

# *Letters to Charley*



*Letters Collected by Charles Rush Scott*

**Cover picture: William Andrew Scott and Phebe Marie Scott**  
*The photograph on which the cover picture is based is courtesy of Barbara Miller Collins.*

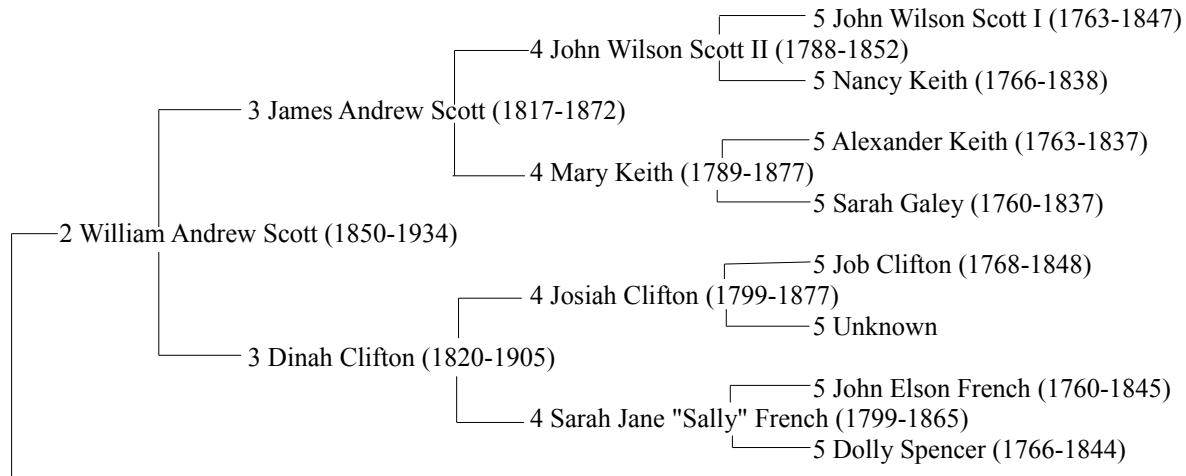
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**Transcription, introduction, and notes by Patricia L. Hartman, great-grand-daughter of W. A. and Phebe Scott.  
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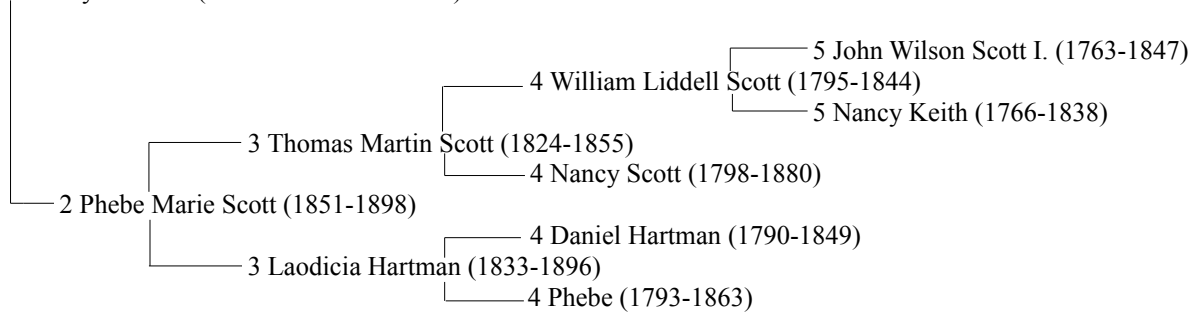
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## Ancestors and Children of William Andrew Scott and Phebe Marie Scott (Only five generations are shown here)



- 1-Josiah Wilson Scott (1873-1948) |
- 1-Lewis Galey Scott (1874-before 1880)
- 1-Daniel Scott (1875-1875) uncorroborated
- 1-Charles Rush Scott (1876-1954)
- 1-Reginald Ward Scott (1877-1966)
- 1-Oscar Quintin Scott (1879-about 1950)
- 1-Dinah Louella Scott (1883-1905)
- 1-Cyrus Logan Scott (1884-1947)
- 1-Grace Laodicea Scott (1885-1977)
- 1-Daisy Adeline Scott (1886-1963)
- 1-Augustus Claud Scott (1887-1920)
- 1-William Harrison "Harry" Scott (1889-1945)
- 1-Phebe Moselle "Zella" Scott (1890-1981)
- 1-May Scott (about 1892-about 1892)
- 1-Rosie Scott (about 1895-about 1895)
- 1-John Clayton Scott (about 1897-about 1898)



Note: John Wilson Scott I and Nancy Keith appear in generation five of each side of the family. W. A. and Phebe Scott were second cousins.



Charles and Ward Scott

*Photo courtesy of Joanne Hartman Thom*

# Letters to Charley

## The Collection

The transcriptions of the letters of Charles Rush Scott of Ransom, Kansas, were made from scans of the originals held in a private collection by Bob G. and Patsy Scott of Maize, Kansas. Bob is a grandson of Charles Scott. The Scotts have been exceedingly generous in sharing these treasures.

The originals have some condition issues, especially along the folds, but are generally legible. Some letters have envelopes which are usually, but not always, the original envelopes. Charley sometimes, but not always, noted on the envelope the date when he received the letter and when he answered it.

The scans were made in September and November, 2015. When scans were hard to read in worn folds, a comparison was made to the original.

## Transcription Conventions

These transcriptions preserve the spelling of the originals as much as possible, including cross-outs. Where words were added above the line, the ^ is used, whether or not it was there in the original. Editorial comments and clarifications are in square brackets: [comment]. Question marks in brackets indicate uncertainty about the reading. No attempt was made to preserve the line length of the letters: in many cases, the original may only have had a few words per line. The original writers broke words haphazardly at the ends of lines and continued them on the next line, usually without using a hyphen. These breaks are not indicated in the transcription.

Where I have made errors in the transcriptions, I welcome corrections and suggestions.

## Order

The letter transcriptions have been sorted into three parts: (Part I) letters between Charley and his immediate birth family, the family of W. A. and Phebe Scott; (Part II) letters from extended family in Washington state; (Part III) friends and romantic interests from Charley's church circle, mostly in Missouri.

Within each part, the letters are arranged chronologically rather than by writer in order to give a better sense of what was going on among the family members in Ransom and in Charley's life in Missouri and Kansas. The scans, on the other hand, are grouped by writer and can be found elsewhere.

## Historical Context

W. A. and Phebe Scott had started their new lives in western Kansas during the relatively prosperous years of the 1870s and the early 1880s. The national prosperity vanished with the Panic of 1893. Wheat and other commodities were close to worthless. Interest rates rose, meaning farmers could not afford the loans they needed to keep going. A quarter of US railroads went bankrupt, meaning more difficulty shipping farm products. The Populist Party believed Kansas railroads were price gouging and called for state takeover of the railroads. As bad luck would have it, a drought also hit the Great Plains in the first half of the decade. Conditions combined to threaten families across the country with starvation. Many hit the road, looking for work and wandering from place to place. By 1894 a quarter of the farms in Kansas had been foreclosed by the banks. The crisis continued through 1896, but by 1897 an upturn had begun.

It was during the crisis, probably late in 1894, that two sons of W. A. and Phebe, Charley and Ward Scott, left home. They were not in Kansas for the 1895 Kansas State Census that was taken in March. Ward seems to have moved around finding work in Nebraska, Missouri, and Kansas, but we do not have enough documents to be sure of his movements. Charley went to stay with his grandmother, Dinah Clifton Scott, in Madelaine, Daviess County, Missouri. Apparently she needed his help, for there are references in the letters to her disabilities. By this time she was three times widowed: her third husband Martin Scott had died in 1886. Conditions for farmers were a little better in Missouri than in drought-stricken western Kansas, and Charley was able to find some work as a farm laborer in Daviess County.

Another source of income for the boys was evidently leading or participating in "singing schools." By the 1890s, these had become popular across the rural South and Midwest. Leaders, with or without benefit of organ, would teach class members how to follow shape note music to sing hymns and gospel music. Classes were offered by subscription, and in the process, the leaders might be able to sell books of music. These schools were often held in churches, perhaps even piggy-backing on the revival meetings that were such a frequent part of rural social and spiritual life.

The Scott families of both Ransom, Kansas, and Daviess County, Missouri, were devout adherents of the Church of Christ/Christian Church/Disciples of Christ. These three divisions of the "Restoration Movement" were not yet clearly delineated in the 1890s. Reflected in the letters are the struggles going on over instrumental versus a cappella music, missionary societies, church officers, and other issues. In rural areas like these, crossover with other Protestant churches for revival meetings and hymn singing were frequent, though the tension with the "sects" comes through in the letters. What is clearest in the writing is the social importance of Church in the lives of all these people. Church was the major locus of entertainment, solace, and romance as well as irritation, controversy, and additional financial responsibility.

## **The Places**

A family history of the Scotts and associated kin begins in this country with migration down the Blue Ridge corridor from Pennsylvania to the Carolinas, then across the mountain passes to Tennessee, then north through Kentucky to Indiana and Illinois. As they moved across the land, the Scott clan left colonies of extended family in DeWitt County, Illinois; Daviess County, Missouri; Mahaska County, Iowa; and Ness/Trego County, Kansas. Some continued west, ending up in various western states, including Washington.

Daviess County, Missouri, continued to be a Scott stronghold long after William and Phebe moved to Kansas. In fact, the area around the Pilot Grove Church of Christ in Washington Township became known as Old Scotland, and the church there was referred to as the Old Scotland Church of Christ, with the name coming from the Scott family, though other kindred families included Perry, Troxel, Brown, and Terry. The nearby post office was Madelaine, which is now only a historical memory.

With the coming of the railroads, travel back and forth among the family colonies became easier, and it seems there was a surprising amount of visiting between the families, sometimes for extended periods of time. During the period of Charley's letters, he and Ward must have gone home a few times. The distance today between Ransom and Madelaine is about 400 miles. Whether the men traveled as regular passengers on the railroad or found some other way to make the journey is not known. One letter does talk of meeting Charley in Wakeeney, just north of Ransom. Another mentions that he has taken a horse, Trogan, from home to Missouri. How he

got it there is anyone's guess. Train fare may have been awfully expensive for this poor family. Jumping freight trains illegally was certainly being done at this time, but whether these men would have tried that we don't know.

Other towns in Missouri, Nebraska, and Kansas show up in the letters—places where gospel meetings were held or friends lived. These were in counties near Daviess and will be explored in introductions to the relevant letters. Finally, there are letters from Washington and British Columbia. Jasper and Ellen Scott, W. A. and Phebe's brother and sister, had migrated to Kitsap County, Washington, in 1886, so there is a little correspondence from that family, as well as a single letter from a Daviess County cousin who was seeking his fortune in British Columbia.

Maps of relevant areas of Missouri will be found below.

## The People

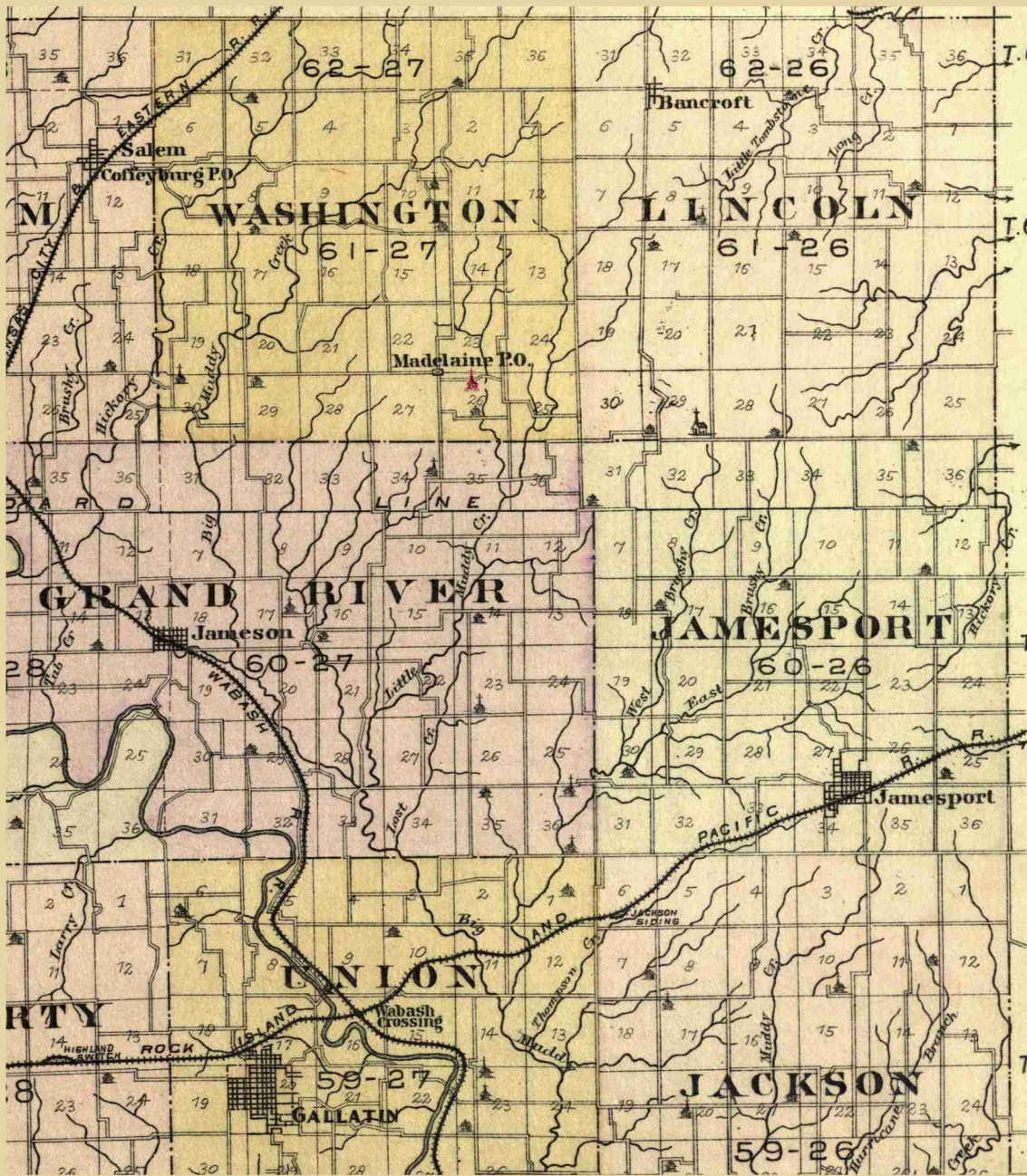
When identification of the neighbors and relatives mentioned in the letters can be made with any degree of confidence from censuses and other sources, that information is given in the footnotes. If I hazard a guess, I call it a guess and hope readers will correct errors and omissions.



Charles (seated) and Ward Scott, detail from a tintype, c. 1890s. Edited and mirrored, since tintypes were reversed. Original in the collection of Thomas and Marabeth Scott.



# North East Portion of Daviess County, Missouri, 1898



## Explanation

Section Line	—
Farm Line	—
Wagon Road	—
Railroad	—
Proposed Rail Roads	—
Streams & Springs	—
Houses	—
Churches	—

School Houses	—
Adjacent lands owned by same party connected by a hook, thus: 1 1 1	—
Private Road	—
Post Offices	—
Coal, Lead or Zinc Mine	—
County Bridge	—

Old Scotland	—
Church of Christ	—

See especially Madelaine, Jameson, and Jamesport for locations in the letters.

From *Plat book of Daviess County, Missouri*. : Drawn from actual surveys and county records, 1898 (Philadelphia : North West Publishing Company, 1898), p. 3; Digital image. The State Historical Society of Missouri (<http://statehistoricalsocietyofmissouri.org>; accessed 18 November 2015).

## Part I: Letters to Charley from his family

At the time of this correspondence, there were eleven living children in W.A. and Phebe Scott's family. They are listed here with birth and death dates:

Josiah Wilson "Joe" 1873-1948

Charles Rush 1876-1954

Reginald Ward 1877-1966

Oscar Quintin 1879-1950

Dinah Louella 1883-1905

Cyrus Logan 1884-1947

Grace Laodicea 1885-1977

Daisy Adeline 1886-1963

Augustus Claud 1887-1920

William Harrison "Harry" 1889-1945

Phebe Moselle "Zella" 1890-1981

Phebe and W. A. had three more children after Zella was born, but none of them lived long and the dates are unsure. May was born and died about 1892. Rosie may have been born and may have died sometime in 1895, so Phebe was probably pregnant during at least part of that year. John Clayton was born in 1897 or 1898 and was probably the baby who died in the spring of 1898.

The only letter in this collection that was written by Charley is included here. Also added for the context it provides is an additional letter Ward wrote to Charley during this time period. The original belongs to Joanne and Meredith Thom.

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**Josiah Wilson Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Missouri, 2 or 12 December 1894. Envelope dated 15 December in Madelaine, 29 December by Charley. Joe was 21 years old.**

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Ransom

Dec th/2 94

Kans

R [?]

Dear brother I thought I would answer you letter which come to hand a few days ago was glad to hear from you well we have lots of snow at present which makes things look a little more like we might have a crop next year but I have lived in hopes so long that I have quit hoping the horses is all wright we Put up a fince over north which ^ took in George. C. and C. C. and L. Faris [Farr's?] land so you see we have lots of grass<sup>1</sup>  
Oscar broke your horse to ride allso wards

[P. 2]

we got a letter from Ward the other day he said he was going to start to School the next monday the M. E.<sup>2</sup> held their meeting at Brownell C W Raymond and J. Curtis. H. T. are holding a meeting in Sam Dubbs School house we got five loads of Cow Tirds last week I traded the old cart off for a horse he is three years old about as big as Babe the meeting at Cyrus<sup>3</sup> is in a bad shape. K. R. J. K. G. J. B. and H W Barber are all having a hell of a time o/er the election I think it will brake it up in time well this is all for this time write soon

J W Scott

- 
- 1 Hard to be sure how many people are listed here. The first may have been George W. Craig. While he does not appear in the 1895 Kansas census, he does show up on previous and later censuses. His family had a Daviess County connection and may have been related to the Craigs referred to in Phebe's letter of February 3, 1895. George W. Craig married Ella Terry of the Daviess County Terry family. At a guess, the last of person or pair of persons Joe refers to may have been W. C. and Lettie Farr, who were living nearby in Nevada Township with several children. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 11, line 32, W. C. Farr, and p. 12, line 1, dwelling 68, family 69, Lettie I Farr; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 12 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.
  - 2 The Methodist Episcopal Church.
  - 3 Cyrus was the tiny community near the Scotts. It was named after Cyrus Cowan, a half-brother of Phebe.

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**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott & possibly Reginald Ward Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 3 February, no year. Mailed in envelope with Dinah's letter of 4 February. Envelope says Charley received it 9 February, 1895. Phebe was 43.**

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Feb 3

Ransom Ks

Dear sons [?] I will write you a few lines to let you know we are all well as comon I dont feel well much of the time.<sup>4</sup> You wanted to know if we had got any of those old clothes yess but we need meat and groceries and coal the worst There was 550<sup>lbs</sup> of clothing (second hand) all but one barrel of unmade clothing distributed at Cyrus yesterday but we did not get any Your Pa would not have any for he thought some of them did not want us to have any you know we have always till lately had so much dry good around<sup>5</sup> We are getting along for a table just as when you was here so far we have eaten the last mess of my pig to day have a little lard left yet And are trusting to providence for more I think there will be some provision shiped, in soon They get things sent out to Kans sufferes free of freight<sup>6</sup> And I think Our Methodist brethren will divide with us, Dont you worry about us if you take care of your self these hard times that is as much as you can do, And I think old bro Craigs<sup>7</sup> should be helped out there by the brethren if they wer here they would get plenty of

[P. 2]

clothes to keep them warm any way. If they had to go to bed to keep from freezing be tween meals Tell Grandma and Uncle Jim<sup>8</sup> not to think hard of your Pa for not writing oftener He is not well he has so much pain in his head and is worried so about how we are to make it through till we can rais some thing to live on You know we will not have any money to buy seds with in the spring But we are trusting to providence for evry thing We think the Lord will in some way provid for us If we do our fa[ir?] part which I always have tried to do I hope this will find you all well I think of you all often if I don't write very often I will now close Dina and Logan has written the rest of the news My love to all

As ever Your Mother  
Phebe M. Scott

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4 It is possible that this illness reflects Phebe's pregnancy with Rosie.

5 The Scotts operated a dry goods store in Cyrus in the late 1880s, according to Mark D. Horchem, *Ransom, Kansas: The First 100 Years* (N. p.: Self Published, 1987), p. 163-64.

6 See p. 9 for a contemporary news article about the terrible conditions in Kansas and neighboring states, reprinted in its entirety.

7 The Craigs of Daviess County, Missouri, were probably related to the Craigs living near W. A. and Phebe. See note 1.

8 Grandma was Dinah Clifton, married first to Samuel Harris Robb. One of their children, James Robb, is most likely the Uncle Jim mentioned here and elsewhere in these letters. He was living with his mother. After Samuel Robb's death, Dinah had married James Andrew Scott, and when he died, she married James Scott's uncle Martin Scott, who died in 1886.

## FAMINE IN THE WEST.

The New York *Christian Herald*, of which Rev. F. DeWitt Talmage, D. D., is editor, in its last issue has over a page article with numerous illustrations reciting in harrowing details the suffering and distress of people in Nebraska and Kansas. The sufferers are almost all ruralists, whose crops have failed, and who have been left without food and fuel or means to procure them.

According to the *Herald*, which has organized relief for the sufferers, and secured volunteers to go out and distribute food and clothing, there is in many districts a condition of absolute famine, and the sufferers are numbered by the thousand. It is asserted that while in twenty counties in Nebraska and Kansas this condition obtains, it extends also to parts of Colorado, Oklahoma and Texas. As no taxes have been collected [sic] in these parts, the County Boards of Supervisors are unable to furnish relief. The houses of the victims are said for the most part to be poor affairs, and the suffering from extreme cold is added to those of hunger, need of medicines, clothing and bedding. Fuel is even farther beyond reach than food. In many cases families have denied themselves in order to save a head or two of stock, but in the main most of the horses and cattle are suffering equally with the human beings.

The appeal for help comes most strongly from Palisade, Anselmo, Shelton, Maywood, Holdredge, Bartley, Kenesaw, Hazard, Alliance, Hayes Center, Bird City, Lemley, Berwyn and Merna, Nebraska, and from **Ransom** [added bolding], Placo, Chapman, Dighton, Bird City, Macon and St. Francis, Kansas, and Flagler, Flemming and Burlington, Colorado, though it is asserted there is a score of other sections equally as destitute.

To this date the *Herald* publishes the names of some sixty volunteer distributors, for whom it vouches, who will see to supplies any people may send reaching the most needy. In addition the American Sunday School Union has put missionaries into the field who are acting as dispensers of food, clothing and fuel especially for children, but the demand is greater than the supply.

The strange thing about all this is that very little or nothing of news of these conditions has come to us through usual news channels. So detailed and personal are the statements of the *Herald*, however, and so fortified are they by letters from aid distributors in the stricken districts, that we cannot doubt the correctness of the recital. If it is only half as deplorable a state of affairs as the *Herald* represents, the winter has in store suffering for thousands of people in the far West of the bitterest kind, that appeals to the humane impulses of every one who has the ability to contribute to alleviate the distress.

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**Daisy Adeline Scott (Baer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 3 February, 1895. Mailed in Phebe and Dinah's envelope. Daisy was 8.**

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Ransom  
Kansas  
Febr 3<sup>rd</sup> 1895

Dear charlie

I will right you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same  
I rote to pheba Scott<sup>9</sup> I would like to see you very much.  
I think I am learning a goodeal henry pety is our school teacher.<sup>10</sup>  
I am in the same classes Frache [??] is,  
Billie is getting prettrier all the time,  
To day harry said Edgar will Edgar run off with dinah on his lips,<sup>11</sup>  
It made Dinah face get

[P. 2]

red Oscar got to story books and and one cadlelock, [catalog?]  
Dinah can make pretty good buiscuits.  
Grandmamna<sup>12</sup> would like to see you  
Dinah gets up and mackes bars [or fires?] every morning nearly  
Sidebottom's has got our puppie yet.<sup>13</sup>  
I guess I will close my letter now  
Madelaine Sister  
Mo/ Daisy  
Scott

---

9 Phebe Mary Anne Scott, the daughter of Jasper and Ellen Scott in Kitsap County, Washington. She was Daisy's first cousin.

10 Henry Petty was a 34 year-old school teacher apparently living with his mother. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 2-3, dwelling 11, family 12, line 17, Henry J. Petty; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 12 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

11 A guess is Edgar Farr, 14, who lived nearby in Nevada township. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 12-13, dwelling 68, family 69, line 3, Edgar Farr. This guess would especially make sense if Joe's letter of 2 December 1894 is referring to W. C. and Lettie Farr. See note 1.

12 Grandma was Dinah Clifton Scott, with whom Charley was living.

13 At least two families of Sidebottoms were living in Nevada Township, Ness County.

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**Grace Laodicea Scott (LaPlante) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 3 February, 1895. Mailed in Phebe and Dinah's envelope. Grace was 9.**

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To                      Scott                      Ransom  
   Gacie                      Kansas  
   Gracie                      Febr 3<sup>rd</sup>  
   Dear Charlie                      1895

I will right a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are ~~the~~ the same

I like to go to school very much.

I am in the speller reader and arithmetic and Geography

I believe I am learning very fast, this term.

When Ward come where you are you and ward come home.

Can you make

[P. 2]

2 biscuits for Grand ~~ma~~ <sup>ma</sup> [?] <sup>14</sup> Charlie

I miss you very much.

Dinah and I gets up of mornings and gets brokfast Dinah make ~~buisuits~~ biscuits.

Tell Ward that we like to see him very much.

Oscar talks about ward as he ever did.

I guess I will close my letter now

It is getting dark and I can't see

Gracie Scott

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14 Grandma was Dinah Clifton Scott.

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**Cyrus Logan Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 3 February, 1895. Mailed in Phebe and Dinah's envelope.** Logan was 10.

The identity of the writer could be disputed. A quick glance at the last line might see the signature as "sis," but it could be "us," as in "Cyrus." I have chosen that reading for two reasons. First, there is an erasure before the letters in question. What remains is very faint. I have scanned the area at a high resolution, fiddled with contrast, and gotten rid of some of the resulting graphic noise. What seems to be there is a partial word—maybe "Log" and then "Cyr." If this is a correct reading, why would Logan have erased most but not all of his signature? Perhaps he knew that he would continue this letter on another scrap? Second, this letter is clearly from one of Charley's sibs. We can eliminate three because the handwriting and subject matter are too childish to be Dinah's, Joe's, or Oscar's. Both Grace and Daisy have their own letters in the 3 February group that were sent at this time. The other children were probably too young. The person whose handwriting seems closest to this letter's is Daisy, but the subject matter is quite different and the unevenness of line points to a different writer. In addition, we have some scraps that may or may not follow this letter. The handwriting on the top part of the first scrap matches the handwriting here, and it is clearly signed Cyrus Logan. I have thus concluded that all all the pieces are from Logan.

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1

Ransom  
Kansas

Feb 3<sup>th</sup> 1895.

Charlie—. Dear brother.

I am in the third reader yet. Because the teacher will not let me go in the fourth reader he thinks I am not good enough to go in the fourth reader yet he said for me to wait until next term and then I could go in the fourth then but I am in the language the teacher says that I am learn<sup>^</sup>ing well. I am in the spelling and I have 9 head marks and I have work to [erasure] worked 54 leaves and 108 pages we received your letter fridy the first of Feb. And to day is the 3-rd. I like to go to so [erasure] school. and like my teacher very well Henry is my teacher. I am sorry that I can not rite better. I would like

2

for you and Wardie send me a lock of your hair it seem like you have been away two are three years and it seems like that ward has been away ten years what collar of your hair Grappa<sup>15</sup> can play his horn pretty good now but some times he gits botherd a good many times. I. N.

---

15 Logan would have had only one step-grandfather still living, Adolphus Herndon, the third husband of Laodicea Hartman, living in or near Topeka. That Adolphus would be visiting the family in early February in Ness County in these hard times is doubtful. Logan could be writing about what he has heard or perhaps giving someone else an honorary name.

god[win]<sup>16</sup> came to scar[e?] a soldier [o anden?] because it was riped on the bill of the cap.<sup>17</sup>  
Galie<sup>18</sup> give Joe a cap when he was at Ransom. Well we got a letter from Ward not long go. have  
you seen Mr. Crags yet sence you have been in Mo. I like to see you very well sense you have  
been home I have had my hair cut w about ten times and it is longer then It was when you first left  
home how is Mr. Cavintons [?] leg. Is it gitting better [Erasure, very  
faint: ?? Cyr ?] us

[P. 3 is a scrap]

my paper is so dusty and dirty that am shamed to send it they had such a dust and smoke that It  
made my paper so dusty, now I guess I will close fore this time

Cyrus. Logan [these lines are written in large block letters]  
Scott To. charie  
Scott

[P. 4 is a scrap]

I guess I will close for this tim. [these lines are written in large block letters]

Logoan Scott  
To Grand  
Mrother and  
Uncle Gim .Robb

[P. 5, on the back of p. 4, looks like an exercise, maybe even a punishment?]

