

# Letters

*Written by*

**Robert Miller**

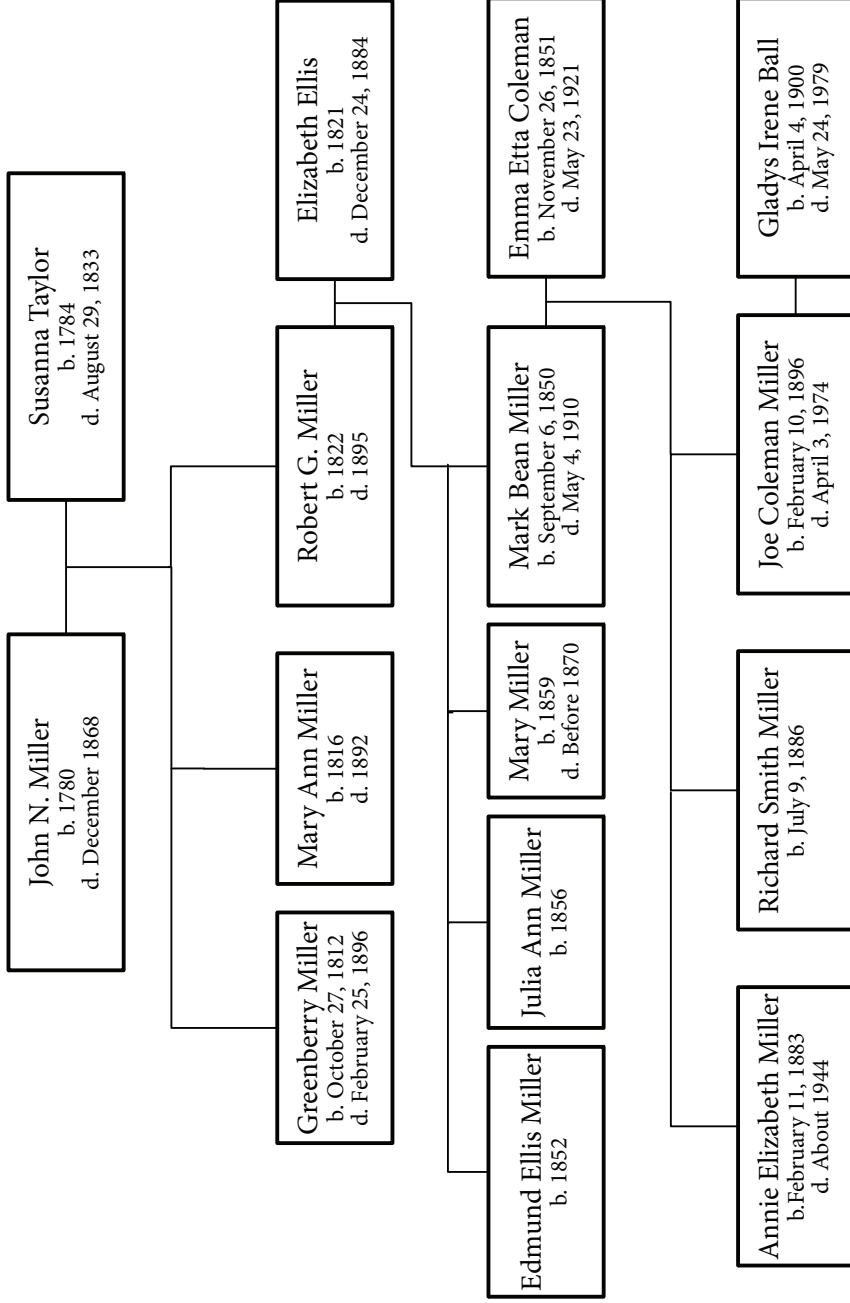
*and*

**Mark Bean Miller**

May 20th, 1885

*to*

February 22nd, 1887



# Letters

*Written by*

Robert Miller

*and*

Mark Bean Miller

May 20th, 1885

*to*

February 22nd, 1887

*Compiled by:*

Barbara Miller Reeves  
Marolyn Miller Sayre-Smith  
Chris Sayre-Smith

*Salem, Oregon, 2013*



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*Mark Bean Miller*



*Emma Etta (Coleman) Miller*

# Preface

These letters were written in the late 1880s and have been passed through the hands of Robert Miller's descendants. At some time they were acquired by Joe Coleman Miller,\* the youngest child of Mark Bean Miller. Joe's nephew Neil Miller and his wife Lucy obtained the letters from Joe's widow, Gladys Miller. She gave them the letters because of Neil and Lucy's shared interest in family history. Thus begins the known part of the letters journey. Quoting from Lucy Miller's notes:

*"In November 1977, on a trip to Johnson City Tennessee, a visit was made to the home of Mrs. Joe Coleman Miller (Gladys Ball Miller). Mrs. Miller was a charming, stately lady with a remarkable memory for names, places and events pertaining to the Miller and related families. In our discussion, mention was made of a collection of letters, at that time in the possession of Mrs. Miller. These letters were written in the mid-1880s by Robert Miller to his son, Mark Bean Miller. Mrs. Miller graciously consented to share with me the contents of the letters for use in my genealogical study. Through the persistent effort of Mrs. James B. Arwood (Dixie Miller), great granddaughter of Robert Miller, excellent copies were made of the letter collection.*

*The letters proved to be invaluable in my research. They have furnished an abundance of information about the social, political, religious and occupational life-style of this family. They also point out the fact that the education of Robert Miller was in no way neglected. He had a wide variety of words and used them with fluency to express his grief and happiness, to describe a comical story or to vent his anger and frustrations. He appears to have had little patience with irresponsible, careless individuals."*

\* Joe was born after these letters were written.

Lucy Miller gave the letters to Helen Miller Davidson before Lucy's death in 1995. They remained in Helen's possession until April 2011 when Helen gave them to her sisters Marolyn Miller Sayre-Smith and Barbara Miller Reeves with instructions to take appropriate measures to preserve them.

