

" " Lamp. Ont. Big. (Pina Missouri)
Dec 23rd 1842

Well Abba }

I now seat my self for the
purpose of writing you a few lines in answer
to your kind note of the 11th which came
safe to hand a days or ~~two~~ ^{and} ago, which found
me enjoying my self first rate only that I
have been some lonesome since Billy and Huel
have been gone but I cant say that I would like
to be with them as you say that you have
got the Small Pox there in Town.

Well that is awful if all of those
have it that have been exposed and it
will be apt to send quite a ~~number~~ number
to there last resting place but it is so and
it cant be otherwise. but I hope that Billy
nor Huel will not get it and bring it back
here with them for it would not go very well
here where there is so many together.

Well what are you going to have for Christ-
=mas and New Years a big Dance though I
Suppose some where. I am thinking that we will
have a rather dull time as usual this year. but
we have got only one year more to stay with
uncle Sam. one year from to day our time
will be out and then we will be our own
muggers again. but then I dont mean to say
that I am Sick of Soldiering for I think all is
for the best because if we had not come
when we did we might have went in some
Regiment where we would not fared quite
as well as we have here or if we had been
there now we would have been Drafted and that
must be hard on a fellow to be Drafted when
he dont want to go. but that is a big thing
on Solay and I was glad when I heard that
he was Drafted for he might Enlisted great
booby like him Staying round home and
doing nothing. but I am sorry that John Dick
is Drafted for he has shown his good will once
by Enlisting and Staying as long as he could
or untill he was Discharged honorably.

Well I dont think that I have much more
to write this time only. although the days
have not arrived yet but they or one of them
will ere this reaches you. I will wish you
all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New
Years. and now I will close with my best
wishes to you all

Very Resp.
J. S. Skeasuck

To Miss Alta L. Fowler,

Brotherston, Calumet, County
Wisconsin