G is a bad [bird? bud? bad?]  
[repeated 9 more times]

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16 Isaac Newton Goodvin/Goodwin was the father of Bertha Goodwin, who would marry Charles Rush Scott. The family lived nearby.

17 The phrase "scare a sailor" probably refers to cursing.

18 This is probably not Martin Galey Scott, a half-brother of W. A., for Martin Galey Scott died on 25 July 1894. Martin and his wife Caroline Terry had lived in Ness County in the early 1880s, long enough for Caroline to die in 1882 and become the first person supposedly buried at the Cyrus Cemetery. If Martin Galey is the Galie of this letter, the visit must have been well in the past. Instead, this probably refers to Jasper and Jane Rogers' 18-year-old son Lewis Galie. 1900 U.S. census, Ness, Kansas, Nevada Twp, p. 242A stamped, dwelling 78, family 78, line 21, Rogers, Galie; digital images, Ancestry (ancestry.com : accessed 18 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,493.

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**Dinah Louella Scott (Moyer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 4 February, 1895. Mailed in the same envelope as the letters of the other children and Phebe. The envelope bears Dinah's name. Dinah was almost 12.**

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1. Ransom, Kans.  
Feb. 4 1895.

Charley, Grandma and Uncle Jim<sup>19</sup>

Dear Brother:

I have wrote to you but I have not got it sent. I made so many mistakes so I did not send it.

You asked me if the scholars missed you much at school. I do not know. I miss you a great deal. I did not hear any body else say.

Mr. Raymond's folks say It don't seem like being here since you have been gone.<sup>20</sup>

Well I dont know but what I am learning as fast this winter as common.

I went over to spelling school at Cyrus and spelled the school down once and Milly Barber the other.<sup>21</sup>

( Joe is still playing the

[P. 2]

fiddle.

2

You asked me How Edgar and I were making it.<sup>22</sup>

We are making it fine but he has not run away with me on his lips yet.

Mr. Davis came and got the cows two months ago.

Are you going to school? Ward said he could work every example in simple Interest.

We got a letter from Ward Tuesday Evening.

We all have bad cold's.

---

19 Dinah Clifton Robb Scott Scott and her son James Robb.

20 Two Raymond households show up in Nevada Township in the 1895 census. The "folks" were probably Sarilda and Charles B. Raymond, a nearby farm family. The other household, probably "Mr. Raymond," was O. W. Raymond, a 24 year-old minister. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 2-3, dwelling 8, family 9, lines 4-5, Charles B and Sarilda Raymond; and pp. 18-19, dwelling 104, family 105, line 10, O. W. Raymond; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 12 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

21 Milly was the 16 year-old daughter of H. W. and Fanny Barber. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 10, dwelling 55, family 56, line 1, Millie Barber; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 12 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

22 See note 11 for Edgar's identity.

Ward has joined the Christian Endeavor and has only heard one Christian sermon since he has been there.<sup>23</sup>

He says he goes to church whenever he can, and says he has only taken two chews of Tobacco since he left home, but will not take another.

3.

Ward was examined about 3 weeks after he started and stood 91 1/2 %

We have been having bad weather.

There is 60 Names enrolled at school. They all go from here except Moselle and Joseph. I mean all seven.

Henry is about played out at night.<sup>24</sup> He has to be on his feet so much.

Euphemia Snodgrass goes at Ransom to school.<sup>25</sup>

I study Reading, Spelling, History, Arithmetic, Geography, and Grammar.

I would like to see all of you.

Grandma. Mother has cut up my blue dress to make Moselle one.

Lula Mulvaney is married

[P. 4]

4

but Moselle has not got married yet.<sup>26</sup>

Lula married Peat Linche.<sup>27</sup>

Charley I said Ward could work all the examples in Simple Interest but I was mistaken it was you.

I thought lots of that letter because it was the first I got from there.

---

23 Christian Endeavor is still a nationwide organization associated with what is now the Reformed Church of America. Started in 1881 by Francis E. Clark in Portland, Maine, it aimed to "bring youth to accept Christ and work for him." It sponsored events, sold publications, and collected donations. It also promoted a "Christian Endeavor Pledge," which involved praying, reading the Bible daily, participating in all services of one's church, and leading a Christian life. Western Theological Seminary, "W99-1250. Christian Endeavor. Records, 1895-1996 (2012). Collection Registers and Abstracts. Paper 207. ([http://digitalcommons.hope.edu/collection\\_registes/207](http://digitalcommons.hope.edu/collection_registes/207)) July 12, 2012.

24 See note 10 for Henry's identity.

25 Euphemia was 19 at the census taken the following month. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 11, dwelling 64, family 65, line 10, Euphemia Snodgrass; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 14 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

26 Moselle Mulvaney was a 27-year-old teacher living with her parents, the only child left at home. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Forrester Twp, p. 3, dwelling \_\_, family \_\_, line 11, Mozell Mulvaney; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 14 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

27 Lula, 19, had married Pete, 30, a farmer. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Center Twp, p. 2, dwelling \_\_, family \_\_, line 28, Lullie Lynch; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 14 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

Uncle Jim wont you write one to?<sup>28</sup>  
And tell Pearl to write.<sup>29</sup>  
We have got Mosell's suit made that her namesake gave her.  
Well I guess I will close I have nothing more to say. Write soon.

Yours  
truly.

Dinah Scott.  
DINAH Scott

---

**Josiah Wilson Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Missouri, 25 February, 1895. No envelope.** Josiah was almost 22.

---

[Sheet 1, right side]

Ransom, Kan  
Feb 25 ,95

Dear brother after so long atime I will try and answer your letter we are having rany weather this week well our wheat is all wright yet it has just begain to sprout If the frost stays out of the ground we will sow what barley we have we have 12 bu yet the feed is the worst thing or wll be. for we have not got any thing. The horses look as well as could be expected my team look the worst now we have had them up two weeks off of the grass so you see

[Sheet 2, left side]

that they are pritty lank  
your and wards colts ar looking good. we have been atending meeting at plesant-ridge that is the robinson school house<sup>30</sup> Howard and John & wess were out in all there glory I was over three times and they would come back and try to lead me up to be prayed for but I told them that If I was after someone to pray me out of hell I would call on smarter men I. [or J?] Curtis talked to me close to half hour. I talked as easy as I could for a while and then I began to let him down I give him all the watter [what for?] I could think

---

28 James Robb.

29 Etna Pearl Scott (1879-1963), a cousin, one of Martin Galey Scott's daughters.

30 The Robinson Schoolhouse was in District 3 just north of Ness City, S side NW 8-18-23. See Minnie Dubbs Millbrook, *Ness: Western County, Kansas*, Detroit: Millbrook Printing Company, 1955, pp. 3-4.

[Sheet 2, right side]

of and of course he would not discuss the subject he did not have time. The Ransom Courting School have a committe to wait on the poor Jap is chair man<sup>31</sup> the state sent two carloads of coal to Ness Citty the trustee gives the orders 500 lbs is the limit there is lots of kicking on the aid the[y] tried for a bounty on rabbits but it would nod go well this is the dullest time I ever saw no meeting but the Me.<sup>32</sup> the church at Cyrus is in an uproar as common Bro Ike<sup>33</sup> is on it and I think

[Sheet 1, left side]

it would not be any thing more than right to 'Put' [large, dark letters] him well tell them all that I would like see them or be there a weeke or two this is the worst Place that I know except ~~h~~ oh yess Winnie<sup>34</sup> has a beaux his name is Ray he took her to meeting the other night Mrs R is Dead every time she somes up here the Hoólyness is takeing this country well if you strike any words in here you cant punch look over thim. write soon J W Scott

[top margin of sheet 1, left side, upside down]

P S there is no use in telling you I miss spelt the most of my words but you can Guess at what I mean.

In God we trust

---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 26 May, 1895. No envelope.** Phebe was 44.

---

Ransom Kas  
May the 26<sup>th</sup> R. D. [?] 1895

C. R. Scott

Dear sone with great pleasure I now occupy a few moments in writing to you We was very glad to hear from you and also very thankfull to Grandma and you for the money you sent us I did not know what we was going to do we owe d\$5.35 and had to pay that

---

31 Jasper Rogers, long-time neighbor. "Jap" and family lived for a time in Daviess County, Missouri. "Missouri Marriages, 1750-1920," database, *FamilySearch* (<https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:V28C-XZR> : accessed 18 October 2015), Jasper Rogers and Jane Craig, 26 Oct 1876; citing Daviess, Missouri; FHL microfilm 955,649.

32 Probably Methodist Episcopal.

33 Isaac Newton Goodvin.

34 A wild guess would be Winifred Dixon, 17, whose mother was Sarilda Raymond. See note 20. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 2-3, dwelling 8, family 9, line 8, Winifred Dixon; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 12 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

before we got any seed potatoes or corn or any thing else we got that all spent quite a while before Ward sent his \$10.00 He gave one dollar of what Ward sent to Bro Nay then we had to buy some more than common on account of the meeting Bro Nay<sup>35</sup> will tell you about our meeting

[Top of sheet 2]

I dont know how much we hav[e] left But I know we are nearly out of flour and no prospects of any thing unless it rains soon I am glad to hear there will be lots of fruit in that country we will have some peaches our trees are ful Yes\$ Joe is married he was married the 1<sup>st</sup> day of aprile but you need nott be particular a bout telling it Pa and I feel terriabe about the affair I suppose you have heard it all before now. Charley for our sake and your own self and for the sake of Heaven be virtuous be true to yourself and to your God Always treat other girls just as you would have your sisters treated I have told Joe that so often They<sup>36</sup> seem to get along very well excepting they have no money we divided what we could with them they have no cow have 12 hens & a rooster her mother helps her some gives them meat and any thing they need that she can spair Scherzinger don't cair I think he is glad of it he allows his wife and children to go and see them but he has not spoken to Emma for a year nearly You know about the trouble Now don't say anything about this in your letter we don't want Joe to know we have hinted it to you he seems to think more of her than I ever thought he would of any one and she of him you know how she always was, so we will all have to make the best of it and never let on if it does hurt, I will tell you about our land traid in my next but perhaps Bro Nay can tell you, about it I dont know

[Top of sheet 1]

Charley I would like to write to you and ward evry week but you know what a poor chance I have to write I want your Pa to write to his mother oftener I write to my mother<sup>37</sup> oftener than he does to his and I know he has more time than I do, Pa Joe and Will Robinson<sup>38</sup> have been diging a well on Will's place or on our place if they finly call it a trade if they trade the orgon will have to go but I will be so glad to get out of debt I can afford to wait till we can get another if they trade I have

---

35 Probably Daniel W. Nay, who had been a farmer in Rush County. He seems to have traveled back and forth between Ransom and Daviess County, Missouri. In the 1900 census he is listed in Daviess as a "minister of the gospel." 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 225 stamped, dwelling 153, family 154, line 13, Daniel W. Nay; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 14 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852 . Millbrook says of him, "One of the most powerful preachers and debaters—for this branch of the Christian church loved to debate the logic of their beliefs—was Elder Ney." Milbrook, p. 219.

36 Joe and Emma Scherzinger were married 1 April, 1895, producing ten children who lived to adulthood. Emma died in 1915. John and Carolina Scherzinger lived nearby with their five children. Emma was 18. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 7-8, dwelling 43, family 44, line 26, Emma Scherzinger; digital images, *Ancestry* (http://ancestry.com : accessed 12 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

37 Laodicea Hartman Scott Cowan Herndon, living in or near Topeka.

38 William E. and Henrietta Robinson were nearby in Trego County in the 1895 census, so the land W. A. and Phebe traded for must have been in Trego; this supposition should be confirmed by a search of the deeds. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Willcox Twp, pp. 4-5, dwelling 30, family 30, line 5, W. E. Robinson; digital images, *Ancestry* (http://ancestry.com : accessed 14 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society. The Cyrus community was very close to Trego. Will and family appear in Ness County, of course, in the next census: 1900 U.S. census, Ness, Kansas, Nevada Twp, p. 243 stamped, dwelling 98 family 98, line 9, Will Robinson; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 14 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,493.

Puss and a nice coalt to get another with when we get a house to put it in if we don't rais any thing here you may see us back there if nor k [??] is plenty I don't know where we will go or what we will do I am so glad you and ward are where you can have plenty poor Joe I wish he had gone with you

[sideways in margin] From your Mother who loves her children always

---

**Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, to Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, 31 May, 1895. No envelope.** Charles was 19.

The source is a good photocopy. The original is not in this collection, if it exists.

---

Madelaine Mo.

May 31 1895.

Dear Mother:--

I rec'd your letter the 29<sup>th</sup> was glad to hear from you. Grandma<sup>39</sup> has been pretty poorly for about a week but she is better now. The rest are as well as common † my back feels like it was nearly broke I have been hoeing corn to day, and I had to muck stooping to do. Every thing looks fine now we had a fine rain yesterday and last night.

I am sorry that Pa had

Page 2

to sell the place and let the organ go, but of course he knows best. I couldnt keep from crying about that and that other.

I hope you all can com out here this faul

There is lots of places here to rent.

I believe we could make enough in a year or two to buy a place.

I could send you \$5. more now if I could get the money but I don't Uncle Jim has very muck.

When he drew his pension be fore night he didn't have enough to pay me for my first months work.<sup>40</sup> I like [lack?] 4 1/2 days of having another

month worked

Page 3

I will perhaps get about another months work here then I have a job for harvest and if there is any hay I have a job helping Willie and Jimmi putting up hay.<sup>41</sup> So if nothing happens I'll be right in it.

I have plowed the corn over once and part of it again.

We had two or three windy days that knocked lots of apples.

Bro Nay will be here to marrow. then I expect to hear lots of news.

I reckon Oscar is Pa's main holt now.

---

39 Dinah Clifton Robb Scott. Below, she is said to be "all crippled up," but she lives on until 1905.

40 James may have been drawing a pension for Civil War service, but this is not yet confirmed.

41 Martin Galey Scott had two sons, William and James. These are likely those sons.

I hope you raise enough there this year to get

[P. 4]

away and lots left.

Grand ma is not able to do any thing muck she is all crippled up cant hardly get around I has to hire her work done I am working in the field and cant help her muck only of nights and mornings.

I will ~~alw~~ always send money home when I have it.

We had a mess of Pea's and potatoes for dinner to day.

I wouldn't seem muck like home way over to Wills place without the organ and Joe; I guess I'll have to trade for me a fiddle.

I hope I wont have to go back to Ks but I will if you dont come here Well I want you and Pa and all the children to write to me

Soon As ever Your Son

Charles

---

**William Andrew Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 3 June, 1895. Envelope says received 5 June, 1895, answered 7 June. W. A. was 44.**

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Ransom Kans

June 3. 95

Dear son

Your letter come to hand this morning finding us all well We have been having some fine rains ground is [??] up [? water smear] in fine shape. We will have perhapes 70 acres of wheat to cut that is pretty good The dry weather hurt the oats and barley some but I think the rain will bring them out all right.

I guess Phebe told you about the trade.. I think we made a good trade. I get wills<sup>42</sup> place also his interest in his father's half section [?]. (1/6) which would make 213 acres, and unload the mortgage.

[P. 2]

I let him have the [?? ink/water smear, may be "Organ"] and get Puss & Coalt and Trogan I think I got good pay for it dont you.

I wrote the Co that holds the Mortgage and made them a proposition which they in a letter this morning accept.

To extend the mortgage 5 yrs they howevr want the interest due which is \$35 and I only have 65 cts I dont know how I can raise it but will try I will feel wonderfully relieved when I get from

---

42 See note 38.

under that Mortgage  
Well I will close as I am in a hurry Your Father  
W. A. Scott

---

**William Andrew Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 22 June, 1895. No envelope.**

---

Ransom Kansas  
June 22 95

C R Scott

Dear son:

Your letter came to hand finding us all well I have plowed my corn twice have it in good shape. The children are taking the Whooping Cough. I wish you could send me some money. I have not been able to raise the \$35 interest and the loan Co will not renew until they get it, and Will would like to get out of it any way I think I have had to buy on time at the store. The first time for 2 years. And you know I have prety near swore off

[P. 2]

if I can only make it until after harvest and get shed of the Mortgage. I will be all right do the best you can for me.

Tell Mother & Jim if every thing goes to suit us we intend to come and see them this fall.

Will and Ett [??]<sup>43</sup> were down to day Will came to town with me

Well I want to write to Ward so I will Cl [close? small fragment missing from paper]

your father

W A Scott

---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 24 October, 1895. Envelope says received 30 October, answered 3 November. Phebe was 44.**

---

[Right side of sheet 1]

Ransom Ks  
Oct the 24<sup>th</sup> / 1895

C.R. Scott

Dear son I recd your welcome letter saturday was glad to hear from you but you did

---

43 Perhaps Henrietta Robinson had the common nickname, "Etta"? See note 38.

not say whether you had got to feeling better or not I feel uneasy about you, We are all well except your Pa he has a terriable head ache to night I am sitting up puting hot clothes on his head. He has been over to Wills after the rest of our cabbage & beets and I have been washing the first time I have had watter to wash with since you left The next day after left Logan and I made what cabbage we had here into Krout over a 1/2 bbl I guess that

[Left side of sheet 2]

will be as much as we will use I worked away and kept thinking that evry moment took my dear boy farther from me I worked till 9 o clock then went to bead thinking now he is among friend and felt some what relieved, but you see I was mistaken you was spending a lonesome night I expect among strangers in a strange city Oh how I wish I could have you all at home in a nice comfortable place when we could enjoy ourselves once more in this life We got a letter from Ward he has quit K C Kester he is getting \$1.00 per day he tried to all his mair back to K. C he would not take her at any price His neighbors are all down on him

[Right side of sheet 2]

for the way he has treated Ward and wants your Pa to send an order to collect Ward's wages and force him to take the mair back but Ward says he thinks it is not best to do that—I think he will be at home soon We have our wheat on I N's place<sup>44</sup> threshed but only had 1.60 [possibly no decimal] bu I N got 1/4 [?] then he had to let him have som to pay for pap's cutting [culling?] last year he took the rest to Dubbs & Sch<sup>45</sup> and by hard work got 40¢ per bu But could not get a [cent?] to even pay for threshing it they only let him have a sack of flour & .50 worth of sugar They said our bill was now over \$100<sup>00</sup> It dont seem possiable but it may be that.

[Left side of sheet 1]

The children go to [school] evry day and have only been tardy once (5 min) in near two weeks they all like the teacher well. Three Dina G.L & Daisy were riding old puss and she started to lope and they all fell off nearly crippled the girls Grace has been over to Joe's pertending to go to school at Fareview<sup>46</sup> and only went two days & 1/2 Pa sold Soup and the harness Joe was using to him for 40 ct [?] of plowing & he was up on the Abby place helping plow that is why Grace was over there Runter [?] and Matty, C V [?] Miller and Ann & Mrs Barber<sup>47</sup> were here wednesday after you left But I must say good by

[top of page upside down]

When you ans tell me if your breast hurts yet or not  
As ever your Mother

---

44 Isaac Newton Goodvin.

45 W. O. Dubbs and the Shellenberger family went into partnership with a successful store in 1890. Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 291.

46 Fairview School was in District 36, SW corner SW 23-16-23, about halfway between Ransom and Brownell. Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 194.

47 Though there were Millers and Barbers in the vicinity, no identification is definite. The only Abby/Abbey in the census was in Ness City.

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**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 8 December, 1895, revised to 13 December. No envelope.**

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[Right side of sheet 1]

in haste

Ransom  
Dec 13 8<sup>th</sup> 1895  
C R Scott  
Madelaine Mo

Dear Son

I will try and fill this blank. Well there is no boddy mad or dead But you know we live a long ways from the P.O. and when I get a letter I think I will be sure and ans it before any one goes back to the office But you know I have so much to do I always put it off till it is too late some one will go and then the same thing over again. The children writes lots of letters to you boys and their Grandmas

[Left side of sheet 2]

that never gets sent But your Pa never writes to any one any more He is so busy all the time lately. He has made \$2.90 working on a barn for Chs Miller<sup>48</sup> since you left He bought a hog that dressed 160 lbs and a pair of shoes for himself out of it and bought some coal and payed Herman Shenburger for his seed oats he bought last spring and now has not enough left to pay his taxes No Ward has not come home but I look for

[Right side of sheet 2]

him any time he has quit Keister They had a little difficulty he wanted Keister to buy the mair back but he would not take her back at any price Ward said the neighbors were all down on Keister for the way they done him and ^ they wanted pa to send an order for Wards wages and make him take her back, He has been getting \$1.00 per day now for over two months if he is still working Keister is trying to get him back but I think he will come home I sure want you both to come home before the world ends

[Upside down on right side of sheet 2]

Joe has leised the place he lived on when you were here he is trying to put in some wheat is

---

48 Probably Charles Z. Miller. This may also have been the Miller of the previous letter. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 9-10, dwelling 52, family 53, line 9, C Z Miller; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

sodcutting it in he took your coalt and worked him a week with his two and Bud and brought him back swened<sup>49</sup> and got old bet he says he is the goer he ever saw

[Upside down on left side of sheet 2]

We have just finished drilling 25 A [acres?] Joe Kittle [?]<sup>50</sup> is still away from home they get letters from him evry week or two but he says he will not come home till he is twenty one Charley Brown<sup>51</sup> is ^in Kans Citty I think he will be sent to the Reform school he denied having any relatives said his father & mother were dead They will send him back if Brown sends them money

[Left side of sheet 1]

I want you both to come and go to school we have a splendid teacher we send 8 would like to send 10 I found your mitten right behind a box where your trunk sat Bro Frazer & Nay are in a big meeting at Hargrave<sup>52</sup> Pa and Will went down two weeks ago tomorrow Pa I & Moselle went down last sat and stayed sun night at Bro Kittl he gave me another pig worth \$3.<sup>00</sup> ^\$3<sup>00</sup> Bro Frazer expects to be up here and hold a meeting for us the 1<sup>st</sup> of jan I hope you boys will be at home by that time If you think you cant stay here you can get to stay at beamers<sup>53</sup> I think or some where and go to school then you can be at home every week. [overwritten in pencil on the last line above:] WA Scott and Family

[Upside down on top of the same page]

P. S A. B Smith<sup>54</sup> died last sunday at ness he filled his office as commissioner was chairman on sat and took worse in the night and died next morning Sunday John Anderson<sup>55</sup> led him to his office

---

49 Probably from "sweeny," severe nerve damage to the shoulder common among yoked draft horses used to pull plows.

50 Several Kittle families lived near Alexander in Rush County, where the Scotts had lived before Ness. Possibly Joe was the son of Stacey and Emma Kittle and had returned home by 1900. 1900 U.S. census, Rush, Kansas, Alexander Twp, p. 238 stamped, dwelling 39 family 38, line 12, Joseph N. Kittle; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,498.

51 If Charley Brown was the son of Azariah David and Nettie J. Brown who lived in Nevada Township, then he was a 14-year-old boy. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp.7-8, dwelling 41, family 42, line 9, Chas Brown; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society. He must eventually have reconciled with his family; they ultimately moved to Washington. 1910 U.S. census, Whatcom, Washington, Sumas, p. 16B, dwelling 311 family 318, line 86, Charles Brown; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,375,687 .

52 Hargrave was a town in Rush County west of La Crosse.

53 Families of Beamers were longtime friends of the Scotts. in Ness and Trego. For instance, see 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp.9-10, dwelling 54, family 55, line 26, A. Beamer; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

54 A. B. Smith was 48. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp.9-10, dwelling 51, family 52, line 8, A. B. Smith; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

55 Probably John C. Anderson, 19. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Waring Twp, pp.13-14, dwelling 98, family 98, line 30, John C. M. Anderson; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

saturday morn, he died of consumption had not been well since he had the Grip last fall Gaily<sup>56</sup> is at Wakeyney being Dr ed [doctored]

[On the front of a scrap]

Stella to [?] sister and Family

Oh yes Carley of course Ive remembered Pa's birthday in ans thre letters in one I most forgot to say so But we did not have a supper as we had intended he was up at Millers at work on that barn B we were disappointed about Grandma and Jim not coming I would like so well to see them and all the rst

[Reverse of scrap]

He came home on sunday before and we had that other can of peach preserves we ate them and thought of you all We will save the rest till Christmass if nothing happens I dont think any one knows the day the world or month either but that matters not any way if we are only ready for that great day My prair is may we all be ready.

Mother

---

**Daisy Adeline Scott (Baer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 2 January, 1896. No envelope.** Daisy was 9.

---

Ransome

Daisy Scott    Kansas. Jan 2  
1896

Dear Charlie

I will write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same.

We all go to school now.

I like my teacher very much.

I sit with Anna Ford.<sup>57</sup>

I have only missed 2 days of school.

I wish you would come home.

Harrie didn't come to school today.

Zella said that she wish that you would come home.

I have to hurry and write this letter for it is nearly School time

It's eight minutes until 3

---

56 Probably Galey Rogers, son of Jasper and Jane.

57 Daughter of James and Celia Ford, who lived briefly in Trego County, before moving to Emporia. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Riverside Twp, pp. 3, dwelling 14, family 15, line 2, J. T. Ford; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

Did you get any thing for Christmas?  
I didden't.  
Any of us never.  
Mr Fords childrens came up Christmas and brought a little of candy.  
Ethel Garner<sup>58</sup> went up to the morners bench.<sup>59</sup>  
I guess I will have to close my letter now.  
Right  
Soon  
Your Sister  
Daisy Scott

---

**William Andrew Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 5 January, 1896. Possible envelope scrap dated 11 Jan. W. A. was 45.**

A chunk in the lower right of this letter has been lost at the folds, so that the ends of each of the last seven lines are missing. On the back, the reverse is true: the beginnings of the lines are missing.

---

Rec [in another hand at the top]

Ransom Kansas  
Jan 5 96

Well Charlie Daisie sent her letter to the office by me.  
and I guess I will write a letter I have been cleaning out the well for the last three days. I have  
about 18 inches wall started There is so mutch water I had to start the wall in water a foot deep  
Jo and Oskar help me  
I have only sowed about 38 acres wheat. Since you left I [ ]  
uray built a barn for C[?] ]  
Millr<sup>60</sup> sice [?] 32 x 42 ft fr[ ]  
Made Just \$1.50 for day [ ]  
Will Robinson<sup>61</sup> is teaching [ ]

---

58 Ethel was the 13-year-old daughter of Thomas and Lenora Garner. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 11-12, dwelling 63, family 64, line 3, Ethel Garner; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

59 The "mourners' bench" was a seat at the front of an evangelical congregation set aside for congregants coming to confess sins and seek salvation.

60 Charles Miller. See note 47 for identity.

61 The man who did the land trade with the Scotts. See note 38.

Green School.<sup>62</sup> They had a [                    ]  
mas tree Saturday night after [                    ]

[P. 2]

we the Band furnished Music  
Our leader Mr Parks<sup>63</sup> the agent here left. Harman [?] is leader now  
Willi [?] Rogers<sup>64</sup> is getting better  
Bob Sidebottom<sup>65</sup> died a week Saturday. A. B. Smith<sup>66</sup> also did a month ago CRScott [name in  
pencil in another hand]  
The Methodists have had a big meeting at Brownell Just closed  
Bro Frazer is to comence a meeting at Cyrus the latter part  
[                    ] month. We have had a  
[                    ] winter so far.  
[                    ]ell I am in a hurry  
[                    ] will close  
                    Your Fathr W. A. S.

---

**Dinah Louella Scott and Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in  
Madelaine, Missouri, 16 & 19 February, 1896. Envelope. Postmark illegible. Phebe was 44;  
Dinah was almost 13.**

---

Ransom Ka's  
Feb 16 1896

Charley

Dear brother:

I will try to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same.  
The folks have all gone to meeting this evening but Claud, Zella, Harry and I.

---

62 No listing for Green School appears for Ness County. Could this have been in Trego?

63 Jesse E Parks, the telegraph agent. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 2, dwelling 12, family 13, line 11, J.E. Parks; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

64 Probably the 14-year-old son of Jasper and Nancy Rogers. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 3-4, dwelling 18, family 19, line 26, Willie Rogers; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

65 Robert Sidebottom died at age 40 on 28 December, 1895. He left his wife Carrie and five children. Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015), Robert Sidebottom, Memorial #16314807, created by Oz Steedman, 24 Oct, 2006.

66 See note 54.

I went to meeting this forenoon. Bro. Frazee is holding a protracted meeting at Cyrus. Bro Simmon and Wife and Bro. Murphey ^ & Wife from Rush Co. Is out helping with the meeting. He has been preaching their it ~~will be~~ was was a week last night he has got no converts yet. He has been preaching good sermons so far.

The members have organized a Christian Church at Brownell Pa and Ma went in over their.

Mr. Countryman and Wife was here today they came from meeting with us. He is my school teacher I like him very much for a teacher. Do you go to school? We got a letter from Uncle Jim<sup>67</sup> not a long time ago was glad to hear from ^him and would like to hear from you ^also it has been a long time since I heard from you I think.

