

and stay with me. How I wish you would
surprise me some evening by an evening visit.
I wish our tongues should go as though they were
hung in the middle, how much better it would
be than it is to convey our thoughts to one in
other on paper and after taking so much pains
never have the letters reach their destination.

Pa intends to build a house next summer or
small one, so if you will come next summer for a
fall perhaps we can accommodate you better than
we can now. Why don't you write to me. I have
not heard from you in about a year, please tell
me I should be very happy to hear from you. I
am quite sure I write her last. I hear you have
a very large and good school this winter.
I know you have a good teacher. I will send you
a piece of my new dress in this letter, one that Pa
wants me a present of. I think it is quite pretty.
Don't you. I shall not make it this winter as I
have enough other worried dress for this winter.
Hannie has got one like it. Mrs. Hunt's was
given me given her for a bargain
when I was out there, but my hand is getting
tired so I must stop. Love to all and be
sure and write soon in answer to this if you
can get it.

M. S. Biggs

Yours &c

Lizzie Danner

Home Sabbath Eve. Jan 23^d 57

My Dear Aunt Friend Mary

Once again I presume you are
proper to address a few lines to a dear friend but about
friend. Although I have written to you since you ^{hope}
me still a letter Hannie received from you yesterday,
say you have not heard from me since last I
there is certainly a mystery there that I am unable
to solve, and that is why we do not receive each
others letters. I received your last letter October seventh
and answered it October fourteenth. I have it set down
and not receiving any answer I wrote a note and
put in Amelia's box ^{letter} the twenty third of December.
I presume you have received that before this time.
So now dear Mary do not blame me and think I
am forgetful of one so dear to me for I am not, but
have tried on my part to prove a faithful and
worthy correspondent although I am well aware
that I come far short of being worthy of the
correspondence of so able a writer as yourself, but
pardon this long introduction. Let us now take a
prospective view of things around us. I am seated
at the table by the sweet and faint minister of
an 11th by John. Father, Mother and Anna are
reading. The sun has just set behind those
snowy bluffs so common in the hills of Wisconsin
and I can see as I look out about 20 acres of our clearing, and
the barn is on the opposite side of the road. The only
fenced barn except one in three miles one way and
I don't know how many miles the other way. Certainly
some of fifteen rods ~~at~~ nearly every one have got big
beans or hocks. The weather has been very cold here
for a few days past, so cold one night that Lizzy and

I got up at three o'clock in the morning and made a fire and got warmed up. we frog out up stairs Agnes Elph boards here and goes to school and she had fire sleep by the stone pipe where it is warmer. Perry home rooms in the back part of the chamber where it is colder, but I guess you will not be very much edified with the latter part of my letter so I think I will change the subject.

It is a general time for colds here at present nearly every one is complaining, and some have been and are quite sick. I have had a severe cold for two months, and one week was quite sick. I was threatened quite hard with the fever but I am quite smart now and have done the work above several days. Mother was quite down last week several days, but is better now but not able to do any housework. Perry too has got a severe cold he and I tried to make a bargain the other night. He said he would tend to any more the fare part of the night if I would his the after part but I would not agree to that for my town would be three times as long as his, so we concluded to let it go. Mrs. Wood is quite sick with the chill fever. Minnie has had a cold and sore throat, as well as all the rest of the family. When one gets a little cold it is very easy to take a little more, and in that way I remember a severe cold and then wonder how he got it.

I went out to Drizim the eleventh of December and staid five days at Mr. Plumb's. An old acquaintance of Mother's I had a very pleasant visit and should have staid

longer but Perry came out after noon for Egans Warner and he wanted I should come home with him so I thought I would come there although they urged me to stay very hard, when I got home he other said Perry was so lonely that he wanted I should come home. Vinogua is quite a pretty place situated on a rolling prairie. It was as urgent very hard to stay and attend a donation party that was to be held the next evening but I could not. I had a very pleasant ride coming home it is fourteen miles and we started at four o'clock and got home at 8 1/2 o'clock.

Christmas day I spent at home in the evening I attended a donation party at Potosi for Rev. J. L. Gales New Year we all went up to Mr. Stan ley Stouls who was married the 23rd of December to Miss Olga (and you not Emma) had Lones on. indeed they don't catch this chick to go up in a bushel basket as Minnie tells about. I prefer to live in maiden meditation fancy free. We spent the afternoon and evening quite pleasant by and got home at half past twelve. Minnie and Helen came home with some birds we got warm and went to bed at two o'clock. The next day (Sunday) we went down to Plecton 8 miles to a quarterly meeting we had an excellent sermon as well as a good high school.