Robert Miller was a grandson of Capt. Christopher Taylor, a Tennessee pioneer and hero of the Revolutionary War Battle of King's Mountain. At the time he wrote these letters, Robert was recently widowed from Mark's mother, Elizabeth Ellis. Elizabeth was a great granddaughter of William Bean and Lydia Russell, important Eastern Tennessee pioneers. William and his sons were also veterans of the Battle of King's Mountain.

Robert Miller, a master carpenter, was away from home working as a construction superintendent at a mental hospital in Knoxville. He wrote his son Mark of his loneliness and in one letter told of his intention to remarry. He married Catherine Maloney, a widow, a few days later on January 3, 1886.

Mark Bean Miller, a carpenter like his father, was also working away from home when he wrote his wife Emma.

These letters are primarily of interest to Robert's descendants, but they are also a bit of Eastern Tennessee history. To assure their proper preservation and future access, we have deposited the originals with the Archives of Appalachia at Eastern Tennessee State University in Johnson City.



*Dedicated to the Memory of:*

Joe and Gladys Miller

Lucy Miller

Helen Miller Davidson



# Names Appearing in Letters

## **Annie**

Robert Miller's daughter

## **Berry, Dr.**

Probably Green Berry (or Greenberry) Miller, brother to Robert

## **Bessie, "Little Bessie"**

Elizabeth Miller Hampton Dickson, granddaughter of Robert

## **Boring, J. M.**

Business acquaintance

## **Bowman, Adam**

Attorney, grandson of Joseph Bowman and Mary Hoss. Friend and distant relative of Robert

## **Boyd, Capt. John I. R.**

Capt. of the 4th Tennessee Infantry in the Civil War. Nephew of Robert, husband of Rhoda Ellis Boyd.

## **Boyd, E. W.**

Carpenter, may be "Toad" Boyd

## **Boyd, Toad**

A friend and carpenter who lived in Elizabethton, Tennessee. He worked for Robert on the construction of Lyon's View Hospital, Knoxville, Tennessee

## **Campbell, Dr.**

Supervisor of Medical Construction at Lyon's View Hospital, Knoxville, Tennessee

## **Carr, H. H.**

Mr. Patty's attorney

**Clark, Billie**

Neighbor and close friend of Robert

**Coleman, Emma E.**

Wife of Mark B. Miller

**Coleman, Sam**

Brother of Emma Coleman Miller

**Dick**

Richard Smith Miller, son of Mark Bean Miller

**Ed & Annie**

Son-in-law and daughter of Robert

**Faw, "Alf" Alfred**

Hired hand living on Miller farm

**Gourley, Jane**

Young friend of Robert. Married Sam McNabb

**Griffen, Wm.**

Carpenter

**Hale, "Widdow"**

Relationship unknown

**Hall, Alex**

Business acquaintance

**Hampton, E. W.**

Son-in-law of Robert, husband of Annie

**Hogan, Martin**

Carpenter

**Hughes, "Ab" Albert**

Witness

**Hunt, Samuel H.**

Neighbor from adjoining farm, a distant relative

**Johnsons**

Neighbors and friends

**Kid, Leo**

Robert's wife's tenant

**Kirkpatrick, Wm. Morrison**

Attorney, partner of Bob Smith

**Knically**

Business acquaintance Robert worked for and admired

**McBerry, Hugh**

Carpenter

**McNabb, Mark**

Business acquaintance

**McNabb, Sam**

Young friend of Robert, married Jane Gourley

**Maloney**

Probably a brother of Catherine Maloney Miller

**Maloney, Lena**

Stepdaughter of Robert

**Manuel**

Worked on Robert's farm

**Martin, Mr.**

Stair builder

**Miller, "Kate" Catherine**

Catherine Maloney, second wife of Robert Miller

**Miller, Maud**

Daughter of Robert Miller and Catherine Maloney Miller

**Miller, “Annie” Elizabeth**

Daughter of Robert Miller

**Miller, Mark B.**

Son of Robert, husband of Emma E. Coleman Miller

**Miller, Richard Smith**

Son of Mark Bean Miller

**Morrison, Wm.**

Witness in Patty Dam Mill case

**Oldis, Mr.**

Employed Robert

**Patty, Mr.**

Unknown, mentioned in passing

**Smith, Bill**

Brother-in-law to Robert, husband of Rosanna Ellis Smith

**Smith, Robert A.**

Attorney, nephew of Robert, son of James and Rosannah Ellis Smith

**Smith, Uncle Jim**

Relationship unknown

**Versron, Mrs. Rheas**

Significance unknown

**Wheeler, Dave**

Neighbor

**Williams, “Aunt Bessie”**

Elizabeth Lane Williams, neighbor

A Notation of  
Family Births,  
Marriages and Deaths

Mark B. Miller & Emma E Coleman was married  
May the 17 1881

Infant son of Mark & Emma Miller was born and departed  
this life February the 13, 1882

Annie Elizabeth Miller was born February the 11, 1883

Elizabeth Miller our Mother departed this life  
December the 24 1885

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord

Suffer little children to come unto me & forbid them not  
for of such is the Kingdom of Heaven.

Richard Smith Miller was born July the 9 1886 in  
Newport Tenn



Mark B. Miller + Emma E. Coleman  
was married May the 17 1881

Infant son of Mark & Emma Miller was  
born and departed this life February the 13. 1882

Annie Elizabeth Miller was born February  
the 11. 1883

Elizabeth Miller our Mother  
Departed this life December the 24 1885-

Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord

Suffer little children to come unto me &  
for bid them not for of such is the Kingdom  
of Heaven

Richard Smith Miller was born  
July the 9 1886 in Newport-Tenn



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

**to**

**M.B. Miller**

**May 20th, 1885**

Lyons View Knox County Tenn

May 20th 1885

M. B. Miller

Dear Son

I write you a few [sic]\* lines that you may know how I am getting along. I am in moderate health now. Sometimes have to take medicine for billious attact [sic], as far as I know am getting along with my work all rite [sic]. The mechanics are all at work Brick-layers, Carpenters, Plasters, and Painters. Amongst them all, it keeps me strait [sic] and busy. The Directors had a meeting Monday at Knoxville. I was in a little while, long enough to learn that I am all rite [sic]. A good portion of my work is to measure the amt of work done and make out Estimates.

