

found the room would be used for meeting. To day
we have school but alas! only five children. Did I tell
you that my
friend ^{"Marsden"} Bent has
Feb. number of Bayley
magazine from
Lawrence where he
is still engaged
but is expecting
to return this week
I am deeply inter-
ested in the young
man and he
seems to me
my cousin Nettie
and her mama
hesitate not to
say that I have
few relations in
that quarter
when I look
at her pretty
yearful face
I cannot help
acknowledging
to myself that
when the young
man begins to think of

Dear Cousin Maggie Aunt Lizzie requested
me not to write of their expected return
to New York until they had first written
to Lucie Richards I could with difficulty
refrain from mentioning the intention
but the ~~interdict~~ is now removed and I
may write. Now Maggie they wished me
to keep house at the Calum with the girls
I to teach and the girls to sew or do what
they could. The girls have at times sewed
a little but never yet amid all the want
did any think like support themselves
Don't you think I would have been assum-
ing too great a responsibility Bennie
if his work continued which he is not cer-
tain of would board home could he
have his breakfast early enough which
I think a doubtful case unless I get it

for him. at first I entered into this arrangement of going into some larger place and support
any thing to get ~~uncle~~ out of this miserable herself by sewing, which is decidedly a bet-
cabin living. You must know my Cousin's plan, as Cousin Nettie has some charac-
ter that there is a wide difference in the comfort ~~to~~, and away from her indulgent mother
of cabin life for instance nicely plastered and a family which she certainly rules
ed up a good floor and so on is far so (although they may not be aware of the
period to rough logs badly chinked up and fast, she will be strengthened and in
the mother earth for floor ^{which last} is neither com- proved. She is certainly pretty and the
fortable nor healthy to return I began fortune teller said that she would mar-
to feel the weight of responsibility I was ry this year so a little experience will be of ad-
taking upon ^{me} and spoke of it. Although Aunt vantage to her, Aunt Lizzie thinks Nettie very nearly
Lizzie is in straightened circumstances, perfect and often says that she does, this and that
she does not feel that it's through her as particular and since as Susie; who Aunt Lizzie
instrumentality at all, and she is ~~be~~ seems to feel is all that is desirable as a housekeeper
proud spirited to accept favours from any well you know "Doctors will differ" and so may
one, so of course she was quite ready to some other folks. Mary is at present with Mrs
abandon the first plan. I was not initiated Day and will probably remain there for the
in the second but judged from conversation present Louise, Aunt Lizzie is very desirous of
that the girls were to keep house together taking with her but where the funds are coming
for a little while until their Parents should that is the question I put down what was
send for them; which Aunt Lizzie thought thought right - as a price of the different arti-
would be not longer than three months les of household furniture and have asked
Now Henrietta has proclaimed her intention several friends if they wished to buy such

and such things two women called yesterday to look at some things did not purchase any, but will decide. The chickens Charles will take. So now I am deeply interested in the sale of second hand furniture, I shall be glad for my own sake, as well as for my friends when they get off as I fear I may suffer in health, by remaining very long in present quarters. Our fare has been some what better since I wrote on that subject. We have eggs, potatoes and a little wheat flour now. On Sunday we had ^{very} breakfast boiled potatoes, fried potatoes, boiled eggs, wheat biscuits, and Johnny Cake. Coffee with sugar without milk. Dinner nearly four P.M. baked pork and beans bean soup coffee wheat bread corn ditto. Blackberry pie Potatoes of course as long as they last. Potatoes are somewhat a luxury here, from the fact that cold weather sowing in much earlier than usual ^{hundreds of} bushels were frozen in the ground. The Methodists are having a great revival at Centerville which interferes sadly with my school Yesterday Monday when I came to school