

Blackford. Hancock Co. Ky. Sept. 8th 1868

Dear Sister, Yours of the 30th has just reached me; (John being at Mill to-day brought it.) and on Thursday (Sept. 3.) last, I got a 'Republican'. The school that I discovered here has died out, cause, it was found that the house could not be kept fit for anything, while we attempted keeping school, so brutish are some of the haters of Sunday Schools. The house was worse than a stable the last time School was attempted. But the movement I had inaugurated by several friends at Bethlehem, has been so far successful, that the preliminary meeting was attended by about twenty, there was a Committee of three ^{appointed} to draft rules &c. for the school - M. E. Pate, Capt. J. A. Clark, & myself were the Com.; Officers were elected - and a begging Committee appointed - at the next meeting the Constitution was adopted by Articles - and the Rules as a whole; and teachers were selected, and a list of between twenty and thirty scholars. While last Sunday a heavy thunder storm at the time of school - and signs of it all day, but particularly for the two hours before school time did not deter about forty or fifty from coming out - and the first lessons were heard - and reward tickets issued. I should have said that at our ^{2nd} ^{3rd} meeting ^{S.S.} one paper was given to each family. We found three dollars in the treasury - and ten\$ is the amount I urged them to raise - not however until three\$ was had, for I did not expect that much even. We have part of the Village & Family Library, and part of another, and a few school books & tickets. J. W. Norman is Supt. M. E. Pate Assistant. --- I have never received any part of the Subscription to the Ninth District Sunday School from Pho. E. Moorman. but have his promise to pay a church subscription now due, and to pay Mike Stevens his dollar. but I am afraid that we will have to "go to law" notwithstanding an injunction to the contrary.

I see you got the Recorder, and found Felix. well he is a specimen of the Ancient Landmarkists - and Elder R. I. Bruner our pastor is another, and how he could preach a good sermon on John XVII. 21. and then in a few minutes afterward as a member of Christ's Ecclesia (Church - or Official Assembly.) speak for, and vote for the exclusion of all others but United Baptists is a query. He is agent for the Recorder. Last Recorder contained in the column, news from the churches, an account of a protracted meeting in Hardinsville Ky. and this sentence "They have no house of their own, but the Methodist brethren have kindly

granted them the use of theirs. It is more blessed to give than to receive, Blackford
Purist's wont give, yet I doubt if one of them ever saw any impropriety in that
little church at Hardinsville accepting the use of the house so kindly granted."
I was glad to hear that Father had got rid of the chills, and that his digestion
was improving. I hope you will have no more spells of indigestion, the
cause of so many serious complaints. We have all kept rid of
the Chills except Angeline & Jesse who have broke them by
the use of Blue Mass. I have had the advance guard of chills
(tight head - swimming in the head & pain in the knees - general weariness for
a couple of weeks more or less, and will have to use more medicine yet
to keep back the enemy. Crops look moderate - Corn extra - Tobacco is
hurt by the cutworms and grasshoppers and some by too much water,
Potatoes by the bug somewhat - Cabbage by worms.

We have raised the school house at last, and Saturday is set
to cover it. If finished right, there will be few better in the County, out
of Newesville. As to a permanent move to Egypt, I say that over
for some time - and as to coming down this winter, I find little chance
for that - for if I did I find I could not make anything next summer.
besides I have a host of reasons, for not coming - although I had
no idea of wintering here four months ago.

I was glad to hear of the purchase of a Coal Yard - and hope that they
may be well paid for the venture, and ere long own enough yards
to sell all the coal they can dig, or get dug.

I was glad to hear Mother & Bessie had a plentiful supply of water now.
The gentleman with the remarkable memory of a member of the
church called Bethlehem, he has never been at the school yet but was
detained by a lawful excuse each time.

View not View (webster) Mr. Bradshaw died the day after I wrote I
believe - he never spoke to be understood. Should you have an opportunity
of seeing a "Standard" perhaps you may be acquainted with some Baptist
that takes it - compare the Recorder and it. Blackford Church partly
supported a Union Sunday School once, before they were converted to
Land-mark-ism, It is dead now - and although the Church
numbers between one hundred and thirty and forty, she can't
support a Baptist School. Intolerance is not confined to the Baptists
here though, for a Methodist Rev. speaking on Baptism said that
Baptists were not honest - I suppose he meant in their belief.
It is bed time - so good night.

Sept 9th 7.30 p.m. The weather is remarkably warm and moist, for we have had rain every day for three days, and it threatens to ruin to night. Late tobacco will get size, but will be later in ripening, ^(in consequence of the rain) and if frost will keep off until it ripens we may do moderately yet.

I guess (a 'Franklin' word) you did not understand what I meant about Franklin's essays - - He advises in one essay his readers who may be desirous of starting anything always to get the influence of a few men of influence, and then induce one or more to carry forward the project or at least have it done in their name. He says that he often adopted that plan successfully.

I would suppose with half time, and the high prices of provisions there must be hard times with our friends in the East. Perhaps you might think that farming under the disadvantages ^(that) we labor under here was as bad - here is the difference - we need never fear famine - for food and clothing, though coarse - is easy to make. Here is an advantage over mechanics, factory hands, miners &c. dull times brings hardship to them - (perhaps they may fare better even then than us - but the uncertainty of a fresh supply when the accustomed wages are stopped, is worse than our uncertainty as to what tobacco may bring - for that is to pay generally for what could be done without - and will always bring enough to pay taxes and necessary expenditures - if no debt is to pay. I will not be able to go to Chowchoc till tobacco is housed - and then perhaps the cheapest way would be to go by packet, as it would take two days to barely go and come - and horse feed would be more than packet fare. I may have an opportunity of seeing the Gen^l at Court in Haverhill - next month, or perhaps in Gloverport. He was at our last Circuit Court here.

I will try to explain Felix on "it will then be impossible for the Devil to hide amongst us." You ask, Does he mean the Devil is in the other churches? Or, does he mean that their doctrines are devilish. I would suppose the latter. 'Baptismal regeneration', 'Sacramental salvation' are what Baptists call devilish doctrines. They are popish in their character. Rome pretends to no other salvation than sacramental and the Christ of Rome is literally sacrificed whenever Mass is said - yet that oft repeated sacrifice, ^{charges} the papist out in the cold without Baptism - or the Wafer.. But did it never occur to you that Protestants of various names, teach very nearly the same

communion? A. He does not believe he was. "Example of that kind do not strengthen
I hope recommended to me as best - the following - Has Christ instituted by
As to the Lord's Supper - The "Episcopalian says "that it is necessary to salvation." The
Presbyterian, "that it is an effectual means of salvation, and seals to the recipient the benefit
of Christ's mediation." The Methodist - "that it is a means of grace and regeneration, and as such
to be administered to every man who is seeking the salvation of his soul." Baptists say
"that it is a commemoration of the dying love of the Redeemer." So says the Book too.

The different objects for which others administer the Sacrament, is the best.
reason Baptists have for Close Communion. ^{in my opinion} If infants are guilty of original sin, then
they are proper subjects of baptism, seeing in the ordinary way they cannot be saved
unless this be washed away by baptism. It has been already proved that this original
stain cleaves to every child of man, and that thereby they are liable to eternal damnation. It is true the
second Adam has found a remedy for the disease, which came upon all by the offence of the first. But
the benefit of this is to be received through the means which he appointed, through
baptism in particular, which is the ordinary means he hath appointed for that purpose
and to which he hath tied us, though he may not have tied himself. Doctrinal Tracts page 251 -

John Wesley "The writer I think - published and circulated by the Conference of the M.E.C.
"By Baptism we who were by nature the children of wrath, are made the children of God."
and this regeneration is more than barely being admitted into the Church, though commonly connected
therewith; being grafted into the body of Christ's Church we are made the children of God
by adoption and grace. See John III. 5. By water as a means, the water of baptism we
are regenerated or born again. Discipline, I believe I can if desired give you the
pages of the exact works the above are in. Baptists say Baptism is the mode
of professing faith in Christ, and entering his visible kingdom. Note the last two words.
You will notice that we do not make Baptism - The Supper - nor Good Works, a
part of the ^{grounds} of salvation. We acknowledge but one all sufficient
sacrifice for sin - faith in that sacrifice, and its benefits are ours - not on
conditions. True faith will show itself in obedience. But that obedience is
not the ground of reconciliation. But more hereafter if you don't quite
understand. ^{Read these proofs -} (Heb. X 10-12.; Eph. 2 Ch. 8-9 v. 1 Romans III. 20 & 31 v. inclusive.

William will have gone to work at No. 2 I suppose, and George also.
We are having more rain to-day - making four successive days rain.
You did name a plan of raising money in your last, but there is a vast
difference between Sunday Schools here, and in more civilized parts
of the country. Children may be easily enough induced to go to
school here by giving rewards &c. - but that they should ere they have
become the least interested in it - spend their tobacco crop on it, is
not to be expected. a few might spend a little. - but the teachers of S.S.
here must pay the expenses. Ed. Pate Esq. Soldier's Claim Agent, Cloveport
tells the people that the U.S. Gov. will pay no more war claims after November,
He is a Democrat - I suppose of the Pendleton stripe, and expects his party to succeed I
guess. and in the event of their success, claims of that kind would be rejected. Mrs. or Robert W.

[ca. Sept. 1868]

but he failed - to do any thing - I saw one of the men myself, and got him to promise if possible to help us then, and whenever else he could; but a neighbour being very badly hurt by the bursting of a threshing machine cylinder, one of the teeth striking him between the eyes, and penetrating the brain, knocking him against a sharp ended log with the back of the head - he was also struck in the breast and shoulder with pieces. This was done Wednesday Aug. 12th about 1. p.m. and he had not spoke, nor moved, except occasionally his hands or feet - yesterday evening, the 18th Aug. His name is John Bradshaw, perhaps father rec'd him.

In consequence of that several were kept from Bethel on Sunday, so I had a meeting announced for next Sunday, to organize - And I will prepare a Constitution By-Laws and Order of Business during the week so that the Committee will have but little to do. I will also take a copy of the Life Guard Pledge, and enlist a Company if possible. I will have specimens of the different L. G. papers and try then to obtain money from the meeting to take ^{enough} copies of one or more papers to give every scholar at first a paper. In all this I won't forget Dr. Franklin's advice which I read in his life and essays while in England.