\* [sic] spelling of word transcribed as written

Lyons View Knox County Tenn  
May 20<sup>th</sup> 1885

Mr. B. Miller Dear Son

I write you a few lines that you may know how I am getting along. I am in moderate health now. Sometimes have to take medicine for bilious attack. As far as I know am getting along with my work all rite. The Mechanics are all at work Brick-layers, Carpenters, Plaster, and Painters. Amongst them all, it keeps me strait and busy. The Directors had a meeting Monday at Knoxville. I <sup>was</sup> in a little while long enough to learn that I am all rite. a good portion of my work is to measure the amt of work done, and make out Estimates.

The Contractor who has the Carpenter work Mr. Oldis of Knoxville has employed Mr Martin of Knoxville to build the Stairway, he is getting out the Stiff up there It is to be two flights high Continued rail & 3 in turned Balusters, all Pine, except Newel and handrail. The whole building is being finished up in Pine through-out and hard oil finish inside. Out-side wood-work Three Coats good paint. I have just lately made out Bill for the Sash weights and what do you think it is? The whole weight of them is 8 1/2 Tons or 17,000 lbs. Wouldent [sic] you like to hang them If it wasent [sic] so fare [sic] from little Bessie, My situation here puts me into the assosiation [sic] of the best businep [sic] men of the place, and so

The Contractor who has the Carpenter work of the Olds of Knoxville has employed Mr Martin of Knoxville to Build the Stairway he is getting out the Stuffs up there it is to be two flights high

Continued-rail 3 in turned Balusters, all Pine, except Newel and handrail. The whole Building is being finished up in Pine through-out and hard Oil finish inside. Out-Side wood-work Three Coats good paint. I have just lately made out Bill for the Dash weights and what do you think it is?

The whole weight of them is  $8\frac{1}{2}$  Tons or 17,000 lbs. Wouldn't you like to hang them at it wagent so far from little Bessie, My situation here puts me into the association of the best business men of the place, and so

I just go quietly along as though I knew how and when get in tite [sic] places get through the best I can Since I have been down here have often thought of what you have told me that I aught to get off where there was Something doing. and take hold of Carpenters work rite [sic], I have drawen [sic] money once, and made a Small remittance [sic] to Mark McNabb to go on my Swaggertz Note which I will have to pay rite [sic] along. My job here to me, is what the war was to Randolph. according to Mrs Rheas Version a God send ! For if no bad luck it will enable us to keep our heads above water let us take encouragement and make every edge Cut in businep [sic] and work. and if posible [sic] escape poverty and extreme want



I just go quietly along as though I  
knew how and when get in  
the places get through the best I can  
Since I have been down here have often  
thought of what you have told me  
that I ought to get off where  
there was something doing, and  
take hold of Carpenters work  
rite, I have drawn money  
once, and made a small  
remittance to make Bro Nabb. to  
go on my Swaggers Note which  
I will have to pay rite along.  
My job here to me, is what the war  
was to Randolph, according to  
Bro Phis Merron a God Send!  
For if no bad luck it will enable  
us to keep our heads above water  
let us take encouragement and  
make every edge cut in business  
and work, and if possible escape  
poverty and extreme want

that stands as a wolf at the door of thousands, in our land and Country now. Let us rely on the motto, Faithful industry has its reward and so be energetic, and faithful, in all our endeavours [sic] both temporal, and Spiritual, I saw Bill Smith when I was up at Knoxville he tells me that Uncle Jim Smith is Dead, was not sick long, this news made me feel if possible [sic] more Sad, as I now stand not only alone as Husband but as Brother in law, I was at Sam Colemans Sunday they are all well and got a good garden. I want you and Emma to take good care of the Cattle and make the most out of them you can. Though I dread the Old Rail Road. Keep the yard clean and hoe the potatoes.  
R. M.

got my instruments all rite [sic]. thanks  
P. O. addrep [sic]  
Bearden  
Knox Co. Tenn.

get my instrument are Mr. <sup>Smith</sup> <sup>Emma</sup>  
P. P. Beards

that stands as a wolf at the  
door of thousands, in our land  
and Country now. Let us rely on the  
motto, Faithful industry has its reward  
and so be energetic, and faithful, in  
all our endeavours both temporal,  
and spiritual, I saw Bill Smith  
when I was up at Knotville he tells  
me that Uncle Jim Smith is  
Dead, was not sick long,  
this news made me feel if possible  
now sad, as I now stand not  
only alone as a husband but as a Brother  
in law, I was at Sam Colemans  
Sunday they are all well, and got a  
good garden, I want you and Emma to  
take good care of the cattle and make  
the most out of them you can, though I  
dread the Old Rail Road, keep the yard  
clean and hoe the potatoes. P. P.



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

to

**M.B. Miller**

**August 21st, 1885**

Lyons View Knox County Tennessee

Aug 21st 1885

M.B. Miller

Dear Son Your letter from Newport recieved [sic] some days ago I mailed a letter to you the same day I got yours and didn't know whether you was at that place or not. What is my part or the amt of it. that I owe with you for fertaliser [sic] I will pay it. What amt did you pay Hunt for things you bought for me when at Alex Halls. I will pay that also. I was a little afraid to risk the fertaliser [sic] the last time we bought. I thought it was an uncertain thing for general Succesfs [sic] as the price of it is entirely too high for the real good that is in it. It will not do for a man to deal in anything that keeps him in a constant straine [sic] Which the fertaliser [sic] has always done us. I am willing to admit that we may have derived some benefit from it But I think in the long run it has been a draw back on us. I hope you will be able to get along with your job all rite [sic]. do the best you can, and I dont fear but that you will come out all rite [sic] with your job of work.

