



Antoinette Porter King and
Family Papers.

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Letter #63A

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Viola Porter (No envelope)

Jackson March 27th 1871

Dear Sister

Are you lonely this evening? I am. I have thought of you so many times today. I know you have felt lonely many times today. One year ago today you followed poor brother Lib to his last resting place. Does it seem possible. Can it be that there is only two of us left, and we so far apart. O Vie do come & stay with me. I will make it as pleasant as I can for you. I want you where I can see you. It seems I cant stand it to have you down there alone. Do come wont you.

I am awful tired tonight for I have washed today & had company. M.S. Eliza & E Heath were here to supper. We had chicken. Wouldn't you like some? You may have all you want when you come.

It has been a splendid day, quite Springlike. I wish Spring would come. We have had a very nice winter.

Nellie has gone to stay with Juna. Nellie is quite deaf in her right ear. I did not think she was so bad until last night. I hope she wont get any worse.

I forgot to write to you about the crochet. Eliza said she would do it & wants you to send a pattern. I will get the thread for you when you send the pattern.

Vie I am so sick of my chignon. I want a change. What shall I get next. My chig___ has come to pieces so it dont look firstrate.

I want a new dress the worst way. I guess I shall have to get me a calico. Dont you want one. Come out here & I will get you one.

We went to Peter Bakers Donation last week. Had quite a time.

Mrs Johnsons Mother & sister have come. I have not been to call on them yet.

William is going to plead law for old Larned tomorrow.

John is asleep. He dont feel very well for he has been a little cross today.

I am so tired I cant write. Eliza wants me to go to Dunns.

I dont know whether to go or not for I have so much to do.

Selah says aunt Vie is the bestest woman in Whitewater. The children all want you to come & William too. He wants you to come.

I hope I shall get a letter from you soon. I hope you are not sick. Dont be sick, take good care of yourself. Dont fret & borrow trouble. That hurts you more than anything.

I dont get any letters now days. John has woke up & is crying like fun & I am so sleepy & tired I guess I will go to bed with him.

Write a little oftener.

Good night & God bless you.

Ever your sister

Nette

Vie I want you to learn Nellie to make wax flowers & if you will get the material I will send the money & besides I want a large picture of you. I want you to go some day when you feel pretty well & sit for a picture. Now dont fail to do it. I will send the money for frame & all.

Mrs Langer Clark can make wax flowers & she has such a pretty white crop with a wreath of white flowers I wish you would make me one. When you come I will have you do it. I shall expect you so hurry up & get ready.

Send me a root or slip of your Wegalia. Put some dirt around it or puddle it in some soft mud & let it dry a little & then do it up tight in a paper.

I will send you a Jackson paper some time.

Jackson March 27th 1871

Dear Sister

Are you lonely this evening? I am - I have thought of you so many times today - I know you have felt lonely many times today - One year ago today you followed poor Brother Lib to his last resting place - does it seem possible - can it be that there is only two of us left - and we so far apart - O but do come & stay with me - I will make it as pleasant as I can for you - I want you where I can see you - It seems I can't stand it to have you down there alone - do come won't you -

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winter - Allen has gone to stay with
Jama - Allen is quite deaf in her right
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I want a new dress the worst way - I
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don't you want one - come out here & I will
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Donation last week - had quite a time
Mrs Johnsons Mother & sister here come
I have not been to call on them yet

William is going to please him for
old Larnest tomorrow - John is asleep
he don't feel very well for he has been a
little cross today - I am so tired I can't
write - Eliza wants me to go to Duncans
I don't know whether to go or not for I have
so much to do - Sarah says Aunt Vee is
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I hope I shall get a letter from you
soon - I hope you are not sick - don't
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Don't fret & borrow trouble that hurts
you more than anything - I don't get any
letters now days - John has woke up & is
crying like fun & I am so sleepy & tired
I guess I will go to bed with him -

Write a little often

Good night & God bless you

Ever your sister

Allen

Letter #64A

From: Antoinette Porter King

To: Miss Viola C Porter Whitewater Wisconsin

Jackson May 27th 1871

Dear Sister

Well the expected friends have arrived & it does seem good to see them once more. They got here Thurs afternoon quite a little while before sundown. They stood the journey quite well & seem to like the country so far firstrate.

I tell you it does look nice here now & the weather is beautiful. The Prairie looks lovely & everything looks promising. Now if it will only last.

Father K says you look very poor. I do hope you are getting better. How much longer have you got to take those treatments & do they do you good. Do you have enough to eat & is it good. Eat all you can & try & get strength. Do you flow as much as you did. How I would like to have you here with me.

I am alone this afternoon. They have gone home with E. E & her family have been here ever since Tues night. It seems lonely now.

I tell you Vie I have done some hard work for the past two weeks. I have cleaned my house while [I] washed it all myself & my finger nails are worked down to the quick. Its a fact.

Mother K says she wants to help me all she can while she is here. Lucy sent the baby a P.K. dress real pretty & a hat. I like my hat ever so much. I think it lots prettier than E & N (?) G. I think [it] is real handsome.

Thursday afternoon

I will try & finish this & send by Wm. He is going down town this eve. Father & Mother K have just gone up to CH for a walk. They dont like it down to Elizas very well for she lives up stairs & it is so hot there. They would have liked much better if she had staid on the Prairie while they were here. It makes so much running back & forth.

I like my basket firstrate & Nellie likes her apron ever so much. Lucy sent her two very pretty ones so she is quite well off for aprons now. They sent her a very pretty dress, calico & baby a nice pair of shoes. Dont fret about nothing to send. I know your will is good enough.

I wish I could see you well once more. That is all I would

ask. I shall send you the money for the hats so you can get you one.

Father K has seen BHJ but I dont think he will be able to pay him a great deal. He says he is going to send his wife away to be doctored if she dont get better soon & that will take money you know.

Father K talks as though he was going to do the best he can for you. He says he wants to get your claim in first for you are doctoring & in need of money. I do think he will do all he can for you Vie & I hope you will like him for I do. I think a great deal of him.

I had a letter yesterday from Cousin Louise. Uncle John has been sick this winter. Noras husband is married again. Louise wants you to write to her. She says she hopes you are with me & how I wish you was.

Oh Vie do make up your mind to come here. I know it will do you good & the place for you is with me. You know it is almost out of the question for me to be away from home over night & if anything happens you dont know as I could come to you & as soon as you can do come & stay with me a while. I know you will like [it] here better than you did. I wish you was here now. It is so pleasant & more like home.

Write to me as often as you can. I wore my new hat last Sunday. I like it ever so much. Well I must hurry up with this so good bye.

Ever your Sister

Antoinette

Mother K has been over to Libs today & how bad it makes her feel. She mourns for Lib truly dont she.

Jackson May 23rd 1871

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have arrived & it does seem good to
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after noon quite a little while before sundown
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gone home with E - E - & her family
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hard work for the past two weeks
I have cleaned my house while washed
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Mother K - says she wants to help
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Lucy sent the baby a Bk. dress real pretty
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I wish I could see you well once more
that is all I would ask - I shall send
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I think a great deal of him
I had a letter yesterday from Cousin Louise
Melle John has been sick this winter - Nora's
husband is married again - Louise wants
you to write to her - she says she hopes you
are with me - how I wish you was - Oh
I'll do make up your mind to come here
I know it will do you good - & the place
for you is with me - You know it is almost
out of the question for me to be away from
home over night & if any thing happens
you I don't know as I could come to you
& as soon as you can do come & stay
with me a while - I know you will like
here better than you did - I wish you was
here now it is so pleasant & more like
home - write to me as often - as you
can - I wore my new hat last Sunday
I like it ever so much - well I must
hurry up with this so good bye
Ever your Sister
Antonella

Mother & Lib - has been over to Lib's today & how
bad it makes her feel - she mourns for Lib
but don't she



Miss Viola C Porter
White Water
Wisconsin

Letter # 66

From: Laura (Porter) Palmer

To: Mrs. Nette L. King

May 14th /72
Richland Centre

Dear Cousin Nette

I received your last letter 2 weeks ago & was ever so glad to get it. I know its a burning shame that I have not written before Nette but I dont find the time to write & then I dont like writing but am ever so glad to have others write to me & when I get a letter from you it seems I get all the news about the old neighborhood. No one writes me of that but you & Vie. I had not heard a word from that quarter in a long time. Vie wrote me a year ago & I have not answered it but will try to before long. I looked for her here all last summer & fall but she has never come. If she wanted to see me as bad as I do her she would come at once. I would go there if I had the money but have not got it. Oh Nette I wish I had the means I would come & see you for I could talk more in one day than I can write in a week. Well Nette we are like your self climbing fortune's ladder very sloly (*sic*) only one the first round yet & I have give up any higher. I have worked & tried to save until I am used up. As the dutch say good for noting.

We are all well & pray this may find you the same. I dont wonder you dread the scarlet fever. It has been around us this winter. I was afraid Elly would get it but he did not.

Uncle Samuel is living about 10 miles from us. He is working on a farm. He gets about 5 dollars a month. He does the chores, not much ells (*sic*) I think, it is to bad. I feel so sorry for him. His health is not very good. He lived with us about 8 months & then he thought he must go where he could get something to do to get him some things. We did not have the means to buy his clothes so of course he could not stay with us any longer. I was sorry to have him go. If I was the boys I would move some where so as to give him a home but I dont believe they care. They never come to see him while he as with me. I know Nette he thinks enough of you & family & would be glad to see you or hear from you. It is hard work for him to write any more. He came to see me last Nov & then again in Feb but found me sick a bed with Erysipelas. I was sick enough it went all over me. I begun to think my time had come but I would gladly have gone only for the children. I am quite well now. I wish you would write to Uncle S direct to Sextonville, Richland county, Wis.

Yes Nette Tish is married on the 11th day of last Oct to a young man by the name of Harvey L Tillon. He is a Black-

smith by trade. She went the next morning to her new home. Margo (?) married in this state, lived there until the 4th day of Feb & then was burned out. She lost a good many of her things so they staid until the 4th of May & then she came home & he went to work on the railroad at his trade at 3 dollars a day. She is with me now & I hope will stay all summer. She sends love to you & would write in this but no room. I will write you in my next about the wedding & how she was dressed. I dont know any thing about Ake's folks. I wrote to him this winter but got no answer. Directed the letter to St Louis, Mo. He may not have got it.

This has been a backwards spring. We are just plowing for corn. Have some garden in. A long winter & such deep snow. Write me soon. Love to W & the children.

Laura Palmer

Give my love to Mr & Mrs Kling. I would like to hear from them. Nette be sure to write me where to direct after you move. I hate to have you go.

I will write you in my next effort the wedding & how she I was dread I don't know any thing about. I hope I shall be able to write to him this winter but got no answer direct to the letter to St. Louis. Mrs. he may not have got it. I did not know his family was there. This has been a first blowing for some time some pictures a long winter & much deep snow with me soon gone to the children & some others.