Moselle said for me to tell you that she is nearly through the chart.

Papa has been getting out stone, for Kinsey Rogers<sup>68</sup> house he is going at it again to morrow ~~again~~ I guess.

George Lynn ^ Lynn is Sheriff of Trego Co. He has a boy it is ten days old.

Ella Ford<sup>69</sup> is my seat mate at school. And Grace & Daisy sit together. Teacher separated Daisy and Anna.

[P. 2]

I was down to Mr. Ford's last Sunday and Ella gave me a lock of her hair.

Lizzie Ford got bit with a dog about a week ago and bit ~~pieces write~~ pieces right ^out of her leg tore her stockings all to pieces and bit clear to the bone and and scraped the bone too she won't get to go to school for a couple weeks yet.<sup>70</sup>

The children are bothering me and made me blot my paper so I will close for this evening Write soon.

Excuse poor writing

Your Sister

Dinah Louella Scott

Dec. the 19<sup>th</sup>/96

Dear son as Dina has been writing I will write some two have ben waiting till I could write you a long letter, But will have to only write a little now as I am intending to take this to meeting and give it to Jap<sup>71</sup> to mail your Pa is still over at Kinseys<sup>72</sup> at work does not go to meeting much Bro Roggers is in a hurry for his house his old sod house fell down, his family all live in Wakeyne the children all but Charley & Mary go to school there, We are having excelent

---

67 James Robb.

68 The Kinsey W. Rogers family had come to Kansas from Boone County, Indiana, in 1886. Kinsey W. and Orphy Rogers were the parents of Ida, Bessie, the Ransom school teacher, and Mary Rogers, who would become the second wife of W. A. Scott. 1880 U.S. census, Boone, Indiana, Washington Twp, p. 48A stamped, dwelling 127 family 126, line 45, Kinsey W. Rodgers; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 17 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,266. Also, Mark Horchem, Precious Memories...A Tribute to Our Pioneer Ancestors and Their Families," Newton, Kansas: Mennonite Press, Inc. (self-published), n.d., quoting *The Ness County News*, 11 February, 1960.

69 Another daughter of James and Celia Ford. See note 57.

70 Lizzie lived on after this dog bite, marrying Alfred Williams and living with her father in Emporia. 1910 U.S. census, Lyon, Kansas, Emporia Twp, p. 13B written, dwelling 265, family 269, line 96, Ford, J. T.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 17 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,374,458.

71 Jasper Rogers.

72 Kinsey Rogers.

preaching but it does not seem to do much good yet Berthy & Laura Goodvin<sup>73</sup> were immerced yesterday. Rose Green<sup>74</sup> & Kenny Randal's wife will be next sunday, Joe has been there a few times Emma only once. Their not liable to do much good as long as the Church is in such a disordered condition as it now is I think I will try to get bro Fraser to try & see if he can't help settle the trouble, the way the thing was organized at Brownell, wase a disgrace 31 members was set in order, with out very many I don't know whether any one excepting the officers themselves & I. N. G.<sup>75</sup> knowing any thing about who the officers were to be, I don't know much about any of them excepting Old bro Melin [?] you know he is a spiritualist of the worst sort and will fight as quick as bro I.N. [?] & can call up a departed spirit to sanction his acts. Last summer he called up 4 or 5 one morning to know if he should go to hear bro I. N. Preach they all sayd go, He is our leading Elder and he has employed bro I. N to preach for us evry 1<sup>st</sup> Lords day Your Pa is thoroughly disgusted with it & I am discouraged, But I mu close for this time Your Mother that [up the side] loves you.

[Top of p. 2 upside down]

P. S. Charley I wish you would write often as you can, if I don't ans evry letter, you know I have so much to do & dont always have writing material, I have a bad cough again I hope you are well and all the rest I was sorry to hear of that school house burning down my love to all, remember me to Mother and Jim PMS

---

**Dinah Louella Scott (Moyer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 24 May, 1896. No envelope. Dinah was 13.**

---

[Left side of sheet 1]

Ransom Kas.  
May 24,<sup>th</sup> 1896

Charley:

Dear brother

I will try to write you a few lines today beings it is so lonesome. Pa and Ma has gone to Cyrus to meeting Bro. Mills from McCracken is going to preach, he preached at Ransom Wednesday evening.

---

73 Daughters of Isaac Newton Goodvin. Bertha would marry Charles Rush Scott in 1901.

74 Sixteen-year-old daughter of John and Sarah Green. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Riverside Twp, pp. 3-4, dwelling 16, family 17, line 11, Rosetty Green; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

75 Isaac Newton Goodvin.

We are having a big meeting at Ransom Bro. Nay is holding it. he says he has no idea when it will stop he has held it two wks. now and he says he is just getting interested they have three joiners.

The Sects want him to quit but he is going on with

[ Right side of sheet 2]

2

it all the same.

Clint Bistline<sup>76</sup> says he is the best preacher ever preached in that house.

He preached last night on heart felt religion and he will preach tonight on the sheep fold. I would like to be there but I guess I cant. I havn't been there since Thurs evening.

I came home Friday morning and didnt go back I dont know when I will.

My pen is no count or my hand one I dont know which but I hope you will excuse my poor writing any way.

[ Left side of sheet 2]

We got a letter from Ward the other day.

Well I was glad to see your pictures you all looked natural only I didn't remember Uncle Jim<sup>77</sup> very much.

Kansas is all right it is pretty dry sometimes and other times it is wet.

The crops look fine we have thirty ^some odd acres of corn in & up nice.

Yes ma hears from Grandma Herndon<sup>78</sup> they have moved back to Topeka Yes [water smudge] Uncle Cyrus<sup>79</sup> has also he lives two blocks from Grandma.

Well Charley I want you to come home as soon as you can dontstop long at Grandmas for ~~your time has past~~ six months has past

[ Right side of sheet 2]

now since you was home it was up in March

---

76 John McClintock Bistline lived nearby with his wife Martha Shellenberger and (at that time) three children. He was assessor, teacher at Fairview School, District 36, and also played in W. A.'s band. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 1-2, dwelling 1, family 1, line 1, J. M. Bistline; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 15 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society; and Millbrook, *Ness*, pp. 188, 264.

77 James Robb.

78 Laodicea Hartman Scott Cowan Herndon, Phebe's mother.

79 Cyrus Cowan, Phebe's half-brother and son of Laodicea.

Our school was out ^two wk. ago Tuesday.  
There was a Convention at Ransom Thursday.  
Hoping to hear from you soon I will close.

Write soon.  
D  
From Dinah  
to her  
Bro. Charley.

DINAH  
TO  
CHARLIE

---

**Daisy Adeline Scott (Baer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 24 May, 1896. No envelope. Sent in the same batch as the next three letters.** Daisy was 9.

---

From Daisy Scott to  
Charlie Scott.

Ransom,  
Kans.  
May 24. 1896

[Doodles of flowers sprouting from pots appear in the top margin]

Dear Charlie:

I will write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same.

Dinah, and Gracie is at home now but Dinah is going back again Mamma and papa is gone to cyrust at meeting. I would like to see you very much.

We got a letter from Ward the other day.

Dinah got her hair cut and Jane cut ~~her hair~~ it

The childrens is shaking the table so that I can not write good.

Papa said that that well diddent look like it

[P. 2]

it wassent was not in the wright place

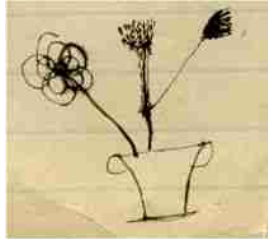
Who sent that picture to Joe you are , Grandma.

Well I can't think of ~~any~~ ^much more to write

Excuse bad wrighting I guess I will close. for this time.

Your loving Sister  
Daisy Scott

[flower pot doodle]



---

**Cyrus Logan Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 24 May, 1896. No envelope.** Logan was almost 12.

---

C. L. S. To C. R. S  
write soon

Ransom Kansas  
May th 24 1896  
Dear Charlie

I will write you a leter to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same. Daisy and Claud and Hariey [Harry] went to Ford's yestarday and got some wild roses. Mamma and Pappa went to Cyrus to meeting to hear Brother Miles Preach. and maby they will go to Ransom to night to hear Brother Nay preach and may not be back to night we got another cow to milch we got her from Kenzie. She gives over a gellon of milk night and morning. I have got eleven rows of pop corn and it is nice to some of it is about five inches tall

2


Oscar went to Cyrus last night and then ???? to Ransom on old charlie O old [?] John looks tuff. we ~~treated~~ ^sold old fly ~~for~~ ^for 40 dollars trodgen [?] is ofly nice and fat we have not worked him much it is a shame to let him be over their in the pasture as fat as he is and work the rest of them as poor as they are we have got twelve piges and hogs two. Well I can not think of any thing to rigta so I guess I will have to close pretty soon I send for me a Dictionry to Woolson Spice Co<sup>80</sup> it has 350 in it I gave 15 lion heads and 2 cents to pay postage I guess I will send off for me a knife it only takes twenty lionshead and a to cent stamp. I have got 9 lion heads ^now

---

80 Woolson Spice Company, of Toledo Ohio, sold Lion's Head Coffee. The company brought roasted and ground coffee to the market. It used a number of promotions, such as colorful trading cards, now collectors' items. Woolson is still in business in Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The dictionary Logan sent for was, as he said, 350 pages, illustrated, and took 15 lion heads cut from the coffee wrappers. See illustrations on the following page.

**A SUGGESTION.**  
**X**

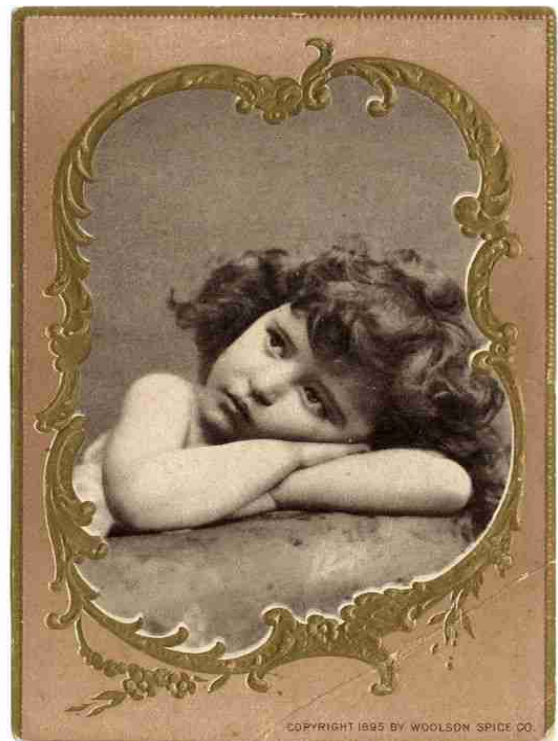
To make an easel-back for this picture cut a piece of pasteboard  $3\frac{1}{2}$  x  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches and paste one end of it at the point marked X. This will then enable the card to be set on the mantel or table as a framed photograph.



**DICTIONARY.**  
350 pages.  
16mo. Illustrated.  
Contains over 32,000 words and phrases, besides abbreviations, etc. Size,  $4\frac{1}{2}$  x  $5\frac{1}{4}$  inches.  
Mailed in exchange for 15 Lion heads cut from Lion Coffee wrappers and a 2 cent stamp.

**ADDRESS**  
**WOOLSON SPICE CO.**  
Huron and Jackson Streets, TOLEDO, O.

This offer expires Jan. 15th, 1896.  
Illustrated premium list on application.



Logan might have found cards very much like these in the family coffee bag. Such greeting cards, often with coupon offers on the back, were in most bags of Woolson coffee.

**FINE POCKET KNIFE**

FREE

TO DRINKERS OF LION COFFEE.



The above represents exact size and appearance of our new pocket knife. The blade is made of finest steel, and keen as a razor, with neat, substantial iron handle, and perfectly reliable in every way. This knife is just what every man and boy needs to carry with him, and the ladies also will find it convenient for household use.

*This knife mailed, postpaid, for only 25 large Lion Heads cut from Lion Coffee wrappers, and a 2-cent stamp to pay postage.*

**DIRECTIONS FOR MAILING.**

Enclose your name and address in same envelope with the Lion Heads and stamp, and state what premium is wanted. Address all letters to

This Offer  
EXPIRES  
Jan. 1st, 1895.

**WOOLSON SPICE CO.,**  
HURON & OAK STS.,  
TOLEDO, O.

A Beautiful Card like this in every package of Lion Coffee during the summer season, after which handsome Picture Cards will still be found in the packages, those for the Christmas season being particularly fine.

12



---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 25 May, 1896. No envelope. Phebe was 45.**

---

Ransom Kans  
May the 25<sup>th</sup> 1896

C. R. Sott

Dear son with pleasure I occupy a few moments writing an ans to your welcome letter we were very glad to hear from you all once more and more pleased to ~~hear~~ see your pictures Your Pa said that was a fine present he says evry thing looks natural excepting the walks & the well he thinks it is a new one Bro Nay & I think not, Well Kan has not burned up yet but if it does not rain this week I think early wheat is gone nothing else is suffering much yet, Excepting the sectarion hot bed at ransom & they dont claim it is sufferi from fire but from two much watter being poured on after they had the fire kindled and lots sanctified, I am most sure Methodism has run its cours at Ransom, We had a good meeting at Brownell but only two baptized There is some over 30 members there, There is about 12 at Ransom that met sat to band themselvs together as brethren they will wait awhile before they select officers, That is what we aught to have done at brownell & That is what your Pa proposed but Metlin [?]<sup>81</sup> would not do it that way I don't think the ^Church is going to grow much while he / & I. N,<sup>82</sup> runs thing I feel awful bad about the Church at cyrus I think it is almost dead They are going to try to straten some things

[P. 2]

but I am afraid they will make matters worse again Criss talks now of resigning Wel I am glad they are getting the Church trouble fixed up at Scotland<sup>83</sup> I wish you would not take such an active part in the troubles that is going on for you dont understand the eliment that has always been at work in that church if I had to guess for my life I should guess both sides were to blame, just as both sides are here you dont know but I do, That Uncle Dave<sup>84</sup> always did have some ^one to racket with I should have told you sooner It used to be the Goodtemplers, and your Pa was his main victom Now I don't believe they will bring the organ into the worship at Scotland & if they do I would just as leaf ^ worship where the organ was used as where such a man as Enoch Karron leads the singing, We are commanded to sing withe the spirit & the understanding, But I cant write a long letter this time because the children have written so much, But I will try and ans your

---

81 At a guess, this may have been J. C. Mettlin 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Waring Twp, pp. 17-18, dwelling 118, family 118, line 1, J. C. Mettlin; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 17 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

82 Isaac Newton Goodvin.

83 The Old Scotland Church of Christ near Madelaine, Missouri.

84 A very shaky guess for "Uncle Dave" is David Nelson Terry (1825-1908), buried at the Old Scotland cemetery. He was not a blood relative of Phebe or her family but was the father of Caroline M. Terry, wife of Martin Galey Scott, W. A.'s half-brother. The "uncle" might have been an honorific.

question about the coal mine<sup>85</sup> I never was there but it is close to the smokey a mile & 1/2 from our school ^house north east I heard there were fifty men there at work now, Mr Webster<sup>86</sup> just now passed going there & said they would stay all night her so we will hear the particulars then, We went in debt again, We bought the old Robinson<sup>87</sup> place for 2,50 let old pet go for \$40<sup>00</sup> that leavs \$210.<sup>00</sup> will have to pay \$50<sup>00</sup> this fall the rest in eighteen months he said he thought

[Up the right side]

you & Ward could save him that much for him if he can

[Upside down in the top margin]

make a living for the family you know the land is very cheap and it would nearly served [????] us to have some one come on that place and go to farming almost on our yard, your Pa has work 55 & 1/2 day for Kinsey<sup>88</sup> but he can't get much money out of it & we are having an awful hard time to get groceries & flower. but we have plenty of corn bread much to the disgust of the children Joe's are well excepting his foot is hurting him again & his eyes are hurting him Emma I think is doing better but I must close so good by from your Mother P M Scott

---

**Grace Laodicea Scott (LaPlante) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 28 May 1896.** Grace was 10.

---

[drawing of pot of flowers]

draw me a picture

Ramson  
Skansas  
May tho  
24.1896

Dear Charley:

I will write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope the same of you., Why did'ent you have your picture took darker? Brother mills is going to preack to Cyrus today. Claud and Harrie is shaking me so bad I can not write good at all. mmmms

We got a letter from ward the other day. Charley I wont you to come home as soon as you get this

---

85 Information about this coal mine near the Smoky Hill River in Trego is altogether lacking. This was an era of mining further east in Kansas. There was, however, a minor goldrush in the Trego area, when what turned out to be zinc was discovered and mistaken for gold. Explorers sank a 200-foot shaft but the ore found did not have enough zinc to be profitable. "Western Kansas Gold," 2004, updated 2013, *Kansapedia*, Kansas Historical Society. (<https://www.kshs.org/kansapedia> : accessed 18 October, 2015.

86 More than one Webster family lived in Center Township, Ness County, at this time.

87 See note 38.

88 Kinsey Rogers.

letter. ~~mom~~ mother and father went to Cyrus to day,

[p. 2]

Gracie Scott

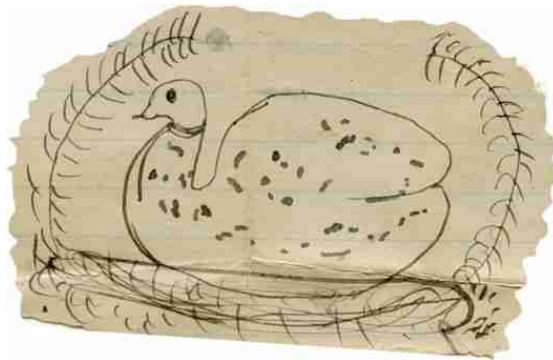
Charlie I dont believe you can read such writing.

I will ~~ehese~~ close hopping to hear from you we have got Aunt Ellen's. three girls picture.s I was  
glad G L Scott to hear

from you  
your loving  
sister

[picture of a turkey on a platter]

The mites  
has come  
again.



---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 11 July, 1896. No envelope. Phebe was 45.**

---

[Left side of sheet 1]

Brownell Kan  
July the 11<sup>th</sup> /96

C.R.Scott

Dear son I will now try to ans your letters which were gladly recd They found us  
all as well as common. We were sorry to hear of that abses on your eye and think you aught to

have it attended to at once where is it on the lid or on the ball? Does it pain you? I am glad you have a better way of going, be good to Trogen<sup>89</sup> and dont drive him too hard I was also rejoiced to hear that Pearly<sup>90</sup> was at home again how does sister Nay like her new home I would write to her but it seems

[Right side of sheet 1]

as if I just cant, write to any one hardly, after I get my work done I feel so stupid I can not sit up half the time „[I] just lay down and take a sleep, Some nights I don't sleep any till nearly morning I am not feeling well this summer, at all and dont expect to for some time (if ever) Dont ask me any questions about it though. Now [?] I am awfully discouraged about my present situation. "But what can't be cured must be endured" And I suppose whatever is is right under such circumstances and may be for the better, God

[Left side of sheet 2]

knows I dont,. I was sorry to hear of Ward's having the blues. but I would feel better if you were together It looks hard to have him off up there from all his folks alone Bro Sniffin<sup>91</sup> still talk of writing to him I saw him one week ago yesterday I hope Ward will be with you when you get this I expect to mail him a letter tomorrow two It will be too weeks wednesday since your Pa and Oscar started with Fords<sup>92</sup> header<sup>93</sup> we cut our barley last week it did not fill very good it was too dry for it also some early corn is damaged by the drouth but we had asoaker friyday evning and it rained all night They had to wait till saturday eve to finish our cutting then they

[Right side of sheet 2]

could hardly get through the mud it made old Bet & Puss<sup>94</sup> puff. Joe's barley was better than ours He is going with Renny Randal's header. They were here today and took Grace back to stay another week with Emma Dinah has been at Jap's nearly two weeks helping Jane.<sup>95</sup> I will bring her home soon as she wants to come, she is not very stout and her Pa don't like for me to let any of

---

89 One of the family horses, Trogen has somehow gone to Missouri with Charles.

90 Etna Pearl Scott, Charles' cousin and the daughter of Martin Galey Scott and Caroline Terry Scott.

91 Part 3 of this collection has a letter from J. E. Sniffin written in 1900. In 1895, Sniffen was living in Reno County, Kansas, with an aging father, a wife, and one child. In the state census, he is listed as a farmer and preacher born in New York. In 1900 he was in still in Reno County with wife Sarah and five children. He is listed as a minister. By 1910, he had moved to California. 1895 Kansas census, Reno, Kansas, population schedule, Hays, pp. 7-8, dwelling 5, family 5, line 19, J. E. Sniffin; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 18 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society. 1900 U.S. census, Reno, Kansas, Hayes Twp, p. 112 B stamped, dwelling 15, family 15, line 75, Sniffens, Joseph E.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,496; 1910 U.S. census, Merced, California, Township 7, p. 1B written, dwelling 16, family 16, line 63, Sniffen, Joseph E.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 18 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,374,102.

92 For Ford's identity, see note 57.

93 A machine used for cutting and loading heads of grain.

94 Their horses.

95 Nancy Jane Craig Rogers, wife of "Jap" or Jasper Rogers.

them go away to work any way. Dan<sup>96</sup> is some better but it is doubtful if he ever gets well You ought to write to him He is Dring [doctoring] with a Kansas City Dr He has Cattarrh of the stomache<sup>97</sup> Well I must close. Give my love to Grandma & all the rest. Be good to your self And write soon

[up the right side] your Mother

[In the top margin of p. 1]

P.S

Charley I am glad you choose to associate with preachers, I hope you will always do so and use no tobacco or whiskey which of course you will not especially whiskey we had snap beans and potatos for dinner so good by

[In the top margin of sheet 2]

2<sup>nd</sup> P.S Old Charley's sholder got so sore,<sup>98</sup> he had to quit work so I drive him to Kinsey's cart sometimes

---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 4 August, 1896. No envelope. Phebe was 45.**

---

[Bottom of sheet 1]

Ransom Kans  
August the 4<sup>th</sup> /96

C. R. Scott

Dear boy after some delay on account of stamp I will answer your welcome letter. We were very glad to hear from you sorry to hear of some being sick We are as well as common But there is more sickness & death than I ever knew of here Carley Cobern's father was buried last Sunday just six weeks before, his father's wife was buried Three weeks ago Joes little baby was buried He was with Will Lin [??] harvesting and Emma was at her father helping cook for harvest hands The baby<sup>99</sup> got sick with Cholera infantum [cholera infantum<sup>100</sup>]

---

96 John Daniel Goodvin, 21, son of Isaac Newton and Nancy Ann Cline Goodvin, and brother of Bertha Goodvin, who would later marry Charles Rush Scott. (19 March 1875-22 July 1897) Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 19 Oct 2015), John D Goodvin, Memorial #69685626, created by bill counterman sr, 11 May, 2011.

97 Catarrh of the stomach was a common diagnosis for what was probably a host of conditions that involved pain, fullness, bloating, and difficult breathing after eating.

98 Old Charley must be a horse.

99 Eva Luella Scott

100 A historical term for non-specific diarrhea or dysentery in children under five.

friday the tenth of July she we[nt] and hunted Joe he came th[torn corner]

[Sheet 2]

to see the baby but it was so late Mrs Scherzinger would not let them take it out in the night ^air & Mr. S did not come out to speak to him or ask him to stay all night so he went back to Henry Craigs<sup>101</sup> old place where they had been harvesting & stayed all night alone & she set up all night alone with it (her mother was really sick two) Next morning Joe went back & it was so bad they did not know what to do they had been giving it lots of medacine good ^for that disease but it could keep nothing on its stomache so Joe said we will take it to ma & they got here at 10 sat morn I did all I could for it, ^but was too far gone. I could see it was struck with death between 4 & 5 o'clock & died at about 9 in the evening I never saw any one take it so hard as they it seemed so enexpected to them I told Joe at five oclock to go for a Dr if he wanted to but I did not think it would do any good he seemed to think I was excited so he went over after his cow to have milk for the baby & when he got back it was nearly gone, When I told Emma it was dying she began to scream for Joe he had just come & herd her and ran in Your Pa met him & told to make as little fuss about it as he could help she was taking it so hard It nearly killed him when he came up to the crib it looked up at him and seemed to know him as well as ever it did. When ^he came Emma was out roaring on the ground like a maniac I was trying to console her as best I could Joe and I brought her in and she fainted and lay so long Jane Roggers<sup>102</sup> & I both

[Top of sheet 1]

began to think sh was clear gone. But your Pa gave her two slaps on her face and that revived her Ford went to McKacken and got a \$12<sup>00</sup> [or "\$2<sup>00</sup>?] coffin for it they gave it a nice burying but it cost two dollars more than he cleared in harvest But I was the main cause of it I did not want Scherzinger to have any thing to say about its not being buried respectable Scherzinger went and showed them where to bury it by his children near Ransom Now I must relate to you the sadest death to me it has ever been my lot to experiance, The very evning just before I noticed the baby was struck with death Mrs Craig & Jane & Dina<sup>103</sup> came from Ransom and brought me these words in a telegram ("Ma is dying, Cyrus")<sup>104</sup>

[Bottom of sheet 4]

P5

Oh my dear boy you don't know how I have suffered with sorrow in the past three week I could

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101 There were at least four Craig families living in Nevada Township in Ness County at this time. Henry, who is perhaps no longer in the area, would probably have been the son of William and Ida and the brother of Nancy Jane Craig Rogers. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 10-11, dwelling 58, family 59, line 11, Wm Craig; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 19 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society. See also, 1870 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 4 handwritten, dwelling 30, family 29, line 33, Craig, William.; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 19 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 552,272.

102 See note 101. Jane was the wife of Jasper Rogers.

103 Presumably Ida Craig, Nancy Jane Craig Rogers, and Dinah Scott, who according to the previous letter of July 11, 1896, has been helping Jane.

104 "Ma" is Laodicea, Phebe's mother. "Cyrus," who is sending the telegram, is Cyrus P. Cowan, half-brother of Phebe.

not believe it was true I had read a letter from her written the fith and she was well as common I thought perhaps it was that cramping in her stomache she used to nearly die with & maby she would get over it but no no it was too true I received a letter from Cyruses wife for the whole family they are all heart broken over it she sent me a piece of her dress (and trimming) ^that she was buried in & said her bury all expences besides Dr bills cost \$45<sup>00</sup> so I have the consolation of knowing her dear bodaty was layed away

[Sheet 3]

to rest repectably she said the 11<sup>th</sup> chapter of St John was read & the songs sung was Asleep in Jesus Gathering ~~at the river~~ home, Shall we meat beyon the river, Mary<sup>105</sup> say'd she went over thursday evning and she was not sick but just did not feel well she fixed her some supper & she ate at the table with the rest and next morning she took to cramping (just as I expected) and after 4 o'clock she never knew any more they had three Drs but nothing could be done for her she died at six oclock saturday evning three hours before Joe's baby died Even when I had read all this from Mary it seemed as if I was dreaming it could not it seemed be posable the sodds were layed over my dear dear mother the one who had always been so dear to me doubly so from the fact she had filled the place of father & mother to me so many years of my life nevertheless I am forced to realize the sad truth but oh it is so hard to bear, But I know she always had a hard lot here & ^I feel sure she has gone where sorrow sin & death never enters Thank God for the blessed hope of the Christian I feel like it will not be many years till I can clasp glad hands with her & others gone before on the bright shore of eternal deliverance, Every one around is discouraged wheat oats & barley was so poor & now our nice corn that stood ten ft high an more in places & such stalks I never saw them so large part of them in good rosting ears and part just shooting are burned with the hot winds & drouth till the blades are blowing off Pa is awfully discouraged Kinsey<sup>106</sup> owes him \$35<sup>00</sup>,

[Top of sheet 4]

but I dont know when he can get it Ward said he would send us some money if he could get it ahead of time but in his last letter he did not say anything about it but he did not write much didn't even sign his name, The men was talking politics so he could not write Tell Mother<sup>107</sup> I would love to see her and we would if it was posable Bless her dear old sole she is all the parent we have left on either sid I wish your Pa could go to see her while she lives if I can't They kept Ma as long as they could waiting for me to come, but if I had of had the money I could not have left Joe in his trouble you must write Joe a letter of simpaty he ^& she feels so badly altho we know it was all for the better for it & them two I hope Pa & Joe are both cutting corn for Jap. R. to pay him some of what they owe him mostly fo bobdeco [tobacco?] (Do take warning & don't use the stuff) As ever your loving Mother

---

105 Mary Ellen Pringle Cowan, Cyrus' wife.

106 Kinsey Rogers.

107 Dinah Clifton Robb Scott.

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Oscar Quintin Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott and Reginald Ward Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 21 September, 1896. No envelope. Oscar was 17.

---

1

Sep 21 th 1896  
Ransom  
Kansas.

Well Dear Brothers

I n now seat my self Down up on chair to write to I am well hopping these few lines will find you the same. We had a pretty good rain I can hardly writ with pin and ink eny more. Brother Na<sup>108</sup> preach at s rasom las he last night he preached a good Surmon. he preached sund m mornen and at night I did not get home until about 11 oclock. We had good time I don't believe yo can hardly read this I wish I were b out there and have a good time We have gather some corn out M ^all redd.