Lyons View Knox County Tennessee

Aug 31st 1885.

Mr. B. Skiller

Dear Son your letter from  
Newport recieved some days ago. I mailed  
a letter to you; The same day I got yours  
and didn't know whether you was at  
that place or not. What is my part  
Or the amt of it. that I owe with you  
for Fertiliser. I will pay it. What amt  
did you pay Hunt for things you  
bought for me when at Alex Halls.  
I will pay that also. I was a little  
afraid to risk the fertiliser the last  
time we bought. I thought it was an  
uncertain thing for general success  
as the price of it is entirely too high  
for the real good that is in it.

It will not do for a man to deal in  
any thing that keeps him in a constant  
Straine, which the fertiliser has always  
done us. I am willing to admit that we  
may have derived some benefit from it.  
But I think in the long run it has been  
a draw back on us. I hope you will be  
able to get along with your job all rite. do the  
best you can, and I dont fear but that you  
will come out all rite with your job of  
work.

and also come out succesful [sic] with all your financial and buisinesp [sic] matters. What would you think if you were in a Condition of circumstances Financially that you could not get to stay at home to enjoy the company and pleasures of your family for a period of fifteen years. That has been my fate! and what caused it? Nothing elce [sic] but volentariially [sic] going in debt which if continued to indulge in will cause a man to eak a miserable existance [sic]. But thank God I am now enjoying a better day, after having spent the prime of life. in hard struggles for honorable [sic] existence. and after having lost all that was near and dear to me at a time when I had looked to to be the most happy. As I stated in my letter to you I expect to go up home about the first of Sept. If you could make it suit your convenience to come up about that time I would be glad. We could then make some arangments [sic] about what we would try to have done in the way of work on the farm. & If Dick is there I wish you would say to him. that I will expect to find our tools at home as I want to get some of them to bring down with me. I had a letter lately from Cousin Robt A Smith he wants me to furnish him a plan for a nice little cottage which he wishes to build this fall



And also Come out Successful with all  
your financial, and business matters,  
What would you think, if you were in a  
Condition of Circumstances Financially that  
you could not get to stay at home to  
enjoy the Company and pleasures of your  
Family for a period of Fifteen years.  
That has been my fate! and what  
Caused it? nothing else but voluntarily  
going in debt, which if continued and  
indulged in, will Cause a man to eat out  
a miserable existence. But Thank God I  
am now enjoying a better day, after having  
Spent the prime of life, in hard Struggles  
for honorable existence, and after having  
lost all, that was near, and dear, to me  
at a time when I had looked to, to be  
the most happy. As I stated in my  
letter to you I expect, to go up home about the  
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Convenience to Come up about that time I  
would be glad, we could then make some  
arrangements about what we would try to  
have done in the way of work on the  
farm, As Dick is there I wish you  
would say to him, that I will expect to  
find our tools at home as I want to  
get some of them to bring down  
with me. I had a letter lately from  
Cousin Rott A Smith he wants me  
to furnish him a Plan for a nice little  
Cottage, which he wishes to build this year

Mr. Martin our stair builder will get his job done today. Two flites [sic] Walnut Newel hand rail and balusters. The rail 5 in wide balusters square at top and nailed to rail that is a quick way to do the work and much less work in putting up balusters he gets up a nice job. But is the rapidest [sic] fellow to work I ever saw. You would think he would burst every thing up the way he works, he got out the stuff up at home and the most of rail joints there and cut most of the balusters at both ends before he brought them down. he has not had any trustles [sic] nor work bench here at tall [sic] he just scuffles about on the floor, and comes up with a good joint every time

(A segment of the original is missing. Lucy Miller noted the missing page when she received the letter from Gladys Miller.)

Mr. Martin our Stair builder will get his  
job done to day. Two flites Walnut Stair,  
hand rail, and balusters. The rail 5 in wide  
balusters square at top and nailed to rail  
that is a quick way to do the work and  
much less work in putting up balusters  
he gets up a nice job. But is the rapidest  
fellow to work I ever saw. you would  
think he would burst every thing up  
the way he works, he got out the stuff up  
at home cut the most of rail joints  
there and cut most of the balusters  
at both ends before he brought them  
down. he haqnot had any trustles  
now work bench here at tall he just  
scuffles about on the floor, and comes  
up with a good joint every time.  
marks see the time with a Carpenter  
lead pene  
in one of  
man do  
up his ha  
worked  
Closing  
Screw,  
the work  
lively go

... church this fall, and go to the Widdow [sic] Hales for dinner they are clever folks. I have many good friends in Cooke County and not afraid [sic] to risk my Sons in buisinesp [sic] with the clever people of the County hope and expect you both to do well.

I cant say that I have any special attachment to this place beside for its buisinep [sic] and good pay.

Our old home was the place of my choice when young and beauyent [sic] and now in advanced life, no other place on earth has the same charms for me. The mountains the Rivers, the beautiful Valleys, The growing and prosperous young City. The many friends and relatives who wish us well to do. and the rememberence [sic] of our Blessed departed dead makes my home, May God bless you, and prosper you

Robt. Miller

you said  
there should  
be to go  
down will  
been a place  
time the  
along  
on it, be  
up fast  
to Rowland

Church till fall, and go to the Widow Hales  
for dinner they are clever folks.  
I have many good friends in Cooke County  
and not afraid to risk my sons in business  
with the clever people of that County  
hope and expect you both to do well.  
I can't say that I have any special attach-  
ment to this place besides for its business and  
good pay. My old home was the place of my  
choice when young, and beautiful, and now  
in advanced life, no other place on earth  
has the same charms for me. The mountains,  
the rivers, the beautiful valleys, the growing and  
prosperous Young City. The many friends and  
relatives who wish us well to do, and the  
remembrance of our blessed departed dead  
makes that my home. May God bless you,  
and prosper you.

