

Perry

Brother John
1870

Maries
Johanna

Monticello April 18, 1871

Dear Sister Lecky!

Your letter was
duly received, and contents
noted at the time, but I have
forgotten most of them, so that
I shall have to reply at random.
I hope the seeds and mussels
through which you have passed
will work out for you as
peaceable fruits as they did for
Wentworth Hall. I was sorry to
hear that Hattie was so unwell.
I hope she will get better, and
still have many days in which
to be of use to the rising generation.
If I remember rightly you wished
to know what I was doing and

what I was going to do.
Two very easy questions to
ask and difficult to answer.
I am doing very little at
present, but am almost in a
state of inertia waiting for
some propelling force to start
me. When that will come
is more than I can say. I
will state right here, though
that I have not been disap-
pointed, in the least, in the result
of getting married. I believe
it was the wisest thing that ever
I did, notwithstanding the
croakings of gossips and the
evil forebodings of discontented
friends. Ada is satisfied and
contented and they get along
without the least trouble.
Mary is the only one that ails
badly, and it is not possible

for her to think any less of Joanna
than I do of the little honesty
that she is tied to. There is nothing
of him either body or mind
and how a sensible girl could
fancy him is more than I care
It is as mysterious as Sibyl's
choice of Blanchard.

As to what I am going to is still
harder to answer. It is still in
the womb of the future and
whether it will ever get out
is more than I can say. If
I can sell my place I shall
go to Colorado. I bought a
membership in the Chicago
Colony, and wish I could
go out there this summer.
But it seems almost im-
possible for me to sell. I must
have the farm for it has well
nigh ruined me already.

and will altogether if
I do not get away from it.
I ought to have known better
than to have staid on it
when I came back from Peru.
But regrets are unavailing
now. If I could sell I think
I would come out all right
yet. If we were in a good town
Joanna would make more at
her trade than I ever could on
a farm, and I think I could
find business more congenial
to me. Once works the farm
on shares, so that I don't have
much to do, but I am tired of
this kind of life.

We have no news here except
what you get and so I may as
well quit, with the hope of hearing
from you when the spirit moves.
Joanna sends love and you
can infer as much for me.
Yrs ~~Wm~~ John & Lovey

Brother John
1877

Monticello, July 14, 1877.

Dear Sister Lizzy:

How many times
have you felt from grace when
thinking about my not answering
your last letter? Well, we're all
poor infallible critters, and I
feel to confess my short coming,
and hope I shall be enabled to
do better in the future. And
besides, I have hardly got over
the shock of surprise which I
received by your answering
my last letter so soon. As old
Mrs Sinclair says, I was stunned.
And who do you think has
been here to see me lately?
Well, it is no use for you to guess.

for you would not come near
it in a coons age. You remem-
ber Harriett Webb. Well she was
the one. I heard of her when
in Ballad Creek had some cor-
respondence with her. Her sister
Lois lives out west here but
she was on a visit there and
came to Monticello. And so here,
But such a change! She is old
and dark but nothing like
the Harriett Webb I used to know.
But she is lively, has good sense
and none of the new fangled
women notions of these days.
She is first rate company, staid
over Sunday and had a good
time generally. So you see
human circles will cross each
other when least expected.

. I suppose you want to know
what I am about. Well I am

a good deal in the sense
fix that the impotent man
was at the pool of Bethesda
waiting for the moving of the
waters. I have been waiting
for a year for some one to
come and buy my farm
but still the cry is they dont
come. I am much discour-
aged. What the result will
be I do not know, but I must
do something this fall for I am
tired of doing nothing.

It is fearfully hot now and
I dont see how you get along
in that shut up place

Ada has been teaching school
and likes it. Will be through
in about two weeks. Mary
and Owen both had babies
last winter - girls - Owen lost
his when a few months old

Kates folks are all well now
but have had the whooping
cough. Mary is going up on
the Turkey river about a 100
miles away. She was down
at Owens the other day, but did
not come to see us and you may
be sure that I did not go to see
her.

It is too hot to write and
I must quit and you can
imagine the rest.

Joanna is not very
well but sends her love
and you may take mine
and give it to the rest.

Yours Brother
John E. Long