

Horatio P. Van Cleve and family papers.

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Version 3
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My dearling Mother

I read your dear letter from Ypsilanti last Wednesday or Thursday, and you may be sure we were all very, very glad to hear from you. I am now hoping every day to get a letter from St Paul from you. I hope you are at home now, but I am almost afraid you have not got there yet. Yesterday morning when we got up there was snow on the ground, but in an hour or two it was all gone. It has been very cold here for several days, though to day it has been much warmer. I have practised some today, and have finished turning my underclothes.

Most is going to day to see his cousin about giving me music lessons.

I think Most has had some thing to do over in his as we had winner some time ago and he has not come yet. He was [illegible] to write this [illegible] yet, [illegible] can [illegible] all are well and send love. Ed has had [illegible] put in his letter [illegible] Good night sweet Mother, God bless you all. Your [illegible] Minnie

I was so glad to hear that you had such pleasant company on your journey. We have not heard from Alex Gunn yet. I hope he will write. It is very strange he has had no card, I am sure one must have been sent. — I wish I could find out where Mr. Lens is. I believe you wrote our address on the card you sent him, and, if he ever gets it, perhaps he will call. I hope he will, I should like to see him.

Mort will try to find Sophie's book the "Russel Family," if he can get it we will send you a copy. I am very anxious to see it. It is strange Sophie has not written to us, I wonder if she is married. I should like to hear from her. Have you heard from Cincinnati or P. O. yet? I have not heard a word, Grand ma has never answered my letter. I suppose they have "Cut" us.

Never [illegible] I can live with out their love, though I should be very sorry not to have Grand ma love me. — I believe Mort loves me better every day, I know my love for him grows every hour, and every minute. — I am very well indeed, except being a little unwell (don't let the young gentlemen see this letter.)

I have sixteen papers ready to send to Long Prairie, six for you, five for Malcolm, and five for Cliff. I hope you will get them all. Mort brings home the "Independent" every week, to send to you. Mort had a letter from Cliff last week, but I can't hear much of the children or Father from his letters. I wish dear Father would write to me and dear Malcolm. I wish he would write too, I think Malcolm is one of the smartest boys I ever knew, if he would only be content to study for one or two

Years what a [illegible] make perhaps I am a little wicked but I know what some of our relations think of Malcolm, and partly for that reason, I am so anxious that he should go a head of them, and their children, that, if I could I would do any thing to help him, Oh! My dear Brother do try, I am so proud of you now and I will be so very very proud of you when you are a man if you will only work, and study hard, and rise above our kind friends, though I must not be so bad and hateful - that must not be the only thing to spur you on.

Dear Mother you will write to me often wont you? good long [illegible] Love and kisses to dear Father, Malcolm, Cliff, Lizzie, Ellen, Horace, Seymour, Mortie, Sam, Nat, Mollie, and my sweet little Paul dont let any of them forget Nannie - Love to Kate - Remember me to Mr & Mrs Seymour -

Brooklyn Nov 30th 1857

My dearest Mother

Mort wrote to you last evening, while I was reading in the Parlor, (he wrote down there) and has told you all the news, I don't know that there is any very great news though.—

We had a grand time last Thursday, (Thanksgiving day) I wish you could have been here, and then in the evening we had such a pleasant time at Mr. Partons, you should have seen Mr. Haney, Cahill & Jenny, act, they danced & and did a litter of every thing that was funny.—

Mrs Parton spoke of you and said she liked you so very much, what she saw of you that night in the car, they are all very delightful people.— they will all come here I guess some evening ~~soon~~ when we will dress up and have charades and tableaux &c. Mort has told me how I can help him very much this

I send the papers— I for you & I for father and Mrs Mitchell to Lizzie—

winter that if by copying for him he says I can do it — I am so glad, it makes me so happy to think that I can do any thing for him, he is so very good & kind to me, I think should be perfectly happy if all my dear friends could be near me —

Last Friday I rec'd a very good letter from Aunt Ellen, it was to Mort and me both I have also rec'd a letter from Mary Van Cleve I shall answer both of them very soon. — Last Saturday Sophie and I went to N. Y. and while in the Picayune Office I was introduced to Dr Palmer and Mr ~~Cryinge~~ Geytinge, Dr Palmer thought I looked so very much like Agnes Robertson, Fanny Fern spoke of the same thing Thursday evening, I think it is funny, don't you? Do write and tell me about the baby you had on the steam boat. if it was worse than the other you must have had twins, that Mississippi is a great river —

There is no prospect as yet, (so far as I can tell,) of those logs that were to come down in the fall. — How are Mrs Seymour and Mrs Hewes? I wish I could hear from Long Prairie Father owes me a letter though I dare say he has written but it takes so long for letters to reach us. I hope next year you will be able to move to St Anthony, if not farther east, and oh! I do hope in ~~in~~ a few years from now we can all live together — how happy we should all be. I want my little mother very much, and hardly know how to get along with out him, but wait until next year, then I will have him, and then I will keep him too, the dear child I do want him so much — Oh! I want to see you all, Ellen Lizzie dear little sister, dear Seymour, Horace, Martin Nat. Sam. Molly and my sweet Paul. I forgot to send by you a knife to Seymour and a crying baby to Paul. but I will try to send them if I ever have another

chance. though Paul I suppose will soon be to big to a dole. do write and tell me about all of them. do the children ever speak of me? I have seven papers to send to Long Prairie four for Father and three for you. Mort says he always sends the Sunday papers from the office, so I do not send them any more. Now dear Mother you will write often wont you? I will try to write to Father soon but my letters are for both of you, so he must not feel badly. Love to all, don't & let the children forget me. I love you all so very dearly I can't tell you how well — we all talk of you very often. — Good bye dear Mother may God bless you all your own little Girl, Nannie Van Cleve Thomson —

I have rec'd to day a Catalogue from Willie Gibbs —

Love, much love to mal colm and Father I wish they would write — Love to Cliff & all.

Long Prairie Monday eve. Sept 13th 1858

My own dear wife

Left you in the stage coach Friday noon, slept on the floor at the hotel last night after making a supper on the remains of our lunch, reached home next noon, at ½ past 8 o'clock, found all well. We are getting along very well. The boys have put up one stack of hay of about 12 tons, and by to morrow noon will finish another of about 6 tons, and have enough cut for 6 tons more.

I do not know whether I put down the quantity of Castile soap to get. I want 200 feet. I also want 50 feet of ½ inch dia. rope. Do you not want two boxes of hand soap? and a box of fancy soap? — If you cannot contract to have the goods brought here at a reasonable rate have them sent to Swan River. I spoke to Mr Perkins about storing them. You must be there in time to pay for them.

