

[Letter from Rufus Knight to his son Arno Knight who is working in Colorado]

Lincolnvile January 30th 1880

My dear and absent Son I have been very anxious to hear from you this long time should have written but I didn't know certain where you was until Avans received your letter this week we have been worrying about you this some time I and your mother thought you was sick could not get it out of our minds we was relieved when we heard from you but felt dreadful bad to think you had to lay bye and suffer so much and none of your folks to comfort you or do anything for you you must have felt gloomy and suffered a good deal in your mind. We are all as well as usual except Winnie she has been quite sick this week but is better now. This has been a very mild winter so far fine sleiding

Delania Knight to her son Arno W.

Much beloved son as your Father has been written to you I thought that I would try and write a few lines to let you know that I had not for gotten you I often think of you and wish that it was in my power to help you but you know that it is now in power to do much I know that you have a great desire for wealth now my Son rest assured if God has given you this desire he will answer it and I have faith to believe that he will you always thought there was something for you in the western country, I hope that ore locks will bee your gain. But you know not how much we miss you at home. Nellie & Fannie have gon to Franklin. I suspect that they will write to you soon and you must write to them. Emma has been over with Winnie a day or so she is better today do not forget to write to Emma. She will think she is not thought on at all poor girl. I wish you and Avans could take it into your heads to bye me out we should much rather sacrifice to you than stranger if you could think it would be better for you I want you all to do whatever you think will be the best you for all of us, we know we cannot stay here long, and we don't want so much care and anxiety as we have now. Your Mother works very hard and I do what I am able all the time but can't do any hard work to earn any thing, but try to take care as well as I can

If you think it will be better for you to stay there and have avans come out there so decide any how you know that I do not write much so you must excuse me Arno I do not think that you would see your Father and Mother suffer if you had where with to help them I will close by telling you good night.