Brown Potatoe Bugs are no terror to any one who has time to drive them out, and knows how to do it. Find out the way they come in and drive them with a brush (Hy. brush is a small branch of a tree or shrub) across the patch, once drove out they will never come back, though others may. I was told another plan, plow briskly, and the rolling earth scares them out, I did so they did not all leave immediately but I believe they have done but little damage since and are about all gone out on the opposite side from where they started. We have had very cool weather for August, and the grasshoppers having kept late tobacco down - the cut worms have cut it off badly. I suppose it was the hail storm that passed over part of Davies County that caused it - It destroyed all their tobacco and much of the corn for a length

of fifteen miles, and width of five, so G. L. Miller says who has seen its track.

If George knows anything of the ravages of the 17 yr. locust, or Cicada, he would do me a great favor by reporting the character and extent of such ravages for it was cicada year here this year. If he does so I will tell him what I have heard here, and what I have seen.

I was sorry to hear that you had sent that money, and I can't account for it but as being taken out, for I got my card with the names on - but the other paper with the account of the Bounty and the money I never saw. If Bethlehem school promises well I will change my Post Office to Patesville, 4 miles from here, and one mile from the Meeting House so that I can get my papers ^{by} going one mile.

The fifty cents came safe, and I should have mentioned it. But I was undecided whether or not to keep or send it back, for I imagine that Mother has more need of money, or at least as much as myself. For if I was once out of debt I could do first rate on one hundred dollars pr. year. And actually don't really need that much for necessaries and taxes.

Taxes will be higher this year on account of our Court House, mine will be \$15 and some cents so I believe instead of \$13.15 last year. I send two times copied from a numeral note book into the round note system, for English names, as I believe father knows both of them, and here I enquire if he can sing or play after the figures - could he read "Job" and did he understand my explanation of the system. I might be wrong may be in some of the keys, as there is no round or patent notes in the Psalmist. I believe I will get up a paper or have it done as described - leaving out Bogle who is in Missouri. I believe I will try Genl. Ely. H. Murray Atty at Law Owensboro. Ky. I have not got the pay yet, but Lizzy was satisfied and said she thought it was too little. Joe is not getting money except for Peaches - and I am promised some when they come in. With this I will mail a Western Recorder and would have marked the parts I wanted you to read, so you could have saved time, but I will pay read all except Brougham's letter and the advertisements

Patesville Hancock Co. Ky.

October 13th 1868.

Dear Sister:

Your long looked for letter, is looked for yet, and has been for so long that I think one of two things about it - either you are all sick, or my letter was lost, the one is about as probable as the other. I gave my letter to Capt. J. A. G. to mail and perhaps he never mailed it.

We are all well - and expect to finish cutting tobacco to-morrow.

The frost on the night of the 8th bit eight acres of tobacco, more or less according to the situation with regard to timber &c. and has done a deal of damage in this neighbourhood.

Angeline, Jane, John, & Jesse have had the chills, but are clear now.

W. F. and his boy Jesse M. have had them some time, but they are light 3rd. day chills now.

Amelia has had a very bad boil, or carbuncle. I have kept clear of chills & boils so far.

Our (Bethlehem) Sunday School bought the Library and Question Books, Hymn Books of the Pleasant Hill S. S. which sleeps for the winter, and we subscribed for ten copies of the Semi-monthly Child's World the first batch of which are in the office now, and sent for a few books for beginners. Next Saturday or Sunday Elder Robt. I. Bruner will lecture for the Sunday School - but I am afraid he will let his "Ancient Land Mark" principles destroy what good he might do.

Mr. George Wolf stayed with us last night - he is well - but his wife is not - he came to get me to write to the Pension Agent to see if his

Lawyer had drawn his last instalment of Pension. He will quit him anyway and I will fill out his papers hereafter - is there any thing in the Internal Revenue Act to prevent me from doing so, in the shape of License - If there is, I think I can get over it - by not accepting the five per cent allowed Agents. Mr. Wolf's Pension is now \$15⁰⁰/₁₀₀ per m. I have received in all three 'Republicans' and mailed two 'Recorders'.

There is considerable excitement in the City of H. about the elections - and the talk of the crowd there would lead one to believe there was some truth in the reported talk with General F. P. Forrest.

The Democratic "One Currency" plank has carried away the bulk of the Unionists, but Unconditional S. G. will have a few votes in Hancock yet.

W. F. Nugent - has purchased a Grant and Colfax Chart, containing the platform and a sketch of the life of each candidate, so has W^m H. Lyons - George Wolfe - and Lt. Thos Newton. are all that I can say are sure for Grant.

I went to Patesville 4. miles after sundown to-night for that letter, so I am thinking it must be bed time. Good Night.

Your Affectionate Brother,
Robert Winn

P.S. Mr. George Wolfe's respects to Matthew

Decatur Macon Co. Ill.
December 28th 1868

Dear Sister;

I would have wrote before now, but I wanted to get Christmas and Sunday over, that I might have something to write about.

Your note with Amelia's letter reached me the next morning, and I was sorry to hear that your face was so bad - you had better be more careful in dabbling in water in cold weather until you are well.

Amelia is well - Francis and little Jessie chill yet - Our corn is all gathered, and the hogs killed - No interruption about taxes; the Sunday School lived one month after I left and is asleep until Spring. There would be a Bible Class organized in connection with Bethlehem Church on the Saturday before the third Sunday in this month.

There are 2 Methodist Episcopal (English) and one German Methodist Episcopal churches, 2 Presbyterian 1 Baptist 1 Roman Catholic - 1 United Brethren in Christ, 1 Church of God. 1 German Lutheran 1 Christian 1 Universalist. 1 Protestant Episcopal - besides one or two African - 5 Masons, 3 Odd Fellows and 1 Good Templar organizations, one of the latter being colored.

I believe Christmas trees grow better here than in Du Quoin - although I hav'nt seen yours, here I saw the 2nd. M. & E. S. S. tree on Christmas eve, United Brethren S. S. Ch. Tree on Christmas afternoon, and the German Methodist on Christmas night, and I believe the Germans were ahead - Here is their plan the presents on the tree were labeled - and a list of the scholars kept and every scholar got his present as his name was called - but there was boxes of Candies, and bushels of cakes for old & young.

The best of their programme was recitations and dialogues by the scholars - every scholar having some thing to do, as well as some thing to get.

They had singing in the intervals between speeches using a translation of Philip Phillips' Singing Hymns. The others had speeches and singing as at the DuQuoin concerts. The speeches by teachers & others.

New Year's Day the Baptists will have a New Year's service, and to night the arrangements are to be completed. They use Fresh Laurels, some schools use New Golden Chorus the greater part Singing Pilgrim.

There are five large school buildings, and several other buildings are used for school purposes, among which is the basement of the Baptist Church here. I notice a good library of books for reference, a cabinet of minerals - shells &c. and first class maps.

The method of teaching here is something new to me, but I can't explain now.

J. Sprickshaw's note promising to ship coal I got on Saturday morning - but no coal yet.

I will venture an advertisement in the Magnet today. I will mail a sermon by H. W. Beecher, read in the Baptist Church yesterday - save it, when you have read it.

Your affectionate brother

Robt

Leicester, Mass. January 7th 1868

Dear Sister: Your welcome letter of the 3rd to 6th. reached here this morning. I was sorry to hear of Matt's felon and wish I had sent you the recipe to stop felons - "Air slaked lime and soft ~~and~~ soap mixed to the consistency of paste

Make a leathern thimble put the mixture in, and place the finger affected in." but I suppose that it is too late now and as it is cut, it will doubtless have prood flesh in. if so, nitrate of silver is the best caustic.

"You put the wrong envelope outside when you wrote to your wife, but I stamped an envelope and had Father direct it right to you as we knew you were going to have coal sent to you." I suppose the second and third of the underlined words are surplus, or the you should have been here.

I am sorry that Matt. had to quit, as I like clean coal and don't expect that they can get anybody to take as much pains as Matt. did - then it looks now like winter was over, and at any rate as you say "they have enough trade now" day work might be better.

I am sorry that I am out of coal. I could have had two tons this morning if I had had the address of "Christina" and me the address of "Christina" and I need the gloves much as I bought a pair in that cold spell, nor the coat.

I saw four Christmas and one New Year trees. The various churches are observing the "Week of Prayer" the 1st M. E. and the Baptists together. I inclose a note to the U. E. M. Soc. as I am thinking previous orders are lost. The schools here are better managed than in Du Quoin. Hoping penny & you are well again and Matthew's finger I am

your
Dorothy Winn

Mrs. Martha Cook
Du Quoin
Ill.

Decatur Macon Co. Ill.

January the 19th 1869

Dear Sister:— Yours of the 17th is at hand, sorry to hear that Matthew's finger is not better, and that you are not entirely well.

I got every pound of coal out of the shed to night— finding out exactly what the first three cars weighed— they fell short about 52 lbs each— but I believe the last car (S. S. coal) had double the slack in that the others had— some of it— I was compelled to screen twice.

I wish it would sell ^{fast} well enough to make it pay. but on looking at Mr. White's accounts I find that I have sold a little more coal in the same time (counting from his first sale, and my first sale). I believe if the winter was just beginning I could sell enough to pay, as I got acquainted. Many have said Mr. White left just when coal was coming in demand— people came to the yards, finding no one there they gave their custom to one of the other dealers— (there are three other)— **T** ~~not too~~.

~~Strop~~, not scrap. — The above was written by twilight, may be it can be read though. I view not veiw — Rule to spell words with ie or ei, if the diphthong follows, **C** it is ei as deceive receive &c. if any other consonant it is ie as brief, chief, relief, Relieve, reprieve &c.

I sent the Magnet on account of the advertisement only— there are two Weekly Papers published— (perhaps either might compare with the I. L. Trib.) in Decatur.

Last Friday night one block from us— there was a cowardly murder committed.

A young man— respectable looking— weak in body, from the effects of wounds received in the army— went to church that evening— returning near

nine o'clock - he went to see some one at a low dance in an Irish Saloon, On leaving the Saloon he was struck by an Irishman with a poker over the head - and then he with two others kicked and stamped him, so that he died in about an hour - never having spoke after they left him.

The villains are held for trial (without bail) at the next term of the Macon Co. Circuit Court. Had they got out on Bail - they would have been in Kingdom Come - such is the feeling here.