I told you I would be at Swan River to meet you a week from next Thursday, I am afraid that will hurry you too much. Perhaps I better come for you week from Saturday, that is, the 25th that will give you plenty of time. — The freight is $2.00 per hundred to Swan River. Have every thing carefully packed and marked. Have Mr Reid's marked so they can be distinguished and also Hughes'. I have been most

abominably blackguarded (I can call it nothing else) by the latter since you left. I never heard such a foul mouthed scoundrel. I regret you have any purchases to make for him. He is a great villain. — Mr Reid went to camp Saturday morning, has not been down since.
Speak to Senator Rice about the mail. Tell him you had to carry about 50 letters to the Office, one week's collection.
Lizzie & Kate get along very well with the work, I want to see you much, but take your time and make yourself happy. The boys are all doing well. The calves had all been missing for several days and I was fearful the wolves had taken the lot. They were found today near Malcolm's Claim. Did I put down scythes on the memorandum? Do not get any, unless you have made the purchase already. Get plenty of dried fruit we may not get any other this winter.
At the rate we are putting up hay it does not cost me over $1.50 per ton. The mercury stood at 28° yesterday morning, we had such a frost as we had the 28th of Augt. Last night rain. If the weather continues favorable James & Bradley Wink we can put up 70 or 80 tons. They are first rate. — I have worked very hard today and am very tired. took a mouthful of yarns. A comet is visible just after dark west of the great bear. Children all well God bless you darling. Your own loving husband, H.P.T.

Do not forget ink & lead pencils. Hope you have a pleasant rain now.

of every thing, and every one particularly.—
I want to know if the children ever speak
of me and how you all are. I rec'd a letter
from mother last Saturday, written at Swan-
-River. Poor mother she has had a very very
hard journey. but now very happy you
must all have been to see her when
she got home. Did Paul know her?
I do wish you could live nearer us, it is
so hard to have to wait so long for
letters. Oh, dear father I think I should
be perfectly happy if you could live in
Brooklyn, perhaps we may all
live together in a few years. I miss the
dear children's voices, their singing and
laughing, and Oh! I miss my sweet
Paul I do love him so—not better than the
rest perhaps, but he is the baby and, of
course the pet—dear dear baby I wish I
had him in my arms. I should be very
glad to have my boy Mortie here but perhaps

it is just as well that he should wait until
next year. though he would be a
great comfort to me. Sophie and I
are going over to New York in an hour or
two to go with Mort to Harlem by boat, it is
such a beautiful day for such a trip
not cold, and so pleasant I never saw
more beautiful weather than we are
having now, and when I am enjoying
it I think of you way up in
Minnesota and the very thought
makes me shiver. I suppose the
boys have great sleeding down hill
and making great snow bales. I hope
they will not take cold and be sick
as they were last winter. little Mortie
must be very careful indeed he
was so very sick last winter and

may not be quite strong yet though
he seemed very well when I left home
but he was such a thin little rat
thin my dear Seymour was sick too
has he a cough still he is as
happy as ever I suppose Lizzie must
not have that stiff neck again Horace
will have to be very careful too he was
so very sick in the summer he is a
dear good boy isn't he Father and
you must not let him go to his Aunt
Mary she would not understand him
and would win him in a month
he is about as near to me as my own
brothers & it will not do to have him
spoiled Love to all kiss my precious
mother and tell her I will try to write
to her this week Love and kisses to all
I have six papers to send them for you

Tell him very well and
Mary heard from him & last night
he was very well a [illegible]

Louisaky
Augs 25

Mrs H. P. Vanlleve,

Long Prairie,

Minnesota

Peach Orchard Aug 18th
58

Dear Charlotte,

I have not heard a word from you for a very long time, your letter to Mary saying that you should remain at long Prairie for this year at least, and that Mr Vandeve was better, I was very glad to [illegible], and hope that your prospects may be such, that you may feel it right and best for [illegible] to stay longer, for although I should be very very glad to have you where I am, still it seems to me [illegible], that you are doing better than you could be in this neighborhood at present, and I still hope to make you a visit [illegible] I live — Mr Mellen has written Mr Vandeve that Mr Risley may be there this fall, and should he determine to go Mr M. will try hard to accompany him — and if you could have two or three pleasant families such as Mr R., it would be very pleasant for you, he has a daughter I believe about fourteen, who would be a companion for Lizzy — Mr Lincoln's two Nieces have been here spending

about ten weeks, Ellen and Horatio were with them, they all seemed very happy, and sorry to return to Cincinnati — you may be very proud of Chick every body loves him, and I think he will always make friends — Ellen is much improved but has [illegible] his happy disposition —

And now let me know how all your little people are! your family is so much smaller you must feel quite lost — do you hear often from Malcolm? and does Annie write home every week, as she used to [illegible] to New York — I have had a strong invitation from your Aunt Mason, to visit my Hartford friends this summer; but Ellen is not very well, and has had a good deal of company, and besides, I want to make you a visit first — Mary was talking while I was in Cincinnati of giving you a [illegible]prise, Mr Lincoln's business was likely to take him as far as Chicago, and if she went with him, and was once started from home, a week or two longer absence would make little difference — I think however, as I hear nothing more of it, that she has given up the idea for this season — still I hope that you have passed through the hardest part of pioneer life; and that a pleasant community may shortly surround you, and you may yet have the happiness of living again, in a refined Christian neighborhood where your influence will be felt, and appreciated — yes my dear child you can yet do much good, Mr Barclaves and your influence in a new community is invaluable

I pray God to give you His Grace, that you may ever remain among His faithful [illegible] —

Our children are all well Quaine talks often of Aunt Charlotte, she will write you very soon, if not this mail; she is very fond of writing, has plenty to say, but her penmanship as you [illegible] see is not much letter than Grandmama's — how are your crops this season? 24th I had written those for hoping to send my letter but our mail failed us; and I am about closing now in hopes that the evening will bring us letters, and that we may send those which are written; we are all well, Mr M[illegible] engaged making improvements, — just now having a very large listern made; has just succeeded in finding good water in the garden, and we have a fine well, which is a great comfort, the water is quite cold enough without ice for drinking —

good bye my dear child, write as soon and often as you can, I have promised Queenie to leave this page for her — your affect.

Mother C. A. Clarke

Dear Aunt

M. I want to know what sort of a place long Prairie is, I hope you are all well, I suppose Lizzy is a allmost a young Lady Ellen and C. Hick made us a good long visit. give my best love to Uncle and cousins

your affectionate
niece mary

Mr H. P. Vanlleve P.M.
Long Prairie
Minnesota

Paid Cancel 5 [illegible]
[illegible] 20

each week is not that a comfort remember me kindly to Mr Reed our dear Belle loved him as a brother, and it seems as if he belonged to the family love to all from all your affect. Mother C. A. C.

