



Antoinette Porter King and
Family Papers.

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Letter #53B

From: Frankie

To: Viola Porter (No envelope)

Milwaukee
December 16th 1867

Dear "Vie"

Willie this evening handed me your letter---dated Nov 17th, postmarked Dec 12th--which he had carried in his pocket since Friday last.

Oh, Vie, you don't know how glad I would be to see you. Do come, and don't say that your stay is limited. I have so much to say to you, so many events to recall.

I am very sorry to learn of your Father's death---yet Vie you have been blessed with a Father's love nine years longer than I.

I won't write much, we can talk so much faster you know. We are living at 519 Van Buren St, next door to the house we lived in when you were here.

Now Vie, don't disappoint me will you? I am so sorry that I did not receive your letter earlier.

Hoping to see you soon.

I remain always

Your Friend

Frankie

Milwaukee

December 16th 1887.

Dear "Vie"

Willie this evening handed
me your letter - dated Nov 17th post-
marked Dec 12th - which he had
carried in his pocket - since Friday
last. - Oh, Vie, you don't know
how glad I would be to see you.

Do come, and don't say that your
stay is limited. I have so much
to say to you, so many events to
recall. I am very sorry to learn
of your Father's death, yet - Vie you
have been blessed with a Father's
love, nine years longer than I.

I won't write much, we can talk
so much faster you know. We are
living at 519 VanBuren st, next
door to the house we lived in when
you were here. Now Vie, don't -

disappoint-me will you? I am
so sorry that I did not receive
your letter earlier. -

Hoping to see you soon
I remain always

Your Friend
Frankie

Letter #53C

From: Unknown

To: Miss Viola Porter, Adams P.O., Walworth Co., Wis.

(Envelope is postmarked Kilbeurn City Wis, date Feb 6, year 1868 is estimated)

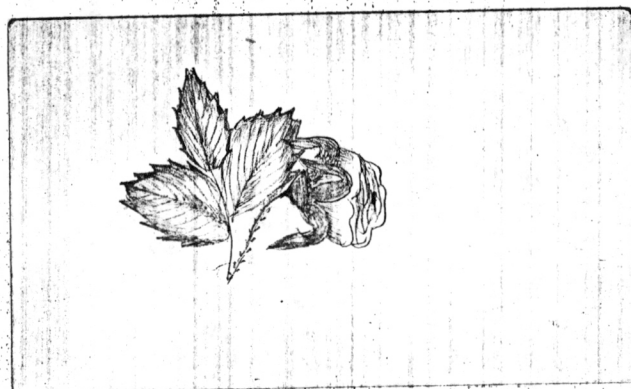
Enclosed in the envelope is a piece of stationery embossed in the upper left corner with a seal for Irving Mills.

A hand-drawn cartoon depicts a man and a woman facing each other, each being pierced with a cupid's arrow. There is also a pencil drawing of a flower on the back of the page.

There is no writing on the missile, and no indication of the author. The date was estimated based on other of Viola's correspondence we have discovered.

Kilbeurn City does not show on any current maps of Wisconsin.

Letter #53C





Miss Viola Porter.
Adams P. O.
Wabasha County
Wis.

Letter #53D

From: Lib Porter

To: Miss Viola C Porter White Water Wisconsin

Jackson Feb 16th 1868

Dear Sister Vie

I suppose as you cast your eye at the signature of this letter that you wonder with astonishment, but still who has got a better right to write you than me. Now Vie why do you not write? Is it because you do not want to or because you are waiting for me. If so I would be glad if you would not be so notional & write often for you do not know how thankful I would be just to hear from you & home.

Feb 26th

Vie you will perceive by the dates of this letter that it is some time since I commenced this but now I am resolved to finish it for I am going to town tomorrow & I want to take it to the Office.

I am going to draw in logs to the mill for Irves house. Tell him I am cutting the saw logs so as to make a house 14 x 18 that will give him a chance to partition off a pantry & bedroom. Ask him if that will [be] large enough. Bert is making his 14 x 16.

Nette received a letter from you today & I infer from the tone of it that you are not very contented. Well Vie I am aware that things look dark & that you have many things to think of & make you feel sad. But let me say to you my sister do not dispair (*sic*). Always try to look on the bright side. Had it not been for that I sometimes think that things would have been all up with me ere this for I need not tell you how much I have suffered & what I have undergone for the last five years but thank the good Lord I am better now & trust that I shall live to enjoy many long years of happiness with my family whom seem dearer to me every day I live.

Now Vie you must bear in mind that your brother Lib will stand by you & is ever ready & willing to assist & do all I can to make you comfortable. Sis Vie our door is open to you & if ever you see fit to make it your home with us here you are welcome & God grant that there will never anything occur that will mar our domestic peace & happiness, not that I apprehend the least danger in the world of course. But you know that such is apt to be to[o] often the case. It is my desire to ever have a friendly feeling existing although I may not always manifest it.

I hope that you will use all diligence in acquiring your trade for I am anxious to have you come out to Jackson & set up business yourself. I am so afraid you will stay down there until you have exhausted all your means but I guess you are sharp enough for that.

Tell Irve I rec/d his letter about a week ago with Check for \$100.&c. I will write to him soon.

How I wish you could see our darling little boy Geo Irving. He has got four teeth. We think him a fine fellow.

We have organized a School District in our neighborhood & intend having school next summer. Zell is making great calculations on going.

Nell & the children have gone to bed & as I am getting sleepy I guess I will go too. Give my love to Irve, Emeline, Uncle Samuel & you must look out for your share. Best respects to all inquiring friends &c.

I remain as ever your brother

Lib

Jackson Feb 16th 1868
Dear Sister Vi

I suppose as you cast your eye at the signature of this letter that you would do with astonishment. but still who has got a better right to write you than me. Now Vi why do you not write? Is it

because you do not want to or because you are waiting for me. If so I would be glad if you would not be so reticent. I write often for you do not know how thankful I would be just to hear from you & home.

Feb 26th Vi you will perceive by the date of this letter that it is some time since I commenced this but now I am resolved to finish it for I am going to

town tomorrow & I want to take
it to the Office. I am going to
draw in logs to the mill for Dicks
house. Tell him I am cutting
the saw logs so as to make a
house 14 x 18 that will give him
a chance to partition off a pantry
& bedroom ask him if that will
be large enough. Bert is making his
14 x 16 Nettie received a letter from
you today & I infer from the
tone of it that you are not very
contented Well I am aware
that things look dark & that you
have many things to think of &
make you feel sad. But let me
say to you my sister do not despair
always try to look on the bright
side. Had it not been for that I
sometimes think that things would
have been all up with me ere this
for I need not tell you how much
I have suffered & what I have undergone

for the last five years. But thank
the good Lord I am better now
& trust that I shall live to enjoy
many long years of happiness with
my family whom I deem dearer to
me every day I live. Now I
you must bear in mind that
your brother Lib will stand by you
& is ever ready & willing to assist
& do all I can to make you comfortable
Give me our door is open to you & if
ever you see fit to make it your home
with us here you are welcome.
& God grant that there will never any
thing occur that will mar our
domestic peace & happiness not
that I apprehend the least danger
in the world of course. But you
know that such is apt to be too often
the case. It is my desire to ever
have a friendly feeling existing
although I may not always manifest

I hope that you will use all
dilligence in acquiring your trade
for I am anxious to have you
come out to Jackson & set up
business yourself I'm afraid you
will stay down there until you
have exhausted all your means but
~~I guess you are sharp enough for that~~

Tell Joe I rec'd his letter about a
week ago with check for \$100. &c
I will write to him soon

Now I wish you could see our
darling little boy Geo Irving he
has got four teeth we think him
a fine fellow He have organized a
School District in our neighborhood
& intend having school next summer
Zell is making great calculations on
going Still & the children have gone
to bed & as I am getting sleepy I

guess I will go too Give my love
to Joe Caroline & Uncle Samuel
& you must look out for your share
Best respects to all inquiring
friends &c

I remain as ever your brother
Lib.



Miss Viola C. Porter
White Water
Wisconsin

Letter #54A

From: Cousin Lina

To: Mr Irving Porter, Whitewater, Wis, care SS Porter Esq

Whitewater Feb 25th
259 Tenth St.

(Year estimated based on known family events)

Dear Cousin Irve:

Oh! dear how foolish girls are! I do wish you would not wait for those three letters, this is the second; but write to me. I have been anxiously [waiting] though with out hope, looking for a letter from you ever since my "romantic visit". Who do you get to help to unload the wood now? Oh! I had forgotten you have friend Mary, right handy.

Vie wrote me that you were to start for Minnesota tomorrow, I did not get her letter in time to send you my Photo; but shall reserve it for you, and will send when I hear where you are settled. I like yours much better than Vies. I would send it in this but am afraid the letter may be miscarried if you have left Whitewater, but will write again as soon as I hear where you are.

It must have been hard to part with Mary. I can sympathize with you as I have parted with dear friends myself.

I do hope you have not engaged her as a housekeeper, as you promised to have me come next summer & I think seriously of keeping my promise. Be sure & get the tent, or cabin up and ready for me before July.

Do you intend going to Baraboo on your way? A B Porter is there now on a short visit from his labor as clerkship.

When you get to Minn remember me with much love to Nettie, Lib and their families Robert King included.

I do not want you to tell them what a "crazy" girl I was at your house, sincerely Irve. I am not always on such a train.

I think some of going out to your house in April. I wish you were going to be at home, but then it is only three months before I am to go to keeping house for you. After that, I can stand it.

As soon as I learn through Vie where you are I shall send your Photograph to you and be sure to send yours in return.

I am in earnest about keeping up my correspondence with you, if you do not get tired of my letters. I am going to try to

teach you to like Cousin Lina better than you do or did.

There was a terrible accident in Mil[waukee] last week, when four lives were lost instantly by the explosion of an engine boiler.

Oh! Irve I would like to go down twon (*sic*) with you tonight after some cider; but you should not have any until you reached home, for fear you would be inviting the girls to ride in a wagon with out horses.

Enough nonsense. I would like to see you.

Why did not you come to Mil as you were intending to when I was there?

If you will condescend to write before I write again I shall be glad to hear from you. If I do not hear I shall write again soon.

Loving Cousin Lina

259 Tenth St. Mil.

Milwaukee Feb. 25th259. 5th St.

Dear Cousin Joe:

Oh! dear how foolish girls are! I do wish you would not wait for those three letters, this is the second; but write to me. I have been anxious though without hope, I looking for a letter from you ever since my "romantic visit."

When do you get to help to unload the crock now? Oh! I had forgotten you have friend Mary, right handy.

Oh! what you were to start for Milwaukee tomorrow, I did not get her letter in time to send you my Photo; but shall reserve it for you, and will

send when I hear where
you are settled. I like yours
much better than Vici's.

I would send it in this but
am afraid the letter may
be mis-carried if you have
left. Write or write but will
write again as soon as I
hear where you are.

It must have been hard
to part with Mary. I can
sympathize with you as I
have parted with dear friends
myself.

I do hope you have not
engaged her as a housekeeper,
as you promised to have
me come next summer &
I think seriously of keeping
my promise, be sure &
get the tent, or cabin up
and ready for me before
July.