Some other place in the county, there has been an affray of some moment, but I can't give particulars.

Perhaps I should say that I don't dissent essentially from anything in that Sermon of H. W. Beecher's - and yet adhere to the "preposterous doctrine &c." without damage to the "freedom of the gospel," as we understand it. But I must not argue the point now - nor mystify it by any attempt to convey an idea without the time or space.

I have heard this evening a "Winebrewnarian" or "Church of God" man preach - They are having a revival, two professed faith to-night.

The "United Brethren in Christ" are holding meetings every night - have done so for six weeks - and will probably double their membership. They are Methodist in doctrine - have clas & love feast meetings - all open - are intensely Anti-Slavery - and opposed to secret societies.

The Second Presbyterians (New School) have held morning and evening meetings for 3 weeks - no excitement (at least none of the noisy kind) and have had some additions to their numbers. They have Hymn and Tune Books well got up - large type - clear white paper - on every seat in their spacious Hall - and their S. School is supplied with the "Golden Trio" containing the new Golden Chain, New Golden Shower, & Golden Census.

I am sorry to hear Mother's feet were bad - and more so because I don't know of a remedy.

I was sorry to learn that Uncle Prior still was under the King Alchy - and of Aunt Martha's troubles - she certainly has had, in "Hy. parlance" a "hard row to hoe".

I know of nothing better than soap for lice, unless it was tobacco-tea - We use soap (soft home made) rubbed on all over, well worked in, let it stay a few hours - if it is not too cold - then wash off - a third application may be necessary, and if not delayed too long between "soapings" this will take the lice off anything. Coal oil rubbed on a strip an inch wide from head to tail, and across the shoulders, and hips, a like width, will banish them often, and after the good scrubbing you have given the sow perhaps that would be the best thing to do, Benzine is better, it will kill any insect whatever rendering their carcasses brittle until it evaporates. Use as the oil.

Last Sunday our switching engine was sent to Centralia and did not return until this morning, and there was a great deal of switching to do - and she got off the track to-day - so I did not get my car in until after quitting time to-night. The prospect is that I will have a fine day to unload in - the first time that has happened.

I sent for another car to-day, and hope it will get started in time not to have to lay over two nights at Centralia as all Saturday's coal does - and I have thought that they lose weight there.

It is getting late, and I want to take a bath yet - so I will bid you -

Good Night -

Robert Winn

9823
If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

Mrs. Martha Cook

P.O. Box No. 201

Du Quoin

Perry County

Illinois



Patesville
(The mine and
the ductile
Patesville)

Patesville, Hancock Co. Ky.
March. 8th 1869

Dear Sister:

I ought to have wrote
sooner, but could not very well for many
reasons not necessary to mention.

I got a boat on Tuesday night, for
Evansville. (buying a through ticket for
\$4.00) and got on the Morning Star at Evans.
on Wednesday night at 10 p.m. landing at the
city of Hawesville 8 a.m. Thursday -

Meeting John coming to the city, I ascertained
that all were well.

The only great change since I left, is in
the number who are out of debt! through
the Bankrupt Act.

Our Sheriff broke for a large amount -
I am told - soon after the great haste to collect
the tax for last year.

Old Tom is still alive and about as well as
usual, and the hogs are looking fine -
Some have been fed regularly - and some
not at all until a week or two ago - and

the wild ones are fat as need be. One we will sell tomorrow for fifteen dollars that has not eaten fifteen cents worth of corn all winter. Another ~~sow~~ ^{in the woods} has 6 pigs out, and she fares so well that she don't care much about coming for corn - and her pigs look fine. We have 3 other sows who have together about 20 pigs I believe who are fed twice a day. The oak mast was so heavy last year in the Bottoms and hogs were scarce - is the reason of their doing so well out - with good fortune this summer, and plenty corn - we can make a little out of hogs next winter.

We have some 300 bushels of corn yet and expect to rent for a third of the crop, about twenty-five acres - and to plant about twenty on ^{real} A. No. 1 land -

We had no seed sown, until last week, and are not near done yet - but will have to wait better weather.

The tobacco is yet to strip partly, and no offers yet for it.

I got some Goober Peas for seed in Cairo. (I don't know that that is the way to spell Goober, but ~~some~~ call them Pea Skuts)

Robert Gardner living lately on the same Bruner place, (a member of Bethlehem Church, active, by spurts,) has taken to stealing horses. How long he has been at it we don't know - he acknowledges to a year. He stole Garry Adams' mare out of Hawesville took her home and rid her two ^{nights} ~~days~~ and one day - and then took her down below Madisonville (he says below Paducah on the Columbus Road, and that he sold her to a man with a carpet sack for \$150.00) And that he bought another horse for \$90 (and at another time he said \$100) and stole another one in or near Madisonville, bringing the two home on Sunday night a week ago and this night a week ago he was arrested about midnight at home, and taken back to Madisonville on the stolen horse with his feet tied under its belly.

9823
If we retain bankrupt-members - men who
send word to a land creditor, "I have paid my
debts, I will pay for my place now soon."
why should we expel a man for appropriating
a piece or two of real good horse flesh?
He only begs and swears off payment,
the other takes with less circumlocution.
Go now we go to mill - so this must be
mailed there.
Francis still has the chills, and looks
very bad - and he has got into a security
difficulty, for Marion - for a mare -
the money is now due - Marion's other debts
will however nearly eat up his tobacco
crop - his corn is about gone - so that
Frank will have it to pay - and his
tobacco will not be ready to sell before
July - Frank took a mortgage on the mare
but she went nearly blind and will be
entirely so soon - so she is not worth it -
And Marion has swapped getting a young
horse for her and twenty dollars - the mortgage
won't pay Frank therefore - I should have said some-
thing about the dresses - but Amelia is asleep,

Patesville, Hancock Co.

Kentucky, April 19th/1869

Dear Sister:- I got your letter from the Office on Friday the 15th and I take the first opportunity of replying.

We are all well - saving W. F. who has the chills after a lapse of three weeks.

We were sorry to hear of your having such a hard time with your throat, of Father having the headache so much, and that Mother and Berrie were not well, and hope that all are well by this time.

I was sorry to hear Will had lost his fine sow - and would like to know the disease that killed her - We have lost two shoats with inflammation of the lungs - and have one not entirely well yet - When the 2^d one died Mr. Jesse Stephens was at our house and he told us that Pine Tar was a certain cure in preventive - One of the pigs was out and not sick - all the rest (six) were sick - one

too sick to eat - but five eat the tarrad
corn - and got well immediately. the
little one outside which was well then
took sick shortly after, and has been
very bad, but tar keeps him improving.

They show upon dissection the
same appearance of the lungs (or lights)
that that pig of yours did that Matt.
opened a year ago when I was with
you. Mr. F. N. has lost the greater

part of his stock of shoats by a
different disease (including two chester
whites worth fifteen dollars each).

* They have a swelling of the throat and
I would call the disease Quinsy

which is an inflammation of the glands of the
throat. ... Clean styers are recommended

as a preventive ^{of the various diseases of pigs} in the Farmer's Gutter. Lime
scattered in the pens or feeding places is
also recommended. Bro. Andrew L. Rice

lost his wife about the time I wrote to
you last - she had been sick a long time -

Wm F. Gist lost his wife a week

or two ago - with Pneumonia. Two of the
children were sick too but recovered
one is now expected to die to night of the
same disease. G. W. Wine's wife (James
Rice's daughter) is ^{low} and was once
thought to be dying but is some better
cause - typhoid fever - . There has
been several cases of Scarlet Fever
one neighbour lost his wife and
two children (all he had)

There is a strange coincidence here
Man and his domestic animals having
similar complaints. I should have
said that we lost two or three sheep
by Pneumonia also.

It was interesting in the report of the
controversy between Dunn and Braden and
can see what Dunn was driving at - but I
can not at present go into the subject - nor
will I deny Spiritual visitations - but
then I would take the instructions for trying
the Spirits recorded in 1st John IV. 1, 2, 3, 5.
With respect to the sacred books of the Hindoos

the best answer to the argument he tried to make of
that is found at length in Jennings' Internal Evidence
a book that I will send as soon as returned by
Elder Robert J Bruner. There is with it Lyttleton
on the Conversion of St. Paul, and Leslie's
Method with the Deists, and a fragment of
West on the Resurrection, Watson to Paine &
Lord Lyttleton and West English Noblemen
were Deists, and conversing on the Bible,
agreed to each write a treatise on ~~one~~^{and}
subject that each would choose for himself
prove the Bible not authentic - the one choos-
the conversion of St. Paul the other the Res-
urrection - at a distance from each other
at their leisure they commenced to study
the subject in order to fit them for the
attack, they were each independently
convinced of the truth of the Bible, and were
convinced of their own personal sins, and each
was converted to Christianity, by being
born again - and wrote the treatises proving
the truth of the system by the subjects chosen
for its overthrow, and until they met to
compare works, knew not the others change

Bankrupt Acts stop the compulsory payment of debts from those who have taken advantage of them - after they have given up all property not exempt from execution by the local law. Honest men will pay their honest debts afterwards and rogues will keep all they can out of their pay. Two members of Bethlehem (Chas. Moorman, D. C. Miller) and two of Blackford Church have taken the advantage of it.

I do not think we ought to exclude them for so doing, until it is proved that fraud was contemplated.

I forgot to say that land debts were not wiped out by it.

We had a long session at our business meeting at Bethlehem to day and I was ^{put} on a committee at last meeting to collect all resolutions and decisions of a general nature and report in writing - our report occupied several pages and took a long time to dispose of as we had begun with the constituting

and copied the Covenant - Articles of Faith
Constitution and Rules of Decorum, and
thirteen Decisions, the time was
spent in trying to make and in-
making amendments. Supposing
that the Church Covenant is new to you
'not - "We, whose names are annexed"
being baptised upon a profession of
faith in Christ Jesus, and being convinced
that it is the duty and privilege of ^{professing} Christians
to be united in the bonds of the Gospel do, in this
Church Covenant, firmly agree, to give ourselves
to the Lord, and to each other, by the grace
of God, for the mutual benefit & comfort
of each other, and we do most solemnly
agree to watch over ourselves, and each
other, for edification; to keep up and
maintain a gospel discipline amongst
ourselves, agreeable to the word of God.

