

Dec 31. 1865

Well My Darling Boy

I have a few moments and will write a few lines to you hoping they may find you well and enjoying yourself well My Dear Boy and that your eyes are well see this you must not work by lamp while your eyes are so weak and never work without a shade pa says we are still in St Johns and

I have not been back since we came here I guess pa thinks that I may stay now I have got here our father wrot for us to come home on Christmas but pa thought he could not spend time so I presume I shall not see the folks in Elsie this winter have you heard from Abb yet about your money pa will see about it when he sees I want to know how you got any money Motty if you have not let us know and don't be afraid to let us know you shall have some

Dec 31, 1865

Well My Darling Boy, I have a few moments and will write a few lines to you hoping they may find you well and enjoying yourself well my dear boy and that your eyes are well see this. You must not work by lamp while your eyes are so weak and never work without a shade. Pa says we are still in St. Johns and I have not been back since we came here. I guess pa thinks that I may stay, now I have got here. Our father wrot for us to come home on Christmas but pa thought he could not spend time so I presume I shall not see the folks in Elsie this winter. Have you heard from Abb yet about your money. Pa will see about it when he sees [??]. Have you got any money Motty? If you have not let us know and you shall have some and don't be afraid to let us know you shall have some.

I want Harriet to send lib another box

now Motty, what did you do for
Christmas, did you have a good time
hope you did and that you will
have a happy New Year if we could
go to Elsie I could enjoy it they are
going to have a festival at Elsie
to finish the Baptist Church
New years have you written to
Pa yet Pa is writing to Frank
to day, we have not had any letter
from them yet but heard that they
all liked very well but James
he was rather lonesom write to
him Pa gave you the directions
did he not tell Mattie that I
will write to her very soon I
am going to get our pictures so
that I can send them tell Mrs
Allen that I will do the same by
her now Motty keep a stiff upper
lip a year will soon pass off then
I shall expect to see you all right
I hope be a good boy and write soon
Lizzie she is looking for a letter
from you as well as the rest write
soon now Motty from your Mother Emily

Now Mottie what did you do for Christmas? Did you have a good time. Hope you did and that you will have a happy New Year. If we could go to Elsie I could enjoy it. They are [??] to have [??] at Elsie to finish the Baptist Church New Years. Have you written to [??] yet. Pa is writing to [??] today. We have not had any letter from them yet but heard that they all liked very well, but James he was rather lonesom. Write to him. Pa gave you the directions, did he not? Tell Mattie that I will write to her very soon. I am going to get our picture, so that I can send them. Tell Mrs. Allen that I will do the [?] same by her. Now Motty keep a stiff upper lip. A year will soon pass off. Then I shall expect to see you all right, I hope. Be a good Boy and write soon.

Lizzie she is looking for a letter from you as well as the [?]. Write soon now Motty, from your Mother Emily.

[on side:] Aunt Harriet has sent lib [?] another box