

How do you do Cousin dear how is your husband and the affections
spring how are they? My heart is she getting on nicely
wilt that book
any more?
Cousin Maggie
sends her a
package of love
and kisses
and wishes
her to be a good
girl, love to her
Please also to
the boys to
be true to the
Pakleys and in
deed to all our
friends accepting
as usual a comfortable
share for your-
self. Will we meet
again on earth
Maggie? Will we
meet in Heaven?
Love to Aunt Susan
and family please
and daily pray for
your Cousin
Maggie

By which I am surrounded the only way that I can
keep my letter writing under control is not to let
one out of my personal keeping until it is answered
and then I can trust it into the keeping of a trunk?
Being a little behind hand last week I wrote
neither but as the last three mails have brought
me nothing and I have nothing to answer
but ten days seems very long indeed not to have
heard from you I will take it upon me
to write to you but such a "heap" of things as
I have to say where shall I begin. That that
ought to be nearest my heart is about Uncle's
family. They are sick and suffering Cousin
Nettie & Louise have been really ill for some
weeks past and I learned from Belle that
they were without flour except such corn
meal as Charlie supplied them with in
part-payment of Benjie's wages I had been
there lately when they had neither tea or
coffee. Yesterday Alfred Sands informed me
that both Uncle & Aunt were down sick as
as the fastest of them each as my

well as Millie and Lizzie at noon I hastened
over taking my biscuits which were to be my
luncheon thinking to give them if one of ^{the} sick
ones could eat and take a piece of corn bread
instead Maggie I wish I could give you a correct
description of the appearance of that cabin as it ap-
peared to me Uncle was apparently asleep bolted
up in the bed in the room behind one side of
the curtain Aunt Lizzie was lying asleep clean
and neat they both were Millie had a bed of
quills on a trunk Netie & Louise both pale but
better than they were; Lizzie was not lying down
although she had a chill yesterday Mary had
gone of an errand & wood fire was burning
cheerfully in the chimney and the only window
was darkened so as to exclude the glare of the mid-
day sun. I followed Louise into the other cabin
where they cook and told Louise of the exchange
I wished to make they had no corn bread baked but
she thought her Pa. would eat something if they had
any thing they could eat and her Ma had express-
ed a wish to have a cup of tea and Netie said
she had thought of going to tell me but could
not make up her mind to do so I immediately
hurried to the store at Centropolis and bought
some tea sugar and a half pound of soda

Lizzie told me that Belle sent them some
tea, sugar, a piece of Beef and a prairie
Chicken yesterday. Uncle did not like it
because Phil had not attended more thor-
oughly to my paper but I have twelve
scholars at Four dollars a quarter, of
twelve weeks, five days in a week -
and have the promise of a good many
more, but they will not pay only
for the days that they attend, and
how it all will turn out, time
must write. Next on the Program-
me comes a look out for a boarding
place, Uncle has several times invited
me to go to them and my board
money to them would be an object
but Maggie how can I live so,
every time it rains something or other
is sure to get wet and I had several
things spotted with the smoky water
or rather the rain through the smoky
roof when we were there then you know
that such irregularity of diet plenty

when they have it and very poor when they have to do without ~~with~~ would not be well for me to work upon. Do you think I ought to go there?

You know sometimes breakfast would be early and sometimes late and Oh dear me what is the use of enumerating it would not be any way agreeable and my relatives will think more of me and maybe I shall of them if we do not live together. Wiggie dear I have never been sorry a minute that I left the tent, although attending circumstances were very different from what I should have wished, only think! Alfred came to me early yesterday morning and said Cousin ^{Lizzie} my Pap wants you to lend him a large slate and pencil, I happened to be dressed so I rushed over to the "Hall" and sent the slate and pencil. We have never met since that veritable Friday morning. I am sorry to say that my little cousins are more trouble to me than

all the other scholars put together even Bennie at times is so trying that but for their parents I think I would not be troubled with them another day but I suspect any relative or children of relatives would take like advantage. About that boarding place Mrs. Marcell would take me but they have only one room and down a few steps into a sort of kitchen and a loft. They are building ^{mostly} have their house finished at Minneola.

Mrs. Goodin would wish much to have me and indeed some weeks ago came over to ask me to go to her but now they too are beginning their house at Minneola and are obliged to board their builders and could not make me at all comfortable. Mrs. G. went with me to Mrs. McConnel they have more room but it is not partitioned off there is only an up stairs and a down stairs I can have a good bed on a lounge and plenty of nice bedding but the lounge must either

be down stairs in the same room with Mrs
& Mr. McConnell or up stairs in the room
with the son a young man and I am
going there if I can not do better The
Fullers have moved ^{to day} at Joe. Bernard's house
at Midway Villa I stopped on my way
home from school at the door and ask-
ed Mrs. K if she could not accommodate
the school ma'am she ^{said} not just now any-
way there is one more hope and that is
at Dr. Wileys as he is so much away from
home I should think she would like to
have some one they live very nicely I am
told their family is composed of Dr. & Mrs. W.
and a little girl who lives with them
I like the Dr. much there is considerable
manner about the lady and Aunt Lizzie
thinks much of it. Mrs. W. became much attach-
ed to me at our first meeting calling me
Lizzie saying it was the name of a dear sister
she had recently lost. She told Mary however
that she would like me but that I was
so proud she said when she looked at
me she thought "you dear creature how
much I should love you were you not
so proud" Shall I go try there for accom-
modations?? When I write again I will tell
you what I conclude to do --

biscuits which consumed all the change I had
with me and sent Alfred Lounds with them as far
as possible when I was about leaving I learned
that Mary had gone over to ask Belle for some
tea, Alf. brought me some fresh corn bread
so I had a luncheon after all. I saw
Mary going back quite late in the after-
noon. To day I ran at recess time
down there again Aunt Lizzie was up, after
I had been in a few minutes Uncle spoke
to me and as I went to shake hands with
him, he put his other arm around me and
with tears streaming down both our faces he
attempted to thank me for the things of yester-
day saying in broken syllables that the tea
was good and he wanted it very much
You may depend my dear Maggie my heart
was pretty full to have this dear Uncle in
his old age thanking me for a little tea and
only think how much he must have needed it
What is to be done "Phil" is working this week at the
Centropolis saw mill and Bennie is with Charlie
The girls are not well enough now but really
much as it may shock you Cousin Mine

I would go and live out - before I would
stay at such a home, and be so badly off, in
this part of the world they would be more thought
of, if they did so, yet I know 'tis very hard to
overcome ones feelings that are almost a part of ones
life - - - last week I got up a subscription paper
for scholars, and in my usual impetuous manner
could not wait another minute but must begin
school Monday morn. Oct. 11, seeing Phil was to take
my paper around I told him I would give him
1.00 if he got twelve subscribers and all
over twelve he must throw in - he went around
part of the neighborhood and came in
Monday morning said he would bring us
a load of wood. Some of our rougher
neighbors are in high dudgeon because
the paper has not been sent - to them 'Phil
is at work I have not yet been able to
see him or get the paper and do not know
how many he visited, the wood was not
forthcoming but as long as he found occu-
pation I can hardly blame him for
not attending to my business but