Robert Miller



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

**to**

**M. B. Miller**

**October 25th 1885**

Lyons View Knox County, Tenn.

Oct. 25th 1885

M. B. Miller

Dear Son,

I have been wanting to write to you for some time, and now take advantage of the opportunity [sic] to do so. Can't say that I have any thing new, or much interesting to write, although we know that any thing we write to each other is always interesting. I am still in good health and preping [sic] my work on toward completion. Or to get ready for the accommdation [sic] of Patients, yet there is a great deal to do yet, before the work is entirely finished up. I may be here a good while yet. Mark I am glad you came to me at Billy Clark's with that letter, and earnestly urged me to accept the proposition and go: when I was so depressed in spirits, and energie [sic], I might not have come. But having come and with the blessings of Providence and good health, and in the exercise of my sane mind, combined with industry, and economy, I have been able to handsomely reach the comforts of life in nice stile [sic] to pay my debts, or to be paying and to have on deposit money in the bank. My wages is \$90.00 per month I pay \$10.00 for food, pay \$26.66  $\frac{2}{3}$  on my debts. Spend \$26.66  $\frac{2}{3}$ . Deposit \$26.66  $\frac{2}{3}$ . So you see that I appreciate my good situation



Lyons View, Knox County, Tenn.

Oct 25<sup>th</sup>, 1885

Mr. B. Miller,

Dear Son,

I have been wanting to write to you for some time, and now take advantage of the opportunity to do so. Can't say that I have any thing new, or much interesting to write, although we know that any thing we write to each other is always interesting. I am still in good health, and pressing my work on toward completion. Or to get ready for the accommodation of Patients, yet there is a great deal to do yet, before the work is entirely finished up. I may be here a good while yet. Mark, I am glad you came to me at Billy Clark's with that letter, and earnestly urged me to accept the proposition and go; when I was so depressed in spirit, and energy, I might not have come. But having come, and with the blessings of Providence in good health, and in the exercise of my sane mind, combined with industry, and economy, I have been able to handsomely, reach the comforts of life in nice style. To pay my debts, or to be paying, and to have and deposit money in the bank. My wages is \$90<sup>00</sup> per month I pay \$10<sup>00</sup> for board, pay \$26<sup>66</sup><sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> on my debts, spend 26<sup>66</sup><sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> deposit 26<sup>66</sup><sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> So you see that I appreciate my good situation.

Mark I didn't think you and Emma would move to Newport or off any where [sic], but if it was your preference under the circumstances of your work being there, I have no objections for you to stay a while just for the building boom there. But of course I will expect you back whenever you wish to come or feel it to your interest to come. I hope Emma was not prompted to go on any account of Edd and Annie coming home, for she knows that it is her welcome home, not only made so by being your kind and dutiful wife but additionally made so my her kindness, love, and unyealding [sic] attention to the last wants, and comforts of our dear departed Mother, may the Lord keep her and our dear little Bessie.

I promised to send you the name and address of catalogue drafting instruments, catalogue and price list of Keuffel and Esser Importers and Manufacture of Drawing Materials, New York 127 Fulton Street.

Addrep [sic] Catalogue and Price List of  
Keuffel and Esser Drawing Materials  
New York

127 Fulton Street

Price 50 cents

Please write to me soon for I am anxious [sic] to hear from you, are you boarding or keeping house? it will be much better and cheaper for you to keep house

I have foure (sic) Carpenters employed two of them fitting after the Plumber and two, on some jobs not let by Contract.

Hugh McBerry \$2.50 Per day - Knoxville

Marten Hogan \$1.75 .. ..

Wm. Griffen \$1.75 .. ..

E. W. Boyd \$1.25 .. Toad Boyd Elisabethton, Tenn

[Note at side of letter] Capt Boyd wrote to Toad a fieu [sic] days ago and stated in his letter that Aunt Betsy Williams is Dead

Work I didn't think you and Emma would move to New York or  
 off any where. but if it was your preference under the Circumstances  
 of your work being there, I have no objections for you to stay a while  
 just for the building boom there. But of course I will expect you back  
 whenever you wish to come or feel it to your interest to come,  
 I hope Emma was not prompted to go on any account of Edd and Annie  
 coming home, for she knows that is her welcome home, not only made so  
 by being your kind and dutiful wife but additionally made so by  
 her kindness, love, and unyielding attention to the best wants,  
 and Comforts of our dear departed Mother, may the Lord bless  
 and our dear little Bessie.

I promised to send you the name and address of Catalogue  
 drafting instruments, Catalogue and Price-list of  
 Keuffel and Edder Importers and Manufacturers of  
 Drawing Materials. New York 127 Fulton Street.

address Catalogue and Price-list of  
 Keuffel and Edder Drawing Materials  
 New York

127 Fulton Street

Price 50 Cents.

Please write to me soon for I am anxious to hear  
 from you, are you boarding or keeping house? It will  
 be much better and cheaper for you to keep house

I have four Carpenters employed two of them fitting after the  
 Plumbers and two on some jobs not let by Contract.

- |               |        |         |                              |
|---------------|--------|---------|------------------------------|
| Hugh Mc Berry | \$2.50 | Per day | - Knoxville                  |
| Martin Hogan  | " 1.75 | "       | "                            |
| Tom - Griffin | " 1.75 | "       | "                            |
| E. W. Boyd    | " 1.25 | "       | Boyd Boyd Elizabethton, Tenn |

Capt Boyd wrote to Todd a few days ago and  
 stated in his letter that Capt Boyd's condition is dead.



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

**to**

**M. B. Miller**

**November 25th 1885**

Lyons View Knox Co Tenn

Nov 25th 1885

M. B. Miller

Dear Son

Yours and Emma's letters recieved [sic] on their due arrival. I was glad to hear from you both. So kindly have been looking out for my little darling Bessie's photo--hope you will send it soon. I am in usual good health doing my best to get along.

