

After days are my happiest days. I think you too enjoy  
them and I try to  
write punctually till  
I am sick, and will  
be sure to recom-  
mence as soon as  
possible after so do.  
You will probably  
get some in pencil  
my soon after the  
arrival of the stage,  
Friday clear, Dec 11  
The band.

Dayton O. June 10th.  
1863

Sella brought me your letter just as a good rain set in. Both letter and rain refreshed me.

Day before yesterday Lib took me in her carriage with some of her children, and Father took Mother and our children in the Spring wagon, out to Stillwater.

We were after ferns and moss with which to ornament the little alley behind our house; we have made a different arrangement, and now have a walk through from front to back and have the Fern beds between the windows. Father and Mother worked hard at them, but I sent for Shaffer to help and, I think when the fence is painted and a few more rains like this shall water our yard it will

After days are my happiest days.

Augusta

look quite pretty all over. Father had already done some hard work, before I came and it looked much better than usual.

Our two boys give some trouble, for they are not content to dig down in the alley but want to try their shovels all through the front part. I despair of ever having the grass grow under the cedar trees, for they are always running to the fence and playing their tricks.

Frank was invited to a party at Vanlodale's today, and Matt very kindly sent word that she would take charge of him.

Mary thought however that she had better go and take care of both him and Tess, but behold Tess and Mary were both too unwell to go, Frank needed shoes which his crippled mother couldn't get; and to crown all it rained, so the little man stayed at home.

You ask about the refrigerator, it was \$10.50 — — — as to that 'sneak' boarding

house, Father says, stay there and convert the landlady! Will that quiet your conscience? What does Mrs. V. say? Thoroughly disgusted I suspect!

Mary says, thank you for your exertions to get her books, and alas, that the box of love was sent, and express paid, can't have been delivered yet.!!

I gave Uncle John the check today, asked him to have it cashed and pay the taxes. I have not heard from him since. I wish now to pay taxes, paint the fence, get some pants for Frank, some sewing done; pay washwoman; and try to save out Murray's wages. I don't know whether I can or not, particularly as I want to offer Uncle John a part or whole of what we owe him, \$25.00. I don't want you to forget that I had to pay \$22.60 <sup>Express charges</sup> out of the \$26.00 you gave me. I am only trying to keep myself ~~at~~ honor bright in your eyes, my good man, by these statements.

Uncle J. said he spoke to Robert just before  
he went away, but could not get him to do any  
thing. Perhaps you will succeed better with  
him if you receive a visit.

R. and Chya met me at Trisalle's, Sunday evening  
and we took tea together. C. is not well, and  
Kitty says today that they think Sally is taking  
the mumps!

While in the woods the other day Robby took hold  
of a <sup>square</sup> piece of moss, and, very much to his surprise  
pulled off a large piece; he brought it to me.  
"now mamma! now mamma! now you like  
me?" He always asks this question if he  
he is particularly pleased with any thing he has  
done. — It is late and I have served a great  
deal today, so will finish in the morning.

Good night dearest.

Morning — It has rained all night, so we  
are well pleased. — All well as usual, and  
trying to get along well. I feel perfectly  
at home, but it seems as if you were  
off on a visit, rather a long one too, but  
I am not repining. Mind you write very often