We are going to Build a house

2

we are going to plow the soud today I am going away this fawl or next spring to work u I dont no know where I will go yet I cannot not make anything ~~xxxxx~~ here dinner is about reddy & I can not write much before dinner I will write what I can I got a better pin now we tuck tuck up a don / mare he she is Just a dandy wriding house house I haft to quite and go to dinner so good Bye W I will haft to go after children after while it is about haft pass 4 oclock you must eiguse [excuse] my Bad writting I will haft to pratice it is cloudy this after noon pa is down PBraking soud for a house School is go bin going on 3 weeks now I am not going to School enny more I dont Hag learn any thing only to Play

3

Ball and have foun with the Girls the Girls is Plays Bawl with the Boys We have lots of fun with them their teacher name is L F Nestover they dont like him a Bit because he gives to long lessons Ellie Ford<sup>109</sup> said she was going to normal next term<sup>110</sup> we o only hade a 100 BS of wheat and 17 1/2 BS of Barley We are not goin to have very much corn. this year I have not got a suit of close yet I can't get any work to get enny. I have not got enny close [clothes] fit to were [wear] enny more that \$15 you send P CrS Pa spend spend it some thing to eat and got the Girls a dress Mrs

---

108 Daniel Nay. See note 35.

109 See notes 69 and 70 for identity.

110 Ness County Normal Institute began in 1884 as a means of supplying the schools with teachers. At first completely controlled by the county, the four-week session was held each summer. The curriculum consisted of a review of the material teachers were expected to teach in the county schools and ended with an examination and a certificate to teach. In 1895, the state began issuing the examination and setting requirements for the certificates. Attending Normal cost about ten dollars, including the room and board in Ness City. The return on this investment was good: male teachers were paid about \$35 per month, female \$29.50. Millbrook, Ness, pp. 185-86, 192-93.

haze<sup>111</sup> went down east Mark he wanted me to go with him and he got Garner<sup>112</sup> in a notion of going and I thout I would not go

4

with him I w~~h~~ wish I hadive now Garner did not go he Back out on going he went By his self ma would let me went if I wanted to she says I can go this fall or next spring ~~up~~ if I get a chuce to go with some Body I oma [may?] go a hourse Back or get me a cart and go in it I go a hourse Back ever place I go I am getting allmighty tard of it I would druther wride arond in a cart or a Buggy I wish you were home with your Butty Ward I would have a high old time this winter wriding around with the Girls ~~th~~ take them to meating and evrything Was going I guess I will Close for thy time yours truely O. Q. Scott

[Top margin of p. 4, set off with a line]

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4 You must write soon as you ea get this letter I would like to Be out there were you are and have a good talk you this is to you Bouth  
€B c R S R W S

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**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott and Reginald Ward Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 21 September, 1896. No envelope.**

Phebe mentions the campaign of William Jennings Bryan, who ran against William McKinley in the 1896 and 1900 elections. He was part of the Populist wing of the Democratic Party, and advocated "free silver"—unlimited coinage of silver, with silver being a standard currency as well as gold. Farmers believed this policy would help farm prices and make it easier to pay debts. The campaign slogan was "16 to 1," the ratio of silver to gold that the Populists wanted.

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[Sheet 1]

September the 21<sup>st</sup> 1896  
Ransom Ks

C. R. & R. W. Scott

Dear boys,

I will now ans your ^letters we were all rejoiced to know you two boys were to gather having a good time I know you thought of us at home when you were singing those songs you used to sing

---

111 Probably Ella Hays, 34, the wife of Mark Hays, 32. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Waring, pp. 17-18, dwelling 12, family 12, line 14, Ella Hays; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

112 Of the three families of Garners in Ness, a guess based on age would be William Garner, 18. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Ohio, pp. 6-7, dwelling 6, family 6, line 28, W M Garner; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

when at home Joe would like to be with you a while I wish you could all be at home on your Pa birthday or Christmas we would have a family reunion Charley we was very thankful for that money you sent but Pa did not spend it all for some thing to eat & the girls dresses as Oscar says in his letter to you, he payed his threshing bill out of it \$5.85 & 1.30 at the

[Sheet 2]

blacksmith shop \$1.58 at the grocerie at Brownell & I guess has about \$2.50 left But he could spend \$100.00 & not get his debts payed ^& what we need we owe Douglas & Farr [Harr? Starr?] for threshing four years ago they have our not[e] for \$20.25 & We owe \$20, at ransom yet on our old bill & about five on a new one & a Dr bill 2.15 for me & one visit to Dina [?] \$15<sup>00</sup> we owe on that plow yet, & the P. C we owe \$4 dollars they keep sending statements oh well I dont know how much we do owe but if we ever get out of debt I think we will stay out I would have ans sooner but I wanted to find out whether we were going to moove to Cyrus first so I could tell you but finly I found we could not get the place Clint Beamer<sup>113</sup> rented it Pa & Joe are building us a new sod kitchen so we will have room for you boys to sleep when you come home. Oscar was awful out of patience when his Pa did not get him a suit out of that money you sent I guess if he gets a suit you boys will just have to buy it and send it to him he can wear anything Joe can except a hat and he has a nice hat when you come bring all your old clothes with you I can mend them or make them over for the little boys times are going to be oulul [awful?] hard this winter we will have plenty of roughness<sup>114</sup> efor our stock but no grain only enough maby to fatten us enough meat we killed a six month old pig two weeks ago that had just been runing luse & he dressed 140 lbs we have nine others that come easter sunday that is not quite so large nor nearly so fat we have their mother fat she will weigh over 300 lbs then we expect to latten [fatten?] my sow or begin to fatten her in one week will wean her pigs they

[Back of sheet 1]

are dandies 5 of them so you see if we had raised plenty of corn we would have lots of meat but our wheat is so swiveled they say they can't ^do any thing with it at the mill and half of it will not grow so we are in a bad fix for bread but I guess we can get some wheat of Kinsey<sup>115</sup> he ows us potatoes are fifty cts per bu at ness Grace went yesterday to stay with Mrs Polen, they live on the Stowe place she has two almost babies & he is gone east to mine, Grace will stay all winter and go to school & they pay her 25. c per week, I must stop and get dinner, Hurah for Brian & free cinage [coinage] of silver 16 to 1 I wish I havd 16 to 1 boys to vote for him if he will bring better times as they all claim he will Pa is a pretty strong pop ~~but~~ but a Democrat is a pretty bitter pill for him to swallow. but he expects to down her all right I tried to get him to write but he just will not even answer his dones [duns?], I will have to write to [up the margin] the P. C May God bless you good by your Mother

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113 See note 53. By 1900, Clint was still renting, whether or not it was the same place. 1900 U.S. census, Trego, Kansas, Wilcox Twp, p. 53 A stamped, dwelling 29, family 29, line 7, Beamer, C.H.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 19 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,502.

114 "Roughness" was the bulky plant material fed to cattle and other animals to fill out their diet in addition to any grain available.

115 Kinsey Rogers.

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**Phebe Marie Scott in Brownell, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 5 February, 1897. Envelope postmarked 6 February. Phebe was 45.**

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Brownell Kans  
Feb the 5<sup>th</sup> /1897

Dear son

It is with pleasure I again have the opportunity of ans your welcome litter I am glad to hear your long cold journey was at an end ~~thou~~ although you seemd to have had a good time but it don't hardly seem to me as though you had any visit at home you was here such a short time & it was so cold and we were crouded up so I hope when you come again you will find us more favorably situated. Ward still talks of coming home he said he would tell us when to meet him at Waukeaney.

[P. 2]

But I am afraid he will not come he said it would all depend on how much work he got to do he talks like he hasn't got the money to come on & enough to take him back he always figures on the round trip some times I think if I k<sup>n</sup>ew we would all live to meet again, I would rather he would not come till he would come to stay for I will feel so badly when he leaves like I do when you leave I so much wish we could all be togather But I would rather you were off like you are than to be near by and yet so far off like Joe is Emma has never been here since you was here then she came against her will Pa and I have been there afew times I always make her speak to me but she dont always speak [ditto marks are used] to him

[P. 3]

Joe comes over evry little while when she goes to her fathers, but he dont enjoy coming home for he knowes it makes her mad But I hope she will get more agreable.

Your Pa has been helping Dougless dig a well he is over there now I was to go over by there tomorrow and take his clothes to him and take him to Brownell to meeting. We wrote for bro Sniffenn<sup>116</sup> of Raymond to com and preach a week begining saturday night But it has been snowing and melting off till I expect the roads will be too bad for me to make the trip as I am about sick any way. We think of hireing him this year we want to hear him a few times

[P. 4]

before making any diffinite arangements with him Our E Elders have all offered their resignations

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116 See note 91.

as they all think they were not put in according to scripture Bro Mitlin also intends on leaving the church but I think we can talk him out of that he said he heard that some others were going to leave if he didn't but that was a mistake your Pa told him so Delby Huling<sup>117</sup> said he ^leave would if he did not resign the eldership so he will sure go out. we expect to have a business meeting soon Brother Squire<sup>118</sup> is in favor of the organ if we can't have singing without it he says they can't have any singing unless Mr Re or W.C. [these names are illegible] is there unless they do use the organ and Bro Nay knows that would not suit Bro Templeton's<sup>119</sup> or us either,

[P. 5]

I guess your Pa will teach a singing at Ransom he will be apt to know tonight Jap<sup>120</sup> was getting it up for him They have literary there tonight They will decide then whether they can raise the \$20.<sup>00</sup> or not They will want one at Brownell two I expect I hope Ward will be here to go I wish you could be here two, I made over \$4.00 last week Mrs Hazen<sup>121</sup> was sick and sent for me and I went over and stayed two nights and one day and washed in the time of it Pa was pretty hot about me waashing But I don't know as it is any worse on Me to work out than it is for him to, I got enough to buy me two pairs of double blankets

[page 6]

and will get some butter besides and every little helps you know, we have eaten a whole barrel of shoulders and hams since you left I have sold 32 1/2 doz of eggs this year (one 1/2 month) I think I told you we traded our calf for 40 bu of corn, we are not quite out of fuel yet, we have not had any coal yet this winter It was the coaldest last week it has ever been, but our plants are growing nicely in our windows we have never had anything frozen yet Old bro Craig is better. The children are all in bed it is after ten o'clock and my head aches so I must go two I am sorry Enoch got into trouble again and I hope get justice done him remember me to Mother and Bro Nay's and all my friends

as ever your mother

[Up the side]  
fare well

---

117 Probably Adelbert Huling, 18. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Waring Twp, pp. 13-14, dwelling 94, family 94, line 17, Adelbert F Huling; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

118 Three families of Squiers were living in Waring Township, Ness County.

119 Two families of Templetons were living in Waring Township, Ness County.

120 Jasper Rogers.

121 Two families of Hazens were living in Nevada Township, Ness County. At a guess, this Mrs. Hazen was Mary A. Hazen, 66, widow of William Hazen, a local blacksmith and builder of the first schoolhouse—a sod structure—in Nevada Township. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 9-10, dwelling 49, family 50, line 3, Mary A. Hazen; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society; 1880 U.S. census, Ness, Kansas, Town 17, Range 23, p. 8 handwritten, dwelling 9, family 9, line 41, Hazen Wm.; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 19 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1254391; Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 289.

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**Reginald Ward Scott in Ransom, Kansas to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 6 March, 1897. Envelope reads, "If not called for in 10 days return to box 110. St Edwards Nebr."** Ward was 19.

Ward seems to have been traveling around Nebraska and perhaps Missouri for some kind of work. In this letter, he mentions Beatrice, Fremont, and St. Edwards, all in the eastern half of Nebraska. A letter from the collection of Joanne Hartman Thom, dated 25 April 1897, follows this one. In it, Ward is writing from Boone, Nebraska. The last letter of Ward's letters in the present collection, dated 8 November 1897, is written from Sidney. While there was a Sidney in far western Nebraska, it seems more likely that Ward is in Sidney, Missouri, since he has just been in "Shibley's Point." There was a Shibley's Point about 13 miles from Sidney, Missouri, in the north central part of the state.

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[Right side of sheet 1]

Ransom Kans  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 1897

Mr. C. R. Scott.

Madelaine Mo.

Dear bro. I will try and ans. Your letter at last sorry I did'nt write sooner. but have been so buisy running around. I have been having lots of fun.

Well I saw Winnie<sup>122</sup> for you all right

I think she must have forgot about old Ring and Franny She was just so goot as pie.

[Left side of sheet 2]

It looks rather stormy to day I came up here last evening to Literary hat lots of fun.

I guess I will go back Sometime next week

Bro. Sniffin<sup>123</sup> commences meeting at Brownell tonight.

I guess I will stop at Fremont awhile also at Beatrice.

I want to start about Thursday. if I can

[Right side of sheet 2]

Ma was talking Yesterday off answering your letter but has'nt got around to it yet  
Well how it Charley and Willie getting along?

---

122 See note 34 for identity.

123 See note 91 for identity.

Dan goes to see By Jollies every once in a while Joe and. C. C. Combest<sup>124</sup> had a runaway last Sun. evening. broke Joes. buggy all to peaces.  
I guess he has just about got it rigged up again.  
Say Ma and I were

[Left side of sheet 1]

talking the other day about you taking Bro. Nay up in Neb. where I am and hold a meeting I would give my old shoe if you would just knock the socks off of them Methodist's  
Well I will have to close for this time. Direct me St Edwards unless you answer before I go back.

From Your Bro  
Ward Scott.

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**Reginald Ward Scott in Boone, Nebraska, to Charles Rush Scott in Boone, Nebraska, 25 April, 1897. The original of this letter is from the collection of Joanne Hartman and Meredith Thom and is transcribed here for the context it adds to the other letters. The envelope for this letter may well be the one in the present collection dated 26 April 1897.**

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Boone Nebr.  
April 25<sup>th</sup> 97.  
Mr. C. R. Scott.  
Madelaine Mo.

Dear bro after so long a time will try and write you a few lines to let you know I am well hope this will find you all the same we are having lots of rain this spring rains nearly ever night Well Charley I will send you my girls picture. She is in Fremont going to

[P. 2]

school. She sent me three of her little pictures so I send Ma one and you. they get 6 doz. of that kind for .25 I wish you could see he in stead of her picture she is sweet as honey.

I get awful lone some while she is away but will be back in Aug. I am going down to see her the 4<sup>th</sup> of July.

I some time have a big notion to go to Mo I would in a minute if I was sure of a job stay [?]

[P. 3]

this summer.

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124 Christopher C. Combest, 42. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 6, dwelling 37, family 38, line 11, C.C. Combest; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

well I've got company now so I will have to close for this time  
ans. soon  
R. W. Scott

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**Grace Laodicea Scott (LaPlante) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 6 August, 1897. Probably mailed with the next letters from Dinah and Phebe.**  
Grace was almost 12.

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Ransom  
Kansas  
Jul August 6  
1897

Dear Charlie

I will try to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same Harry and Claud is not felling very well now Mamma went at Mrs. Bares,<sup>125</sup> Emma went with her. Clara and Addie Farr<sup>126</sup> ~~stad~~ stayed all ~~nite~~ night Wednesday night I stayed with Emma three weeks while Joe was Harvesting.

Mrs turner died about a month ago.

Mamma is going out to Millers<sup>127</sup> to morrow mabe I will go too.

Bro. Sniffen is going to preach tomorrow evening and Sunday

[P. 2]

at ~~at~~ utica. I brother Nay ~~at~~ out their yet. When are you comming home? I would like to see you very much. Bell. Lynn it used to be died three weeks ago.

Do you know when ward is comming home.

I guess ~~we~~ I will close for this time

Your loving Sister  
Gracie Scott  
To charley.

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125 Doubtless one of the Baers, possibly Emma Mast Baer, who was married to Amandus D. Baer. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, pp. 13-14, dwelling 74, family 76, line 2, Edima Bear; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

126 Clara, 12, and Ada, 19, were daughters of Will and Lettie Farr. See note 1.

127 See note 48 for identity.

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**Dinah Louella Scott (Moyer) and Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 6 August, 1897. Her letter and Phebe's are on the same sheet. No envelope. Dinah was 14; Phebe was 46.**

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[Begins at bottom half of a long sheet]

Ransom Kans.  
Aug 6 1897

Charley:—

Dear Brother, I will try and write to you again We are not very well Harry & Claud especially are not well Claud layed in bed most all day today

Ma and Harry went to Bears today with Emma.

School will begin the fourth of October.

I suppose you heard of Dan's G. Death.<sup>128</sup> he didn't get to read your letter he said he wanted too but ma & Pa brought it to him but he was to near death his folks are awful lonesome. Dan looked better after death then before.

There are lots of sickness around now Dora can hardly get

[Top of sheet 2]

around.

Joe and Emma are up and around & as well as common.

Grace, Daisy, and I have been piecing quilts we pieced one a piece Graces and mine are done and I have thirty one more blocks pieced.

Ida Hazen failed to get a certificate this year she tried for second grade and didn't even get a third.<sup>129</sup>

We havent heard from Ward yet since before the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July.

Our corn crop is pretty fair but not any wheat to amount to any thing.

Mr Tomison's are going to have a sale the 10<sup>th</sup> they are going to move away (Howard Tomison's folks).

Well this is the 7<sup>th</sup> ma is going up to Millers<sup>130</sup> after pa. Bro Sniffin wants pa to go to Utica tomorrow to sing I

[Bottom of sheet 2]

dont know whether he will go or not.

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128 See note 96 for identity.

129 The requirements for a certificate to teach second grade were harder than for third grade, and first grade was harder still. Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 192.

130 Charles Miller. See note 48 for identity.

Pa gets a dollar and a quarter per day. Oscar isn't working ~~un~~ ^with the thrashing machine. Our school books will change all over the state this year.

The reason our letter was directed to Ward ma wrote to both of you and when she got to Ransom Joe got a letter from Ward and said he was to start to Mo. the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July. so ma thought she would be there she had directed two envelopes one to you and one to Ward so she saved the one to you to write in again.

Henry Craigs folks are pretty poorly. Nan isn't expected to live she has dropsy Rheumatism and something else I forget the name.

We have 88 little pigs and nine old ones pa has sold three little ones to Douglas on that thrashing bill about

[Top of sheet 1]

five years ago.

Ella Ford is working for Mr. Harknesses<sup>131</sup> of Ness City.

I have a nice flower garden this year.

Well I guess I will close for this time give my best wishes to Grandma Uncle Jim and to all inquiring friends.

Write soon to your

Loving Sister  
Dinah Scott

Charley

Dear son I will not write much this time as the girls has written all the news, Emma did not read Ward's litter aright he said Fremont in stead of Mo I did not know any better untill after we got your letter to Dan<sup>132</sup> we took it to him his father and mother both to get him to read it he would say yess he wanted to read it but he did not know what they were asking him or was too near gone to read it he lived a bout an hour after he got your letter It was an auful time I must stop Your Mother

---

131 There were two Harkness households in Ness City in both the 1895 Kansas Census and the 1900 US Census, as well as a family in Nevada Township near the Scotts. They were old settlers, much involved in local education.

Catherine, who was now 70 and living in Ness City, had been superintendent of the county schools and the driving force for standards and organization. Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 190.

132 John Daniel Goodvin. See note 96.

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*Phebe Scott wrote a letter dated 30 August with no year. It could fit here or in 1898. It will be found in the appropriate month in 1898 since that seems more likely on the basis of the improving economy.*

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**Reginald Ward Scott in Sidney, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Purdin, Missouri, 8 November, 1897. Envelope postmarked Sidney. Only legible postmark is Stahl, 9 November.** Ward was 20.  
There was a Shibley's Point, Missouri, about 13 miles from Sidney, Missouri, in northwest Missouri.

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Sidney. Nov. 8<sup>th</sup> 1897  
Mr. C. R. Scott  
Purdin Mo.

Dear bro. I recd your letter Sat was glad to hear from you as it was the first letter I've got since I'm here.

Well we closed our meeting at Shibley's. Pt.<sup>133</sup> Fri night had a good meeting Well their book has'nt come yet.

I sold the first doz. down there Slick as a whistle but they havn't come yet.<sup>134</sup> I have three sold here already. And I know I can easily sell this rest and more to if I had them

[P. 2]

Well I must close for this time.

Write soon as you can.

Yours in haste.

R. W. Scott

---

<sup>133</sup> There was a Shibley's Point, Missouri, about 13 miles from Sidney, Missouri, in Adair County, north central Missouri.

<sup>134</sup> What books Ward was selling is an interesting question. If Bibles, surely he would have used that word. Most likely would be songbooks or other materials published by the Christian Endeavor of which he was a member. See note 23.

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**William Andrew Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 18 December, 1897. Envelope, postmarks illegible. W. A. was 47.**

---

Ransom Kans  
Dec 18 – 97

Your letter Just Recd—and I am on my way home from Numans<sup>135</sup> where I have been at work. I am building or rather doing the carpenter work on his house. I get \$55 for the Job and if you kids were here you could help me and we could have singing at Utica at the same time and perhaps at Ransom I bought a cow of him on the work I have the rafters up and the lower floor laid. it will take me 2 weeks to finish it

[P. 2]

The folks were all well Monday when I left home

It snowed about 2 in last night and is pretty cold to day

Well as I am in a hurry to go home and expecting to see you soon I will close  
as evr your father  
WAScott

---

**William Andrew Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 15 April, 1898. No envelope. W. A. was 47.**

---

Ransom Kans  
Apr 15 98

Dear Charley:

as Dinah has been writing I thought I would write a line I am at Japs to night walked up to day. Quite a little excitement here. The Sheriff from Rush Co is here to night and there were 16 men here last night, looking for All Start. You remember the man that got into a row with Abe Musselman at the ball game at Brownell a few years ago He and two other fellows Robbed a man and ^he killed another

---

135 Probably Noah and Martha "Mattie" Newman. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Ohio Twp, pp. 5-6, dwelling 6, family 6, line 24, N. V. Newman; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 20 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

[P. 2]

who came up. This happened about 4 miles north of Mc\_Cracken on Tuesday. last. they caught the other two but All [Al] got away.<sup>136</sup>  
the boys are planting corn I have been working some for Hooblers,<sup>137</sup> fixing up their house We have a job for Luther Garland.<sup>138</sup> finishing a stone house Comence about Wednesday I have already made the frames build Japs adition as soon as Ive get done there. I suppose Dinah will tell you all the news

Write Soon Your Father WAScott

---

**Dinah Louella Scott (Moyer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 28 & 29 April, 1898. Envelope, postmark Madelaine, 1 May. Dinah was 15.**

---

Ransom Kansas  
Apr. 28, 1898

Charley:—

Dear brother I will try to write you a few lines in answer to your most welcome letter that I rec'd Mon. found us all well with the acception of ma. Joe was up today though and said she was over to I. N. Goodwin's sewing, so I guess she is better.<sup>139</sup>

---

136 Apparently Al Start and a couple of buddies attacked a man named Schiderman in Rush County. As Al Start was holding the man, a Russian farmer named Peter Herman heard the shouting. Thinking his son was being attacked, he rushed to the rescue. Start shot him. The pals were captured and got off, but Start fled to Mexico. Hearing that his friends had escaped jail, he returned and was arrested in Dodge City, whereupon he learned that the other men had gotten off by blaming him. He lawyered up. Though he was tried and convicted of fourth degree manslaughter, he asked for a new trial on grounds of jury prejudice. After lengthy legal wranglings involving retrials and a change of venue to Hodgeman County, Start was freed on the opinion of the Kansas Supreme Court in July, 1900. "Al Start's Grave Mistake," *Kansas City journal*. (Kansas City, Mo.), 27 Oct. 1898, p. 1, col. 1, *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers*. Lib. of Congress. (<http://chroniclingamerica.loc.gov> : accessed 21 October 2015); "State v. Start," Court of Appeals of Kansas, 15 August 1898, p. 22. *The Pacific Reporter*; California. Superior Courts, vol. 54. West Publishing Co., 1899, *Google Books* 14 July 2014 (<https://books.google.com> ; accessed 21 October 2015); "The State of Kansas v. Al. Start" Reports of Cases Argued and Determined in the Supreme Court of the State of Kansas vol 62, Topeka: W. Y. Morgan, 1901, pp. 111-121 *Google Books* 2 April 2015 (<https://books.google.com> ; accessed 21 October 2015).

137 Probably the family of Hannah Hoobler, whose husband William died in 1896.. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, pp. 3-4, dwelling 18, family 18, line 8, Hoobler, H J; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 21 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

138 Probably the family of S L and F A Garland. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, pp. 3-4, dwelling 23, family 23, line 19, Garland, S L; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 21 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

139 Dinah must be staying somewhere other than home, since she speaks of Phebe as if from a distance. Perhaps she is at Jasper Roger's, where W. A. was in the previous letter.

Pa and Ward is here building Jap another addition to his house.

I am sorry to say that Old Mr. Combest burned to death the other day in a prairie fire that Old Mr. Schell set out.<sup>140</sup>

Brother Sniffin had a sad time while he was up here the last time

[P. 2]

he came up on Wednesday to marry Mr. Gray & Mary Province,<sup>141</sup> and the next day had to preach Mrs. Rankins funeral and on Sunday went to Old Mr. Combests burying. There has been four deaths in the last month right around here , yes 5.

Watch the next P.C. for Bro Sniffin's report of ^ inans. to [in answer to ?] Pender's Article in the paper.<sup>142</sup>

Well I have seen nothing of Tommy<sup>143</sup> yet.

We Pa, Ward and I and several others went down to the depot to see the soldiers go through to Cuba.<sup>144</sup> Tell grandma I like her

Maggie is coaxing at me to go to supper so I guess I will have to go, and finish after while.

---

140 Samuel James Combest died 22 April 1898 from burns he received fighting a prairie fire on his land in Trego County. There were various versions of the fire's origin. The one Dinah seems to be passing on was that Combest and elderly neighbors were planning to clear a piece of land, and Combest was plowing a fire break around the area. One of the other men started the fire prematurely, trapping Samuel. He died the next night. Schell was probably Jacob Schell, 68, a German immigrant and early settler in Ness. He was among the first to bring hard Turkey wheat to the area. Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 21 Oct 2015), Samuel James Combest, Memorial #29808936, created by LikeHideAndSeek 14 September 2008; 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 6, dwelling 38, family 39, line 22, Jacob Schell; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 21 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society; Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 145-146.

141 James L. Gray, 25, the son of Joseph and Clara Gray, was living in Greenwood County with his family in 1895. Mary Province, 18, was the daughter of Edward and Martha Rosa Province of Ness. 1895 Kansas census, Greenwood, Kansas, population schedule, Quincy Twp, p. 9-10, dwelling 1, family 51, line 27, J. L. Gray; 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Ohio Twp, p. 5-6, dwelling 5, family 5, line 20, Mary Province; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 21 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society; 1900 U.S. census, Franklin, Kansas, Wellsville, p. 156 stamped, dwelling 288, family 290, line 24-25, Grey, James L. and Grey, Mary E.; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 19 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,480.

142 The "P. C." is evidently some sort of publication, but it does not seem to be a newspaper from Ness, Trego, or Rush. Could it be a church newspaper? A Populist publication? A Prohibition newspaper? The name "Pender" also does not show up locally in the 1895 or 1900 censuses.

143 Probably James Thomas Scott, son of Jasper and Ellen Scott, brother and sister of W. A. and Phebe, respectively.

144 The US declared war on Spain on April 25, intervening in the Cuban revolution, but hostilities had been mounting for some time, especially after the sinking of the Maine in Havana harbor in February. President McKinley immediately asked for 125,000 volunteers.

Anna Curtis was married the other day her name is preacher Griffith's wife.<sup>145</sup>

[P. 3]

Box 12

Box [?] 4567[?]

I heard him preach Wed. Night a wk. ago. Oh, he told the most death bed stories I ever heard in one sermon in my life.

Apr 29<sup>th</sup>

School will be out one wk. from Wed.

We just got through our Arith yesterday working in Discount now.

Are you going to be here to go to normal with me. it will begin next month.

You just get married if you want a raking. Especially your Coz.

It seems to me like you have been back there an awful long time.

Well Charley if you was here I might cook for your harvest hands but I cant help you as it is.

There is an awful lot of sickness here now, Mrs. Sam Dubbs<sup>146</sup> is pretty sick now. Chris Combest's<sup>147</sup> brother was out during

[P. 4]

his fathers sickness but I dont know whether he is here now or not.

I dont believe I have seen Bertha & Laura<sup>148</sup> since you went back.

Ma hasnt seen your letter yet we keep forgetting to send it to her.

Dear Grandma I guess I will write a little to you. I would like to see you very much I wish you would come out with Tommy<sup>149</sup> I believe you could if you just thought so.

My blue dress that you got me has all worn into strings. Zella wore it out last winter.

Ransom is growing awful fast three buildings are going up now. and there has been two put up last winter.