Have you got the Osbon wheat receipt [sic]. if you have send it to me. If you have not got it with you can I find it when I go home? I want to make final settlement with J. M. Boring.

Lyons View Fm Co Tenn  
Nov 25th 1885

Mrs B. Miller

Dear Son

Yours, and

Emma's letters received on their  
due arrival, I was glad to hear  
from you both. So kindly,  
have been looking out for  
my little darling Bessie's photo.  
I hope you will send it soon.  
I am in usual good health doing  
my best to get along.

Have you got the Osbon wheat  
receipt if you have send it to  
me if you have not got it with  
you Can I find it when I go  
home? I want to make final  
Settlement with J. M. Borning.

What arangment [sic] have you and Eddie made about the fatning [sic] of the hogs at home if any. You must have some of them do you know how many there will be to kill. I will not get to go home till about the first week in January. and we must attend to this matter by writeing [sic] to Edd, and each other. How are you getting along in Booster. Are your Plasters done yet? If they are not ask Gilbert some time if the candle flies (i.e the Millers) are bad to put out lamp light. I can asure [sic] you that I took your joke kindly. I am all right over the River. Mark, I really did not intend any such thing as this, but it has been some how or other, as I think, Providentially brought about. I will admit to you that I am takeing [sic] much intrest [sic] in it, but will hush---



What arrangement have you and  
Edotte made about the fattening  
of the hogs at home if any.  
you must have some of them  
do you know how many there  
will be to kill. I will not get to  
go home till about the first week  
in January, and we must attend  
to this matter by writing to each  
and each other. How are you getting  
along in Rooster. Are your Roosters  
done yet? If they are not ask  
Gilbert some time if the Candle  
flies (i.e. The Millers) are bad to  
put out lamp light. I can assure  
you that I took your joke kindly.  
I am all right over the River.  
Mash, I really did not intend any  
Such thing as this, but it has been done how  
or other, as I think, Providentially brought about.  
I will admit to you that I am taking much  
interest in it, but will hush. —

Mark I can say to you that I am getting along with my work and buisinep [sic] here now more pleasantly than I have been at any time previous to this, in as much as I have had kind and asured [sic] proof that the Directors my Employers are satisfied with my work. and Dr. Campbell the Supt of Medical Construction with whom [sic] I am associated is an excelent [sic] friend to me. It may be that I will become so much attached to this place, and to these parts, that I may not be able to get fare [sic] away, Though not that I am, nor that I expect to become a Patient. But am a captive. I will write to Edd in reference to the hogs and that they must make the meat for us all equally and fare [sic]. I will write to you more fully about the midle [sic] of December.

Robt. Miller

Mark I can say to you that I am  
getting along with my work and business  
here now more pleasantly than I have  
even at any time previous to this,  
in as much as I have had kind  
and asured proof that the Directors  
my Employers are satisfied with my  
work, and Dr Campbell the Dept

of Medical Construction with  
whom I am associated ~~with~~ is  
an excellent friend to me. It may  
be that I will become so much  
attached to this place, and to these  
parts, that I may not be able  
to get far away, though not that  
I am, nor that I expect to become  
a Patient, But <sup>am</sup> a captive.

I will write to Odd in reference to  
the boys, and that they must make  
the meet for us all equally and fare,  
I will write to you more fully about  
the middle of December. Robt. Miller



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

to

**M. B. Miller**

**December 10th, 1885**

Lyons View Knox County Tenn

Dec 10th 1885

M. B. Miller

Dear Son

Your welcome letter recieved [sic]. I am always glad to hear from you, and especially, when the Spirit of your letters are so kind, and liberal, as the one just recieved [sic]. I havent [sic] had any such letters from any of the others. I just lately recieved [sic] a letter from Annie, a reply to a kind, and well meaning letter I wrote to her in referance [sic] to my Changing my relation in life soon. I expected to get an answer from her at least respectful, one that I could let my Dear Friend here read, as a proof that She would be welcome at our home. But instead of it being such an Epistle it was One, that I, with indignation tore into a thousand pieces and Committed [sic] to the Flames. Just before that I got a long letter from E. W. Hampton, which was a very kind and Clever letter on buis- inep [sic] matters, without any ilusion [sic] to any thing else he is all rite [sic], I havent [sic] had a word from Dr. E. E. for nor aganst [sic]. The first time I see my Friend over the River, I will let her read your last letter to me. She is anctious [sic] to know how you all, feel about the matter and I have so fare [sic] waved it.

Lyons View Knox County Tenn

Dec 10<sup>th</sup> 1885

Mr. B. Miller

Dear Son

Your welcome letter received, I am always glad to hear from you, and especially, when the spirit of your letters are so kind, and liberal, as the one just received, I haven't had any such letters from any of the others. I just lately received a letter from Annie, a reply to a kind, and well meaning letter I wrote to her in reference to my changing my relation in life soon, I expected to get an answer from her at least respectful, one that I could let my Dear Friend here read, as a proof that she would be welcome at our home. But instead of it being such an Epistle it was one, that I, with indignation tore into a thousand pieces and committed to the flames. Just before that I got a long letter from E. W. Hampton, which was a very kind and clever letter on business matters, without any illusion to any thing else he is all right, I haven't had a word from Dr. E. C. for now against. The first time I see my friend over the River, I will let her read your last letter to me, she is anxious to know how you all feel about the matter, and I have so far waved it.

