

are quite amusing - I was quite inter-
ested with your description of the fun
club - I wish you would write me an
account of some more of their doings
when you hear of anything worth telling -
I had a Christmas present of a dozen
new brood from Father Means for
~~Christmas~~ and considerable Sausage -
which is a great treat to the children
Baby & all being fond of them & I cannot
buy ~~the~~ any in town - I am still looking
for Doug & his wife - though the wire
is so full of ice I fear they may get
discouraged - I still keep the Turkey
with his head on in waiting for them -
John Means walked over to see me
this week for the first time - but since
the weather is warmer he is well again -
Please write me if Sis Aye is any better
Give my love to Kate & her Mother - Mrs.
Aye - Mary Ross - George - Mr Ross &
all my friends who may ask after me
I hope you will take care of yourself
& not get sick this winter - every time it
gets cold I fear you are sick - but I won
to your's off Yattie

2
Ashland Jan 13 1866 -
Dearest Mother

I have been intending
to write you since receiving your letter
but have had nothing very interesting
to communicate - I was glad to
hear that you were still well - I told
Mrs. Wilson about the new furnace in
your church & she old lady did not exactly
understand me & said she hoped it
did not run on Sunday - Mary Anne &
little Tom Adams have been up & made
us a visit - last week Tom was highly
pleased with his visit - he told them
at home - that I did not have much
style about my table but things were
first rate to eat - Aildred played out
doors with him - till he got so sick
he had to go to bed & lay there one
day with a high fever - Hugh Lampton

entertained him then & took him
skating &c & Hugh had been so sick
that his life was despaired of - Having
congestion of the brain or something of the kind
unconscious for a day or two - So the
next ^{times} Tommy Adams visits us & I hope he
will come in warm weather - I was
invited to Mrs. Carters New Year day
& had an agreeable Turkey dinner also
invited to Mrs. Gartrells on Sunday to
eat Turkey but declined because it was
Sunday - John went & came home smelling
very strong of onions - Wednesday
night Mrs. Coles gave a large party
which I attended - we had a very
pleasant time & a splendid supper -
The party was made I suppose
for Mrs. Gayford & her sister & Mrs
Lanck a lady from Cincinnati whose
husband ~~is~~ has the store at the
new town of Coalton ten miles out on the
rail road - She is a very agreeable lady

& I think will have a dull time keeping
house in one of the miners houses this
winter - Some change from city life - Mrs
Gartrell drove me down in her buggy to
call on Mrs. Gayford this afternoon while
Mr. Gartrell went along on horseback to
see that we arrived in safety - quite
gallant wasnt he? Mrs Gartrells
darkness has left her & she says she
roasted bry & made biscuits for the
first time this work in her life -
It is quite amusing to hear these
Kentucky ladies all talking about
what a trouble they are in, doing their
own work - Mrs. Riggs & Mrs. Callahan
& five or six more of them whose loving
slaves have at length left them &
gone over to Ohio - And yet they
all say they would on our account
have them back again - Their descrip-
tions of how they used to have the ~~coax~~
them to work & not eat up all the good
things

Rock - (the ~~old~~ ^{old woman} that nurses me & keeps house
for me some times -) & Mary Anne who
lived with me last Spring - so she
gets along finely or I expect she would
die off with hard work - as it is, she
thinks she is nearly killed cooking for
John as as no one else can quit him -
So it makes the town rather gloomy &
many sick ones - The baby does not
walk yet - he ~~is~~ has been in his stockings
feet all winter - ~~She~~ yesterday I got
him some shoes but he screams as
if we were killing him when I put
shoes on him - he thinks they are
awful - Mary Ann would go crazy
over him he is so full of fun &
play - I am sorry to hear his Lord
is no better - I wish Spring would
hurry & come so that I might see
you - I don't know how I will
arrange my visit - Aunt Amanda being
Catharine will interfere with my plans as
I am afraid I can't get her to keep house
for me - & I don't know any one else to
trust - I wish you could muster George
to come down - Love to George - Mary Ann & all
& all inquiring friends - Yours & Father -

Ashland Feb 2^d 1866 -

My Dear Mother

I have been intending
to write you a long letter for some
time but I concluded Douglas &
his wife could give you all the
news concerning us that was of
importance - This morning for
a few minutes I had a lesson
of quiet - as the baby is asleep &
my three girls are out in Biddy's
department enjoying themselves
finely making their first cake
I have seen the job - They beat the
eggs - & now they are rolling, cutting
& baking it - As they have been
spending their spare times on fancy
cake cutters - so they are giving them a
trial - There is nothing like begin-
ning young you know - And I

intend they shall be famous cooks
I enjoyed Douglas's visit very much
only it was entirely too short - he
only visited one furnace & heard
stayed long enough to eat my
turkey which I had been saving
for him so long - John is quite
anxious for him to be cashier of the
bank - but I think it doubtful if
he would be willing to accept it -
It would be very pleasant for me if
they would move here - I hope
you keep well this winter - for after all
I believe health is the greatest blessing
I was out to see the sick yesterday
Mrs Bagby has been in bed for
three months - some chronic disease
which has to be cured in that way -
And poor Mrs Powell - I don't
see she is failing fast from a
cancer - she had a swelling mark
on her side - last summer it grew

large & used to bleed a pint a
day - finally Dr. Blackman of Cin
cut it out - it was cut out twice
& now it has spread in tumors
six or eight, all over her body
They are about as large & red as
a tomato - ~~Sunday~~ ^{Saturday} She was thought
to be dying - but now she is a little
easier - it seems a strange disease -
John Means is still growing weaker
he cannot walk across the room
without help he coughs more now
and has constant diarrhea - ^{Means} Anna
Fear is going into a consumption too
she had a dreadful cough which
she has had all winter & is confined
to her bed now - she has stayed in
John's room all winter & I think
it has been too much for her - Poor
Uncle Hugh looks so worried & low
spirited he takes all the care of John
at night - Aunt Amanda has ~~Ray~~ ^{Ray}

Commercial of the 6th Feb - So if Mary
Ross wants to see it she can get
the paper - I da tried several days
& kept her bed - but I believe is now
recovering - As we dont have much
to talk about here - the affair has
been fully discussed - Mrs. Keis &
the Dr. were very much worried about
it - I hope when the warm weather
comes on you will soon be better
Love to Mary & George M. Ross
Recd. from all inquiring friends -
Yours aff Hattie -

Ashland Feb 1866-

My Dear Mother

I will write
you a few lines by Benjamin
to let you know what we are
in our usual health - I am
very sorry to hear that you
have had another severe illness
I was hoping you would get
through the winter ~~in~~ without
being sick - I wish I could be
with you to help nurse & take care
of you - I am glad you have Anna
Hobbs with you as I think she
is an excellent nurse - The time
seems long until I can see you
again - though seeing Ben & Doug
I get as much home news
as possible -

I hope Ben will be sufficiently
well pleased to accept the
Cashiership - I don't know as
Ashland would be quite gay
enough for Lydia - but maybe
she might stand it awhile -
~~She~~ They would be quite an
addition to our Society & church -
Mr. Bayles has resigned
So Ben will be just in time to
choose a preacher to suit himself
Harry is leaning to talk & Elli Cooke
walked several steps yesterday
He looks so funny toddling
along with his arms out until
down he falls - The children got
up a great excitement on seeing him
We are having a very cold day
Thermometer down to three above zero
We have just commenced using
the new coal from the big coal
mine - I wish I could send you

a coal house full of it - it is
certainly the nicest coal I ever saw
& burns just like a wood fire
with scarcely any ashes - So much
cannot be said in its praise I
know I can keep warm by it with
out Anselm Pyles famous stove -
John Means is still very low &
Anne is sick in bed & has been for
a week - Ida Preis has had
her name in the Cincinnati
papers - Her lover Mr. Lopham
has been coming to see her some
months & finally, she concluded
she would not marry him & sent
him word to that effect - He
immediately went deranged & came
back on the Telegraph

at home - I have just been having
a woman sew last week to let
down + fix over their Spring + Summer
clothes - Harry can wear the trousers last
year's clothes with out any alteration
+ the baby can wear it with a tuck
so that it helps considerably - The
baby walks very well and can
say nearly as many words as
Harry - The children are all well
+ are getting as peckled as possible
John is having a cistern dug in the
back yard + a cellar dug under the
front hall which I hope will prove
a good milk cellar - I tell him
I hope the next thing will be a new
kitchen - I believe our peaches are
not killed at least John says they
are not, so far - Give my love
to Rita + tell her I will write to her
soon - Love to George + Mary Rose
+ tell Ben Putnam we will expect
him down soon - I hope you will
soon be able to write to yours
Hattie -

Ashland March 12th 1866.