Do you intend going to Barabro
on your way? A B Porter is
there now for a short visit;
from his labor as clerk ship.

When you get to Minn's
remember me with much
love to better Lib, and their
families. Robert King, included.
I do not want you to
tell them what a Mary
girl I was at your house.
Sincerely Love. I am not always
on such a train.

I think some of going
out to your house in April.
I wish you were going to be
at home; but when it is
only three months before I
am to go to keeping house
for you, after that I can
stand it.

As soon as I have through
Vic where you are I shall
send you a Photograph to you.

and be sure to send
in return.

I am in earnest about
keeping up my correspondence
with you, if you do not get
tired of my letters. I am
going to try to teach
to, I like Comm. Ser. better
than you do, or disagree

There was a terrible accident
in Mil. last week, where four
lives were lost in a moment
by the explosion of an engine
boiler.

Oh! Some I would like to
go down town with you tonight
after some cider; But you
should not have any until
you reached home, for fear
you would be inviting the
girls to ride in a carriage
without horses.

Enough women
like to see you.



Mr. George Foster,
Whitewater
Care S. S. Foster (1891) Wis.

Letter #54B

From: Emma D.

To: Mr I Porter, Whitewater, Wis

Mr Porter

Accept your invitation but am afraid it will be pretty bad weather, however if they have the party will go if satisfactory.

Respectfully

Emma D.

Whitewater May 1st 1868

Mr. Porter

Accept your invitation but am afraid it will be pretty bad weather. However if they have the party will go if satisfactory.

Respectfully

Emma D.

Whitewater Bay /st /868



Mr. L. Porter
Whitewater
Wis

Letter #54C

From: Lib Porter

To: Irve Porter (No envelope)

Jackson Minn
August 2nd 1868

Dear Brother

I received your short letter yesterday & was glad to hear that you were fortunate in finding a place to work & that you were getting such big wages. But you don't expect to get that for 5 weeks do you?

I have been having a very bad spell ever since you went away. My liver has troubled me very much. I never had such a pain in all my life as I have had for the past week in my right side. I could hardly breathe cough or sleep. I had a strong notion of sending for you to come right back but am a great deal better now & I want you to make all you can.

I had made up my mind to go down home right away & have written home to that effect but am so much better that [I] don't know as I shall go at all. If I do I guess I shall wait until you go.

You must make all you can of course But don't stay any longer than you can get good wages for I want you to hurry around to help me do up the work & make arrangements. I have let out my wheat standing in the field to John Walter (?). He has to deliver me from the Machine 45 bushels I have nothing more to do with it. I don't believe there will be over 50 bush in the whole thing. He has got it all cut & ready to stack. Miner & Wood are going after a new machine. I guess the harvest is pretty near done with here.

The School timber is all surveyed out & will be sold in the month of October.

The Chamberlain click (*clique*) have got up a petition to have this town set off & I hope you & Charlie will be here by the first of Sept so that you can sign a remonstrance.

And now about your colt. I suppose you dream of him every night. You need not fret about him for he is doing first rate. William has been very kind in coming to cut grass for him while I was sick. Yesterday was the first day I have been able to take him out. I got on his back & took a good ride. Irve you don't know how much I think of that horse. He is so good I can do anything with him. Irve I think you ought to get him well trained this fall so that you can drive him with out any trouble before he gets any older.

We are expecting Barney home Wednesday night with his wife, little Nellie & Mother Lewis.

You have had no letters come yet But if you do I will send them as you have directed. Nette got [a] letter from Vie yesterday. Says she feels quite well now & is some what vexed that you dont write & acknowledge the receipt (*sic*) of that money. She is out of the Shop.

Well I did not think of writing half so much when I commenced But will stop now any way.

Yours Affectionately

Lib

Jackson Miner
August 2nd 1868

Dear Brother

I received your short letter yesterday & was glad to hear that you were fortunate in finding a place to work & that you were getting such big wages. But you dont expect to get that for 5 weeks do you? I have been having a very bad spell ever since you went away. My liver has troubled me very much. I never had such a pain in all my life as I have had for the past week in my right side I could hardly breath cough nor sleep. I had a strong notion of sending for you to come right back but am a great deal better now & I want you to make all you can.

I had made up my mind to go down home right away & have written home to that effect but am so much better that don't know as I shall go at all. If I do I guess I shall wait till you go. You must make all you can of course. But don't stay any longer then you can get good wages for I want you to hurry around to help me do up the work & make arrangements. I have let out my wheat standing in the field to John Watter. He has to deliver me from the machine 40 bus & I have nothing more to do with it. I don't believe there will be over 50 bus in the whole thing. He has it all cut & ready to stack ^{got}. Miner & Wood are going after a new machine. I guess the harvest is pretty near done with here. The School timber is

all sawed out & will be sold in the month of October. The Chamberlain Clerk have got up a petition to have this town set off. & I hope you & Charlie will be here by the first of Sept so that you can sign a remonstrance. And now about your colt I suppose you dream of him every night. You need not fret about him for he is doing first rate. William has been very kind in coming to cut grafts for him while I was sick. Yesterday was the first day I have been able to take him out. I got on his back & took a good ride. I see you don't know how much I think of that horse he is so good I can do any thing with him. I see I think you ought to get him well trained this fall so that you can drive him with

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gets any older. He are expecting
Barney home Wednesday night
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no letters come yet. But if you
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have directed. Nettie got letter
from Vic yesterday. Says she
feels quite well now & is some
what vexed because you dont
write & acknowledge the receipt
of that money. She is out of
the shop. Well I did not
think of writing half so
much when I commenced.
But will stop now anyway.

Yours Affectionately
Lib

Letter #54D

From: Lib Porter

To: Irving B Porter Esq, Jackson, Jackson Co, Minn

(Envelope postmarked Palmyra)

Adams Sept 19th 1868

Dear Brother

I should have written sooner but have been on the go some where all the time. I begin to feel quite well. I went to see Stoddard soon after I got here & am now taking his medicine. He says he thinks he can cure me. I hope so any way. I have been to see him twice & I have to stand about an hour with my shirt off for him to examin[e] my lungs. He says the cause of me having those pains in my side is with having an abcess (*sic*) on one of the lower lobes of my right lung & also the meanes (*sic*) of my coughing so much. I am much better already & feel like a new man.

I am anxious to hear from you all & to know how you & Vie got home. I have been out to W.W. [*Whitewater*] to see Montague & B.J.. He says there is two ladies who wants to buy the place for the purpose of keeping boarders from the Normal School but they will not give but \$1200 for it. They will give that in cash. I staid there two days to make inquirys & as far as I could find out it is about as much as we can get if we sell this fall. You can talk the matter over amongst you & let me know.

I went to see the horse & brought him home with me as he did not look very well. I am going to fat him up a little to make him saleable. I rather think that By has used him considerable this summer. I ask \$150 for him. Mr Lewis from Palmyra was over to look at him yesterday. Dont know whether he will take him or not.

We got to Palmyra about 5 oclock that next thursday morning. Went to Acors & staid till noon & then rode home with Tom Astin. I went up to the place to see if Vies things were all right. Mrs L said they were.

How are you gitting (*sic*) along trapping. I shall have to stop for this time. I shall write again in a few days.

Give my love to all &c.

Write soon & oblige

Your brother

Lib

I staid to Dicks over night. He has hurt his leg very bad while pressing hay. Got caught in the horse power & tore a hole in the calf of his leg about 5 inches long & an inch deep.

By has just got back from the Janesville fair. Old Mag won the prize & took the rag off every thing on the course. He is going to take him to the Burlington fair this week & trot him for a \$200 premium.

Peaches are \$1.50 to \$1.75 per basket.

Gracias are \$1.50 to \$1.75 per book

Adams Sept 19th 1868

Dear Brother

I should have written sooner but have been on the go somewhere all the time. I begin to feel quite well. I went to see Stoddard soon after I got here & am now taking his medicine. He says he thinks he can cure me I hope so any way. I have been to see him twice & I have to stand about an hour with my shirt off for him to examin my lungs

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I staid to Dicks over night -
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while pressing hay. got caught
in the horse power & tore a hole
in the calf of his leg about 5
inches long & an inch deep
By has just got back from the
Janesville fair. Old Mag won
the prize & took the rag off every
thing on the course He is going
to take him to the Burlington fair
this week & trot him for a \$2.00
premium

I am much better already
& feel like a new man.

I am anxious to hear from
you all & to know how you &
Vic got home I have been out
to H. W. to see Montague & B. J.
He says there is two ladies who
wants to buy the place for the
purpose of keeping boarders
from the Normal School
but they will not give but
\$1,200 for it. they will give
that in cash I staid there
two days to make inquiries &
as far as I could find out
it is about as much as we
can get if we sell this fall
You can talk the matter over
amongst you & let me know
I went to see the horse & brought
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to the place to see if Vics things
were all right Mrs L said they
were. How are you getting along
trapping I shall have to stop
for this time I shall write
again in a few days

Give my love to all &c
Write soon & oblige
Your brother
L. C.



25
31
Irving B Porter Esq
Jackson
Jackson Co
Miss

M A
SEP 25
Wis.

Letter # 57

From: Lebbeus Effingham Porter

To: Antoinette Porter King

Jan 4th 1869

Dear Sister

I suppose you had given up all hopes of ever hearing from me again. But you see you are slightly mistaken(sic) this time. I would write again to William had I the least idea that he would ever answer it. But alas! the last spark of faith has fled. Nette you cannot begin to tell how bad it makes me feel. Him not writing to me puts me in mind of what he told me last spring if you remember (I certainly cannot forget it). He said that he had lost all confidence in my affection for him.

That together with incidents which has transpired concerning Irve keeps my mind in rather an unpleasant state.

I stay most of the time here at Father Kings & I can assure you that it is a good home. It would be impossible for my own parents to use me any better than they do here. My health is much better than when I first came down. Still my cough sticks by me yet.

Irve & Vie were down to Klings on Christmas & when they went home they took Zell with them. Nell & I took the team yesterday & went after her. She was very much pleased with Nellies letter & keeps teasing me to write for her & tell Nellie about Santa Claus.

Charlie got here about a week ago. We were all glad to see him. Also to hear that you were all doing well.

How is Willies eyes getting along? Mother King says now tell them not to be keeping that boy up there for fear he will not be welcome but send him right along. Rob says he can travel alone just as well as any of us can. Father King wants him to come too. Why dont Wm take him to Blue Earth to see Winch? Of course you know that is a matter of no little concern.

Uncle Sam has been to Whitewater but I did not see him. He went from there to Baraboo. I expect to see him on his return.

Acors & Caroline came over here yesterday to see me & I was gone to W.W. Provoking was it not?

I suppose Irve has given you an asccount of how the Estate matters stand. I went with him to Elkhorn when he took or rendered his account to the judge & must say that I was much

pleased to find him so very little out of the way. I will send you a brief scetch(sic) of how things stand.

I had a letter from Bert Saturday. Ask Wm why he dont write me. I wrote to him soon after my arrival here. I hope he has not taken any offense.

