

a father the idea of
such a thing he is and
together so bad I
wish he could.

Goodbye I send you
love and all very done
Sister Wright to love
in god. it takes her
a long time to write.
Biddy sends much love
to all and so do I
yours devotedting
Mittie Gibson

March 26th 1877

Dear Mama I received your letter
yesterday I thought you never
would write.

Biddy's cough is over and wont
have it any more. I am very fat
what I call fat.

Aunt Sarah would have written
but she has been so busy she
has not written to any one
the last has been sick.
then Miss Jilly with Sally.

So she never had time to write.
Cousin Lizzie H. Ream Uncle
Preston Sister in law died
the other day and what
do you think Aunt Blodie
married the other day. So Edie
has a stepfather and that
allful. I dont expect
to have one unless you
marry. The Governor is
broke so we had to stay
at home did not go to
Sunday School.
It was weight cold
this to day I have worn
my gloves all the time
except at home.

did I spend busy write
you must look at the
back of my letter. ~~the~~
~~same~~ ~~the~~ ~~it~~ ~~did~~
dont for get to write
for us to come home
for Biddy is well so
there is no use write
Gordon Sullie. Cold
Mr O'Neil sister ^{was} pretty
and a Coquit that
why he took so a fancy
to her and Gordon Sullie
said that all the boys
ran after her and Mr
O'Neil said if she was
all that she must

Sunt Louie for her wedding
fan. and mama if you
could see how ~~thay~~ ^{near}
her things you would
be shocked to see
how they ~~won~~ ^{won} around
why the first things they
must do was to run out
in the hall and open the
doors and root in them
and they went to Mrs. ~~Carters~~
and told him and he
said Dr. Carter was a
confounded fool to murder
his wife. also Aunt Lily
if this is long we must she ^{then}
do not write long letters

Thu 4th 1877

Dear Mama
I look scale my
and roars out all the time and play
with Sallie and myself and
never eats between meals. ascped
a pece of bread. and Aunt Sarah
said that she is going to beat
him. and she sused very well.
and on the coas he would
say. Aunt Davry ant it most
time to eat. and while we were
on the coas we gave a

dog and it would do all sorts
of tricks. and the man would
tell it to say its prayers and
it would kneel down. and
he would tell it to sleep
and it would do it.

and Tobias told the man
that he would give him
a shorter of a daber and
of Candes. and when the
man told him that he would
not take a hundred dollars
for it. Tobias would play
with it.

I brush my teeth right and
day. and we could not
wash Tobias feet in the

Sittie so Aunt Sailer told
me to write till to night.
Aunt Sailer gave Cousin Sallie
Aunt Louies. Braislets and
when the Baby is grow
to give her them. I am so
mad. Sister want to have
some things. but Broken
things. Cousin Sallie
was not named Louie.
and gave her them right
be fore my feet. and I
reken she will give the
locket that uncle Lee
stole. if they do I will
not speak. and Miss Joe
barter sent Cousin Sallie

Sallie and I have
a little house with
moss on it, it was
a sure ^{day} yesterday
and Cousin Lucie
and Cousin Joe
and Mr. Owell
went to town
but my letter
was not down ^{by}
I ^{will} send it to day
the wings blown ^{the}

in blunae.

tell Buddie
to Wright and
let me know
wher Papa is and
he must write
and you all
send my things
love to all and
many kissis
Mittie

Nov 9th 1877

Dear Mamma
I wish you
were here I went
with Sallie and
Mittie to the ~~State~~
Sugar-cane field and
got to or three stalks
Cousin Joe gave me a
little ham and
gave Mittie a goat.
we tried to fish but

it was a windy day
so the fish ~~add~~ the
bate. and when we
came out we got on
a boat and I was a
little afraid. We saw
Walden and we went
all a round and saw
all sorts of things.

