

there is no lumbering here but farming is excellent  
for those that have farms land is very dear here  
it is all taken up will have to go further  
west to get Government land this is an excellent  
farming country the farmers are all rich can  
raise as much grain as they have a mind to  
if I had one good large farm here I would  
not give it for all the land on the ~~Brook~~  
to farm on there is a plenty of every thing you  
can wish for there is beautiful Prairies here  
both level and rolling and wood land to  
make good water and a good climate two  
men will raise more produce ~~from~~ from a farm  
here than eight can there this is quite a small  
town here but they have it incorporated into  
a City there is a Railroad to Melwanee  
and every where else - it would surprise  
you to see the quantity of Wheat and pork  
brought into this place every day and sold  
by the farmers it is estimated by the City  
Authorities that there is eighty thousand  
dollars paid out to the farmers right around  
this small place every week some estimate  
at twenty thousand per ~~day~~ day it looks  
a good deal like the farmers around Fort  
Fairfield Minnesota is as good for farming  
as this and there is Government land to get  
there and I shall have some they don't ask

farmers to take trade for produce it is all money  
there is always a good money market for any thing  
wheat sells for one dollar and one dollar and twenty  
five cents per bushel and three dollars and  
three and a half per hundred wheat is higher  
than common - the people here are very smart  
intelligent folks and good looking and  
well educated I wish you would write me  
all the news what you are doing and  
what every body else is doing how lumber  
is what Mr. Cluskey is doing how buckwheat  
pancakes hold out - Dear Brother  
I should like to see you very much and  
"Little Mary and Cary" and Elizabeth  
you must give my love to them all for  
me I feel lonesome at times but drive away  
all gloomy thoughts as soon as I can - I hope  
I will see you all again and find you  
enjoying both health and prosperity I don't  
feel any concerned about myself but sorrow  
some trouble about those that is dear to me  
at home but as long as they are well and don't  
want I will feel contented you must write to  
me soon - and I will do the same by you I  
forgot to tell you that I am fortunate enough  
to be perfectly temperate this the truth from  
your affectionate brother M. A. Johnston

Feb 11, 1855

Mr. Dickinsons folks are well and send their  
best respects to you and all the family says  
for you to put them Frenchmen through this  
winter and then dig out and leave them to their own  
salvation  
H. B. Fairfield March 11th/55-

Dear Sister,  
We took the liberty to open this letter because  
Warren said in our letter he had written a letter to Mr. Richards  
and one to you and wished us to take them from the office to  
send you, but as yours was not in the office, we opened this  
to see if it was in this one or whether it was lost. but if it  
comes we will send yours directly to you. We are all well.  
I think by the way Warren writes to me that he will be here in June  
with Elijah, and will go back with him. he will, never  
come to stay, give my love to the girls and your  
too. I am going up to see you next time Mr. Camps goes  
up which will be about four or five weeks. Mary forgot  
to give you the Lamb's cotton, but Agnes will keep some  
for you

Your affectionate brother  
Maynard  
J. C. Richards  
C. C. Egger  
C. C. Egger  
M. E. Egger

M. E. Egger  
Feb 11th 1855

Sunesville Rock County Wisconsin  
Feb 11th 1855-

Dear Brother

I suppose you have -  
almost given up the idea of me writing to you  
but you must excuse me I thought I would  
get better acquainted with the country before  
I wrote and can give but a poor description now  
as I am a poor hand for such business I will  
tell you first how long we was coming ~~and~~ and  
the route we took. Elijah Dickinson and I went  
by the way of St. Johns as you are aware I suppose  
we went from Portland to Montreal thence  
up the lakes through upper Canada through  
Vermont Michigan and Illinois and now in  
Wisconsin and would be in Minnesota if it was not  
for Mr. Dickinsons folks they did not want me  
to leave them they got run ashore for money and  
was obliged to stop but I shall go to Minnesota in  
the Spring if I donot get a good situation in an  
Express Office at Milwaukee I Shepard -  
Dickinson is there in the same office and think  
there will be a chance for Elijah an I. soon  
the wages is from forty to fifty dollars per month  
we was three weeks getting here laid still  
eight days made it very expensive - this is  
no place to work out at common labour

Feb 11, 1855