

can hold the trade there  
is one fellow working  
hard to get in thy place he  
was here to day and wanted  
to buy a chance in thy shop.  
he said he was coming here  
some where any how if he  
couldn't get in thy shop he  
would get another stand here  
some where but they said  
if we would <sup>get</sup> a first class  
barber in here they would  
patronize thy shop an account  
of Mr. Fowler so you see there  
is quite an excitement in  
regard to it, Wal as paper  
surface is getting small I shall be  
under obligation to bring thy  
Epistle to a close desiring to hear  
from you in return my respects to  
all the boys & myself So here goes for your  
to a close yours truly from  
O. A. Hart

Pecatonica Sept 15<sup>th</sup> 1880  
Brother E. M. Dick  
I thy Monday  
morning take up the gold pen  
with the wooden stem sit here  
among men to try and pens  
a few lines for a kin to let  
you know that my mind is  
on you thy fine morning  
as a warning that I have not  
forgotten you so that I may have  
a letter due me from you so that  
I may hear from you and the  
rest of the people and that way  
where they make hay that will  
pay some day, wal E. M. to day  
finds me injoying pretty tolerable  
good health for an old chap like  
me. and it is the sincere desire  
of my heart that thy epistle  
may find you injoying the

Same grand old Blessing  
for that is the main staff of  
thy Broad land of human  
flesh wal. E. m I got through  
here all right after awhile but  
I thought i was a long while  
getting here I had to lay over so  
much all along <sup>went</sup> I guess i wot give  
you the details of my exploits  
they morning you can ask W.  
L. Fowler and he can give you  
a sketch of it. wal (Sah) I like  
it here verry well so far the  
people seames to be very pleident  
here that is so far as I have  
got aquainted with them there  
is some very good looking men  
here but (oh) dear such humbly  
women all most makes my  
face acho to look at some of them  
some of them dosent look like  
as if they had any business  
on top of the ground for

They look to me as if they  
would do most any thing  
that come in their minds (oh)  
E. M. Dick there was A big weding  
last week over cross the way from  
Alice I tell you the front gate  
looked perfectly Splendid now  
dont you forget it; it was all lit  
up, splendidly with those  
Egyptian lanterns oh dident  
it look nice though (ha) the  
Marriage ceremony was out  
on the Piazah oh it was butifull  
to look at There was some two or  
three hundred Guests in attendance  
and whether you believe it or not  
I had a taste of the weding cake  
dident it last <sup>good</sup> though (ha)  
This is quite a lively place  
here there is quite an amount  
of busines done here in this  
place it is a Splendid place  
for a barber shop if one shop