

Stuben Ia Dec 2nd 1856

Dear Brother and Sister we now embrace the opportunity of writing a few lines to you to inform you of the health of our family which is tolerable good at present and hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same blessing Brother Shepard's family were well the last that we heard from them he is in Ohio teaching School about 8 miles from home Lyman is a peddling books and preaching he gets 16 Dollars per month and is found Brother Shepard has built him a house this summer he has not yet got it finished so as to move into it yet we live about ten miles from them I have but one child he will be eight years old next May he is a large stout boy of his age we buried our youngest boy two year ago last May with