May 14/72
Richland Centre

Dear Cousin Nette

I received your last letter 2 week ago & was ever so glad to ~~see~~ get it. I know its a burning shame that I have not written before Nette but I don't find the time to write & then I don't like writing but am ever so glad to have others write to me & when I get a letter from you it seems I get all the news about the old neighborhood no one writes me of that but you & Vic I had not heard a word from that quarter in a long time Vic

Little he came to write me when to direct after you move I had to have you go
gave my love to Mr & Mrs Gilling I would like to hear from them
wrote me a year ago & I have not. Elly would get it but he did not
answered it but will try to. Uncle Samuel is living about
before long I looked for her here 10 miles from us he is working on
all last summer & fall but she a farm he gets about 5 dollars a
has never come if she wanted to month he does the chores not
see me as bad as I do her she much else I think, it is to bad
would come at once I would. I feel so sorry for him his health
go there if I had the money but is not very good he lived with
have not got it Oh Pette I wish no about 8 months & then he
I had the means I would come, thought he must go where he
& see you for I could talk more could get something to do to get
in one day then I can write in a him some things we did not
week will Pette we are like your have the means to buy his
self climbing fortune's ^{Ladder} ~~ladder~~ clothes so of course he could not
very slowly only on the first round stay with us any longer I was
get & I have give up getting any sorry to have him go if I was the
higher I have worked & tried to boys I would move some where
save until I am used up as the so as to give him a home but
dutch say good for noting we I dont believe they care they
are all well & pray this may find never come to see him while he
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until the 4th day of May
to them she came & home &
he went to work on the
rail road at his
trade at
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to write any more he came to see
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Feb but found me sick a bed
with Erysipelas I was sick enough
it went all over me I began to
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I wish you would write to Uncle
I direct to Lexingtonville Richland
county Wis yes Nettie Fish is
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Harvey L. Tillou he is a Blacksm
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Mrs. Nettie L. King

Jackson

Jackson Co.

Winn

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs Antoinette Louise King, Jackson, Minn

Whitewater, May 4th 1873

Dear Sister

Yours received last night and I am actualy (*sic*) sore with laughing. I was up stairs when it came up and they brought it to me and I realy (*sic*) thought I should never get down. Oh you old noodie. I might have known you could not do up your hair. Why its just as easy as it can be. Comb up your hair as high as you can and if you have a back comb just put it in & then twist it round. Then put on your front braid if you have it -- if not -- part off a part of the front hair & make a roll (which is called a pompador) & roll it back. Then you wear your frizetts in front of the roll. Then pin your braid on one side letting only one braid come at the top of the head & two at the bottom. You know & you have your hair all up as nice as a Jim. I have two curls but it is not half the time I wear them. You ought to wear them right from the middle of your hair letting them fall outside of the braid. That's the way Nette like this [sketch of head] aint that lovely oh Im a natural artist. I will send you a braid for the front. It will be 35 cts only.

Was the box all right when you got it & has Willie received a leaf of the Normal (?), I sent him one. I sent you the shrub last week. I am awful glad of those seed. I will send you some Asparagus seed if you would like do you.

Mr Kenyon called & took dinner with me last Monday on his way to Iowa. He said he should have Eliza in Iowa soon.

I must hurry up this letter & go to bed for I have a two weeks wash to do tomorrow and I want to get up early. Herbert, thats one of my boys, has gone home & will not be back untill tomorrow eve or Tuesday so I shall have it a little better.

What shall I do about sending you a flower for your hat & how will I send it in a cigar box & what collar (*sic*) & all about it. You snag I asked you before.

I had such a nice Maltus cat & do you believe the dunce fell in the cistern & was drowned.

How I do enjoy Iras company. I tell you Nette he is a smart boy & he is quite a help to me for we talk & then he can explain & we just have splendid times. We have been reading Billie Sweet. Did you ever read it & did you ever read Gates Ajar. Im going to get it. I am going to send you a program of a

concert I attended. Had a beau too. Wish you could have gone it was good.

It is Monday no Tuesday and this letter unfinished. I done such a large wash yesterday that I have not been worth a straw to day. Rhoda is at work in a dressmaking shop. It is rather a foolish idea I think. I had a few shirts brought in to day and last week I had four skirts brought to tuck two with from 6 to 9 tucks the other two with 30 and two or three pillow cases to tuck. How is that for work with my four boarders. Why I shall have to work my very head & things off.

I hope you are settled by this time. I wish I could step in & see you. Say what do you find to eat. Oh I am so bothered to get up a variety. I had for dinner today corned beef, potatoes, pickles, bread of course & lemon pie, cold water. Wasent (*sic*) that a bill of fare though. I am going to have greens some day.

Write soon. Tell William I will be even with him some day he & Matt Carpenter.

Whitewater, May 12th 1873

I am home sick and lonesome to night. Have been all day. I thought I would go to church once & come to get ready I looked so wintry I would not go so here I am writing to you. Do you like to have me write. I offer wonder. Oh law what a dunce I am. I know well enough you do.

The wedding cake and letter have [been] received. Many thanks and please tender my congratulations to the happy pair. It was quite supprising (*sic*) to us for Rob was getting to be an old Batch.

It has been a beautiful day but having boarders I could not go out to enjoy it. But still Effie & Nettie Hazard called on me so that helped fill the bill. Mrs Belknap & my self have just been compareing (*sic*) dried apple pie and if you will believe it I came off the head of the heap. I tell you Nette I can make as good a A-- pie as any one. I always mash my apple as fine as I can or sift it through collander & stir in my sugar cinnemon salt &c and every one of my boarders say its the best they ever eat & tell me to make them instead of my others. I have four as good boarders as ever was. I have only to keep them 6 weeks more & then is vacation of two months. I wish I could come out & spend it with you & would if I could scape up the money but that's not possible. I want to see you so bad.

[no signature]

Whitewater May 4th 1853
Dear Sister

Yours Recurred last night and I am actually sore with laughing. I was up stairs when it came up and they brought it to me and I really thought I should never get down. Oh you old noodle I might have known you could not do up your hair. why its just as easy as it can be. comb up your hair as high as you can and if you have a back comb just put it in & then twist it around then put on your front braid if you have it - if not part off a part of the front hair & make a roll (which is called a pompadour) & roll it back then you wear your frizettes in front of the roll then pin your braid on one side letting only one

Braid come at the top of the head & too
at the bottom (you know & you have your
hair all up as nice as a pin I have
two curls but it is not half the time back until tomorrow eve or Tuesday
I wear them you ought to wear them so I shall have it a little better
right from the middle of your hair. what shall I do about sending you
telling them fall out side of the braid a flower for your hat - & how will I
that's the way Nell like this  send it in a cigar box & what color
that lovely Oh I'm a natural artist. & all about it you enag I asked you
I will send you a braid for the first - it will be before I had such a nice Maltie
be 35-cents only. was the box all right when Cat & do you believe the dunnce fell
you got it: & has Willie received a Cat - in the Cistern & was drowned.
of the Normal. I sent him one. I sent you. Now I do enjoy his company I tell you
the shirt last week. I am awfully glad Nell he is a smart boy & he is quite
of those kind I will send you some a help to me for we talk & then he
Sparagus seed if you would like do can explain & we just have splendi
you. Mr. Kempton called & wrote times. we have been reading Billie Swet
dinner with me last Monday did you ever read it & did you ever
on his way to Iowa he said he got read Galswagar I'm going to get it
should have Eliza in Iowa soon I am going to send you a program
it must hurry up this letter & go of a Concert I attended had a bean too
to bed for I have a two weeks vacation wish you could have gone it was good

will soon be
I will be soon with you
my love - most fondly

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letter unfinished. I done such a large
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two with - from 60-90 cents the other two
with 30 - and two or three pillow
cases to take how is that for work
with my four boarders. why I shall
have to work some very hard things
off. I hope you are settled by
this time. I wish I could step in
to see you. Say what do you
fancy to eat Oh I am so bothered
to get up a variety I had for dinner
today Corned beef, potatoes, pickles, bread & cream
& lemon pie. cold water - wasn't that a bit of
fare I wish. I am going to have ground

Whitewater June 12th 1881

I am home sick and have been
to night. have been all day. I thou-
ght I would go to church &
come to get ready. I looked so writing
I would not go so here I am
writing to you. do you like to have
me write I often wonder. Oh how
what a dunce I am. I know well
enough you do. The wedding cake
and letter have received, many
thanks and please tender my
congratulations to the happy pair
it was quite surprising to us
for Rob was getting to be an old
bachelor. It has been a beautiful
day but having boarded I could

not go out to enjoy it. but -
Still Effie & Nellie Hazard called
on me so that helped fill the
bill. Mrs. Belknap & my self have
just been comparing dried apple
pie and if you will believe it I came
off the head of the heap. I tell you
but I can make as good a a pie
as anyone. I always mash my apple
as fine as I can or sift it through
Collander & stir in my Sugar Cinnamon
salt &c and anyone of my
boarders say its the best thing ever
eat & tell me to make them instead
of my others. I have four as good
boarders as ever was. I have only to
keep them 6 weeks more & then is
Vacation of two months I wish I could
come out & spend it with you &
would if I could scrape up the money
but that's not possible. I want to see
you so bad

11A7
12



Letter # 69

Chippewa Falls, Wis, Jan 25th/ 74

To: Antoinette Porter King

From: Samuel Smith Porter

Dear Niece Nett

It looks as though Uncle Sammy & Antoinett had become estranged from each other as there has been a long silence existing between us, but on my part it is not because I have forgotten the good letters I used to receive and many agreeable hours spent in your society. Of late years it is slow work for me to write on account of Nervousness in my right Hand which begets in me an aversion to use the pen. Not many are better pleased than myself to read letters from friends.

Since we parted sad changes have taken place. Lebbeus, Irvin, your venerable Father all are gone. Which cases me to feel lonely quite often but it won't be so long with me as I am now in my 74th year & according to Nature's desire must soon be gone though quite active now.

I have drifted around considerably since we last parted. Made it home in Richland Co. one or 2 years with Laura Palmer. Been much afflicted with Rheumatism since I came from the South 2 or 3 years ago. Fell & near broke my shoulder. Was not good for much for a year. Was run down in Purse and Person, but God, who is ever rich in Mercy, has been better to me than my fears, has restored me to good health & strength.

Went last spring to Baraboo but worked most of the time up to Sep. when I went North to Eau Claire. Stopped six weeks when I got an invite from Cornelia & S(t)anley to come up hear (12 miles) & stop with them & as he was putting up a new store I have had work most of the time until now. Shouldn't wonder if I stop hear next Summer then maybe go again in Dixie land.

Corneal has 4 Children, 2 boys & 2 girls. Lives in good style with a property of 4 or five Hundred Thousand Dollars. She is very fleshy, weighs 182 lb.

Charles P. & family have gone somewhere in Missouri. Albert is up hear in the woods scaling logs. He is also very fleshy, weighs 195 lb. He wrote me the Grasshoppers had destroyed your Crops. Have read & hear Read County, west of you, was suffering. Are you in for a share with them. I hope not.

I hear from Viola but seldom. She must feel lonely poor girl.

How much family have you. Wille is a young man now &

Nelly a big girle. Saml Selah growing up to be sombody by & by I hope. I guess you have one more at least ere this. You can write me of the rest. What is Wm adoing now. Farming or what. My best regards to him & love to all children.

Now my dear niece pleas answer this soone & you will pleas your affectionately Uncle.

Address,

S L Porter
Chippewa Falls
(Wis)

Chippewa Falls, (Wis) Jan. 25th /74
 My dear Mrs. Nett

It looks as though
 Cassie, Sammy & Antoinette had become estranged
 from each other as there has been a long
 silence existing between us but on my
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the grasshoppers had destroyed your crops.
& have Read County west of you were suffering
are you in for a share with them I hope not.
I hear from Viola but seldom she must feel
lonely poor girl. How much family
have you Willie is a young man now & Delly
a big girl, Saml, & Leah growing up to be
somebody by & by I hope. I guess you have one
more at least. are this you can write
me of the rest. What is Wm. a doing
now. Farming or what my best regards
to him & love to all children. now my
dear ones please answer this soone & you
will please your affectionate friend
Addres

S L Porter
Chippewa Falls
(W.S.)

