

Bowling Green Nov 29. 1867

My dear William

At last your long looked for letter, came
to hand, we are very glad to get it for we were afraid some
of you must be sick. I wrote to you some time ago but never got ^{an}
any word from you only, a paper. I wrote to Henry but he said he
^{had} not heard from you for some time, well we are ^{glad} you are all well, we were
in hopes you and Mary could have been here in the summer but we got
disappointed, we shall be very glad to see any of you, at any time Your dear
Father was taken very ill, last month, the day Henry & Martha
came to see us, he was taken with Vomiting, and Swimming in his head,
he could not walk about for some days, with ^{out} holding in some one, but
we ^{are} ~~very~~ ^{full} thank to say he ^{is} recovered again, tho' not ^{so} strong as he was before
Ann is quite pleased with her servant, from you, and desires her love to
you, and says she is much obliged to you for the Books and is quite proud
of them, she has been going to write to you, ever since we came here, but
she has been so very busy with one thing or other, and nearly all to do
herself, she as had to do all kinds of work to help to make the house
fitt for us to live in, Joseph is so constantly employed with his Farm and
practicing some, that he cant do as much ^{as} he would, but he helped us
all he could, he as a large Family to provide for, that he cant afford to
hire the help, he needs, poor fellow he as a hard time to get along but I

Hope, before Spring, he will sell some of his land, for it will be much better for him to have less land, & have means to get help to work it, then to keep so much land idle, his health is good now, & with some help, he can make a comfortable living on his Farm, but as it is he can't do so, his Family are all well and happy, we got a letter from Jos^{ph} Watkins he sold his Dwelling in Delaware, and as removed to Randolph, Portage Co Ohio he has a Farm of 40 Acres, there and keeps a Store in Center his 2 Oldest Daughters, are, Married, one to a Farmer, that owns a Farm near him the other to a Man from Puttsum, very Respectable Men both, how do poor dear Joe get along, with my Great Grand son, I long to see it, I suppose you begin to feel old, to have a Grand son was in hopes to have seen dear Willy before now, I suppose you are not going to Columbus this winter as you did not mention any thing about it in your letter, well I expect we are now settled here for a while, we have had it very cold, it is being blowing very hard for 5 or 6 days, and freezing, now it is snowed, it is more pleasant weather, if we remain here, another winter, we will have to make our dwelling warmer. Henry will be here again in the Spring and some of the Family, we get a letter from Henry every 2 weeks, he is very kind to us, when we do not get our Texts Regular, he always attends to us, he says we must not go without money, to get what we need we can't think what is the Reason, we do not get our Texts Regular we have written several times to our Agent in Centerville but have not heard from him since September, he is a Respectable Old Gentleman, and bears a good Character, we have been acquainted with him some years. Your dear Father wrote to a person there to see what is the Reason we have not heard from him

Poor Tommy for some time, he as been very sick after we left him. I think
I have given you all the news we have, I would write oftener but I get the
cramp in my arm & hand, I can scarce write, I have made a good many
Blind Cows, but I know you will be glad to have some sort of a letter
from your Mother, do not leave it so long again we want to hear
often from some of you, Give our dear love to Joe & his Wife tell him how
his little one for me we all write in dear love to you dear Mary and all
The rest of the dear Children Your Affectionate
Mother Ann Howells

Poor dear Anna, is at Dayton with her Aunt & Grandma for the winter
Henry says she is getting fatter & heartier Henry wonders you do not
write to him. What ever Henry lets us have, when we can't get
our Tents, we are to pay him when we can see some of our
Property in Centerville we live comfortable in the House we
have, but I would rather be nearer all my Children if I could
but I live in hopes of their coming to see us as often as they can
how do you get a long in your Printing Business, write soon