My Dear Mother

I have been hoping
for some time to get a letter from
you - but received one from Rita
lately, saying you were not yet
well enough to write - which I was
very sorry to hear - I was
hoping from what Ben Putnam
told me that you were by this time
nearly well - I hope that by the
time this reaches you - you will
be quite restored to health -
I enjoyed Benjamin's visit very
much - John + he used to sit up
till eleven o'clock every night telling
over College scrapes + Maquette yarns
+ I would have to sit up too as they
kept such a chattering I could not
sleep if I tried - We will be quite

most of the time while they were here
and Ashland did not look its prettiest
and I fear did not make a favorable
impression on Ben - John has set his
heart on his coming - & says he will
buy a house but what Ben shall have
me - and he thinks he can find busi-
ness for Mrs Edgerton also - I should
enjoy it very much if they would come -
I suppose you have heard of the
death of John Means he died two weeks
ago on Monday - he seemed to suffer a
good deal at last & was much
emaciated - Mr. Bayles thinks he
was prepared for death - though
to his friends John said but little on
the subject of religion - They had
funeral services at the house & then
took the body to Manchester - & had
the funeral in the church & ~~to be~~

was buried by the side of his Mother
Pon Anna still lingers - she coughs
a great deal and has not sat up
more than an hour the last week
she still hopes as all consumptives do
to get better but I fear there is not
much hope left in her case -
Mrs. Powell died last week - poor
woman she has been suffering every
thing from Cancer - for nearly a
year - death in her case seems a
happy release - she was quite a young
woman & was raised by her Aunt
Mrs ^{Charles} Nelson - who mourns for her, as for
a daughter - I should like to know
what time you propose to go to Louis-
ville as I want to visit you some
time this Spring & don't want to
interfere with your arrangements.
My visit will be a short one
as if I can get a house keeper I
shall leave most of the children

Pine Grove Furnace, Ohio Furnace, & Hanging Rock Coal Works.

Balances

April 1st 1866.

Assets

Cash			78453
Second National Bank of Canton			327299
Real Estate			24413640
Bills Receivable			310
Cincinnati House			1375241
John Nyle Collection A/c			1370
Second National Bank Collection A/c			380962
Personal Property at Pine Grove Furnace			3376301
" " " Coal Works			6690275
" " " Ohio Furnace,			2816281
Individual Accounts at Pine Grove Furnace,			1211228
" " " Coal Works			229934
" " " Ohio Furnace,			421585
R. A. Lewis			438551
George Olmes			572477
M. A. Hempstead			1041328
John Means			18057
John Nyle			3069508
Stock Dividend March 20 th 1866,	105,000.00	105000	
Gaylord & Co			164524
G. H. M. Damasin & Co			52811
Robert Hamilton			47897
Murray Moore & Co			33150
Stanton & Meays			27253
Rev. Sylvester Scapontkiewicz,			280
	469,550.35	57455035	

Liabilities

Capital Stock			500000
J. N. Means			1262235
Wm. Means,			955935
C. C. Bactiam U.S. Dep. Collector			72960
Scip in Circulation			11325
Individual Accounts at Pine Grove Furnace,			402912
" " " Coal Works			373502
" " " Ohio Furnace,			209014
Ohio Iron & Coal Co	36,486.93		60810
Balance <u>Gain</u>			3806342
			57455035

Explanations

of Meausky & Co. Balances April 1st 1866.

Pine Grove Furnace	Gain 1864	847677
Do,	Gain 1865	\$284823
Hanging Rock Coal Works	Gain 1865	1651206
		5783706
Hanging Rock Coal Works	Loss 1864	1760209
Ohio Furnace	Loss 1865	217155
Balance	Net Gain	\$3806342
		5783706

Pine Grove Furnace made in 1864. 1093 tons of Iron at a cost of \$50.⁹⁹ with 688 tons delivered in market, and made in 1865 2713 tons at a cost of \$42.⁵² delivered in market.

The Iron made in 1864 was estimated in making out balance sheet at 1200 tons, with 688 tons sold and 512 tons on hand in Cincinnati & Hanging Rock. The sales afterwards proved the amount on hand to fall short 57 tons in Cincinnati and 50 tons in Hanging Rock, making a deficit in all of 107 tons, this at \$50.⁰⁰ per ton makes \$5350.⁰⁰ which should be deducted from the profits of that year, leaving the profits of blast of 1864 \$3126.⁷⁷, and would increase the profits of blast of 1865 from \$32,843.²³ to \$38,198.²³. The profits for 1865 as per balances April 1st 1866, are based on the Iron actually sold and on hand weighed up.

The improvements made on Hanging Rock Coal Works in 1864 were estimated to be worth \$34,712.²²

which if added to the value of the real estate would leave the profits of that year, \$17,110.⁰². Counting improvements worth nothing would leave a balance of loss against Coal Works, for year ending April 1st 1865 of \$17,602.⁰⁹ Mined and sent to Hanging Rock in 1864. 768,000 bushels of coal,

The profits for year ending April 1st 1866 were \$16,512.⁰⁶ Mined and sent to Hanging Rock 1,001,600 bushels of coal,

The so called loss at Ohio Furnace is in expenditures in preparing for blast of 1866,

Explanations

of

Mearns, Tyler & Co.

Balances

April 1st 1866,

have Mary Abbott nursing ^{me of business}
and the twins have been invited
out twice to tea - But we have
had such wretched weather since
we have been here that I have
not had as many calls as I
should have had otherwise -
I think I shall come home
next week on the Ohio or if
I don't I will be on the ^{next} Thursday
boat - do you or Martin can
be down to carry up the baby
Love & kisses to all the children
Love to Biddy & Mrs Wilson -
Love & kisses for yourself
from your affectionate

the girls that they have not seen you
for a long time have forgotten how you
look & I want to tell you you look as well as ever
Maucha April 2 / 1866

Dearest John

I will write you a
few lines to let you know that
we are all well and are hoping
you are all in the same condition
I feel quite anxious about Harry
fearing he may get chills again
be sure & make them keep him
in the house until the middle of
the day, when it is warm -
Mother had a chill last week
and has not left her room
since - Mary Ross is very

they getting ready for some
talking & a supper which the
school girls are to have Tuesday &
Wednesday evenings - Little an
again it will be, judging from the
fuss made on it - I was invited
to the Literary Club at Mrs Geo
Woodruges last Tuesday -
Wednesday evening I was invited
to Maria Woodruges - & Saturday
a tea party at Fannie Slack's
in my honor - quite an
elegant affair - The Seventh
of April the Pioneer Society of
Cincinnati are coming up here

to celebrate the day - great
times are expected - Fannie's
& 75 or 80 are coming, as they are to
have a free pass on the Railroad
I hope you have written another
letter to Ben Putnam in regard to
the Bank - as I wrote you, the letter
you wrote before, never reached him
and he is talking about sending a
to Maria Woodruges - & Saturday
hurry about it - They don't mean
to make many buckets this year
so you might possibly get him
if you would offer a big salary
enough - I hope you will - I

