

Valley School. House Dec 9th 1892

Dear Cousin Lizzie

Your epistle of the 27th inst. came to hand on the 5th of this month. It was handed to me in the evening after supper at the place I board. I can tell you I was a happy boy when it was placed into my hands. I immediately procured a candle and went into the side room and read your letter with the most pleasing gratification. I have not been in very good health for the last week. I suppose owing to the many changes of the weather for the last few weeks. I thought at one time I would have to close the school for a few days. I was under the impression that I would get a fever. I was very chilly accompanied by night sweats. But have now recovered my former health. I hope you enjoy good health and all the happiness this world can afford. At all events this is my wish for you. I hope it will meet your approbation. You said in your letter

you had a great dinner on Thanksgiving-
day I suppose you had by all accounts. You
said you had six turkeys. The vicinity of
Wilmington must be a great place for turkeys.
It would have been a dinner for me, or I
suppose it would have been a dinner almost for
anyone, where there is such a variety. A share
of the turkeys would have been ^{my} choice. I
suppose you partook a share of each. I scrib-
bled this since the school is dismissed. The sun
has now sunk below the horizon, so you
must excuse me. I will miss tea if I write
any longer. So I'll bid you good night.

Saturday morning 10th inst. I just
came into the school-house, a few min-
utes ago. I ~~near~~ the fire, the stove is not
warm yet, but will be warm in a short
time by the way it burns, I have very
good wood dry hickory, it does not take
me a long time to make a warm stove.
I have an opportunity of sending this scrib-
ble to Reading on Monday, so I want
to finish it during the day, so I made an
early commencement. This evening I
intend going to a Methodist meeting ab-
out three miles from this place. You

may know that I am anxious to go
to meeting or I would not walk three miles.
Mr. Eshleman is going along the man I bo-
ard with I believe one of the ministers
will preach that preach on the Fairville
circuit, which will be Hummel or Ely.
Tomorrow (Sunday) there will be meeting ab-
out one mile from this place, by a set called
the new menonites. I am told their doctrine is
similar to the Methodists. I intend going when
I will learn their doctrine or part of it. I have
an invitation to a dinner tomorrow near where
the meeting is to be. I think I shall except
of the invitation. I am pleased to hear
that there is such a religious spirit prevail-
ling amongst you. There has been quite
a number, converted, of your scholars, by what
you say, and suppose the greater part belong
to church. Altho' not a professor of religion
myself. I always like ^{to} an advancement made
in it, as well as an extension or propagation.
This is your ^{day} of recreation I suppose as you
have no school on Saturdays. This is a beaut-
iful day to take a walk. I suppose you are all
out walking. You said I must be careful
or I might get homesick if I do it.

will be in future. I have not had ^{it} as yet
unless I lead it without my knowledge ^{but}
I suppose that seldom occurs. Yet I must
say that the ties of home are not easily for-
gotten if we have any affections whatever to-
wards Father, mother, Brother, Sister &c. Well
you have no doubt experienced as well as
I. The exhibition you wrote of I think
was very interesting especially. Chis healing the
sick. I should like to have been an eye wit-
ness with you. You also wrote about the
girl that had curls the one that was in the
baler the evening I was there I remember
her very well. I thought she looked rather
or mischievous at the time she was hunting
for the card or only pretending. This week Sam-
uel Weaver and Harrison Haller paid me a
short visit about a half an hour they were in the
School-house. You may know I was glad to see
them. They did not any special news. I believe
nothing worthy of notice has transpired since
I left home, at least they did not tell me any.
They were the first ones I ^{had} seen or heard of from
our neighbourhood since I am here. I wrote
to Sisters Margaret and Anna some two weeks
ago but have not had an answer yet. You said
the Professor announced there would be no vac-
ation until the year was up and that there
was a general sighing at the time he announced
it. I suppose you were among the number too I do not
think it hard if you did. If the sighs did not turn
into groans as the Professor said. But I judge not.
You said you will not go home at Christmas. But
intend going to the City. Isaac does not go home but
will be at home. I think you might as well come home. I think
I think I will go home being I have not very far from your cousin
I suppose they can raise a carter road along the hill. James Overholser

Write as soon as you receive this scribble as you will you would write it I would

had no time to look over them I want you to correct or correct