

[ca Aug 1864]

Your uncle aunt & cousins one and all

I now sit down to write you a few lines to let you know that we are still alive and enjoying a comfortable degree of health at present here. These few lines if they reach you will find you the same we have not heard from our relatives for a long time why do you not write have you forgotten us if so I will pen a line or two by way of remembrance hoping to hear from you it is very dry here this season crops of all kind have suffered severely say not more than half a crop in fact everything is dried up we have had but very little rain this summer until last week we was visited with two refreshing showers which has done a great deal of good to late crops you would like to hear from uncle Samuel's folks they are well here now to our house part come and I shall have to lay by my paper and get dinner I wish you could come and eat with us but I never expect to enjoy that privilege

It is two weeks today since I began this I will try to finish it it is running away but you will pardon me when I tell you that my time is all taken up with the care of my family through the week so that I have no time to write it is hard times here though we need not complain for we have enough to eat drink and wear by patching up our old clothes for the present prices will not admit buying any more than we can help for eulico is 50 and cotton cloth is 80 cents per yard and other things in proportion produce brings a fair price wheat two dollars ten cents a bushel butter 75^{cts} but a dollar don't go but a little ways sugar is from 150 to 200 dollars a day