[10 April 1866]

Know all men by these presents, that we William Means and Nancy Means his wife, of the County of Jefferson, and State of Ohio, in consideration of the sum of Five Hundred Dollars, to them in hand paid by Thomas W. Means, of the County of Lawrence, in the State of Ohio, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have and by these presents do sell, release, convey, assign and set over to the said Thomas W. Means, his heirs and assigns, one undivided Eighth part of the lands owned by the Buena Vista Furnace Company at the time of the decease of James W. Means, deceased, and being the undivided share he owned in said lands at the time of his decease, and being the same premises conveyed by the Executors of James W. Means, to the said William Means, by deed dated March 24th 1858, and recorded in the office for recording Deeds in the County of Greenup & State of Kentucky, said lands being situate in the said County of Greenup, ^{as the same was constituted before the creation of the County of Boyd} in the State of Kentucky, and bounded and described as follows: to wit, One hundred and thirty acres situate on the waters of Straight Creek, a branch of Williams Creek, a branch of the East fork of Little Sandy, bounded as follows, beginning at Col Daniel Higgins S.W. corner of his 50 acre survey a large Chestnut & Poplar, thence South 100 Poles to a white Oak, & Hickory west, crossing straight Creek 81 poles to two white Oaks, thence North 245 poles to one white Oak, east 10 poles to a large white Oak N 22 E. 12 poles to a Beech, N 78 E, 80 poles to a white Oak, S 30 E, 20 poles to a white Oak & Hickory west 18 poles to a Sycamore & Elm, thence South 115 poles to the beginning. Also one other tract of land situate on straight Creek, a branch of Williams Creek containing

fifty acres, bounded as follows, beginning on the north side of the Creek on a bench on the hill, at a double Beech S 42 E, 50 poles to a Beech, white Oak & Maple, S 15 W, 20 poles to a white Oak, S 25 W, 140 poles to three white Oaks, N 42 W, 50 poles to two black Oaks & Gums, N 25 E, 140 poles to a stone, N 15 E, 20 poles to the beginning. The two foregoing tracts are the same that were on the 19th day of November A. D. 1847, deeded by Thomas Moran & wife to John Culbertson, James W. Means, John C. Locke, Hugh Means, Samuel McLean & William Foster & reference thereto is had for greater certainty of description. Also another tract of land, situated on the East fork of Little Sandy & its waters, being the same tract of land, on which the Buena Vista Furnace is erected, bounded & described as follows, beginning on Grayson's line on the dividing ridge between Brush Creek & Ciren Creek at three white Oaks, one Pine & one Hickory, thence N 21 E, 40 poles N 18° N, 12 poles, N 46 poles, N 56° E, 43½ poles, N 25° W, 18 poles, N 18° E, 22 poles. N 37° E, 24 poles, N 60° E, 14 poles N 3° E, 24 poles, N 55° E, 34 poles. N 25° E, 46 poles, N 14° E 22 poles, N 34° E, 38 poles, S 54° E, 48 poles, N 10° E, 28 poles, N 22° E, 46 poles, N 22° W, 30 poles, N 26° E, 42 poles N 65° E, 28 poles, N 22° W, 20 poles, N 65° W, 18 poles, N 38° W, 18 poles, N 19° W, 16 poles, N 17° E, 30 poles, N 15° W 20 poles, N 47° E, 18 poles, N 18° W, 24 poles, N 21° E, 12 poles, N 5° E, 30 poles, N 53° W, 18 poles, N 49° W, 20 poles, S 61° W, 18 poles, N 46° W, 14 poles, N 32° W 18 poles, N 79° W, 17 poles, N 42° W, 36 poles, N 15° W, 11 poles, N 2° W 24 poles, N 24° E, 25 poles, N 58° W, 20 poles, N 53° W, 18 poles, N 39° W, 15 poles, N 66° W, 32 poles, N 52° E, 22 poles, N 83° E, 54 poles, N 36° W, 28 poles, N 50° W,

16 poles, N 14° W, 32 poles, N 6° E, 14 poles, N 53° W, 40 poles
to two black oaks, N 82° E, 60 poles, S 31° E, 30 poles, N 87° E, 50 poles,
N 78° E, 26 poles, N 35° E, 68 poles, S 58° E, 26 poles, N 72° E,
29 poles, N 53° E, 25 poles, S 83° E, 17 poles, S 21° E, 92 poles
to two white oaks + Hickory, N 55° W, 118 poles, to a white
oak on a point, S 21° W, 12 poles to two Poplars, Chestnut +
Maple, N 53° E, 223 poles to a stake, N 45° W, 12 poles to a
black oak, N 45° E, 134 poles to a white oak + Sugar near
a drain, N 45° W, 18 poles with Cogshel's line, N 28° E, 69
poles to two Buckeyes + Sugar tree, N 42° E, 36 poles to an
Ash, Poplar + Buckeye, N 7° E, 14 poles to two Beeches, N
72° E, 26 poles to Beeches + Sugar tree, S 65° E, 16 poles to two Sugar trees
+ Beech, East 40 poles to four Sycamores, four Poplars + Dogwood, on the
west bank of the east fork, West 68 poles to two Beeches on a hill
side, South 160 poles to three black oaks, East 68 poles, to a
stake, N 25° E, 66 poles to a stake across the east fork, East 200
poles to four Hickories + white oak, on top of the point between Williams
Creek, + East Fork, S 77° W, 78 poles, crossing the Creek at 70 poles
to a Poplar + two Beeches + Ash, S 23° E, 16 poles to a Sugar tree Beech +
Buckeye, S 45° E, 46 poles to a Sugar tree, Beech + Buckeye, S 78° W, 87 poles
to two white oaks, South 212 poles to north side of a branch, East
32 poles to four Gums + Poplar on a branch, South 160 poles to a Hickory
in a deep drain below a large rock, East 100 poles to Williams Creek,
S 41° W, 14 poles to Lewis Raisons line, South 74 poles to two
white oaks + Dogwood, S 10° W, 20 poles to Milligan's Corner in the
Creek, N 80° W, 120 poles to a Sycamore + two Elms near a branch, S
5° E, 70 poles to a Chestnut + Beech, S 80° E, 120 poles to a Beech + Gum
on the west side of the Creek, thence up the same S 6° E, 10 poles, to
three Beeches, S 19° E, 50 poles to three Beeches + white oak, S 10° E, 40

poles to Anderson's Corner, a Sourwood & White Oak on the top of the hill, West 160 poles to two Beeches & three white Oaks South 100 poles to two Dogwoods, White Oak & Poplar, East 160 poles to the Creek, thence up the Creek to Stuwarts line, S 41° E, 22 poles S 85° E, 58 poles, N 55° E, 43 poles, S 82° E, 19 poles, N 42° E, 16 poles to Stuwarts line where it crosses the Creek, thence with it S 28° W, 18 poles to three Hickories, S 13° W, 90 poles to a White Oak, Higgans Corner, S 20° W, 108 poles to two Sugartrus & white Oak, S 76° E 40 poles on Higgans line, S 83° W, 80 poles, S 22° W, 72 poles to two Beeches & Sugar tree N 6° W 40 poles to William's Corner to three black Oaks on a hill side, West 262 poles, South 258 poles, N 85° W, 780 poles with Grayson's line to the beginning, containing Five thousand Seven hundred & Eighty acres more or less. Being the same tract of land deeded by W^m M. Patten & wife, Jehu S. Patten & wife, George Warts & wife, & Edward Gibson & wife to Hugh Means, Samuel McLlave Thomas W. Means, & James W. Means, on the 15th day of March A.D. 1849, & reference to said deed is hereby made for greater certainty of description. And also another tract of land situate on Williams Creek a water of Little Sandy River, bounded & described as follows; Beginning on the western end of Shelton's three hundred acre tract of land at two white Oaks & Dogwood on a hillside; thence East 110 poles to a Sugar tree on the west bank of Williams Creek, thence down the same with its several meanders, N 5° E, 34 poles, N 23° E, 20 poles to a Cherry Tree, on the Creek bank, thence East 185 poles to a Chestnut Oak & Hickory, thence N 56 poles to two Red Oaks, two white Oaks, & two Hickories, thence West 300 poles to four Gums & a Poplar on a branch, thence south 98 poles to the beginning, containing One hundred & fifty acres of land.