Minnie stopped here to tea this afternoon. We have great times when we are together and that is semi occasionally. I am sure you but I have not been down there in several weeks now because I don't want to go but it has not come right lately for me to go. but she stays here quite often.

East Greenwich Jan. 26th 1839

Dear Cousin

It is with pleasure I seat myself to answer your kind letter. I must plead guilty in not answering your letter before. but Mary forgive the first offence and I. will try to do better in future. Your letter found the family all well except myself I have had a very bad cold and it is some better now only a slight swelling in my eyes which makes me look very beautiful indeed nose swelled too.

Mary is at Mrs. Bedford Kafs. at work
Lybil lives at Portsmouth, on ^{The Island of} Rhode Island. Pardon is at home. I have not attended school this winter stayed at home what time I was not riding round. perhaps I ought to be ashamed of riding round so much but I think you would not blame me for I am naturally very fond of going and when I can have a driver to suit me and go when I please I generally go. I have been to three fairs this winter had very good time. went last Sunday evening to the village 3 miles from here heard a lecture on the prevailing sins of E Greenwich it was very good. I intend in the spring to go and learn a Sailors trade what do you think of such a trade I have forgotten what your trade was, tell me.

Never since I can remember has there been so many deaths in so short time as there has this winter since Nov. there has been 7 deaths within 2 miles of here One now lies in her shroud a young lady 15 years old she had the measles last winter and they set her in the consumption. the flower of that family has faded she was a schoolmate of mine although younger than I we always sat together and I loved her as I never shall love again. The wound has been deep and it

will long be remembered by me. I never can place my
affections on any other lady as I have on her, but it is strange
to me that we have a pet of any kind it always dies or
turns out bad, but she is better off, and when I come
to die I hope I shall be as happy as I have reasons
to believe she was

Tell Uncle Thomas that Uncle Ambrose's
daughter Pybil has got a pair of twins very pretty
6 months old named Daniel Webster, Sarah Etta.

Father & Mother send their love to all, how I wish
you might come here and spend a year what a
good time we would have going to the shore in
the summer, coasting in the winter, we have had
no sleighing here but I am satisfied for a covered
carriage is more comfortable, tell Uncle Thomas
I when I get married I am going to try to get
my man to leave the East and turn towards
some part of the west, but I am afraid of wearing
your patience, My love to all that inquire after
me keep a good share for your self, answer
this from your Cousin

Ladilla B. Spencer.

I have been very busy this Spring and
worked hard. Mother's health is so poor
that she is not able to do any thing and
ought not to lift her finger to work
this Summer, her cough is not quite as
bad although the pain in her side is
more, she has doctor'd all the Spring
and is taking roots now, but she does
not gain much as I see. We are some
frightened about her, fearing that
Consumption will follow, but we
hope with proper treatment and not
doing much will restore her to health.
The children are all healthy and well
Dear Willie is one of the boys I tell you
cut every thing and talk every thing, he
scolds me about my hoops and says takes
them off for I keep knocking little Willie
down, he has a great deal to say about
little Willie. I must close. Write very
soon my love to all. Tell Aunt I would
give a whole Cuckoo to see her.

Mary J. Biggs

Your Cousin

Winnie

Wedge March 27 1859

My Dear Cousin

I have seated my self to
perform the pleasant task that of answering
your kind letter. May it with Sabbath
and a beautiful view. I have supped
Sabbath School and now as twilight is
is arising I have gone out to view
nature stand from a line to you. When
went with me we talked of our past
and present lives and of our old western
homes, she has her feet home the
best, I cannot say I love my home
at present as well as some. I could
choose but although it is very pleasant
Wynnesville is not the place for me.
Spring is now with us bringing all
her beauty but my May is approached
to day is the first do not me welcome
it with joy.

