clarke

Peack Orchard Jan 31/1858

Dear Charlotte,

Your welcome letters to Ellen and myself came only last mail, we were very anxious to hear of your arrival at home, and hope the next time you write, you may be able to say that Mr Vanclave is quite well — I was very glad to hear that Anna is so happily situated, and that she is attracting such a pleasant circle of friends about her; we have all written but have not as yet received an answer; I think you did quite right in going with her to New York, have not yet seen Mary, but feel sure that when I come tell her all the circumstances, she will be of my opinion —

I am glad that your winter had not been as severe as usual in that latitude — we have had an uncommonly warm winter ^{here} have sat up stairs without fire, and often with the windows open yesterday and to day it has been cooler, but Mr Swanson has worked about the grounds almost every day — Mr Mellen is making very extensive improvements, you would hardly know the place, and when the slack water is completed it will be nothing to go to Cincinnati, and the Sandy river will be settled by pleasant people — we are to have a

Church, School, and all the other blessings common
in civilized society - Mr Mellen has or will, write
Mr. Vanclue all about what is being done - we expect
him home this evening, has been absent five weeks, indeed
almost all winter, only came home and spent a
few days ^{at Christmas} leaving the following Tuesday -
Ellen had written me that Mr. Kymour was at Long Prairie
I am very glad that you have at least one neighbor,
thinks that he must be a relation of ours, do ask him -
the Indians I trust are quiet, as you say nothing about
them - I think if you get safely through this winter you
will have surmounted your greatest difficulties;
your little people will be getting larger, and better
able to assist you, and the fine healthy climate will
~~give~~ ^{have} strengthen their constitutions - is Mabel at home
now, I suppose he has grown so much that I should hardly
know him - Lizzy and Ellen must write as often as they
can, and I will answer their letters - Ellen has not answered
my last, Rebecca wrote her also, she is now learning to
write, and will I hope in a short time be able to write
a good letter - the children are all improving, Ellen devotes
almost all her time to them, has an excellent nurse for her
baby - who is ~~an~~ ^a very fine beautiful child -

*cb. 2nd

Mr. Mellen returned home for a few days last

evening in good health, and spirits, left Chicago
and all well - I intend to spend about a
month in Cincinnati this spring, going down early
in March - do not know if I can visit you this
summer, although nothing my dear child would give
me more pleasure, do not expect me, it is hardly
probable still, not impossible, shall write you from
Cincinnati - suppose Mabel will be down early
in the season, as he has seen a pair of bright
eyes in Ohio, with seventy thousand dollars attached
to them, has he mentioned the subject to you?

do write as often as possible, am very glad that
you have a good school, it relieves you of the
trouble of teaching, and you have so many other
duties to attend to - Ellen is teaching the children
at present and they are coming on very well
Mabel is ~~very~~ ^{very} bright and little Belle is quite
the pet of the house - Mary Queen is the same
frank honest hearted child, very like her dear
mother, and Willie is improving much, and will
I trust make such a man as his father will
be proud of, Ellen's influence over him is quite
remarkable, he is a dear good child, and
God will continue to bless her efforts, and give
her His grace to perform all her duties as she trusts

in him, and asks daily, for directions and guidance —
my love to Mr. Vancleve, and the children —
tell the girls that Lucenie has learned to work,
and ~~seems~~ has own cloths, they of course do all those
things, but she is not eight years old yet, and we
think it is doing very ^{well} for her — they must write
me all about their studies, and the little boy
too, is Szymon as much of a student as ever? I suppose
should. I live, I shall hear of him as among the
first scholars at the ~~new~~ University; Horatio
too, and Albert, and the ~~three~~ little ones, Nathan
Clark, will I hope be known as the grandsons of
him for whom he is named —

good bye my dear child may Heaven
continue to direct and support you —

Your affect Mother

C. C. Clarke

[Feb. 1858?]

To Ruth & Margaret Feb
Blair Linn 58

you do not know what fine we had
the day before yesterday it
was snowing we put on our
scooters and caps and went out
you must know that this is
a warm climate and it was the
first time we have had ^{snow}
the children are making a
noise about me, and I can write
a great deal better I would
like very much, to see you up
here & it is such news
and I must not write any
more now

your affectionate
cousin Mary

Dear Charlotte

Mary is taken with a violent disposition to write, and thought to day she must write to Lizzy —

I am adding a line, to inform you of your Aunt Woodbridge's death, which sad event occurred last month, I only heard of it through a Hartford paper, and know nothing of the particulars — have written your Aunt Susan, and as soon as I receive her letter, will let you know —

Ellen and Mr. Mellen went to Cincinnati yesterday, will only be absent a few days, went down on business — the two last days we have had our first snow, but it has nearly disappeared to day.

and the weather is quite mild again, and the sun is shining brightly — we are all well — I am hoping to hear from you soon. remember me to Mr & Mrs and the children, We have as yet rec'd no letter from Mr. or Anna with much love

Yours affect. Mother

C. A. Clarke

20. May, 1858. Cincinnati.

My dear -

Long. Train 3.