We took a walk ~~at~~
to the saw mill and
heard a Ole. I wish
Preston was here. We
would have such a
nice time I dont take
the ^{me} ~~me~~ ^{mind} ~~mind~~
-ed it up because you stop
because and

you must come down
and see do it.

all of the roses are
in bloom and I am
going to send some
to you let me know
how Buddie ^{with}
Milkie is going so I
will stop give
my love to all
Yours
Josias Gilson



Cah. Street
July 2th 77

send some Stamps
as soon as pos-
sible I have
had to get
some from Aunt
all the time

Dear Mamma -
Yesterday
evening I received the dress
you or Aunt Lily
or so body sent - me
I like it very much
and the collar too -
Oh

Mamma! I am so glad
you bought - I had
in Aunt Sarah says
she never saw - Sarah

Dear Mamma, I hope
the children have been
delivered by word of
friend, Aunt Mary
dwell - had sick
for nearly a week -
they will soon be
on Saturday the 21st
numbers of the
Herald before Monday
I am glad to see
Herald - 5. 8. 87

woman as you as and
~~the~~ I think Paper or
to be added the idea
of a woman going
in right before every
one and bid for any
thing.

This morning
Cousin Sallie and went
up the bayou and
got a basket full of
peas. I do not like
them very much. I
forgot to tell you
that my dress fits
very well.

Yesterday
Cousin Sallie Tobias and
myself went out
walking and went

in a crape at
"Greenwood" and
saw a pecker
tell and some other
things.

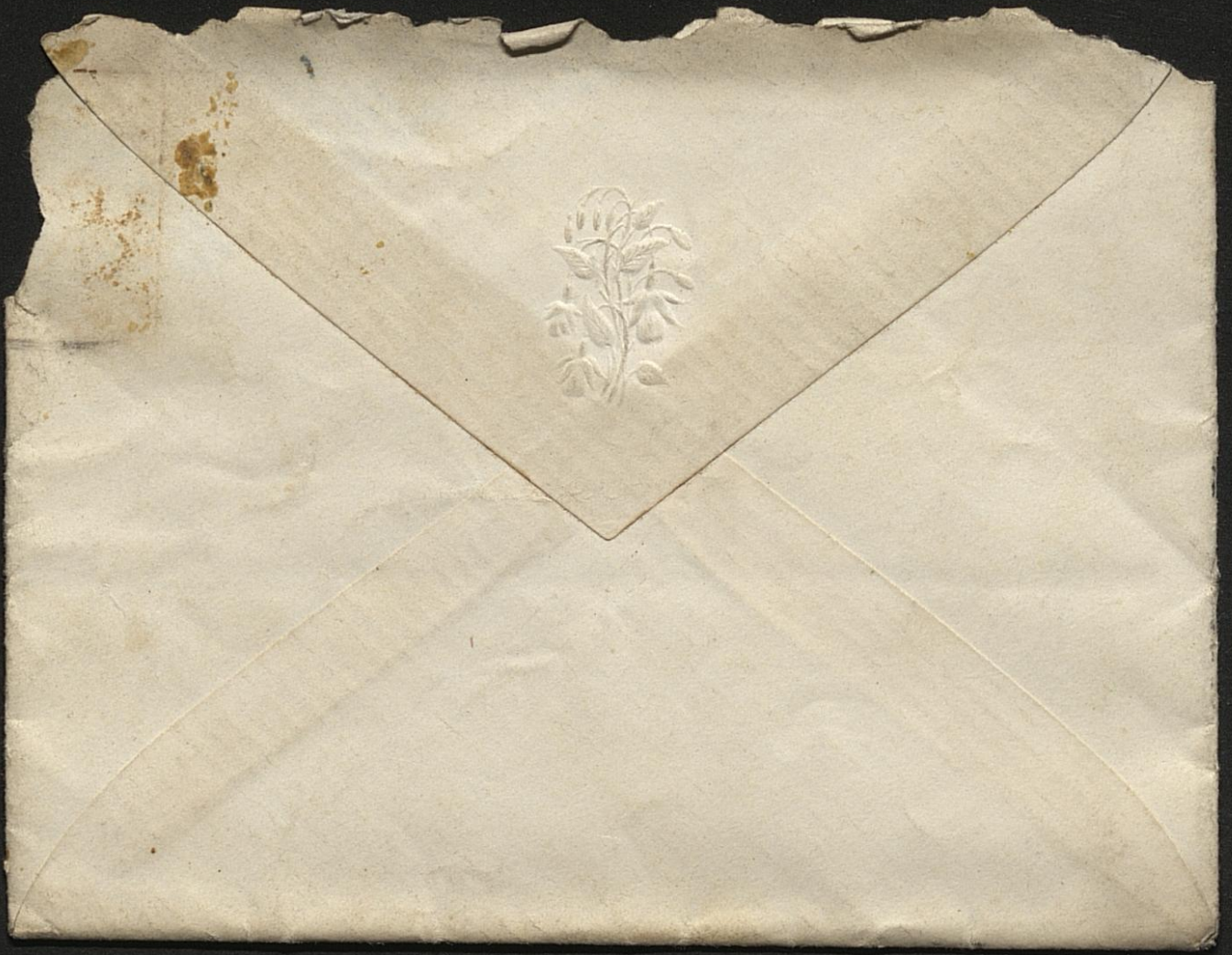
It is very warm
to day and I
think want whatever
I shall tell you again
I received the money
you sent me and
I shall keep on writing
telling you until
I hear of you have
got on it.