Winnie I wish you were
here at the foot of this mountain

with me would not I lay aside
pen and paper and combat for hours
for me thinks we should enjoy it
Vilence reigns here except the Drumming
of the Geese above and around me
and the Whippoorwill tending his
beautiful notes how pretty it sounds
to hear half a dozen of these birds
sing at once, how pleasant company
in summer to go out and commune
with your thoughts, I find them very
pleasant companions, how many sweet
Memories rise upon the canvas of
Memory, and we are again mingling
with dear associates, the part happy
moments of my thoughts my happy childhood
and school days are scenes that I love
to think upon.

I laid down my pen to
gather some of the beautiful flowers
that blossom at my feet, the woods
are full of the choicest blossoms, and
I should like to gather a bouquet of
wild Wisconsin flowers and send to
my fair cousin, for I know she would
prize them, see you at home and
going to be this summer next Monday
again take the duty of school mistress
upon me, my school is ten girls

from home so you see I shall not be
able to go home very often it is on the
Prairie away from Woods, and a pleasant
little town for very nice villages
surrounding it, I heard at the Hotel
as I was going they are, their name
is Bluff, they were formerly from York
I think she was a ~~Wagoner~~.

What I must hurry
for passing up in the distant West
are large black clouds denoting a
Storm, how majestic a storm is here
so fierce and terrible, the Thunder
reverberates from Bluff to Bluff, coming
these ballies to shake and get to
fall, the hardest thunder I ever heard
and the sharpest lightning, it being
so mountainous is the cause of the hard
thunder.

I will tell you about the folks
Eliza commences her school in two
weeks, her first school and gets fifteen
dollars a month, Walter commences
this week with the same price,
Abbeba and her husband have
gone away to school to a very flourish-
ing Seminary nearly 40 miles from
here, some of us talk of going next
winter

Wade's 100 8th 59

Dear Mary,

My heart was cheered and gladdened a few days since by a letter (a very short one) from you, but I was very glad to receive even a short one it has been so long since I have heard from you before. I think we need a new set of Postmasters and Mailboys on the road from here to Stephenville for now nearly all the letters are lost on the way. It is too bad any way for I have taken so much comfort writing and receiving letters that it is hard to be deprived of it now. O how I wish you were here to enjoy this beautiful weather, it is certainly the pleasantest fall I ever saw in my life. Mr. Lonsell said today that we were having another spring. We would have joyous times, would we not if we could be together now for a few weeks, or even a few days we would visit as fast that people would think our tongues were hung in the middle and our nose at both ends. I do wish that they could have the pleasure of thinking so then, would be but little we would care for what they said. Mary I commenced this a week ago but have been very busy this week and have not written any

I have not much news to write but will try to write something but I will not promise how interesting it will be to you.

Little Willie Gill has been very sick for the last week with the Pillsbury Remittent Fever but is some better they were afraid for a day or two that inflammation on the lungs would set in. I have not seen him since yesterday before but Annie and I took care of John Willard's complaining some too has not set up but very little today they are afraid he is going to have the Fever too and had tried to throw it off.

Well Kate I expect my freedom is enjoyed all I shall enjoy this winter (don't shut your eyes so thick I ain't going to marry) but am going to teach at Wicapa Centre and Columbia town. I like the occupation very much indeed but I suppose it will not ^{be} quite a pleasure in the winter season.

Rebecca Bennett and her husband are at home now at Mr. Lonsup's he is going to teach I believe. I was up there a few days ago. Rebecca looks as healthy as can be they have been to school ever since last Spring John Lonsup is at home now he thinks of spending the winter here.

Mrs Jackson and Olson have been home about two weeks so we heard all about our York State friends again.

I am ask what I think of Cousin Geo. Joseph the black (I can hardly tell but from what people say I should think he was a good deal of a boy, don't you think he is

Yes now I think you are giving her the might as well give up getting married and settle down contented, so am

old maid. A gentleman told me the other day that it was no use for a girl to try to get married after the age of sixteen he said this is a fast age. I like him that I should have to give it up there so he is contented with my but there but it is growing late and I must catch Tell Frank I will write to her this week or next. I am sorry that she had the flu, but I was afraid there were worse than she got. I have heard some things lately that I should judge that some are trying to make some trouble there when time it is I do not know. I am sorry if it is so, but I suppose Frank and John or good friends get give my love to them Mrs Jackson said that Abner Humphreys health is quite poor please tell me how she is when you write and where in Genoa, Reed and all the girls now. If you ever get this winter season, and a good long letter so good night with pleasant dreams.

Ever thine
your friend
Lizzie

Kate