Please have for Saint Louis
before the 25th Inst. Mother and Mrs.
Mum. are both here - he has heard
from Mother - she writes this is Thursday
O'Connell and Mrs. also were to have sailed
Monday last for California -
Mother Charlotte born there always in
my, for as at - which she thought by
the family very favorite - she is white
my, Mrs. Mother - Mrs. Charlotte is
of going to New York. or having
Long. Train - is the last depen-
dence - and when I say we are
chicken so. I include Mother Thomson -
you have heard Mrs. the Court -
have a claim which will be valuable
- and if ~~the~~ Charlotte too only
think so. might be very comfortable
for me. I am now wrapping up in
the. I: have. and have not
when I shall get out of it - but
Long. Train than look where as.
my, have as long as you mean
them -

What a lot you will be able to do -
I think that you will be able to do
no work in making the paper even in
spoke of in a communication to the
Museum of connecting you clear by paper.
There is the long Prairie problem.
And that is the character of the
the determination of having to do so
soon. It is communication - but I have
been assured satisfactorily to the
Museum assumes me - Should you
and Charlotte Am. Cl. Am. to accept
my proposals - former. your answer
of acceptance - Give us the height
of the Chilom in inches - and the
length of their feet - with further
lastly - make over to Lincoln -
and. and my. and further. do you
not accept - Let to the best advantage
to my. cattle - horses.
Honey. Construction tools - things
supplies. &c. in fact every thing
belonging to the person or any. for? Cash
and. having further any account taken
by - that. then be any time over the
balance with my. the little ones.
to. Mrs. J. D. Lincoln of Am.

To say. Some of my things for 2.
Prairie they. it was. proposed. to
to do. from June then - I left
the. Blackfoot in a light boat 25 ft
long - by 3 ft. Eight men - relief
bars - 4. or a time. might be any
and one man. to help them making
the of up the object to for him in
St Louis. in time to make your return.
&c. - let go - and return. when.
I have. absolutely to or to pass
with the牛皮 - and having the
for. woods. to take up the things in
a letter - I have not been knowing
or what means. my museum will be
required in St Louis - but of the
only a sketch - Give my love
to. Charlotte and. your Chilom. the very
little folks. I think much of them -
and. good. by my. with your
brother

Truly yrs.
Wm. Clark

Dear Charlotte,

I am adding a line to Mr. Lincoln's letter to say
that I hope you will think it best to remain at Long Prairie,
it seems to me if you feel satisfied to stay, that it will be
the better thing for you, and altho I should be most happy to have

your ~~kind~~ ^{kind} ~~letter~~ ^{letter} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~fact~~ ^{fact} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~I~~ ^I ~~most~~ ^{most} ~~likely~~ ^{likely}
have to ~~live~~ ^{live} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~fact~~ ^{fact} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~what~~ ^{what} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~think~~ ^{think} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~your~~ ^{your} ~~duty~~ ^{duty} ~~and~~ ^{and}
for the ~~benefit~~ ^{benefit} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~our~~ ^{our} ~~children~~ ^{children} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~will~~ ^{will} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~we~~ ^{we} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~think~~ ^{think} ~~that~~ ^{that}
Malcolm ~~will~~ ^{will} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~far~~ ^{far} ~~an~~ ^{an} ~~offer~~ ^{offer} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~he~~ ^{he} ~~could~~ ^{could} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~altho~~ ^{altho} ~~he~~ ^{he} ~~can~~ ^{can}
never ~~pay~~ ^{pay} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~dollars~~ ^{dollars} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~cents~~ ^{cents} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~care~~ ^{care} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~have~~ ^{have} ~~taken~~ ^{taken}
of his children ~~still~~ ^{still} ~~he~~ ^{he} ~~will~~ ^{will} ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~a~~ ^a ~~kind~~ ^{kind} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~affectionate~~ ^{affectionate}
brother can ~~do~~ ^{do} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~express~~ ^{express} ~~his~~ ^{his} ~~gratitude~~ ^{gratitude} ~~both~~ ^{both} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~Mr~~ ^{Mr} ~~Bancroft~~ ^{Bancroft} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~yourself~~ ^{yourself}
I feel that the ~~distance~~ ^{distance} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~already~~ ^{already} ~~shortened~~ ^{shortened} ~~which~~ ^{which} ~~separates~~ ^{separates} ~~us~~ ^{us} ~~I~~ ^I ~~hope~~ ^{hope}
that all my ~~remaining~~ ^{remaining} ~~children~~ ^{children} ~~will~~ ^{will} ~~endeavor~~ ^{endeavor} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~make~~ ^{make} ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~self~~ ^{self}
less, by ~~mutual~~ ^{mutual} ~~interchanges~~ ^{interchanges} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~regard~~ ^{regard}; ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~Malcolm~~ ^{Malcolm} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~yourself~~ ^{yourself} ~~will~~ ^{will} ~~never~~ ^{never} ~~forget~~ ^{forget} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~wolf~~ ^{wolf} ~~hunt~~ ^{hunt} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~St~~ St ~~Mellens~~ ^{Mellens} ~~where~~ ^{where} ~~he~~ ^{he}
deprived him of his cap, to place it upon your head, to shield
you from the ~~variety~~ ^{variety} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~weather~~ ^{weather} ~~—~~ [—]