Letter #70A

From: Laura Porter Palmer

To: Antoinette Porter King (No envelope)

Home Dec 13th/74

Dear cousin Nette

Your letter is received. It came while I was up at Letitia. I left home the 12 of Nov, came back the 5th of Dec. Tish was confined while I was with her. Had a son born the 30 of Nov. Now she has a girl & boy. Mattie is 2 years the 7 of last Sept. Tish was quite smart when I left. I told her I would send your letter up to her so she should know how you was. She often says she would like to see Nette & Vie.

Well Nette I plead guilty in not answering your last letter. I kept thinking I would write but the time slip[p]ed away before I was aware of it but I will try & do better in the future.

I was really glad to hear from you all but sorry that you had such bad luck. Hope the hoppers will let you alone in the future & that you may raise good crops. I dont wonder you are discouraged. Think I should be. Am glad that William has been so fortunate as to get into office. Hope they may keep him in until the hoppers are cleaned out.

How do you like living in the village Nette. Better than you did on the farm? Am glad your children are doing so well. Hope they may live to grow up to be good men. Am sorry Nellie is so poorly. I think she must be a very slender girl but Nette she may come around all right yet. Some girls dont get to be right until they are 16 or 17 years old & then they go ahead & get to be healthy & it may be so with Nellie.

Tell Willie not to be discouraged. The good Lord may send him a good crop next year. I am glad he is trying to do something for himself. Tell him the Lord helps those who help themselves & I think he will come under that head.

I did not know that old Mr Taylor was dead. I dont hear any thing from that way only by you.

I found a letter from Uncle Samuel when I came home. He was well & living with Cornelia where he has been for the last year & a good place he has. They like to have him there. Samuel is very good to him.

Sarah Flanders is married to a Mr Ward of Eau Clare(sic. He is a cooper & a nice man I hear.

Now Nette I wish you & William would come & make us a visit.

It seems to me you might take a little money & not feel it. You can come here & then go on to Troy & see them Walter says. He wants you to come. Our crops turned out good this year. We raised 127 bush of wheat, 194 bush of oats, 349 bush of corn, 40 bush of potatoes, 20 bush of Buckwheat.

Now Nette you had better move here where the hoppers dont grow.

My Boy[s] are with me now. Elly is agoing to school. Henry is working on the place.

Now Nette please write soon & let me know if you will come. My love to William & the children & a good share for yourself.

Do you hear from Vie. I have looked for her until I am tired but I hope to see her some day now.

Nette good bye. May the Lord bless you all from your loving cousin

Laura Palmer

now little
please
with love
& let me
know if
you will
come my
love to
William
& the children
& a great share
for yourself
do you hear
from him

Dec 13 /74

Dear cousin Nettie

Your letter
is received it came while I was up
at Letitia I left home the 12th of
Nov came back the 5th of Dec
Fish was confined while I was
with her had a son born the
30 day of Nov now she has a
girl & Boy Mattie is 2 years the
7 of last Sept Fish was quite
smart when I left I told her
I would send your letter up to
her so she should know how you
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to see Nettie & me, well Nettie I
plead guilty in not answering
your last letter I kept thinking
I would write but the time slipped

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but I will try & do better in the
future, I was really glad to hear
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had such bad luck hope the
hoppers will let you alone in the
future & that you may raise good
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discouraged think I should be,
am glad that William has been
so fortunate as to get into office
hope they may keep him there
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how do you like living in the
village better than you
did on the farm? am glad your
children are doing so well hope
they may live to grow up to be
good men, am sorry Nellie is so
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very ~~bad~~ slender girl but better she
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some girls don't get to be right
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& then they go ahead & get to be
healthy & it may be so with Nellie,
tell Willie not to be discouraged
the good Lord may send him a
good crop next year, I am glad
he is trying to do something for
himself tell him the Lord helps
those who help themselves & I think
he will come under that head,
I did not know that old Mr
Taylor was dead I don't hear
any thing from that way only
by you, I found a letter from
Uncle Samuel when I came
home he was well & living with
Cornelia where he has been
for the last year, & a good place
he has, they like to have him
there, Samuel is very good to
him, Sarah Islanders is
married to a Mr Ward of
Eau Claire, he is a cooper

Shave
looked
for her
until I
am tired
but I hope
to see her
some day
soon. With
good bye
may the
Lord bless
you all with
your loving
cousin
Anna & Anne
& a nice man I hear, now little
I wish you & William
would come & make us a
visit it seems to me you
might take a little money
& not feel it you can come
here & then go on to Troy & see
them, Walter says he wants
you to come, our crops turned
out good this year, we raised
127 bush of wheat 194 bush
of oats 349 bush of corn
40 bush of potatoes 20 bush
of Buckwheat, now little you
had better move here where
the hoppers don't grow, my
Boys are with me now Elly is
going to school Henry is
working on the place. ~~on~~

Letter #71

From: Henry P. Porter (Return address: H.P. Porter & Co., Corfu,
N.Y.

To: Miss Viola Porter, Whitewater, Wis.

Corfu Sept 25/75

Dear Cousin

Your letter of 19 is at hand which we were all glad to have from you.

We all of the P family are living and generally of good constitutions excepting my wife who is not so blessed.

You have seen a great deal of trouble and affliction by the loss of Parents and Brothers.

Ma is going to Rochester to see Sobe this P.M., who has a nice wife, one daughter 6 yrs old, lost one 2 yrs ago in November, 3 mo old. Sobe is a RR engineer and a nice man.

Warren is in Cleveland in the Land business and report says he is Rich, lives and fares suptiously (*sic*) every day. I hope it will allwas (*sic*) hold out. Has Wife 2 Sons 1 Daughter, not lost any.

Geo Wife 4 children 3 Girls & 1 Son all well. Daughter in Ohio school. Son in Store.

Myself have one Daughter 8 yrs old adopted. Ma says she wrote you last. She is great on keeping up communications with our friends. She thinks this is the last time she will go to Rochester. [*She*] is very timid and weak. I recollect your Father well. There was so much of Pa about him.

Now my dear cousin I wish to say to you that I have never been West for the reason my wife has not felt well enough. She has a good many relatives in Daren and we talk about going every season. This year I thought we should go shure (*sic*) but we shall fail. I shall come along sum (*sic*) time when you do not expect & when I do will come out to Whitewater.

John Denison of you[r] place is from Corfu. Brown the principal of your School academy or husben (*sic*) is from Corfu & Mrs King his Housekeeper is cousin by marr to my wife, all from Corfu.

We should be very glad to see you down here. I think you would enjoy it very much. You know we have fast trains, mails, telegraph. It is nothing to come if you have good health. I will close to leave a little room for Geo. I will say my wife

joins in the request you visit us.

Affectionately yrs

H.P.Porter

Remb to Uncle Samuel

Sunday PM

Dear Cousin

Your letter was handed to me to read which was done with much pleasure. We were all glad to get a letter from our far off cousin.

My health has been very good for about 8 years past. Formerly it was poor. When Irving and your Father was hear (*sic*) I had quite an idea of removing west, thinking it would be better for my health. And I think now I should be better off in your dryer atmosphere but I lack courage to tear up and sever all the dear associations that a man forms at the age of 50 years.

H.P. has wrote you about our family but not very explicitly so I will add a few words. Henry is fifty four years of age, a large, portly man and has been lucky in securing for himself a fair shair (*sic*) of this worlds goods, a wife of delicate health and no children excepting an adopted Daughter which they have had for a little more than a year. Lives in very nice style.

Myself next, I am fifty years old and a fair type of the Porters both in Physic (*sic*) and disposition. Six feet tall in my stocking ft. Have not been as fortunate as H.P.P. in securing for myself this worlds goods but not absolutely poor. To be candid I can say I am comfortably situated pecunarialy (*sic*).

Warren S. lives in Cleveland, is 45 years old, large corpulent man and very fine looking. He is said to be Rich and making money very fast.

Wm. S. P lives in Rochester this state, large & corpulent, not poor or rich by any means, RR engineer, earns from 15 to 18 hundred dol per year and spends it in living. [He] is a very good looking man and good habits.

Mama lives with me and has ever since I was married. When she returns I will see that she writes you a letter.

You will think this is a curious letter but I thought it would be as interesting to you as it would be to discuss politics or theology. We might not agree if we got on those topics.

Our family are all Democrats. Warren is the only church member.

My children promise to be good and a comfort to their parents.

If we should live we would try and make a visit agreeable to you if you dare try it. Wife & daughters join in invitation.

Remember me to all Porters of our kin.

Yours

Geo A Porter

of theology we might not agree if we get on them
 officers our friends are all Democrats Warren
 is the only Church Member my children however
 to be great and a comfort to these parents of well
 to be of you dear by it. I hope you are in better
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Cosby Sept 25/77

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Remember me to all the family & give my love to you

Store Myself have on daughter 8th
old adapted, Mrs Say she will
you last she is great on
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friends. She thinks this is the last
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is very timid and weak, I recollect
your father well there was so much
of Pa about him.

Now my dear
Cousin I wish to say to you that
I have never been met for the
reason my wife has not felt well
enough she has a good many
relatives in Daren and we talk
about going every season this year
I thought we should go some but we
shall fail. I shall come along some
time when you **do not expect it**
when I do will come out to Whitewater
John Denison of your place is from Corfu
Brown the principal of your school academy
or husband is from Corfu & Mrs Remy his
Houskeeper is Cousin by Mary & my wife
all from Corfu

It should be my glad to see
you down here I think you would
enjoy it very much. you know we have
fast trains Mails Telegraph it is
nothing to come if you have good
Health I will close to let a little
room for Geo. I will say my wife joins
in the request you visit us

Rembk to Uncle Samuel

affectionately yours
H.P. Porter

Sunday P.M.

Dear Cousin

Your letter was handed to me to
read which was done with much pleasure. We
were all glad to get a letter from our far off
Cousin. My health has been very good for about
8 years past formerly it was poor when Penny
and your Father was here I had quite an
idea of removing west thinking it would
be better for my health. And I think now I
should be better off in your dryer Atmosphere
but I lack courage to tear up and move all
the dear affections that a man forms at the
age of 50 years ~~of age~~ H.P. has wrote you about
our family but not very explicitly & I will add

a few words Henry is fifty five years of age
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worlds goods. A wife of delicate health
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any means. R. R. Engineer earns from \$5
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living is a very good looking man and good
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I was married when ~~she~~ she returns I see that
she writes you a letter. You will think this is
a curious letter but I thought it would be as
interesting to you as it would be to decent. Politics

Return if not called for in Ten Days, to

H. P. PORTER & CO.,

CORFU, N. Y.

Viola Porter

My Viola Porter
Whiteivater
Wis



Letter #72A

From: [Invitation]

To: Miss Viola Porter City

BALL MASQUE

Given under the direction of Miss Williams

By the pupils of the dancing class

at

Bowers Hall, Tuesday Evening, Feb'y 15, 1876.

your company is respectfully requested

Committee of Invitation:

John H. Fryer, Will Starin, Frank Wintermute, H.C. Leffingwell, Jr.

Floor Manager--Miss Williams

MUSIC--WEBB'S QUADRILLE BAND

Tickets, Admitting Gent and Lady, \$1.00.