---

145 Speculating only, the bride might have been Annie Curtis, 29, a woman living alone next to another Curtis family in 1895, but thereafter she disappears from the record. There was in Ransom for a brief time a Rev. Frank G. [or C.] Griffith, who started a Holiness paper called *Every Day Religion* in 1899 and then moved it to Kanopolis. The problem with this identification is that by the 1900 census he is living as a 26-year-old single man with his birth family. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, p. 5-6, dwelling 45, family 45, line 31, Curtis, Annie; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society; Millbrook, *Ness*, p. 178; 1900 U.S. census, Ellsworth, Kansas, Kanopolis, p. 259 stamped, dwelling 40, family 45, line 23, Griffith, Frank C.; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 22 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,480.

146 Celia Dubbs, 27. She apparently recovered, for she continues to appear in the censuses. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, p. 3-4, dwelling 22, family 22, line 17, Dubbs, Celia; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

147 See note 124 for identity.

148 Daughters of I.N. and Nancy Goodvin. Bertha would eventually marry Charles Rush Scott.

149 Probably Tom Scott from Washington. See note 142. The Washington cousins seem to have maintained a close relationship with the Ransom and Daviess County Scotts.

Well I guess I will close Write soon  
Charley & Grandma.  
Yours Truly Dinah Scott

[Top right corner of page on a slant:] Dont forget normal.

[Top left corner of page on a slant:] ~~P-M~~. Give my best wishes to U. Jim and all inquiring friends  
Coz's etc.

---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 30 Apr, 1898. No envelope. Probably mailed with the previous letter from Dinah.** Phebe was almost 47.

This letter and the two previous letters—W. A.'s dated 15 April and Dinah's dated 28 April—raise questions about time sequence and family relationships. We letter readers are only "dropping in" occasionally on what is happening in the family and have missed much both in terms of events and in terms of people's daily dealings with one another. That said, we may wonder that Phebe's pregnancies and the birthing of two children receive so little mention. Rosie Scott was born and died sometime in 1895, and yet no notice whatever is given to her short life in the letters of 1895 that we have. There may, of course, have been other letters. Outside of this collection, letters from Daisy and Zella to Charley do exist, dated 21 November 1897, telling of the birth of John Clayton Scott:

We have got a little Baby Boy, he is not very big. He has blue eyes red hair little nose and little mouth. Pa wants to call the baby John. I call him Ralph Claton but don't know what we will finally name him.<sup>150</sup>

In the present letter, a baby's death is recounted, but the baby is not named. It seems clear that it is Phebe and W. A.'s baby, almost certainly John Clayton. Yet Phebe mentions parting with two children in one week. One can only presume that Charles has been home for a visit and has left a few days before. As for the timing, the baby died on Tuesday, which would be 26 April. Yet Dinah has nothing to say about the baby's death unless the oblique reference to Phebe's feeling unwell is for this reason and unless John Clayton is included in the obscure reference to five local deaths. W. A.'s silence on the subject is more understandable if the baby was not yet in trouble eleven days before.

Family lore claims John Clayton was born and died in 1897; this letter would seem to contradict that memory.

---

April the 30/ 98

C. R. Scott

Dear son I will once more write you a few lines it seems a long while since you started away we have had so much trouble since you left It seemed so hard to part with two

---

<sup>150</sup> Mark Horchem, *Precious Memories*, p.12, quoting Mark Horchem, *Family Genealogy*, privately held.

of our dear children in one week. The little darling took worse tuesday I don't think he was ever really any better only the madicine helped his pain, He suffered dreadfully it seemed as tho I never could stand it He was over

[P. 2]

two hours dying Oh it was awful I seemed so hard to give littl angel up But the Lords will be done I came up after your Pa and Ward and they are hurrying me so I will have to say good by God bless you, And grant that you may be pure, your Mother

---

**Dinah Louella Scott (Moyer) in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 25 May, 1898. No envelope.** Dinah was 15.

---

Ransom Kansas  
May 25<sup>th</sup> 1898

Charley

Dear brother I will try to answer your most welcome letter which I rec'd Sat. I was glad to hear from you.

We are all as well as common but have a little cold.

It is raining very hard and has been nearly all day and all night last night. it is now just 8 oclock.

We have had plenty of rain this spring crops look fine only in places where the hale storm knocked it. Douglass told up to Ransom Saturday that the hale was on the ground 4 ft deep at his place I suppose he meant in the draw.

Well Charley I will start to Normal next Tuesday at Ness I am going to room in the Arlington Hotel (which Mrs Comer keeps.) with Barbers girls<sup>151</sup> and Bertha Goodvin.

I suppose you got your picture that you was wanting from Bertha by this time she said she sent it.

Your Winnie is in Rice Co. now staying with Nora.

[P. 2]

Brother Sniffin preached at Ransom Sunday Ward, pa, ma, and I was up to hear him.

I have been at home two wks next Saturday.

Ward is at home now he isn't helping pa this wk over to Garlands<sup>152</sup>

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151 Probably Millie and Dora, daughters of Henry and Francis Barber. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 10, dwelling 55, family 56, line 1-2, Millie and Dora Barber; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

152 See note 138.

"Oh! Charley you look just like you always did only you've change so much."

"Charley is just so sweet."

(Soap grease)

We went home with Edd Sidebottom<sup>153</sup> from meeting Sunday.

Grace & Daisy are caught in a rain storm over to Mr. Greers,<sup>154</sup> they went yesterday evening and haven't got back.

Food is getting to be pretty high now flour was 1.40 cents a sack Saturday.

Well I guess I will close

Excuse scribbling and

Write soon to your Sis.

Dinah L. Scott

---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 28 May, 1898. No envelope.** Phebe was 47.

---

Ransom Kas  
May the 28<sup>th</sup> 98

C. R. Scott

Dear son

I will now occupy a few moments writing to you I have been very busy getting Dinah ready to go to normal and just when we were the very busyist Mrs Squier<sup>155</sup> sent for Dinah to help her and I sent Grace so I will have to get along with Daisy Pa is still away all the time I intend on going to Ransom today again I suppose he wil be there It is so wet no boddy can do any thing

[P. 2]

without waiding in mud. It seems to me we never had so much rain  
Crops look fine you and Tomy<sup>156</sup> can get all the harvesting you want to do if it don't hail too much  
If Pa can get Carpenter work to do he will not work in the harvest field Joe's are all well as

---

153 Edward Sidebottom was the brother of Robert Sidebottom of note 64. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 2, dwelling 9, family 10, line 9, Edward Sidebottom; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society. See also Mark Horchem, Ransom, Kansas: *The First Hundred Years, 1887-1887* (N.p.: Self Published, 1987), pp. 265-266.

154 Two families of Greers lived in the same dwelling, James, 67, and Julia, 62, with three grown children; and R. L. and Mary, both 35, with four childrn under 14. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Riverside Twp, pp. 1-2, dwelling 7, family 7-8, line 31-32, 1-9, James through Florence Greer; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 22 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

155 See note 118.

156 Probably James Thomas Scott (1873-1931), son of Jasper and Ellen Scott, is visiting from Washington, for Phebe wants to see him "before he goes back," this letter, p. 4. See also Daisy's letter of May 28 below.

common

Jap has a big store now Dry goods shoes & groceries<sup>157</sup> Tell Grandma and all the folks we would like to see them We had a letter from Aunt Ellen<sup>158</sup> have not had one from Topeka<sup>159</sup> since you was here

[erasure at bottom of page, perhaps:] We

[P. 3]

We have about 75 turky eggs set and sold 40 at 25 c per doz I only have eleve[n] young chickens the hogs (36) all running out I can't ^do much good the children pretend to heard them but they don't do a very good job Our calves are nice we get plenty of milk to make all the butter we need which seems very nice grass is very good now Our cows run loose & horses two part of them at a time we are out of feed of all kinds Ward Oscar & Logan has been muding in some Potatoes in now they are

[P. 4]

all hunting hogs and trying to heard I guess when Ward ( undertakes to heard them they will not get on the crops much, He was going to town with me but he has concluded he would stay and watch the hogs off the barley. and let Logan go with me I hope the mud will be dried up so you can get to your work before this Tell Tomy we want to see him out here before he goes back Well I must close and get dinner and go so good by be a good boy & dont go to too many "Frolics" [the previous word has a half circle around the bottom] From your Mother P. M. S.

---

**Unsigned. A sibling in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 28 May, 1898. No envelope.** The handwriting does not look like any of the girls', whose writing is more vertical. In the previous letter from Phebe, she says that Ward, Oscar, and Logan are planting potatoes and chasing hogs, so this letter is surely from one of those boys. The handwriting looks more like Ward's than that of either of the others.

---

Ransom Kans May 28<sup>th</sup> 98

Mr. C.R. Scott

Madelaine Missouri

Dear bro. as the folks have been writting I will try and write you a few lines to let you know I am still alive.

I have been planting potatoes this morning

[Line in crease so worn it's very hard to read. Maybe, "it keeps us busy \_\_\_\_\_ing]

---

157 Jasper Rogers.

158 Nancy Ellen Scott, Phebe's sister and mother of "Tomy."

159 The Herndons and Cyrus Cowan's family lived in Topeka, though Laodicea was dead by this time.

the hogs.

I hav'nt been at home much inst. have been working with Pa.

Joe and I were fishing yesterday; the creek was up and running so swift we didn't have much success

We have been having lots of rain this mo.

Say I saw Oh. My. [???] The other day. She was inquiring about you & your Sweet [heart symbol]. I don't know who She ment but I told her all O.K.

[P. 2]

How is your barley?

Well as the folks have writting all the new s I will close hoping to hear from you soon.

Yours Truly,

P. S. I forgot to tell you they caught All Start<sup>160</sup> at Dodge City. I expect they will handle him pretty tough.

---

**Daisy Adeline Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Dinah Clifton (Robb, Scott, Scott) in Madelaine, Missouri, 28 May, 1898. No envelope. Daisy was 11.**

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Ransom

Kans.

May 28, 1898

Dear Grandma

I will write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope you are the same.

Zella told me to tell you that she had a tricycle and that she can ride it awful well.

Harry told me to tell you that he can go a sailing down hill. Claud said for me to tell you that he could ride faster then either of them.

Zella is sewing her doll clothes she made Harry a doll the other day, she told me to tell you, that she was 8 years old. Grandma Ward is herding the hogs on old Bet.

Some of the hogs has strolled away

and he is hunting for them.

Grace is working for Mrs Squier now and Dinah is going of to school and Zella and I will

---

<sup>160</sup> See note 136.

be the only girls that is here, then.

Tell Charlie I would like to see him, and Cousin Tommy. When is cousin Tommy coming to see us.

Well, I guess I will close for this time Excuse bad writing answer soon To your Grand daughter, Daisy Scott  
To Grandma Scott.

[Drawing at the bottom of the page]



---

**Dinah Louella Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 13 June, 1898. No envelope. Dinah was 15.**

---

Ransom Kansas  
June 13th 1898

Charley.

Dear Brother I will try and answer your most welcome letter which I rec'd a moment ago. It is to bad you havn't heard from any of us. I suppose it was my fault before I left home the folks had forgotten to take the letter to town to mail it and so ma told me to bring it to town so I put it in the bureau with the writing paper and came off and forgot it, quite likely they haven't discovered it yet.

I have been here two wks today pa and Ward was down the first wednesday ^after we came down and thats the last I heard from them.

[P. 2]

Delbert Beamer<sup>161</sup> was buried down here Thursday. Dora said pa was at their house but he didn't come down.

It was a very sudden death. The doctor said at first it was caused by something he'd eaten and he also said it was caused from a strain lifting rock. he took sick about 1 wk before he died he died with the cramps. My it was sad, I didn't get to go to the burying. Dora Beamer said they could hardly keep his wife alive.

Delbert had a good prospect for a crop.

Charley I wish you wouldnt plant any corn and let every thing "goet" there and drive out with your horse and buggy. Come Soon.

I would like very much to see you all. Tell Pearl<sup>162</sup> to be sure to come.

I will be here until about the 25<sup>th</sup> although Normal will be out the 24<sup>th</sup>.

[P. 3]

How come your letter to be stamped at topeka. Has Tommy gone there yet?

We are getting along fine at Normal I like it splendid.

I haven't any of my lessons for tomorrow yet, but I thought after neglecting to write, I would write lessons or no lessons.

Rachie Sutton<sup>163</sup> is coming to Normal and Lizzie Honderick and Sister<sup>164</sup> enrolled Fri but didn't come today. There are about seventy four or five pupils enrolled.

Your Winnie as you call her is in Rice County at present.

Myrta & Ida Rogers,<sup>165</sup> and Alice Cypher<sup>166</sup> Room in joining rooms to us

---

161 Adelbert Beamer, 22. His wife was Edna Tillison. They had one child, May. Edna moved in with her mother in Ness City and worked as a seamstress. 1895 Kansas census, Ness, Kansas, population schedule, Nevada Twp, p. 6, dwelling 35, family 36, line 4, Adelbert Beamer; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society; 1900 U.S. census, Ness, Kansas, Ness City, p. 216 B stamped, dwelling 88, family 94, line 68, Beamer, Edna; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,493.

162 Etna Pearl Scott, daughter of Martin Galey Scott and Caroline Terry.

163 Rachel E. Sutton, daughter of W. L. Sutton. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, p. 3, dwelling 26, family 26, line 31, R. E. Sutton; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

164 Elizabeth, Minnie, and Maude Honderick lived in Rush County with their parents in 1900. 1900 U.S. census, Rush, Kansas, Pleasantdale, p. 304 A stamped, dwelling 60, family 62, line 41, Honderick, Elizabeth; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,498. This page is in very bad shape, obscuring the surnames. *Ancestry*, however, must have the names from a transcription.

165 Ida and Myrta Rogers were the daughters of Kinsey and Orphy Rogers. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, p. 4, dwelling 35, family 36, line 17-18, Rogers, Mirtie and Ida M.; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society. See also note 67.

166 Alice Cypher, 19, daughter of William and Ella Cypher. 1895 Kansas census, Trego, Kansas, population schedule, Wilcox Twp, p. 5, dwelling 43, family 43, line 19, Cypher, Alace.; digital images, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Microfilm reels K-1 – K-169. Kansas State Historical Society.

[P. 4]

Dora<sup>167</sup> said tell you "that we are learning so much that we have no use for books". (A falsehood)

Mr. Davis, Andrews and Sup. Dermen are our instructors.  
Well I guess I will close. Excuse Scribbling and foolishness.  
Write soon to your loving  
Sis

D. L. Scotts  
To C. R. Scott.

Direct To Ness City.

Dora and Millie<sup>168</sup> said Helloo.  
I say Helloo.

---

**Phebe Marie Scott in Ransom, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 30 August. No year is given. No envelope.** It must be 1897 or 1898 since the economy has very much improved, more likely 1898. If it is from 1898, it may be the last letter Phebe wrote to Charles before her death on 7 November, a little more than a week before W. A.'s birthday of which she speaks here. According to family lore, typhoid fever struck the Scotts. Logan had a bad enough case that he was not expected to live. After nursing the children through the disease, Phebe herself was stricken and died.<sup>169</sup> She was 47 in that year.

---

August the 30<sup>th</sup>

Charley Scott

Dear sone I will write you a letter in a hurry this morn We were glad to hear from you glad you was still getting work, work is plenty here now your Pa can get more work than he can do he is working at Mr Beamers now at carpenter work at \$1.25 per day has a house to build for Clint B<sup>170</sup> and a store house for one of the harshems [Horchems] And we have a well to dig and a stable to build and our house to fix for winter Oscar can do lots if your Pa would stay at home and help h but he has to try to make evry cent he can he has a job of work for Will Dubbs

---

167 Dora Barber. See note 151.

168 Again, Dora and Millie Barber, note 151.

169 Tholen Clawson, personal letter to LaVon and Jim [no surname given, date illegible], copied to Beverly Scott Deniston, copy now privately held by Barbara Miller Collins.

170 See notes 53 and 113.

[P. 2]

I expect it will go on our old store bill<sup>171</sup> Oscar is at work for Mr Hays<sup>172</sup> But he aught to be at home making hay grass is so good there our sorghum is ready to cut it is too dry now to plow people ar going to sod cutting and cutting up cord early corn will be tolerably good but late corn will only make foddir I have come to town today to write for ward to come home he wrote to Gaily that evrything was drying up and may be he would come home and Pa told me to write for him to come I expect you could get plenty of work to do if you was here besides helping at home Be sure and get you all the clothes you will have to

[up the right side]

have for they are cheaper you nead not get me

[upside down in top margin]

goods I spoke of unles you have plenty besides getting what you need, and to come home on I want you all to be at home on your Pa's birthday my love to all as ever your Mother  
May god bless you

---

171 See Phebe's letter of 24 October 1895.

172 Possibly Mark Hays. See note 111.

## Part II: Letters to Charley from relatives in Washington

This short section is composed of a tiny handful of letters from the family of Jasper and Ellen Scott. When W. A. and Phebe Scott and baby Joe left Daviess County, Missouri, for western Kansas in 1874, they did not go alone. Among the families who homesteaded with them in Rush County were W. A.'s brother, Joseph Wilson "Jasper" Scott, and Jasper's wife Nancy Ellender "Ellen" Scott, who was also Phebe's sister. Once they had patented their land, the siblings moved to the area near the Ness-Trego line that became known as Cyrus.

Jasper had been badly injured by a fall from a mule while in Rush. He never fully recovered. After some years in Trego, Jasper and Ellen decided to move to the Northwest in 1886. They settled in Sidney, Washington, across the strait from Bainbridge Island and only 13 miles from Seattle. Others of the clan who moved to the Kitsap area were Levi and Ruth Cline, and Millard and Joseph E. Cowan and their families. Levi Cline died 6 May 1886, shortly after Jasper and Ellen arrived.

Jasper died just two years later, on 7 June, 1888, leaving Ellen and eight children.

Most of the children were old enough to remember their Kansas cousins very well. James Thomas Scott was born the same month as W.A. and Phebe's son Joe. References in the letters of Part I indicate that "Tommy" was visiting his Missouri and Kansas relatives while Charley was in Missouri. The second son, George, was about a year and a half older than Charley. His letters make up most of this section. He seems to have found in Charley a confidant in religious matters. His mother Ellen was an anchor of the struggling Church of Christ in Sidney, so perhaps it is not so surprising that eventually George would become a missionary in Africa.

Others of the children are occasionally mentioned in the letters. The dates of all the children are listed here:

James Thomas "Tommy" 1873-1931  
George Martin 1874-1954  
Ada May 1877-1928  
Lewis William 1879-1960

Roy Daniel 1881-1909  
Robert Fillmore 1883-1974  
Dinah Laodicia 1885-1965  
Phebe Mary Ann 1888-1981

---

**George M. Scott, probably in Kitsap, Washington, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madelaine, Missouri, sometime after 25 July 1894. No envelope.**

This must have been written sometime after 25 July 1894 because of the reference to the death of Martin Gayley Scott on that date.

---

[Sheet 1, right side. This page is very faded.]

["94" is scrawled at the top right, but it doesn't look like the same handwriting. It may have been Charles'.]

Mr Charley Scott

dear Cousin

Once more I seat my self to write you a few lines.

We are all as well as common. Tom is home now. Ada<sup>173</sup> is staying with Uncle Joe has been with him since Aunt May died most of the time.<sup>174</sup>

Well we are getting along as well as could be expected.

Times are as hard here as any where I guess

Well Charley I suppose you had a fine time on the road from Kan. To Mo. I wish that I had been with you.

[Sheet 2, left side]

We got a letter from your Pa about two weeks ago.

I have not heard from Ward that is have not got any letter. I heard yesterday about Uncle Martin<sup>175</sup> being dead.

What is the boys (Willie and Jimmy) doing.<sup>176</sup> Are they good boys.

Are they members of the body of Christ and are they preparing to meet their Father and Mother in that better world were sorrow and death ^is never known.

Charley let us so live while here below that when we are called to pass over the river of death we may meet our loved ones who have gon before. Let us study the word of God that we may know what is his will.

[Sheet 2, right side]

For we know that there are many faults teachers among the people. Many who handle the word

---

173 Tom and Ada are George's siblings.

174 Uncle Joe is Joseph Edgar Cowan (1861-1934), a son of Laodicea Scott Cowan Herndon. Joseph was first married to May Guernsey, who is said to have died in 1892, although I have no documentation. Perhaps she had recently died, putting her death in 1894. In 1902, Ada Scott, granddaughter of Laodicea, married Joe, son of Laodicea by a different husband, Joseph H. Cowan. The couple had at least four children together. British Columbia, Canada, Marriage Index, 1872-1935, Victoria, Ada M Scott, *Ancestry* 2001 (<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 27 Oct 2015); citing British Columbia Vital Statistics Agency.

175 Martin Gayley Scott, half-brother of W. A.

176 Martin's sons,. One may be the letter writer "W. J. Scott" in Part 3.

of God deceitfully. But let us contend earnestly for the faith once delivered to Saints Ever ready to speak where the Bible speaks and to be silent where the Bible is silent.

The Church here is a strong progressionest but hope in time she will see her faults and turn from her ungodily way.

How is the Church there is she sound as she used to be? Has she got a "Lady's Aid Society" and a "Y. P. S. C. E." to help her along with the work of Christ?<sup>177</sup>

[Sheet 1, left side]

I am trying to keep my self unspoted from the world But Oh how far I come from doing that.

Charley pray for me that I may hold out faithful untill the end.

Please forgive me for not writing sooner. I will try to write any ^way once a month. It seems like I can not get time to write often.

But I like to get a letter from you. I will close for this time. Write often.

From your well wishing Cousin

[Top margin, upside down]

Tell Willie Scott to write to me

G. M. Scott.

---

**George M. Scott in Kitsap, Washington, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madelaine, Missouri, 4 March 1895. No envelope.**

---

Sidney Kitsap Wash  
Mar the 4<sup>th</sup> – 95

Mr Charles Scott

Dear Cousin

After so long a time I seat my self to ans. your most welcome letter.

Was glad to hear from you.

Our foks are all well except Louis he has a fellon<sup>178</sup> on his thumb and a boil on his neck. Louis has been working on a little Steamboat but Tom took his place till he is well.

---

177 Y. P. S. C. E. = The Young People's Society of Christian Endeavour.

178 A felon is an infection or abcess at the tip of a finger. Left untreated, it can cause serious problems. Usually it must be lanced and drained.

Mother and the children are living down town. They have the cows to and sell milk.  
I am going to stay on the ranch this summer.  
I have been hauling cord-wood for a man here clost to home  
I hauled about 40 cords one week and next week I have 40 more to haul for him I get .30  
cts a cord.<sup>179</sup>

2)

The rest that I haul I get 55 cts a cord and haul it about half a mile I have 3 or 4 little jobs of plowing this spring to do. We are haveing fine weather now people have ^been planting garden for about two weeks.

Charley we got a letter from your foks a few day ago was sorry to here of there having such hard times to get along I thought we were bad off but when I here of the people there I think we ought to be thankful that it is as well with us as it is.

Oh! If the Church of Christ (so called) in a few of the cities clost to here which pay their "Pastor" (as they call him ) from \$800.<sup>00</sup> to \$1200.<sup>00</sup> a year for talking to them about an hour every Lord-day would take the Apostles way and "lay by themselves in store as the Lord has prospered them," then they would have some to send to the poor Saints at Rans. and other places.

3)

Charley the Church at Sidney has two Elders and two Deacons one elder has one wife no children and that is all the quallification he has. he has only belong to the church about one year. The other elder is a young single man with no quallification as as far as I know.

One deacon is a boy 19 years old and has been a methodist up to a year ago. good boy but not fit for a deacon.

The other deacon is Henry Cline<sup>180</sup> he is a little nearer the mark not muck.

They had a "Pastor" for a few years but they could not rase enough money with their "Ice cream suppers" and "festivals" to pay him so he had to leave.

There has been a Seventhday man preaching for them the last two Lords day.

4)

He is trying to  
"teach them the way of the Lord more perfectly" He is going to preach next Lords day again. It will be on the Saboth question.

They think he is the stuff.

Any thing to have a "Preacher" with them.

May the good Lord bless us in studing his Word

Yours for true worship  
Geo. Scott

Excuse me for not writing before

---

179 A cord is about 4' x 4' x 8' of split and stacked firewood.

180 Ruth and Levi Cline had moved to Kitsap about the same time as Ellen and Jasper. Ruth was a Scott, a daughter of William Liddell Scott, and thus an aunt of Ellen and Phebe. Possibly Henry might have been a relative, but I have no documentation. Ruth and Levi Cline's youngest son was James Henry.

---

**George M. Scott in Ladu, Washington, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madelaine, Missouri, 12 April 1896. No envelope.** LaDu was very close to the Washington-Oregon border, on the north side of the Columbia River where the city of Longview now lies.

---

[Sheet 1, right side. Left side blank]

Ladu Wash  
April the 12. 1896

Mr Charles R. Scott

Dear Cousin

After so long a time I will try an find out where you are. I heard you were going back to Kan. And of course thought you would write when you got back there But I got a letter from Mother and she said that you are still in Mo. So I thought I would write.

I am well at present hope that these few lines will find you the same.

I have been working here since March 13 except rainy days. Will stay here this summer. I only get \$15<sup>00</sup> per month my board and washing and the the pasture of my horse. But believe I am luckey to get that.

It is awful rainy weather now.

How is grandma getting along and Uncle Jim?<sup>181</sup>

[Sheet 2, left side]

Has Ward come home yet? How is your foks and Joe getting along?

What are Jimmie and Willie working at?<sup>182</sup>

Who does the preaching there now?

Are the Brothern there "endevering to keep the unite of the Spiret in the bonds of peace"? Well Charley I am haveing a hard time to keep in the "stratte and narrow way" There are so many temptations around me. Yet "forgeting those things wich are behind I press onward ~~to~~ toward the mark for the prise of the high calling in 7 Christ Jesus my Lord."

Do they have an oregon [organ] in the meeting house?

And do you believe that it is right?

Does Uncle Jim stand by the S. School.<sup>183</sup>

Who are the Elders there now

---

181 Dinah Clifton Robb Scott and James Robb.

182 James David Scott and William J. Scott, sons of W.A. and Jasper's half-brother Martin.

183 Disputes over whether or not to allow instrumental music, Sunday Schools, and missionary societies were rife in the Church of Christ/Christian Church at this time.

Charley I dont remember much about Grandpa (Uncle Martin)<sup>184</sup> but from what I have been told of him I believe him to have been Sound on the society question

[Sheet 2, right side]

That is, did not believe in them.

Well Charley I do not know what to write. You write and tell me all the news. Write me a long letter.

Do not be as I have.

And may the good Lord bless you.

from your well wishing

Cousin

G. M. Scott

---

**Nancy Ellender Scott in Sidney, Washington, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madelaine, Missouri, 8 November 1896. Envelope postmarked 9 November, Port Orchard. Noted on envelope, probably by Charley: "Returned to Robert Scott, Sidney, Wash." Robert was the youngest son of Ellen and Jasper.**

---

Sidney, Wash.

Nov 8 — 96

Mr C. R. Scott

Dear Nephew.

I will now try and answer your welcom letter which came to hand Thursday, we are all well as common except colds, hope this will find you well, also your grandma and Uncle Jim and all the rest. , Thanks for the writing material, What little bird told you that I had no writing material or money to get it with? it told the truth all the same as about the same I have only 7 cts to my name. Well we have been having rainy weather for most two weeks it rained awful hard last night and the wind blew pretty hard too. I was at meeting this fore-noon have just got dinner over and am so tired that I am too nervous to do much good writing

Emma Cline (Billy C.) youngest girl<sup>185</sup>

2

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184 Martin Scott, son of John Wilson Scott, Sr., and third husband of Dinah Clifton Robb Scott. He was known to the congregants at the Old Scotland Church of Christ as "Elder Martin." He had died in 1886.

185 Emma Cline (1882-1969), daughter of William Cline and Minerva Mayo, was the granddaughter of Levi and Ruth Scott Cline (see note 178). 1900 U.S. census, Kitsap, Washington, Port Orchard, p. 10 A stamped, dwelling 214, family 217, line 31, Cline, Emma; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 28 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,241,746 . Note Ruth Cline in the same household.

is to be baptized at thee 6 o'clock (it is just that time now.) A woman by the name of Miss. Wilcox is preaching at sidney has preached evry sunday except one since along last summer some time I wish we had Brother Nay or some other good gosple preacher, we need one so bad, I am glad that he straightened out your troubles in the church there. Miss. Wilcox is a very nice woman in her right places, but I thing she is out of her place when she is in the pulpit, what do you think? Well School has been going on for 6 weeks Roy, Robbie, Lalie and Phebe all go, I am alone all day. Tommy has been helping a man fish for 4 or 5 weeks dont get ^much of any thing but his board. He started to king so [?] yesterday evning to work for \$15.00 per month and his board for one month. The last letter that I got from George he said he had nt been at work for a while and that he did'nt know when the man could pay

[up the right margin]

him what is due him now

[p. 3]

Louis said he was going to beg-in working the next tuesday in the cook house, at the stone crusher. waiting on tables. you wanted to know what people out here are doing they are not doing any thing, there is not any thing to do to earn money, or not much any way. I ~~expect~~ ^ suppose there is lots of families in and around Sidney that dont know where their winter food and clothing is to come from, or even the next sack of flour. That is al most our situation. I sell one qrt of milk per day, that has got our flour all along, but now flour has come up so much higher, that it wont keep us in flour. It use to be that I could get washing and other work to do but now evry body does ther's own work or most evry body. we have two cows but they dont give 2 qts per day both

[p. 4]

together I would sell one of them [the cows] if I could for I fear I wont have enough hay, They will not be fresh till next may, and aught to give quite a bit of milk, and would if I could buy shorts<sup>186</sup> for them, most every one has their property mortgaged or sold for ten. [???] Well we are better off in that respect, for we have no mortgage on our place, al-though the tax that should have been payed last spring is not payed yet, and no show to pay it but it cant sell for two years yet, and we may not need it any longer. if we do something will turn around so we can pay it. We will trust in the lord and he will provide. He always has.

