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Letter to Brother and Sister from Edward Ground

Edward Ground

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Bloomington July 12th 1857

Dear brother and sister,

It is with pleasure that I write you this evening to express my affection to you all well at home and the weather is given to us last week. I was in good health, the health of the country is good at this time. As far as I can we are in the need of some wheat. The harvest at this time is good, oats harvest is pretty good, none than is some late oats yet. But our crop is principally plowed and we are not far from the harvest. Owing to the drought in the lower part of the season and produce will be high. For the next year, what is now 15c per bushel oats is 50c.

Bread bobs one foot Bacon is 30c per pound. Cattle and horses are as high as common, and the lumber is up. I have nothing of importance to write at this time. Politics don't
health and prosperity—in relative
to your question about that timber
land I bought of the old man. I believe
I shall not answer at present but
if the person requesting the information
has confidence enough in me to believe
that I can tell the truth and will
address me in his own name he shall
have full satisfaction if I am able
to give. I am not afraid of a stand
been any and I purpose trying to give an
account for that. I am acting but,
would like to know who. I have given
laws to suspect my honesty and
on which side of the Rocky Mountain
the live of such a person will make
them selves know. I will use every
possible means to satisfy them—
I must now close. Glad as I have
no more news to write write
as often as you can and tell
Bloomington July the 12th 1857

Dear brother and sister

It is with pleasure that I seat myself this evening to inform you that we are all well at present and the the Connexion as far as I noe Mother was with us last week she was in good helth the helth of the country is good at this time as far as I noe we are in the midst of ower wheat harvest at this time oats harvest is principally ovr thare is some late oats yet to but owr oat crop is principally volunteer and consequently forwarder than usual. owr crop janerly [generally] is light this year owing to the drouth in the four part of the seson and produce will be high for th next yeare wheat is now worth $1.50 per bushel oats 50 cts Beef 6 cts on foot Bacon 15 cts per pound cattle and horses are full as high as comon and the tendency is upwards I have nothing of importance to write at this time politics dont run very high all tho we are about [to] form a state constitution thare is a good deal said on the subject of slavery but thare is not much excitement yet we will take the voat on the of slavery this fall I dont think the pro slavry men will stand any [shoe] heare at least I hope not religious matters is at a stand heare prety mutch your sister Margaret and one other made a confesion last Sundy and was Immersed the univercity building at Monmouth is to be erected this Summer and fall the size and dimentions I cant give for I have not learnd them I had the pleasure of reading a letter written by you to Ira which was a gratify cation to mee to hear that you was all enjoying good health and prosperity in relation to your question about that timber land I bought of the old man I believe I shall not answer at present but if the person requesting the information has confidence anough in mee to believe that I can tell the truth and will address mee in his one name he shall have full satisfaction if I am able to givit I am not afraid nor a shamed to giv an acount for that transaction but I would like to know who I had given caus to suspect my honesty and on which side of the Rocky Mountains tha live if sutch person will make themselves knone I will use evry posable means to satisfy them I must now con clud as I have no more news to write write as often as you can and tell all the rest to write as often as the can find time yours in affection till death
E. Ground