

*[Letter from Llewellyn Drinkwater to Arno Knight; Arno is working in Colorado;
Llewellyn is Olive Drinkwater's brother]*

Maysville

Dec 18th 1881

Dear friend Arno;

I received your epistle a few days ago. I did not know whether to answer it or not as you did not express a wish to hear from me again but I will venture this time.

I am well aware that you misunderstood the meaning of my last letter.

Among all the people of your native town, or all you knew in Maine, I do not believe that there is one who exults over your misfortune. There are those who are ready to sneer at every one except their own. If I wrote you any thing that made you think your former friends had gone back on you because of your misfortunes I am sorry. For that is not the case. You have as many friends as any one that ever left Lincolnville I'll venture to say. You have not lost one friend because of your bad luck. If there are those who consider your misfortune a crime I have not fell in with them.

As for your coming home I should like to see you very much and I know of more who would not like to see you. As for your poverty there are lots that are poorer than you that are rich enough to get married. We are all poor enough as for that. My Sister was married last Thursday Night. They are to start for their western home soon. She has married a good man I think

It would not be very strange if I wandered out to Min. before long. If my Farthers family keep on there will be one in every quarter.

Lillian goes away to morrow. She is to be overseer in the shop this winter. Olive would like to go with her but she will stay with me I guess

I am going to school just now. I can not do anything else as the mud is deep enough to swamp a fellow. Have not had a bit of sleighing yet. The lodge exists yet. There were four names proposed last Sat. night among them Adella Wadsworth We are to have a clam chowder next Sat. night. Will not write more. Write again if you are so inclined Yours truly

L.W. Drinkwater