

[Letter from Nellie Knight to her brother Arno Knight; Arno is working in Colorado; his father Rufus has had an accident at home]

Lincolnville Dec 5th 1880

Dear Brother;

Received a letter from you yesterday and as I have wrote you about father I will answer immediately as you will be anxious to hear from him. Well yesterday we thought he seemed to fail but to day he seem quite bright and like himself again The Dr. felt pretty bad about him last night he was afraid mortification would set in but his leg looks nicely to day and the Dr. feels better about it but lying wholly on his back makes it very bad for his other complaints. He says if he can get father up (but he is rather doubtful of it) again it will be a feather in his cap. He seems to be weaker of course being taken so sudden to his bed where he has been so smart all summer seems awful hard seems though he had suffered enough with that leg and otherwise but we have all got just so much to pass through wether good or bad. The Dr. says we might all be prepared that mortification might set in his leg any time he has not much hopes of him but O I hope my poor father up wish that you might see him again something in this family all the time. We are all not much better than crazy. Poor Ave is very miserable he had quite an attack of rheumatiz since he got home we went over to Mr Lambs Thursday forenoon and was not able to get home until to day (Sunday) Then Mr Lamb brought him he is very feeble looks pretty bad and it is mostly in his stomach and round his heart he was very very lucky to get home alive I think it was mostly excitement that kept him up coming home

Frank Miller and Jimmie Thomas are coming home as soon as Frank is able. Diphtheria is raging here fearfully Gertie Noyes died quite suddenly she had it the worst from she went to school Monday and Friday night dead and buried, no funeral seems so sad. Nancie Thomas dead funeral last Wednesday. Joel Lambs children all sick with scarlet fever. Clair Hodges and Hattie Fuller have had the diphtheria they was just as sick as they could be and live it is very very sickly everybody most seems to be having hard time bad luck or sickness round here of late Frank Rankins is par also Will McKinney Bill & family all well at present Billy is kinder [??] here just now and Allie does most of the chores. He has had a very good season for him this summer and fall and is in good spirits Sylvanus is not very tough. They are frightened about to death for fear Aubrey will get the Diphtheria so is every one else

Warren Robinson says tell you where I saw him last (which was here to day) and give my kindest regards to him Callie is published she intended to get married nearly two months ago but has postponed it a while Johnny is smart as ever! John Drake still lingers also Emma Lunt.

The Dr has just come to dress fathers leg I will write what he says he comes every morning and night and dresses it. Oh! Let us pray for him [??] old paper [?]

We have to have watchers every night to help lift him or rather bolster him up. I have been to school one week and guess that will wind up my schooling this term We changed books I like the new ones first rate They talk of cleaning the school on account of diphtheria we all have all and really more than we can do.

Emma is at home guess it is all over with her and Frank he is to Maryland now.

Oh! When I write to you again I wish I could see you I hope it will be better news than this contains. Father says he would like so much to see you again up here take care of yourself and God bless you

Father seems to be about the same Oh! I do hope he will get better. He says to tell you his prospects are pretty slim and that he wants you to take care of yourself and that he would like to see you. Joel Mahoney is to set-up with father to night says give his respects to you

P.S. Fan will write soon Regards from Em Fan Bill & Marnee [?]

Well Arno you may expect postals after you get this will let you know how father is. Be a good boy and take care of your dear self. Your Affectionate (sic) Nellie.