Peach Orchard Oct. 17th 58

My Dear child,

Your last letter gave me great comfort, in learning that Mr Reed was at Long Prairie, and that there was a prospect that Mr Risley would be there this winter — and ~~now~~ I will tell you why I have not sooner answered it — Our children have all had the hooping cough very severely our little pet Belle, lay between life and death for two weeks, with a fever which came on after the cough was better, we have been very anxious for them all 'tis now more than eight weeks since they first began to cough — their father has been from home part of the time, and as Ellen is not very well, and the two youngest would let no one else nurse them you may imagine she suffered much from fatigue as well as anxiety, ~~but~~ they are all nearly well now — and all else is forgotten in gratitude to our merciful Father, may

they live to be good and useful men and women if it is his holy will —

Col, Grey has just made us a visit, and I want you in writing to Mort. to tell him, to inform his friend Mr Parton that any information with regard to Gen Jackson particularly with regard to his marriage with Mrs Roberts, the Col, says he can obtain, by writing to Mrs Eloyed, wife of the Secretary of war; her mother now all the particulars and Mrs Floyd gave Col. Grey a very interesting account of all which Mr Parton would like to know with regard to the Gen —

Ellen thinks of going to Cincinnati early in Dec. expect to be confined before the middle of the month, and is afraid to remain at home as we have little confidence in Dr Marsh he expects to leave here in the Spring, when we hope to do better in the way of a physician — every thing is looking up here, preperations are making for Steck watering the river and we hope to have a different population here as the natives are selling off their farms because it is becoming too civilized I think, and they are afraid of being crowded —

So in Dec I am to become a great grandmother I remember what a shouting there was through the house when Malcolm was born, my first grandchild Mr Johns was at my house, and Mrs Johns in her sweet way, congratulated me as grandmama I was young then, at least I felt so, twenty years has made its recent changes, and with the afflictions from which none are exempt, planted many a furrow in my face still my health is now good, I enjoy the delightful weather, and all the beautiful surroundings with which I am blessed — I intend if pesible to see you all next summer should I live, may God protect and prosper you and give you yet much happiness, is my daily prayer + your are now very anxious for Annie but she is as well cared for as she can be, and I know that you can leave her in the hands of our merciful God, and feel that all will be well although you

cannot be with her on this trying occasion
do you hear often from Malcolm? is he doing
well? Lizzy is now I suppose as large as Anna
was the last time I saw her, and is quite
a companion for you — and how is your own
health? have you a physician that you can call
upon? let me know what your arrangements are
how is Mr Vanclevs health? I hope as people of
intelligence move in, his spirits will be better,
and his health as a matter of course will
improve — let me know what your prospects
are for the long winter — tell me all about
the little children, Seymour is quite a large
boy I suppose & be much taller than Chick
Willie saw Horace a week or two since
he seems quite happy, the school is in a
fine healthy place, about two miles out
of Cincinnati the boys are allowed to go
to town on Thursday of each week, Willie
thinks that they dont study much, perhaps
Malcolm will make a change when he comes
Ellen is well pleased — let me hear from you
as often as you can we now have a mail twice over



Horatio P. Van Cleve
Dayton
Montgomery Co.
Ohio.

Ann Arbor Aug 21st 1853

My dear husband

I steal a few moments from my many duties, to acknowledge the receipt of two or three letters from you and to let you know that we are well and flourishing. I am glad to hear that you are getting along so well and that Malcolm is a good boy and a comfort to you. I shall be so glad when you go to Dayton, it will seem then as if you were nearer to us, although from your last letters I conclude you will not be able to visit us very soon. Let us try and keep up our courage however and trust that the time will soon arrive when we can live together again. I am satisfied that it was never intended that we should live separately any great length of time. I saw Houston to-day about the land in Huron he said he would see what the amount was, and let me know. Miss Cox's school has commenced very fair I believe Mrs Chapin told me this morning she regretted that I had given up teaching, people all around me seem to be discovering that I am an extra teacher, proving the truth so often asserted, "Blessings brighten as they take their flight" Anna is to begin to morrow

a course of history. Jim has lent her a condensed history of Europe which he says is very fine. I hope she will improve much before you see her again. She is the most free from vain foolish notions of any child I ever saw. When mother comes I can comm and much more time, and intend to try to be very regular and strict in instructing the young sters. I believe I told you Mrs Gunn was to return home next week, having entirely recovered. What dreadful accounts we constantly receive from New Orleans. The noise you speak of last week did not reach here, I am told it has been noticed however in some of the Eastern papers, as having been heard in the southern part of Ohio. I have looked at the Comet every night and have longed to have you by my side to talk about it. When Mr Woodard returns to Ohio shall I not be able to send you some things for winter? or are you supplied? The children all send love. Tell Malcolm they often talk of him and I heard Seymour threatening some one in the street with some severe punishment when his big ~~brewer~~ brewer came back. Good bye, little Sam is calling loudly for me. God bless you both

Ever your own dear wife

C. O. V.

Brooklyn May 24th /58.

My darling Mother

Mort has written to father so I will write to you though of course our likes are to both of you. I would give any thing to see you and have a good long talk with you Mother but that is impossible. it will not be possible for Mort to take me home this summer and he has written to tell father what he thinks of your leaving Long Prairie. this separation is very hard to bear, but it will be much better to be [illegible] it, and we will all struggle on for a few years, [illegible] I hope, when, if father does well, and I don't see how he can help doing well now, he can move east. by that time dear Malcolm will be back. with enough I hope to start him in some good business. then I hope we can all be together again. how happy we shall all be. Mr Thomson and Cliff I suppose will be back too. I hope all will do well. I think father's prospects are better than they have been for a long time. oh if all do well so that in a few years we could all live near each other some where in the country not far from here how delightful it would be. My little baby troubles me a good deal. I feel

quite weak and sick most of the time but I shall be better in a few weeks I hope. I shall try to take a short walk every day but shall not take a great deal of exercise for fear of being sick again.

I went out to Uncle Johnson's two weeks ago last Friday. Julia was there and came back with me on Monday. She staid until thirty Thursday and then went to N. H. with Malcolm. He came back Saturday morning and left on Monday. I shall probably go to New Haven next week. I am quite busy getting my dresses under. I have two new dresses one for morning and one for the street. I am making them my self. I shall get one or two white spencers to wear with my green silk and poplin, skirts, and that will be [illegible] in the shape of dresses that I shall get at present. I do not want to spend a great deal on my self this summer. I shall make spencers of my organdie and buff lawn skirts they are rather skant for skirts but will be nice and cook for spencers. I want to save money enough to get nice clothes for my baby. It looks very much like rain and as Mort was very anxious to have his letter get to the office today I must say good bye, before the rain comes. Kiss all the children for me and father too. I rec'd his dear letter mailed the 13. this morning there was a short letter from you to Mort I will try to answer them this week.

Good bye my precious mother. Your little girl do not think I am sick. I am as well as could be expected.

Brooklyn. March 1st /58.