I find the ~~children~~ ^{children} ~~much~~ ^{much} ~~grown~~ ^{grown} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~improved~~ ^{improved} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~going~~ ^{going} ~~to~~ ^{to}
spend a ~~short~~ ^{short} ~~time~~ ^{time} ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~their~~ ^{their} ~~hunt~~ ^{hunt} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~Rich~~ ^{Rich} ~~Orchard~~ ^{Orchard} ~~when~~ ^{when}
they will ~~return~~ ^{return} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~school~~ ^{school} ~~des~~ ^{des} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~present~~ ^{present} ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~have~~ ^{have} ~~no~~ ^{no}
bad habits, ~~they~~ ^{they} ~~are~~ ^{are} ~~very~~ ^{very} ~~good~~ ^{good} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~obedient~~ ^{obedient} ~~I~~ ^I ~~shall~~ ^{shall} ~~write~~ ^{write} ~~again~~ ^{again}
as soon as I reach P.B. ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~alt~~ ^{alt} ~~season~~ ^{season} ~~down~~ ^{down} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~river~~ ^{river} ~~—~~ [—]

Left Ellen ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~well~~ ^{well} ~~I~~ ^I ~~shall~~ ^{shall} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~very~~ ^{very} ~~anxious~~ ^{anxious} ~~to~~ ^{to}
get your ~~next~~ ^{next} ~~letter~~ ^{letter} ~~am~~ ^{am} ~~much~~ ^{much} ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~hopes~~ ^{hopes} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~mild~~ ^{mild} ~~weather~~ ^{weather}
will be ~~beneficial~~ ^{beneficial} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~Mr~~ ^{Mr} ~~Bancroft's~~ ^{Bancroft's} ~~health~~ ^{health} ~~my~~ ^{my} ~~love~~ ^{love} ~~to~~ ^{to}
Lizzy, and ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~little~~ ^{little} ~~ones~~ ^{ones} ~~hope~~ ^{hope} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~if~~ ^{if} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~decide~~ ^{decide} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~buy~~ ^{buy}
you will be ~~able~~ ^{able} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~keep~~ ^{keep} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~girl~~ ^{girl} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~took~~ ^{took} ~~up~~ ^{up} ~~as~~ ^{as} ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~better~~ ^{better}
to get along with a ~~person~~ ^{person} ~~who~~ ^{who} ~~does~~ ^{does} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~exactly~~ ^{exactly} ~~please~~ ^{please} ~~you~~ ^{you}
than to ~~run~~ ^{run} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~risk~~ ^{risk} ~~of~~ ^{of} ~~change~~ ^{change} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~now~~ ^{now} ~~dear~~ ^{dear} ~~children~~ ^{children}
must close my ~~letter~~ ^{letter} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~(until~~ ^{(until} ~~I~~ ^I ~~hear~~ ^{hear} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~have~~ ^{have} ~~dec~~ ^{dec}
= ~~ided~~ ^{ided} ~~otherwise~~ ^{otherwise} ~~I~~ ^I ~~shall~~ ^{shall} ~~hope~~ ^{hope} ~~that~~ ^{that} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~will~~ ^{will} ~~remain~~ ^{remain} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~Long~~ ^{Long} ~~Prairie~~ ^{Prairie}
Prairie ~~—~~ [—] ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~much~~ ^{much} ~~love~~ ^{love} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~daily~~ ^{daily} ~~prayers~~ ^{prayers} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~you~~ ^{you} ~~and~~ ^{and} ~~all~~ ^{all} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~dear~~ ^{dear} ~~ones~~ ^{ones} ~~at~~ ^{at} ~~Long~~ ^{Long} ~~Prairie~~ ^{Prairie} ~~—~~ [—]

I remain your
affectionate brother
C. C. Clark

look over the pack of school letters, you will find that but it is rather late perhaps making!