Much love
to all yours aff
mine



Mrs. Hubert Gibson
Parsailles.

Woodford County
Kentucky.





Mrs. Hart Wilson
Arcadia,
Woodford County
Kentucky

Oak Forest

May 12
1877

Dear Mama I received your
letter yesterday.
Uncle Lee can't take us
with him because he is sick,
so we will have ^{to write} tell some
one comes for us.
I wish I was at home.
Just to think of Buddie
having a spasms it is awful.
When I get home you
won't see me going away
so far.

they are all very good to
us and try to help us from
being homesick.

Cousin Sallie came
yesterday and Cousin Mrs.
Cousin Miss Mammaie
Scott she is very nice
but very ugly.

do you write on black
paper?

I must get home soon

I would not like you
to come down it would
cost so much I would
like to have you come
but I want you come
for but if no one is
going up you come for
me

I was so homesick it

gave me a headache.

so Aunt Lily and Grand-
ma are going to New
York

how long is she going
to stay?

I knew when I came
down I would see
her for along time.

I told you all when
we went to the fair
oh good I wish I was
at home.

now I want know
when to deliver my letters
to Grandma.

do try to get up home
soon I want to see
so bad.

tell Grandma Not to
stay long.

I wish she would come
down here in stead of
going to New York.
Give my love to Bed-
die and all. I hope to
be home soon tell Grandma
to tell me what house
she is going to stay
at.

good by from
your devoted child
Walter

put in the other
send some more
stamps when you
write.

Belle sends much
love to all

from your
loving sister
Mittie

Mittie

Oak Forest
May 16
1877

Dear Mama I received
your letter night
before last.

The number
of the shoes I have
is 13 pairs.

would it
be better any more
to put my boots
on I miss them so
much.

to move is Aunt
Sarah's birthday she
will 40 years old. She
is getting old.

and

Next Tuesday is
~~Robert~~ Pappas' birth
day I don't know
~~how~~ how old
he will be but I
think he will be
42 or 3.

I would like
to have something
to give Aunt Sarah
and Papa.

Some one be sides
Papa in our family
born in May. There

It is to be a ball
in Tigerville to night
Scott we all is
not going she is
not going to Sunday

I should appreciate
don't send my
love if it does
to much. I all ways
get my love off work
when I write home
I never know when

