

Madison March the <sup>23</sup>~~th~~ 1856

Dear brother

I now take my  
in hand to answer your letter  
of march the <sup>14</sup>~~th~~ which I received  
yesterday it found us all well  
and we still continue so to be  
and I wish you all the same  
blessing we have had some  
of the coldest weather this winter  
that I ever see and we have had  
a long hour of it so it has been  
steady cold and it has not  
thaw'd any for three months  
and a half but for a few  
days past we have had very  
pleasant weather for the time  
of year and the prospect is  
now we shall have an early  
spring Tell Fred I wish he  
was out here for I have got

one cow and one yearling  
heifer and a youtbe of yearlin  
gs steers and the first of next  
month I am a going to get  
another youtbe cattle is very  
high here I am to give \$25.00  
dollars for a youtbe of yearlings  
my cow is worth forty dollars  
and yearlings is worth from  
ten to fifteen dollars if fred  
was here we would have some  
of the kindes of a youtbe  
them up tell father and  
mother I would like to have  
them come out here this sum  
er if they dont come to stay  
and if they cant come tell  
them to get their likeness  
taken and send them to me  
and I will pay for having  
them taken I am a going to  
stay where I am another year  
for I cant do ~~any~~ any better



Wages is high here and  
 help is scarce loyal says  
 he would like to see Father  
 grand we have got in his  
 grandmother grandey's likeness  
 and when he sees it he wants  
 to see Father grand and Alida  
 has got so that she gets up  
 by every thing she can come  
 to and she can say some words  
 quite plain but she has not  
 got any teeth yet and she  
 is almost eleven months old  
 I dont now as I have any  
 more to write this time  
 write me another letter as  
 soon as you get this

wheat	is worth from	1.00 to 1.12 1/2
barley		1.05
corn		.40
oats		.40
potatoes	from	.75 to 1.00

Erastus J. Hill