How did you all spend the holidays? Had a good time no doubt. I wished many times that we could have been with you. Nell & I staid at home. Bromleys were here New Years. The old lady was sick & could not come.

Tell Wm to find out what my taxes are & let me know. Has John (illegible) paid Wm for the pig yet? When he does I wish you wouls tell William to settle with M.S. I would send the money but have not got but 50 cents to my name & cant get any until spring. I had to pay out so much for the broom stock that it straped(sic) me completely.

Now Nette I do hope that you & William & all of you will write often. Give my love to all. Accept the same for your self & I will remain as ever

Your brother

Lib

I guess Irve & Vie will raise the money & buy the house & lot if we will take \$1200.00 for it. I am willing. What say you?

If M.S. (illegible) my land & tell him if he chooses I will make arrangements with him to find the seed wheat also (illegible) a good share of the time.

I suppose you have given you an account of how the Estate matters stand. I went with him to Elk Horn when he took or rendered his account to the Judge & must say that I was much pleased to find him so very little out of the way. I will send you a brief sketch of how things stand.

I got the letter from Bert Saturday afternoon. Why he does not write to him soon after he gets here I hope he has not taken any offense. How did your holidays had a good time indeed. I wished many times that I could have been with you. Well & I staid at home. Brothers were here New Years the old lady was sick & could not come. Tell him to find out what taxes are due on the land. When he does I wish you would tell William to settle with M. S. I would send the money but have not got but 20 cents to my name & can't get any until spring. I had to pay out so much for the broom stock that it strapped me completely. Now Nettie I do hope that you & William & all of you will write often give my love to all except the same your self. I will remain as ever

Your brother
L. B.

I guess you & Ben will raise the money & buy the House & lot if we will take \$12,000 for it. I am willing what say you

Dear Sister

M. S. wants my land tell him. If he chooses I will make arrangements with him to find the seed wheat also, a team & a good share of the tithing.

Jan. 4th 1869

I suppose you had given up all hopes of ever hearing from me again. But you see you are slightly mistaken this time. I would write again to William had I the least idea that he would ever answer it. But alas! the last spark of faith has fled. Nettie you cannot begin to tell how bad it makes me feel. Him not writing to me it puts me in mind of what he told me last spring if you remember (I certainly cannot forget it) He said that he had lost all confidence in my affection for him.

Letter #57

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the most of the time here at
~~Father Kings~~ & I can assure
you that it is a good home
It would be impossible for
my own parents to see me
any better than they do here
My health is much better than
when I first came down
Still my cough sticks by me yet
I've & Vic were down to Kling
on Christmas & when they went
home they took Nell with them
Nell & I took the team yesterday
& went after her. She was very
much pleased with Nellie letter
& keeps teasing me to write for
her & tell Nellie about Santa Claus

Charlie got here about a
week ago. We were all glad to
see him - also to hear that you
were all doing well. How is
Willies eyes getting along. Mother
King says now tell them not to be
keeping that boy up there for fear
he will not be welcome But
send him right along Rob says
he can travel along just as well
as any of us can. Father King wants
him to come too. Why don't you
take him to Blue Earth to see
Winch. Of course you know that
it is a matter of no little concern
Uncle Sam has been to Whitewater
But I did not see him. He went
from there to Baraboo I expect
to see him on his return
Acors & Carolini came over
here yesterday to see me &
I was gone to W. W. Provo^{not}king was it

Letter #57A

From: Lib Porter

To: I.B. Porter Esq, Whitewater, Wisconsin

(Envelope postmarked Jackson)

May 20th A.D. 1869

Dear Brother

I am once more seated to write you a letter. Although I feel far from being in the humor. But I cannot consienciously (*sic*) put it off any longer. I recieved (*sic*) your letter some 3 weeks ago & one from Vie last week. Irve I hope you do not feel hard towards me for not writing promptly for I verily believe that if you were placed in my circumstances you would not blame me. I can assure you that there are many many times that I feel like giving up to despondency all together. All the comfort I enjoy in this world is the faint hope that I may at some future time regain my health. I sent to that Claravoyant (*sic*) for some medicine but it has not got along yet. I am in hopes it will come next Tuesday without fail. I weighed my self yesterday & only weighed 128 1/2 so you [see] I am not getting very fat.

Vie said in her letter that you Gus & Dick were going out on Rock River with the intention of lining your pockets with what loose money there is in that region. Well all I have to say is I hope that [you] may all meet with a bountiful success but let me admonish you to be causcious (*sic*) that you dont all get to going up the Creek. How I do wish you chaps were all out here so I could have a jolly chat with you once in a while. It would cheer me up but Alas such is not to be the case I am afraid.

I told you that I had hired Billy Dayton to work for me this spring but he only worked a week. He said he could not manage the oxen so I gave him his discharge & hired a fellow by the name of Sandy Morrow. He is one of the best men to work that I ever had any thing to do with. He thinks I have the best yoke of oxen on the prairie. I give him 75 cents a day. He will finish up my work tomorrow.

I have put my breaking & about three acers (*sic*) in on Bobs to wheat which is looking very well. I have planted 4 acres of broom corn 2 acers of corn 1 1/2 of oats 1/4 acre of cane and about 3/4 acre of potatoes melons & garden stuff till you cant rest.

You would be surrprised to see the emigrants just rolling in here now. There was ten coverd wagons cross the river at Jackson last night all going up to the Big Bend. They are laying out a

village site up there expecting the R.R. as a matter of course.

C. Chamberlin has left Jackson & gone out on to his claim leaving many unpaid debts behind which is creating quite a sensation among those aggrieved.

I go in quite frequently to see old George. He is looking well but not near as fat as you kept him. Ben thinks I guess that you have got to learn how to keep a horse yet. There will not be many colts from him this spring. Ben thinks it is because you kept him to[o] fat. He takes him to Belmont & Esterville. He dont have any success at all around Jackson. Ben is going to Austin with him next spring.

I saw Galbreth yesterday. He says his mare is not with foal. He feels very bad about it. Old Madere has no colt yet but [I] am looking for it every day. Sandon & Fred Lyman have both got licenced horses & I guess they are getting the majority of the custom[ers] about here & Belmont. But I guess I have said enough upon this delicate subject & now for some thing else.

About the timber Irve I dont know what to do about it. I guess you might as well send me a deed as you spoke of a deed subject to mortgage for the old fellow has not lifted the mortgage yet & cant tell when he will. William says he is going to attend to it for the boys are so anxious about it.

You wanted me to send you a reciept(*sic*) of the amount of money which I have had from Vie so that you could settle with her. Well, Irve you will find accompanying this letter a true statement (as far as I know) of just how we all stand. That is as far as I am concerned. I would be glad to have you straighten things out & send me a statement of our affairs, as it would gratify me to know just how it is.

Yes Irve you may think that I am imprudent to think so but I feel as though I could see stareing(*sic*) me in the face that horrid lingering disease Consumption which is slowly but surely dragging me down to an early grave. But still I look the longest on the bright side & am determined to not despair as long as life remains & as long as I am spared the indescribable pleasure of the presence of my wife & darling little Zell. Nell is everything to me as a companion that a man could ask for. She is ever ready to wait upon me & to cheer me in my dark hours of melancholy when all else would fail.

As for a place of residence I dont think I shall move from here very soon for I have become attached to this place & am perfectly contented on that score.

William & I have bought a new cross plow & it works finely called the Grand deTour. Bill & Barnes are going to have the use of my oxen this summer for seven acres of breaking. Irve you had

better come next spring & take Johnsons farm as he says he is going to rent it.

We have painted the inside woodwork to our mansion & dont we look gay though? We are going to have a school this summer. Dunns oldest daughter is the teacher. Ask Vie if she is not sorry that she is not here to take it.

Tell her that I shall not delay answering her letter long but she must keep on writing all the same & you too for it affords me great comfort when who ever brings the mail to hear them say a letter for Lib! Tell Gus I would like to see him right well & not to wait for me to write but write me a good long letter.

But see here Irve I think I have run this thing about far enough & now I am going to quit. But before I take leave let me once more entreat of both you and Vie to write often too.

Your Affectionate Brother

Lib

P.S. You will percieve (*sic*) that I have giv[en] you credit for that \$10 dollars that [you-?] said was Vies.

[A few lines in several places in this letter have been crossed out with pencil, although still clearly readable. It seems random--perhaps the work of a child ?? All the content is included in this transcription]

May 20th A.D. 1869

Dear Brother

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I have put my breaking & about three acres in on Bobs to wheat which is looking very well. I have planted 4 acres of broom corn 2 acres of corn 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ of oats 1 $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of cane & about 3 $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of potatoes melons & garden stuff till you cant rest.

You would be surprised to see the Emigrants just rolling in here now. There was ten covered wagons crossed the river at Jackson last night all going up to the Big Bend they are laying out a village sight up there expecting the R.R. as a matter of course.

C. Chamberlain has left Jackson & gone out on to his claim leaving many unpaid debts behind which is creating quite a sensation among those aggrieved. I ~~go in quite frequently to see~~ ~~at~~

~~George. He is looking well but not near as fat~~ as you kept him. Ben thinks I guess that you have got to learn how to keep a horse yet.

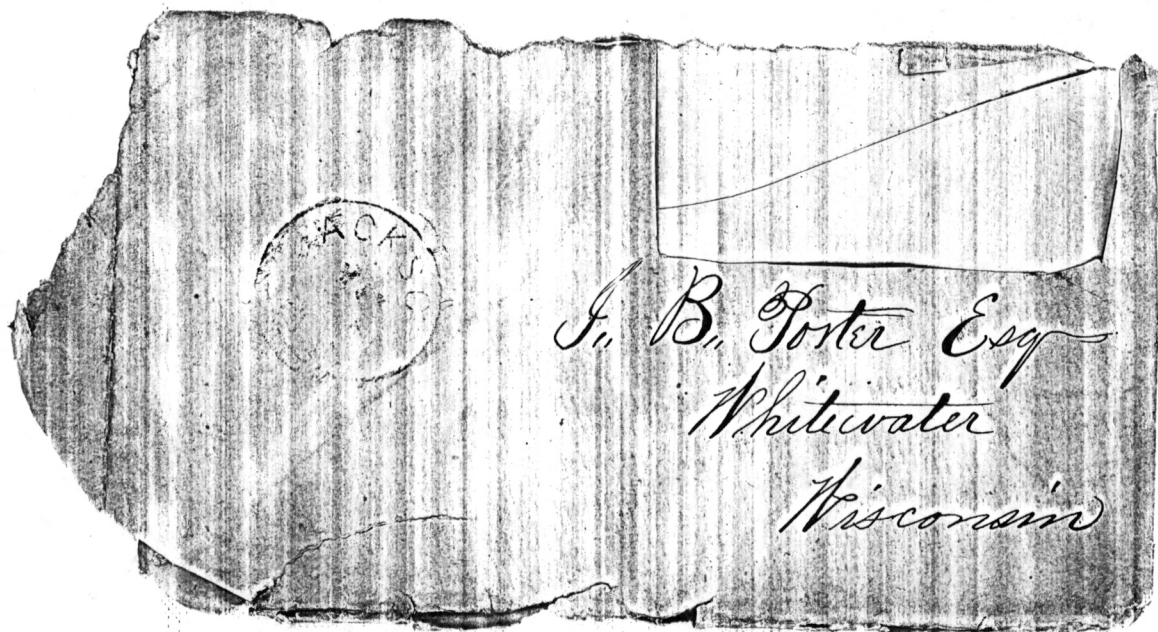
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with foal. He feels very bad about it. Old Medare
has no colt yet. but am looking for it every day
Sandon & Fred Lyman have both got licensed horses
& I guess they are getting the majority of the custom
~~about here & Belmont.~~ But I guess I have said enough
~~upon this delicate subject~~ & now for something else
About the timber Iroe I dont know what to do
about it. I guess you might as well send me a
deed as you spoke of a deed subject to mortgage
for the old fellow has not lifted the mortgage
yet & cant tell when he will. William says he
is going to attend to it. for the boys are so
anxious about it. You wanted me to send
you a receipt of the amount ^{money} of which I have
had from her so that you could settle with her
Well-Iroe you will find accompanying this letter
a true statement (as far as I know) of just how
we all stand ~~that is as far as I am concerned~~
I would be glad to have you straighten things out
& send me a statement of our affairs. as it would
gratify me to know just how it is. Yes Iroe you may
think that I am imprudent to think so but I
feel as though I could see staring me in the face
that horrid lingering disease Consumption which is
slowly but surely dragging me down to an early
grave. But still I look the longest on the bright
side & am determined to not despair as long as
life remains & as long as I am spared the indescribable