My dearest Mother

Saturday, I was made very happy by the receipt of two letters from Long Prairie, or rather four letters in all, for there were two from you, one from father and one from my sweet little Seymour. You may be sure I was very glad to get them all. I think a great deal of dear Seymour's first letter and shall answer it this week. One thing in your letter troubles me very much. You speak of your teeth falling out. I hope it is nothing serious. I shall try to go to a dentist in New York this week and ask him about it. Let me know if you are any better since you stopped drinking tea. I am glad to hear that dear Malcolm is doing so well and has given up going to California. Don't let what Cliff said about Mort's going trouble you, Mort once said that he thought either he or Cliff should be with Mr. Thomson, to keep him from working too hard, and he said he should go if Cliff did not, but as Cliff is doing of course he will stay where he is. I think we will keep this same house another year it suits us very well. It would suit me much better if there were one or two children in it though that is not the fault of

the house, I am very lonely some times when Mort
is away, and if there was a child in the house it would
be so much company for me. I think of you
all so often and wish so for the children to play with.
I should so love to get hold of Sam's sweet, early head this
morning, ask him if he would let sister Nannie
curl his hair, tell Seymour that I wore his sweet
little letter in my bosom all last Saturday. —
Last Wednesday evening Sophy, Mort and I, went up
to Mrs. Partons it was Gracie's birthday, she is seventeen
years old. Mr. Gunn, Mr. Haney & Mr. Cahill and
Mr. Crombie were there, we spent a very pleasant
evening indeed. On Saturday afternoon Gracie, Ella, Sophy &
I, went to the Tribune office, where we met Mort
and he and Mr. Otterson went to the Broadway
Theater with us. Mr. Wilbour was with us part of
the time. Friday last, Mr. Wilbour gave Mort his
wedding cards, this week I must try to call on
his wife. I shall be very glad to have those
little clothes you spoke of in your letter, for although
as yet I see no prospect of anything in particular,
I hope I may need them some time, and they
would be of great use to me, they are very
pretty indeed, I remember them, very well.
I wish I could see you my [illegible] mother I
want to sit down and have a good long talk with
you, it would do me a great deal of good.
I am glad father has [illegible] of

Post-master, [illegible] I hope you will have regular
mails after this. I see from father's letter that you
had a little cold weather last month, as well as the
rest of us. It is quite warm to day and I hope we
shall have no [illegible] snow or cold weather. I can't
tell you how I would love to go home in the summer
but I don't know how it will be. I dare not think
of it much as I am afraid we will not be
able to go, though we should so love to. I am
very happy dear Mother, Mort loves me so well
and all are so kind to me, but I get a little
home sick sometimes, and so long to see you
all. I am perfectly well now, and strong, and
as fat as ever [illegible] be [illegible] Mort is
very well. Sophy of course is well, though
the cold days last month her rheumatism
troubled her some. Oh! Mother I know I
should be perfectly happy if you all lived
near me. I have every thing else to make
me happy dear Mort is the best boy in the world,
he is so kind and loves me so dearly. I cannot
tell how good [illegible] is. I only know he is too good
and clever for [illegible] and I mourn over it often, but
I try to be good and help him all I can, and
Oh! how well [illegible] him, and he says he has been
so happy since [illegible] have been here, happier than
he ever was [illegible] me. This is one of my bad days
for writing, [illegible] my days for writing badly

this letter does not look well at all though I have tried to write well. I will [illegible] write again this week. Mort is going to [illegible] and I must send this letter by him. So [illegible] bye my dear Mother Your letter [illegible] Nannie.

Love to all. Mort sends his dear love. Kiss dear father and all the children for me. I wish dear Malcolm would write to me. I shall write to Seymour soon don't let any of them forget me.

Nannie Thomson

Brooklyn Feb 6 1858.

My Precious Mother

We have had no letters from you this week, and I have no great news to write you, but I can tell you that we are all well and happy and that is the the best thing in the world, isn't it dear Mother? If I could always be sure that you are all well and happy I should be so glad. I have been to Mrs Partons twice this week. Wednesday I went there alone, and in the evening they came here and went with us to Wallack's and saw "How to grow rich", and "A decided case" We had a very merry time. This afternoon, if he can, Mort is going to take him and me to behind the scenes at the Broadway theatre, I hope we can go I think it well be such fun. Mrs Parton asked after you and told me to give her love to you when I wrote. I went there Thursday with Ed, and Gracie went to walk with us. Oh! Mother dear I wish you lived in Brooklyn how happy I should be then. I am so anxious to get hold of some children, of course there are a great many children in Brooklyn but they are not like ours if I had my little Paul here what a fine romp I would have with him I wish little Mort was here, he would be so much company for me. Oh! I love the children more than ever.

I feel very stupid and lazy to day. I have another little job to do for me, some more plays ~~for~~ to mark. I commenced it last night but did not get half through. I must finish to day. Mort sits at the table writing a Picayune Artille while I sit at the desk trying to write a letter, but I really am so lazy this morning I am afraid it will not amount to much. They sent little Mary away yesterday morning for fighting big Mary, but there is another little girl engaged, (Mary Jane) who is to come on Monday morning. I am very glad we have got rid of little Mary, she was of very little use and so very dirty. Sophie is a jolly as ever. Ed is still here and I don't know whether he will go or not, he has no situation as yet but I believe still hopes to get one, he once thought of going west this week but gave up the idea. I think he would pine away and die if he were to go back to A. A. now, to live, I know I should. Why does dear father never write to me? he owes me a letter, but I shall not wait for him but will write to him as soon as I get time. I cant tell you dear Mother how much I want to see you all. but you must all write to me often, that will be the next thing to seeing you. I hope Malcolm will answer my letter (I wrote to him last week) tell all the news when you write, I hope the Indians will not be troublesome I don't know how they would be apt to act now that "Hole in the day" is dead. You must have had fun with the drunken Chippewas. I wish I could have seen them has old Barnum gone yet? I hope so the mean old fellow. Kiss all the children for me mother. don't let them forget me. Kiss father too, I wish he would write to me. Love to all. Forgive me for writing such a mean letter but I am very dull this morning and as I have a great deal yet to do I must say Good bye. All send love to all.

May God bless you all.

Your little girl

Nannie Thomson

This is a very bad letter but I will try to do better in a few days. Nannie. Sophie sends much love. she says she will write soon to you and Esther. She sends love to all. says she would write to Cliff but supposes he has started for New York. She had a letter from Aunt Ellen a few days since. Auntie brags on her baby greatly.

Nannie.

fail like writing very long
letters lately. do not let any
thing I have said worry
you, I am quite well
and happy. Kiss dear
father and all the
[illegible] for me.

Your little girl
Nannie.

Mort sends much love.

(Sunday) Brooklyn Nov 1858

My dear Mother,

I recd the
bandage and the letters with
it Thursday morning, I am very
very much obliged to you for
the bandage, and shall make
another like it. I expect to
be sick now in about three
weeks, I know you will think
of me very often and want
to be with me, and I, oh I
shall want you so very much
but you must not worry about
me dear Mother I am young
and strong and have no
doubt that I shall get on
very nicely, you do not know
what a good kind nurse
Mort is, Sophy is very good
and kind too but there is no

one here like most.