Thanks for the pictures I think them nice, Tommy thought Ward picture was Pa's I have not had a letter from your Pa's folks<sup>187</sup> for quite a while. I will close hoping to hear from you all soon I began to think you had all forgotten that you had a poor relative away out here in Washington. Your Aunt Ellen Scott.

---

186 "Shorts" came from milled wheat and were a cattle feed of bran, germ, flour and tailings.

187 Probably Dinah Clifton Robb Scott and James Robb.

---

**George M. Scott in Sidney, Washington, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madelaine, Missouri, 19 November 1897. No envelope.**

---

Sidney Wah  
Nov 19. 97

Mr C. R. Scott

Dear Cousin

After so long a time I seat my self to write to you.

We are all well as common as far as I know.

Well it has been so long since I wrote to you that I don't just where you are. I have been quite buisy this summer.

I am not doing much now it has been raining for the last two weeks. It snowed last night.

I am not running the Sloop now

I sold her about two weeks ago. I think that I could have done pretty well freighting this winter but it is so stormy and bad and so much night to go in

[Sheet 2, left side]

so I thought I wouldnt run this winter. Sailing in the winter time is ^an awful exposure. I sometimes leave Sidney in the morning and run all day and get in Seattle some time between 11 to 4 oclock in the morning or sometime get out in the middle of the Sound and the wind die down and maby lay there all night or till the wind comes up.

Louis is still down to the Columbia River.

Thomas is eather at the U. S. Dry Dock or in Seattle.

Uncle Millard<sup>188</sup> is still near Seattle on the Dwamish River.

Uncle Joe<sup>189</sup> is living at Bremmerton and working on the Government works. The children are going to School. I got a letter from Cousin Willie<sup>190</sup>. About two monts ago. The first letter I have had from

[Sheet 2, right side]

him for a long.

How is Jimmie<sup>191</sup> getting along, and the rest of the folks.

Well I suppose you are having good meetings there now.

We are doing better here now we have got rid of our Ladiye Pastor.

I have heard some pretty good talks from some of our Bros. I think that about one half of our Con-- is sound. We are having a hard time of it but I am living in hope

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188 Millard Filmore Cowan (Abt 1857-1848), first son of Leodicea Scott Cowan Herndon and Joseph H. Cowan.

189 Joseph Edgar Cowan (1861-1934), third son of Leodicea and Joseph H. Cowan.

190 Probably William J. Scott, son of Martin Galey Scott.

191 Willie's brother James David Scott.

You see there is no sound preachers on the Coast or very few they are all Progs  
The Church at Sidney has a few faithful ones yet and they are making an effort to cast out  
those things that offend.  
May God bless all the true followers.

[Sheet 1, left side]

I am in a hurry and so will half to close  
Write me a long letter and tell me all the news.  
How is Grandma?<sup>192</sup>  
Wright Soon  
Yours Cousin

Geo Scott  
Sidney Po  
Kitsap Co  
Washington

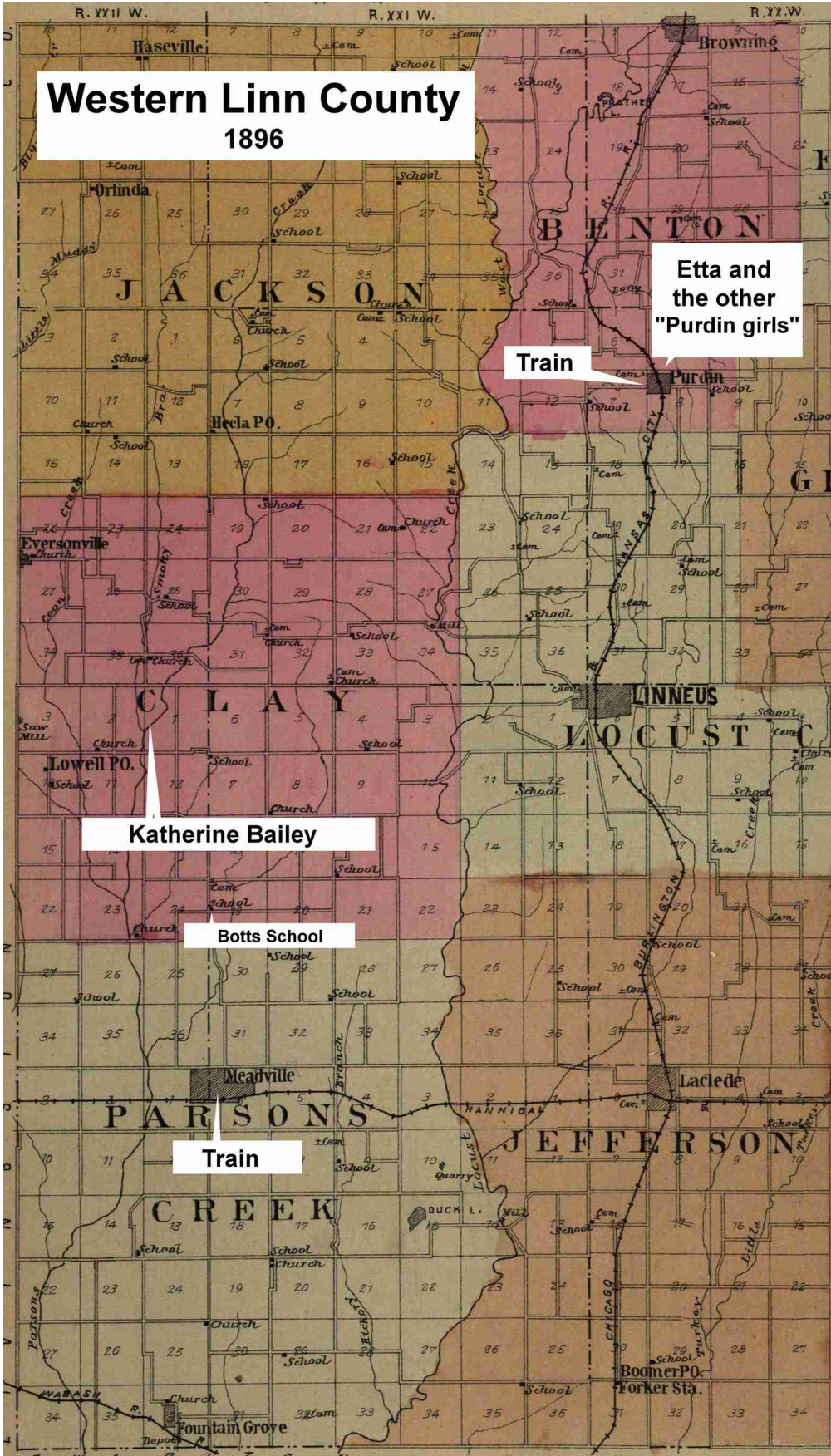
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192 Dinah Clifton Robb Scott.

### **Part III: Letters to Charley from friends and relatives in Missouri and Kansas**

Charley carried on a correspondence with several young women he knew through his family or church work. As he traveled to church meetings or singing schools in Linn County and other places, he must have attracted a number of crushes, accompanied by the eager exchange of photographs, which had become readily available at this time. At least one and possibly more of the writers of the letters in this section took a romantic interest in Charley. None of these crushes seems to have lasted long. When Charley returned home for good in about 1898, he turned to a local girl, Bertha Goodvin, who became his wife in 1901.

Scattered among these letters are a few from other friends and relatives, such as his cousin W. J. Scott and one of the preachers he knew, as well as an odd business letter.



**Western Linn County  
1896**

**Etta and  
the other  
"Purdin girls"**

**Train**

**Katherine Bailey**

**Botts School**

**Train**

---

**Katherine Bailey in Lowell, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Purdin, Missouri, 25 September 1897. Envelope postmarked 27 September.** Identification of Katherine Bailey is somewhat tentative. A number of Baileys show up in the 1900 US Census in Linn County, Missouri. An 1896 plat map of Linn County shows three Bailey families in Clay Township within three miles of the Lowell Post Office, from which most of Katherine's letters were sent. The best candidate for Katherine is Sarah Kathryn Bailey (1877-1937), the daughter of Simpson N. Bailey (1840-1909) and Alice Jennings Bailey (1844-1930). She had a younger sister Lorna and a younger brother William, which fits with what we learn in the letters. This Kathryn married John Ross Harvey in 1906. He would become a grocery store owner and real estate agent. The couple had no children.<sup>193</sup>

Katherine would have been 20 at this writing. Lowell Post Office was in the southwest part of the county, actually only 17 miles from Purdin.

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Lowell, Mo.,  
Sep. 25, 1897.

Mr. Chas. R. Scott  
Purdin, Mo.

Kind Friend:

Your beloved letter was read with the most intense interest, and with full appreciation which can only come from the heart of a true friend. You do not know how I prize your words, if they come from a true source and I have no reason but to think they do. You know some flatter and deceive but I do not, for one instant believe you to be such, and I sincerely trust you may never enroll me with this class.

I'm truly glad you enjoy my

2

company, also to know I brightened your life when you were among strangers. Oh please come down once more, as I would like so much to meet you again before you journey into a far land. I

---

193 1880 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Clay Twp, p. 540 B stamped, dwelling 91, family 91, line 7, Bailey, Sarah C.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 31 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,700. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Clay Twp, p. 120 B stamped, dwelling 98, family 98, line 92, Baley, Sarah C.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 31 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871. Standard Atlas of Linn County, Missouri, 1896 (Chicago, Ill : Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1897), p. 44, E. 1/2 T. 58 N. R. XXII W; Digital image. The State Historical Society of Missouri (<http://statehistoricalsocietyofmissouri.org>: accessed 31 October 2015); Jackson County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Sarah Kathryn Bailey, 16 October 1906; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 31 October 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives. Microfilm; Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 31 October 2015), Sarah Kathryn Bailey Harvey, Memorial #86266826, created by Larry Van Dyke 5 March 2012.

don't know why you want to go home so bad, when you know we have such jolly times together.

I expect you think I'm giddy sometimes, but I do not mean to be.

I do wish I were at Purdin to-night to go to church, but alas! Our meeting begins tonight. I went to the fair to-day expecting to see Charley but "not there, not there, my child."<sup>194</sup> We left about 2 o'clock and came home, so you know when

3

I'm denied the pleasure of being with you, I resort to the next best thing and that is to write to you.

When do you think meeting will close? I saw several Purdin girls to-day among whom were Mises Cassity and Mathews.

I must leave off and go to church.

Well, Bro. Hulitt came and preaching was announced for two weeks.

It is such a beautiful morning, and my mind drifts away to a little village many miles away. "You know to whom I refer."

Is it not strange persons can meet and form such strong friendship in so short a time? I'm sure your true thoughts are returned

4

You may become tired of ^my writing so often, but if it grows monotonous please inform me I enjoy your letters so much, and am sure you will ever find a welcome reader.

My pen is so very poor, I reckon some one has been using it.

You were excusable for writing with pencil, and if you will bear with me I will finish with one.

Now answer immediately and tell me for sure, if you are coming, so I may know when to look for you. I hope you will not disappoint me. I believe you could come one night any way.

Hoping to see you soon and hear from you sooner I am as ever

[ Up the right side] Kate

---

194 Perhaps Katherine is quoting English writer Felicia Dorothea Hemans from her poem, "The Better Land," a rather maudlin piece about heaven that appeared in a well-known hymn in the United States.

[The back of sheet 4 has sketches of seven heads: Pearle, Mollie, Etta, Minnie, Kate, Birdie, and Lee.<sup>195</sup> Beneath is the following label]

"Purdin Girls, .25 each"  
Oct. 4, 1897



Kate's sketch of the "Purdin Girls," playing on the cost of the cheap photographs young people loved to trade. The original page has considerable wine-colored foxing and bleed-through from the other side that obscured some of the faces. The page has been reworked with a graphics editor but preserves as much of the original drawings as possible.

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<sup>195</sup> Pearle is probably Etna Pearle Scott, Charley's cousin, and Etta is probably Etta Reedy. Both write letters found in this section.

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**Katherine Bailey in Lowell, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Purdin, Missouri, 30 September 1897. Envelope postmarked 2 October in Wheeling, 3 October in Purdin.**

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Lowell, Mo.,  
Sep. 30, 1897.

Mr. Chas. Scott  
Purdin, Mo.

Dear Friend:

Your dear missive just received and my vocabulary is not sufficient to express my inward emotions, as to the pleasure I found in reading your true and most noble thoughts.

I'm quite sure I prize every word that issues [?] from your lips or from your heart. I was getting so anxious to hear from you, I could hear through others, but it was not directly from Charley.

Lorna came home and I asked her if she got me a letter, she

2

said " No" and my heart sank but I soon found she was jesting so you know the contents of your letter was soon conveyed to me and stored in the chambers of my heart. I do hope Bro Nay is better, and you may yet have a good meeting, but I'm so impatient to see you, still as long as so much good can be accomplished, I will comfort myself by hoping to see you in the near future.

I'm glad to know you were successful with your singing and hope you will get up a class down here.

Our meeting is in full progress, but no additions.

I've just returned from meeting

3

and my head is roaring still. You know we have such loud singing.

I'm glad to know you appreciate my words and ^I will put forth every effort to make them interesting.

I know you will think my letter very dry, for I'm so sleepy, so if I miss a line or two you will know the cause.

I also often view your likeness, but it does not do you justice, still I appreciate it evenly so small a resemblance. If you should ever mistrust my honesty when I'm expressing myself, please put such thoughts far from you, for I'm sure I esteem you as highly as my words dare express.

4

You know we can not always express ourselves.

You undoubtedly have been taking drawing lessons, or you have a natural knack for such.

However you do exceedingly well. I know you were glad to see Laura, and I know your singing was much improved Sunday or rather "the beating time"! I know Etta is thinking "Why doesn't Kate write to me?" You tell her I devote so much of my time to Bro. Scott, I'm compelled to neglect her.

Bro Ogan [?] has been leading singing for us, but was not there to-night I must inquire after the absent one.

We have good attendance.

Bro. Hulitt is at our house to night.

5

You may be in "dream land" at this time I hope you are but it affords me greater pleasure to write to the one I deem a true friend.

You must not get smitten with the Purdin girls too badly and forget all about the ride you took to Lowell, our trip to preaching, and "the girl you left behind you."

I dreamed of getting a letter from you the night before I got your last one so you can imagine how often I think of you. "Think of you by day and dream of you by night."<sup>196</sup>

Now you be as good to me as I am to you, and answer

6

the day you receive this.

all in the house are slumbering but poor me and I must soon put in characters that awful word "good-bye." how often our hearts quiver when this word is spoken. Do you know its full meaning? It means God be with you till we meet again.

"To-night I'm fondly dreaming of our last and sad good-bye"

Sweet dreams salute thee is the wish of your little Arabian Katherine.

Longing and waiting for the day to come when I may either meet you or receive a letter, I am,

Sincerely Katie

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**Katherine Bailey in Lowell, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 10 October 1897. Postmarked 13 October, Meadville.**

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Lowell, Mo.,  
Oct 10, '97

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Madelaine, Mo.

Dearest Charley : — Your highly appreciated missive reached its destination last night while at preaching and my emotions would scarcely refrain from reading it right in the church. O you do

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<sup>196</sup> Katherine could be quoting any number of instances of this line from popular literature of the day, including a story by Henry James called "Gabrielle de Bergerac."

not realize how thankful I was to hear from you once more.

I was glad to learn you reached home in safety, and your friends welcomed you so gladly, am also glad you are enjoying the blessing of a good meeting.

I know you thought I bade you a hasty good-bye, but pardon me

2

for my feelings were so, I could not speak, words of encouragements or wish you well, however you may accept the same "May your path be strewn with beautiful flowers, culled by the choicest hands." I, too, hope our future meeting is not far distant.

I hope you will never again doubt the sincerity of my words, for I assure you they spring from an honest heart.

I miss you so much. The afternoon you left was one long to be remembered. You know I told you I was going to spend it in solitude, but as we had company, I was compelled to brave the storm and converse with them, though several times my heart strings quivered, and I could

3

scarcely suppress a sob, but such is life "Those we meet and love to-day we part with to-morrow."

Hope is my only brace if it were not for the thought of seeing you in the future, all would be black," so if you do not respect and esteem me as highly as my words tell you I do you, please, oh please! inform me for you know it would be easier for me to cease trusting you now, than it would be were ne to continue our correspondence. You may think I'm rather plain in expressing myself, but you know this is the way I talk.

I'm glad to see it rain, but am disappointed to think it came to-day, as I was looking for Etta all

4

right I will remember you to all your friends, and to Etta most assuredly.

I reckon our meeting will close to-night. We've not had any more additions. I will be so lonesome when it closes.

Ola T—— was out with a new girl last night, Miss Kelley from Linneus. all the young people were at meeting last night. You know I missed Charley.

I told you I would inform you as to the nature of my disease, the consumption, I can add with pleasure it has rapidly improved.

I'm glad to know you so often think of me and am sure they ^your thoughts are always returned.

5

When you were with me, your pleasant smiles and conversation cheered my lonely hours, while you were at Purdin I lived on the Hope of meeting again during our meeting. At last it came, but 'twas only for a few short moments till you were called away, and that old Iron horse carried you to your home. Now I'm only waiting and longing for your precious words in black and white but I still look farther into the future, and long for the time when we will once more meet. Should this

enjoyable meeting never be, always think of me being true to you, and always giving you unceasing ————— esteem, honor and devotion.

6

I wish you could receive my letter before Thursday, I trust I may receive an answer by Saturday, for you know this will be a long time to wait. I must discontinue my work for the present as the folks are dusting around preparatory for starting to meeting.

Now content yourself till I'm again permitted to converse with you. ~~again~~.

There goes Bro. Cyan [Ogan?] by now. He is progressing nicely with his singing. "Thar'll be room enough in Heaven."

I wish we could hear Charley's dear voice among us to-day, but such is not our happy lot, and I may as well say farewell till after services.

7

Monday, Oct 11, 1 O'clock, P.M.

I'm once more at my desk expressing myself by words. Our meeting closed last night and Bro. Hulet left this morning.

The storm clouds passed over and not much rain descended.

I'm very lonesome to-day. I miss Bro H—— so much.

The young man, we said you resembled, is here to-day. He thinks you do, too.

Etta did not come yesterday, and I've not heard from her since you left.

Bro. Scott, I want you to be honest with me and candidly tell me, if you really care for me more than an ordinary friend, or if there

8

is anyone else you esteem more highly than you do me. If this should be the case I want you to be plain and tell me so, I've never been addicted to flirting, but I've known persons who did such misery and disappointment they seemed to battle with, besides I think it's sinful, and I will not deceive in the least and hope I may never read words you do not whole heartedly mean. I trust you enough to think you will be honest with me.

I met you as a stranger and for a few times afterwards you seemed the same, but since that time, I've in

9

some way learned to admire you more and more, and each time I'm with you, encourages this disposition until ^ now I'm at a loss to know whether or not I really love you.

You may think I write too forwardly, but you have given me reasons to talk in this manner or at least I have this conception.

The sun shines so warm and the wind whistles though the Autumn leaves scattering them into the air, and then letting them fall on the cold earth. It pictures to to me when you were here, you cheered my spirits and elevated my thoughts then left me in this cold world

of desolation.

I do hope you will soon send or bring me your own likeness, just you individually I mean. This one I have is very good, but does not do you justice.

I suppose you are just singing your best this week, I hope so at least.

I reckon your Grandma did dismiss you when you got home. I was afraid she would think you had forsaken her being as you stayed so long at Eureka. Ha, Ha You were a bad boy, but I've long since forgiven you.

They have been talking of getting up a subscription school for me, as so many

of the patrons have stopped their children, because they did not like the teacher I don't reckon I will take it though as I have no very good place to teach.

I won't know how to act when night comes and there is no preaching to go to.

Willie has been hunting once since you left. I don't believe their hunts are very profitable though, as he seems very drowsy the next day.

However I feel rather sleepy to-day myself, as Bro. Hulet got us up about 4 o'clock this morning for he had to be at Wheeling at half past eight.

I reckon I will just write

down all I know while I'm in the notion. You know it would not take long.

Your likenesses, you sent me in your letter, were very good except the future one. I do not admire such heavy beard. I prefer seeing you in your present state.

I hope you will be kind enough to me as to let no other eyes rest on my letter but yours, and I will respect you the same.

Only waiting and longing for a reply, I am,

Sincerely your,  
Katherine

"Think of me in thy dreams  
Let me be dearest to thee  
While the moon rains golden beams  
Think only Charley of me".

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**Katherine Bailey in Lowell, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, dated only on page 6, 22 October 1897. Possible envelope postmarked 10 November, Wheeling.**

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Lowell, Mo.,  
Oct.     , 1897

Mr. Charley Scott,

    Madelaine Mo.

My dear brother;

Your dear words came to me on yesterday's eve and you well know, to the extent, I appreciated them. Being as your letter was not received till so late in the week I can not possibly get an answer there this week.

I was truly glad you enjoyed such a good meeting, also to know they did not impose on you with the singing.

Certainly I shall speak to Laura for you and to Bro. Ogan for my self.<sup>197</sup> Ha—Ha. Do you suppose it would be worth my time to?

2

Indeed, I do not think you would be good herbage for the cows, but I do not blame the young sisters for thinking you are so nice, for I'm sure what time I've been blessed with your company, you have proven yourself a genteel young man.

I don't understand why Bro. Rhodes should feel bad to know you felt sad when leaving Eureka.<sup>198</sup> Please explain.

I don't think you will find me at Purdin, upon your arrival as you know it would not be becoming to a young lady, to meet a gentleman friend in this manner. I was merely jesting about being there and I suppose you were, too. I hope to see you some

3

time in the near future. I should think you would not be overly anxious to see me any way if you could not come to my home. You know I'm always glad to meet my friends and I'm sure you rank first in this class.

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197 Possibly Laura E. Ogan, 18, and her widowed father Curg, 57. This family lived about four miles from the Lowell Post Office. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Clay Twp, p. 118 B stamped, dwelling 57, family 57, line 74, Ogan, Laura E.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871; *Standard Atlas of Linn County, Missouri, 1896* (Chicago, Ill : Geo. A. Ogle & Co., 1897), p. 44, E. 1/2 T. 58 N. R. XXII W; Digital image. The State Historical Society of Missouri (<http://statehistoricalsocietyofmissouri.org>: accessed 31 October 2015).

198 The reference is probably not to Eureka, Missouri, in St. Louis County nor to Eureka, Kansas, northeast of Wichita, but to Eureka School or Eureka Church, historical places near the Lowell Post Office.

We were delighted with the rain shower that came Monday night. It was so very dusty until then.

I attended a spelling match at the Botts school house<sup>199</sup> last night, but our school did not carry away the honors I saw so many of the young people you are acquainted with.

I often walk into the organ and pick up, the precious book you gave me, and sing the songs you taught me. It brings back to memory by-gone days.

4

I, too, often think of our trips together and always am impressed with pleasant thoughts. I shall ever respect you as a dear friend and brother, if nothing more, and you may likewise esteem me, if you so desire.

I hope you will be successful with your Singing school and with all your undertakings in life. I know we meet with a great many failures and disappointments, during life's journey, but if we could only look on the bright side of everything all would be well.

"Be still sad heart and cease repining

Thy fate is the common fate of all.

Behind the clouds the sun's still shining

And into each life some sunbeam will fall."<sup>200</sup>

I think this verse is so appropriate when we get discouraged & down hearted.

5

The boys are still going wild over coon hunting. They go most every night. I will tell you the joke Willie played on me, when I see you.

I will mail this Saturday so you will be sure to get it Monday.

I want you to answer, don't think because you are coming to Purdin soon, that I won't want to hear from you, for you know I'm ever ready and glad to read your letters.

I heard from Etta<sup>201</sup> last week. She is staying at home now, as the school has been stopped on account of "Diphtheria." I know she is lonely since meeting closed.

I must say "aurevoir" and retire.

Pleasant dreams and a calm repose be thine, is the wish of

"Your trusting Katie."

6

Oct 22 9 o'clock, P. M.

Again I'm seated ready to converse with you, and what shall we talk about first. Something sad and mournful, or some gay and mirthful subj//ject? I believe we should always try to be pleasant and mirthful to an extent, but I think there is a time to laugh and a time to cry. Still we could often scatter many useful influences where we do not.

I am going to Meadville<sup>202</sup> tomorrow afternoon, I wish you were here we would just drive

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199 Botts School was 2-3 miles north of Meadville in Linn County.

200 From Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "The Rainy Day."

201 Etta Reedy, another letter writer in this section.

202 Meadville was a town in southern Linn County.

down together, if Charley did not object. I think we would soon fill your little book with jottings we we to make many more drives.

The dog is growling, I reckon some one is coming to carry me

7

off, as the rest of the folks have retired—but then as I am laboring in a good cause they surely won't harm me.

Say, don't you think the night before I got your last letter, I dreamed of you all night, but then there is no truth in dreams. What was the wish you made when you placed the ring on my finger before you left? You know you told me you would tell me sometime and you know curiosity once aroused, can not easily be crushed to the earth.

Remember I'm expecting one of your photos when you come and will be very disappointed if my hopes are blighted, as I would like so much to see your smiling

8

face on a card by its own self. Those other people stare at me so hard as if to say: "Why do you so often fix your eyes on us?" I know you are anxious to get back to Purdin where there are so many nice young ladies, and a few gentlemen, but I don't blame you, I simply hope you will enjoy yourself to the fullest extent. I wish you were going to teach at Eureka, but of course, you will have a much nicer time up there. With these brief remarks I close, expecting to see your familiar face soon and to see your writing sooner,

I am as ever your,

P. S. You know I impatiently

Katherine

wait for the time to come when I may behold your dear face once more.

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**Katherine Bailey, probably in Linn County, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madeline, Missouri, 17 November [1897].** This is a fragment on a scrap of paper unlike the paper Kate usually used. It probably belongs with the letter of November 18 following.

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Nov. 17

3 o'clock P. M.

P. S. Bro. Scott I was disappointed in not getting to send your letter in time for Thursday's mail but will mail it any way.

Kate

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**Katherine Bailey in Lowell, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 18 November 1897. Envelope postmarked 18 November, Lowell.**

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[Bottom of first long sheet]

Lowell, Mo.,  
Nov 18, 1897.

Mr. Charley Scott,  
Madelaine, Mo.

Dear Friend:

Your words just rec'd & I hasten ^to reply. I can add you deeply wounded my feelings. I can say with a true heart and pure conscience, I never inflicted any insinuations in my last letter. I truly spoke to you as I would had you been with me. I did not know I was saying anything to wound your feelings. I ask your forgiveness if I did, it was through ignorance.

Charley, how could you accuse me of deceiving you, when I am as far from it as the stars from

[Top of second long sheet]

2

the earth. Please oh please do not accuse me again.

You know I never enjoyed having any body to visit me better than I do you and surely if you question your own heart you will not say you are not welcome at my home. I've tried to make you feel at home but if I failed I can't help it, I did all I know to do I did not have such a thought as not wanting you to visit me, but Charley I did think you did not enjoy my company like you once did or you would not have told me "I never would see you again" don't you remember saying these words? You wounded my heart Bro. Scott but I'll forgive.

I will lay my hand on the precious bible and say all I've ever said or written to you has come from the heart. I've never deceived you in deed, word or action.

This is all I can do, give you full assurance of my words being from the heart and with perfect trueness.

I could never speak to you as you wrote me in your letter. Let me be a friend and sister to you if you can't esteem me higher, but won't you promise me to visit me some time in the future. I want to meet you once more ^or many times if you will regard my feelings this much. I'm sure I ever think of you as an honest gentleman and brother, but if you don't want me to make this feeling stronger I shall try not to, but I can never forget the pleasant moments I've spent while in your company.

"Good Night,"

Katherine

"Sunday Morning."

I once more appeal to my wounded feelings and put in

[Top of first long sheet]

words part of the pain.

I never before had any one tell me I was a deceiver. Deception is nothing but falsity decorated with flattering words. I never deceived anyone. I always strive to be a truthful girl. If you think I am though I would much rather you would tell me so than not to, but I don't know how you can think it. You have deeply wounded me, but "Time will heal all wounds," and I hope to in the future forget your words.

Bro. Scott after I've given proof of my honesty and deep respect for you, if you do not then place confidence in me, "I have no apologies to make."

I'm sure your letters are gladly received and it is with pleasure I answer the same.

