[Letter from Albert Knight (1854-1873) to his sister Olive Drinkwater; Albert is living in California]

April 7 1873

Dear Sister Olive

I take my pen in hand to inform you whair I am and what I am doing I am living with mell [?] am doing well my helth is good and I hope this will find you injoying the same blessing winter is a bout over with you and I should think you would be glad of it I expect it has been very cold back their I wish you could all live out hear in this beautifull Country it would cost me an effort to come back thair to live I tell you when did you hear from Alice last I hope that she is well it is so soakly up their Olive I wish you would send me one of Oharler [?] pastries Moses said he left some of them thair and forgot to bring any of them back with him send as good a one as thair is do not forget it I rote to you once before and you never answered it I dont know as you will take any notise of this but never the less I want to do my duty Olive you must not work to hard take good cair of your helth or a few years will make great change well I think I shall come home in a bout four years to make a short visit but California is my home this is whair I want to be buried but we no not what will happen in a few years no on can tell John Tiano was here yesterday he is working about 17 miles from hear, we had a wedden hear yesterday into the bargen how does Charley Kendall get a long. has he got marryed yet or is he like to or not is Mrs. Dyer and Mary back in Belfast again if so give my respect to them to you hear from Kate very often. I hear from her quite frequently

Olive I have not found my girl yet that Soots me want you to pick one out for me and I will come home and marry her one of these days tell her that I am going to bring home lots of gold. I have collected quite a lot of twenty dolar gold pieces all ready you bet

Well I can think of nothing more to rite read what of this nonsence you can and guess at the rest rite as soon as you get this and now good By from your Brother Albert F. Drinkwater