Mr Neil from Philadelphia, and Mr House from Boston, have been making us a visit since Wednesday, Mr Neil left Yesterday and Mr House goes to morrow. I like them very much. Mr Neil spoke of you. — I am so very very glad that you have soldiers on the Prairie now I suppose there is no danger of the indians troubling you now, I hope they will find the poor fellow who was carried off by the indians. Oh I hope you will not stay there another year. It is to far out of the world and you have to hard a life of it there, how I wish you could live nearer us. I wish I could see you dear Mother there are so many things I would like to talk to you about. Little things that I can't write about, I get low spirited sometimes, little things worry me. I hardly know what I have to go through but I am very glad I am going to have a baby, I love the little things well enough already to suffer any thing for it, but I get to feeling badly sometimes and think it would do me so much good to have a long talk with you, dear Mort is such a comfort to me, he grows dearer to me every day it is so good to have him take me in his arms when I feel a little badly.

Monday morning.

I must say good bye now so that Mort can take this letter to the office I do not

Brooklyn March 12th /58.

My precious Mother,

I wrote to my dear brother Seymour last night, and this evening with my dear Mort near me studying Short-hand, up in our dear little room I will write to you. You cannot think how I long to see you I think of you and father and my sweet brothers and sister so often. I hope I shall get a letter from you to morrow, I have not heard for I think nearly two weeks I hope none of you are sick. do write often. Oh! Mother darling if you would only put your arms around me and let me lay my head on your bosom I should be so happy. You can't think how I long for children, either one of my own or one of yours. Oh! if little mother was only here I would never get lonely, I am very very happy Mort is so good, and loves me so dearly but I do so miss the children.

Thus far had my lady Chips proceeded when she was interrupted by the hired girl who came up to bring her one small slice of Orange on a very large plate. She is now hurrily engaged in devouring that same and I am im=proving the interval as you perceive —

I have to repeat my old promise to you, that I will write a long letter before long, but how

soon I cannot exactly tell, I hope next Sunday — Anna and I am the happiest people in the world, she is the dearest little wife possible, and we take great comfort together. Sometimes she longs for home and wants to see Mother and the Chiesum, and then I have to take her in my arms and comfort her as well as I can, a very clumsy way at the best I fear — I love her better every day — I will write soon dear Mother, so do not get impatient with me — There is company waiting for me in the parlor and I must go so Good bye — God bless all of you — Give my dear love to Mr V.C. & all the children — Respectably — Mort

Write about Cliff — Mort has told you a fib, it was a whole orange in little slices. —

I wrote to Malcolm some time ago, I hope I shall get an answer soon, I love him so dearly, I wish he would write to me. I suppose in a few weeks you will have a gay old time at Long Prairie, as nearly all the ladies expect to "come in" soon I believe. I don't know what you will do, don't you want me to help you? You know what a good nurse I am for young babies. We expect Daniels back from Washington next week. He has been there for a week or two. — I don't know that there is any news to tell you. I do not go out a great deal. I have not been to New York for a long time

it is more than four weeks since I went to the Theatre, in the evening, but two week ago I went to the Broadway in the after noon but that was a Circus and a pantomime. I think we will move next month, to a beautiful brick house in Hampden Street. it belongs to Mr. Crombie and he will let Mort have it at a very low rent. it is a three story house, gas all over the house, a bath room, a nice little yard and a beautiful place in the back of the house for keeping flowers and birds, or to read and sew in, in summer. Mort says he will get me a great many flowers, and some birds, when we move. Wont it be delightful? it will be so nice to have some thing to take care of. I shall never get lonely. We will be quite near the Barton. two only two streets this side, it will not be quite so near the cars as we now are but we shall not mind that, it is so much pleasanter there than here. How do the children get on in school? no one ever mentions the bold molly, does the child ever say any thing? does she remember me? and Nat and Horace & Ellen, how are they all? I wish little Lizzie would write to me again. I suppose Mortie does not write yet. does dear little Lam ever talk of me? write and tell me all that my darling pet Paul says. Oh! I would give any thing to see you all now

and I am vain enough to think you would all be glad to see me. would you? I suppose when Cliff comes he can tell us a good deal about you, but ~~but~~ I don't suppose he will.

Mort has just rec'd a long letter from you but he won't let me read it but says it is private. I don't believe him. Trough —

He has just let me read it. I am so glad to hear that you are all well. don't be unhappy about me dear mother. perhaps I may see you in the summer I should be so very glad if Mort and I could go to L. P. I hope we can but we can't tell until summer comes Kiss my dear father. Mal. colm. Lizzie. Seymour Mortie. Sam & Paul & my little cousins for me. and oh. such worlds of love for your self. Love to all.

Your own litter girl who loves you all so dearly Nannie Vanblere Thomson

All send love. Mort will try to write tomorrow.

Nannie God bless you all.

Pray for me every night.

Your litter girl.

Brooklyn Jan 15 / 58

My own dear Mother,

Forgive me for not writing sooner, I should have written yesterday, but, in the morning I was quite sick, and in the afternoon I had some copying to do for Mort. I am very well indeed to day, not sick at all. Wednesday evening Ed. Mort and I went up to Mr Partons. Mrs Parton spoke of you, and told me to give you her love when I wrote. They are such pleasant people, I wish you could have seen more of them, but you will when you come again.

Yesterday Mort received your dear letter with one for me from dear Lizzie. I am so glad you are all having such delightful times this winter. I wish I could have been home on New Years day. I suppose you had a very pleasant time, write and tell me all about it. What you had for dinner, and who were there, what did Paul say to its being his birth day? I am glad Malcolm is getting so many furs and I hope he may do well with them. I wish I had some more ermine. My cape will be quite small, and several weeks ago I lost my fur that cousin Dick gave me. I was

walking from "Burtons" with Ed & Mort one night and it either dropped off, or some one took it off. We went back but could not find it. I did not tell you this before for fear it would worry you. But it need not, I wear the sack you got, when it is very cold, then Sophie lets me wear her fur and I have a scay. My ermine will be finished this afternoon.