Looking for an early reply, I am,

Your true friend,  
K. B.

[Upside down by the signature]

~~~~~Charley I will be overjoyed to have you visit me any time  
I ~~~~~did not think of saying you were not welcome, but said  
not ~~~~~come if you did not enjoy it.

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**Katherine Bailey to Charles Rush Scott. Undated. No envelope.**

This is a fragment. The other pages were not preserved in the collection. Because of the reference to skating, this must have been written late in the year, perhaps after the letter of 18 November.

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coming up Sunday.

May I tell Laura Ogan "hello" for you when I see her?

I am very lonesome this afternoon, wish I were going to Pleasant Point to meeting tonight for the purpose of hearing Bro. Nay preach and Professor Scott sing a solo, Ha, Ha.

I hope you will come to Linneus<sup>203</sup> Saturday. Write and tell me if you intend to come.

If it keeps on getting colder, we can all go skating when you come down to sing for us. At midnight's solumn hour thy voice I often hear.

I forgot to tell you my face had quit burning, and the pain has descended to my heart, oh pshaw,  
You will think I'm a good one.

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203 Linneus was town center of Locust Township, just to the east of Clay Township in Linn County.

Be sure to answer my letter so I can get it by Friday, You know I am very anxious to hear from you.

I must hasten and prepare supper for "The dear ones at home."

It is my earnest request for you to stop off here on your return home. You know my heart would be broken should we never more meet, so please do not sever the golden links in the chain of friendship, but should we never meet again, may you ever retain some good and true thought of me, and ^I am sure you will forever stand out prominently in my mind.

Hoping to hear from you very soon, I remain,

Your true friend,  
Katie Bailey

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**Katherine Bailey to Charles Rush Scott. Undated. No envelope.**

Another fragment. The other pages were not preserved in the collection. Because of the reference to Christmas, the letter must have been written late in the year.

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4

I'm glad to see the rain but sorry it came on Sunday, as I'm so lonesome when I stay at home all day, but we must not complain. "Improve your present time for it is yours, our yesterdays are lost forever and to-morrow may never come."

If you are thrown among strangers and feel forsaken remember you have a dear friend and sister who will ever lend a helping hand and be ready to heal all wounds, if they are in her power. a true friend will sometime prove their affection, and I hope to be true to this principle if nothing more.

I can scarcely realize Xmas is so near. I look back over the past

5

year and ask what I've accomplished during this time. I hope I've done some good and not made any enemies nor wounded any hearts.

Willie got home from the river and reports a good time.

I would like so much to have seen Bro. Brown.

I know you will deem my letter dry and uninteresting, but remember it is gloomy to-day, and for this reason I'm not in a very good mood for writing.

"Be Still sad heart and cease repining  
Behind the clouds the sun is shinning"<sup>204</sup>

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<sup>204</sup> Kate is quoting Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's "The Rainy Day."

I shouldn't wonder if my little quotations grow monotonous, if they should [,] just consign these few lines to the furnace and do not tire your aching head with them.

Hoping to hear from you soon, I am

Yours trustingly,  
"Katie."

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 18 November 1897. Envelope postmark smudged, perhaps 19 November.**

Almost certainly Henrietta or Harietta Reedy, 18, daughter of William and Lucy Reedy. She shows up in the 1900 census in Purdin, Linn County, Missouri. Etta was born in Aug 1878 in Missouri and was a school teacher in 1900. *Ancestry* has misinterpreted Reedy as "Rudy."

She married P. B. Davisson of Greencastle, Sullivan County, 28 Mar 1907.<sup>205</sup>

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Purdin, Mo.,  
Nov.18, 1897.

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Madelaine, Mo.

My dear Friend Charley:

Your very kind and highly appreciated letter reached me Tuesday. I wish you could only imagine my delight, at hearing from you so soon, Was so glad to hear from you. When I returned from school I asked my old question "Is there any mail ?" and Mamma said "yes." I'll tell you

2

it was not long 'till my eyes had scanned those pages, I was glad indeed to hear of your good luck in getting home, I think you made a quick trip.

How have you been feeling since you left Linn Co.? and Bro. Brown, how is he? Oh, how many times we have realized thowt "the best of friends must part."

You spoke of being lonesome, Well I think I can truly sympathize with you in that for it has been so lonesome all week, Sunday was the longest day, oh! my, or I mean it seemed long, to me, I can hardly get used to not have

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205 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Clay Twp, p. 21 B stamped, dwelling 177, family 187, line 87, Rudy, Henrietta.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 23 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871; Sullivan County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Etta Reedy, 28 Mar 1907; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 31 October 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives. Microfilm.

3

singing to go to. We miss it so much, I am truly glad Bro Charley that you ^both enjoyed your visit here, and I cannot tell you how delighted I am to be the means of conveying to you, the expression of our united regard. What we offered you is but a poor symbol of our feelings, but am glad you receive it so kindly. I'm sure your stay was very pleasant to us, and shall ever be remembered as one of the most pleasant periods of my life, whenever memory recalls them to view. I am pleased to know you enjoyed my company I can truly say as much for you

4

and your phrase, "Let nothing divide our friendship," I heartily repeat. I wondered a great many times if you hated to leave as bad as we hated for you to. Bro. Nickell<sup>206</sup> preached Sun. Morning, we got along very well (considering) with the singing. (Didn't feel much like singing though.) Was out at ^to Prayer meeting last night.

It rained nearly all morning Monday morning, but I had no "good little boy" to take me to school, as in days gone by.

How are you getting along with the "Bunch of Daisies"? I am dreaming tonight, yes I'm dreaming".

5

It seems to me like I can almost hear you saying "Sweet bunch of daisies,"<sup>207</sup> but — I don't hear you, You must not tell that girl any of my meanness, Ha Ha,

Tell Bro Brown we have quite a number of names for the singing, I don't know how many, The girls have been doing all we can, Will let him hear about it £ before many days, We think we can get enough to have the singing all right. Hope so, don't you? And don't you really think you could help us again? You know we'd be glad to have you,

Now Bro. Charley I know this is a short letter, and I fear

6

uninteresting, but I hope you will favor me by an early reply and I'll try and write a longer, better letter next time. I was so glad to hear from you,

Write me a long letter soon, and now I must break away by bidding you "good night."

I am your sincere friend,

Etta

P. S. We haven't seen our pictures yet. Guess we'll get them next Tuesday. I'm awfully anxious to see them, Aren't you Charly Rush?

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206 Probably Ambrose Nickell, 64, from Purdin, listed in the census as a preacher. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Benton Twp, p. 20 B stamped, dwelling 152, family 161, line 93, Nickell, Ambrose; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 31 Oct 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871.

207 "Sweet Bunch of Daisies" was a song written by Anita Owen in 1894.

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 28 November 1897. Envelope, postmark illegible.**

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Purdin, Mo.,  
Nov. 28, 1897.

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Madelaine, Mo.  
Dear Brother Charley:—

Your very welcome epistle was received very gladly several days ago and tonight I seize the opportunity of replying. I received your letter Monday, but have been so busy all week, have hardly had time to answer, ere this. I hope you will not think me delinquent in answering. How are you getting along? You said you had been

2

feeling just "middling" Well I have too. Ha! Ha! Hope you are feeling all right by this time. Have you forgotten Purdin yet,? Or "the house on the hill?"

I received a letter from Bro. Brown<sup>208</sup> last week and our music class begins the first Monday night in December, which of course you know we got your letter today, also, and am sorry you are not comming with Bro. Brown, but of course it will be nice for you to help your Bro.<sup>209</sup> in the singing in Adair Co (not so Adair<sup>210</sup> I mean!

3

nice as if you were comming to Linn Co. though I don't think.) Perhaps you think so though as you are going up where all those "pretty girls" are, Ha, Ha,

Well I hope you will have a nice time, and good luck with your singing, but, of course, we will miss you in ours, Guess I'll have to quarrel with Bro. Brown about 2/2 time, to make up for your absence, Ha Ha,

We are having winter now, seemingly, It is so cold,  
How did you spend Thanksgiving? Suppose you

4

plenty of "Turkey" to eat. "I know whether I did or not"

We met last Sunday eve, and practiced singing but did not this eve. I'm so anxious for our next term to begin,

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208 See the next letter for a tentative identification.

209 This must be referring to Ward's stint at Shibley's Point in Adair County. The meeting Ward spoke about in his letter of 8 November, 1897 closed on that day, but perhaps the brothers went back for a singing school.

210 Adair County touched Linn's northeast corner.

I hope you haven't taken the Diphtheria as Scarlet - fever yet.

Don't you know, Charley, that our pictures haven't come yet, I was so dissappointed Tuesday when I came from school and they had n't come. I wonder why he is so long about sending them, Guess it must have taken a long

5

time to finish them, as there were so many good looking people in the group. Guess we'll have to ~~let~~ "Let patience have her perfect work."

Yes, Indeed, I want one of your pictures you have lately had taken, now be sure and send me one next time you write please, will be awfully glad to get it, you know.

Bell<sup>211</sup> Jenkins and all the rest of the "little" girls are getting along all right, I think. Would like to have "been there" to attend "Supper over the way," sure,

6

Yes I have heard from Kate since you left. I got a letter from her today, She's getting along fine but of course you know that.

I hope you do think a great deal of Bro. Nay for bringing you to Linn Co, with him (I do, I assure you,) I hope you and Bro. Nay will again be permitted to be with us again, some time, and spend as pleasant a time as we once did.. Do you?

Our acquaintance has been brief, yet I regard you, Bro. Charley, as a sincere friend and Brother.

7.

Bro Robinson preached for us this morning. Bro Boles<sup>212</sup> led the singing this morning, too.

It seems so much longer than two weeks since you were here, yet it is just two weeks today.

"Fond memory paints the scenes of other days, Green grows their memory still," (ect.)

Well my letter is getting somewhat lengthy, Are you getting tired? If so, just lay it aside for a while, you know I'm such a talker and have a good deal to say,

I hope you'll get this soon and favor me with an early

8

reply far better than this, for [erased] I shall await anxiously for a reply, As you said you were going to Adair Co, I don't know whether you'll get this as soon as you would or not. However I

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211 Most likely Sarah Belle Jenkins, 30, a dressmaker and the daughter of Hiram and Calista Jenkins. If Belle Jenkins was little, it had nothing to do with age. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Benton Twp, p. 23 B stamped, dwelling 200, family 211, line 56, Jenkins, Sarah B.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871; Linn County, Missouri, Marriage Records, S. Belle Jenkins, 23 Sep 1900; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm.

212 At a guess, Joseph B. Boles, 35. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Parson Creek Twp, p. 250 A stamped, dwelling 67, family 69, line 10, Boles, Joseph B.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,872.

hope you'll answer soon, I would have answered sooner, but have been so busy School work keeps me busy, you

know. With kind regards to you, I must close, for tonight, Good-night and pleasant dreams to you,  
Your Sincere friend Etta.

Now, Charley Rush, dont forget about the picture when you write.

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**F. R. Brown, M.D., Lee, and Pearl Scott in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Madelaine or Adair County, Missouri, 12 December 1897. No envelope.**

Brown, of course, is a very common name. But this Brown called himself Charley's cousin, so it makes sense to look among the offspring of James Andrew Scott. Mary Lucinda Scott, one of James' daughters, had married Isaac Brown and produced at least eleven children, including Franklin R. Brown, who is probably our man. Frank, 28, was married with children. The others called him their teacher and the dates are right for the singing school mentioned in the previous letter, so maybe he is the one, despite his adolescent antics.<sup>213</sup>

M.D. might be Minnie, who seems to be in this circle of friends, but we have no surname. A Minnie Bumgardner shows up in Etta's letter of 18 Dec, so M. D. may not be a Minnie at all. Also in Etta's letter is Lee Matthews, who remains unidentified.

Etna Pearl was Charley's cousin, daughter of Martin Galey Scott and Caroline Terry Scott, and thus also a cousin of Frank Brown. Pearl would marry Ray Garfield Burt on 8 March 1900. Ray worked for the railroads as a depot official. The couple lived in Wyoming and Minnesota and had five children. Pearl died in Mille Lacs, Minnesota, in 1963, two years before her husband.<sup>214</sup>

The occasion for the letter seems to be the gathering of friends during the days of a singing school, writing to Charley, their absent friend, who may be with Ward in Adair County for another singing school or meeting. An odd envelope from Shibleys Point is dated 8 December, so the timing is right. Pearl and F. R. normally lived in Daviess County. They must have traveled for this session. Kate's first letter in this section shows, via her sketches of the "Purdin girls" that they all must have known each other.

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213 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 151 C stamped, dwelling 29, family 24, line 29, Brown, Franklin; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 2 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 224 A stamped, dwelling 135, family 135, line 17, Brown, Frank R.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852.

214 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 151 C stamped, dwelling 30, family 25, line 39, Scott, Etna P.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Miss E. Pearl Scott, 7 Mar 1900; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm; Minnesota, Death Index, 1908-2002; database on-line, *Ancestry*, 2001 (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015), Aetna Pearl Burt, 25 Jun 1963; citing Minnesota Department of Health, State of Minnesota, Minnesota Death Index, 1908-2002.

Purdin Mo  
Dec 12\_\_1897

Dear Cousin it is ~~pleasure~~ with pleasure I seat myself on a chair to let you know we are at Bro  
Coopers today You are invited to a house raising at this place next wednesday as there is a broken  
sleeper! caused by M. D. missing her chair and sitting on the floor hoping you will comply & be  
on hands at an earlier hour

I remain your cousin F R Brown  
"Nit"

[P. 2]

Sunday just before  
dinner

Oh my goodness!

I wish you were here to manage this, miserable piece of humanity (this cousin of yours) if you  
have any influence over him. He is going to write to you today so I thought I'd give an account of  
his actions since you left.

The first thing he did after you left was to come over to our house and poke all our soap in  
the well and swipe all my pictures that he wanted among them was that group

[P. 3]

like you took. The very last one I had.

So guess you'll have to send the other one back for Lee's asked the Artist to send her the  
other one

Please send it back to me, wont you?

Yours without a  
Flutter. M.D.

[In a different hand] Hellou there, old meanesa. [?] I am still mad at you so I am, but this cousin  
of yours got the group from Minnie like the one you got from me Say I want you to send me a  
better picture of you. I hope the train broke your neck as you

[P. 4]

went home. Did it?

I must stop and give room for Pearle.

Yours without a flutter

Lee,

[In yet a different hand] Hello! there "Charley boy" you just ought to be here today and see the  
fun we are having stealing pictures and such like we learned that from you. I guess I had better  
quit writing or they will eat all the dinner up from me.

Yours truely  
Pearle,

[Change of hands] P. S. Since I pened those few lines there has a little circumstance occured which  
has lowered my opinion of our teacher to even a lower degree then ~~xxx~~ of the other. He's just

acted awful He pulled my chair from me as I sat down at the table and just acted ridiculously, and abominably mean.

The same, M. D.

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 18 December 1897. Envelope postmarked 18 December.**

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Purdin, Mo.,  
Dec. 18, 1897.

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Jameson, Mo.

Dear Friend Charley:

I received your letter a few days ago. Was pleased to hear from you. Yes I thought you had forgotten us, glad to know you have not. I take the liberty this morning (Saturday) to write a few lines by way of reply, but don't know that I can for "the Browns" are making such a racket, singing, etc. You need not be suprised if I talk like I'm out of my head for it would take one with good brains to write any under

2

the present circumstance Ha, Ha, You know, by experience, about what kind of a time we have You ask how's the singing. Oh just fine. It will be out Monday night Then I wonder what I'll do? The class is a little larger than before. Minnie Bumgarner [?] helps me sing alto this time.

It has been awfully cold the last few days, but is warmer today

How I'd X enjoy hearing Bro Nay preach! Would like so well to see him.

We have been having such nice times. I know I'll be so lonesome when the singing is over. But suppose I'll have to get used to it.

I've been ^kept so busy, going to

3

school all the time.

Bro. Charley, I know you can't hardly read this, I'm really ashamed of this writing, but

please excuse it, for it's the best I can do now. Will try and to better next time

Willie B. came in and bothered me, took my letter away from me, wanted to write some. My! we have a time. He has not dropped any more soap in the well that I've heard of.<sup>215</sup>

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<sup>215</sup> Franklin R. Brown had a younger brother, William Jasper Brown—ten years younger. Could this be he? In this paragraph, a Willie, not a Franklin, is the soap culprit, so a clear identification may not be possible.

Yes I've seen Lee Mathews since you left, but heard her say nothing about "your racket"  
We are going to Mr Jenkins' tomorrow, for dinner, Bro. Nickell is going to preach  
tomorrow. How I wish you could

4

be with us. I'm sure we would have a nice time.

No, I was not much surprised to find you had left when I returned from school the day you  
left. But we would all like to have had you staid. Mr. Henry Johnson sings Tenor.

I looked several days for your letter, before I got it.

Do you still think of going home Christmas? I hope you'll have a pleasant time, "a merry  
Christmas, and happy new year"

No, Indeed I'll not forget Charley Rush, "Nay Verily"

Mr. Hedges<sup>216</sup> had a spelling last night I heard. He has not been to the singing any

5

I don't know any Purdin news that would be interesting to you, I don't believe, though perhaps  
you've already tired of this scribbling, Try to get rested though in time to write soon, I must close  
for this time.

I haven't heard from Eureka<sup>217</sup> for several days. How are they?

Well Charley I will close, as it is getting near train time and I want to mail this, this eve.

Now I hope you'll favor me with an early reply and I'll try to write a better letter next time,  
With my best wishes and regards, I am your Sincere Friend

Etta Reedy

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Jameson, Missouri, 2 January  
1898. Envelope. Postmark partially illegible: January 1898.**

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Purdin, Mo.

Jan. 2, 1898

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Jameson, Mo.

Dear brother Charley:-- Your letter was received Monday and of course I was pleased to hear from  
you.

Have not had time to answer ere this, These "stirring Christmas times", you know. My time  
for writing has been somewhat limited, I have made several attemps this afternoon to write, but  
have had several callers, and of course I had to try to entertain them.

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216 At a guess, James A. Hedges. The Jenkins and Hedges seem to have lived next door. 1900 U.S. census, Linn,  
Missouri, Benton Twp, p. 23 A stamped, dwelling 199, family 210, line 47, Hedges, James A.; digital images,  
*Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871.

217 Possibly a sly reference to Katherine Bailey and her circle.

2

Well how are you, and Bro. Nay? How did you spend Christmas?

Yes our singing has closed and we are about ready for another. We are getting up another class, Think we can get another. We already have 21. We like singing, Don't we?

Yes indeed, we had a nice time at Mr. Jenkins'.<sup>218</sup>

We didn't have but one day's vacation from school. I've been spending the holidays in the schoolroom.

I suppose you've gotten acquainted 'till it's not so lonesome now. Have you not? My! This is a horrid

3

Pen, think you'll do well if you read this.

Yes I heard about your "partnership letter."

I went with several others down to Lee Mathews Tuesday night. Had a very nice time.

We are having nice weather, a little cool, too.

I went to Bibleclass this morning. Bro Clark is here this evening. I hear them talking about singing, He says he gets "animated" when he gets to singing. (Oh I know this is interesting to you.)

4

Well this is the first of the New Year, Many changes have been wrought since the dawn of '97. None of us know what is in the future for us. May the new year have many pleasures and much good luck for you.

I would like to write you a good interesting letter, but I don't know what else to write that would be interesting to you.

As I have some more writing to do, and studying to do ^also I will close for this time, hoping to hear from you soon.

I close with kindest regards,

I am, sincerely Etta.

[5]

P. S.

By the way

I forgot to tell you Belle Jenkins<sup>219</sup> sends her "regards" to you

There was an entertainment at the Methodist Church Christmas night. I went the house was so crowded, I could hardly find a seat. I was asked to help them sing, but I didn't,

A month ago tonight you was in Purdin, Do you remember?

Well Bro. Charley I thought of something more after I got started & I've almost written

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218 Probably the father of Belle Jenkins. See note 211.

219 See note 211.

another page. Excuse the construction of this letter please.

Remember me to Bro. Nay and again I say "Good night,"

Sisterly — Etta

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Jameson, Missouri, 18 January 1898. Envelope postmarked 18 January. Forwarded to Ford, Leon, Iowa.**

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Purdin, Mo.

Jan. 18, 1898

Mr C. R. Scott

Jameson, Mo.

Dear Friend, Bro. Scott,—

Conscience has been chiding me for not answering your letter before this, but this evening I'm going to write a few lines See?

I have not been to school this week, on account of Mama being sick, and have been very busy.

I think I'll soon get to resume school work again. I missed one day last week, It rained so, I could not go. I feel like I had missed

[2]

a great deal.

Well our singing commences tonight, as Bro. Brown came today, on the noon train.

How are you getting along by this time, and how is Bro. Nay?

We had a fine snow last week, and Sunday afternoon, if the sleighbells didn't jingle! I went with a load of young folks, and my! we had a time.

It is about gone now, though, or at least on the roads.

A week ago Friday several "of us" met a Sister Becketts<sup>220</sup>

[3]

to sing, and last Friday night at Bro Nickells, and Sunday night, at Bro Hutchinsons.<sup>221</sup>

We have quite nice times, as you may know.

I was up to "the shop" this morning.<sup>222</sup> Bertie & Belle are still alive Ha, Ha,

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220 Possibly Sarah J. Beckett, 37, wife of William G. Beckett. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Benton Twp, p. 21 B stamped, dwelling 173, family 183, line 72, Beckett, Sarah J.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871.

221 A guess would be Abraham C. Hutchinson, 33, a bank cashier and husband of Clara M. Hutchinson. 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Benton Twp, p. 20 B stamped, dwelling 151, family 160, line 88, Hutchinson, Abraham; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871.

222 The shop was probably a dressmaker's shop. Belle had an older sister named Roberta, who was also a dressmaker. See 1900 census of note 211, line 71.

No, I have not been to Eureka since you were here, I g suppose they are still alive down there, I've heard nothing to the contrary.

How's the "School mistress?" Ha. Ha, I suppose she still thinks the "singer" is all right, does she not? Ha Ha<sup>223</sup>

[4]

Bro. Brown says to tell you "he's here," He is going up this afternoon so he says and give the photographer a job. He is "priming" now. I think he'll look all right.

This is horrible writing,

Don't know whether you can read it or not.

This is rather brief but I must close hoping to hear from you soon, Hoping you are well, and with kindest regards, I am

Your friend Etta Reedy

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Ransom, Kansas, 27 March 1898.  
Envelope postmarked 27 March.**

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Purdin, Mo.,  
Mar. 27, 1898

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Ransom, Kas.

Kind Friend: — Yours of the 11 inst. at hand, and contents noted. Glad to hear you are getting along nicely.

Today it has been raining and prevented us from going to meeting. Bro. Robinson was to preach today, but I hardly think any one at all went. My! But we are having a so much rain. It rained nearly all night last night. The roads were beginning to get good again, but now they are

2

good and muddy. I have an uncle here from the central part of Kansas, he thinks he never saw so much rain & mud in his life.

Well how are you getting along? How is the debate? I suppose you are a regular attendant.

I've been quite busy since school was out. By the way I got my diploma last week. It's quite a fine affair, (I think.)

I don't know whether I'll go to school this spring or not. Yes I hear from Kate not long since. She is getting along fine, I think, I'd like awfully to see her.

Oh the Purdin folks are

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223 Could this again be a reference to Katherine Bailey?

getting along fine, so far as I know. Minnie and Lee went to Linneus yesterday, visiting, Minnie said to tell you if you'd come again, to Purdin, She'd bake you some "old yaller biscuits." Ha! Ha!

That's quite an inducement, isn't it?

Yes we miss Bro. Clark some in the singing. He hasn't been here for some time.

We have a paper now, in our town. "The Purdin Champion"<sup>224</sup> I made the office a call yesterday in company with some other girls. It's quite a paper. I haven't heard any think from Bro. Brown for a long time, what has become of him?

It looks some like it might clear off. I hope so surely [?].

Well really I don't know one thing to write that would be interesting to you so guess I'd better stop, before I run out entirely. Hoping you are well and doing well I bring my remarks to a finis,  
awaiting your reply I am

Your friend,  
Etta Reedy.

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**Ola Thomas in Eversonville, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 19 April 1898. Envelope postmarked 20 April.**

Ola Jay Thomas was born 23 Oct 1878 in Linn County, Missouri to J. Harvey Thomas and Francis M. Bartley Thomas. In the 1880 census the family lived in Clay Township, Linn County, Missouri. Ola first married Ida Bea Lightner in 1899. In 1900 they were living in Jackson, Grundy County, Missouri, with a six-month-old daughter and two other children of Ida's. In 1934 he married Vidle M. Ostrander in Harlan, Shelby County, Iowa. He lived in various states during his

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<sup>224</sup> The Purdin Champion was a four-page paper published on Thursdays starting in 1898. It was run by John Morris Pound and edited by his son 13-year-old son, Joel. Joel Pound remained in the newspaper business when he later moved to Arizona and California. John E. Hunt, ed., *The Pound and Kester Families* (Chicago: Regan Printing House, 1904), p. 23; digital images, Google Books (<http://books.Google.com> : accessed 3 Nov 2015); *Rowell's American Newspaper Directory* (New York: Geo. P. Rowell & Co., Sept 1899), p. 571; digital images, Google Books (<http://books.Google.com> : accessed 3 Nov 2015); 1900 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Benton Twp, p. 21 B stamped, dwelling 175, family 185, line 82, Pound, Joel S.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,871; 1920 U.S. census, Cochise, Arizona, Douglas City, p. 13 A handwritten, dwelling 249, family 249, line 30, Pound, Joe; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing NARA microfilm publication T625, 2076 rolls; 1930 U.S. census, Kern, California, Twp 7, p. 172 A stamped, dwelling 199, family 201, line 41, Pound, Joe; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 2,339,856.

life, including Wisconsin and Colorado, and sold farm implements.<sup>225</sup>

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Eversonville, Mo.,  
Apr., 19, 1898.

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Madelain, Mo.

Dear Bro.,:

I now will endeavor to answer your letter which I recieved some time ago.

I have experienced a little over two weeks teaching and it is all right I like it just fine. I have 31 scholars all of the way from 5 yr., to 18 yr's old of 'all' sizes and descriptions I am boarding up at my school and keeping my horse for \$1.60 a week.

What are you doing

[p. 2]

with your self, I suppose you are farming or thinking about it. Henry is staying at home and working. How glad I don't have to work so hard only five days out of the week and then from nine o'clock to four o'clock, I am having a time. I have some of the prettiest girls you ever saw. I have not give any of the scholars a whipping but I have scared some of them to death nearly. I come pret near shaking one out of his boots and socks.

Well I will have to tell you about the girls.

Laura is still living

[P. 3]

and stills retains her voice.

Fay gets better looking every day.

Ross is still going with Kate.<sup>226</sup>

Sam is still living with Millie in O.K. [?]

Well it is time for me to take up school

Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain,

As ever,

Your Bro.,

Ola Thomas.  
Eversonville Mo

Linn, Co., [sic]

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225 1880 U.S. census, Linn, Missouri, Clay Twp, p. 548 B stamped, dwelling 238, family 244, line 40, Thomas, Ole J.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,700; 1900 U.S. census, Grundy, Missouri, Jackson Twp, p. 35 A stamped, dwelling 130, family 132, line 11, Thomas, Ola J.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,857; Shelby County, Iowa, Marriage Records, Ola J. Thomas, 11 Aug 1934 ; digital image, *Ancestry*, Iowa, Marriage Records, 1880-1937; 2014 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 3 Nov 2015); citing Iowa State Archives, Des Moines, Iowa, Volume 4.

226 Is this Kate Bailey? And is the Ross she's going with her future husband, John Ross Harvey?

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**Etta Reedy in Purdin, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, 1 May 1898.  
Envelope postmarked 2 May.**

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Purdin, Mo.,  
May 1, 1898

Mr. C. R. Scott,  
Madelaine, Mo.

Bro. Scott:—Your friendly epistle was received some time ago.

How are you getting along? And how are Bros. Nay, Terry, Brown, etc.?

I had a letter from Bro. Brown not long ago, but have never answered it yet. I am very negligent about writing of late, I am so busy. I am not going to school this spring.

[P. 2]

Don't feel very well satisfied either not to be in school.

My! But we are having so much rain and mud.

It has been raining today — Of course, its Sunday, you know.

I had a letter from Kate last Sunday.

I'm going down there some time this summer I think. I know I'll have a time. I haven't seen Kate since November, am getting awfully anxious to see her.

[P. 3]

This is the first day of May, a lovely time of year I think, if it didn't rain so much.

I went up home with Bertie J.<sup>227</sup> Last night, had a fine time.

The 'Naughty Kids' are all getting along very well I think.

Well I think I'd better quit before I run out entirely. I'm sure this is monotonous anyway.

I have written quite a good deal this afternoon, and am a little

[P. 4]

nervous. Excuse writing.

We are all moderately well.