pleasure of the presence of my wife & darling little
Zell. Zell is every thing to me as a companion that
a man could ask for. She is ever ready to wait upon
me & to cheer me in my dark hours of melancholy when
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farm as he says he is going to rent it. We have painted
the inside wood work to our mansion & dont we look
gay though? We are going to have a school this summer
Dunns oldest daughter is the teacher. ask Vic if
she is not sorry that she aint here to take it.
Tell her that I shall not delay answering her letter
long but she must keep on writing all the same
& you too for it affords me great comfort when whoever
brings the mail to hear them say (a letter for Lib!)
Tell Gus I would like to see him right well & not to
wait for me to write but write me a good long letter
But see here I've. I think I have run this thing
about far enough & now I am going quit. But before
I take leave let me once more entreat of both you
and Vic to ^{write} often to

Your Affectionate Brother
Lib

P.S. you will perceive that I have }
give you credit for that 10 dollars
that I said was ^{his}



J. B. Porter Esq
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #58A

From: Lib Porter

To: Irving B. Porter Esq, Whitewater, Wisconsin

Jackson, Aug 19th, 1869

Dear Brother

Your short but welcome letter came to hand day before yesterday & was very glad to know that you were not all dead but still liveth. I had made up my mind that there must have [been] something very serious happened [to] you on the account of your long silence. I am pleased to hear that you are all in good health & I can assure you that it would be a pleasure unbounded if I could but say the same to you although I am trying to make myself believe that I am getting better every day. The rest of the folks are all well.

You must not expect much of a letter from me to day as I am not feeling firstrate. You say that you & Gus are going out harvesting. The boys will finish cutting my wheat to day. We are having a pretty wet harvest. I am afraid some of my wheat will grow before I can get it stacked. Have not a spear of hay cut yet. Guess I shall sell my oxen this fall for I shall probably have to rent my land next year.

They are talking quite strong of running me this fall for County Auditor & I flatter myself that I will get it too & if I do I can get along finely as that office now begins to pay about \$300. a year.

Irve you wanted to know about old Georgies colts. I have not seen Ben yet but when I do I will ascertain & let you know. Old Madere's colt is the best she ever had. It is almost black. I think she is going to make a fast nag. I am in hopes of having another colt from the same source next year.

I suppose you have heard that Ben came near losing old George last spring. He had him down to Esterville. Some children were playing about the stable with matches & set it on fire. One minute more & the poor old fellow would have been perished in the flames but he got him out after burning the hair completely off of his head. The skin all come off of his nose clear up to his eyes. I tell you I felt sorry enough for the old fellow but he is all right now.

You did not state in your letter what you was doing this summer. You say you some times think that you will come back to Jackson again. Well Irve I dont know as there is any use of me rehearsing my opinion about the matter for you very well know that I have told [you] time & again what I thought was best for you. I have had no chance to dispose of your claim yet & whats

more I shant look very sharp for one either.

By the way Irve I wish you would send me that deed for the timber just as soon as you can get it made out for I want to get it & have it recorded right off. Now dont delay about [that] will you? You need not be particular about having it made out subject to mortgage. Copy right from the old one.

Tell Vie I received her letter which gratified me much only I am very sorry that the task of writing to me is so very great for her as to take three months to write one letter but never mind. Tell her I am going to write her soon & then I shall have a whole sheet of paper to just give her goss (?).

Now Irve try & do something unusual for once in your life & answer my letters more promptly. Your excuse for not writing [and] being a poor writer wont answer the contract at all.

Love to all

from brother Lib

I have just received some medicine from the clairvoyant.

Nell has five turkeys. You & Vie come out so as to be here Thanksgiving & we will muligroate em (?).

Bert & I are going to trap this fall. Dont you wish you was along with us. We shall begin in about three weeks.

Lona starts for Wis a week from Monday.

I wish you would just step over tomorrow & help me stack my wheat.

How is Charlie Ellis.

Letter #58A

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this fall. Don't
worry you was
along with us
we shall begin
in about three
weeks. Gorda
starts for this
week from
Monday

I wish you
would let
step over
tomorrow &
help me
stock my
coveat

How is Charlie

Jackson, Aug 17th 1869

Dear Brother

Your short, but
 welcome letter came to hand ~~to~~
 day before yesterday. I was very
 glad to know that you were
 not ill dead, but still liveth.
 I have made up my mind that
 there must have something very
 serious happened you on the
 account of your long silence.
 I am pleased to hear that you
 are still in good health. & I
 can assure you that it would
 be a pleasure, unbounded if
 could, but say the same
 you although I am trying
 to make myself believe that
 I am getting better every day.
 The rest of the folks are all well

You must not expect much
of a letter from me to day as I
am not feeling first-rate. You
say that you & Gus are going out
harvesting. The boys will finish
cutting my wheat today. We
are having a pretty wet harvest
I am afraid some of my wheat
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land next year. They are talking
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this fall for County Auditor
& I flatter myself that I will get
it too. & if I do I can get along
finely as that office now begins
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I've you wanted to know about old
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Ben yet: but when I do I will

ascertain & let you know.
Old Medares colt is the best she
ever had. It is almost black. I think
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I am in hopes of having another
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that Ben came near loosing
old George last spring. He had
him down to Esterville. Some
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fire. One minute more & the
poor old fellow would have been
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hair completely off of his head.
The skin all come off of his
nose clear up to his eyes. I
tell you I felt sorry enough for
the old fellow but he is all right
now. You did not state in
your letter what you was doing

this summer. You say you some
times think that you will come
back to Jackson again. Well I've
I don't know as there is any use
of me rehearsing my opinion
about the matter for you very
well know that I have told time
& again what I thought was best
for you. I have had no chance
to dispose of your claim yet. &
what more I shant look very
sharp for one either. By the way
I've I wish you would send
me that deed for the timber
just as soon as you can get it
made out for I want to get
it & have it recorded right off
now dont delay about will you?
you need not be particular about
having it made out subject to
mortgage. Copy right from the
old one. Tell me I received her
letter which gratified me much
only I am very sorry that the task of
writing to me is so very great for
her as to take three months to write
one letter but never mind tell
her I am going to write her soon
& then I shall have a whole sheet
of paper to just give her **God**
now I've try & do something unusual
once in your life & answer my
letters more promptly. Your excuse
for not writing. being a poor writer
wont answer the contract at all. Love to all
from Broome Lib



Irving B. Porter Esq
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #59

From: Lib Porter

To: Mr Irving B. Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson Oct 4th 1869

Dear Brother

I feel almost to[o] tired to write much tonight as I have been cutting broom corn all day but as Bert has sent to have Lona come back the first of next month I thought I would write & send it off tomorrow so it will get there before she starts.

I have been looking & waiting to hear from you ever since I wrote last but still no tidings "as usual". Irve I guess that I will put this by & write in the morning for I am so very tired.

Last Friday I had a severe attack of the palpitations & I have not felt very well since. It commenced at half past nine in the morning & never stop[p]ed till seven in the evening so you can calculate that it pulled me down a bit.

Well it is morning & I will try & finish this letter. I am going to draw in my broom corn & dig potatoes today. Nell & I finished cutting last night.

Irve the most I want to write for now is to have you send me a coat by Lona or Willie. I cant get one here to suit me short of 20 or 25 dollars & I wont pay it. If you have a common one that will do for me to put on just when I go down town--one that you have been wearing. If you will send it to me, I will send you the money for it or any thing else. Just say how much you want for it. My old coat is about gone up & I hate to wear the one I got of Bert.

You must not forget to send that deed. Send it by Willie if you have not sent it already. The school timber is going to be sold on the 20th of this month to the highest bidder. I wish you could get a piece of it.

I would be glad if you was out here to trap with me. I am trapping alone this fall. Bert is teaming from Mankato. I take old Call with me when I go out to paddle the boat.

I have rented my land to Sandy Morrow for an other year all but five acres which I keep for broom corn.

Irve I wish you would send me a good limber gold pen. I have broke mine & I cant write hardly at all with a steel pen. See if you can not swindle somebody out of one. If I get that office I shall have a great deal of writing to do & I want to do it good.

We took our sugar cane to Daytons to be made up and only got 7 gallons. We expected 20.

The Land Office is running full blast at Jackson. Our County Fair comes off next week at Jackson.

Well Irve I have to stop writing for William is going to town & I want him to take this along. Give my love to Vie & tell her to answer my letter. My best regards to Gus & all inquiring friends. Write soon & oblige

Yours Affectionately

Lib

Bert has written to have Lona be at Wauseca on the 28th of this month so you see you will have to hurry up.