I was very glad to receive some stamps. I hope the little ones are well. Paul & Mark are great friends I suppose.

is John so pretty as he was before he left home kiss all for me I must leave room to write to Mother.

God bless you father
darning your little
Lizzie

Dear Mother

You said that the 24th with you was Thanksgiving & so it was but Cousin Anna had lost her book & did not have much of a dinner but we did not. We had a very nice Turkey & some nice Desert. Cousin Julia & Emme Fanny or I did not go to Church in the evening. Fanny & I went to Mr. Thachers (I spoke of them in one of my other letters) they have a little boy named Alfy. after Uncle Johnson & one named Johnny. the youngest they have 5 boys no girls. We had a very nice time and a candy bag.

I have finished my dress
Julia made it longer it
is made with a yoke & a
belt Julia thought I had
better have a new hoop
which cost \$4.50. she thought
my de-lain dress to short
and she got another which
cost \$5. a plain de-lain my
one was getting spotted and
got some paint off of it
since next day.

Miss Fanny Tompkins
your age invited me over
to see her and meet some
little girls I went & had
a nice time her sister
had a party the night
expected me and Julia
she had some little boys
to dance with me who
were about half my height
but I had a cold & could

New Haven Dec 13th 1858

Dear father

I received a letter
from you & Mother yesterday dated
Nov. 27th. I was very glad to
hear that you liked the Bible
I sent you so much Mother
gave me a small one something
like it which I love dearly.
I am very sorry that I do
not write ^{to} I am not so much
worried about him as I would
if he had not said in one of
his ^{letters} after he had engaged with
Mr. Miller that he would be
up in the winter paying for
hay would be scarce this winter
if they were hoping to make
a good deal by it & he said that
we must not expect to hear
from him in a long ^{time} if you

Dear

Wm. C. Clev

140 1/2 St

Brooklyn

N. Y.

Long Prairie Oct. 19th 57

My own dear wife

I write to night, sincerely hoping that you will be on your way home before this letter can possibly reach Brooklyn. The mercury has stood several degrees below freezing all day and makes me fearful that the ice may catch you if you do not hasten back. Just think of your being landed at Hastings, of my paying storage on you there till January, & then have Jack Spears bring you up here in a snow storm. Think of it and then hurry up your Cakes. — I am still home you see on the sick list. Not very sick, last enough to make me feel mean and good for nothing. — Our potatoes (our only crop this season save two pumpkins & three that were good for nothing) have been gathered, and amount to about 230 bushels more or less. We have a barrel of pork & a pig to be butchered, a barrel of cranberries, also a cow to be converted into beef, ditto one of that can boast of, but one haw. We have grouse occasionally, with now & then a duck or two, and also a goose that Malcolm shot some days ago. Which said goose we devoured, and we now over hope to kill some deer when the snow falls.

It's my dear child many times for me. Love & Mat, Mrs. Hanson & family
I enclose letters from Malcolm & Lizzie which will make up for this short epistle.
Children are all well & happy.

So you see we are not calculating on staves. But I must confess we all are pretty badly off as it respects our upper and nether garments. Hugh for instance has coats and pants, for boys, boots & caps. Dresses and undergarments for girls, shoes & bonnets, stockings gloves & mittens for all. I would suppose your stock of cracker was diminishing rapidly, from the crash I heard last evening and again this evening. When we replenish, it wd be well to substitute tin, but then they wd melt that if they c^d not break it. We keep three dogs.

Feeling that I am unable to complete my contract for surveying, in consequence of my health I have written to the Surveyor General, requesting him to cancel it. I have worked too hard & been in the water too much for my good. Hope to get over the ill effects of it by rest and care.

Take the liberty to open a letter to Anna from Upsalanti wishing to learn how they were there. Hope Anna will write a good long letter to Mary and wish Mary could visit her in Brooklyn. I know Mary is a particular favorite of mine.

Am very anxious to see you to learn all that you have to tell me about our dear child, and how you have been prospered in your journey. Cannot bear the idea of your coming from Brooklyn to Sag Prairie alone. But our Heavenly Father will be with you so you will not be alone. May He take care of you & bless you. - All send love.