Every one is having babies. John McLennan's wife had twin boys, the first of January (one of them died) and Mrs Bellew had a boy the same day. Mrs Loesticks expects to come in the first of August or the first of September. Agnes Robertson has not played yet, since her baby was born. There was a mistake about that baby though, it was not born so soon as the papers said, I believe not until after you left N. Y. I went to "Laura Keenes" last week to see the "Unequal Match," played for the first time. It was very good indeed. We do not go out as often as we used. I think Mort will take us soon to see Charles Mathews and John Brougham at "Burtons" they are playing there now, also Lizzie Weston Davenport as Mrs Mathews would not play without her. She is his mistress now, they think of it such a beautiful woman too, think of her poor husband. Speaking of her husband, she has not been here yet although he tells Mort about every time he sees him that he is coming soon. I suppose he is very busy all the time. I have not been to Wallacks for a long time, that is for several weeks. I went to see the "Poor of New York" once, now I wish they would play some thing else for I want to go there again. I was very glad to get a little letter from my sweet little sister Lizzie. She is a dear little girl. Mort speaks of her very often and is very fond of her. I do wish you and father could make us a visit together. I should be so delighted so would Mort and all of them. Don't you think you can? do try. Sophie says she is going to ~~[illegible]~~ answer your letter ~~[illegible]~~ very soon. She had a letter from Cliff yesterday. Mort is going to write to Cliff next Sunday. He is very busy getting a book ready for his Boston Man Ow, so he does not get much time to write letters. I must copy some more of it (the book) this afternoon, so you must forgive me, that this letter looks so badly, for I am in a great hurry, I must write a letter to Lizzie on the next page, so Good Bye dearest mother. Kiss Father, Malcolm, and all the children, for me.

May God bless you all

Your loving daughter Nannie

I shall send a lot of papers off to day, or to morrow. Mort sends love to all.

Anna Van Cleve Thomson

My own darling Lizzie,

Thank you for the sweet of letter you wrote me, it is a great comfort to me dear, I think you write very nice little letters. You must have nice time sliding down hill, I wish I could go out and play with you some time. We have no snow here and it is not very cold either. I wish I could see you my darling and all the rest of the children, I would like to have a romp with you all this after noon. You must be a good girl Lizzie, and don't let my little Paul for-get Nannie. I have no time to write you a long letter to day, as I must write a great deal this afternoon. So good bye dear

Your own sister Nannie

Kiss Mother & father and all the children for me. Nannie Thomson

Mort sends love

Brooklyn, March 7th 1858.

My dearest Mother

Here I am again writing to you, in my sweet little room, with Scolly at the window saying "Chip, Chip", all the time, the dear little fellow. how I love him, he is so sweet. I never have had to punish him, although he will not take his bath, and I cannot make him kiss me. I never had so much trouble with any boy before. but perhaps he will learn as he grows older. My dearest Mother how I long to see you to day. What a dear good talk we could have together. Oh! Mother, it is so hard that we must live so far apart. it seems sometimes as though I must fly to you. but we will not give up, but will hope on. I am sure better days will come. Father I hope will get the situation in the St Anthony College, and in a few years will make enough to move nearer us. for I don't want you to always live so far

Who can tell. Kiss my dearest Father & Cannot tell my great love for him — kiss all the children. All send love. Your own letter Girl that loves you all better than ever although she has a husband. Nannie.

Write often and tell me all about yourself are you all well.

West. Oh! how happy I should be if you ~~could~~ could live near New York, or, in Brooklyn how delightful it would be.

Yesterday two letters came from Mr. Thomson. One for Mort and one for Cliff. Mrs Monroe Thomson has a little daughter, it was three day old when Mr. Thomson wrote. They were all well I believe. Why do we never hear from Cliff? I think as he does not write he intends to "jerk his little surprises at us," as Mort would. but I am determined not to be surprised. — I have learned "Old Rosin the Bow," with variations, and can play it quite well without the notes. Mort likes it very much. So do I and I think you would. It will be so nice when Cliff comes. — I shall have some one to quarrel with. I cant quarrel with Mort and Sophie, and I don't enjoy an Irish fight. — I am going to study "Short hand." Mort brought home the first book for me this afternoon. I shall commence next Monday and shall study very hard as I am so very anxious to help him as much as I possibly can. he is so good to me mother, and loves me so dearly. I know he does. I cannot do enough for him. I want to be the best wife in the world for him. he seems to think me very good now but I want to be better. When I have children if I ever do, I shall try to be as good a mother as you have always been to me. Oh! you have been the best and dearest mother in the world, may God bless you. I hope all the children love you as well as I do. — Dear mother. You don't know how I how well I love you. but I am so afraid you will work too hard, you always did, shame on me, for not being more of a help to you.) dear mother, when I think what a bad, ungrateful, daughter and sister I have been I don't know what to do with myself.

Sunday Evening. My dearest mother, I had written this far when I commenced to cry, and was afraid to go on. do not think that I am unhappy. I am not, I am the happiest little wife in the world, and have a right to be. but I do so long to see you all. I am alone in my dear room. Mort had to go over to N. Y. after dinner with some copy

but I say that when each day [illegible] is done in the parlor I have been looking over the Hymn Book and have been singing in my poor miserable voice some of the dear old hymns we always sing at home on Sunday evenings. I dare say you have all been singing some of the same at the time I name & do not believe any one ever longed to sing as I do it is so strange that I cannot. You and father and all the children sing. But I cannot, it would give me such pleasure to sing when I am all alone sometimes, but I can't as I must do without it is so strange I feel it in me but when I try to sing it or it will not come sweetly as mine home people but never mind, how wrong it is in me to complain when I have so much to be thankful for, and so very much to make me happy. You can't think how good Aunt is. She brings me home such beautiful flowers a few days ago she brought me a lovely bouquet of violets white & double violets in the center and large Pansys on the edge. They are just fading, but are pretty and very sweet yet dear Mother I am afraid you will think I am foolish to talk about such trifles. But I know you love to hear of little things that interest me. Good night now dear dear Mother, may God

[illegible] Wood Accounts Angels [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

(Tuesday Eve) Brooklyn. Oct 19th 1858

My dearest Mother

I rec'd your letter of the 8th yesterday. was very glad you may be sure to hear again that you were all well and getting along so nicely. I am so glad that you have such a good cook, what a comfort she must be to you. and your sewing machine works so well, too, I am afraid you sit too steadily at it, some people have hurt themselves very much doing so, I believe Mrs Phillips, Mr Thomson's sister made her self sick in that way, or it hurt her so much that she was obliged to give it up — do be careful Mother darling. — Most is not at home now he has been sent to Canada, to report a prize fight. he started from New York early Saturday morning (he slept in N.Y. Friday night) and I expect him home Thursday night. — it was so hard to have him go. he did not want to leave, but he had to. I never missed him so much before, I think of him all the time, he has been away from me four nights now. only two more nights alone. then I will have him again. — I suppose it will be very late Thursday night when he gets home, but I will sit up for him. I expect a letter from him

it would be a great comfort to have her with me, and she would be a great help to me. She would help me take care of baby — though that is not what I want her for, but I know she would love to do it. Good bye My dear dear Mother, Most sincerely I will write again when he gets home. We will write probably on Sunday, our wedding day. This is the third letter I have written to day. One to Most night after breakfast & one to Malcolm. May God bless you all. Manuel.

