

Leek letter

Franklin, Johnson Co., Ind.

Jan. 11, 1862

Dear Friend,

it is with greatest of pleasure that I now take my pen in hand to answer your kind letter which I recieved [sic] in due time: and my dear Friend you cant [sic] imagine how glad I was to hear from you and so we all was; although I have a great mind to give you a good scolding for not writing sooner. What in the world got into you to go off without bidding us goodbye we looked and looked all the morning for you to come around and lo and behold you had to play snap judgement on us and not come atall [sic]: Now wasn't you smart? Well I suppose I will have to forgive you for it but I don't like to [sic] much but you know folks have to do a great many things in this world that they don't like to do.

We are all in reasonable health at this with the eception [sic] of colds. I believe the whole family has got a cold and cough excep [sic] my self but you know I am all ways well. If you could hear them all begin cough at once you would think they all had the whooping cough for certain. Well you wanted to know how that flower was getting that I swallowed last spring well don't I haint [sic] heard a single thing from it since I swallowed it I guess it didn't do any good. I expect I will have to have to swallow another one before it takes any effect. I guess the one you swallowed done some good, didn't it? Ma sends her kindest regards to you. And says she would like to see you and the boy very much. She wants you to come up and see us as soon you can. Aunt Cynthia says she the boys [sic] name is very frilly but says she thinks it would sound a great deal prettier if you would call it Cynthia Philander.

By the way you say you wonder whether Thomas Hagermin is going to College here this winter or not. I am very sorry that I cannot inform you on that very Important subject but I expect the brave fellow has gone to war or if he ain't [sic] he ought to go. Now I am going to tell you something real funny so you must prepare to laugh; You [illegible] Bennet that lives here, well dont [sic]you think about that he got my letter out of the office that you sent me, and took it up Home with him, thinking it was for his wife I suppose and they broke it open and read it. Now wasnt [sic] that too bad and after awhile here he come toteing [sic] the letter along looking as if he was half ashamed of himself. he knocked at the door and handed the letter to Ma saying heres [sic] a letter for your darter [sic] from Mrs. Leek. I took it out of the office and my wife thought it was for her untill [sic] she had read it. Now was'nt [sic] that a likely story as if his wifes [sic] name was Davis now. Grandma sends her best respects to you all, and says she would

like to see you all especially the boy, but I would rather see Jimmie. I do want him so bad. bless his black eyes.

We have had a great deal of sickness in our family, this fall William has been sick all fall, and he is not well yet, and Ma has had another spell of Erysifelas [sic] this fall like she had last winter [crossed out] summer. We have had a beautiful fall and winter hardly any cold weather as yet, though it has rained for the two last nights which has rendered the streets quite sloppy. Well I believe I nothing of importance to write you. so I will wind this thing up thing [crossed out] that is if I can think of any thing to wind it up with. it is getting dark so I must get my specks or I will runn [sic] ashore.

Franklin is a City did you know it? oh yes I must tell you of a little circumstance which took place last Friday not far from this City. A young Lady shot her self with a rifle. the cause of her so doing as I understand them was this: She was engaged to be married to her cousin and her parents saw fit to object and the fellow to mend the matter came off [crossed out] off to town and got drunk and she [illegible] the climax took her own life. Was'n't [sic] they, smart, folks?

Mrs. [illegible] sends her love to you and wants you to come up and show your fine boy, I tell what Mrs. [illegible] is fine woman certain. we could not hardly get along [illegible] n this end of town if it wasnt [sic]for her and Mrs. West well this is rather a cold day some little snow on the ground and as it is rather slick I will just slide to a close by asking you to write soon. yours with much respect Mollie F Davis as you say Frannie Tom H. You know the rest.

Now I am going to tell you what Mrs. West says. she says[crossed out] says you her compliments and tell you she want to see you and your [crossed out] ugly ugly boy for she says she knows its [sic] ugly if it looks like its dad but I don't believe her do you. Well I know you cant [sic] read this scribbling so I will stop it and I expect you are tired trying to find out what I mean by all this gab.

Please excuse this badly written letter and I will try to do better next time.

Yours in haste Mollie F Davis

[image of lady holding scales and cross on front of an envelope: writing on envelope says Mr. W. W. Leek Elizabethtown [illegible] [illegible]]

[image-back of an envelope] [image-paper with a flag in left hand corner] [written on back Miss M Leek Elizabethtown [illegible]