To endeavor to hold up the light of
the gospel of Christ before a benighted
world, to earnestly contend for the faith
once delivered to the saints, to preserve

the ordinances of Jesus Christ according
to the purity and simplicity of the Gospel -
and like true yoke fellows in the bonds
of the gospel, we do agree, and covenant with
each other, to stand together, believing
that the Lord (who hath called us out
of darkness, into the marvellous light
of his gospel) is able to hold us up,
and give us a lot amongst his sanctified
~~people~~. It is 12.5 min. so I must retire.

Sunday morning 6 o'clock - We have
Sunday School at Bethlehem to-day
at nine - Prayer meeting at ten - and
preaching at eleven - and baptizing
on the afternoon - so I must hurry
to get this ready for the mail.

There are a number of Chester
White hogs around here, and I have
never heard of one losing pigs - I
suppose - they are no worse than others

How does George get on with
young Bill? Spring seems to have
begun again - although a few days ago

[17 April 1869]

We had two snow storms, last Tuesday a heavy one lasting a half hour and whitening all out of doors. The next morning we had a big white frost but peaches were not hurt.

Amelia never soaks cotton or other goods in lye for days to color blue.

To dye red - take ¹⁰ lbs of yarn $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs Cream of tartar - and $\frac{3}{4}$ lbs alum; pound them fine and boil 15 minutes in a little rain water - then add a little cold water and put in your yarn or cloth, and boil 3 hours, stirring it often. Then take your cloth out and air it well. Throw away the above water.

Next take a sufficient quantity of rain water, so as not to crowd your cloth; put it ^{into} 3 lbs. madder and heat it over a moderate fire as hot as you can bear your hand in it.

Then put your cloth in and keep stirring 3 hours at the same heat. Then take out your cloth, and add to this water 2 qts. soft soap, and stir it up well, put in your cloth for 20 minutes and then it is ready for scouring - the cloth should be well washed before being put into the first described ^{white wool} and put in

4th. I was told will only dye woolen goods -

[17 April 1969]

² To dye Blue - You must have some yeast (dyer's yeast -) put it in a pot and put your indigo in a bag, and put it in the yeast - take an equal quantity of madder and rub it up in some wheat bran and warm water, and put it in the pot - put in a little lye (the quantity is told by taste & believe) and set in a warm place to come - it will come in a day or two (in warm weather it takes less time) when the blue all rises to the top, and it is all covered with Bubbles. it is ready - dip your cotton in lye - then in the pot, and repeat the operation after a while if not deep enough - as often as necessary to get the required color. This dye will not injure your goods, and is the only domestic dye for cotton that is permanent except Black which is made by Logwood the weight of the goods soaked 12 hrs. in rain water; then boiled an hour - Strain . . 1 oz of blue vitriol to each lb. logwood dissolve in sufficient water to wet the goods then turn the whole into the logwood dye - boil cotton goods 15 min. stirring all the time woolen and silk to be kept at scalding heat 2.0 min.

without boiling - Drain the gosses, without
wringing them, and hang them up in a
shady place to dry. When dry, put into
hot water ^(not boiling) that has salt in it, a handful
to a pailful water let them stand till cold.
Then hang up wet to dry. Boiling hot water
is to black silk best: sour milk will too.

Amelia has company and may
have made some slight mistake but I don't
think much if any.

Yours affectionate

Brother Robert

How the Librarian at Northampton?

Parsville Ky.

May 11th 74



Mrs. Martha W. Cook

P. O. Box No. 201

Du-Luin

Perry County

Illinois

If not delivered within 10 days, to be returned to

Lakesville Hancock Co. Ky.

9th. May 1869 A. D.

Dear Sister: Last Sunday the Postmistress handed me yours of the 25th - at Sunday School, and I must try to mail this to day.

We are busy now - and like the rest - behind hand - only having $\frac{1}{4}$ acre of corn planted - for roasting ears - and have been bothered this week with plows breaking &c. - and insufficient horse power - our young cattle being too much for one to manage or even two well - we can only run one plow. Besides we have had so much fencing to do, (that ought to be done in the winter) and our tobacco was just bulked for delivery last Saturday week ago (May 1st.)

We got $7\frac{1}{2}$ - 4 & 2 c per lb. for it, but the frost put all of four acres of ours, and 2 acres of the girls tobacco in the 4 & 2 list.

The plants look fine now - but the bugs are at work, and if the cool weather continues, it may be, that we might be short of plants in season.

To-morrow ^(night) we will load the first load - with the exception of John's and some trash & second. But it will weigh tolerable well (which was not frost bit)

I was sorry to hear that Mother was afraid of Bill - and hope they may trade him with for a gentle, young horse. I have often wished that I had bought him of you - I would have two teams then, and Bitham would have sold here for more after he had made a crop than ~~ever~~ asked for him.

My mare has not had a colt yet - so I can not work her for a couple of weeks.

I was sorry to hear that they wanted to take down Father's wages - now that there was no need of it, on account of over due indebtedness.

Mr. Gist's boy that was so sick, was given up to die by the Dr. and an old woman and Tom Powers used the water cure and he is now well - he had the 'Pneumonia' - they had him put in a wet sheet, at Tom's request, and the old woman kept wet cloths to his feet and gave him water to drink (which the Dr. forbade) and Tom had wet bandages put around his chest. St. L. Rice's family at home consists of - Franklin - Isaac - Jesse Samantha Joe, Herby, & Minn - and Susan - Washington is

married. W. F. N. chills regularly yet -

Our S. S. at Bethlehem thrives well since the re-organization - Our Christian at Work has not come since the Feb. no.

I believe I will write and see what is the matter. I went to Hawesville yesterday to mill and shop - but did not go to Simpson's - to try for that money - I believe he will pay it if I can ever see him with the money - But when we are so busy week days and Sunday School every Sunday - Church meetings every 3rd Sat. Temple meeting every ^{other} Saturday night (2- & 4th.) I can only hope to see him by accident, not having time to stay over night.

Did any of your artichokes keep good? Ours are up now - thick where the hogs had eat out all they could find.

We have sweet potato slips fit to set out - but we are afraid of frost yet - there being some the past two mornings; nothing hurt yet.

We have a good show for Apples & peaches for what trees we have.

I will have to send you part of this blank - for I am sleepy, and I have not looked at the Lesson for either of my classes -

Next time I may tell you what our tobacco brought - John's crop brought \$38.30 - it ought to have brought a hundred - 315 @ 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 262 @ 4 - 220 @ 2 if it had not been bit with frost - there would have been 1000 lbs - and $\frac{3}{4}$'s of that good and worth 9 cents at the least.

The dye is called Rose Aniline - or more popularly Red Coal Oil Dye. is dissolved in boiling water together with copperas, and the stuff put in to be dyed while boiling after all is dissolved, it will not dye cotton though.

Copperas and Logwood (Extract or chips if they can be had will dye the cotton black - Other dyes are either troublesome or expensive - or inaccessible to you - Your affectionate

Brother Robt

Palesville Hancock Co. Ky.

Sept. 13th 1849.

Dear Sister: - Yours of the 29 & 30th

My letter reached me after I. S. yesterday
by our F. Mistress - and I was glad enough
to get it for I imagined that you were all
worse than your letter indicated (though
you seem to have your share of troubles).

It struck me that you were just somewhat
more anxious to have money than health - or
you would not have washed when we slept.

I was sorry to hear that Befrie's eyes were
bad - and that Matt had had chills, and

Geo. dyspepsia, told Geo. to cut and lay
in the shade some smart weed, and by
the tea of it (made strong) a table spoonful
before eating - It has done a neighbour
an immense amount of good who the doctor
gave him up as bound to die. I never said
anything about the Hydrastis Can. radix sent
you - with sketches. I don't know what to
do with cases like Jennie's, indigestion is the
exciting cause -

My eyes are nearly all right - the medicine is not quite exhausted, only using it now occasionally - and the want of convenience for attending to the Hygienic and Physiological requirements, I think is the reason that the cure is not perfect.

I'm sorry that Matt. had Rheumatism - tell him I don't think. corns come down this winter, as John will be going to school and all the rest - and we will have to clear ground for tobacco next season, or make a failure - we will want nine acres if John stays - (he is of age in spring) Our tobacco is crowding us now - and we have not cut any - and took for an early frost - we have, in comparison with our neighbours a fine crop - though my last setting is badly missing, on account of the intense heat after planting. Corn is burnt up in many places so bad, that they will not make a 4th crop; ours is not hurt so much - Chills are making a very good start here - we have ^{had} none yet.

The S. J. C. wrote about trying to organize is now going on finely - The house is too small though for all to get in, that would if it were larger (say 18 by 22 ft.) It is a Baptist School. We are about to organize a Y. M. C. A. here next month. The Ministers and Deacons of Goshen Association will hold a meeting of two days at Blackford ^{next month} - They allot a subject to each of about a dozen Ministers & Deacons - and some make speeches, sermons &c. - others write essays, and afterwards they are criticized by the rest until they are satisfied - this is the first meeting of the kind in this Association.

I was sorry to hear of such bad times in the old land - I suppose some of the farming districts of Ky. will not be much better next winter & spring.

Potatoes were planted very extensively last Spring and are now a drug at 36c. but I believe the crop is not a half one.

Does the Christian at Work come regular?

I was six months in getting 3 mo.
papers. I have a club of twelve made
up now but they have not all paid so
I can't send yet. Did you ever see
Y. M. C. A. Hyman Book? We got 30
copies from Boston about a month ago -
they are first rate, and cost but 12 cts. a
copy, and contain 40 pages of tunes & 150
hymns, all A No. 1. - I intended to ^{have} sent
a copy a piece for you, but the surplus
copies were wanted and 30 more could
be sold readily - but next lot if I get any
more I will send them direct.

Amelia says go to bed and as I am writing
with a lard & rag lamp light, I guess
I had better. We had an interruption of
our S. S. by a fight and a quarrel, and
one of the parties was so much in fault, and
a member of Blackford Church - and she
retained him in fellowship with a very lame
acknowledgement - so I have had him
arrested, and the trial will come off on Thursday
& if I can't mail till then I will tell you
the particulars of the offence and of the trial.

Thursday - I am going to court now, so I will mail
this at Pelloville - You must excuse me for passing
by several times in yours - your P. M. H. -

Feltham District, Hancock Co. Ky.

