

Osteys Sept 13th 1861

Respected Brother and Sister I now take this opportunity of writing to you to let you know that I am still in the land of the living but do not enjoy very good health hoping these lines will find you and yours in good health and prosperity I calculated when I last saw you to to have come and see you again before this time but it has been so that I could not and now I am getting old and lame I dont much expect to ever come since I saw you I have built a house which cost about \$600, culture similar to yours and is born 36 by 48 feet with a shed the whole length of it just finished well close to the house and do not owe over twenty dollars in fact I have more due me than I owe both and Kenone live with me he has half the stock and crops We have 3 horses 21 cattle of all kinds 29 sheep 27 Hogs and pigs I have 40 acres of land I have 120, bushels about 40 Bushels of white corn We raised 117 Bushels wheat We have 8 acres corn planted 25 or 30 tons hay Our crops all promise to be good wheat is worth 75 cts corn 31 cts Hogs live weight 2 1/2 to 3 cts per lb. Butter 6 1/4 cts so you you see it is rather hard times common 50 cent Lard is 1 1/2 now Our young men have most of them gone to the war hope our country will be preserved and rebellion put down and the oppressed go free so that there shall be no more slavery in all our land and then will our country prosper and not until then