Ladie's Single Ticket, Fifty cents. Spectators not wishing to
dance, Fifty cents.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

Tickets For Sale At J.F. Wights and C.A. Pratt's Stores

No person can procure a ticket without presenting this invitation. No tickets sold at the Hall. On entering the Hall every person must unmask in presence of Miss Williams. No person allowed to dance without a mask. Permission will be given by the Orchestra to unmask. All numbers on the programme called by the Cornet.

BALL MASQUE.

GIVEN UNDER THE DIRECTION OF MISS WILLIAMS
BY THE PUPILS OF THE DANCING CLASS.

AT

Bower's Hall, Tuesday Evening, Feb'y 15, 1876.

YOUR COMPANY IS RESPECTFULLY REQUESTED.

COMMITTEE ON INVITATION:

JOHN H. FRYER, WILL STARIN, FRANK WINTERMUTE, H. C. LEFFINGWELL, JR.

FLOOR MANAGER—MISS WILLIAMS.

MUSIC.—WEBB'S QUADRILLE BAND.

Tickets, Admitting Gent. and Lady, \$1.00.

LADY'S SINGLE TICKET, FIFTY CENTS. SPECTATORS NOT WISHING TO DANCE, FIFTY CENTS.

RULES AND REGULATIONS.

TICKETS FOR SALE AT J. F. WIGHTS AND C. A. PRATT'S STORES.

No person can procure a ticket without presenting this invitation. No tickets sold at the Hall. On entering the Hall every person must unmask in presence of Miss Williams. No person allowed to dance without a mask. Permission will be given by the Orchestra to unmask. All numbers on the programme called by the Cornet.



Miss Viola Portu
City

Letter #74

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs W.V. King, Jackson, Jackson Co, Minnesota

Whitewater Jan 24, 1877

Dear Sister

I received your letter with the sad news of Grandmas death last week while at Celia's. I must say it was very unexpected news and too I cannot but feel sad and gloomy although I never see Grandma she seemed very dear. I thought of her often & oh how I wished some time to see her. But now we will never see her on earth, but you know I believe we shall meet in the other world dont you.

I was surprised to know of Louisa['s] marriage. She seems quite happy dont she, but as you say what a horrid name. I would like so much to see her.

It has been quite a time since I wrote you but I have thought of you many times. I am going & am at present making a desperate effort to visit you some time this coming summer. I dont know but I may fail but I am going to try hard any way. I shall go to Mason City first if I do go for they have all been so anxious for my coming and will send me money to defray all expenses if I will come but I [would] rather go on my own hook. You know I would feel better.

I will try to make amends for all the little [w]rongs and delays &c I have been guilty of. I went down to Celias a week ago last Sunday. Was there only a week. Went to make her a dress--brown empress trim[m]ed with silk. It is very pretty.

I am at Mrs B.J. Williams. I shall be some week or two longer. I am dressmaking as usual & O dont I get tired & sick of it when I guess I do.

I wish you could see the dear little baby boy. He is just as sweet as he can be. Of course I think lots of him as I had the care of him when he was a wee one.

I did not see any of Mr Kings people. Neither did I see the children. Celi & I called at the door when I came home [to] see Lucy & Mrs K only for a moment. They did not come down to see me & we were to[o] busy to go any where.

I made the dress & cut & fitted a Polonaise & done the pleating for a little dress for Blanch all in a week or at least 6 days so you see I did not have much time to run about.

So Wm has given up coming. What a nudie he is. Why not

come along now as to wait. I tell you truly & candidly I dont believe his Mother will see many more years. I can see she fails ever so much. She looked real bad the other day. She told me she had not been feeling well of late. Oh how I dread to think of a break in that circle. They dont know anything what it is do they Nett. But it is coming & I do some times fear it is not far in the distance.

Mr King was looking the best I had seen him in a long time last fall but let me tell you Lucy is just killing herself working so hard. She begins to show it too. I do feel sorry for Lucy. I just think Lucy is splendid too dont you.

Cornelia's little Edna is dead. You know she never spoke & she was some 7 or 8 years old. She died away from home to some Drs. Uncle Samuel is there yet. I suppose I must write to him.

Did I tell you that Jim Porter lived in Whitewater. Sent his love to you last time I see him.

[No signature]

Whitewater Jan 24 - 1877

Dear Sister

I received your letter with the sad news of Grandma's death, last week while at Celis. I must say it was very unexpected news and too I cannot but feel sad and gloomy although I never see Grandma she seemed very dear I thought of her often & oh how I wished some time to see her. but now we will never see her on earth. but you know I believe we shall meet in the other world, dont you. I was surprised to know of Louisa marriage she seems quite happy dont she but as you say what a horrid name I would like so much to see her

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have all been so anxious for my coming
and will send me money to defray all
expenses if I will come but I rather
go on my own hook you know. I would
feel better. I will try to make amends
for all the little wrongs & delays &c &c
I have been guilty of - I went down to
Celias Creek ago last Sunday was there
only a week went to make her a dress -
brown empire trimmed with silk it is
very pretty - I am at Mrs B. J. Williams

shall be here some week or two longer
I am, I am dressmaking as usual &
O! don't I get tired & sick of it when I
guess I do. I wish you could see the
dear little baby boy he is just as sweet
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him as I had the care of him when he
was a wee one. I did not see any of
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children Corli & I called at the door
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little Edna is dead you know she never
spoke & she was some 7 or 8 years old she
died away from home to some Dr.
Uncle Samuel is there yet I suppose I must
write to him, did I tell you that Jim Porter lived
in Whitewater sent his love to my last time I see
him



Mrs W. V. King,
Jackson,
Jackson Co.,
Minnesota

Letter #77D

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs. W.V. King, Jackson, Minnesota

Whitewater July 30, 1882

My Dear Sister

I suppose you think it strange that you did not get a letter from me last week. Well I must tell you that Thursday Mrs Williams & I went to Troy & did not return until Friday night. We had a splendid time. We got to Grandpa Kings just [at] 9 oclock & stayed until about 7 in [the] afternoon. Then went down to Klings, stayed all night & until until three oclock. Then went back to Kings & took tea with them & started for home about 6 or a little after. Got home about 8.

I did not see Leo or Minnie. They were down to Ellens but Zella was up at her Grandpas helping Lucy.

I got some currants at Aunt Emilys both red & black & a few gooseberries at Lucys. Geo gave both of us a little card of honey & its just beautiful white clover honey. He has lots of it.

I was surprised to see how smart both Grandpa & G-ma King were. It dont seem they have grown old one bit in the past 2 years. You know I have not seen them in about 2 years.

Every one is talking of your coming this fall. I want you to come early enough so that I can fix you up a little before the Fair. Bring along all you have of your black cash[mere]. Perhaps I will want to change it some. The Fair is the last of Sep. You will see an account in the Reg.

Its awful gloomy this A.M., trying to rain. My house plants are in bloom but I presume there wont be a flower when you come. They are lovely now. I have Stills plants to look after & I have canned cherries, black currants & made jelly for her since she went away.

Well here it is Tues, and yet I have not this letter finished. Yesterday Mary Owens Holden came here & wants me to board her for three or four weeks. She is here being treated by Dr Palmer. I told her she might stay but Im kinder sorry for I dont feel first rate, but perhaps it will be for the best.

I have lots of work for this week but after that I dont know how it will be.

I see Mrs Bob at Kings. She told me about Jackson folks. I wanted to ask her to take the skirt but didnt.

I shall hear from you tomorrow I guess. Say bring all your combings when you come. And tell me what Mrs Serum is going to do, aint it awful he had to die. I wish I could see you this morning. Wouldnt we make our tongues fly.

How are Wm[s] eyes. You never say anything about them lately.

What did you ever do with that black lace. Bring it if you have not sold it.

I must write to Will & Nellie soon. I never hear a word from Nell. Do write more often. Why dont the boys write again.

I dont think I can afford to go to Jackson again in so short a time. You know what Geo told me last fall when I got home: I had better stay for it did not pay to be on the road all the time. Ha Ha good advice for the old man aint it.

I must go now & get dinner. We have to pay 16 cents per lb for beef steak, 18 cents for ham just on 1.12 cents a week just for 1 lb a day. Aint it shameful.

Well Nett remember me to all my friends. Tell Mrs Davis I have not forgotten her. Send me some more papers. I will send you the Reg when I can get it.

love & kiss for you all

ever Sist

Vie

Tell Will I want one of his photos. Its the best he has ever had taken. Let Selah & John have some taken. You will get some here.

Rhoda is making great calculations on you comming(*sic*) Mrs Williams said if she had the shafts to her platform buggy when you come she would take us all out to Grandpas.

Rhoda is making
Grant calculations

in your coming

Mrs Williams said

if she had the

phages in the

phages in the

when you came she

would take us all

but to Grandpa

Whitewater July 30, 1882

My Dear Sister

I suppose you
think it strange that you did
not get a letter from me last
week. well I must tell you that
Thursday Mrs Williams & I went
to Troy & did not return until
Friday night. we had a splendid
time. we got to Grandpa Kings just
9 o'clock & stayed until about 7 in
afternoon then went down to Kings
stayed all night & until three
o'clock then went back to Kings &
took tea with them & started for home
about 6 or a little after got home
about 8. I did not see Leo or Minnie
they were down to Ellens but Zella
was up at her Grandpas helping Lucy.

I got some currants at Aunt Emily's. I have Stitt's plants to look after
both red & black & a few gooseberries at & I have canned cherries, black
Lucys. Leo gave both of us a little currants & made jelly for her
card of honey & it's just beautiful since she went away
white clover honey. he has lots of it well here it is Leo - and yet I have
I was surprised to see how smart not this letter finished. yesterday
both Grandpa & Ma King were Mary Owens Holden came here & want
it don't seem they have grown old one to board her for three or four weeks
one bit in the past 2 years, you know she is here being treated by Dr Palmer.
I have not seen them in about 2 years I told her she might stay but Sam Kinder
every one is talking of your coming sorry for I don't feel just right. but perhaps
this fall. I want you to come early it will be for the best. I have lots of work
enough so that I can fix you up for this week but after that I don't know
a little before the fair bring along how it will be. I see Mrs Bob at Kings
all you have of your black Cash - she told me about Jackson folks. I wanted
perhaps I will want to change it to ask her to take the shirt but didn't. I shall
come. the fair is the last of Sep hear from you tomorrow I guess. say bring
you will see an account in the Reg - all your combings when you come. and
It's awful gloomy this P.M. trying tell me what Mrs Serum is going to do and
to rain, my house plants are in bloom it awful he had to die. I wish I could
but I presume there won't be a flower see you this morning. would it we make
when you come. they are lovely our young fly. how are your eyes you
now never say anything about the letters

and you
the Reg when
I can get it
love & kiss
for you all
ever that-
vic
tell Will I want
one of his photos
it's the best - he
has ever had
taken. Let
Selah & John
have some
taken you
will get some
here.

what did you ever do with that black
lace bring it if you have not sold
it. I must write to Will & Nellie
soon I never hear a word from Nell
do write more often. why don't the
boys write again. I don't think I
can afford to go to Jackson again
in so short a time you know what
Geo told me last fall when I got
home I had better stay for it did
not pay to be on the road all the time
he has good advice for the old man won't
it. I must go now & get dinner.

we have to pay 11¢ per lb for beef steak
18¢ for ham. just one 11¢ a week just
for 1 lb a day ain't it shameful

well Will remember me to all my
friends. Tell Mrs Davis I have not forgotten
her. send me some more paper. I will



Mrs. H. V. King.
Jackson.
Minnesota.

