

Fairmont August 24<sup>th</sup> / 70

Dear Friends,

Being unable to work today I am going to write letters, you would think that there was need enough of my writing could you see the stack of unanswered letters that I have.

I have been feeling very uneasy about you as you are always so punctual in answering my letters. I hope Mrs. Marsh is better by this time. I was afraid that she would be sick before you finished your house as it is so much work to finish a house while living in it, and as she seemed to bear that so well, I was in hopes that her health was improving, I wish that. And Sarah was staying with you, it seems as though you needed her now as much as Mrs. Burgess does.

I think Ada has done remarkably well in doing the work, am in hopes that it will not make her sick.

Father fell out of the wagon and was run over, the wheel crossing his back, the second of June. For over two weeks he did not have his bed made, he could not be moved at all. Besides his back his hand was hurt badly his thumb was cut loose from his hand, and the top of his head was nearly skinned, besides he was badly bruised and shaken all over, the Doctor reported no bones broken but considered him dangerous, he tended him faithfully for four weeks or more coming in a number of times during the day. He is not able to do anything yet only a few light chores he complains so much of his back yet and the slightest jar seems to overcome him terribly. I am afraid he will not get over it. I think that the ribs were fractured where they join the back bone, to be sure I don't understand anatomy but it seems to me as though his symptoms denoted it, his back still remains so sore that the slightest touch will make him wince terribly. I did so wish that Mr. Marsh lived where we could get him. I know that he could fix him a liniment or do something for him that would help him to gain function. He has the blues awful now as he has to hire his work all done and of course it is not done as he would have done it and it makes him feel very low spirited.

Mother has been better than I expected as we have had so much to do. We have had boarders all the time. I have had no rest at all and I have got so poor that I scarcely make a shadow. Really I am very poor but am feeling better than when I lived in Cattaraugus. Last winter I was very fleshy I weighed ninety nine pounds and that is more than I have weighed in a long time.

What heaps of weddings you have had in Ellington lately. It seems so strange to think of Charlie Green and Eva Grover being married. I should not think that there were many more young folks left. I am sorry to hear that Josephine Bailey has left home. How is Addie getting along in the picture business and is she going to be married, am glad to hear that your father has bought the drug store as he will not feel obliged to ride so much.

I should enjoy the circulating library if I were there and should spend a good many ??? there. I hope Lassy[?] is well.

Are you having a school at the Academy this fall?

Reubens wife is visiting in Cattaraugus and Forestville where her friends live. You would scarcely know Mary, she does not appear as she used to. Reubens is too busy in the store to think of leaving. I have no time to write more at present. Be sure and write some and write how Mr. Marsh is.

Love to all

Yours in haste,

Lin Ward

[Upside down across top of first page] :

I will send you this ??? and if you like it better than the photo that you have of me you can keep it only send me the photo in return as this is not mine. I stole it because they said it was the soberest – sourest looking thing they ever saw, and as I have no more I must have one to return in its place, keep the one you like best. You can see that I am poor, my dress is all wrinkles, it was fitted last winter when I was fleshy.

Yours in haste,

Lin