

Saratoga Spa

June 12/62

My Dear Cousin

Your letter without date came duly to hand and I should have been answered ere this, but I have not had time. I am busier than I ever was before, and I always had enough to do, at least I thought so. My hand trembles this morning so I cannot write very well, but I guess you can read the letter, if you cannot, you may send it back and I will read it for you. If you imagine that I do not care to hear from you, you are very much mistaken. I had been thinking about you and wishing I could hear how you all were, but did not ~~write~~ write because it was not my turn to do so. I am very particular about not writing a second letter before the first is answered. If I mistake not you owed me a letter and the one you have just written requesting me to answer has just cancelled the old debt, and now we will begin anew. You will of course owe me for this letter and if you dont me -- well I wont say what I will do. But putting all joking aside I would like very much to correspond with you if you feel so disposed, and if you will I will try and write better next time. Then I wish I could see you all, but I cannot leave my business at present. How is your Mother and all the Children? And especially Almira. You must tell me all about them. The Loper tribe have dispersed. Two are 12 miles from here in the town of Malta. The others are in Chicago, Ill. . . . I am sorry you had to relinquish your studies and learn a trade, but perhaps it is all for the best. You are certainly quite young for a dressmaker but if you understand your business it doesnt matter. Please excuse the bad writing, spelling, bolts, etc, etc.

June 12/62, cont.

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for I havent time to copy this. Please write soon and oblige.

Yours very Respectfully  
(signed) L.M. Loper