Jackson Oct 4th 1869

Dear Brother

I feel almost too tired to write much tonight as I have been cutting broomcorn all day. But as Bert has sent to have Lona come back the first of next month I thought I would write & send it off tomorrow so it will get there before she starts. I have been looking & waiting to hear from you ever since I wrote last but still no tidings "as usual." Now I guess that I will put this by & write in the morning for I am so very tired. Last Friday I had a severe attack of the palpitation & I have not felt very well since. It commenced at half past nine in the morning & never stopped till seven in the evening so you can calculate that it pulled me down a bit. Well it is morning & I will try & finish this letter. I am going to draw in my broomcorn & dig potatoes to day Nell & I finished cutting last night. Now the most I want to write for now is to have you send me a coat by Lona or Willie. I can't get one here to suit me short of 20 or 25 dollars & I won't pay it. Now if you have a common one that will do for me to put on just when I go down town one that you have been wearing. If you will send it to me. I will send you the money for it or any thing else just say how much you want for it. My old coat is about gone up & I hate to wear the one I got of Bert. You must not forget to send that. I did send it

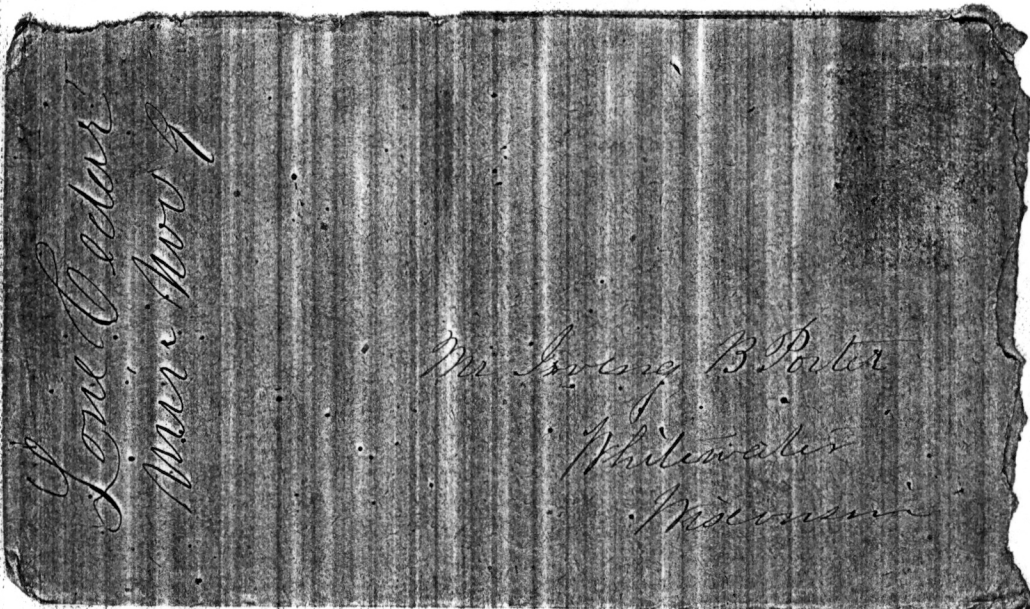
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The school timber is going to be sold on the 20th of this month to the highest bidder. I wish you could get a piece of it. I would be glad if you was out here to trap with me. I am trapping alone this fall. Bert is teaming from Mankato. I take old Call with me when I go out to paddle the boat.

I have rented my land to Sandy Morrow for another year all but five acres which I keep for broom corn. Now I wish you would send me a good timber gold pen. I have broke mine & I cant write hardly at all with a steel pen. See if you cannot swindle some body out of one. If I get that office I shall have a great deal of writing to do & I want to do it good. We took our sugar cane to Dayton to be made up and only got 7 gallons we expected 20. The Land Office is running at full blast at Jackson. Our County Fair comes off next week at Jackson. Well now I have to stop writing for William is going to town & I want him to take this along. Give my love to Dix & tell her to answer my letter ~~to me~~. My best respects to Gus & all inquiring friends Write soon & oblige

Yours Affectionately
Lib

Post has written to have George go at Waveria on the 20th of this month so you see you will have to hurry up



Lowell Cedar
March 2009

Mr. Irving B. Porter
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #60A

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Irve Porter (No envelope)

Jackson Jan 20th 1870

Dear Brother Irve

I thought I would write you a few lines once more & let you know how we are all getting along here in Jackson. In the first place we are having some cold & disagreeable weather. We are nearly snowed under as bad as we were last winter. Today the sun is shining brightly but it is pretty cold & the roads are bad after the drift. We have had two days of it this week.

It has been so bad I could not get over to see Lib for nearly a week & I want to go so bad for he gets so lonesome & not many to come in & see him & he is so poorly he cannot get out much. Irve I am sorry to tell you that Lib is failing every day. Every time I see him he looks worse & is growing weaker every day. If he does not mend pretty soon he cannot stay with us much longer. Every one that sees him says that he cannot stand it much longer. It makes my heart ache every time I see him. Old man Call is with him yet & I dont know what he would do if he should leave him.

William has drawn the most of his wood. Albert & Barney have drawn a few loads. He has been quite cheerful the most of the time, much more so than one could expect. There are a few things that trouble him & I think you could remedy that if you would send him that deed. He has been waiting patiently for it all winter & wondering why you do not send it.

Now Irve the first thing you do just send it. I would do anything to make his last days as pleasant as possible. He suffers enough in body to have his mind at ease. Dont be so careless & neglectful of him. He knows better than we do that he cannot live a great while & he is anxious to leave his affairs in [as] good shape as possible.

Lib thinks a great deal of you & he told me not long ago that he did not see why you was so heedless. He said when he came away that you told him if he ever wanted anything to let you know & you would help him. Now Irve attend to those little things first & he will not have that to trouble him.

He is taking a new medicine but I have not much faith in it. His symptoms are all very bad. He has not been over here for two weeks. I dont think he could walk over here now. He has been able to tie a few brooms until lately. You cannot imagine how he has failed since New Years.

We were all up to Heath New Years & had a splendid time.
Where was you?

We were up to Johnsons the other eve. They have not been
here this winter.

Jackson is still improving. There is only four lawyers in
town now. William & the Big lawyer Mr Segar had quite a warm
time last week. William beat him all to pieces & want I glad.
He dresses pretty good & feels pretty gay & I guess he thought he
knew it all.

Now Irve we would like to hear from you so please write once
in awhile.

Ever your sister

Nette

Jackson Jan 20th 1870

Dear Brother Sam

I thought I
would write you a few lines once more
& let you know how we are all getting
along here in Jackson. In the first
place we are having some cold &
disagreeable weather. we are nearly snowed
under as bad as we were last winter
Today the sun is shining brightly but
it is pretty cold & the roads are bad after
the drift. we have had two days of it this
week. It has been so bad I could not get
over to see Leib for nearly a week & I want
to go so bad for he gets so lonesome & not
many to come in & see him & he is so poorly
he cannot get out much

I am sorry to tell you that Lib
is failing every day - Every time I see
him he looks worse & is growing weaker
every day - if he does not mend pretty
soon he cannot stay with us much
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It makes my heart ache every time
I see him - Old man Call is with him yet
& I don't know what he would do if he should
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Big lawyer Mr Segar had quite a warm
time last week - William beat him all to pieces
& went I guess - he dresses pretty good & feels
pretty gay & I guess he thought he knew it all
Now I am we would like to hear from you so
please write me in a while - Ever your friend
H. H.

Letter #60B

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Miss Viola C. Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson Jan 20th 1870

Dear Sister Viola

I have just been writing a few lines to Irve & I thought I would send a word or two to you. Dont you think you are a miserable sinner for not writing to me more than you do. Just one short letter since Willie came back. You ought to be banished to a colder country than Minnesota. I have been so provoked at you I did not know what to do.

We have been having a terrible drifty time & it seems quite pleasant today. You did not tell me what you done Christmas & New Years. We had splendid times out here to Barneys and Heaths. I wish you could have been with us. Eliza had quite a number of presents. I had me a box of figs & they were nice. I would like to treat you.

I have given nearly half of them to Lib. O Vie he is so miserable! He dont look as though he could stand it much longer. Poor fellow I wish you was here to run in & see him once in awhile to cheer him up. He has very bad symptoms. Has a bad diarrhea all the time & his feet have commenced to swell & you know that is one of the worst signs. It dont seem as though I could have it so & know he is growing weaker & fading every day.

I want to go over & see him but the walking is so bad. I shall send for him to come over the very first fine day. I dont think he could walk over here he is so weak. It seems there is nothing but trouble & sorrow for us. I would be so happy to see him get better & enjoy himself a few years longer, but I dont think life can be very desirable & feel as miserable as he does.

It looks so pleasant I believe I will try & go over & see how he is this afternoon.

Well I have been over & found Lib feeling a little better. He has been taking Virmifuge & it stopped his diarrhea & made him sleep more comfortable. I dont know how long it will last. He is so poor & white, when he feels better I am so encouraged. He said he felt as though he wanted to go somewhere & so he walked out to the stable & it was all he wanted to do to get back to the house. So you may know he is not very strong.

Friday

We are having another drifty day for a change. Lib recieved a letter from you yesterday. We are all anxious to know what

Turkey Ranch means. We are all so green we dont know & Vie I dont [want] you to get mad but I want you to spell busy right & dont put in but one s & together you spelled wrong. You must not care will you. We all make mistakes sometimes.

So Nell is married. I wish her good luck & happiness.
Write soon. Thats a dear. Much love to all.

Your sister

Antoinette

Miss V C Porter

Whitewater

Jackson Jan 20th 1870

Dear Sister Viola

I have just been writing a few lines to
Sue & I thought I would send a word or two to you - don't you think
you are a miserable person for not writing to me more than you do - just
one short letter since Willie came back - you ought to be banished to a
colder country than Minnesota - I have been so provoked at you I did
not know what to do - we have been having a terrible drifty time & it seems
quite pleasant today - You did not tell me what you done Christmas &
New Years - we had a splendid time out here to Barney's & Heath's - I
wish you could have been with us - you had quite a number of presents -
I had one a box of figs & they were nice - I would like to treat you

I have given nearly half of them to Left
O. I. he is so miserable. I don't look as
though he could stand it much longer.
Poor fellow I wish you was here to run
in & see him once in a while to cheer
him up. He has very bad symptoms. Has
a bad diarrhoea all the time & his feet have
commenced to swell & you know that is one
of the worst signs. I don't seem as though
I could leave it so & know he is growing
weaker & for every day. I want to
go over & see him but the walking is so
bad. I shall send for him to come over
the very first fine day. I don't think
he could walk over here he is so weak.
It seems there is nothing but trouble &
sorrow for us. I would be so happy
to see him get better & enjoy himself
a few years longer. But I don't think
life can be very desirable & feel as miserable
as he does. It looks so pleasant I believe
I will try & go over & see how he is this

afternoon. Well I have been over & found Left feeling
a little better. He has been taking bromine & it stopped
his diarrhoea & made him sleep more comfortable. I don't
know how long it will last. He is so poor & white. But when
he feels better I am so encouraged. He said he felt as though
he wanted to go somewhere & so he walked out to the stable
& it was all he wanted to do to get back to the house so you
may know he is not very strong. Today we are having
another drifty day for a change. Left received a letter
from you yesterday. He and all anxious to know what
Turkey Ranch means we are all so green we don't
know. I tell you to get mad but I want you
to spell away right & don't put me but one. I & together
you spelled away. I am afraid not come over. We all
make mistakes sometimes. So Nell is married I wish
her good luck & happiness. I will write soon. That's a
dear. Much love to all.