tomorrow morning. Oh Mother darling I cannot tell you how well I love Mort, my own precious husband, he is so very kind and good to me, and loves me so very dearly, you dont know how well, he did so hate to leave me Friday night, poor boy, there were tears in his eyes, but I must not think of that or I shall cry. I do want him so much. It will be a year next Sunday since we were married, how very happy we have been, Mort says it has been the happiest year of his life, and dear Mother, though I was always very happy at home, as happy as I could be, and so dearly loved, and all so good and kind, I think it has been the happiest year of my life, though it has made me unhappy to have you all so far off, and you know I love you all better than ever, still I have been very happy with dear Mort, - dont you think a husband is better than any thing in the world? I know you do, for you love father, as I love Mort. Next Saturday evening, (the 23d) we are to go to Mr. Eytinge's, he is one of Mort's dearest friends, (you saw him I believe on the ferry boat with Mort, and thought he looked a little like Sam Agnew) and his wife and I are great friends, ~~this th~~ Mr. Etynge's birthday is next Saturday and they are going to have a little company. — I have talked to Maggie, (Mrs Etynge) about you and she would love you dearly, I know you would love Sol (Mr Eytinge) as we all do, he is very talented indeed. but better than that, he is so good, and pure like Mort, and loves his wife so dearly, that you could not help loving him. Mort says he is the most modest man he ever knew, he never uses any ~~wal~~ vulgar expressions when with other men. - Saturday evening Sol and Maggie came up here, and she brought me a very sweet little dress for our baby, one she bought ~~for~~ it in New York, very prettily embroidered, I ran up stairs the first thing to shew it to Ed who was hanging a picture in my room, was there any harm in my doing so? every one knows I am going to have a baby and it is the purest and holiest thing in the world I think to have babies, that is when one has a right to have them, then I think of Ed as I do of my own brothers almost, and he is another pure minded boy and would think no evil. - Ed thought the dress very funny, wondered what these things could all mean, (I had shown him a beautiful pair of little white merino shoes that Maggie had brought about a week before) and hinted darkly of big dolls. I am getting along very well with my doll clothes I love to work for our dear little baby, how dearly I love it. my dear Mort's baby, my baby, our own little baby. all babies are very sweet, but this baby, Oh

I can't tell you how well I love it and how Mort loves it too he nearly always asks after it, about the first thing when he comes home. — The baby grows fast, but I do not look very badly when I am dressed. Since I was sick I have made a dress for my self it is very pretty and I think fits well I made it all my self Mort likes it very much but I don't know but I wrote to you about it before. I write very foolish letters mother dear but I know you love to hear of all these little things. You say tell Sophie of Kate's misfortune I cannot do it my self I don't know how, so I shall wait until Mort comes home, Poor Kate I am sorry for her I hope she will get a good husband soon, I am very glad she loves her little girl, dear little baby it may do her more good than any thing else. What does father think of the child, does he ever play with it? and what do the children say to it?

Dear mother, I do so want to see you all. I hope we will be able to go to Long Prairie next summer. If you could come down this fall with Lizzie and stay with ~~me~~ me when I am sick how happy I should be, I am afraid I had quite set my heart upon having you with me, though you had not promised any thing of the kind, but I hope if you cannot come yourself you will be able to send Lizzie before long. I expect she is quite a nurse by this time

Monday, Brooklyn Aug 25th 78.

Dearest Mother,

Your dear letter to Aunt was received last Friday morning, as he is busy working on his Ticket book up stairs, I must answer it for him, and if he has time he will add a few lines. but he is so busy now that you must forgive him if he cannot write. he would like to very much, for you do not know how dearly he loves you, ah, I am so glad that you are willing to send my little boy to us, you don't know how much I want to see him, I wish you could come and bring him dear Mother, don't you think you could? oh! how pleasant we would try to make it for you there is so much I want you to teach me, we would sit up in my dear little room and sew or read or do any thing you please. you could show me all about making my baby's clothes, I don't know that that is any very great inducement but I think you would like to do it.

Little Lizzie would be a great help and comfort to me but this sounds very selfish, my telling you how much your ~~telling~~ coming here would help me. but then I think so much of my baby that I can't help it. Speaking of that baby, it is getting very lively indeed, it moved first the 3rd of August, just after I had gone to bed. So I think I may expect it about the 18th of December. is that right? in about three months and a half now. only think, is it not funny. Most and I talk of it a great deal. he can feel it kick by putting his hand on my side, and we can see too, when it moves, that is when I am undressed. it would probably send its love if it could ~~but~~ to Grandmama and Grandpapa and all the little Uncles and the little Aunt, but it seems to be asleep now, it is very quiet. I like to feel the dear little thing move, it makes me love it so dearly. I don't know what I should do now if I was to lose this baby as I did the other, it would break my heart. I wonder if all women love their babies as I do mine when they are so young. I suppose not all, for some try to get rid of them, oh! I think that is so dreadful. it seems as bad as any murder, after you have felt it move and know that it has life (though of course it has ~~ate~~ from the first.) I shall be so happy with my precious baby. Most is so very very kind to me and loves me and baby too, so dearly. I so so want to see you Mother darling, this morning when I was reading over your letter and saw my sweet Pawl's kiss. (though I had seen and kissed it before, I had to cry, I did so want to see him. dear sweet little Paul, it is so hard to be so far from all of you. but mother, dearly as I love you all, I could not have my dear husband for any one I know it will not make you feel badly to have me say this, for you would be very sorry if I did not love most better than any one in the world. just as you love my dear dear father. but I have such a longing for home some times that it

seems as if I must fly to you, it is a year now I think since I have seen my dear father, I do hope in a few years we can live nearer each other, I send you the letter the boys sent for you by the last steamer, I am so glad that dear Malcolm is doing so well. I do think mother dear that things are looking brighter than they have for some time Malcolm is going well father is ~~doing~~ better off than he has been for a long time before. Mr Thomson and Cliff are doing well and so is Mort, It wont always be dark, how happy we will be when we all have a home together or can live near each other. it wont be long I hope oh I am sure it will not. I hope ~~so~~ soon to hear what you have decided to do about sending Lizzie. You do not know how anxious Mort is to have her come, we would all be so happy to have the little girl here and now very very happy we would be to have you bring her. but we must leave it to you of course as you know best what you can do but I do so want to see you. Love and kisses to dear father and all the children. remember me to Kate and kiss her poor little baby for me

Brooklyn. April 10th /58.

My darling Mother.

