

Grivoli, Lewis, Co, Illinois
May the 7th, 1865
Dear Son

Lembree

this present opportunity to drop you a
few lines in answer to your very kind
and welcome letter which came to hand
yesterday was a week dated the 4th of
April and Mail the 17th mail
at New Orleans I was glad to learn
that was in good health and it was
was enjoy in the same except Mother
but her health is improved she is better
now than she has been for some time
we are in hopes she will recover her
former health now William I am
very sorry you have not received any letters
from us yet I suppose it has caused
you a great deal of uneasiness Eliza has
wrote all most every week since you
have been gone this is the third or fourth
letter that I have wrote and have
received too we have not for got you

as you spoke of in your last letter but
is endeavor all the time to hear you with
the only means ^{we} had to convey information
I do not much wonder that you have
not got any letters as you have been
gone all the time from our the post-
masters did not know where to forward
the letters to to reach you but I suppose
before this time you have found the
way that you was assigned to I shall
direct this letter to the same

Well William Eliza and Laura is well
we was down there a week ago Friday
Eliza appeared to be in pretty good spirits
she thought there was a great probability
that you might return back again in the
fore a great while Mr Beven and family
has moved to Iowa Sarah went with
them, you wished one to attend to getting
over your things that you left up yonder
I have brought every thing over except
the cobard I got to sacks of wheat
flour and took down to Eliza

we have hauled her and Mary our
two loads of wood since you went away
I also got ^{her} up a load of coal week
before last - that will last her some
time I have settled up all the bills
that you left in my hands to attend
to I settled up that note at Gregory's -
for 100 and 57 dolls and a half and twenty
two dolls that ~~went that money~~ left
to ~~and~~ that went - it reads that
was left at Gregory's I let the Hutchins
have 100 dolls of your money at ten per
cent interest also to R. Montgomery
I have let ^{200 dolls for 100} Eliza have 30 dolls I
that was all the money that was in
my hands Eliza can draw what is
laid at any time she stands in need
of it; the last account we heard of Merrill
he was on his way to Savannah. We have
had letters from Genl Cobb dated the
1st of April he was then at Goldsboro ^{North} ~~Car~~
Thomas McCoy is sent to his regiment
March the 2^d he was with in twelve

hours sail of Wilmington ^{supra} before
this time he has reached his regiment—
Well William I suppose it is necessary
to mention the change which has taken
place in military matters and the
powerful victory which has been
gained ^{and} the assassination of our
much beloved president— I suppose
you have had a full account of the
whole the head leaders of rebellion
will have to pay for it— a reward for
Jeff Davis, and a good many of the
head leaders ^{now} ^{just} and General Wilson
with his Cavalry is in close pursuit
of him there will not be much chance
of his escape well in conclusion:

I will say this has been a splendid
spring so far farmers is getting along
with the there even planted well a great many
is done planted I have planted the big
of mine I expect to finish as early as
Tuesday John Maich will also finish
Tuesday or Wednesday we remain as ever
your true father and mother until death
to William McCay write soon