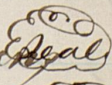
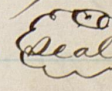
more or less. Being the farm on which said Richard Shelton lately resided and being the same tract of land, deeded by the said Richard Shelton + wife to Hugh Means on the 20th day of October A.D., 1852, to which said deed reference is hereby made for greater certainty of description.

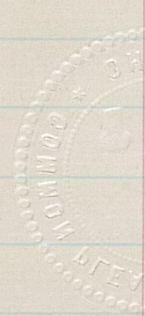
To have and to hold the one undivided eighth part of the foregoing several described tracts of land, to the said Thomas W. Means, his heirs and assigns forever, together with the ways watercourses, rights, immunities, privileges and appurtenances thereto belonging or in anywise appertaining to the same. And the said William Means, and _____ Means his wife, hereby covenant that they will warrant the undivided eighth of the foregoing tracts of land, to the said Thomas W. Means, his heirs and assigns, against the claim of themselves their heirs, assigns or legal representatives, and against the claim or claims of all persons claiming under them, but not against the claim of any other person or persons, or against any other claim whatever.

In testimony whereof the said William Means and Nancy Means, his wife (the said Nancy Means hereby relinquishing her right of Dower in the premises) have hereunto set their hands and seals, the 10th day of April One thousand Eight hundred and Sixty six.

Signed, Sealed, Acknowledged
& Delivered in presence of us.

N. W. Hoffman
James Elliott

Wm. Means 
Nancy Means 



The State Ohio Jefferson County Is

Before me, Clerk of the Court of Common Pleas for said County of Jefferson, personally appeared the above named William Means and Nancy Means his wife and acknowledged the signing and sealing of the foregoing conveyance to be their voluntary act & deed. I further certify that I did examine the said Nancy Means, separate & apart from her said husband and did then & there read & make known to her the contents of the foregoing instrument & upon that examination she did declare that she did voluntarily sign, seal and acknowledge the same and that she is still satisfied therewith.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my name & affixed the seal of said Court at Steubenville in said County this 10th day of April one thousand eight hundred & sixty six
James Elliott Clerk



State of Kentucky - Boyle County, Sec.
J. C. Hampton Clerk of the County Court of
the County aforesaid do Certify that the forego-
ing deed from William Means and Nancy
Means, his wife to Thomas W. Means, was on the
24th day of May 1866. Stamped as required by law
and placed in my office for Record and toget-
her with this Certificate and the Certifica-
tes of the Clerk of the Court of Common
Pleas, of Jefferson Co. Ohio. Have this day
been duly recorded in my office,

Given under my hand this 25th day of
May 1866. J. C. Hampton Clerk

Wm Means wife
To/best
Thomas W. Means

Filed for Record May
24th 1866.

Recorded in Deed
Book No 3, Page
712-3-4+5

Examined

Recording fee 25-
Dues 50
\$2.75-

Paid
W. O. Hampton Clerk

Anna Means died last Friday, tell
 Mary - She was very happy at the
 prospect of death - but suffered a good
 deal at the last - she was laid out
 in a new blue silk she had never
 worn - & Mrs Lantick told me she
 was one of the most beautiful
 corpses she ever saw - Her face
 retaining its fulness, in spite of her long
 illness & eating so little - They took her
 to Manchester & had the funeral on Sunday
 afternoon at the church which was
 crowded by her friends - John got home
 last night - We are beginning to have
 some warm weather here - & things look
 ten days ahead of Manilla - My peach
 trees are blooming but not, at all freely
 Martin is digging up my plum tree
 today as I want to get rid of them -
 John has had 2 or 3 more dug up
 set out around the yard which help
 the looks of it considerably - Give my
 love to George - Mary & Mr. Ross with
 Fanny & all inquiring friends - I hope you are
 healthy may keep good & that you may have
 a pleasant visit to Lakesville - I suppose Mrs.
 Baker is sleeping in your room - talking to you by spells
 during the night - I hope to hear from you soon
 Yours ever
 James

I do with the entire the back of hands
 long & come & live with me - it would be
 hard that I could be with you all the
 time - Weiland seems to know me without you
 Weiland April 11 1866.

My Dear Mother

As you wish to hear
 from me as soon as possible I will
 write a few lines to let you know that
 I arrived in safety - Mary Ross
 can give you the particulars - until
 the boat started - after that the trip
 was ^{at} disagreeable to me, as it, always
 is, on your favorite boat - Tell
 Mary - I only found three loaves in
 three biscuits - Only 1 black so I suppose
 the cook is of African descent - The
 chamber maid was very cross & put
 on many airs - would not let the
 children run, or the baby look in the
 looking glass - or allow them any liberty -
 while if she had attended to her own
 business & put on cleaner sheets on the beds
 & washed ~~in~~ a little dirt out of the towels
 it would have been better - However all

Mrs Means from Anne at work practicing & playing

things disagreeable have an end sometimes
and so did my trip on the Ohio -
we reached Ashland just at dark -
found Newton Kelly waiting to carry
up the baby - Mr. Means bring away
having gone to Anna's funeral at
Manchester - Found my house-
keeper very sick - And Biddy + the
children very much delighted to see
me home again - John had ~~me~~
I painted in the house, painting the
walls pink + wood work oak -
of the lower hall + the sitting room
+ bedroom - I like the dark paint
but would rather ^{have} had paper on
the walls - He meant to have
had it done while I was away
but the painter disappointed him
by coming a week later than they
promised - And he insisted upon it
that I told him I should stay
~~at~~ 4 or 5 weeks and said he did
not expect me for a week or two yet

will to send out in the morning
I had ~~the~~ ^{it} ~~at~~ ^{people} ~~at~~ ^{gone} home - for the
housekeeper being sick + nervous the poor
things had to stay out doors or in the
kitchen and looked like they needed
somebody to take their part - However
my relations packed her off home
in the morning much to my relief -
I don't think I will try her again for
a housekeeper - For she was of very little
use - according to Biddy who was quite
disgusted with her + her relations -
Between the sick woman + the
paint I had to bring the six children
+ sleep + stay upstairs with them -
So I don't feel at all settled yet -
The man that does the oaking is yet
in Canton - had been sent for but has
not yet arrived - and I am afraid
won't come very soon - I am getting
very impatient as it is I measured all
over our clothes + the smell is not so
agreeable to me as it is to you -

I have a dreadful time with the
painters as fast as I get a room
in order they go in & pull every thing
out in the middle of the floor & go
to painting - I fix over again & the next
day they go & pull all out again -
So it goes - They have the blinds off
now & will have my carpets all faded
out before they get them on again -
I get quite provoked with them -
They are a second match to Pete
Haskell - I am sorry to hear that
Mrs Woodbridge's eye sight is failing
so fast give her my love & also to Pida
and Sis Nye - Also to Charles - Sarah
Purcell & Sophie & tell them I would
like a chest from them all -
Love to Mary & George - And much more
from your self from Hattie

The children are much pleased
to think ^{that} Grandma thought they were
good children -

The most agreeable the last evening
in this letter - I wish it in the
morning - And as you have got the clock
that I wish about till what an evening

Andover May 1st 1866 -

My Dear Mother

I was very glad to hear
from you at last and find you
had not been homesome since I left
having Mrs. Barker to entertain you
so finely - and am glad you have
your house cleaning finished to suit
you - Would like to see the room
with that beautiful white paper on
it - I should admire it much
more than I do my own pink walls
The painters have been varnishing
today in my room and the walls
& floor oak paint shine so you could
almost see your face in them
I would so much rather ~~have had~~ ^{have had}
paper than paint on the walls - I
think they will be so much harder
to keep clean - I was quite

surprised at your post master
making my Mrs. S. P. Hildreth into
a Mrs. S. B. Hildreth. I shall have
to direct to Mrs. Rhoda Hildreth
hereafter as I do not care about
Mrs. Stearn Hildreth reading my
letters by you do. I think Dale
B. Smith must be in need of spectacles
he ~~made~~ such mistakes.