With — kind regards to you and awaiting your reply

I am your friend

Etta Reedy.

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227 Probably Roberta Jenkins. See note 222.

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**W. J. Scott in Trail, British Columbia, to Charles Rush Scott, in Madelaine, Missouri, 6 May 1898. Envelope postmarked 6 May in Trail; 11 May in Madelaine. W. J. crossed out a printed return address: Hotel Kaiser, Fred Kaiser, Proprieter, Trail, B. C.**

Of the candidates for this W. J. Scott letter writer, the most likely guess is William Jasper Scott, 22, the son of Martin Galey Scott and Caroline Terry. That would make W. J. the brother of Pearl and cousin of Franklin R. Brown, as well as cousin of Charley. By 1900, W. J. is listed in the census in Shawnee County, Kansas, as a physician. The question is, how could he have gone from being a laborer in British Columbia to being a physician in Kansas in two years? The 1940 census claims he had six years of college, but when? True, becoming a physician in the early 1900s was a very different process than it is today. At that time, especially in rural areas, a "doctor" could pretty much just hang out a shingle, for there was little regulation. Thus it is not impossible that the letter writer and the physician are the same man; the time frame, however, sets off warning bells.<sup>228</sup> Nevertheless, no other likely W. Scotts with the middle initial J. have been found in preliminary research in Daviess County, Missouri. The letter itself indicates that its writer must be from Daviess County.

Today, Trail, British Columbia, straddles the Columbia River almost 400 miles east of Vancouver via the Trans-Canada Highway. A gold and copper strike at nearby Red Mountain in 1890 brought prospectors and settlers to the area. A smelter was built in 1895 and expanded in 1898—and that was the establishment W. J. was talking about in this letter.

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Trail B. C. May 6-98

Mr C. R. Scott

Madlaine Mo

Dear Cousin— how are you and all the rest of the people in Scotland prospering? I hope that you are all doing well as usual has cousin Tom gone back to Seattle yet? if he hasnt tell him hello. This is a Great country here compared with the plains of Kan or even Missouri a sheep could not climb some the mts here steep and solid rock. but has been fine weather until to day it is raining now and they tell me that it is likely to keep it up for two months yet if it does I think I will be in for getting out of here. I was going to the country to help assess some mines to day but it is raining and I wont go. Jack left me last Tuesday he got a position civil engineering a good job and good pay he will likely stay with it for some time it will last about two or three years if he

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228 Social Security Administration, "United States Social Security Applications and Claims Index, 1936-2007," database, *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.org> : accessed 4 Nov 2015), entry for William Jasper Scott, Oct 1942, SS no. 499220677; "United States World War I Draft Rgistration Cards, 1917-1918," images, *Ancestry* (<https://ancestry.com> : accessed 4 Nov 2015), card for William Jasper Scott, serial no. 68, Local Draft Board 15-2-13C, Ellsworth County, Kansas; the source of these images is not cited; 1900 U.S. census, Shawnee, Kansas, Monmouth Twp, p. 53 A stamped, dwelling 163, family 166, line 19, Scott, William J.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,500; 1940 U.S. census, Franklin, Ottawa City, sheet 8 A handwritten, household 187, line 29, Scott, W. J.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing National Archives and Records Administration, 1940, T627\_1232.

wants to stay with it that long. I was offered a position in a store at Vancouver \$60.<sup>00</sup> per mo and did

[P. 2]

not take it There is not many places where a person can get a job right now but what few there is the pay is good They are going to start the Smelters her esoon and that will enliven this town up it is dead at present. Every thing is very high here board \$6 to \$10. per week and much about twice what it is in W.S. [Washington]. There was three of us out fishing in a boat in the Columbia River the other day we had a big catch found a man in the river that was about 4 oclock in the evening he commited suicide that morning by drowning himself he was a porter for a hotel he had been on a drunk a few days before and was sobering off and felt so mean that he wanted to die and die he did he had about \$65<sup>00</sup> and a gold watch on him when found How is my girl getting along with her school? is there any thing going on at Madelaine or near there that you can have any fun at this spring. has it ever driyed up so you could sow oats or plan for corn yet it seems rather funny here they dont plant corn or sow any small grain just plant some vegatables and dig for gold

[P. 3]

How is the war with you, you have not started yet I dont suppose.<sup>229</sup> I would have went from Seattle but they would not let me so I am out of the notion of going at all now as I dont think they will need me as there is plenty of other men that want to go worse than I. Are you going to Kansas in July? I may be back in July but I dont think I will if it rains here all the time I will go some where before then but if the weather is good here I may stay a year or two I like the work here that is assaying for gold silver and copper it is nice work to watch the reaction of the acid on the minerals well take care of all the good people and tell my people Hello, and write to me and tell me all the happenings of Scotland I remain as ever you cousin

W. J. Scott  
Trail British Columbia

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**Sally Terry in Madelaine, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Ransom, Kansas, 25 August 1898. No envelope.**

Among the members at the Old Scotland Church of Christ in Daviess County were a number of Terrys, some related to the Scotts. Two Sally Terry names appear in the censuses. The first was Sarah Louise Terry, 20, the daughter of Nathan Terry and Ann Scott Terry. Sarah would soon marry Richard O. Stretch and would live out her life in Daviess County, dying in 1954.<sup>230</sup> She,

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229 The ten-week Spanish American War began on April 21 although the propaganda had been flying for some time.

230 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 152 stamped, dwelling 37, family 38, line 14, Terry, Sarah; digital images, Ancestry (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Miss Sallie L Terry, 13 Dec 1899; digital image, Ancestry, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (http://ancestry.com: accessed 2 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives. Microfilm; Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (http://www.findagrave.com : accessed 31 October 2015), Sarah Louise "Sallie" Terry Stretch, Memorial #35955560, created by Caryn Hood, 16 April 2009.

however, is not the correct Terry. From Sally's references to siblings—"Cloe and Lewis" and "Auda"—she is surely the other Sally, 18, daughter of Thomas R.[or B.] Terry and Harriett F. Terry. This Sarah would marry Napoleon Bonaparte Cox in 1903 and would live until 1945.<sup>231</sup> Both Sarahs were buried in the Old Scotland Cemetery.

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[Right side of sheet 1]

Madelaine Mo.  
Aug 25, 98

Mr. Charley Scott

Ransom Kans.

Friend -:-

At last I shall try to ans. your letter which I rec'd some time ago.

I don't see how you can stand to be a City boy if you dont have any fun only on Sundays.

Chloe and Lewis<sup>232</sup> are always here on Sundays and we have a big time, but I have had lots of fun on week days ever since Aug Picnic.

Yes I was at the Picnic and I went to the Convention the next Thursday evening

[Left side of sheet 2]

We had a big time at Hay s [?] the 17 of this month. Ida,<sup>233</sup> Pearl, Minnie, Edna, Jennie, Bessie and I were there.

Oh! yes Bro Rhodes and his brother and Tom Hampton<sup>234</sup> were there, too.

The preachers staid here that night.

Hugh and I went a visiting Saturday night

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231 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 225A stamped, dwelling 151, family 152, line 8, Terry, Sarah E.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Miss Sarah E. Terry, 29 Apr 1903; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 2 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives. Microfilm; Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 31 October 2015), Sarah Ellen Terry Cox, Memorial #36399511, created by Caryn Hood, 26 April 2009.

232 Chloe Terry was Sally's sister. She married Lewis Dowell in 1897. Officiating was D. A. Nay. Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Miss Chloe A. Terry, 21 Dec 1897; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm; 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 152 A stamped, dwelling 2, family 2, line 8, Terry, Chloe A.; digital images, *Ancestry* ((<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684.

233 Possibly Ida Mae Terry, daughter of William and Nancy Reed Terry. This identification is based on Ida's appearance with husband Frank Netherton later in the letters. 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 160 C stamped, dwelling 190, family 165, line 42, Terry, Ida; digital images, *Ancestry* ((<http://ancestry.com> : accessed 7 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684.

234 Thomas Newton Hampton (1874-1966). "Jennie" of the letter's previous paragraph was probably the woman he married—Martha Jane "Jennie" Endicott. Tom was actually born in Rush County, Kansas. His mother Mary was the daughter of Levi and Ruth Scott Cline. Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 November 2015), Thomas Newton Hampton, Memorial #14189635, created by Frank Hampton, 6 May 2006. See also Tom's mother's memorial, Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 5 November 2015), Mary Maise Cline Hampton, Memorial #15438774, created by Frank Hampton, 20 August 2006.

We went up to see Chloe and Lewis and they came home with us Sunday morning.  
Well there has been another wedding near M— Ruth Plunkett<sup>235</sup> and Charley Skinner.<sup>236</sup>  
They have gone to Iowa now and are going

[Right side of sheet 2]

to stay until spring.

Several of the people around here are going to start to Omaha to day.<sup>237</sup>

Ida is a going, but I guess Frank will not go he went to the big show.

Oh! yes Jenny is talking of going back home

Laura<sup>238</sup> is married and Jennie thinks she will have to go home but I dont think Tom will let her go, unless he goes along, do you?<sup>239</sup>

I hope she will not go, for I would miss her very much.

Yes I had a nice time at the Old Pioneer meeting There was lots of people there in the morning, but it

[Left side of sheet 1]

looked like rain in the eve and lots of the people left.

Bro Rhodes preached in the morning and Bro Nay in the evening.

I expect Carra<sup>240</sup> and I will go to Jamesport Sat, to a Picnic and go down to Albert Terry's<sup>241</sup> and stay that night.

Yes I will promise you one of my pictures, but you will have to wait until I have some taken.

Well Charley I will close for this time. Sincerely,  
Sallie Terry

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235 Ruth was the daughter of Alfred and Sarah E. Plunkett. 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 152 stamped, dwelling 31, family \_\_, line 42, Plunkett, Ruth F.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Miss Ruth E. Plunkett, 4 Aug 1898; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm.

236 Charles Edward Skinner was born in Iowa. 1880 U.S. census, Page, Missouri, Morton Twp, p. 491 A stamped, dwelling 107, family 107, line 34, Skinner, Charles E.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,359.

237 People are probably going to Omaha for the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition, a world's fair held from June 1 to November 1 of 1898. August 31 was "Cody Day," which brought back the Wild West Show of Buffalo Bill Cody. The Burlington train station was also opened in downtown Omaha during the Exposition.

238 Jennie Endicott had a sister named Laura. 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 152 stamped, dwelling 39, family 30, line 28, Endicott, Laura A.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 1 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684.

239 See note 233.

240 Carra Terry, 20, was the son of William Smith Terry and Nancy Reed. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 221 B stamped, dwelling 80, family 80, line 77, Terry, Carry E.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 28 Dec 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852. Identification thanks to Nadene Snyder.

241 Albert Loren Terry, 25. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Jackson Twp, p. 69 A stamped, dwelling 124, family 125, line 43, Terry, Albert L.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 7 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852

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**Sally Terry in Madelaine, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott in Ransom, Kansas, 24 October 1898. No envelope.**

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1

Madelaine Mo.  
Oct 24 1898

Mr Charley Scott  
Ransom Kans.

Friend :-)

I was indeed very glad to hear that you were still alive.

Well we are having a fine meeting now, have baptized 14 Bro Gall<sup>242</sup> was here for dinner yesterday and he said he could not stay longer than Wednesday

2

I expect I will get a scolding when the folks get home

Jane Rogers<sup>243</sup> came here last night and they went to meeting this morning and left me to get dinner and it is now 12 o'clock and I have not commenced dinner yet.

We had quite a snow storm a week ago to day, it looked like winter but the ground did not freeze.

Oh! yes I went to a big show at Gallatin the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month.

3

Carra and Minnie<sup>244</sup> came over to see me last evening and staid till meeting time

Carra and I are talking about starting to school next week. You know it will be a fine school if we go.

Willie Rogers staid with me this morning and played with Auda's<sup>245</sup> dog he is leading him

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242 Possibly James Gall, 30, a "grocery man," but this is only a guess. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Jamesport, p. 87 A stamped, dwelling 136, family 136, line 11, Gall, James; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 7 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852.

243 A number of Rogers lived in Daviess County, but the names Jane and Willie make me wonder if some of the Ransom Rogers were visiting family in Missouri at this time. See note 31.

244 See note 240 for Carra. Carra married Minnie E. Netherton in 1900. Minnie, 19 at this writing, was the daughter of Adelbert Luther Netherton and Mariah Jane Everly. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 224 A stamped, dwelling 140, family 140, line 43, Netherton, Nannie M.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 28 Dec 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Miss Minnie E Netherton, 7 Sep 1900; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 28 Dec 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm. Identification thanks to Nadene Snyder.

245 Sally had a younger brother named Auda. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 225A stamped, dwelling 151, family 152, line 9, Terry, Aurda B.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 7 Nov 2015).

all over the yard.

Did you go to Omaha to see M<sup>c</sup> Kinley?<sup>246</sup>

There was about 75 went

4

from Jameson but some of them did not see him they came back the day he went there.

Meeting must be out by this time so I had better close and get dinner

Excuse me for not writing sooner

I started to write last Friday but Jessie came home with me from Church and her and Ma would not let me finish

5

Eve.

I guess they are having a protracted meeting to day It is now 3 o'clock and the folks have not come yet

So I guess there is no danger of getting a scolding

Oh! yes Jenny lost her rubbers the other night in the mud.

Well I will have to close Willie is wanting me to play for him

Respectfully

Sally Terry.

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**Etna Pearl Scott in Jameson, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott, in Ransom, Kansas, 1 January 1899. Envelope postmarked 3 January.**

---

Jameson, Mo.

Jan. 1, 1899

Mr Chas R Scott,

Ransom, Kans.

Dear Cousin Charlie:—

Well I hope you have spent a merry Christmas & a happy New year I have turned over a new leaf with a resolve to do better this New year & I do trust I will hold out faithful for I have been pretty reckless the past year one of my greatest faults was Slang & I am going to quit for I do think its horrid to use so much of it & you know I was pretty mean your self. I went home Xmas day & stayed until Tuesday & didn't go back any more during holidays I was so sorry it wasn't skating weather last week but it is cold enough now to freeze any one to death to cold to skate

---

246 McKinley was at the Trans-Mississippi and International Exposition for "President's Day" on October 12.

don't you believe. I went over cross the river Wed. night to Literary & seen your old

[P. 2]

girl "Netta Harbor" she looked as natural as an old shoe she was one of the judges in the debate.

Well Charlie what are Japs folks<sup>247</sup> doing now? Gala hasn't written me a word since he went back it was to blasting [?] bad, about them breaking up financially I am real sorry sure, I always hate to hear of any one getting that far behind. Well Gala is a caution to be sure he came to see me twice while he was here. All the boys & girls here liked to joured [?] me to death about his ears O me they was dreadful large certain don't tell him what I said but I do think he is green never mention it to him. Bro Will<sup>248</sup> came home Sat. & stayed until Thurs. didn't seem like he made us a very long visit at all this time. Well Edd H. & Jennie B<sup>249</sup> — got married Xmas day all of the young folks in Scotland have gotten coupled up since you left Charlie Sallie & Minnie is all that is left I went to see Ida & Frank<sup>250</sup> in their new home while I was out home & they seem as happy as a June Bug. but really I dont care to go to Scotland any more it don't seem like home since all of the young have grown old

[P. 3]

for everything is dead as Hec up there Us Jameson people rec'd quite a shock yestereday as well as Will Kelley<sup>251</sup> when he went home to dinner he found his wife dead on the floor O he is almost

247 Possibly the Jasper Rogers family. Perhaps "Gala" is Galey Rogers.

248 This would seem to be William Jasper Scott. If he was the W. J. who was writing from British Columbia, it seems he came home more quickly than he had planned.

249 James Edgar Hiatt and Jennie Lucinda Brown. Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, J. E. Hiatt, 25 Dec 1898; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 7 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm.

250 Possibly Ida Mae Terry and Frank Netherton, who had recently married. Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Frank K. Netherton, 27 Nov 1898; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm.

251 Two William Kelleys lived in Daviess County, father and son. William L., the father, lost his wife in 1898, so unless her grave marker is wrong, this is not the wife who died in 1899 according to this letter. The son, who lived in Jameson, married a woman named Mattie Meade on 3 September 1898 in Pattonsburg. It is hers that is most likely to be the shocking death mentioned here, for she would have been quite young—only about 18 1/2—when she died on 31 Dec 1898. She seems to have had a twin, Molly, who was married in Pattonsburg to Thomas Hoover of Gallatin on 7 September 1898, just five days after Mattie's wedding. Nothing further about this death has turned up, but William Kelley is probably next found in the 1900 census in Oklahoma with a new wife. 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Liberty Twp, p. 37 B stamped, dwelling 170, family 178, line 17, Kelley, W.L., line 20, Kelley, William; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 7 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684; 1900 U.S. census, Grant, Oklahoma, Medford Twp, p. 241 A stamped, dwelling 61, family 61, line 43, Kelley, William; digital images, *Ancestry* ([ancestry.com](http://ancestry.com) : accessed 9 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,241,337; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, Mattie Meade, 3 Sep 1898; Molly Meade, 7 Sep 1898; digital images, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>:

crazy over the death of his wife the Dr's don't seem to know what killed her it was sad indeed, there is so much sickness now Mr Walls<sup>252</sup> (my grand-father) is about to die they say he wont live he had a stroke of paryalsis & he can't live but a few days they say.

Well news are scarce (all excepting weddings & deaths)

& so I guess I have told you all of them.

Tell Ward I didn't intend to insult him in the first letter I wrote to him tell him if I wrote anything to make him mad to just send it back & "I'll just fess right up". O how I do dread to start back to school Monday I would rather take a whipping nearly, my Xmas examinations was pretty tough Charley I do hope you will make up your mind to go to school. and you don't say Winnie is teaching Hurrah for her. Well write sooner than I did to

your most Humble cozzing Pearle Scott

[up the right side] Love to all

[On the back]

O yes for Xmas

I got:

a jewel case

a photograph holder

a pitcher (glass)

card tray

& \$1.00 besides a big treat.

what did you get

Pie Face

O yes Hadly Witt has came back

to Mo. I am so glad.

[Up the left side] Excuse Haste

If ye please"

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accessed 9 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm. Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 9 November 2015), Sarah E. [F.] Kelley, Memorial #11892179 and Mattie Meade Kelly, Memorial #11892165, created by Tom C, 5 Oct 2005.

252 Grandfather Walls is an unsolved puzzle, perhaps involving convoluted remarriages. A George W. Walls died on 14 Jan 1899 in Jameson. This death would certainly fit the time frame, but I have not found a connection between him and Pearl Scott. Walls' first wife Mary J. died on 15 Sep 1894, and he seems to have remarried in 1895 to a Martha M. Graves. Neither of these seems to be related to Pearl. Pearl's mother was Caroline Terry, whose mother's name was Brown. When Rachel Brown died in 1859, Caroline's father David married Ruth Blackburn Scott. If Ruth remarried after David's death in 1908, it certainly would not have been in time to be noted in the present letter. Looking elsewhere, what about Pearl's father's second marriage? After Caroline died, Martin Galey Scott married Barbara Thomas. Her mother was Louisa J. Higgins. None of these names suggest a relationship between George Walls and Pearl Scott, nor have I found another likely Walls. Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 12 November 2015), G. W. Walls and Mary J. Walls, Memorials #11842195 & #11842189, created by Tom C, 28 Sep 2005; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, George W. Walls, 20 Oct 1895; digital image, *Ancestry*, Missouri, Marriage Records, 1805-2002; 2007 (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 12 Nov 2015); citing Missouri Marriage Records, Missouri State Archives, Microfilm; Daviess County, Missouri, Marriage Records, David Nelson Terry, 17 Dec 1846; data base, Jordan Dodd, Missouri Marriages to 1850 (Provo, Utah: The Generations Network, Inc., 1997), *Ancestry* (<http://ancestry.com>: accessed 12 Nov 2015).

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**T. J. Jackson in Hoxie, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Ransom, Kansas, 6 March 1899. No envelope.** Is Jackson talking about food or a school blackboard?

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Hoxie Kans 3. 6. 1899.

My dear Bro. Scott.

A letter from our Bro Sniffin, with order for BlackBoard Recipe to be sent to you, was received in due time. Please accept thanks. We mail you Recipe and a sample of my Board [Bread?] Also a Recipe for making Light Bread. Try it and if well pleased send me 50. cents. If not, you need not send me one cent

Trusting you will have good success in making your Board I am as ever yours in the one Hope,

T J Jackson

---

**Etna Pearl Scott in Madelaine, Missouri, to Charles Rush Scott, in Ransom, Kansas, 23 July 1900. No envelope.**

---

Madelaine Mo  
July 23 <sup>'00</sup>

Mr Chas R. Scott  
Ransom Kans

My dearest Koz:—  
Hello Hello Howdy do  
Good Mornin.

And how are you any way I was so delighted to hear from you so soon after your departure I must say you are a very thoughtful cousin indeed

Say your ^sisters pictures were very nice I was tickled most to death to get them They resemble their good

2

looking brother C.R.S. some whatly (nit)

How is Kan's & its people?

I hope you are happy & enjoying the best of life I heard to-day you were married and I presume congratulations are in order are they not.<sup>253</sup> Ha Ha.

Well how is Ward do tell him Hello Hello for me seems an age since any of you were here do ye look natural Old Socks I feel gay to-day wish you were

3

here. I would box yer jaws I think the last fight we had you gave the last blow if you were here now I'll bet you wouldn't see Ta Ta

Well well we have had a glorious good rain & every one is shouting nearly, do ye Kansas people need any? this is the first we have had since May 30<sup>th</sup>

How are you getting along batching?

Rose said she & Harvey<sup>254</sup> talked of coming out some time this fall

4

Uncle Geo's<sup>255</sup> were here (Mon and stayed all day & we just give you the D- - -, Ha Ha what do ye think of that B. Gory.

Well I am a hay seed to a fret these dayshave been home a mo to day have quit work for S & D only of Sat until Sept first so you see I am getting quite a vacation & I tell you I enjoy that I was very near sick & so I tho't I would take a furlough Rose weighs 98 & me 99lbs O my are not we

5

Scotts made of poor stuff I am nearly in the notion of going to Col S'p'g's to stay 2 yrs but Will<sup>256</sup> wont near hear to it O I do wish he would give up he (Will) is located at Richland Kans<sup>257</sup> now for a time I may come out & see him after Aug 9<sup>th</sup> & if I do I will run up & see you folks perhaps,

---

253 Charles did not marry until 20 November 1901. Pearl is joking.

254 At guess, Rose and Harvey were brother and sister Dina Rosella Stretch and Harvey Allen Stretch, offspring of Ruth Ann Scott and William Stretch. Ruth Ann was the daughter of James Andrew Scott and Letitia Jane Glenn. Thus Rose and Harvey were first cousins of Pearl and half-cousins of Charles. The Stretch family had lived in Ness for a time, very near W. A. and Phebe Scott. Harvey was, in fact, born there. 1880 U.S. census, Ness, Kansas, Twp 16, p. 322 B stamped, dwelling 12, family 12, line 50, Stretch, Dina; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,391; 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Grand River Twp, p. 49 A stamped, dwelling 9, family 9, line 43, Stretch, Harvey; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852; 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Grand River Twp, p. 55 A stamped, dwelling 137, family 138, line 23, Stretch, Rosa; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852.

255 If Rose and Harvey Stretch were the correct guess in note 57, then Uncle Geo is probably George Flint, the man that Ruth Ann Scott Stretch had married after William Stretch died. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Grand River Twp, p. 55 A stamped, dwelling 137, family 138, line 21, Flint, George; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852.

256 William Jasper Scott, her brother.

257 This fits with what we've already seen in the census: 1900 U.S. census, Shawnee, Kansas, Monmouth Twp, p. 53 A stamped, dwelling 163, family 166, line 19, Scott, William J.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 4 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,500.

I am getting lonesome now as I have got rested up & want to get out & have a visit before I begin solid work again am going to Iowa if not to Kan's

6

Aunt Rutha<sup>258</sup> is going to Harrison Co to morrow & stay a few days & I am going down to stay with Rose wish you were here I would lead you a dogs life we would go to Carlow<sup>259</sup> for instance Hip Hip

Say Alice M<sup>c</sup> Kenney<sup>260</sup> is down with typhoid fever so Uncle Isaac told me Sat he & Aunt Mary went down there yesterday (Mon.)

O you had ought to been in Madelaine this yr to celebrate you missed 1/5 of your best days Hea Hea O it was funny all the fun I had you could put in a needles

7

eye very easily but O that night I had fun enough to make up for all day six of us kids went to Gilman that night & we had a high old lonesome time of course we reached home early as usual Ha Ha

Say O say what do you think of this Boo Hoo your Aunt Sallie is going with Pole Cox (Mr Roost) Ta Ta Ta now come over the fence wont ye better come back to Old Mo Bow\_wow-wow, she is clerking for M A Scott<sup>261</sup> at Madelaine now began yesterday

[ P. 8. See below for the writing upside down in top margin]

I will proceed to ring off with my nonsense at the present as I must write to my beaux & I am going to roast him too we are having quite a bustification these days & I am going to roast him in good style see if I don't so if ye hear of a pitched battle you may guess the rest & break the news for me so Tutti Frutti

if you think this missive deserves an answer why all right & if not Qiky Kraky. as ever your  
COZ

Pearle

[up the right side] (so long)

---

258 Ruth Ann Scott Stretch Flint. See notes 251 and 252.

259 A small nearby village. Is Pearl being facetious or did they have a friend there?

260 Probably Alice Brown McKenney, 24, wife of Robert A. [H.] McKenney and daughter of Isaac and Mary Scott Brown. Alice was thus a cousin to Pearl and Charles. She survived the typhoid, living until 1935. 1880 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 151 C stamped, dwelling 29, family 24, line 31, Brown, Feba A.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,254,684; 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Jackson Twp, p. 70 A stamped, dwelling 150, family 151, line 53, McKenney, Alice P.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852; Jim Tipton database, *Find A Grave* (<http://www.findagrave.com> : accessed 9 November 2015), Phoebe Alice Brown McKenney Memorial #141723946, created by Phyllis Maulding Campbell, 24 Jan 2015.

261 Martin Alexander Scott owned a dry goods and grocery store in Madelaine. The Elder Martin Scott, the third husband of Dinah Clifton, was this Martin A. Scott's grandfather. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Washington Twp, p. 226 B stamped, dwelling 191, family 192, line 76, Scott, Martin A.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852.

[In the top margin upside down]

If Aunt Sallie gets married I will Break the news to you  
Aurivoi.

[In the top margin of p. 1, upside down]

July 25

Alice Hartman<sup>262</sup> was buried today just got home from funeral

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**J. E. Sniffin in Groveland, Kansas, to Charles Rush Scott, probably in Ransom, Kansas, 13 December 1900. No envelope.** Groveland is near MacPherson and north west of Wichita. Sniffin, 42, actually lived in Reno County, Kansas. He seems to have been visiting in Groveland as the preacher in an evangelistic meeting.<sup>263</sup>

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Groveland Kan 12/13/1900 [?]

Charley Scott

my Dear Bro;—

I take pleasure in penning you a few lines to day as amid the buisey rush of life oportunity is afforded. I am at this place in a good meeting good attendance and good interest I expect to close next Lords day. I hope you are all well and prospering both temporaly and Spiritually. I often realize our meeting would be more of a success if we had one of the Bro. Scotts to lead the singing I will never forget our good meetings where you and your pa led the song service.

how is Ransom geting along?

Charley write me a big long letter and tell me all the news as I love to hear from dear ones at Ransom.

O yes I must tell you! I met a

[P. 2]

Big Preacher at Hartford<sup>264</sup> last month and he showed me a letter from a prety girl you used to

---

262 Probably Lillie Alice Hartman, 20. Alice was the daughter of Oliver Hartman, son of Jonathan Hartman, probable brother of Laodicea Hartman Scott Cowan Herndon. 1900 U.S. census, Daviess, Missouri, Grand River Twp, p. 43 B stamped, dwelling 74, family 75, line 56, Hartman, Lillie A.; digital images, *Ancestry* (ancestry.com : accessed 16 Nov 2015); citing Family History Library Film 1,240,852.

263 See note 91 for sources on Sniffen's identity. "Brother" is used here in the sense of Christian brotherhood.

264 Hartford, Kansas, is near Emporia and about 100 miles east of Groveland.

know and she called this B.P. Dear \_\_\_\_\_. you can gues. My how I was surprised! And he said Xmass was the fatal day for Charly. Well Bro C. these eastern girls wouldent like it out west any how, would they? Say Bro C. Come over and I will tell you a whole lot of news. What are you doing? Are you married? how is Bro Ward geting aloud? I hope I will get out to Ransom some time before long and have a good visit with you all. I met Bro B. F. Martin about a week ago he is a fine preacher he is near our place now in a meeting. Bro Gale is coming to our place in the spring

[P. 3]

to hold a meeting for us. Will you come down if we will pay carfare? We would love to have you with us. And you could bring your gun and we would have a big time Hunting Ducks and Geese. now

Charley if you Can arrange and come it will be a great relief to a H\_\_\_B\_\_y\_\_\_l – M - so try to come pretty Girls are scarce and geting scarcer evry wk- O no just at Jacks thats all. Write soon give my love to all.

Brotherly

J E Sniffin

[Below, in the middle of the page on a downward slant, are written two words in pencil one under the other "opinion oppinion." These are probably in a different hand.]