Your sister
Antonette

Miss V. C. Porter
Whitewater



Mrs. Pola C. Porter
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #60C

To: Miss Viola C Porter

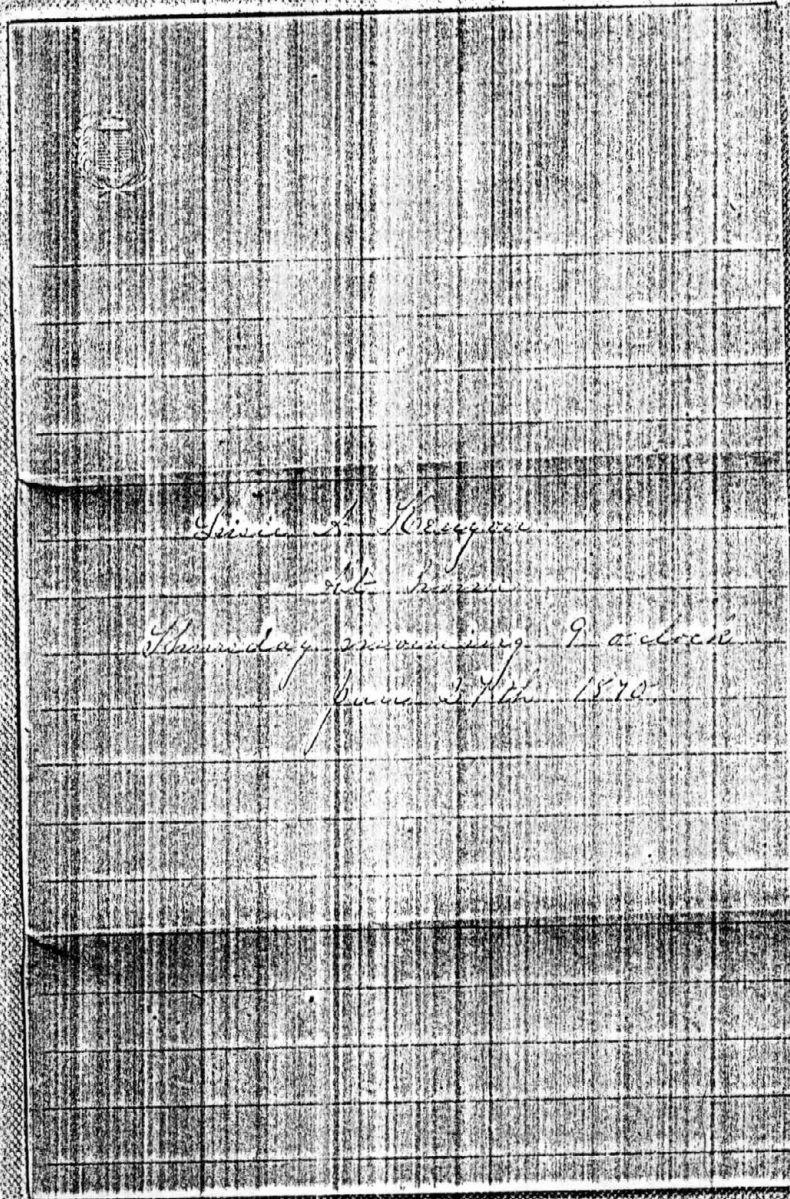
Susie A. Kenyon

At home

Thursday morning nine oclock

Jan 27th 1870

Letter #60c



Lillian A. Keegan

at home

Sunday evening 9 o'clock

June 5th 1890



Miss Lida C. Porter

Letter #60D

To: Mr I. B. Porter
Present.

Susie A. Kenyon

At home

Thursday morning nine oclock

Jan 27th 1870

Letter #60D

Dear Sir,

I have

the following account of the

same 27.25 - 1.50

1

Mr J. B. Foster

Present

Letter #61A

From: Irve Porter

To: Miss Viola C Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson
March 8 1870

Dear Sister Vie

I thought I would write you a few lines to night & let you know how we are getting a long. It being some time since I wrote you last but Vie you must not scolde(*sic*) if I dont write very often. I have so mutch(*sic*) to do I halve(*sic*) to sit up every night. Have not had my clothes off in over a week. Will & my self sits up every night.

I suppose you know by this time that you are Ant Vie once more. Thare(*sic*) was a big girl made its appearince(*sic*) hear(*sic*) a week ago last night. I dont think I shall ever forget the night. The wind & snow flew so you could not see a rod.

Well Vie now about the sick. Lib is feeling prity(*sic*) smart to night for him but it wont last long. Probably before morning he will be clear down again. He is failing very fast. We thought yesterday he would not stand it a great while he had palpetation(*sic*) of the heart. It commenced about 9 in the morning & lasted untill 12 last night. I went after the Dr & he came & staid untill dark last night.

The Docttor(*sic*) told me when he went away last night that he thought he would not live to see a nother sunday but I think he will. But Vie I dont think he will ever get up again.

He asked me the other day why Vie did not write to him. Why dont you. It would do him lots of good to get a letter from you. He thinks he is going to get well & go to Calaforna(*sic*) in the spring. I told him I would go with him if he would hurry up & get well.

It is awful cold out here. We halve(*sic*) had t[w]o big snowstorms since I came & it blows every day. The house is so cold it is all I can do to keep warm. I halve(*sic*) to sit with my overcoat on nights.

I received one letter from you about a week ago. Have not heard from Gus yet. I think I will get a letter to morrow.

Vie I shall halve(*sic*) to stop writing to night. My eyes are so weak. Write as often as you can & be sure & write to Lib.

My love to all inquiring friends

from Irve

March 9 1870

I did not send my letter to day so I thought i would write a few lines to night. Lib has felt quite smart all day. It is now 11 oclock PM. He is sleeping firstrate to night. He wanted me to day to fix up a sleigh & take him to fort Do[d]ge. He wants to go south whare(*sic*) he can get out door. I told him I would toak(*sic*) him if he thought he could stand the ride but Vie he could not ride half way thare(*sic*).

I have got to go to town to morow. The board of comishners (*sic*) meet to morow. I am going to see if I can get my taxes reduced. My taxes are \$19, 26cts. I think I am getting ritch (*sic*) fast. The boys all wanted to sell out. They say they will not stay here. I dont blame them. Write as often as you can.

Irve

March 10

I had Lib out cutter riding this morning. He wants to go to wis.. If we come we shall start this week some time.

To go to visit if we come we shall start
this week or next time

Jackson

March 8/870

Dear Sister Vi

I thought I would write you
a few lines to night I let you
know how we are getting along
It being some time since I wrote
you last but Vi you must not
scold. if I don't write very often
I have so much to do I have to
sit up every night have not
had my clothes off in over a
week Tell I my self sit up ^{every} ~~at~~
night I suppose you know by
this time that you are Aunt
Vi once more. There was a
big girl made its appearance
hear a week ago last night
I don't think I shall ever forget

March 10 I had sent out Cutler riding the morning he wrote

March 9 / 890

I did not send ^{my} letter to
day so I thought I write a few lines
to night. Lib has felt quite sugars
all day. It is now 11 o'clock P.M.
he is sleeping first rate to night
he wanted me to day to fix up
a sleigh & take him to fort Dodge
he wants to go south where he
can get out door. I told him I would
take him if he thought he
could stand the ride but he
could not ride half way there
I have got to go to town tomorrow the
board of commissioners meet tomorrow
I am going to see if I can get my
tapes reduced my tapes are \$19.24^{cts}
I think I am getting ritch fast
The boys all want to sell out they
say they will not stay here I don't
blame them Write as often as you can
I love

The night the wind
blew & snow flew so you
could not see a foot well I'm now
about the sick Lib is feeling pretty
smart to night for him but it
won't last long probably before
morning he will be clear down
again. He is failing very fast
we thought yesterday he would
not stand it a great while he
had palpitation of the heart it
commenced about 9 in the
morning & lasted untill 12
last night I went after the
Dr & he came & staid untill
dark last night. The Doctor
told me when he went away
last night that he thought
he would not live to see an-
other Sunday but I think
he will but I don't think
he will ever get up again
he asked me the other day

why I did not write to him
why don't you it would do him
lots of good to get a letter from
you he thinks he is going to
get well & go to California in
the spring I told him I would
go with him if he would ^{hang}
up & get well

It is awful cold out here we
have had to big snow storms
since I came & it blows every day
the house is so cold it is
all I can do to keep warm I
have to sit with my overcoat on
nights I received one letter from
you about a week ago have not
heard from Gus yet I think I
will get a letter tomorrow I shall
have to stop writing for to night my
eyes are so weak write as often
as you can I be sure I will write to Lib
my love to all inquiring friends
from Iro



Miss Viola C. Porter
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #61B

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Miss Viola C Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson March 29th 1870

Dear Brothers & Sister

I suppose you have been looking for some time for a letter from some of us. I am sorry I did not write sooner for I am afraid the roads are so bad this will be some time in reaching you. How well I would like to peep in & see you especially poor Lib. I am so anxious to hear how he is, how he stood the journey.

We have not seen Johnson yet. We have been looking for him since Friday. It seems he got home Sunday night. Finch went to town yesterday came back about 2 o'clock & said J had come. He had put out a sign for us but we did not understand it. He left the load three miles the other side of Ten Mile Creek. Could not come through with it, the roads are very bad. So William, M.S. & Bert started last night about four & have just got back (today Tuesday). Everything all right but I am afraid it would not have been so if they had waited until today for bright & early this morning friend Ridgeway, a man that lives over north of Tuttles walked out there & made no errand for when he saw someone was there he turned & walked back. He is noted for being light fingered. Clock told us that if R knew the load was there he would start for it. So it must be he found out it was there but he had his tramp for nothing if that was his design.

We all got a nice lot of dried apples & Nell & Zell [a] delaine dress apiece. Zell's is red & Nell's green just like Ellen's dress that Lib got for her when he was home.

I do want to go & see Johnson but it is storming this afternoon. He sent us word that Lib looked better when he got on the cars & I do hope he felt better. I would like to see him so well.

You must write all the particulars how Irve got through with him & when he got home & was you looking [for] them. Has the doctor been to see Lib & what does he say about him. Has father King been out to see him. I had a letter from Mother King the other day & she feels so sorry for Lib & wished she could do something for him. I presume they will come out as soon as they know. Tell Lib I miss him more than I can tell & it seems so lonesome without him.

Nell has been over here twice & it seems so strange for her to come without him. She gets along first-rate but the baby is very worrisome. It grows real fast if it does cry considerable.

I go over as often as I can.

I have not been very well lately. I get tired with any little thing. Tell Lib I have been sorry so many times that I did not make a short-cake for him. He wanted it so bad, but I was afraid to have him eat such things. You must be careful of what you give him to eat. How is his diarrhea & does his face bloat any more. There are so many things I would like to know.

Tell Irve we have had no storms since the Sunday after they left until today & it is not snowing very hard. Tell him they have found Archy Lere about twelve miles from Jackson. He was lying on a snow bank. Found him one day last week. We have heard of three others being frozen. Mrs Johnson came out & staid all day & one night while he was gone.

I had a letter from Laura the other day. She wrote that she would like to see lib very much & was sorry to hear his health was so poor. She says she has not heard from Uncle S.L. but once since he was there. Would like to know where he is so she could write to him.

Now Vie I hope you & Irve will write real often & let us know how Lib is. My love to you all & kiss Lib for me.

From your loving Sister

Nette

Do write & tell me all about Lib & Irve, how they got through.

Letter #61B

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Miss Viola C Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson March 29th 1870

Dear Brothers & Sister

I suppose you have been looking for some time for a letter from some of us. I am sorry I did not write sooner for I am afraid the roads are so bad this will be some time in reaching you. How well I would like to peep in & see you especially poor Lib. I am so anxious to hear how he is, how he stood the journey.