Letter #77F

From: Viola Porter

To: Antoinette Porter King (No envelope)

Whitewater Dec 5, 1882

My Dear Sister

I went down town this past A.M. [&] got your pictures. I like them very well. He said he rubbed the other out so could not get any. I got Johnnies & will give it to Leo when any of them come out.

I am waiting for DeWolfs men to come with my stove & my patience is getting rather worn as they promised to come right after dinner & its now after 2 oclock.

Hattie Williams just came up to show me her fellow. He is from Chippewa Falls. His name [is] Jim Carr, rather nice looking & I hope he is good for I expect they are engaged although I do not know for sure. She said I must give her love to you & she wanted to see you more.

I wont write much this time for I want to send some pictures I got & send the buttons to Eliza to day & will write her when I can & send back the ballance(sic) of the 30 cents.

I got a jar of butter to day of Hilt Benton. Paid 28 cents. Got 2 lb lard at 14 cents per lb.

What did you do for Thanksgiving. I had nothing out of the usual beat. The girls had Turkey [and] gave us a piece. It was so good. Their brother Will was here to see them. He is just spruce. I tell you they always want good wishes sent to Mrs King.

Mrs Bush is sick & I have not been in to see her yet.

I wish you would write me every week. I want to hear. I guess Nell thinks I want very glad to get Gales picture but I was. I must write to that poor child. Aint I mean.

Mrs B has not returned yet. I dont know when she is coming now. Write to me.

with love to you all I am

Vie

Frank Culver came over here & asked for a strap that Johnnie had. What did he do with it. I remember his having it dont you.

Did you have a ball of grey yarn. I found one under the bed since you left. What will I do with it.

I guess I had better send the Photo[s] more safe. I am afraid they will stamp through & spoil them. I will send the rest some day this week.

did you hear in
 full of your
 game I found
 one under the
 bed since you
 left - what will
 I do with it?

I guess I
 had better
 send the photo
 more safe
 I am afraid
 they will
 stuff through
 & spoil them
 I will send
 the rest - some
 day this week

Whitewater Dec 5, 1889.

Very Dear Sister

I went down town
 this A.M. got your pictures. I like
 them very well. he said he rubbed
 the other out so could not get any
 I got Johnnies. I will give to the kids
 when any of them come out
 I am waiting for the wolf men
 to come with my stove & my
 patience is getting rather worn
 as they promised to come in just
 after dinner & it is now after 2 o'clock

Hattie Williams just came up to show
 me her fellow. He is from Leppewasall
 his name Jim Carr, rather nice looking
 & I hope he is good for I expect they
 are engaged although I do not know
 for sure. she said I must give her
 love to you & she wanted to see you more

real. prop. of having my exposure of p. 200 of
my book. I had forgot to put a red
ribbon across the cover
I won't write much this time for I
want to send some pictures
I got & sent the buttons to Eliza
to day & will write her when
I can & send back the balance
of the 30¢ I got a jar of butter to day
of Nett Benton paid 28¢ got 2 lbs
lard at 14¢ per lb. what did you
do for Thanksgiving I had nothing out
of the usual beat, the girls had Turkey
& gave us a piece it was as good.
Their brother Will was here to see them
he is just spruce I tell you they always
want good wishes sent to Mrs King
Mrs Bush is sick & I have not been
in to see her yet. I wish you would
write me every week I want to hear
I guess Will thinks I want very glad to
get Gales picture but it was & I must
write to that poor child soon I mean.
Mrs B. has not returned yet I don't know
when she is coming now. write to me
with love to you all I am & c

Letter #77G

From: Viola Porter

To: Antoinette Porter King (No envelope)

Dec 15 1882. Whitewater

My Dear Sister

Do you think Im horrid for not writing sooner. Well Nett I too have been sick. Your letter found me sick and I have been so miserable all the week. I have had such a cold & in fact have it yet and such a cough it has worn me body and soul. I am taking some medicine now & it is helping me. I couldnt stand such a cough more than a year.

How sorry I was when I read your letter to know you had been so sick. I guess I wish too that I could have been there to have waited on you. I dont forget how you always fussed me up when I was there if any thing ailed me.

I am very busy. I dont know how to spare time to grunt but I do have to go rather slow. I am fixing the girls cloaks for them. They want them tomorrow night so I dont waste many moments & I have Mrs McCunes dress on the way too. That has to be done [for] Christmas.

It is very cold weather but I do not realize it for I cannot go out. I dont even go to the door.

I gave Miss Jones the bounce last Monday & I dont know when I shall make her acq[ua]intance again.

I do hope you are better. Oh I do worry about that scarlet fever. I do wish it could be stop[p]ed. Do keep close watch of the children & I would keep some thoroughwart or some thing & have them drink it every day.

Carrie is not home yet. Had a letter from her last night. Len has gone up there. Les is working over to Esterlys Shop & I have to get up at 4 oclock & get his breakfast then I go back to bed.

Phebe & Susie send love. I cant write much. I do so want to hear how you are & all the rest of you. I wonder if I shall this week.

No one out from Troy in a long time.

Mr Burton wants me to go & keep house for him but Clarence tells me not to go & so does Mrs McCune. What would you do, say go or not to go. He says I can do the work & live there & if I think it worth any more he will pay me. I dont think but what I

do as well as that now. Hey, I dont like the idea very well & he is so old I should die of the blues. No one would ever dare to come & see me there. I hope to hear from you very soon.

Love [to] you all & a kiss

Vie

I have been quite sick as that I could not write. I am sitting up this morning & feel better. Dont worry about me for I am better. Mrs Hall & Ella do every thing for me. Rhoda or the girls have not been near me & I always go when any of them are sick but I dont care. The girls are real good to me & send love.

Ill send that ribbon just as soon as I can. I did want to hear from you so much.

Love Vie

what would you be
 so or not to go, he
 says I can do the
 work & live there
 if I think it
 worth any more
 he will pay me
 I don't think but
 what I do as well
 as that - now
 herey - I don't
 like the idea
 very well as he
 is so entirely
 alone & he is
 so old I should
 die if the thing
 one one would
 I dare to
 come & see me
 there. I hope
 to hear from you
 very soon - love
 in all & a nice
 one

Dec 15/1882. Whatewater.
 My Dear Sister - I have been
 quite sick, so that
 I could not write. I am sitting up
 this morning & feel as you think
 better but sorry about me for
 I am so sorry for not writing sooner, well
 I am better Mrs. Wall & Ellen
 I have been sick your letter
 do some thing for me Rhoda or this
 four or one week, and I have been
 girls have not been near my & I
 so miserable all the week I have had
 always so when any of thing are
 such a cold & in fact have in get
 sick but I don't care, the girls
 and such a cough it has worn me
 are real good to me & I feel
 body & soul, I am taking some
 I love. All send the ribbon
 medicine now & it is helping me
 just as soon as I can
 I could not stand such a cough more
 than a year. I don't want to think you
 how sorry I was when
 I read your letter to know you had
 been so sick. I guess I wish so that
 I could have been there to have
 waited on you. I don't forget how
 you always fussed me up when I
 was there if any thing ailed me

I am very busy I don't know how to spare
time to write any but I do have to go rather
slow. I am fixing the girls clothes for them
they want them tomorrow night as I don't
waste many moments & I have Mrs Mc
Cunes dress in this way too that has
to be done Christmas. It is very cold
weather, but I do not realize it for I can
not go out I don't even go to the door. I
gave Miss Jones the bonnet last Monday
& I don't know when I shall make her again.
I do hope you are better & I do
worry about that scarlet fever I do wish
it could be stopped. do keep close watch
of the children. & I would keep some
thyme & lemon or some thing & have the
drink it every day. Carrie is not home
yet had a letter from her last night. Leo
has gone up there. Leo is working over to
Estley's Shop & I have to get up at 4 o'clock
& get his breakfast then I go back to bed.
Phoebe & Susan send love. I can't write
much I do so want to hear how you are

Letter #77I

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs W.V. King Jackson Minnesota

Whitewater April 19, 1883

My Dear Sister

Mr Salisbury just drove up with my pail of butter for which I am very glad to get as butter is butter down in these dig-[g]lings and money is more scarce than all the rest.

I shall look for the prize and hope it wont be long in making its appearance for I am like a child now a days. I am feeling better but I do not get over my hoarseness. I have been so long with out my voice I some times think I never shall talk again. I guess you would like to live with me now for I cant scold & jaw so much or at least you couldnt hear me.

It is such a lovely morning I must go out & walk just as soon as the dew gets dry.

I was up to Stetts a week & I had a very pleasant time. They done every thing for me to make it pleasant but yet I wanted to come home long before I did. There is no place to me like home & now that I feel so poorly it seems its more precious than ever. I often think I am glad I never married & had a family. I should never have wanted to have left them but now as it is I have only you & you have your own so you would not miss me as much.

Mrs Hatch just sent me word she would be here in an hour to take me to ride so I am all ready and am going over to Mrs Martins. I have never been there yet. I do like to ride so well I wish I had old Kit this summer. Ill bet I would ride.

You never answer a question I ask you. What is the reason.

The card on the pail I believe I will have to have it framed as it is in Wms hand writing & I see so little of it.

I do wish I could see Bessie Vie & Gale Hamilton.

Clarence sent me another load of wood this week. Now I shall not have to buy a stick this summer. Aint you glad & aint they good to me.

Mrs Salisbury came up the other eve, brought me a loaf of bread & some butter, coffee, tea, eggs, apples [&] an orange. I filled her basket with parsnips. I had a lot of them & they are so good. Mrs McCune sent me a dozen eggs Monday & some milk. I dont buy milk now that I am alone. Cant afford it. Mrs Smith

gave me some maple sugar, so you see some one keeps helping me all the time & little Ira was down this morn & said his Ma wanted me to come up there tomorrow to dinner. They are going to have 6 ducks.

I want to get so I can go down town but yet I awful[lly] hate to until I can talk plain. It makes me feel so [bad ?] to go squealing about.

How long is John going to stay up at P[ipestone]. I should think you would be so lonesome without any of the children. I wish I was there to stay with you but it seems I would be lonesome over there.

I have never heard a word from Ellen or Zella since E went home. I would like to know how they are getting along. Mr McCune just commenced in the [sentence not finished]

Here it is Tues, April 24th. I have neglected writing. Well I have been waiting for Mr McCune to dig those roots but I guess he is not a going to & it is getting late.

I have had the awfulest pain in my belly this afternoon. It did seem I could hardly live. I had a bag of salt that I keep on hand & I would heat it & keep it on until now I feel better. I guess I have taken cold. I put my slippers on Sunday & I guess that's what done it.

Yesterday I found my prize in my butter. I had to laugh & cry both.

Nellie is more thoughtful of me than my other nieces. I dont hear a word from these here no more than there was no such.

Les asked me the other day if you had forgotten him. You never say a word about him. I told him I guessed you had not.

Mrs Bel[knap ?] said I must give her love to you. Susie & Phebe were here Sat & I was not at home. I was sorry for I wanted to hear about P eyes.

I went over to Mrs Belknap & stayed all day.

Send me some silk & velvet pieces if you can get them. Dont matter how small they are, ribbons or any thing nice. I dont want cotton velvet.

I wish you were tonight. I do want to see you. I wish I could have a ride. I know the prairie is beautiful now for the grass is so green here, but its real cold. I have a nice warm coal fire yet & dont know when I can do with out.

Ill ask again. Did you get the buttons & mittens. Ahem.

There is no news. Only Em S is really poorly this spring, looks 40 times worse than I do.