Oct. 6th 1870

Dear Sister, Bro. Geo. has just come from Patesville with your letters.

The death of Johnnie was considered very likely to be the first news we would have, after ^{hearing} George's account of him.

However much we might wish to retain upon earth those we love, yet we can no more doubt the goodness & wisdom, than the justice of Him who calls them hence; and in the case of those in infancy we have then the assurance that their lot is a happy one, when if spared the troubles & sorrows, and end are all alike unknown.

But Jennie is sick, and as you ask for information (if I can give any in the case) I have an opinion, that could be very easily tested, without danger or much trouble; I believe from your description that worms are perhaps at the bottom of all her trouble, and as Santonin, an acid extract from Santonica or Worm-seed is perhaps the best vermifuge in use, and the best form to procure it for children, (though not the cheapest) is Wintersmith's Worm Candy - containing nothing else but Santonin & Sugar.

On the fourth Saturday in Sept. (2 weeks ago) late in the evening George came carrying his carpet sack; he looks much better than I expected - and I think has improved considerably - the first week he complained sometimes of his stomach a little, but last week I have never heard him say anything about it.

Felville District, Hancock Co. Ky.

Oct. 16th 1870

Dear Sister, Bro. Geo. has just come from Fatesville with your letters.

The death of Johnnie was considered very likely to be the first news we would have, after ^{hearing} George's account of him.

However much we might wish to retain upon earth those we love, yet we can no more doubt the goodness & wisdom, than the justice of Him who calls them hence; and in the case of those in infancy we have then the assurance that their lot is a happy one, where if spared the troubles & sorrow, and end are all alike unknown.

But Jennie is sick, and as you ask for information (if I can give any in the case) I have an opinion, that could be very easily tested, without danger or much trouble; I believe from your description that worms are perhaps at the bottom of all her trouble, and as Santonin, an acid extract from Santonica or Worm-seed is perhaps the best vermifuge in use - and the best form to procure it for children, (though not the cheapest) is Wintersmith's Worm Candy - containing nothing else but Santonin & Sugar.

On the fourth Saturday in Sept. (2 weeks ago) late in the evening George came carrying his carpet sack; he looks much better than I expected - and I think has improved considerably - the first week he complained sometimes of his stomach a little, but last week I have never heard him say any thing about it.

The first week of his residence here, we cut and housed tobacco every day, and he helped what he could. - last week we went to town one day with the wagon, and George went himself one day - and helped put some wheat in the ground.

The first Sunday George went to both Sunday Schools, and if he had been a little sooner on Saturday he might have been at the pic-nic, and got a ride home.

I don't know what to say about that place even if I could get it. I want some speedier way of getting out of debt and fitting up for making farming pay than by working at a disadvantage all the year round. I know I could make it pay well if I was prepared to take advantage of things that are continually within reach of those with a moderate capital. But teaching is getting to be a better business here under the new law, and I have thought that perhaps I had better qualify for that. The wages are from \$37.50 to \$75.00 pr. mo. and that in the 5 mos. from Oct. 1st - onward, leaving a chance to save the place from wreck, and raise a crop besides.

And that would suit Amelia better than ~~the~~ anything like moving off. When I first mentioned it, she hooted at it, said nobody would pay such wages, and when anybody had a home they had better stay at it. but after thinking about it she said I had better take it, and try it anyway - but I suppose the chance was never in my reach, and that a clerkship would suit me better even if it is harder and not so well paid for. So if any opportunity offers I will give it a trial. Should none offer before next fall I hope to be able to get a first class certificate and a school at about \$40.00 for five months, and hire a hand for about \$12. or \$15. pr. mo. in my room. I am intending to sow 7 acres of wheat; and John ^{will sow} about 4 1/2 acres on the shares.

Our taxes this year are desperately high, and due on the 20th Oct. \$20 ⁹²/₁₀₀. and they are only offering 30^{cts} for oats and 90 for wheat, the storage here for them being almost all filled. & I would like to retain the wheat to grind and the oats till I can get 40 or 50 cents pr. bushel, so that I would have enough to sow without buying in the Spring at 60 or 75 cts.

Aunts Mary & Martha have thanks for there nice souvenirs.

I have been trying to get George to write - but he says that it will take him two weeks. -- Monday night, Oct. 30th

George was persuaded to write on next page to-day - and as it is raining with a poor prospect of fair weather before Wednesday when I have to start to the Association on Rough Creek I must try and finish to night.

George rather misunderstood me about coming, as you will see by a comparison of the second and fourth pages of this sheet.

Emelia sympathizes with you in your troubles.

She talked over the subject of my coming to Egypt last night, and favors the plan if enough can be made to cover present indebtedness, and start right with.

Give her compliments to Mother for the handkerchief she sent her. Prof. Jas. W. Jolly is going to lecture and teach English Grammar at Rice's School House at night beginning the 1st. Monday night in November, and I signed and would like to go; He uses the blackboard extensively and is an A. No. 1 teacher. My space is filled nearly and my eyes sore with firing my tobacco. So good bye - Yours &c Robt.

Hawesville October 10th 1870

Dear Sister: I went to the postoffice last week where I received two letters from you, which pleased me very much till I heard of Johnnys death, which I was very sorry of.

I think If I was home again I would try and controul my temper better than I did before. When I read your letter I thought of the way I had acted to Mother and Father of which I was very sorry of, and think I will do better hereafter.

Our old place at Hawesville dose not look as well as it did before we left it, the house over the celler has disappeared, and the vine yard has all gone to reck, there is only (2) two rows of vines now.

Brunts old place looks just as much better as ours is worse; the apples trees are a good size bearing a good looking red apple. The house also looks better from haveing a room made to correspond with the one on the other side of the house. I got hear too late for to get many of the peaches; but what I have seen of them was a very large fine yellow free stone peach of which I would like to have some of the same kind if they would produce the same kind from seed which Robert thinks they will. It cost me \$3.50 to cairo. 50 cents from cairo to Paduca \$ 5.00 from Paduca to Evansville and \$ 3.00 from Evansville to Hawesville, ^{& five cents for apples.} making in all (\$ 12.05) twelve dollars and five cents. To day I was asking Robert when he could come down with me; when he told me that If he got the chance of that job he would come soon; but If not. he could not get ready before the 1st of November, so If he dose not get it I will not wait of him. There is an express office in Hawesville so you can send the money. I am more from your affectionate Brother
George Hann

When is the fair to held at Du Quoin? Tell Father to examine the budded trees and see if the strings want loosning

At home, Sunday Evening Oct. 23rd/70

Dear Sister:

You know that I was glad to get a letter from you without any bad news whatever.

George got dissatisfied and left without waiting for a sufficient time to start upon, although I told him it was insufficient, and that if I could get that job that I would come with him.

I have taken your advice and have written to Wall to ask for it and enclose the letter that you might either get Father to enclose in an envelope and put in the DuQuoin P. O. as I did not know his No.; or that Father could perhaps deliver it in person, (if that is not asking too much) For or doing, a direct and immediate answer might be given.

I would like to have time to give it a trial before spring opens, and have time to make arrangements for the coming crop, if I did not suit, or if I did to make suitable contracts with the boys to run the farm themselves.

I borrowed one dollar of George's money, and he was in such a terrible hurry, that I was unable to pay him - but could have done it an hour after I left him.

I don't understand writing letters of the description enclosed, and Father can use his own judgement as to the propriety of delivering or sending it to Mr. Wall. One thing is certain however, I want some way of buying tax receipts, without paying 100 per cent

as I am afraid I will have to do this year if compelled to sell at present rates.

The boys are not back yet from Breckenridge Co. and Amelia wants to go, not having been there for nearly twenty years.

Tell George to write another account of his return trip, and that if I come, I will bring the trees I spoke of.

Your Affectionate Brother

Robert Wynn

Post Office

The P. O. is now in different hands.



Mrs Martha Cook

Box No. 98

La Luoin

Perry Co

Ill. is

9823

Health. — Imperfect
appetite. — irregular
Sleep. — Disturbed.

Periodical. — Cited

Mental state Stationary
No Restoration of variable
M. S. C. 1011

Home, Mar. 4th /71

Dear Sister. I lost no time by staying at your house on Monday night, as the packet does not leave before 5 p.m. & there is no boats on Monday.

The river being very high and rough the packet was probably fifteen or twenty hours late, but I got a New Orleans & Cincinnati boat, and got away about 8 o'clock Tuesday night, landing in Hawesville, Thursday night about seven o'clock.

It rained very heavy, but I got home that night about nine and it was well that I did for the next day the creeks were over the banks, and I could not have

crossed on foot, for I could not get down with the wagon for my Box.

I found all well. Amelia & the two smallest girls have delivered their tobacco, bringing them some sixty two dollars I believe.

Angeline's is stripped but not delivered.

The bushes I think will all live. I have them all out, and the grape vines in the ground.

The Rhubarb I got from Georg looks better than when I got them, but I have not divided them as yet having no place ready but will to-morrow. Expense of the trip home including baggage - was \$15.40. Less than I expected.

The school was out on Friday and I had to go in the evening as the other trustees had called a meeting at the School House. But few came but we got some of the money, and settled the teacher's board in without the use of money.

To-day and yesterday also were like Spring and it is clear and pleasant to night. but the land is too wet to plow - or to burn.

I have'nt got that likeness yet but will at the first opportunity, and either send it direct, or to Mother.

I will enclose some tobacco seed for
W^m Johnson - which should be sure to sow
only on land that has never been cultivated
burning it first with brush to destroy
all seeds or roots, and to make the plants
grow.

Francis has finished sowing oats having
in about 12 acres, but it is too muddy
now to sow, and will probably rain
before it ^{is} dry enough.

This morning a young man from
this neighborhood starts for DuQuoin.
Though what he will do to better himself
there I don't know - and told him so.

Yours A. Robt



Hancock Co. Ky.

April 8th 1871

Dear Sister:-

Your note in pencil has been on hand over a week but to-morrow is my first chance to mail. Besides that I have nothing to write. All are well - tobacco all off - Angelina's brought \$48.85 - John's \$113.25 - Jim's \$84.00 - Mine \$131.25 - Amelia's I forget what but I believe I told you before. George will see by a look at these figures how much I beat the rest - yet I had but 2033 lbs. off three acres, while a neighbour had 1600 lbs and upwards off one acre; cause of this difference deep plowing - oft plowing and high manuring.