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We all got a nice lot of dried apples & Nell & Zell [a] delaine dress apiece. Zell's is red & Nell's green just like Ellen's dress that Lib got for her when he was home.

I do want to go & see Johnson but it is storming this afternoon. He sent us word that Lib looked better when he got on the cars & I do hope he felt better. I would like to see him so well.

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Nell has been over here twice & it seems so strange for her to come without him. She gets along first-rate but the baby is very worrisome. It grows real fast if it does cry considerable.

I go over as often as I can.

I have not been very well lately. I get tired with any little thing. Tell Lib I have been sorry so many times that I did not make a short-cake for him. He wanted it so bad, but I was afraid to have him eat such things. You must be careful of what you give him to eat. How is his diarrhea & does his face bloat any more. There are so many things I would like to know.

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Now Vie I hope you & Irve will write real often & let us know how Lib is. My love to you all & kiss Lib for me.

From your loving Sister

Nette

Do write & tell me all about Lib & Irve, how they got through.

Jackson March 29th 1870

Dear Brothers & Sister

I suppose you have been looking some time for a letter from some of us. I am sorry I did not write sooner for I am afraid the roads are so bad this will be some time in reaching you. How well I would like to peep in & see you especially poor Lib. I am so anxious to hear how he is & how he stood the journey. We have not seen Johnson yet. We have been looking for him since Friday - it seems he got home Sunday night. Frank went to town yesterday came back about 2 o'clock & said if he had come - he had put out a sign for us but we did not understand it. He left the load three miles the other side of Ten Mile Creek could not come through with it the roads are very bad so William M-S. & Bert started last night about four & have just got back - (today Tuesday) Everything all right but I am afraid it would not have been so if they had waited until today for bright & early this morning found Ridgeway a man that lives over north of Luttles walked out there & made no errand for when he saw some one was there he turned & walked back - he is noted for being light fingered. Clock told us that if R. knew the load was there he would start for it. so it must be he found out it was there but he had his trump for nothing if that was his design. We all got a nice lot of dried apples & Nell & Zell delaine dreg aprice - Zell's is red & Nell's green just like Ellen's dreg that Lib got for him when he was home. I do want to go & see Johnson but it is storming this afternoon. He sent us word that Lib looked better when he got on the cars, & I do hope he felt better. I would like to see him so well.

Do write & tell me
all about Lib & I see
how they got through

You must write all the particulars how I see got through with him
& when he got home & was you looking them - Has the doctor
been to see Lib & what does he say about him - Has father King
been out to see him - I had a letter from Mother King the other
day & she feels so sorry for Lib & wished she could do some
thing for him. I presume they will come out as soon as they know
I'll Lib I miss him more than I can tell & it seems so lonesome
without him. Nell has been over here twice & it seems so strange
for her to come without him - She gets along first rate but the
baby is very worrisome - it grows real fast if it does cry consider-
able. I go over as often as I can - I have not been very well lately
I get tired with any little thing - Tell Lib I have been sorry so
many times that I did not make a short-cake for him he wanted
it so bad - but I was afraid to have him eat such things - You
must be careful of what you give him to eat - How is his dear skin
& does his face bloat anymore - there are so many things I would like
to know - Tell I see we have had no storms since the Sunday
after they left - until today & it is not snowing very hard - tell
him they have found Archy Lee - about twelve miles from
Jackson - he was lying on a snow bank found him one
day last week - we have heard of their others being frozen
Mrs Johnson came out & staid all day & one night while
he was gone - I had a letter from Laura the other day - she
wrote that she would like to see Lib very much & was sorry
to hear his health was so poor - she says she has not heard from
Uncle S. L. - but once since he was there - would like to know where he
is so she could write to him - Now I hope you & I see will
write real often & let us know how Lib is - My love to you
all & kiss Lib for me

From your loving sister - Kate



Miss Viola C. Porter
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #62A

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Miss Viola C Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson Apr 26th 1870

My Dear Sister

Sunday afternoon I received a letter from you bearing the date Apr 5th stating that you was sick which was not unexpected. However I had heard that you was sick before I received your letter. Lucy wrote that Robert had been out to Whitewater & that you was sitting up in bed, that she had not heard of your being sick before but presumed I knew all about it.

I have expected to hear that you was sick ever since we heard the sad news of poor brother Lib. I knew it would be more than you could bear & that was one reason why I wanted to go home with the boys. But perhaps it was well that I did not come for I have not been very well myself lately & I dont know what these poor children would do without me now for they are coughing terribly. Selah came down with it first & he is having it very hard & Willie too. I expected Nellie would be worse than either [of] the rest but she has not been yet. I hope she will not have it as bad as the boys for it dont seem she could stand it. Zell is having it too & coughs pretty hard. We dont know yet whether the baby has got it or not but we expect it surely will have it, poor little pet. I wish you could see it. She is real pretty but oh so cross. It is all Nell can do tend her.

You say you are sorry I did not come home but you see it was better for me to stay as things are now. William did not want me to go, he said he could not have stayed in this house if I had went. He was so lonesome while I was over to Lib's he could hardly stand it. He said it did not seem like home when I was gone. So you see he prizes me a little [even] if I am cross sometimes.

I would give anything to see you & be where I could help you & wait on you. And now Vie I want to tell you what I want you to do this summer. I shall never ask you to come here to live for I dont think we shall stay any longer than we have to but I do want you to come & stay this summer & recruit up your health. You know very well that you improved while you was here before & I know you would again, while if you stay down there you will work & run that machine every chance you get. I wont ask you to stay only until fall. I know it will cost something to come & go but I know it will cost more to stay there & live & be sick all the time. I know there are things that you will think you cant leave. I think you might pack up your things & if you dont want to leave them in W____ get Irve to take theom out to JR Klings. I know she will take care of them for you. If I was you I would

sell some of the things, perhaps it would be better.

I expect Irve will not want you to come. It will break his home, but I know you will not be able to do your work & live as you want to. We would all be glad to have you come. Nell wants you to come for she is so lonesome.

Poor Nell, I do pity her over there all alone. I dont see how she stands it. Willie goes over nights. She says it is so lonesome it makes her sick. Oh how much I miss poor Lib & how much harder it must be for her. She says she wants to write to you but she cant write to anybody. She wants you to come & stay & she will go back with you. She thinks it will be cheaper for her to go home & live this winter than to stay here alone & hire everything done. She will come back on the place before the six months are up. She says she wont lose the place if she can help it.

I do wish you could make up your mind to come this summer. How I wish Irve would get married. Why dont he? I wish he would get into some good business & keep steady at it. He is our only brother now, only three of us left. I would like to see him in a good comfortable home of his own. Seems then he would have some aim, something to live for. I am glad he is so good to you. He must do his share & mine too.

You say your friend G_____ has buried his sister. How sad for him. I can truly sympathize with anybody in afflictions like those for when we are bereft of our friends we are berieved indeed. And how few there are but what have lost some dear friend. Did his sister leave any family.

When I look at Lib's two little fatherless girls it makes my heart ache. I know they will have a good friend as long as their mother lives, but their home is broken & nothing can make it as it was before. No one can fill a parents place.

It did seem hard to have that Dr tell Lib he could not live. I know Lib wanted to get well & I think that was why he was so anxious to go home. He thought he might possibly get help & he knew he would surely die if he stayed here. He told me one night to come by his bed, he wanted to talk to me. He wanted to know if I thought he would get well. I did not know what to say to him & felt myself that he would not live a great while, but I told [him] I did not know but I hoped he could get well, I would like to see him well again & enjoy himself. Well, he said, I dont think I shall ever get well but I would like to on Nells account & the children. Do you think I shall ever go to Heaven if I die. I told him I thought that rested with him & his Maker. I believed there was such a place & I hoped he would go there. Well, he says, there is where I want to go. Dear Brother I hope he is there safe at home & I feel that he is.

Nell said you had better keep that hair for she is afraid it

may get lost. She has got her a new black calico dress that is all she can get here now. I shall get me one if they bring any mourning goods in. I shall not go any this summer & a calico will do me for awhile.

Now Vie do take good care of yourself & hurry & get well & make up your mind to come here & stay awhile. I know it will be better for you. I will try & make you as comfortable as I can. Give my love to Irve & tell him to be a good boy & take good care of himself & come & see us when he can.

Big Charlie Heath has the Whooping Cough very bad. Johnsons have not been here for they have the Whooping Cough. Our children caught it of them.

Yes I shall always feel grateful to Mr J for his kindness to Lib. He would not charge anything for his team or his time. May he always have friends & Major Bailey too. He was so good to Lib.

Now write for I want to hear how you are. Dont use the machine while you are weak. I shall expect you soon.

Your Sister Nette

Jackson Apr 26th 1870.

My Dear Sister

Sunday afternoon I received
a letter from you bearing date Apr 5th
stating that you was sick which was not
unexpected however I had heard that you
was sick before I received your letter -
Lizzy wrote that Robert had been out to
Whitewater & that you was sitting up in bed
that she had not heard of your being sick
before but presumed I knew all about it
I have expected to hear that you was sick
ever since we heard the sad news of poor
brother Lib. I knew it would be more than
you could bear & that was one reason why
I wanted to go home with the boys - but
perhaps it was well that I did not come for
I have not been very well myself lately & I
don't know what these poor children would
do without me now for they are coughing

terribly - Selah came down with it first & he
is having it very hard & Millie too - I suspect
Millie would be worse than either the rest
but she has not been yet - I hope she will
not have it as bad as the boys for it don't
seem she could stand it - fell to having
it in & coughs pretty hard - we don't know
yet whether the baby has got it or not but
we expect it surely will have it - poor little
I wish you could see it - she is real pretty
but oh so crop - it is all I can do to ~~hold~~
her. You say you are sorry I did not come home
but you see it was better for me to stay as
things are now - William did not want
me to go he said he could not have stayed
in this house if I had went - he was so lone-
some while I was over to Lib's he could hardly
stand it - he said it did not seem like
home when I was gone - so you see he prizes
me a little if I am crop sometime

I would give anything to see you & be where
I could help you & wait on you - and now

Oh I want to tell you what I want you to
do this summer. I shall never ask you
to come here to live for I don't think we shall
stay any longer than we have to but I do want
you to come & stay this summer & recruit up
your health - You know very well that you
improved while you was here before & I
know you would again while if you
stay down there you will work & run that ma-
chine every chance you get. I want ask you
to stay only until fall. I know it will cost
something to come & go but I know it will
cost more to stay there & live & be sick all
the time. I know there are things that you
will think you can't leave - I think you
might pack up your things & if you
don't want to leave them in it - get Jane
to take them out to J. R. Kings. I know she
will take care of them for you - if I
was you I would sell some of the things
perhaps it would be better. I expect I will
not want you to come - it will break

for - I am glad to be so good to you, the greatest do to
then the world have some other - something to do
in a good comfortable home of his own - I am
now - only that I do not - I would like to see him
knowing & keep it - it is so very hard
his home, but I know you will not be able

to do your work & live as you want to

we would all be glad to have you come -

Mell wants you to come for she is so lonesome
poor Mell I do pity her over there all alone