Write me every thing. Litta sings here on the 26th eve but of course I cant go. I wish I could but I have not walked as far yet & have not been out in the eve.

I must stop, Im tired as a dog. With lots of kisses & love for you all I am ever your sis

Vie

Whitewater April 19, 1883

My Dear Sister

Mr Salisbury just drove up with my pail of butter for which I am very glad to get - as butter is better down in these regions and money is more scarce than all the rest. I shall look for the prize and hope it won't be long in making its appearance for I am like a child now a days. I am feeling better but I do not get over my hoarseness I have been so long without my voice I sometimes think I never shall talk again. I guess you would like to live with - one now for I can't scold & grow so much or at least you couldn't hear me.

It is such a lovely morning I must go out & walk just as soon as the dew gets dry. I was up to Still's a week & I had a very pleasant time they done every thing for me to make it pleasant but yet I wanted to come home long before I did. there is no place to me like home & now that I feel so poorly it seems its more precious than ever.

I often think I'm glad I never married & had a family. I should never wanted to have left them but now as it is I have only you & you have your own so you would not miss me as much.

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to take me to ride so I'm all ready and am going over to
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filled her basket with Parsnips I had a lot of them & they are
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Mrs Smith gave me some maple sugar so you see some one
keeps helping me all the time & little Ira was down this morn
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they were going to have 6 ducks. I want to get so I can
go down town but get so awfully hat to until I can talk
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I have had the awfulest pain in my belly this afternoon it did seem I could hardly live. I have a bag of salt that I keep on hand & I would heat it & keep it on until now I feel better. I guess I have taken cold I put on my slippers on Sunday & I guess that's what done it. yesterday I found my prize in my butter I had to laugh & cry both. Nellie is more thoughtful of me than my other nieces. I don't hear a word from these here no more than though there was no such. Les asked me the other day if you had forgotten him you never say a word about him I told him I guessed you had not. Mrs Bel said I must give her love to you. Susie & Phebe were here Sat- & I was not at home I was sorry for I wanted to hear about R. eyes I went over to Mrs Belts & stayed all day. send me some silk & velvet pieces if you can get them don't matter how small they are. Ribbons or anything nice. I don't want cotton velvet. I wish you were here to night I do want to see you. I wish I could have a ride

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I'll ask again did you get the buttons & mittens ahem
there is no news only Em B- is really poorly this
spring looks 40 times worse than I do. write me
very thing. Litta sings here on the 26 me but of course
I cant go. I wish I could but I have not walked as
far yet & have not been out in me

I must stop I send as a dog with lots of kisses
& love for you all I am ever your sis

Die



Mrs H. V. King.
Jackson.
Minnesota.

Letter # 77J

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs W.V. King Jackson, " Co, Minnesota

Whitewater June 1, 1883

My Dear Nett

I did not receive your letter until last night as I have been away from home almost two days. Mrs Williams came up for me Tues afternoon so I could be down there Decoration day & I came back yesterday (Thurs) but it rained all the forenoon Wed & they could not do any thing till about 2 oclock in the P.M. & it was so damp I did not dare to be out long at a time although they got me where I could see the companies march. They looked nice I tell you & the music was fine. There was two Bands & martial music too.

Guess who brought me home. (Give it up) Well Mr or rather Rev Delana. Aint you glad I caught him. He was awful nice to me & I guess you would have thought every one was good to me if you had been here: men, women & children ready to do every thing for me & every one seemed to take such an interest in me---Oh she mustnt be there its to[o] much of a draft. Im afraid its to[o] damp there for her. She must have this & that & I was made so much ado over I felt kinder silly. I couldnt (sic) help it. Mr Jake Starn, he went & got me a rocking chair to sit in so I could see the procession better & I never received so much attention before in my life. So many were so surprised to see me out & it was "Why aint that Miss Porter or Vie & how do you do & Im so glad to see you out again &c &c." Wouldnt you feel about as I did & of course it done me lots of good too.

I am feeling so much better to day. The air is just lovely & I can get all I want. I am in hopes now my side is going to get better. It is so much better. Of course its very sore yet but I can stand it to cough better than I could.

I wish I could get well. Six months I have been sick, so that I havent earned any thing. Aunt Emaly & Ruby were out yesterday to see how I was. They heard I was worse & Aunt E said she could not rest contented. You know Ellen & Zell tell every body that I am so well & getting along so well & then when any one comes out & sees me & knows just how well I am they think it rather queer that they should tell such things & I wont go down there until I feel heaps better than I do yet for I could not be there & have them think I was so well & Nett I cant work to save me & I know they would call me lazy if I didnt & I tell you I want to get so I can make my bed & sweep my floor & wash a few dishes before I start out visiting my friends. Why I cant even comb my hair yet. It hurts me so to use my right arm. You know I dont show sickness like some do but yet I can feel bad just the

same.

I received the paper with [the] towel & answered by letter & I received the silk pieces. Many thanks to [you] my dear.

Im going to have some ice cream to day. Mrs Taylor is going down & bring me some. Dont you wish you were here.

How I wish Nellie would come. I believe it would do her lots of good & when I get my house clean & the girls get away it would be so nice to have her here. You urge here to come wont you. How I wish you could come.

Two deaths on the street running south of me. One funeral yesterday at 11 oclock & one to day at 11 oclock, both men. One died from a breach and the other died at the dinner table, just got to smashing up his potatoes & died in a second (heart disease).

Do write often & all the news. Dig some roots & Dr Johnnie up yourself & dont neglect him or yourself.

They have come for the letter so good bye. Ever your most loving sister. Kiss for you all.

Vie

[In Antoinette's handwriting, there is the following:

Keep your husbands love

Aid in his progress

Be the corner corner stone

Of his happiness]

Whitewater June 1, 1883

My Dear Nett

I did not receive your letter until last night as I have been away from home almost two days. Mrs Williams came up for me this afternoon so I could be down this Decoration day & I came back yesterday (Thurs) but it rained all the forenoon Wed & they could not do any thing till about 2 o'clock in P.M. & it was so damp I did not dare to be out long at a time although they got me where I could see the Companies march they look nice I tell you & the music was fine there was two Bands & martial music too. guess who brought me home (give it up) well Mr or rather Rev. Dilana and you glad I caught him he was awful nice to me & I guess you

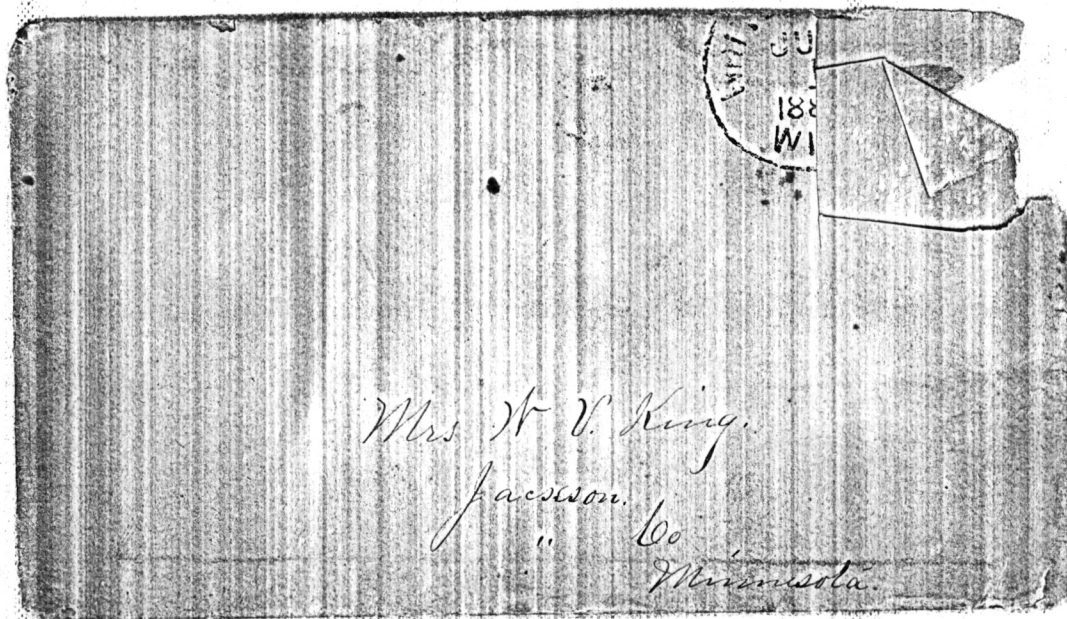
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me if you had been here. men, women &
children ready to do every thing for me
& every one seemed to take such an inter-
est in me oh she must be there it's so much
of a craft. I'm afraid it's to damp there for her
she must have this & that & I was made
so much ado over I felt kinder silly. I
would not help it. Mr. Jake Starr he went
& got me a rocking chair to sit in so
I could see the procession better & I never
received so much attention before in my
life. so many were so surprised to see
me out & it was pretty aint that Miss Porter
or Vic & how do you do & I'm so glad to see
you out again & it wouldnt you felt
about as I did. & of course it done me
lots of good too. I am feeling so much
better today the air is just lovely & I
can get all I want. I am in hopes now
my side is going to get better it is so
much better of course it's very sore yet
but I can stand it to comfort better than
I could. I wish I could get well

six months I have been sick so that
I haven't earned any thing. Aunt Emily
& Ruby were out yesterday to see how I
was they heard I was worse & Aunt E-
said she could not rest contented. you know
Ellen & I tell till every body that I am
so well & getting along so well & then
when any one comes out & sees me
& knows just how well I am they think
it rather queer that they should tell
such things. & I want go down there
until I feel heaps better than I do yet
for I could not be there & have them
think I was so well & yet I can't work
to save me & I know they would call me
lazy if I didn't & I tell you I want to
get so I can make my bed & sweep up
my floor & wash a few dishes before I start
out visiting my friends. why I can't even
comb my hair yet it hurts me so to
use my right arm. you know I don't
show sickness like some do but yet I can
feel bad just the same

they have
come for the
little as food
if you
must love
pick him
for you all

Vi
Pick your husband, love
and in his progress
to the corner corner alone
of his happiness

I received the paper with travel & answered
by letter & I received the sick pills many
thanks for my dear. I'm going to have
some ice cream today Mrs Taylor is going
down & bring some down don't you wish you
were here. how I wish Nellie would come
I believe it would do her lots of good
& when I get my house cleaned & the
girls get away it would be so nice to
have her here you urge her to come
in at your home I wish you could come
Two deaths on the street running south of me
one funeral yesterday at 11 o'clock & one today
at 11 o'clock. both men ^{died} one from a breach & the
other died at the dinner table just got to
remaking up his potatoes & died in a second
(heart disease) do write often & all the
times. dig some roots & Dr Johnson up
yourself & don't neglect him or your self



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188

Mrs W. V. King.
Jackson.
" Co
Minnesota.

Letter #77K

From: Mrs C B Williams

To: Mrs Wm King Jackson Minn

Whitewater September 25 1883

Mrs King

Dear Friend

I received your letter to night and hasten to answer for fear if I put it off it may be too long. I will tell you just what people think about Vie and what I think and what the Dr told me. It is the general opinion of people that see Vie almost daily that she will not live until spring and I have seen her often and I do not see any favorable symptom about her. The Dr told me "she would not last long" and "when she thinks she had taken cold it is only the development of the disease."

I presume she has written you about the tubercle that broke a few months ago and it caused a serious soreness in her right side. It has partially left that spot but I was up there yesterday and she now has a very sore spot up higher on the same side. Dr Lindsay told me she would have more and from what he said I think he is certain they will grow worse.