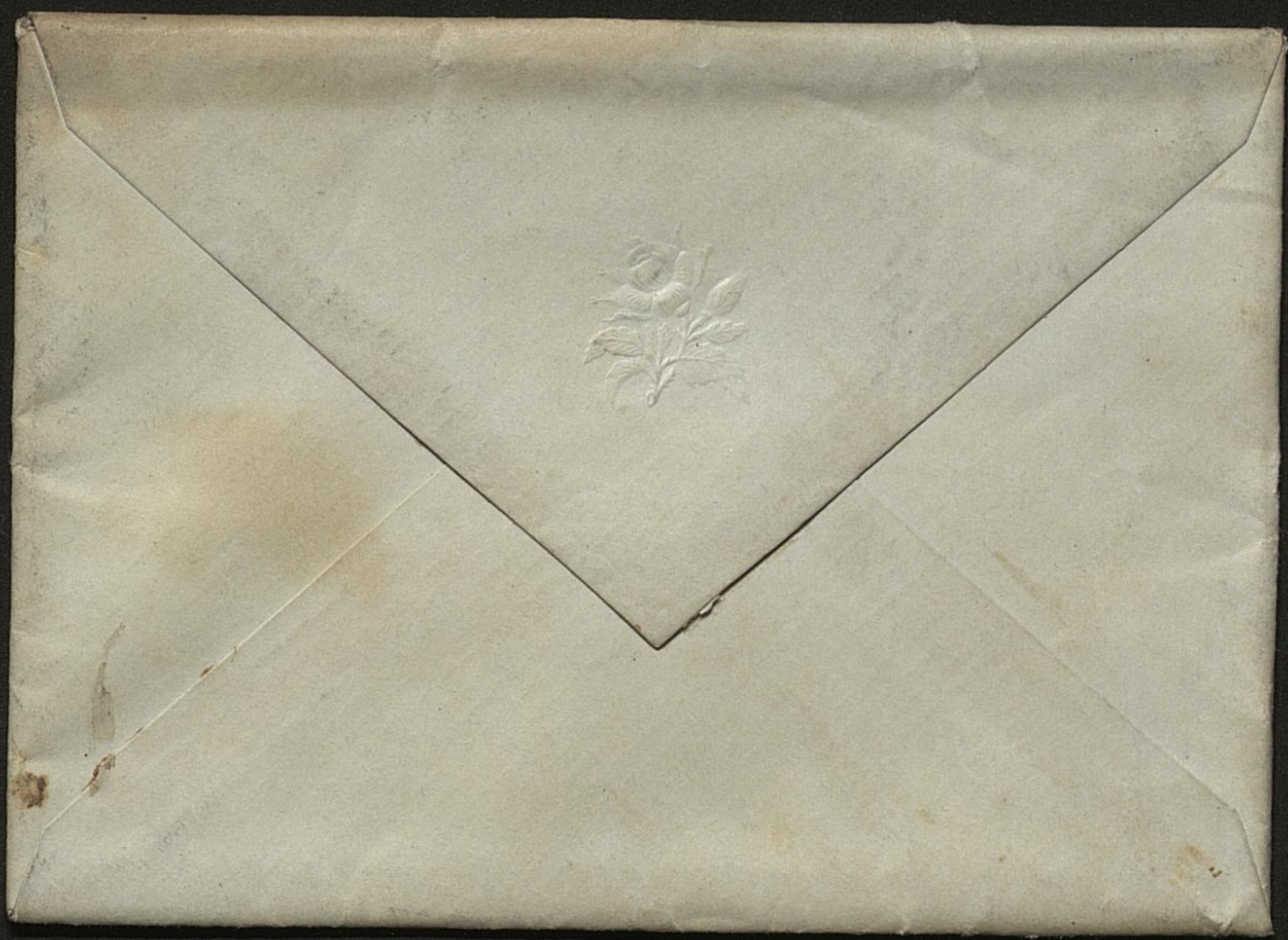


Mr. Simon Carr Esq
Care of H. J. Duncan Esq
Lexington -
Ky -





Mrs. Hart. Gibson
Gustavus
Bradford County
Tennessee



Wed. I got out of
that paper.

I got too
say in Sister's letter
that I thought the
fun she sent me
is very poetic.

by
the way I was
reading in a book
and it said never
to put a pen in your
mouth with ink
on it for it poisons
your lips.

were there

any mistakes in
my letter to Grand-
pa?

has Sister taken
a new piece since
I have left and how
is she getting along?

is Susie Vance getting
along in her studies?

Some
nights Cousin Joe
and the Public try
to scare us all. So
they hide Aunt Sarah's
piece and try to make
them think it was rob-

Poetry.

The Bivouac of the Dead.

[The following stanzas were written by Major O'Hara, after the battle of "Buena Vista," he having served in one of the Kentucky regiments during the Mexican war, and subsequently was attached to the staff of General Breckinridge in the Confederate army.]

The muffled drum's sad roll has beat
The soldier's last tattoo,
No more on life's parade shall meet
That brave and fallen few.
On fame's eternal camping ground
Their silent tents are spread,
And glory guards, with solemn round,
The bivouac of the dead.

No rumor of the foe's advance
Now swells upon the wind;
No troubled thought at midnight haunts
Of loved ones left behind;
No vision of the morrow's strife
The morrow's dream alarms;
No braying horn nor screaming fife
At dawn shall call to arms.

Their shivered swords are red with rust
Their plumed heads are bowed;
Their haughty banner, trailed in dust,
Is now their martial shroud;
And plenteous funeral tears have washed
The red stains from each brow,
And the proud forms, by battle gashed
Are free from anguish now.

The neighing troop, the flashing blade
The bugle's stirring blast,
The charge, the dreadful cannonade,
The din and shout are passed.
Nor war's wild note nor glory's peal
Shall thrill with fierce delight
Those breasts, that never more may feel
The rapture of the fight.

