

Cabin Creek Ky
April 19th 1854.

My Dear Pamela,

Mother is still living. She is very weak, and I think she is gradually sinking.

She was very bad last Saturday night, they thought she would die, and was in the act of sending for me. She got better towards morning, and during the day Sunday, was up & going about the house, and was several times out on the porch. And took a good deal of cold from the exposure, they could not comfort her without fretting her too much.

I got here Monday night about eleven O'Clock. She was then pretty bad. She had to be turned in the bed every few minutes, J. Pogue & Wife & Mrs H., was sitting up with her. She knew my voice the moment I spoke. Without seeing me. she immediately enquired how you & Virginia was. She could only talk in a whisper then.

The first thing almost that she told me was that on Monday before she was converted. that her sins were forgiven. that while asleep she had seen in heaven, and that God told her that her soul should never die. She then said that I must take the Children & build them a house in my yard. and take care of them. In the morning she seemed better & with assistance got up & eat breakfast at the table. about 9, O'Clock, she went to bed she did not seem so bad yesterday & last night as the previous

day & night, she eat more yesterday than she had done in the week before. She did not sleep any until after 10 o'clock last night and then not more than 15 minutes at a time. Talked yesterday & last night incessantly.

This morning she got up, with assistance, and after she was up a little while walked into one of the bed rooms, to look for pins in the hem. She was not up long, but must be very much fatigued. She is weaker today than yesterday and her mind is also more. She has a good deal of pain & some fever, in fact with the exception of her feet she seems to have fever all the time. She complains often of her feet being cold, and of cramps in them & her legs. The change since I was here before is very great. I don't think it possible for her to last long - though she may for several weeks and even longer. But this is altogether improbable.

I don't know when I shall be at home. I think however I will come up Saturday or the Cabinet. But this depends upon Mother's condition at the time. If I should not come I will write again on Saturday. You will get the letter Monday morning. We tried to come down on the Cabinet. But do not come unless I should write for you to do so. and not then unless it is a good day & you & Virginia as well as usual.

I am well. I will expect a letter from you by the next mail.

Your affectionate husband,
W. C. Ireland.

To Virginia. You must be a good girl, learn your book, say your little prayers every night, and kiss Ma. for me. Your pa. W. C. I.

H
Culbin Creek May 6 1854

Dear Son.

I wrote you I had put your mother
in the lower room. She is a good dea ^{dear} ~~dear~~ ^{disposed} ~~disposed~~ make a good ~~at~~ ^{I trust} time it is the
best thing I could do. I have to watch her
and be with her of nights. She is no better
I think to day worse. her mind is intirely
gone. or nearly so. She would know you
she is asking for you very often. it is
impossible for her to stand long with
out I can get her to take Medicine
and that seems, all most impossible. I
have tried every way. I can think of ~~got~~
all the neighbours that I thought would
have any influence with her but would
do no good. She bitirly refuses and she
has not had a operation on her bowels
for nearly two weeks. Will be tomorrow
I am very uneasy about it but do not
know what to do. She has tore her head
thru down and every thing lies on the
floor. she does not use of her
self. And if she was to make
thing else. - And I commind this letter I
will in her room. Give her something to eat
she eat enough for any one in her situation
but I am satisfied. her mind is not as good to
day as it was yesterday. Come down as soon
as you can. with out loosing to much
of your business. The carts ~~are~~ ^{have} come on
and when they are over you will have
some more time.

we are about as when I last wrote America
is not well. Previous is well. I would be well if
my mind was at rest. or partly so. I want a good Peace
about sleep that I get. I get to do but only
little. As America nor Previous can ^{not} or will
go in to wait on your mother. I think it to
with out some of the neighbours is in
I have come to the conclusion to keep your
mother where she is with out the get much
house. so it would be impossible for us to keep
her. I will write no more as I will expect
to see you soon. I would be glad to see ^{you} ^{and} ^{Virginia}
and Virginia. but it would be unpleasant to ^{be} ⁱⁿ ^{the} ^{house}
to see your mother. Tell Virginia her
apple tree is as full of young apples as it
can be. the orchard is full of apples. there
it ever has been.

if it would for some pay
an. Mehala. I do not know how we could give
a song. they come two to three night in the
week. And that give me some rest. I shall
expect a letter by wednesday mail. I will
continue writing every mail so you
shall know how your mother is.

I remain your

father
J. D. Ireland

Cabin Creek. April 23rd/54

dear husband

W. Ireland.

My dear wife.

Mother was worse on Thursday than
Wednesday the day I wrote you. about 3 O'clk
yesterday morning she became very much
worse, and by daylight was in a state amount-
ing almost to frenzy. And continued so the
entire day. Her suffering was of the most
intense character. about 7 O'clk P.M. she
became quiet, and in half an hour after
fell into a profound ^{sleep} and so continued until
about 12 O'clk, except that she would rouse
up for a moment, change her position in the
bed, and be asleep at once. From 12 O'clk until
day, she took a few short naps. She is much
better this morning, I think it possible, though
it is hard to judge correctly, that her mind is now
better than at any time since I came down.