Vie has got a great amount of will which helps to keep her up but I can see she is aware of her condition and way down deep in her heart I think she knows she cannot live many months or not a year at least. The Dr feels very sorry for her and has a very kind manner towards her.

It makes me feel bad when I sit and look at her and see how she is gradually going for I have always had a feeling towards her that I seldom have for any one outside of my own family and she always seemed near to me and my children feel so too.

She is very comfortable now as far as her home can make her so and as Vie says every one has been kind to her and especially Mr & Mrs Crandall and Mr & Mrs Clarence Partridge & Mrs Belknap is as kind as a sister to her and Les is very kind to her and I shall always have a kind feeling towards him for his kindness to Vie last winter as I was there and see a good deal of him.

Now Mrs King in regard to your coming immediately I presume Vie would rather you would be with her all of the time than any one else which would be perfectly natural for her. Lina Simpson is with her now and I guess she is doing all that is necessary to be done and as your family is situated I think perhaps you had better not come just now.

Vie is not sure how long Lina will stay but when she does go

then some one must take her place for Vie must not be alone any more and if anything should happen and cause Vie to be worse some one will let you know immediately.

I promised her I would come up and sit with her awhile tomorrow afternoon but I will not let her know I have heard from you. I do everything to keep her cheerful.

I will write you if that soreness affects her as the other did. She thought she would choke to death then she filled up so but when she begun to raise she felt better and after it broke she was relieved of such soreness in her side.

I may of advised you wrong but I have done as I should think but for in a short time you may be needed more than you are just now.

Vie told me one day she dreaded the time when her feet and limbs would swell so you see she knows her condition.

With kind regards to your self and family

C.B. Williams

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Whitevale Sept 25

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place for he must not be alone any
more and if anything should happen
and cause him to be worse someone
will let you know immediately. I
promised her I would come up and
sit awhile with her tomorrow afternoon
but I will not let her know I have heard
from you. I do every thing to keep her



Mrs Wm King
Jackson
Minn.

Letter #77L

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs W.V. King Jackson, Minnesota

Whitewater Oct 7 1883

My Dear Sister

I guess I will write you a little while. I dont feel so awful good to day cause why my belly aches. I hope to feel better tomorrow.

It is a most beautiful day. How I do wish I could have a ride. If I believed as Mrs P who wrote Gates Ajar, I should be more patient for I would have all the rides I want in glory.

I suppose you want to know how I am getting along. Well I am quite a little better than I was three weeks ago. I have quite a good appetite now and I am a little stronger. I dont know as I could trash you yet but I guess I could give you some good pinches. If I can only keep Lina with me I believe by spring I shall be lots better but if I have to do for my self I cant gain much & in fact I cant do enough for my self to keep me alive for I cant cook or work not yet.

I felt so disappointed yesterday because Eliza did not come. I looked for some of them out with her but now I dont believe I shall see her again & I did not give her those pieces of your dress but I will send them by mail.

I received a letter from Juna last night. I was so glad to hear from her. Tell her I will write some time. I never have ans[wered] Mrs Baldwins yet & I must.

Mr Smiths have got the door open. It is so nice but I cant do that. I have to keep a little fire.

How does polotic(sic) get on. I shall feel very anxious to hear of the nomination so dont be a week letting me know.

I never know what to write. I never have any news. Yes Alfred Williams is sick, has a slow fever but is better a little I believe.

Monday morn

Mrs Williams came yesterday afternoon & took me riding. I enjoyed it so much.

I have got sort of a nuraligia(sic) inside of my head, my ear aches & I dont know what else it can be.

I guess I will go for a ride to day if the wind doesnt blow too hard.

Little Ira just came in to see how I was this morning. He comes every day. He often wishes Johnnie would come again.

Mr Salisbury is about the same. I heard the Dr thought he would have softening of [the] brain.

I want to hear from you often. I dont feel one bit like writing. I guess you can see it by the looks of this letter.

I guess Babcock doesnt clerk for Bartel & Doolittle. What is the matter.

Remember me to all. How I would have liked Mr Cowing to have stop[p]ed here.

The wind keeps rising so I cant go to day.

Well Nett you must be just as happy as though I was well for it wont make me any better for you to fret all the time. I am a little better now & perhaps I will get well.

Here goes the girls & I want to send this by them so good by for this time. A kiss for you all.

ever with love

Vie

Letter # 77L

Whitewater Oct 7' 1883

My Dear Sister

I guess I will write you a little while. I don't feel so awful good to day cause why my belly aches. I hope to feel better tomorrow.

It is a most beautiful day how I do wish I could have a ride if I believed as Mrs P. who wrote Gales ago. I should be more patient for I would have all the ride I want in glory. I suppose you want to know how I'm getting along well I am quite a little better than I was three weeks ago. I have quite a good appetite now and I am a little stronger I don't know as I could track you yet but I guess I could give you some good punches. if I can only keep Lina with me I believe by Spring I shall be lots better but if I have

to do for my self I cant gain much & in fact I cant do enough for my self to keep me a live for I cant cook or work sort yet. I felt so disappointed yesterday because Eliza did not come. I looked for some of them out with her but now I dont believe I shall see her again & I did not give her those pieces of your dress. but I will send them by mail. I received a letter from Julia last night. I was so glad to hear from her. tell her I will write some time. I am here and Mrs Baldwins get & I must. Mr. Daniels here got the door open it is so nice but I cant do that I have to keep a little fire. now does politics get on. I shall feel very anxious to hear of the nomination so dont be a week letting me know. I never know what to write I never have any news yet Alfred Williams is sick has a slow fever. but is better a little I believe

Monday morn

Mrs Williams came yesterday afternoon & took me riding I enjoyed it so much. I have got sort of a neuralgia in side of my head my ear aches & I dont know what else it can be I guess I will go for a ride to day if the wind doesnt blow to hard. little Ira just came in to see how I was this morning. he comes every day. he often wishes John would come again. Mr Salisbury is about the same I heard the Dr thought he would have softening of brain I want to hear from you often I dont feel one bit like writing I guess you can see it by the looks of this letter. I guess Babcock doesnt clerk for Boutel & Dolittle what is the matter. remember me to all. how I would have liked Mr Clowin to have stopped here

the wind keeps rising so I can't go
to day. well I'll you must be just
as happy as though I was well for
it won't make me any better for you
to feel all the time I am a little
better now & perhaps I will get well.

here goes the girls & I want to send
this by the so good by now

this time a kiss for you all
now with love

Love



Mrs W. V. King.
Jackson.
Minnesota.

Letter #77M

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs W.V. King, Jackson, Minnesota

Whitewater Dec 3, 1883

My own dear Sister

Here I am all alone and as homesick as a dog. Yesterday I let Lina go home. I felt as though I could not keep her. She charged me 125 per week & it really is not worth it. She worked all the time for some one else beside. Knitting & sewing &c Mrs Williams & the girls will help me ever so much so I think I can get along any way for awhile. Ill try it & see & if I see that I cant I why Ill get some one.

Its very pleasant here but I cant say as I feel very contented yet. There is four girls that room here & they are directly over my head & it makes me almost wild some times. Oh I shall be glad when I can be with you. If you only lived some where down here I believe I should be glad to go to day. I wish for you every hour in the day.

Oh if I could only get strength. Why is it I cant. I cough considerable again. It seems I keep taking a little cold & perhaps its that I dont have one bit of appetite & when I do eat Im so sick at my stomach I nearly always throw my food up. I wish I could be like other folks but I guess I never shall again.

I guess you will think Im blue enough by the tone of this letter. Well I am & I cant disguise it. I feel discouraged.

Stell & Clarissa were down to see me yesterday & Mrs Hatch but I was alone the most of the day & I was lonesome enough.

I have just finished one of E.P. Rose books "A face illumined." I liked it very well not over & above.

There is an old maid accross(sic) the street hanging up her washing & it looks worse than any Minnesota washings you ever had. I should feel ashamed if it were mine.

I dont feel much like writing this morning but I know you will want to hear from me (see how I flatter myself).

I should judge you must be healthy if onions will keep you so. I like them too but I dont eat them very often my old stomach acts so.

Hett Bentons husband came to town Sat, got about as full of the sweet creature & was making some noise but nothing more & marshall told him to dry up but Johnie wouldnt dry, so he just

took [h]is club & whacked him over the head & cut his head open terribly. The town folks feel quite stirred up over it, said Marshall was to[o] fast & it is thought by some that it will injure him for life, Johnnie I mean. Oh Hett should have such a life as Jenni Barron wouldnt it be awful & Hett is in no condition to receive such a shock either at present.

I have taken two sweats lately but I dont think they do me any good. I shall not take any more of them.

I think you are taking in a good many shows. Thats the kind, take all you can, only one life. Here I have denied my self always & now I am where I cant go so what is life if you dont make the best of it.

Remember me to every one who may ask about me. My love to you all & do write often for Im so homesick.

Im always your grunting sister

Vie

Whitewater Dec 3. 1883.

My own dear Sister

Here I am alone
and as homesick as a dog yesterday I let
Lina go home. I felt as though I could not
keep her. she charged me 125 per week
& it really is not worth it she worked
all the time for some one else beside.
Knitting & sewing &c Mrs Williams & the
girls will help me over as much as I
think I can get along any way for a
while. I'll try it & see & if I see that I
cant why I'll get some one.

It's very pleasant here but I cant say as
I feel very contented yet. there is four
girls that room here & they are directly
over my head & it makes me almost
wild some times. Oh I shall be glad
when I can be with you if you only

lived some where down here I believe
I should be glad to go to day. I wish for
you every hour in the day. Oh if I could
only get strength why is it I can't. I cough
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condition to receive such a shock either
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I have taken two sweets lately but I
don't think they do me any good I
shall not take any more of them.

I think you are taking in a good
many shares. That's the kind take all
you can only one life here I have
described my self always & now I am
where I can't go so what is life if
you don't make the best of it.

remember me to every one who
may ask about me. my love to you
all & do write often for do so
hormisick.

I am always your
grinning sister - Vee



Mrs W. V. King.
Jackson.
Minnesota.

Letter #77N

From: Mrs C.B. Williams

To: Mrs. Wm. King Jackson Minn

Whitewater Wis Dec 23, 1883

Dear Friend Mrs King

I recieved(*sic*) your kind letter with money order enclosed. I will try and get Vie something for christmas but it is hard to tell what to get for her for she does not go out in company and of course she does not need as many little things to wear.

I was over to sit with her awhile last evening and I asked her what she wanted the most of anything in the world and she told me "to get well", and I know that is so. I am afraid Vie will never see another christmas for I can see she is gradually losing strength and flesh. She told me last night she could see she was losing flesh and it is loose and flabby, not as her flesh used to be.

I presume she writes you the smooth side for she dont want to frighten you but my opinion is Vie knows more about her situation than she tells. I try to cheer her up and keep her in as good spirits as possible. I went over one morning and found her crying and I could of cried my self heartily for I know the poor girl has reason for being discouraged. She told me she was discouraged for she did not gain a particle of strength and I dont think she ever will for I cannot see any possible chance for her but I cheered her up as much as I could and talked about other things and got her mind off herself. So before I came home she was quite cheery.

I think she ought to have some one with her every moment but I do not dare say too much for fear she will think we are tired of waiting on her but we are not, only that we cannot be with her nights and I think she ought to have some one with her every minute. It seems to[o] bad to leave her in the evening and know she is all alone for she coughs so much and is awake so much it must be lonesome for her.

