

From Lizzie Deavenport to Mrs. Colgan

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Hick mill Mo[.]

Feb[.] the 22 1865 [*text stricken through*]

Mrs[.] Colgan

Dear friend[.]

I taking seat for the first time in life to try to rite to you[.] we are all well at preasant[.] I hope that this may find you enjoying the same blessing[.] I have nothing to rite to intrest you much[.] I have not heard from W[.]H[.] since the raid[.] he was at the fight at independence[.] I never saw him[.] he was slightly wooned [wounded] there[.] I do not no [know] were [where] bouts[.] it did not stop him from going[.] I suppose J[.][G.?] was not up here at that time[.]

if I could only see them I thing that I would go crazy. if we can get a com[p]any of [MS. illegible] here we will stay here[.] we have move to Mr[.] Whitside place[.] Mr[.] Slaughter could not get the place that we move from fror any thing but money [MS. illegible][.] he was not willing to give that on [uncertain?][.] sister does not like to live here as well as she did over there[.] She wants to see you very much[.] she has benn trying to learn to card cotton but she cant come it[.]

Orlando has grourend [grown] very fast[.] he is learning fast[.] his Pa learns him to [sipher?] every night[.] Willie is learning

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faste[.] he has benn through his first reader once and going through again[.] Steave looks like some [ductman?] or nother[.] he is lear[n]ing too[.] he has benn through his primmer once and going through again. Frank is as mischievous as they git[.] he is in badness from the time he is aweake till he goes to sleep.

I would like to see you one more and have another ride with you[.]

your home place does not look like it did when you was there. there is not but one hole window in your house[.] some of the trees are brook [broken] down[.] your house has been mitty [mighty] abused[.] no boddy is wiling to live on your place[.] it is too cloese to the timber. Mrs[.] Moor house is burnt has benn over a yeare[.] her fenceing is all burn too.

you said that Rochester was coming here to go on the plains[.] theres so many Indians out thare the men is afraid to go[.] I heard that they was a hunder [hundred] thousand of them[.] they are aiming to get to Kanes[.] I believe the people are [MS. illegible] uneasy about them in the Stats[.]

well I will stop this time for the time you read all of this [polary?] you will be tired[.] give my love to Rochester and Mr[.] & Mrs[.] Roberson[.] enouft [enough] for your self[.]

[*written sideways in right margin*]

rite us as soon as you get this[.]

Lizzie Deavenport