I have sent Annie several nice presents since I have been here, but the joy has all been knocked out of them, by the current news from below. I look forward with much interest [sic], and with Sweet-antisipation [sic], to the first Sunday in January 1886, as it may be another eventful day, in my lifes history. Will come to Knoxville Monday morning, and take the Trane [sic] 3:45 P.M. for Johnson City. Would like to fall in with you, Emma and Bessie at Morristown on our way up to spend a fiew [sic] days with us. We dont expect to stay up at home now, but about one week, as I will have to return to buisnep [sic] agane [sic]. If it is inconvenient for you to Come now, will come up to Newport next Spring and see you, If no Providential hinderance. I am looking out for Bessie's photo, hope you will not delay it. I am glad you have such favourable [sic] prospect, and offers of good work. This is worth every thing to a man if he will properly improve it. If you could strike a sort of a Knicely kind of a way working and manageing [sic] now you could come up like he has in buisnep [sic]. I am an Older man than he (Knicely) is but I learned a great deal from him, and One thing especially and that was, to keep in favour [sic] with my employer all the time, and be his man strait [sic] out. This I am practiceing [sic] now, as you will see when I tell you I am going with Dr. Campbell to Nashville

[Last page or missing page]

[Written about 5 mos. after wife Elizabeth's death]



I have sent Annie several nice presents since I have been  
here, but the joy has all been knocked out of them, by the  
Current miasma from below, I look forward with much interest, and  
with Sweet-anticipation, to the first Sunday, in January 1886,  
as it may be another eventful day, in my life's history,  
will come to Knoxville Monday morning, and take the Train  
to P. M. for Johnson, City. Would like to fall in with you,  
Emma and Bessie at Spornistown on your way up to see  
a few days with us. We don't expect to stay up at home now,  
but about one week, as I will have to return to business again,  
if it is inconvenient for you to come now. will come up to  
Newport next Spring and see you, if no Providential hindrance.  
I am looking out for Bessie's photo, hope you will not delay  
it, I am glad you have such favourable prospect, and  
offers of good work, this is worth every thing to a man if  
he will properly improve it. If you could strike a Dolt  
of a Tomcely kind of a way working and managing  
now you could come up like he has in business  
I am an older man than he (Tomcely) is but I learned  
a great deal from him, and one thing especially  
and that was, to keep in favour with my employer  
all the time, and be his man straight out, this I am  
practising now, as you will see when I tell you  
I am going with Dr. Campbell to Nashville



*Letter from*

**M.B. Miller**

to

**Wife**

**Mrs. Emma Miller**

**March 16, 1886**

1886

Warm Springs      March 16

Mrs. Emma Miller

Dear Wife

I write you today that you may know how I am getting along. I am well and working every day.

Would have liked to have come home last Sunday but when I think of the amount that I owe and the little that I am making I am compelled to stay away for some time.

1880

Winn Springs Mar 6

Mrs Emma Miller

Dear Wife

I write you  
to day that you may  
know how I am getting  
along I am well &  
and working everyday  
I would have liked to  
have come home last  
Sunday but when I think  
of the amount that I  
owe and the little that  
I am making I am  
compelled to stay away  
for some time.

It may be possible that I will be at home next Saturday night and then it may be that I will conclude to delay another week.

I would like to see you and Bessie the best in the world but if it be possible I want to get out of debt But at the same time I dont want you to strane [sic] yourself to much to aid in getting out but I must do all that I can. I will send you some money and you may do the best that you can with it. I have promiced [sic]

It may be possible that  
I will be at home next  
Saturday night and  
then it may be that I  
will conclude to stay  
another week.

I would like to see  
you and Bessie the  
best in the world  
but if it be possible I  
want to get out of debt  
But at the same time  
I don't want you to  
strain yourself too much  
to aid in getting out  
but I must do all that  
I can I will send  
you some money and  
you may do the best  
that you can with it  
I have promised

to pay Charley Mims some this week and you may make  
a divide of the amount I send you between Hooper Mims  
and yourself. Hope this may find you well.

The train is coming and I can not get the money off to-  
night but will send it tomorrow night

Yours

M. B. Miller



To say Charley  
wins some this  
week and you  
may make to divide  
of the amount I owe  
you between Hooper  
wins and your self  
I hope this may find you  
well.

The train is com-  
ing and I can  
not get the money  
off to night but  
will send it to-  
morrow night

Yours J. B. Miller



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

**to**

**M. B. Miller**

**May 20th, 1886**

Sinking Creek, Tenn

May 20th 1886

M. B. Miller

Dear Son

As I am now for the time being at the old Homestead a few [sic] lines from me will be interesting to you. I came up home on the 13th day of this month.

My wife and her youngest child came up with me. They stayed just one week, and then went back home. I came up now especially to take proof in the Patty Mill=dam Suit we took the proof before Adam Bowman last Tuesday. Or enough to continue the case in court Patty is now in Ori-  
gon [sic] Will be gone two months. H. H. Carr is Pattys Attorney My witnesses are E. E. Miller, Ab Hughes, and Wm. Morrison

EAST TENNESSEE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

Sinking Creek Knoxville, May 20<sup>th</sup> 1884

Mr. B. Miller

Dear Son

As I am  
now for the time being at the  
old Homestead, a few lines  
from me will be interesting  
to you. I came up home on  
the 13<sup>th</sup> day of this month  
my wife, and her youngest child,  
came up with me. They stayed  
just one week, and then went  
back home, I came up now  
especially to take proof in the  
Patty Mill-dam Suit we took  
the proof before Adam Bowman  
last Tuesday. Or enough to  
continue the case in Court  
Patty is now in Oregon will be  
gone two months. H. H. Carr is  
Pattys Attorney. My witnesses are  
E. E. Miller, Ab. Hugh, and Wm. Moses.

Kirkpatrick at Jonesboro is Bob Smiths partner who will give the matter close attention. Dick is at home and has been working in his line of buisnep [sic] just around here for several weeks past he and Dr. Berry have desolved [sic] partnership long ago. He sold his horse to Berry for as I learn the same amt that he gave. I have never said one word about the matter to him nor he, to me. I know nothing about Dick's private matters, nor about his intention or calculation for buisnep [sic] in the future  
But I notice that there is occasionally [sic] between Dave Wheelers and Johnsons to be seen passing a charming lass in full display of female attire.

[Marginal note at top of page 2]

If Edd works rode any more it will be after she mends up, and then with moderation, under my eye.