I wrote this for last night & got so
sleepy, that the writing is not quite
perfect. Hildreth had a chill
Monday and today he had a
regular shake of it & the fever after
it seemed to make him very sick.
I gave him Quinine all day yesterday
but it did not seem to do him any
good. The Dr says he is in danger
of congestive chills. Biddy has been
sick with something like chills for
a week & I expect I shall have
to let her go home Monday & stay

till she is better. I have her sister
with me at present. The Ague is
so common about town - ^{nearby} every one who
had it last year is having it again
this year. They are beginning to drain
the ponds - but they are so slow about
it I fear it will not do much good.
We are having some cool weather
now - frost enough to hurt the gardening
~~and~~ and kill all the peaches that were
left. I shall have to make
pumpkin preserves this fall as I
doubt see any chance of getting anything
else to eat - Peaches - Apples - pears
& even goose berries were all injured by
the frost. So my ~~first~~ ^{first} canned fruit this
year will be very scarce.
Mrs. Burgess, Mrs. Cullen & John
Means ~~are~~ ^{came} ~~last~~ yesterday
and will take tea with me
tomorrow. As it will be Hildreth's
well day I must improve it.

Rec. Note of 10 May 1866 \$ 9,000 00
 Interest to 1 Oct 1868 2y 4-21" 1,291 50
 \$ 10,291 50

1868 April 1 - To part payment \$ 571 92
 Oct 1 " Interest at $\frac{571.92}{6}$ 17 15
 " 1 " part payment \$ 6,150 00 \$ 6,739 07
 Balance \$ 3,552 43
 1869 May 1 Interest 7 mos 124 30
 Balance \$ 3,676 73
 Balance of note } 2,278 08
 " interest } 1,398 65

571.92
 6,150.00
 2,278.08
 9,000.00

Note of 10th May 66 @ 1 day for \$ 10,000
 Rec. 1869 - 1 May 67 paid in stock \$ 8,603 27
 3,676 73
 11th call pd \$ 12,300 00

Calculation of Notes
and interest to 1 May 1869 -
By J. C. M. Co. with
Thos. Williams

$$15 \overline{) 4.5}$$

$$\begin{array}{r} 4.5 \overline{) 15} \\ \underline{13.5} \\ 1.5 \end{array} \quad 3.3$$

take it - The scarlet fever is in town but I hope will not spread much - one death from it

I was sorry to see Mother Putnam's death in the paper - It did not say how old she was nor what disease she died with - I should like to know - I went to see her the last time I was up & she seemed quite well then -

Tell Mary Ross we are expecting the new preacher this week & there will be great excitement among the girls I expect - And ~~she~~ ^{she} will have to hurry down if she will have half a chance in the contest - Tell her to tell Lucy Woodbridge that Ida Miss regretted what she never had made her, she promised with you she moved away - We are all so sorry to lose Ida & Mrs. Dix - You did not say whether you bought Ellison Cooke a copy of the bible with his money I would like to know I suppose you will have to keep them until I come up again I suppose you got the fork & spoon - I will be apt to borrow them at parties - Love to Mr. Ross George & Mary - & much to yourself from
Hester

Ashland June 17th 1866

My Dear Mother

I was glad to hear from you once more for it seemed an age, since I had received a letter from you - I believe I have only had three letters from you since I was in Martha in March - I suppose you were so busy visiting you had no time for letter writing - You must have had rather a sorrowful visit in ^{if} Lanesville with poor Mr. Sorainen to sick - I am glad you enjoyed your visit in Dresden - The old farm house is a right pleasant place - The only thing it used to want was more fruit trees but Pres intended setting out more of them, I believe - At any rate from your description he had something good to eat

And that in these days of high
prices is considerable - It is a fine
thing you got home before the hot
weather - you would have roasted
in Tanesville such weather as we
have had today - I wish Prescott
& family would come to see me after
Commencement - I should enjoy a visit
from them very much - I suppose
you feel very fine with your new
carpet - I should like to see it - you
did not say what kind of a carpet
it was - I have a new "Chesterfield"
or Lacque - which I think is very
handsome - I have my new dress
made - now a pretty gingham dress and
a white Swiss tucked waist - so I
am getting tolerably cool - Dr. & Mrs
Wris & family leave us for good
next week - Mr. & Mrs. Baine came
up from the City to see them & stayed
several days - so I suppose Mrs.

Wris was rather hindered in her
packing - I suppose you are
luxuriating on straw berries & soon
will be on Raspberries - We don't have
much enjoyment of that kind but
I am trying to get all the modern
improvements I can - I have a new
ice cream freezer - one of those patent
churn dashes to bring butter in seven
minutes - And a patent egg beater
with a handle to turn like a coffee
mill so the children can beat
my eggs now when I make cake -
We are all well - I was out to
Beuna Vista Furnace to see Jane
since I wrote to you - Mother
means + I stopped at a house
to wait for the carriage to come
after us - a man was sick in
the next room + the next day
we heard he broke out with the
small pox - however we did not

shall have to go by myself -

Mary Anne was just in on her way out to
Bunka Vista to see Lane - Mother Means is
out there - Lane has a young daughter
a week old - I enclose 2 dollars with which
I wish Mary Ross to buy an embroidered
Lacenet Baby waist - as I wish to make
the new baby a present - If she cannot get
a handsome one for that price you can be
good enough to lend her the balance &
I will send it up to you in another letter -
She can send the waist to me in your
next letter - and I shall be much
obliged to her ladyship for her trouble -
Martha Means & Belle have gone to Minnesota
on a pleasure trip with the children
Gertrude & Pearl - Martha to spend the summer
I suppose the summer was not cool enough for her
Give my love to Mary George - Peter - Mr Ross
and all enquiring friends - I hope you
may keep well this summer the time
seems very long till fall till I can see
you again - Much love to yourself
from Louis Hattie

Ashland June 25th 1865 -

My Dear Mother

I was very much pleased
to receive your letter and find you in
such fine health and having such a
gay time - Mrs Wells' sister's wedding must
have been very splendid - I should have
liked to have seen it very much -
I expect the Dana girls & Mary P. made
her some handsome presents - she
made a good choice of bridesmaids
on that account - And my good
looking ones too - St Lukes Church - shows
off a wedding party finely - Mrs Cadwallader's
daughter's wedding which I attended there
was about the prettiest one I ever saw - & this
I suppose excelled that - as the ladies will

so handsome - I should have enjoyed
Commencement & seeing Prescott very much.
I hope you did not get too much fatigued
by the company - I don't have much
fun but what I get up myself -
Last week I gave two parties & went to
a picnic so I had a good time -
First on
Wednesday I made one of my little
parties in honor of the new preacher -
I gave out 85 invitations - which were
pretty generally accepted - It was a
beautiful morning and as they all
stayed till after 12 o'clock I suppose
they had a good time - I had a
very pretty table - My wine jelly
pyramid - & square pyramid of cake
with a heavy green wreath in the center
Six or 8 kinds of cake in baskets &
bread & butter, biscuits - tongue - Sardinia
stewed prunes & prunes au - ice cream

