

Prairie city Iowa Aug^{11th} /65

Respected daughter I send my best wishes to you. Granddaughter two kisses for you, and hope Will has come back & we hear all the infantry are discharged. The weather and roads were so bad were two weeks on the way but have arrived at last. Where ever house is full so we must build our own. Father has gone for lumber to Pella today 25 miles away.

He has bought 49 acres of good prairie land paid for it and got the deed, land has raised so that none good can be got for less than six \$ an acre plenty of it for that.

Laid by three days ^{on the way} with very nice folks found many nice people along the road, some copperheads one asked to shoot an abolitionist but he is crossing the plains, Road on two sides of our farm not a bush on it, Write soon no more this time from Mother.

Loved Sister Lida with pleasure
I would proceed to inform you that I
your ^{loving} sister Sarah has arrived
safe and sound in Iowa and concluded
to die an old maid since the wagon
upset on the road and broke my bow
and father said that was worth \$
Would also send my best love to Will
and Laura if you wont be too jealous.
and would like to see you all out here
we are all very well pleased with the
prairies which are rapidly settling up
16 new houses almost in sight of one another
my best regards to Ed and wish he
was here to admire the beautiful prairies
but more particularly ^{the} exquisite wooden shoes
Also to bear in mind that solid affair.

Mrs Mc Coy

Not presuming you have
ever bestowed one thought on Mrs. M.
E. Sullivan she would now take
the present opportunity of informing
you that she is in Iowa entertaining

as best she may your fathers family untill they can procure a shelter of their own on their own farm they are anticipating a very nice time when they can once more have a home of their own, the soil is more sandy than their old place but it is nice prairie no grubbing to be done & can set their trees and have them where they want them no hills like their old ones all ready for the plough but they will tell you all about that.

Husband and I are waiting the carpenters time to put up our house, we have most of the lumber hauled, 80 acres ^{of land} 10 of it broke, good team, one cow, seven hogs, 16 pigs good well and pump, but still we are alone to enjoy it all, we had as good a boy as ever need be, but God took him from all sin sorrow and pain, to where is fullness of joy and pleasure unspeakable, so that we feel very lonely, but still trust all to him who doeth all things well, with best wishes to all I close Mrs. Sullivan

Letter to Mrs.

Ely & McCarty

from the north

& of ~~some~~ many

about 1000 x

one

Billings

a neighbor

(Alice Brewin)