I intended writing to you yesterday, but really I was so sleepy and stupid I had to lie down instead. I was up very late the night before as we all went to the grand ball at the Crystal Palace. Mr. & Mrs. Parton, Grace, Nellie, Harry, Sophie, Mort and I all went together and had a very pleasant time indeed. We kept our shawls and bonnets on as we did not dance, and came away by about eleven o'clock. We saw some beautiful dresses, I wish you could have been with us, I think you would have enjoyed it. When I was there I thought of the last time I had been there, when you were with us. When we were got off of the ferry boat on this side that night who do you think Mort saw? Ed Welles; he did not see us until we got in to the car. Yesterday he went to Duncan and Sherman and has got his old situation back again. I am very glad of it. and

you may be sure ~~that~~ he is glad to get back.
Last week on Friday Mary Cory came here.
she staid all night and went home on
Saturday afternoon. Saturday morning we got
Sophie Wells wedding cards. she sent some
for you, I will send them. she did not write
any thing, not even to tell us where she was
going to live. though Mary Cory says it is
some where in Wisconsin. she has forgotten
the name of the place I am so glad that
she is married at last. Last evening
Sophie, Ed. Mort and I. walked up to see our
new house. I suppose the painters will get
to work by Tuesday, and by the week after
next I hope we can move I shall be so
glad to get up there and settled. On Sunday
Adrian and Mary brought little Minnie
Sabine over here and left her until Wednes-
-day. it was so nice to have a child in the
house. how I wish my little Mortie was
here it would be so sweet he is such a darling
little boy. I should be so happy to have him
here. That place over the river I think will
be beautiful I think when you get it nicely
fitted up but I am sorry to think of your always
living so far away from us. but perhaps in a
few years father will make a fortune and
can move east, but that will be a beautiful
place for the children until they want to go
away to school. it is so healthy. It is
really very much like spring now. it rained
yesterday morning, to day it is very bright and
warm. I hope it is as pleasant at Long Prairie.
if I was there what lovely horse back rides I could
have. Oh! how I would enjoy it. I hope Uncle
Mellen will go out there to live, do write and
tell me all about it. I am so glad
always to have you tell me of little things
that the children do and say. I wish Lizzie
and Seymour would write to me again, and
why don't Malcolm write to me! I wrote to him
Long ago, I do wish he would write I want
so to hear from him. I am so glad he is going
to work his claim, I do hope the dear boy will
do well. I wish father would write to me too. oh!
mother I can't tell you how dearly I love you all
and how I want to see you, I should love so
to go home this summer but I cannot tell yet

how it will be. I am afraid to think of it much. Mort is trying very hard to get all his debts paid off and get something ahead. I must help him all I can by copying for him, and by being a good economical wife. But I must dress myself now take this letter to the office, and go ~~and~~ to see Mrs. Eytinge who (Mort told me yesterday) is very sick. This evening Mort is going to take us to "Niblos," to see one of the Ape pieces. I have always wanted to see it. Kiss all the Children for me, tell Paul he is sister Nannie's ~~Pet~~ pet. Kiss father and Malcolm for me. I love you all so dearly. God bless you all. All send love. Your own little girl Nannie. Mrs. Parton often asks after you. Dr Reese was here last night he asked after you.

"A decided Case" Adieu and
Mary are going to Rochester next
week to Cora's wedding. I forget the
name of the gentleman she is
to marry. Cora has not been here
this winter, you must have made
a mistake in reading Sophie's
letter. She, (Cora) gave concerts in
Rochester, and Brockport but
none in Brooklyn. I am glad
you have such pleasant neighbors
and I am glad you are going
to get rid of old Barnum.
I send Cliff a letter that came
from his Father a few days since.
To Father Mort sends a formal
receit of the Philadelphia
money. and now I must write
to my dear Malcolm so excuse
this short letter. Mort will write
soon. All send much love
Your own little girl Nannie
May God bless you all

Brooklyn Jan 29th 1850
My dearest Mother
I have been very busy
today doing some work for Mort he
has been getting a great many plays
and I have numbered and written
his name on all of them and have
written the numbers and names
of the plays in a blank book. I
have just finished the job.
Jan 30th Dear Mother, I got this
far last evening when I had to press
for dinner. Mr. Haney was here,
He and Ed went to Mrs. Parlons in
the evening, about ten o'clock they both
came back, Haney staid all night.
When I got down to breakfast
this morning I found a good,
long, letter from you on the table
near my plate. I was so very glad
to get it. It was written Jan 4, 18th. so

Sophie got a letter from Cliff and
hope from Ethie this morning
Ethie should
be ashamed
he sent to Cliff

you see we got it quite soon. Your letters are so sweet dear Mother I can not tell you how dearly I love to get them. Oh! I love you all so well. I wish I could have a good romp with the children to-day. I must tell you how I miss them. I have no children here to play with. Never mind, if all goes well before this time next year I shall have as good a baby as any one, (that is, if I am not very much mistaken) I am so very happy thinking of my little child even now. Oh! wont it be beautiful. I hope it will look like Aunt and I should like a little boy, but I think Aunt would rather have a girl, although he will be delighted with any, he is very glad that I am going to have one and has promised to love it very much. Seymour is a great rogue. Wont the little boys be proud when they are uncles, and how very dignified Lizzie will be when she is an Aunt. Would there be any harm in telling Lizzie about it? But perhaps better not. do as you think best. Little girls nearly always know about such things but try to keep it secret, and talk about it among themselves when no one else them. But when they are told by people older than themselves, they think Mother, it gives them a different idea entirely, and a better one.

I am so glad the children all remember me. Perhaps some of them will forget Sister Nannie. Give my love to Kate. I will write to her when I get time. Kiss dear Father and all the children for me.

Last Thursday evening we went to Wallacks to see the "Vicar of Wakefield" I liked it very much and wish you could have been with us. There was a very pretty little after piece called

Brooklyn. Jany. 30th /58.

My dear brother Malcolm.

I have been threatening to punish you with a letter, for a long time, and now I am going to do it. First thing, (of course) a little scolding; Why do you never write to your poor little sister who is so far away? You naughty boy, what shall I do with you? If I had you here I know what I should do, I would go and put my arms around your neck and kiss you, and give your hair just a little pull, and your ear just a little box, at the same time but I'll forgive you this once if you will promise never to forget me, or neglect me again.

I am glad you are getting such a nice lot of furs this winter

I asked Mort this morning what he thought about sending you some Strychnine, he seemed to think it would not be safe, but he said he would see about it, and if he can ~~do~~ send it he will. He is going to write to you soon, perhaps to morrow, I wish I could see you dear Malcolm. I would have such a nice long talk with you. but I will tell you what will be the next thing to it. Just sit down by the table take a very large sheet of paper, then take a pen dip it in the ink, and (don't leave it in the ink) but tell or rather write ~~me~~ me a good long letter, tell me what you have been doing this winter, of the hunts you have been on, of the terrible encounters you have had with ferocious animals, of the wonderful escapes, and all that sort of thing. in short tell me all you have been doing. I am interested in all that takes place at home, so write a long letter and send by the first opportunity. I wish dear father would write to me too, he owes me a letter. I am glad you have such a delightful winter, and have such pleasant neighbors, rather different from last year isn't it? But I must stop this gabble and send my letter to the office, You will write to me wont you dear? I love you so well dear Malcolm.

Good bye dear. Your own
little sister Nannie V. C. Thomson

How sad that was about poor Bearsheart. I was very sorry indeed when I heard it. I hope father is quite well now.

Your sister Nannie

Kiss all the little ones for me