& coffee - I had four pounds of ice
cream - the first time I ever made
any for a large party & it was so
much trouble I don't think I shall
ever try it again - Thursday I had
so much cake & a left - I told the
children they might have a party
so they invited in all the little girls
of their acquaintance & had a nice
time - Saturday, there was a Sunday
School picnic in the Park - The
Winton Sunday School were to have
been here but on account of the rain
in the morning - they gave up coming -
The children wanted to go, so I had
to go with them to take care of
them - & we had a pleasant day of it -
To night there is to be another party -
for the preacher at Dr. Mount's house
John has gone to Portsmouth so I

She thinks more of you than
any of the rest of the lady friends
She is always asking about you -
John has gone out to the Lunatic
to stay this week - So I am quite
alone again - Tom Means
is in very poor health - I am
afraid he is going into a Consumption
he took cold when he was East at
School, last winter & took no care
of himself - Mother & Father Means
are very uneasy about him -
Give my love to Peter & Sis. George
Mr. Russell - Tell Mary to write
to me & give me the news of her
homeward trip - Write soon to yours
Father

Ashland July 31st 1846
My Dear Mother
I expect you think
I am a long time writing to you -
but I suppose of course you know
the reason - that Mary Ross has
been writing so frequently & receiving
so many letters that you were
kept well posted as to the health
of myself & family - and I thought
I would wait until she left
before writing - Yesterday Monday
she left on the Telegraph for
Portsmouth expecting to leave there
with her friends on Thursday -
I enjoyed her visit very much
and would have liked her to
stay longer - if I thought you
had not needed her at home
for company - There are not

very many young people in
Ashland - but I made her a
party soon after she came - so all
the young Ladies called - but I had
a hard time to find any trays
for her - She was out to dinner
twice & to tea at Mrs. Coley -
She will tell you about her trip
to Coalton on the Cars & our visit
to Fasher Mead by land - Mary
doing the driving - we had a gay
time - She was so proud of it
that she says she intends to drive
you, in the carriage when she gets
home - but I told her I should
warn you not to trust her for
fear she would upset you -
Her party passed off very well -
except I got one piece of ice
cream salt as the ocean - fortunate
ly though the other piece was
good & enough for the company

I was very sorry though that in
putting it in ^{the} large glass dish
you gave me it broke ^{it} in two
pieces - Mary spent most of her
time afternoon, in sleeping & then
riding on horseback - ~~in~~ John
was away ten days so she had
the horse whenever she pleased
& sometimes rode twice a day
In the morning she made doll
clothes - dressed five new dolls
which pleased the children
very much - I hope you kept
well while she was gone - I was
afraid you might be taken sick
in the night - You ought to have
somebody always sleeping in
the room with you for fear of
getting sick suddenly -
Mrs. Wilson sent you some
flowers - I hope Mary will get
them up safely - I believe

I am so sorry to hear that Sis
eye is no better - she must be
a great sufferer - it seems strange
that nobody can help her -
Give my love to Sis + Nita + Fanny
George - Mr Ross + Mary -
I think Mary might write to me
sometimes - The girls still
regret that she could not have
stayed longer in Ashland -
I am going to have a sewing
woman come Monday to help
let down the childrens winter
clothes so I shall be very busy
next week - Write soon to
Yours aff - Hattie -

Your namesake - Cook - tried climbing
out the window to day but did not
like it when he got on the wrong side
holding by his hands - I rescued him
though before he fell -

the most ^{of} my first writing
- week now

Ashland Sept. 8. 1866 -

My Dear Mother

I was very glad
to hear from you at last ^{today}
for it seemed a long time since
I had had a letter from you
I began to fear you had been
sick again - But I suppose
as you have just had a large
tea party you must have been
in pretty good health - You did
not say who it was given in honor
of, I suppose it must have been
for your own benefit -

We all continue in good health
and as the melons are gone +
the corn too old to use any more
I suppose I may be considered
in some degree out of danger

our neighbors have some sickness
Mrs Coles little girl - Lucy has typhoid
fever - very sick Mr Callahan
has the dysentery - he has lived
on Bush & milk & butter milk
all summer - which dont seem to
have agreed with him as well
as melons & corn did with me -
Mr Gattell has had a dreadful
carbuncle on the back of his
head for five weeks - he is out
of danger but still in bed with it
it is as large as your two hands & open
in fifteen places - John & I were in
to see him tonight & he looks
quite sick yet - I heard one
case of Scarlet fever in a family
of nine children so it will be apt
to spread - I hope my children
won't take it -
I suppose you are having Sarah
put up fruit for winter use

We have so little spirit I have
quite a rest this year - I
had a peck of quinces & grapes
yesterday made into jelly
& it was ^{all} very nice - They ^{make} grapes
make such a pretty colored jelly
Biddy & I have canned five
bushels & a half of Tomatoes & have
finished that business - I tried
making sweet pickles of the green
tomatoes by a recipe I found in
the last ^{Sept} Lady's friend - it is very good
only I did not use so much
vinegar as the rule said -
I was invited to tea at Mrs O'Faulks
& Mrs Hillons last week - had a
nice time John has been gone
all this week to Portsmouth
& some quinces - he has been
so afraid of cholera that he has
not ~~traveled~~ much lately - He
came home with Hawron -

Could get a chance - Is Rita
 still confined at home with her
 mother - Mr Byington must
 have been rather a troublesome
 visitor - I should think you
 would have been afraid to visit
 him - Aunt Amanda's old woman
 who always nurses her & attend
 her instead of a doctor - has almost
 so you will soon hear some news
 from there - Linnie says ~~the~~ "Grandma"
 Minnock has come & she has not
 been here before for six years - "which
 amused John considerably - Give my
 love to Mary - George Mr Ross &
 all inquiring friends - Biddy sends
 her love to you - The children are all
 well - Elly Cooke when you ask him
 where he's going - says "down town" very
 plainly - he talks more than Hairy
 Hairy's curls are cut off & he looks as
 ugly as possible - Mary would not
 know him - Write soon to yours
 Hattie

Did you see ~~any~~ pie plant?
 I think I will try it - It is done in
 it is one for ~~brother~~ ^{the} wife - don't like
 it the ^{one}

Ashland Sept 17th 1866

My Dear Mother

I was happy
 again to hear from you and
 find you still well - Your
 letter contains quite astonishing
 news in regard to Sam Putnam's
 marriage - The lady spoken of
 must be the one that I heard
 he was in love with two years
 or more ago - Becca Stone I suppose
 seeing her at the sister's wedding
 renewed the smitition - I suppose
 she must be lively or Sam would
 not fancy her - About my
 making my visit in time for
 the parties is very uncertain -
 I want to see you very much
 but would rather wait until

mosquitoes and sickness have
abated considerably - I shall not
send you word when I am coming
as I don't know myself - and if I
did, Sarah Dabolt might fancy to
run off as she did once before -
So we will let it be among the things
that are uncertain - I am having
my fall sewing done now - I had a
woman here last week letting out
letting down & having finished that
part of the business she took home
a suit for Harry & three dresses
& seven dresses for the rest to make
& I shall have to get Hildreth
some clothes made & I bought a
very pretty dress for myself that
I think I shall have made by
^{my} winter travel - so when we do come
the Mantua makers wont
make their fortunes out of us - I
always have to coax them so hard

to sew any for me - I want to go
down to Boston Bazaar next week
the Boston Fair comes off then
and I should like to see what it
& the people look like as I never
attended one there yet -
I am glad Mary can make the
little machine run - Mrs Payne
came in Saturday said she heard
I had two machines & came to see
if she could not buy or rent one -
I told her ^{then} she was too late as I had
given one away & used the other
& she has since a milliner
and Mantua maker & is going
into the business of dresses & hats
largely - so we shall soon be a
gay looking people -
I am glad to hear Sarah Lovell
is better I think lying still once
in a while is good for sick
people & well ones too if they