Like the fierce Northern hurricane,
That sweeps his great plateau,
Flushed with the triumph yet to gain,
Came down the serried foe.
Who heard the thunder of that fray
And saw the field beneath,
Well knew the watchword of that day
Was victory or death!

Full many a mother's breath has swelled
O'er Angostura's plain,
And long the pitying sky has wept,
Above its mouldered slain,
The raven's scream, or eagle's flight,
Or shepherd's pensive lay,
Alone, now wake each solemn height
That frowned o'er that dread fray.

Sons of the dark and bloody ground!
We must not slumber there,
Where stranger steps and tongues are
sound,
Along the heedless air.
Your own proud and heroic soil
Shall be your fitter grave;
She claims from war its richest spoil,
The ashes of her brave.

Thus 'neath their parent turf they rest
Far from the gory field,
Borne to a Spartan mother's breast
On many a bloody shield.
The sunshine of their native sky
Smiles sadly on them here,
And kindred eyes and hearts watch
The heroes' sepulchre.

Rest on! embalmed and sainted dead
Dear as the blood ye gave!
No impious footstep here shall tread
The verdure of your grave,
Nor shall your glory be forgot,
While fame her record keeps,
Or honor points the hallowed spot
Where valor proudly sleeps.

You marble minstrel's voiceless stone
In deathless song shall tell,
When many a vanished year hath flown
The story how ye fell.
Nor wreck, nor change, nor Winter
blight,
Nor time's remorseless doom,
Shall dim one ray of holy light,
That gilds your glorious tomb.

day although it is a
delightful day.

Thus all
day I read the news
papers very much.

if you
were here would you
come up in charge
of the conductors
or come up with
Miss Jolies wife
if coming in next month.
When is the extreme
to come off. When we
were at the outtree.
they said it was
to come off this winter
write soon and send
some stamps when

Oak Forest
Sunday the 27th May

Dear Sister Louie
I received
your letter last night
and the fan I thank
you very much for
it.

Cousin Sallie made
a cap for Aunt Louie's
baby it is the most
delicious but it is lined
with that soft silk
and down the back it
has two flaps with ribbons

under them.

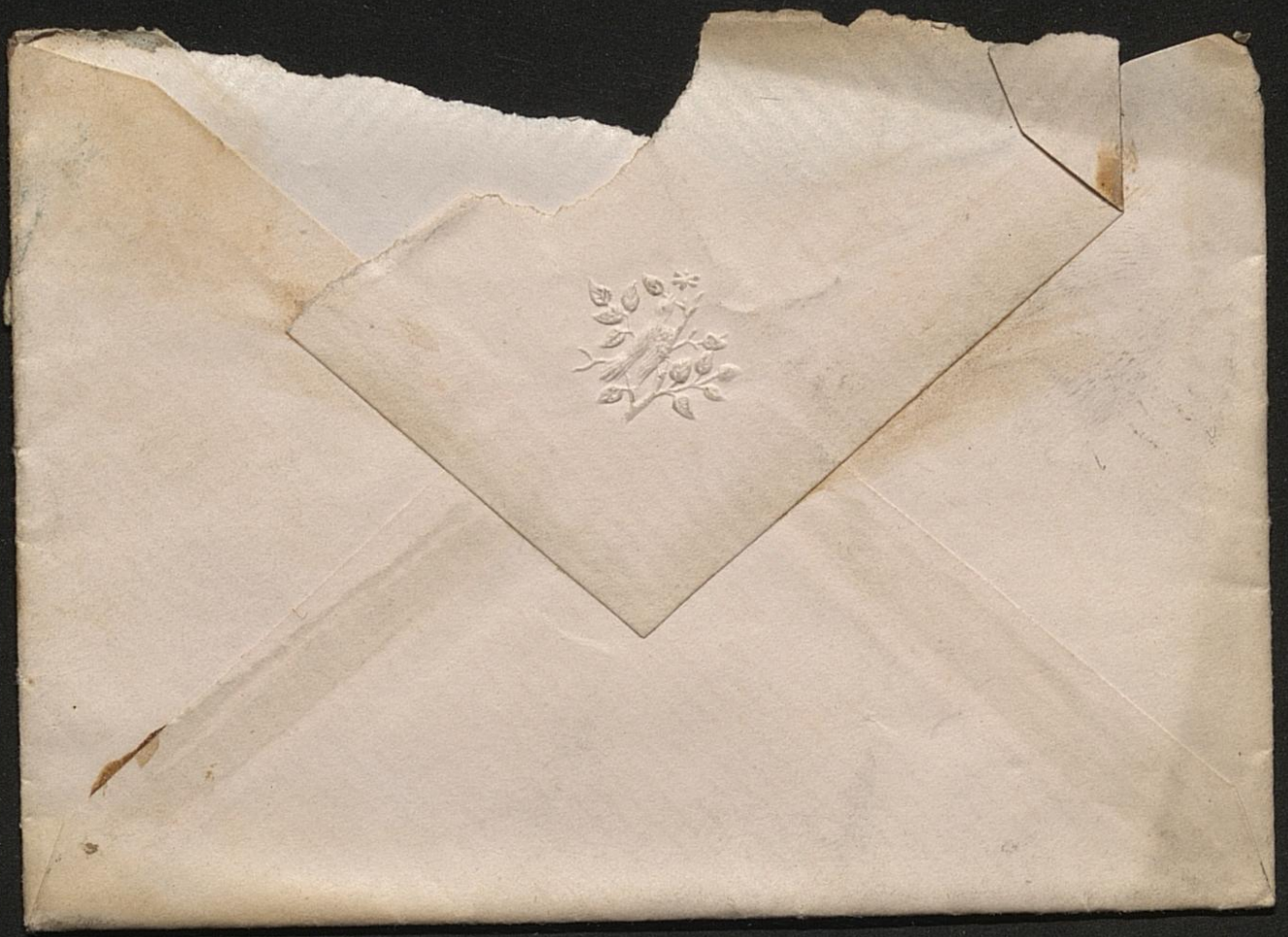
I think it is very pretty but she doubt so she told me to write and ask you did you have any nice things here or if she had any thing very nice? Cousin Sallie says she is waiting for a letter? tell Miss Sue she must not think I am not going to answer her letter letter I am just waiting for some thing to say.