She got up about 7 O'clk and has been up ever
since. Now 10 O'clk. And has walked across the
house several times. stood up at least 10 minutes
at one time in washing her face and hands.
We cannot get her to go to bed. She will not go
in all probability until she is so far exhausted
that she will be compelled. She only drank
a few sips of coffee yesterday. Just as I
finished the last sentence. Mother went to bed,
and I felt symptoms of chill, I put on my
coat & walked to the lower end of the farm to endeavor
to shake it off - but it was no go. Chill I must
have & so I very quietly submitted to the blankets &
I may. Soon after I went to bed Mother got up &
went into all the rooms down stairs except my room

You will excuse now - at least in this portion Mother is now sleeping. You

after I had been in bed 1 1/2 hours, I vomited, and then supposed though mistaken, that she wanted to come to my room - I immediately got up, and went to her & found her in the act of pouring water into the Stove - she had no shoes, ^{on} ^{my} ^{stockings} only her under clothing. her neck & breast being bare. I succeeded after repeated failures, by telling her that she was near dying yesterday, that I was very sick, and if she compelled me to stay up with her we would both die tomorrow. When I said I was sick she told me to "go vomit more". I believe she was more actuated in going to her, ^{by fear} than by any consideration of feeling for herself, or I in relation to her now being sick.

You must not come down, as I know, you could not stay here two days without killing yourself. You could not keep out of her sight without keeping her in a continued state of excitement. & when with her, she would in all probability, refuse to let any one lift her but you. Then I know you would not refuse if you felt sure of hazarding your life.

I am now certain that her mind is no better. I will not ^{more}, as I may be at home in this wacky you. If mother is about tomorrow, as she is today I will come. As I must not sacrifice too much, her condition, though subject to great fluctuation may not be materially changed in a month. No one supposed yesterday that she would be alive at this time - I will commence taking medicine this evening. My chill and fever has been quite light. If mother should again become very bad I may stay longer. I have had

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Franklin
 July 27

Wm. L. Belmont Esq.

Greenwich

Connecticut



Greensburgh Ky.
Oct 1st 1854.

Dear Father,

We are all about as we have been for some time, Pamela, is sometimes better and again worse, she has been & still is able to walk about the house. She is no worse than she usually has been when in the same situation.

Virginia, has again some considerable indications of Scrophula, she is in good spirits, and goes to School now almost every day. and is gaining flesh.

We have had McCornell's black girl since the first of last week, she is an excellent negro, is quiet, and does her work well and in good time. But we don't know how long we can keep her, they may call for her any day. I received your letter last mail, and will expect one by the mail tomorrow.

I have no news. Tomorrow is County Court day, it is the Court of Claims, the Justices of the Peace, will all be here tomorrow. and I expect a very busy day. I therefore write now (Sunday night) for fear I may not have time tomorrow.

I want to come down if possible about the 10th. if I shunt not I don't know when I will have time. I want to attend the Carter Circuit Court, which commences the 3rd Monday in Oct. I ought also to go to Lawrence, but don't think I shall be able to do so. Judge Moore has called an extra session of our Court to begin the 1st Monday in Nov. & continue two weeks, for the trial of Commonwealth's Cause, this brings it up to the commencement of the regular term, which is two weeks more.

giving us four Consecutive weeks of Cent. It
also takes up two weeks of the time for ~~preparation~~
-tion. I have several suits in Carter. There was
a gentleman's dinner from Carter last week to
employ me in two suits, which I will lose
if I don't get up to their Cent. I have
not much hope of getting off. but shall go
if possible.

Back looks well, I might say a
few days ago. he might 1055. this is considered
large. a good Majority of horses do not weigh
over 950. 1200 is very large. I do not
think he will ever make a good riding horse
he will be too large & heavy. but much will
depend upon his action, and of that I can't
speak as yet with certainty.

I hope to hear of Payne bringing Miss Jacobs up.
I will now stop, and if I have time write
something more tomorrow. after the mail comes up.

I have heard nothing from Saml W. for a long
time. I have written to him once or twice since
I rec'd a letter from him. I will send enclosed
an order to Chas J. Tully for the note.

Monday, All about as yesterday. Your letter was
this morning rec'd, glad to hear that all are as
well as usual. No worse. Cent is in session and
I have no time to write.

Your son Aff.

W. C. Ireland

Dear cousin I wish to inform you that the family is
in good health and the priedy is well with the exception of Mary
Eades till girl she is very low tho I think she is better to day
I have not time to write much at present I would have given you
the particulars of brother Matthews death only I expect that you
have heard it all ready for I sent father the circumstances in full
some weeks ago and I allow you have heard all about it tho least
you may not of heard I would just state to you that he left
holme on the 22 day of may to go out in the state of Illinois
to see the country travelled on the rail road as far as Colebourn
in that state near Chareltown and there took ~~stage~~ stage and
in the very act of starting the stage upset and he never spoke
after wards and only lived some fourteen hours he was brought
holme and plaid in the burial ground where the most of
our friends lay I would have the cage more full and plain if

I thought that you had not heard them from the letter that
I sent father William I wish you to send me ateter word as
you get this and hear how you all are and what you have
done in that matter of ^{and} horizon wheather you and your
family will not come out word and pay us a visit
yours in love
Mr Ireland

John Cretcher

Be sure and write word

My family all sends their love to you and family
july the 20th 1855