I hope you find Mrs. Evensen &
Mrs. Ballou agreeable - Do not
let the Condit stay with you all
night - Fannie Slack praises
him says he never did anything
wrong in his life - Many trusts
says he is far ahead of Mr. Wickes
in which opinion I join her -
Manitka is rather dull at
present - not as much visiting
as usual - I am having a
very good ^{quiet} time with Mother -
Love to all inquiring friends -
I hope you have your cough cured
by this time if you have not you
must get Dr. Hunt to give you a
dose - Love & kisses to yourself from
Auntie

Don't forget to get Joe Alexander to
wash the ceiling & walls while we are gone
& Martin to stop the cats ⁱⁿ out of the closet
in the dining room

Manitka Oct 15th 1856

Dearest John

I have been intending
to write to you ever since I came
but my time has been so much
occupied - We arrived here safely
Thursday morning at 5 o'clock
The clerk Capt. Merrill was so
polite that he came all the way
up to the house with me with a
lantern though it was daylight -
Capt. Case & Capt. Merrill were both
very polite - and with Mrs. Turner for
company I got along nicely -
George thought he had a patient,
when I knocked and failed one
out of the window, but soon found
himself mistaken -

I found Mother well & all the family
Sarah Abbott is talking of going
away but has not left yet - would
have left sooner if she knew we were
coming - The Children have spent
their tomato money with some of mine
and ~~got~~ bought three such big dolls I
don't know how I shall ever get them
home - I want you to send Mother
up ^{one or} two bushels of the largest of our
Sweet potatoes on the Ohio - or ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~send~~
Tell Martin to gather the ^{beans} Beans
that are ripe - and if there is
any green tomatoes to put them
in the cellar -

Sarah Lovell is going to Cincinnati
on Thursday to consult the best
physicians of the city - so I shall
see but little of her - Pata is
very much occupied with her
Mother I was over to see her
Saturday and I don't know when

I have seen anything that made
me feel so sad as to see the
dear old lady blind -
Sam Putnam was here Sunday to
tea - he is to be married this week
I believe - Doug Putnam is very
anxious for me to make him a
visit but I don't think I can
unless you come after me -
Mother sends her love & says she
wants you to come up - & she will
keep us until you do - Ella Coker retained
a fond recollection of you - he looked
out of the window and saw a
big black man going by & called
out "papa-papa" -

Es Vye says she saw the income
list of our part of the County & saw
yours put at \$2500 - for last year
so if you made that much - I
hope you will have the kitchen
started by the time we come home

himself and keeps well -
Write & tell me if you are coming
up or not, you did not say -
And you can do, as you please
about it - Yours Father

The sweet potatoes + your letter
have just arrived - Mother
says the potatoes are a very
acceptable present - You write
such short letters that you must
have your time very much
occupied - or else news must be
very scarce indeed -

Maivita Oct 23^d 1866 -
Dearest John

I will write you a few
lines to let you know that my
family are all well - and hope that
yours are enjoying the same blessing -
I suppose from the shortness of your
letter you had not much news
to communicate - Maivita is rather
more quiet than usual -
Sarah Lovell has gone to Cincinnati
for her health - Henrietta E. has a
sick child so I have nobody but
Jan + Rita to depend on - and as
Rita has her Mother to attend to
& Sammie's girl ^{has} gone home on a visit
leaving her to do her own work
they are not seen as often as usual -
Annon I have had about thirty

calls & and they will take some
little time to return - I attended
the literary club at Nitas last
week which was rather more
interesting than usual - the selections
not being so learned as Charlie Goddard
generally has them - and being followed
by ice cream & cake made it very
agreeable - ~~Some~~ Friday I took tea
with Lydia & Ben in their new
house - it is not finished yet
but they have three rooms to use
so we went early so as to give
finish our visit before it was
time for their children to go to
bed - The old house will be grand
when it is finished - so much
room in it - Oh if I only had a
dining room (or a new kitchen)
like other people have I how pleased
I would be - Ben is such a

good hand to arrange & plan -
Sam has bought a nice square
& brick house - near his father's
He arrived with his bride on
Friday - Mother & I went over to call
- Mary Ross from the Cambridge
we found her as fat as Mrs
Nichols nearly - light hair & blue
eyes - not remarkably handsome
but looking perfectly healthy & good
natured - Mother is going to give
the bride & me a party on Friday
so I shall have to help make
cake & get ready for it -
Next week Mary Putnam is going
to give a party for them -
we have had splendid weather
since I have been here - very agreeable
last week - How is Aunt Arkanda?
Give my love to Lilauth if you
see him again - I hope he behaves

Ashland Nov 7th 1866.

My Dear Mother -

I will write you a few lines to let you know that ~~that~~ I and my little army are once more safely at home. And that the trunks and boxes all arrived in safety and are carefully unpacked & contents stowed away in the various cupboards & trunks & shelves assigned to their use. - It has taken me all day to unpack & do a little cleaning. - The house is of course horribly dirty. Every bed in the house has been slept in & left unmade and it will take two or three days to get cleaned again at all.

John is a very bad housekeeper and never seems to improve - I wish George would come down & give him some lessons as you say he is so neat & keeps the house so clean -

We got down safely on the Ohio reached Ashland about 5 1/2 o'clock in the afternoon - Went to the Hotel and took supper and then came home - The baby took more cold and has been very cross - Still very much inclined to the croup - We will send for Hilaneth when we get a little more letter -

I wish I could step in & see you this evening - I think maybe I might keep awake - particularly if I find Mrs. Pyle there - ~~Had~~ I wish I had her for a neighbor - I have not seen Aunt Amanda since I came down - They say she has a fine large baby and it has the colic, & sleeps all day

and cries all night which is her usual luck in babies -

John is very busy in writing his name in the hundred dollars worth of new books he has just bought for his library - I tell him he had a great deal better have saved his money & ~~put~~ ^{spent} it in helping to build the new kitchen - Don't you think so too? - Give my love to Mary - George - Mr. Ross and all enquiring friends - And write soon to
Love +^c Hattie

This is the night of Mrs. Basworthy's party I am sorry I cannot attend, I enjoyed my visit in Maunita so very much - I did hate to come away -

I stand in constant alarm of his
having the Croup again as he
frequently breathes hoarsely -
But as yet he has had no
return of it - I suppose you
are busy preparing for Thanksgiving
I wish I could dine with you
for I cannot even hear of a Turkey
& shall have to be content with a
goose - which your friend Mrs
Crony has been saving for some
time for me - You remember your
introduction to Mrs Crony - "Thine
& its you, are the fine lady" - She
called to see me immediately after
my return & inquired after you -
Love to Mary - George - Mr Ross Rita
& all my friends - Please write when
Sis Lovell comes home as I wish
to write answer her letter - Hoping
you will keep well this winter
I am yours affly
Attie

Ashland Nov 24th 1866 -

My Dear Mother

I have been
thinking of writing to you for
some time, but have been waiting
for something interesting to write
about. The most delightful
topic to Biddy and me, just
now, is, that we have just finished
our fall, house cleaning - and
are quite remarkably clean -
as we have not only washed,
the paint & floors - but also, the
walls, that are painted & have
had a man come & wash the
ceilings - so now we are clean
from top to toe & look & feel
any nice I assure you -
We feel as if we had nothing

left now to do but cook & eat
and Biddy is strongly urging
me to give a large party -
I am quite anxious to show my
new silver & china but shall
have to wait until the old hens
lay a few more eggs - ~~As~~ ^{to buy} eggs
~~They~~ would be impossible - They
are so scarce that the merchants
don't even know the price of them -
The children all keep well - Christmas
& the presents to be given & received
constitute the principal topic of
conversation ~~between~~ ^{for} them & Biddy
They are saving all their spare
money to invest but have so
many presents to make they
had hard work to find things
cheap enough - They are beginning
to think Santa Claus don't come
down the chimney - anyhow will
watch this year to be sure of it -