We were sorry to hear that Matt. and father were not well.

Father ought to know now that it won't do for him to try hard work like lifting, even

occasionally.

Wheat looks uncommon well here - we ~~have~~ just finished sowing oats on the 6th. I have sown 15 bushels, besides my peck of Norway - and John 5 bushels.

We are crowded with work now; our logs are pretty thick on the corn and tobacco land and not cut yet - and no ground broke -

I think your conclusions are correct, give according to what you have, and not according to what you hav'nt.

Charity begins at home, is a much abused saw - but there's where it should begin, and not stop there, though the passing of substantials may, if they are needed more there than any contemplated place for it is not charity to pinch the poor to pay the rich even though he may write

Rev. before his name.

It has been cloudy or rainy every time I have ~~not~~ been in town, so I have not been able to get the picture yet - and it promises to be so again to-morrow.

Tell M. that every bush I got from him is looking as well as if they had never been moved - and pretty generally so the others look well.

I should have liked to have heard about the ~~a~~ new Co.s if you had had the time.

Has Mr. Davison moved yet?

Yours &c. Rob^t Winn

Hawesville, Ky.

Hancock Co. Ky.

June 16th 1871

Dear Sister:

Yours of the 2nd was handed me on the 10th.

Harvest is on hand such as it is badly damaged by rust - straw fallen, and very light, (though heavy enough cutting the tangled mess. John cut part of his wheat and give it up as unprofitable. I have cut about 3½ acres:

Oats hurt in the start by drought have received another dose of the same medicine, and the rust is now showing itself on them.

No tobacco set yet for want of rain. Health pretty fair.

Corn wants plowing - grass will soon do to cut, Oats ditto, if there are any - so I can't write much

Francis and me went to see a cane mill and pans &c belonging to Frank Gist (James husband). we could have got it for \$30⁰⁰ \$10⁰⁰ down the rest in the spring. We were to give him an answer as soon as possible and Francis living within a stone's throw of Frank's father, I told him to send word by him that we would take - he never said he would not so I concluded that he would but I learned when it was too late that he would not - consequently Frank swapped his mill for a \$60⁰⁰ spring wagon - and we will have to give a third of our molasses and perhaps let the cane spoil before we can get it made up.

Marion, Francis and me have 3 acres in partnership - working equal - customary rent $\frac{1}{3}$. customary toll $\frac{1}{3}$. What part of the whole

whole is mine after toll is paid? (I get
the rent.)

You did not say what Uncle Prior was doing
at that price - whether on land or sea?

What is Rick^d doing?

What Smith is that you speak of as N. Supt?
I've I guess Supt^d the enterprise?

And by your not saying anything about
the new Co. I suppose that they are
locked up yet for want of means.

I made an application to the County
Court for a change in the Bedford
road, and it is viewed out - running
right through Michael Stephens' fields
crossing the creek below the mill
and passing through a corner of ours
thence up nearly to Francis' going
through the side of two of his fields
up to the old road near the school
house - George will understand the
advantage it will be to us best - it
will save us $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile in distance, or

two long hills the worst on the road
to the city now that Carey hill is fixed,
lengthened and graded.

Michael Stephens applied for a
levee across Blackford bottoms, and
they did the same thing as respect it,
by granting \$50⁰⁰ to construct said
levee - \$500⁰⁰ would probably do it.

So we got up a petition and have
a number of names to it - to show
the magistrates that the people are in
earnest for a levee. Money is freely
granted for the River Roads and for
Clerk's whims as \$40 dollars granted
to take out the sliding glass doors
and put in doors with hinges in the
new County Clerk's office not
much over a year old.

Annelia can't see how wire will
do to sleep on - she thinks goose hair
the best in use. We have never heard
from Jesse since he left - which is not
so pleasant when he likes whiskey but
hush about that. Yours Robert

St. H. Paul was murdered near my Ind.

Waneseck Co. Ky.

August-13th

Dear Sister:

Nine weeks
to-day. I mailed my last to you
On Friday last (the 11th Aug)
called at the P.O. as I had
for some time, fully expected
to hear from you, and was
disappointed.

Fearful that some
I write again - for it
was lost.

Should any thing
prevent you write
and get some for
sent; on purely for

We have had
drought here.
we had one to
weeks hot sun
signs of it in

have all our stock to water
of our small springs, causing
great deal of labor drawing water
Here is an enumeration of the
ck we have to draw water for
1 mule 1 yoke oxen. 3 cows
and young cattle 18 sheep 22 geese
and pigs. about 100 chickens and
Water for house use to carry up
". We frequently have to let
supplied, after emptying
".

has been very poorly
by the press of work.
not been well either
swelled feet (poisoned
) Bell has had light
proving however.
me trouble with
about well of that
a large boil under

We are going to try to get the
land divided - and to do it by mutual
consent without courts and lawyers
Amelia making all the deeds and
all signing every one except their own.
We will employ A Surveyor and two
chain carriers, who will be empowered
to make the division

Enclosed I send a miniature for
Aunt Mary - can't get a better yet,
but may in cooler weather.

In my next I have some
interesting local news.

Yours truly
Robert Winn

Hoanock County, Ky.

August 20th 1871

Dear Sister:

Your anxiously
looked for letter of July and
August reached me last
night - fully explaining the
delay by the sad history of
your troubles. Right here let
me thank you for the clear account
you gave me of them - and allow
me to say that although nothing
more was written than I would
have liked to have known, yet
I can not help thinking that in
the midst of so much trouble,
and after such exhausting
labor and anxiety, that in
writing so much you must
have done yourself an
injustice. I hope however
that you may have no such

new is the driving by 3 men of a wooden
woman out of her house at midnight after having
troubles to encounter, when
~~you~~ write again and that my
caution may be unnecessary.

The C. Union - supplement to
same containing the beginning
of 'My Wife and I' and also
Marshall's Washington - have
come, and I thought that I had
acknowledged the receipt of them
in my last.

Now I venture to prophesy
that you have now proud
flesh' in the cut on your
finger - providing that you
have not destroyed it by an
escharotic. If that is the
case use 'Nitrate of silver' as
I believe it is the best.

Amelia's thumb was full
of proud flesh, when she had
the felon, and I used it on hers
successfully.

The principal item of the
She had some Dr. to cut it
who made an insufficient
opening - giving no relief.
I laid it bare to the bone for
at least an inch - and she had
some trouble with pieces of bone
coming out for a time and it
filled with proud flesh - but the
caustic soon eat it out.

I reckon Drs. Lee & Keely must
have been mistaken, in their
estimate of Jennie's sense.
for she could certainly tell where
the pain was better than a
thousand diploma-ed Drs.

I hope however that by the
administration of proper worm
remedies - and keeping the
head cool and feet warm,
that she will be well of the
disease - and the Blister.

It is a pity that Matt. cannot.

Particulars in next - also some account of the parties.

get some employment better suited to his physical condition than either digging tipping or trimming - Exercise for him should be moderate - air pure - and not much solar heat. Neither farming nor mining has these conditions to offer.

I wish Bessie could be induced to write - I certainly would like to hear from her direct.

Drought still continues and a famine seems almost inevitable.

Health of all moderate, I have had about \$20 worth of bills and now have about \$20 more, but I can't cash them, there being no demand for any of Job's troubles. I will have to leave the local news that I promised to my next, or lose a week in sending this.
So excuse me
Yours Robt.

(Y. p. m.) J. W. Wynn

At home, Hancock Co. Ky

Am m Sept 29th 1871

Dear Brother:

To-morrow I must if possible go to the city - so I must write - - Here I had to stop and make out a bill of wants.

Your letter was mislaid so I could not at present note its contents even if time permitted - but I will try and fulfil my promise to give you some local news of some interest.

On the night of the 5th day of August, about midnight, John J. and James L. Rice, (sons of old Mr. James Rice who lives on the opposite hill to us) and W^m Allen Hyde son in law of the same Jim, broke into the house of a widow lady who had only her little girl of twelve years with her, and but for a neighbour's dog coming up, causing them to get

out to see if any one was coming, thus giving them a chance to escape, they would have killed them.

That such was their intention I conclude from two facts.

1st. They were undisguised.

2nd. They or one of them struck a blow with a board or some piece of wood edge ways sufficient to have caused death if the woman had not got under the bed in time.

Well a few of us came to the conclusion that men base enough for that were unsafe in our vicinity, and thought it best to try the law would not take hold of them.

John Nix, to whose house the woman fled in her night dress, had them arrested for breach of the peace and assault - a low style of action for such an offense - but Circuit court did not meet until next January.

The three were tried together, but John Martin was on the jury, so it

hung - the majority would have given them \$30. fine and 15 days in our cage. Then a new trial was necessary, so the prisoners counsel insisted upon a separate trial for each offender - Wm Allen Hyde being tried first.

The woman and girl testified to the fact, being the only witnesses for establishing ~~the~~ identity of the prisoner, and that John T. was there too.

Jim Rice Sr. testified that John T. was at his house all night. That Mrs. Holmes was a bad woman, respected by nobody, and nobody would take her oath.

Then 15 witnesses near neighbours of old Jim's and of the woman, testified of the woman's good character in the neighbourhood and that they would ~~not~~ take ~~Jim~~ her oath. and of Jim's bad reputation and that they would not

take his oath. So Jimmij's name
came out blacker than the womans.
The result was Allen got fined
\$30 and 5 days in jail. The rest
compromised.

Since then Jim is threatened with
prosecution for incest, and I think
is about leaving this neighbourhood.
He had to leave for marking another
man's hogs a number of years ago
and was out of the state some six
years I believe.

I find too that a neighbour
shot him during the war stealing
corn. The ball went through the
calf of his leg.

Just think now, and that is the
same chap that the boys plagued
you about as intended father in law.
And that girl.

Excuse me for the present, and
write oftener. Yours truly Robt Worn

At home, New York Co. Ky
October 8th 1871

Dear Sister:

Yours of the 8th.

I got last night - and as it demands an immediate reply, and I expect a chance to mail to morrow - I will write a little.

While I think - my address is Box 23 - in addition to the old way.