we are not going to Sunday School to

MA 10 M
LA.



Mr. Jack Gibson
Bessville -
Arlington County Va -



Please send me some
stamps



Oak Forest
May 9th 77

one to be seen and
she did not want
ask me if I wanted
one and she says
very little about
Ellen she did not
give me a picture
of Mary.

Biddy send
much love to all
write soon

As soon
your loving sister
Mittie

Dear Mama
I received the paper
last week but no letter
why don't you'll send a
line or two with the paper
it would save stamps.
Aunt Sarah Cousin Lucy
Cousin Joe and Mr. Chace
and Cousin Lillie were
fishing and lost a 100
I like this paper because
it is so smooth and nice
and I can write so much

letter.

Why don't ^{you} write?

How does Grandpa like
Danna's name changed?

I just wrote to Aunt
Lily yesterday and Biddy
wrote to Sister.

I got all the money I receive
the business. it was very
much worst. but I
have fixed it.

Sent me the
Woodford Inn I would like
to see it so much.

Johns was myself, ^{but} need
any thing.

as you said
the Buddha eye was

a success?

the morn-
ing or very cold this
morning was un-
usually cold.

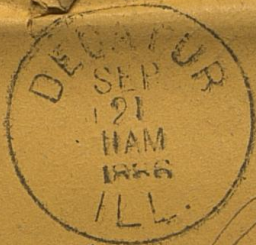
Aunt Sarah
has fire in her and
the pabelos.

Cousin
Sallie says she is glad
you all like her photo.

you all hear dont
she said she was
going to give me one

instead of Sister I had
a picture to my
name.

Aunt Lily had



Mrs. Hart - Gibson
English side
Vermont

"500"

8 1/2 blocks

My dear Mamma

I arrived

safely this morning
at four, making the
trip in exactly twelve
hours. Not a wrinkle
in the paper was on my face
in the world & in fact
was the best behaved
one in the world!

and so agreeably surprised
"to" get, a Grandson
whom I could be
surprised to see how
dear to me in their
and all round - has been
coming all morning
has been shortly after my
arrival - My & therefore
greatly grieved that we
cannot - do up the cat
The budget calls it -
immediately - I'll write
to - now - I'm sure you would

and this one -
I'm sure you would
be surprised to see how
dear to me in their
and all round - has been
coming all morning
has been shortly after my
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