The rooms she has are very pleasant and since her stove has been exchanged they are very comfortable. Of course it is not her own home for as you say she was very much attached to it, but I think it was very fortunate for her to sell for such figures for her place was greatly run down and needed stronger hands than hers to repair it and of course she did not realise anything, only what little rent she got for it and now I tell Vie if all of her friends "go back on her" she has something to help herself with and I think she has all she will need while she lives.

You may think I talk very discouraging but if you could see

the change in her since you saw her I think you would think as I do.

She often wishes you could leave your family and come to her and she spoke of it to day. Of course I cannot say anything to console her when she longs to see you so much for I know just how she feels. It is an awful feeling to be alone and know she hasn't a near relative near her but Vie is a person that has a great many friends and good friends too.

Her lady friend from Iowa that has recently visited her I did not see as I went away the day she came. I was very sorry I could not see her. I think by what she told the girls she was very much alarmed about Vie. Vie recieved(*sic*) a letter from that lady's husband last night asking her several questions about herself and requested a correct reply which I think Vie intends to answer soon.

One thing unfavorable with Vie [is] she does not have much appetite and I think if she had some one to fuss up little delicacies for her she would eat more and it might give her more strength. She dont have much now.

A few nights ago she was taken with palpitation of the heart in the evening and it lasted her all night and the next day she could scarcely stir she had so little strength.

I do not think you had better let her know I have written you for she may question me to know what I wrote and I do not talk to her as I write to you. I have been thinking for some time I would write you but did not get at it.

I shall tell her you sent the money for her present and I presume she will want to see the letter.

I hope you will excuse my hastily written letter for I have had several interruptions since I began it. Remember me to your family. Hattie wishes to be remembered.

Your friend

C.B. Williams

Whitewater Wis Dec 23. 1893

Dear Friend Mrs King

I received
your kind letter with money
order enclosed. I will try and
get-her something for Christmas
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Page 5

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I have been thinking for some
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letter



Mrs. Wm. King
Jackson
Minn.

Letter #770

From: Viola Porter

To: Mrs Wm V King, Jackson, Minnesota

Whitewater Dec 26 1883

My own dear Sister

Did you have a merry Christmas yesterday. How many times I thought of you all & I did so wish you could enjoy the day. I had a very plesant(*sic*) day indeed. In the morning Mrs Williams took me out for a sleigh ride whichj I did enjoy so much. It was so fine. Oh the sun did shine so beautiful and every body & every thing seemed full of life & good feeling.

Carrie & Les came down & spent the day with me (Lew is away). Carrie brought down some spare rib[s] & we had turnips, baked potatoes, chicken sallad(*sic*), celery, cucumber & peach pickles, cranberry sauce, punkin pie, fried cakes & loaf cake frosted, bread & butter, coffee & lemonaid. Want that a good dinner hey.

Mrs Crandall sent me the chicken salad & celery, loaf cake & bread & lemons. She is so good to me.

Now my dear Ill tell you of all my presents. First I received a very pretty hand kerchief with pink border from Carrie Case, one of the girls that roomed with me. Next a brown knit hood from Stella Nehs, another girl thast used to room with me last summer. Its real nice & just what I want. Next a nice piece of spanish lace in a paper from my dear sister (seems [as] though Nellie sent it). Next was [a] hand kerchief with two 10 cent pieces in it from that good old sister of mine. Next in came mrs Williams with a bundle saying here is your christmas present from Minnesota. I said why I just got one from Nette. Well said she, you have another & she put it into my hands & lo & behold it was two pairs of knit drawers, just what I needed for my cotton flannels were on their last pins. Many thanks to you my dearest Sister & oh if I only had you here I would squeeze you well as hard as I could any way. I guess I would give you one or two smacks too.

Well next comes Mrs Slade the Una minister[s] wife with a lovely Christmas card for me. It is a white vase with a beautiful pink rose in it & a bud that has drooped at the base & something else [that] looks like berries. Its very pretty. Then Mrs Williams gave me a majolica cream pitcher, real pretty & Frank & Celi were out Sat & they came up to see me & brought me a china cup & saucer, a fancy plate with a bunch of fruit in the bottom & the rim is green & a butter dish (individual). They are ever so pretty. I wish you could see them all.

Lucy & Zella were out on Thursday but Z did not remember me. She did give me a few pieces of candy that Lucy had bought for the children.

I am feeling quite good this morning. I dont know how long it will last but I always make the best of a good feeling time. I was feeling so miserable when Eunice was here but I had over done I guess. I cant work and there is no use of my trying for I cant. My old throat is sore all the time & it keeps me down I know. I am taking a medicine now I do so hope it will help me. If I could only get an appetite I would be glad.

Now havent I wrote quite a letter. You must tell me all about your presents & all about your day. Oh I do feel so sorry to think you have let the Franklin house slip for those bed rooms were so handy for you & you could have had me any time & been so near me too. I feel very much disappointed but then I must try & think every thing [is] for the best. I some times have thought lately perhaps I should never go to M[innesota] but as soon as I feel better I take courage again.

I shall never come through as long as you live over there. I will help pay the rent some where else but not there. I would rather live in a court house basement.

Do you think Im awful. I suppose William does but I cant help it. I always felt that way about that place when I was well.

Say I sent your last letter to the office Thursday night & didnt you get it Sat eve for sure & tell me if you dont get them. I must write sooner in [the] week.

I did not give any one a christmas thing, only a vail (*sic*) to Carrie B & she cryed about that because she could not get me some thing but I would like to give her lots if I could. She has been so good to me.

I wonder if you have seen Eunice yet. I had a letter from that Dr I will answer this week. Its trying to snow but its very damp. I have got a lovely stove, I have not a word of fault to find with it. I have had a great time over it though got all the DeWolfs mad but they might as well be mad as me so let them switch.

with love & kisses for all
Im ever yours

Vie

I wonder if you have
 seen Emma get shed
 a letter from the
 Da & will answer
 this week. As long
 as snow but its very
 damp. I have
 got a lovely stone
 I have not a word
 of fault to find
 with it. I
 have had a
 great time
 over it though
 got all the
 De wolfs made
 but they might
 as well be made
 as one as let
 them write
 with love &
 kiss for all
 I am ever yours
 Alice

Whitewater Dec 26 1883

My dear Sister

did you have a
 moving Christmas yesterday. how many times
 I thought of you all & I did so wish you
 could enjoy the day. I had a very
 pleasant day indeed. in the morning
 Mrs Williams took me out for a sleigh ride
 which I did enjoy so much it was so
 fine. oh the sun did shine so beautiful
 and every body & every thing seemed
 full of life & good feeling. Carrie & Les
 came down & spent the day with me
 (Les is away) Carrie brought down some
 spare ribs & we had turnip baked potatoes
 chicken salad, celery, cucumber & peach pickles
 cranberry sauce, pumpkin pie, fruit cakes &
 loaf cake frosted, bread & butter, coffee & lemon
 aid. want that a good dinner hey

never go to M -
but as soon as
I feel better I like
change again
I shall never
come though as
long as you
like over there
I will help pay
the rent some
where else but
not there. I
would rather
live in court-
house basement
do you think I
am awful I suppose
William does but
I can't help it I
always felt that
way about that
place when I was
well,
I am feeling quite good this morning. I
don't know how long it will last but I always
make the best of a good feeling time. I was
feeling so miserable when Emma was here
but I had overdone I guess. I can't work
and there is no use of my trying for I can't.
my old throat is sore all the time & it keeps
me down I know. I am taking a medicine
now I do so hope it will help me. if I could
only get an appetite I would be glad.
now here I wrote quite a letter. you
must tell me all about your parents &
all about your day. Oh I do feel so sorry
to think you have let the Franklin house
slip for those bed rooms were so handy
for you & I you could have had me
any time & been so near me too I feel
very much disappointed but then I must
try & think every thing for the best - I some
times have thought lately perhaps I should



Mrs William V. King.
Jackson.
Minnesota.

Letter #77T

From: Zella Porter

To: Antoinette Porter King & Vie Porter

*[Blank envelope--no date--date determined by known April 14
1884 wedding date for Zella Porter & George Branfort]*

April 1884

Dear aunties Vie & Nette

George and I are going to be married Tuesday eve. I should be more than glad to have both of you come. Do not say any thing about it to any one. Send my silk handkerchief back with Geo. I can not write any more as George is ready to go.

Your loving

Zella

Dear auntie Vic & Nellie

George and I are going
to be married Tuesday eve
I should be more than glad
to have both of you come
do not say anything about
it to any one, I send my
silk handkerchief back
by Geo. I can not write
any more as George is
ready to go

your loving
Zella

Letter #78C

From: Nell _____

To: Viola Porter [No envelope]

Meadville Pa

May 30th [1884]

My Dear Friend Vie

Your letter came to hand in due time. I was delighted to hear from you and still sad at heart to know you were so sick you did not feel able to finish. I hope now that the cold spring winds are over you will improve and gain strength fast and you will be able to get out again soon.

Dear Vie I think of you every day and wonder how you are. I had not heard from there for so long [I] thought perhaps your sister had taken you home with her and were in hopes she had for the change I think would have been of benefit to you. I have tried so hard to get to see you this spring and I have not given up all hopes yet. I think after a while it will be so I can go but it seems as though there has been so many things to keep me at home. Oh it would do my heart good to see you once more and have a good long talk with you. It would bring back years of my life and if it is a possible thing I am determined to come soon.

Your sister wrote about some pictures and wanted to know if I wanted them. Yes, Vie, whenever you are through with them I should be pleased to have them although I do not remember what they were and they will be prized more because you have had them and cared for them.

The weather has been quite cold for a few days but it is getting warmer.

How I wish you were here. Have you consulted another doctor. You wrote in one of your letters you were going to. It seems as though if you were here you might get help but perhaps there are as good Drs there.

Vie if you are not able to write I hope sister Nette will if it is only a few lines to let me know how you are getting along and I will write again soon.

Hoping ere this reaches you that you have improved and may still continue to.

I am ever your friend with lots of love to your self and Sister,

Nell

Meadville Pa

May 30th

My Dear Friend Vic

Your letter came to hand
in due time, I was delighted to
hear from you and still sad at
heart to know you were so sick
you did not feel able to finish
I hope now that the cold spring
winds are over you will improve
and gain strength fast and
you will be able to get out
again soon Dear Vic I think of

you every day and wonder how
you are I had not heard from
there for so long thought perhaps
your sister had taken you
home with her and were in
hopes she had for the change
I think would have been of
benefit to you I have tried
so hard to get to see you
this spring and I have not
given up all hopes yet I
think after a while it will
be so I can go but it seems
as though there has been so
many things to keep me at
home oh it would do my
heart good to see you once

more and have a good long
talk with you it would bring
back years of my life and
if it is a possible thing I am
determined to come soon
your sister wrote about some
pictures and wanted to know
if I wanted them yes lie
wherever you are through
with them I should be pleas-
ed to have them although
I do not remember what they
were and they will be prized
more because you have had
them and cared for them
the weather has been quite
cold for a few days but it

is getting nervous how I wish
you were here, have you consul-
ted another doctor you wrote in
and of your letter you were going
to it seems as though if you were
here you might get help but besides
there are as good Drs - there live
if you are not able to visit I
hope sister Nett will if it is only
a few times to let me know how
you are getting along and I will
visit again soon hoping ere
this reaches you that you have
improved and may still continue
me to I am ever your friend
with lots of love to your self
and sister,

Well,