Amelia says if Bessie comes she will do the best she can to make her comfortable. She is afraid that our house is too old to suit her, but the front doors were tight and the house underpinned it would be a warm house in the county. We have an 8 in. log wall and two inches of dutch plaster over that. If she is coming let me know and I will get a lounge (they are cheap at the factory) for her to sleep

on she could be attended to.
We have plenty of beds but the
rooms they are in are too cold - and
we can't put up one in the warm room
very well.

We are all suffering somewhat
from colds (catarrh) - and Amelia and
the girls are not much unlike chills, but
the remedy being at hand they never last
long.

I expect to take a job of digging for
Jim Snyder our Representative in the Leg^{is}.

I have a contract in partnership
with the other Trustees to repair and
furnish the School house - amounting
to about twenty odd dollars.

John, Kate, and Belle are
all well and Jim will start next
week. He will aim to get a certificate
at next annual examination - and that
is pretty hard to do - but if he goes the
term out I believe he will get it.

I take it for granted that Matt will be
along with me and Bess.
Yours Robt Winn

[ca. Oct. 1871]

I suppose that the truth in regard to Jacksonville I. A. would not be favorable - yet I have no doubt. But that there are exaggerations and misrepresentations in regard to it in the book you speak of.

The fact is some kinds of mania requires (what persons whose knowledge of mental diseases is limited would call) hard treatment.

Our A. at Hopkinsville is in good hands however - we had a neighbour, a brother of Jeff. Matthews, taken there, his health had been bad - doctors were employed who gave him quinine and morphine - and became deranged under the ^(use of the) latter drug.

He was well treated - given very little medicine, and treated mostly with water - and came home sound in mind and strong in body in a very short time - He is now on the Miss. River keeping a store boat.

I would oppose the use of morphine in the case of any one mentally deranged - as dangerous.

And the other medicines now taken would not be very safe - for another such spell would carry her off.

Mrs. Lyman's advice if a good institution could be found would be the best - for unless nature works a cure of the disease causing the aberration - she will not get right mentally without removing the cause.

He was well treated - given very little medicine, and treated mostly with water - and came home sound in mind and strong in body in a very short time - He is now on the Miss. River keeping a store boat.

I would oppose the use of morphine in the case of any one mentally deranged - as dangerous.

And the other medicines she was taken would not be very safe - for another such spell would carry her off.

Mrs. Leyman's advice if a good institution could be found would be the best - for unless nature works a cure of the disease causing the aberration - she will not get right mentally without removing the cause.

But if that was removed, and Dr. Hulce might remove it, without the trouble of a visit there - a change of air, and cold water to give sleep - 't be all that was necessary.

But whether Hulcee is employed or not - a change of circumstances of surroundings might with water treatment be sufficient, and would certainly be better than the drugging she is now getting - for be it remembered that morphine will make a man crazy, who uses it to procure sleep for any length of time.

If the cause even was removed she would recover sooner among comparative strangers like us than at home - as her mind could be the more easily kept of the subject of her monomania.

The season is too far advanced to undertake a trip in the wagon as proposed - if they have not started already - and the jolting, and suffering from cold and thirst would be too much I am thinking for Bessie.

The River is low and two routes suggest themselves - 1st If they determine to go to see Hulcee go to Odin and take the O & N R R to Seymour where by another change of cars they can go to Louisville or opposite to L.

2nd. Come by Vincennes and Evansville. For there is no certainty in getting up from Cairo now.

I would like particularly well for Bessie to come, and get well here, and leave without a particle of certain old notions she used to have.

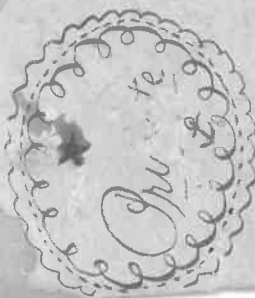
Evansville
Rock Co. Ky.

be the more easily kept of the
subject of her monomania.

The season is too far advanced
to undertake a trip in the wagon
as proposed - if they have not started
already - and the jolting, and
suffering from cold and thirst
would be too much I am
thinking for Bessie.

The River is low - and two
routes suggest themselves - 1st
If they determine to go to see Kulees
go to Odin and take the O & C M R R
to Seymour - where by another change of car
they can go to Louisville or opposite to L.
2nd. come by Vincennes and Evansl.
For there is no certainty in getting up
from Cairo now.

I would like particularly well for
Bessie to come, and get well here,
and leave without a particle
of certain old notions she
used to have.



R. Winn

Box 23

Hawkinsville
Hancock Co. Ga.

At home, Hancock Co
Nov. 15th 1871

Dear Sister: Yours of the 29th is before me, and should have been answered but the fact of the matter is I had nothing much to write about and I would not need to write now for any thing I have to say, but I want to hear from you how B. gets on. 'We are enjoying' a ~~streak~~ ^{day before} of winter now, had a heavy snow storm yesterday - snow enough fell to have covered the ground a foot or so if it had not melted in the slush of what was on the ground - but little seen, and the branches still running to-day. We have made up our mind to get our corn out yet - and had to go yesterday to help Frank raise a corn and to-day, and to-morrow to put out a new road from Caney Creek past Rice's School House. My hands are that sore and stiff with working in the wind handling frosty logs I suppose it will try your

In the world I've gained my knowledge,
And for it I've had to pay;
Though I never went to college,
Yet I've heard the poets say—

Life is like a mighty river; ~~Rolling~~ ^{rolling} on from day to day,
Men are vessels ~~launched~~ ^{cast} upon it, Sometimes wrecked and

Then do your best for one another, Making life a pleasant dream,
To help a worn and weary brother, Pulling hard against the stream.

Many a bright good hearted fellow, Many a noble minded man
Finds himself in water shallow, Then assist him if you can.
Some succeed at every turning, Fortune favors every scheme,
Others too tho' more deserving, Have to pull against the stream.
Then do your best &c.

If the wind is in your favor And you've weather'd every
Squall
Wink of those who lukewarm labor Never get fair winds at all.
Being hard contented willing, Struggling thro' life's ocean wide;
Friend, and not a shilling, Pulling hard against the tide.
Then do your best &c.

to foolish sorrow. Let this keep you in good cheer:
Come to morrow, if you try and persevere;
Nights will have a morning
The sky be overcast;
Tides will have a turning,
The tide will turn at last.
best &c.

Miss M.
to Mr. M.
yet - but often some
same subject.

Dec. 17th. 1.

Hancock Co.

Dear Sister: - Yours of 6th. Dec. reached me on the marked "misent to Smithton ha forwarded date" I was glad that Bessie had got into the hos for I never believe much in homent in such cases, even wh good physicians can be had attend them, much less in that can not be done.

There are various rea this - perhaps the great that remarks will be aggravate the mania,

How does William manage the children?

We were sorry to hear that was so weak.

Amelia has had a hard time with tooth-ache - and lost a great

sleep in consequence - so she is
well in feeling at least.

We have finished gathering corn
and have about a half crop - some
hundred bushels.

What hogs we have left we will
let fatten on corn, with the
attention of one.

Hogs are all very lousy, and
hard, but are too wild to
do any thing done to rid them

Friday, Dec. 23 d. To-morrow John
to Town, so I must get ready
and when I explain that last
I whitewashed the room we
after dark, and just got to
about 2 a.m. you will not expect
to write much.

We are having almost steady cold
weather the past two months - but the
snow is melting to night.

How did Wm. G. make out
his renter? What is Father
now that you say the Union is done
I could not get stamps in
so I did not send the Press, and
will consequently enclose
rich scrap on the Schism;
Lexington Christian Church

I can't say anything about Wm.
Rights to night - but perhaps I'll
refer you to Eva Van Arsdale. See
for a full answer, and if I
a chance to come down I
I may bring my man
I must close, or my eye
and I am anxious to go
off, lest you might not see
after you got this, and I do
not hear a report of progress
in Bessie's case.

Yours &c Robt Win

Wancock Co Ky.

Jan. 25th 1872

Dear Sister:

Yours of the 16th.
reached me on the 22nd. and I
was glad to hear the favorable
part of the Supp^r's report. The
time was too short to expect
much more.

Sorry to hear Matt. is not
well. All well here as common
saying. Amelia has a spell of
chronic rheumatism in her arm,
(as I had some time ago) and I
have c. r. pretty generally but
not ~~as~~ bad as I have had it.

Carise leaky boots.

We have got the land divided
at last. Our lot is 50 acres
nearly - and Gate & Bell's share
of 84 acres adjoining. Between 35
and 40 acres of mine is cleared - and

acres of L & B's. I will enclose a plot of the place as divided for George. The line between No. 3 and No. 4 is 7 poles to far north, by mistake of a figure upon the surveyors part and will be rectified as soon as the weather will admit.

W. F. N. drew lots marked J.M.N. W. F. G., he having two shares, and swapped - and talks now of refusing to have the line rectified ~~as~~ it was agreed upon by the Commissioners - but he can not help it.

I have a great deal of fencing to do - as the two longest lines of mine are without fence - and brier and hazel thickets to clear up. And a great quantity of manure to haul out.

But the weather is so we can not haul any thing half the time but the fire wood &c. with barefooted

horses. I have taken Jim in as a cropper this year for $\frac{1}{4}$ of the corn and $\frac{1}{2}$ of the tobacco - the latter share on account of the extra work to do - of the eight acres for tobacco to be to clear - and there is a good deal of work upon the corn ground, besides a barn to build, and probably over a mile of fence to build.

George is a first rate writer and as he is studying metallurgy or something of that sort I think that he might enlighten us a little and lighten you a little sometimes when time presses so.

Don't imagine we are in the habit of keeping ~~stirring~~ until 2 a.m. when 8 to 9 is our bed time generally.

I suppose that I have said my say, and had better quit saying. So. Good Night - Robt Winn

The Christmas gift from Mother
came all right - and just helped
me out of a scrape - for coffee.

But really I ought not to get any
for I never give any.

Hancock Co. N.Y.

Feb. 25th 1876

Dear Sister:— Yours of the 18th was ready and 3 C.Us when I went to mill on the 22nd. I will try and get some rennett the first opportunity and save it for when wanted it is hard to get. — But first let me explain about them boots. I know very well it is "penny wise" to wear shoes of any kind or leaky boots on a farm here in the winter — and accordingly I got what ought to have been a good pair last fall, but they were not, and I had to take them to the shop where they were made directly — then they failed again and I took them to Bergenroth as soon as I could — but they had leaked some time — and had to stay there some time and my old ones leaked — consequently rheumatism bothered me — I have always had credit enough for what I needed in the stores but with little tobacco (about enough to pay the taxes I didn't like to use it.