Their Aunt Jane sent them some
pretty toys for Christmas - and Mother
Means sent Elly Cooke a very pretty
plaid-gored dress she bought,
ready made in the City -
The ladies all inquire after you
and I tell each one you sent
them your love & all the young
ladies that Mary Ross sent them
dresses which appears to give them
much satisfaction - Mrs Wilson was
sent - I wish you would write their
names to me as I forgot to ask
you what they were - and she is
anxious to know -

Elly Cooke wears an old fashioned
stove pipe hat of Cohus, as big as
himself, nearly, all the time I wish
I could get his photograph taken
in it - you would be quite
amused with it -

cake in all - A great abundance
But as there were six Irish gals
in the kitchen there was not a
great quantity of goodies left -
The table, with your Sibon - was
equal to anything Ashland can
produce! - The Coffee was pronounced
excellent and your Coffee pot was
christened by the gentlemen
drinking they said, nine cups
apiece out of it - I suppose you
think Biddy was kept busy
refilling it - Altogether the Party
(like Mrs D. P. B. Swarth), may be
considered a perfect success -
John was away ten days - Came home
Saturday, was here Sunday & Monday
and left Tuesday, again - for
Cincinnati - I send you the pattern
of a stocking for the winter - and at
dollar to buy the yarn with I should
like them of the clouded red & white
with black stripes like the last ones you
knit for them I suppose this will knit one

And I don't know any good knitters
as the English ones are all
in a great hurry to get out
I will have your eyes examined and
then you will give you an
pair and will give you an
pair and will give you an

Ashland Dec 12th 1866

Dearest Mother

I have been looking
for a letter from you, for some time
and began to feel very much afraid
that you were sick - When at last
you welcome letter arrived, and I
was very glad to find that you were
in your usual health -
I was very much pleased with the
account of your Thanksgiving dinner
which rather surpassed mine on
Mrs. Poney's goods - Biddy thinks she
would have been very glad to have
been there - Biddy and I are just
receiving from the anxieties & fatigue
of giving a large party -
She told me I must not exhibit
my new Siberian tea set till after

Christmas - but I concluded as
I had it in the house I might
as well exhibit it. So I told the ladies
it was my Christmas present from
you & it was very much admired
I assure you - I set off the table
wonderfully - I invited 82 people
but as it turned cold that night
they did not all come - only enough
to fill the parlor up, so you could
hardly move in it - if more had
come they could hardly get in
& the Hall was too cold to stay in
as my Hall stove has not yet
been put up - We had a delightful
party - They played Charades
& every thing funny they could
think of - and enjoyed themselves
so much, they stayed till 10 minutes
of 12 - Daisy Moss will be encouraged
when I tell her there were besides
the married ones all the girls in

town & eight single gentlemen present
& 9 widows & five young gentlemen
which was most remarkable ^{for} ~~for~~
Ashland - I had intended having
about 12 cans of Oysters & giving a
regular Oyster Supper - and John
promised to get them for me in
the City but Saturday when he came
home it was so warm it he thought
they would not keep till Monday
& so did not bring them -
I could not get them in Canton so
was obliged to do without them -
I had 2 Turkeys, six chickens roasted
& sliced - Chicken salad Pickles -
tongues - Bread & butter biscuits
apples - fine apples - My pyramid
of fine jelly - My Pyramid
of cake - ~~Yours big cake pan~~
had another cake (baked in your
big cake pan) - three cake basket
full & some other - Six kinds of

get home before dark - I had
a hot roast turkey & as Soph
Wilson said a splendid supper -
I wish you could have been here
I know you would have enjoyed it
I suppose Mary Ross has had a
grand time today I wonder if she
has had a chance to wear her
skating suit yet - We have had
a little skating here -

I suppose you feel so grand in
your new church carpet you will
be surprised to hear that ^{you church} ~~we~~ have
a new carpet - of the same pattern
and of the same price as
yours and we all think it is
beautiful Mrs. Cole selected it at
Capt. Brown's store in the city -
The stockings fit exactly - I send
you a dollar with which you can
buy yarn to knit for a pair for Lily,
the same pattern & color as the one for
Rose & much oblige yours &c. Hattie

don't see how to ask drink water to see how to

Ashland Dec 25th 1866

My Dear Mother

I hope you
are having a merry Christmas today -
If it is as merry a one as we have
had today - I don't think you
could wish for anything more
lively - The children have had
a splendid time today - They
wish me to write and thank you
for the nice Christmas gift you
sent them of five dollars - They
consider it a magnificent present
but have not yet fairly decided how
they will spend it - I want them
to invest in something that will
last awhile - Last year they
bought Bibles and this year they
want to buy gilt edged testaments
or books of some kind They will

consider the matter awhile and
in the mean time are feeling
very rich - I have to thank you
again for my Christmas gift
my handsome teaset - and
hope you will have the pleasure
of drinking out of them yourself
next Spring - They are the nicest
Christmas gift I have ever had -
The children hung up two stockings
apiece last night and were awake
about half the night watching them -
This morning they were up before
day to examine their treasures
after breakfast they presented their gifts
which they had bought for each
other with money which they had
earned themselves - They had ten
new dolls - three of them wax dolls
that can cry - 3 cradles & a chum
quite an addition to their family
housekeeping - and any amount of
candy & candy toys - This afternoon

I spent in ~~the~~ helping them make
candy out of molasses and out of sugar
Biddy was away and we had the
whole kitchen to ourselves and had
a grand time at least she will
think so when she comes to clean
up tomorrow & wash the sticky
pans - Biddy is having a splendid
Christmas - It commenced by her
staying at Uncle Faghs (& sleeping
four in a bed) last night - As she
did not sleep much she was ready
to start to early Mass by four
o'clock this morning - and she
has been washing ever since - I
got dinner & supper so I have had
rather a busy day of it -
I wish you could have been
here last week to have attended
a tea party I gave Grandmother
Ellison - Mrs Long - Mrs Wilson
& others, 16 in all, were invited -
They came early so Grandmother could

of the same kind as the one I have from you
I am, my dear friend,

Marion Dec. 31. - 1866.

Dear Mattie,

I received your letter yesterday, "altho' it was Sunday" was happy to hear that you & yours are all in the enjoyment of good health.

Douglas Putnam I fear is called to mourn the loss of his little boy. he has been sick a few days of brain fever, a dispatch Saturday said he was just alive, & that was all I am expecting to hear of his death every hour; I do pity them very much.

I send you another stocking I hope it will do to go with the other as it was knit by guess.

I bought a dollars worth of yarn which will knit two pair of stockings

What will you have done
with the last dollar? Wouldn't
you like some mittens for the
little girls? I have knit some
for Mary Deess & Louery W. with red
tops & the rest white that they think
~~are very nice.~~ If you wish for me
mark out the hands on paper on
letter - yarn is a little cheaper than it was.

I am still bless'd with good
health, keep close to the fire, we
have ^{had} a few days of very cold weather
some snow, not enough for good
sleighing - but it does for skating
Mary L. has been out, is much engaged
now in making cake for callers tomorrow
Conely W. is to help her entertain her beaux
and eat Turkey. I wish you could be
here to dine with us, but as you can't I wish
you all a happy N. Year. - P. C. Hildroth