

time in August; then he is going home with his brother this Fall, out to Salt-  
 Lake City, and I am glad  
 hope he will go there and  
 get a divorce, then I will  
 be free, how I wish I  
 had never seen him  
 but it is no use to  
 wish, and the  
 worst of it is my  
 family haven't  
 ended yet -  
 Ma is going to  
 write a half chest  
 to send in the  
 so I won't write any  
 more - do come before  
 this Fall if you can with  
 your wife & some - give  
 my respects to Mr Olds -  
 Believe me I have ever you  
 affectionately  
 1867  
 Nellie

Dear Brother Frank  
 Sunday  
 Yours dated June 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 was received the 6<sup>th</sup>, with pleasure anticipated  
 and one to her the same time, we  
 mail her letters immediately after they  
 arrive; two of them were open when they  
 got here, had been wet.  
 Our little town is growing some. They have  
 the church nearly all boarded, and  
 Mr. Esnals store is boarded, it seems  
 nice to see two new buildings right on  
 the main street, I hope you will make  
 up your mind to come home this Fall  
 it seems so long to wait another year  
 what is Mr Olds doing? you don't say any  
 thing about him. I am glad <sup>Lady</sup> ~~you~~ is  
 enjoying her self <sup>so</sup> well, ~~to~~ wish you was with  
 her

her - wouldn't it be nice? I must tell  
you about the Fourth of July - we had  
a Pic-nic in the little grove - had a  
splendid dinner - and a few pieces of  
music. I sang two pieces - Althra sang  
alto to the rest I wasn't there but a  
few minutes, long enough to sing. the  
~~sun~~ <sup>sun</sup> hurt the baby's eyes so I had to  
bring her home. We sang "Hail Smil-  
ling Morn;" for the first piece. Billy  
sang twice - and such a voice you  
never heard - the first time he sang  
it. I couldn't sing. he made a perfect  
discord all the way through -

Mr Gibbs keeps everything just as nice  
over to your house as you would keep  
it yourself - the shed is cleared out  
nice - and the house looks nice in-  
side. there is only one thing I don't  
like, and that is their calf sunning  
in the yard - keeps the grass eaten  
off short - Mrs Partridge and Mrs  
Roe - have gone to Ohio on a visit

mynt one week ago - Felona is going down  
<sup>house</sup>  
~~there~~ to keep house for her father and  
the boys. I expect Papsen is going to be  
married pretty soon. he went to Clear  
Water yesterday, and brought home a  
load of furniture, had blankets thrown  
over it when he went through town  
but I saw them unloading it.

Ella Coats - or Mrs Moore, is at home  
on a visit her health is very poor -  
she looks bad. Cooper's wife isn't very  
well, but I guess she will come out  
all right in a little while, quite a  
joke I think

We are having beautiful weather crops  
look splendid - and if nothing hap-  
pens we will have enough to eat in  
Minnesota another year - Boase is getting  
along nicely, has been digging a well,  
had to dig <sup>over</sup> sixly (65) five feet. I  
have forgotten just how far - he rec'd  
your letter the other day, did not get  
until after I got mine,

Ma has had luck about getting pay  
of her boarders, Perry is the only one  
that pretends to pay at all, Strangers  
come here and stay, and don't  
mention paying their board. There  
is two fellows boarding here, that we  
know havint got a cent of money,  
and a great many travellers go away  
and don't pay their bills.

By the way - Emma received a letter  
from you the other day, will answer  
it soon has not had time.

I almost forgot to tell you what a  
smash up we had in town the other  
day, the Dam went out, & took  
the Isis Mill with it; I expect the  
Firm will build a new mill. It looks  
bad down there I tell you, when the  
mill went it made such a crash  
it was heard several miles.

Reube has gone way up to Devils Lake  
or somewhere up there to work for the Hudson  
Bay Company, isn't coming back until some





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ST. PAUL, MINN.  
FEB 8



B F Butler Esq  
Fair Haven  
Maine

Benham & Rice,  
St. Paul.

192 THIRD ST.

ST. PAUL, MINN.

Feb 7

1868

Mr B F Butler

TO

Munger Bros.

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we think are suitable  
and hope they will please you



B H Butler  
Fair Haven  
Minnesota

St Anthony Feb 10<sup>th</sup> / 868

Friend Butler

I received your letter in due time glad to hear that you & yours are in good health.

My people are all enjoying that blessing, I think this winter has been rather a severe one I do not like such cold weather myself but there is only one remedy that is to go to a warmer climate.

Well about that Pung you wish to know what I will take for it - just before you came down there was a man wanted to buy it at \$15 Fifteen Dollars I did not wish to sell at that time. But you can have it at that price (\$15) if you want it; the Pole that you have got - does not belong to me, there are Shafts that belong to it you can use that pole this winter but send it down early in the Spring one of those single Trees belongs with the Pung

Your Friend  
E G Libby



Genl. F. Butler  
Helena City  
Montana

1868

THE WESTERN MAILS



**LONG SHANKS.**

Your little bullet head, and legs so very long,  
Remind me very strongly of a pair of tongs;  
Your shape so very odd, you really make me laugh,  
I think if Barnum had you, he would call you the Giraffe.

MONTANA TERRITORY

A comic Valentine with cover postmarked "HELENA/MONTANO/"  
February 14, 1868. Note spelling of Montana.

Plot river Apr 18 1864

Dear Uncle

as I have a chance  
to write a line I will take  
the opportunity, I am well in  
health, but I have ~~had~~ had  
rather bad luck to commence  
with, last Friday I cut  
my foot very accident.  
but I am in hopes it won't  
~~lay me up~~. I haven't a  
thing to put on it but  
sawerack bark. it is doing  
well now, altho it keeps  
swollen pretty bad, I am  
going to have to run  
to-morrow, we will probably  
commence driving next week.  
I like so far a cooking &  
I guess they like me, they  
is ten men here in all.

now, what I want is  
for you to remail my  
letters to (Little-falls)  
from there I can get them  
most any time, that is  
send what comes this month  
please write a few lines  
how you prosper,  
it rains hard here to  
night.

I dont think of any  
thing more.

yours as ever  
Ephue

M. B. Judkin

direct my letters to  
Little Falls

Barri's & Putnam  
Drive

Miner



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