Be that as it may I had money enough on hand (for supplies furnished teacher) to pay \$450 down for a pair when I got your letter.

Nevertheless the help kindly offered deserves my grateful remembrance.

The greenback will therefore be enclosed with this - and if I can make this year a real good crop I will be ready to begin paying what I already owe.

We were sorry to hear that Bessie was not improving - but can't believe in bad treatment at the asylum.

You seem not to have understood the plot - for want of knowledge of the sales &c. previous to the division. Well by the will, Amelia had the whole estate 408 acres for life, The whole to be sold at her death on one, two, and three years credit, and the proceeds divided. This placed the larger part of it unprofitable to any and a burden to us. Marion first gave his interest away almost, and I bought

it of the purchaser for \$250.00 -

Wm. F. bought Jas L.'s interest for \$300.00 - John W. bought Angelines' for the same amount.

C. & B. are under age and their shares are undivided and under our control.

First step in dividing was to lay off an equal share without estimating the improvements which was about 15 1/2 acres for us. Then divide the remainder into four parts according to equality. then draw for parts, and Jesse and Jane's ^{names} were on one ticket and that was then divided.

I would certainly have the house insured in such a place, where no amount of carefulness can be a sufficient protection from a total loss by fire. I don't know any thing about the Franklin - I notice that the Aetna and Phoenix of Hartford let, are patronized by our wealthiest merchants, and I suppose because they are -

considered the safest. Be sure
that there is no Mutual to any
Fire Insurance Co. either in name
or practice - then that they are
strong enough. With regard to the Life
Insurance upon the Endowment plan - that
is not peculiar to the ~~United~~ Union-Central
but perhaps the rates are a shade lower upon
the endowment plan than some others. The
main thing however is to have sufficient
strength in a Co. the rates vary but little,
and I suppose from the Statements of the
U. C. that is sufficiently strong. The fact
of men who ought to know, going into it is
some guarantee. If you take a policy be
sure that is ~~upon~~ the non-forfeitable that
is if you fail to meet any payment the
policy is good for ~~such~~ ^{some} part of the amount
insured ~~with~~ at least equal to the amount
of premiums paid. A comparison of the
tables of the company will show which plan
is best. If you determine - act promptly - I think
no one who has a reasonable prospect of being
able to pay premiums should neglect life
insurance. Upon the Mutual plan your
premiums would either become less for the
twenty years, or the policy would be increased.

[25 Feb. 1872]

I have always forgot when I had the opportunity to get the marriage certificate of Bessie's. But I will write immediately to Jas E. Stone for it, and send by Francis to-morrow.

We were sorry to hear of so many being sick - all are tolerable here just now - Kate has had two sick spells yielding to home treatment readily, and Amelia has something like rheumatism in her left arm.

I am offered $\frac{7}{8}$ ¢ 4 & 3 for my tobacco - and I guess I will have 400 lbs in all.

The weather has been rather better the past week giving us five working days.

The blockade is now broken, and I would suppose over for a season, the ice being all from above the Falls that was passing on Thursday.

A letter from George would be welcome in these parts.

John is still preparing to build.

Yours as Robert Winn Box No. 23.

I have the note ready to send to Bro.
Stone - and will expect the certificate before
I write again.

Wancock Co. Ky. May 6th 1872

Dear Sister: Three days ago I got yours of the 21st. and about a week before a letter from Bessie.

By the contents of it I would suppose she was some better than when you were there, though not right by a good deal.

She seems to take some interest in home affairs, but thinks that she can never get back. . . . From all I can judge by fully as bad cases have been cured.

We were sorry to hear that Jennie was so bad with measles, for they often leave bad effects in bad cases.

We hope that Matt's indisposition will pass off with his boil - I would recommend him to try frequent small doses of salts, if more boils should begin to come.

Sorry to hear that Father ^{had} lost his mare, if he should ever have another to take the bolts let him try - ^{warm} Sweet milk and molasses one pint each and a tablespoonful of black pepper I saved a colt that was nearly dead once with that. Mix by shaking together in a Bottle and drench the horse. Follow by good feed and a little Gentian Root, and Carbonate of Ammonia with the feed, to increase the appetite and support the strength.

We were glad to hear that he had got a gentle one that was young also.

We have only about eight acres of corn planted yet, and have a good deal of fence to put up before we can plant or prepare the ground for the remainder.

The dry weather and the frost last week together have started the bugs on tobacco plants, but it is now very warm and looks like we might have some rain soon, which will save them if it continues warm.

Oats look poorly on account of drought; Wheat looks well.

I sent for the Union last week, can't do without it, if it does pitch in to Temperance Orders editorial.

I mailed a N.Y. paper last Monday to you, of Republican politics. I would like to have a Tribune with the Bolters Platform in if they made any, and then I can judge what sort of a thing a Democrat is to be in the next canvass, and speculate upon the chances of Grant and the Republicans being beaten by Greeley and the Democrats.

We have a plague here in the shape of caterpillars nearly every fruit tree is full of them and many are killed ^{and} eaten up in such a manner that the fine prospect for fruit will be blasted.

There has also been a few cases of small pox near Hawesville, creating the usual terror and that has a funny side to it, but I must quit and write to Bessie before I mail. Yours & Robt Winn jr.

Wancock Co. Ky. Dec. 16th 1875

Dear Sisters,

Your long looked for letter reached me on the 11th - but the following Sunday was our monthly meeting day at Mt Vernon, and it was a drizzly day, and I did not get back until feeding time, and I did not care to write, as I could not mail for some time.

With the letter there came also the back chapters of "He and our neighbors" and two Christian Unions, and in it you told us for all of us, and I only think the poor are poor now as any body can well be with nothing to eat and to wear.

I mailed a bundle of Maggie Hardie's letters in she is on her way.

Our corn turn out less than I expected but I think that we will have some to spare; it is only so etc here now, so many are selling corn to pay taxes, and to get winter's goods, as credit has played out with all bad payers, and many have quit who have good credit; we expect it to be 75 or \$1.00 next summer.

Belle has been sick about two months. Has a chill every day - take them but once (for five days) with black haw bark - she has taken a bottle of castor, that generally would stop the chills on two or three - and a lot of quinine without but little effect.

She has a good deal of cough at nights too. Some has had the chills about as long but without the cough.

Last winter I was ordered to open and put in repair a piece of road, by the County Court, and instructed by the County Attorney to put in culverts where necessary.

I completed the work, and at the Court of Claims in Oct. I presented my bill and had it allowed -

The allowances made at the Court of Claims are published in the Plaindealer -

When working the road I had one considerable bridge put by the hands and some were rather contrary, and among several hard things that were said, it was said by one that I would charge the county for the bridge.

Well they watched and found an allowance of \$24.45 to R. Winn - and concluded that that must be for the bridge so they go to the County Court in Nov. and represent that the allowance was unjust, as they built the bridge; the county attorney, being a personal friend, sought out my bill, and read the items, and there was no bridge there, but in spite of all he said, the wooden headed magistrates reduced the allowance \$15.00. So I will lie out of the money at least three years, for I suppose that I can not do anything until next Court of Claims and the allowances then made are payable the year after.

I have been repeatedly urged to run for Magistrate in the district, and the Co. Att'y. urges me to - and I believe I would stand a pretty good chance, if I don't let some body stronger get the track, so I have concluded to try next May election.

Our present set followed the example of Congress and raised their pay from \$2. to \$5 per day, which is too much entirely -

Our wheat looks tolerably well to be so late sown, the weather has been favorable so far - the only hard spell we had there was snow over it.

I had begun to think that my claim against U.S. was done for. I had heard nothing so long from Niles, but about two weeks ago he wrote for my discharge paper and appointment as Hospital Steward - just as if I had neglected to send it - when in fact he told me that he would let me know when he wanted it again. I suppose from that that there is yet some hope, but how long it will take to unwind all the red tape I can't guess.

I have sold my young mare to John Nugent for \$100 = one half in one year the other half in two years. there is no sale for stock except on time - present - nor will there be in the Spring for there is not much produce to sell to bring money.

I thought I had seen more corn than feed it to unproductive stock. I still have two mules and the mare - and more land than I could cultivate (all good land) and my barn is but commenced and I require two hands at it, so as Jim sold his farm - I concluded to take him as a cropper next year - setting in to work now for $\frac{1}{5}$ of every thing but the wheat, me to have all that.

Perhaps Geo. would like to know something about the Orange - I will just say that we can get first class sewing machines at 50 per cent. discount, of different makers, that is however a secret of the trade - and the better class of farming implements at largely reduced rates. But few have been enabled to take advantage of these offers in our neighbourhood through the scarcity of Legal Tenders.

The Sec^y Treasury I see again recommends the withdrawal of Legal Tenders, and substituting in lieu thereof Black Backs, that is the Government is now getting money (the use of it) without interest, and he desires to pay interest and help the banking class to another hold on the people.

P.S. Did I understand you that Uncle Robert
was coming to America?

I have never heard any thing about Father and Geo.'s new house
except that it was to be brick - can't tell its size, shape, or cost.
Don't know what Geo. has done on the plantation. Can't he
write some little?

Did the Sample Card of letters come? And if so, what
are they like?

Hancock Co. now has a 'new house.' the Hawes'
farm has been purchased for that purpose at a cost of
about \$7000 I believe.

I am busy now lathing and plastering a bed room - we have no
fire in it, and it is too cold to sit in. (Room where Geo. slept.)

I have tore away the old door from the east end and weather
boarded it up, putting the stairs up in the kitchen, and a
window in the place of the upstairs door.

Now as to that canvassing I am of the same opinion as
Father, that it won't pay, with the physical strength you have,
and the other demands upon it.

We have been having debates at the school house once a week
and some nights more fun than a circus I believe - next week
however a new arrangement comes in - each member
lectures on whatever he chooses - here is some of the subjects
Temperance (Jim) Education (Pitchie) Free Schools (Gilmore) Farming
(Frank Gist) Grange (R. Winn). I anticipate a good time, though
some part of the programone will have to be laid over, for each
speech is open to criticism; and if these five average a half
hour each, there will be no time for any thing else.

Hoping to hear from you in less than two and a half
months I am yours truly Robt. Winn