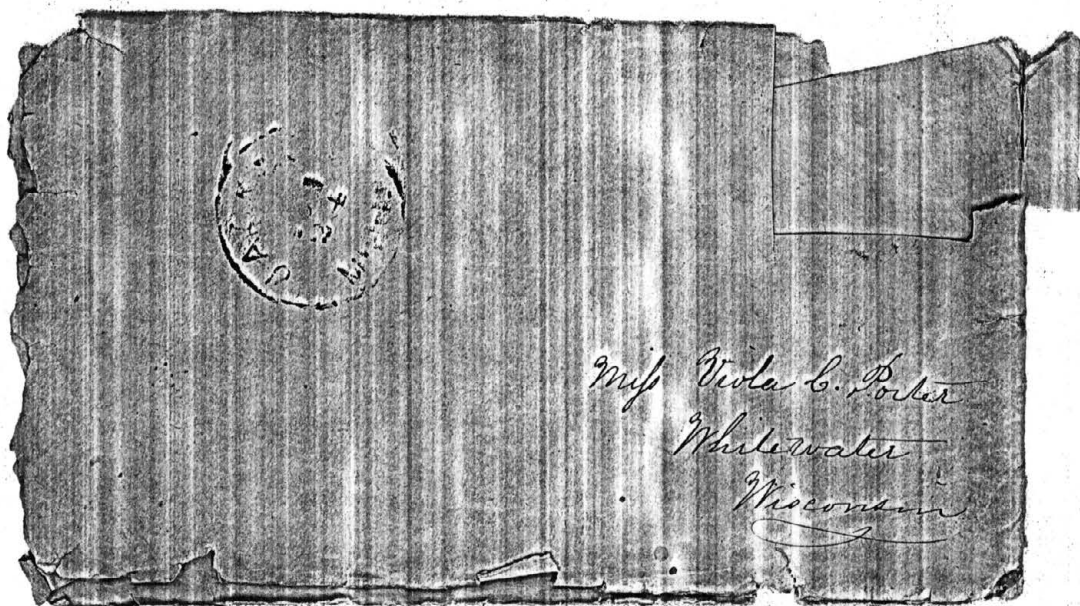
I don't see how she stands it - Millie goes
over nights - she says it is so lonesome it
makes her sick. Oh how much I miss poor Lib
& how much harder it must be for her - She
says she wants to write to you but she can't
write to anybody - She wants you to come & stay
& she will go back with you - She thinks it will
be cheaper for her to go home & live this winter
than to stay here alone & hire everything done
she will come back on the place before the six
months are up - she says she won't lose the
place if she can help it, I do wish you could
make up your mind to come this summer
How I wish Dave would get married why don't
he? I wish he would get into some good

My dear friend - has buried his
 name in this rose. It
 has been our child - comfort it by the
 thought of the - in the
 knowledge to give the world and the world in the
 heart by his name - May he always give pleasure &
 cheer to you and to all who love him - I am
 ever your affectionate friend -

sister - how sad for him - I can truly sym-
pathize with any body in afflictions like
those for whom we are bereft of our friends we
are bereaved indeed - and how few there
are but what have lost some dear friend
Did his sister leave any family - When I look
at Lib's two little fatherless girls it makes
my heart ache - I know they will have a good
friend as long as their mother lives but their
home is broken & nothing can make it as it
was before - no one can fill a parents place
It did seem hard to hear that Dr. Little
he could not live - I know Lib wanted to
get well & I think that was why he was so
anxious to go home - he thought he might
possibly get help & he knew he would surely
die if he stayed here - He told me one night
to come by his bed he wanted to talk to me
He wanted to know if I thought he would get

felt myself that he could not live a great while
but I told I did not know but I hoped he would
get well - I would like to see him well again
& enjoy himself - Well he said I don't think I
shall ever get well but I would like to on Nellie's
account & the children - Do you think I
shall ever go to Heaven if I die - I told him
I thought that rested with him & his Maker
I believed there was such a place & I hoped he
would go there - Well he says there is where I want
to go - Dear Brother I hope he is there safe
at Home & I feel that he is -

Tell says you had better keep that hair for
 she is afraid it may get lost - She has got her
 a new black calico dress that is all she can get
 here now. I shall get me one if they bring any
 mourning goods in. I shall not go any this
 summer & a calico will do me for a while
 Now be do take good care of yourself & hurry
 & get well & make up your mind to come here
 & stay a while. I know it will be better for you
 I will try & make you as comfortable as I can



Miss Viola C. Porter
Whitewater
Wisconsin

Letter #62B

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Miss Vie C Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson July 3rd 1870

My Dear Sister

Here it is the night before the Glorious Fourth of 1870 & what are you doing while I am scribbling to you. Are you prepared to spend a happy day tomorrow. I hope you will have a pleasant day. I expect to. I shall stay at home with Juna, Alice, Clara & I dont know how many more. I wish you was here to stay with me. Would you like to? William will go down town awhile to see what the doings are. I shall have green peas, rice pudding, raspberry pie, lemon pie, corn starch cake, jell cake & lemonade & I dont know what else. Now dont you think I shall fare pretty well.

Elisa has baked the cornstarch cake for the children but Alice says aunt Nette cant have any. Little stingy snipe. Clara is real pretty. She calls me Nettie.

Eliza will be alone now for a year. M.S. is going to carry the mail to Sioux City for a year for Maj Bailey. He has got him a nice team & I guess he will do firstrate, better than farming at this rate.

Our crops look so promising but now everything is suffering for the want of rain. Here it is the 18th of July & no rain yet & no signs of any. Wm says the wheat is not filling good & if we dont have rain soon I am afraid we shant have any potatoes or corn. We have a good garden, the best around here. Peas, beans, cucumbers, onions, beets &c.

O dear I am so tired I can scarcely sit in this chair & write. I feel so mean all the time. William is sick & has been for some time, not real sick but about half way. Sandy is helping him stack hay today. He has got his Reaper & likes the Mower part first rate. Albert runs it. Albert traded off his oxen & has a horse team now. You know he bought old Madere. We have not got horses yet & I guess we shant now.

Tell Irve William got the Deed of his claim all right so he is safe now. Shall I send it by mail or keep it until we have a chance to send it. Wm thinks Nell had better deed her claim & not run any risk. I wrote to her about a week ago.

And I wrote you not long ago & sent you \$5.00. Did you get it & have you sent that muslin & edging yet. If it dont come today I shall think it is lost.

Charles & Eliza were here to tea Sat.

I wish you could see our Zinnias & Petunias.

Do you ever hear from Uncle S.L. I would like to know all about him.

Have you been out to Troy yet. How does Rhoda get along. Aint that an awful thing about Ellen Holcomb. Why cant she die instead of some body a great deal better. "Why encumbereth she the ground".

I wonder how little Nora gets along. Nell never mentioned her. I hope she has got over the Whooping Cough. I would like to see her, little darling. I expect it will be a long time before I see her again.

Tell Irve Miss Lawton was at the Fourth at Jackson. She has been very sick.

Here comes Elisa with the children. She is going to town mostly to get a few articles for me. Bailey has gone to Sioux City this week & M.S. is tending store for him.

Well Elisa has got back. M.S. has married a couple today & got his \$5.00. There was no mail for us & I feel provoked.

I have got another five to send you but I want to hear from you first & see whether you got the last I sent you.

Nellie G is washing dishes. Willie's eyes look bad. Selah can read quite well. He often speaks of aunt Vie.

I dont know when I shall write again, maybe not this month. I feel mean.

I wont ask you to write for I dont suppose you will until you get a good ready.

I have a chance to send this by Harvey (?) Johnson. Be a good girl & take good care of yourself.

Ever your sister

Nette

Jackson July 3rd 1870
My Dear Sister

Here it is the night before the glorious Fourth of 1870. & what are you doing while I am scribbling to you - Are you all prepared to spend a happy day tomorrow - I hope you will have a pleasant day - I expect too - I shall stay at home with Juna Alice, Clara & I don't know how many more - I wish you was here to stay with me would you like to? William will go down town a while to see what the doings are - I shall have green peas - rice pudding, raspberry pie - lemon pie, corn starch cake jelly cake & lemonade & I don't know what else - How don't you think I shall fare pretty well - Clara has baked the corn starch cake for the

children but Alice says aunt better. his own & has a horse team now - you
cant have any - Little stringy snipe - know he bought old Madam - we here not
Clara is real pretty she calls me better - Eliza got horses yet & I guess we thought - now
will be done soon for a year - M. S. is going Tell Mrs. William got the Deed of his
to carry the mail to Sowing City for a year - Clara all right so he is safe now.
for Wm Bailey - He has got him a nice team Shall I send it by Mail or keep it until
& I guess he will do first-rate better than we have a chance to send it. Mrs. think
farming at this rate. - Our crops looked well had better deed her claim & not
so promising but now everything is suffering run any risk - I wrote to her about a week
for the want of rain. Here it is the 13th of July ago - And I wrote you not long ago &
& no rain yet & no signs of any - Mrs. says sent you \$5.00 - did you get it - & here
the wheat is not filling good & if we dont you sent that muslin & edging yet
have rain soon I am afraid we shall have if it dont come today I shall think it is
any potatoes or corn - we have a good lot - Charles & Eliza were here to see Sat.
garden the best around - Here pees, beans, I wish you could see our Genes &
cucumbers & onion beds &c - O dear Putnam's - Do you ever hear from Belle
I am so tired I can scarcely sit in this I L. I would like to know all about
chair & write - I feel so mean all the time - How you been out to Troy yet -
time - William is sick & has been for some time - How does Rhoda get along - aunt that.
time not real sick but about half way an awful thing about Ellen Holcomb
Sandy is helping him duck hay today - He Why cant she die instead of some body
has got his Reapers & likes the Mower part a great deal better - Why cumbereth she
first rate - Albert runs it - Albert traded off the ground!

love of yourself I am your old friend
John - he is a good man & like you
I have a chance to send him by Henry
you will write him a good word
I want to write you in a good word
I wonder how little Nora gets along. Will
never mention her - I hope she has got
over the whooping cough. I would like to see
her little darling. I expect it will be a long
time before I see her again. Tell Mrs. Miss
Landon was at the Fourth at Jackson
she has been very sick. Here comes Ellen
with the children. She is going to town - mostly
to get a few articles for me - Bailey has
gone to Lewis City this week & M. J. is
tending store for him - Nell Eliza
has got back - M. J. has married a
couple today & got his \$5.00 - There
was no mail for us & I feel provoked.
I have got another fire to send you
but I want to hear from you first & see whether
you got the last I sent you - Nellie is
washing dishes - Nellie's eyes look bad
Elah can read quite well - he often speaks against
me - I don't know when I shall write again -
maybe not this month - I feel much



July 1 00
Hull 1 00
Fry 7 5
" 3 5
Carpenter 2 2
Carpenter 2 0
Dyer 2 0
Dyer 2 75
Shind 2 50
Socks 40
Sund 75
Mutt 1 20
11 80

White water
Wisconsin

Wm C. Pollock
7