I haven't been around out yet to see what I can get to do up here. in the way of carpenters work but I think it is tolerably dull. I would rather contract for work in this country up here than to work at journeymans wages at Knoxville and I know that most of the small jobs at K.V. are taken at ruinous low prices. I intend to take a trip to Greeneville in a short time horse-back and see what I can look up. and if I dont get work, I will go back to K.V. just after we get our clover cut and put up. Our growing crop looks well Wheat and Clover. The midle [sic] portion of the high field is in wheat the lower end, high part and sage strips are in corn which make every foot of it in cultivation.

{Marginal note at top of page 3}

Edd has now more work laid out to do this Spring and Summer than he could do with foure [sic] good mules Ground to break up. Corn to plow, wood to haul to burn lime kiln, millet to sow Big crop of Irish Potatoes to plow - manure to haul out, 3 men to one horse.





Edd has rented it to Manuel who lives on the lower end of the place and is to give one third of what is made on it that is the corn and Edd is to furnish the stock to work it. That will make him two thirds of the corn without strikeing [sic] one lick in it, and your mare to work it, as he thought. Every thing here looks well but the Garden and Stock. The Garden is abandoned and not one lick struck in it. Gardning [sic] back of the kitchen. The cattle are dog pore [sic] and the Horses look like the Souldiers [sic] did after they come out of the Chickamauga fight rhode is the poorest horse I ever saw Since I have been on the place. Blind Kit not excepted. She hasent [sic] had a collar on nor a line stretched over her since I came home I have been taking care of her She is improveing [sic] I will recruit

A

EAST TENNESSEE HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE.

Edd has rented it to Manuel who lives on the lower end of the place and Knoxville, is to give <sup>188</sup> one third of what is made on it that is the Corn and Edd is to furnish the Stock to work it that will make him two thirds of the Corn without striking one lick in it, and your Man to work it, as he thought, Every thing here looks well but the Garden and the Stock, the Garden is abandoned and not one lick struck in it Gardening back of the kitchen the Cattle are dog food, and the Horses looks like the Soldiers did after they came out of the Chickamauga fight - Rhode is the poorest horse I ever saw since I have been on the place, Blind but not accepted, She hasent had a Collar on, nor a line stretched over her since I came home I have been taking care of her She is improving, I will recruit

and let her stay here untill [sic] after the clover is cut and then I will either bring her to Newport or take her to Hunter Rubles and put her in pasture Edd and Alf are done with her. That is they shant have her to work after abuseing [sic] her as they have. There is plenty of old hay in the barn. Your colt looks tolerably well But I found her hobbled [sic] with a leather stop in the upper field and it stayed on just as long as I could get out my knife. If she jumps I will make a light yoke and put on her. Edd had posters stuck up of bords [sic] at both ends of the place on the lane and his name put on them I pulled them off Instantly and split them up. Mark I dont want you to show this letter to Edd nor to write any thing insulting to him about this matter I will see that you all have equal rights and justice done.

5

and let her stay here until after  
the Clover is cut. and then I  
will either bring her to Newport  
or take her to Hamter Bubbles  
and put her in pasture Edd and  
Abj are done with her.  
that is they shant have her to  
work after abusing her as they  
have. There is plenty of Old hay  
in the Barn. your Colt looks  
tolerably well But I found  
her hobbled with a leather stop  
in the upper field and it stayed  
on just as long as I could  
get out my knife. If she jumps  
I will make a light yoke and  
put on her. Edd had posters stuck  
up of boards at both ends of the  
place on the lane, and his name  
put on them. I pulled them  
off Instantly, and I split them  
up. Mark I dont want you to  
show this letter to Edd nor to  
write any thing insulting to  
him about this matter  
I will see that you all have  
equal rights and justice  
done.

I want you to come back here next fall and live on the lower end of the place. If you cant come, I will rent it to Manuel Who is now living there he is a good farmer and a nice man and the little place is much improved Will let him have it. and turn over your Stock and implements to him for you and let him pay you the rent. I have stoped [sic] all cutting of green timber for any purpose on the place untill [sic] Some definite understanding is had between us all for equal rights. Jane Gourly and Sam McNabb are married. Mark, Now that I have writen [sic] at length to you, and may seam [sic] to be in a crop mood of feeling, I have a Crow to pick with you. Well what is that you may say?

0  
I want you to Come back here  
next fall and live on the lower  
end of the place. If you Cant  
Come, I will rent it to  
Mannuel Who is now living  
there he is a good farmer and  
a nice man and the little  
place is much improved  
will let him have it, and  
turn over your Stock and  
implements to him for you,  
and let him pay you the  
rent. I have stoped all  
Cutting of green timber for  
any purpose on the place until  
Some definite understanding  
is had between us all, for  
equal rights. You Gaurly  
and Dan (McNabb) are  
married

Mark, Now that I have written  
at length to you, and may Deem  
to be in a Crope Mood of feeling  
I have a Crow to pick  
with you. Well what is  
that you may say?

You recollect [sic] when you came down to our place the first of January last. That in going over to the Railroad two men wer [sic] with you. Well what did you Say in there [sic] presance [sic] disrespectful of me, if any thing. Maloney and Kid both say that you made a Statement. That you never saw such a Change Come over any body as there had over me lately. That When I was at home I wouldent [sic] do nothing and that I had Crazy Spells Well Mark, this being the first time in life that I have been accused of Insanity I most Bitterly denied the Charge. and if you made such a Statement to them you uttered an infamous falshood [sic] on your Father who has always been your friend. Mark when you write to me, I want you to State what you Said about me for I expect to have you brought face to face



7

you recollect when you come  
down to our place the first of  
January last. that in going  
over to the Railroad two men  
went with you. Well what did  
you say in their presence disrespect  
ful of me, if any thing.  
Maloney, and Kid, both say, that  
you made a statement, that you  
never saw such a change come  
over any body as there had over  
me lately, that when I was  
at home I wouldnt do nothing  
and that I had crazy spells  
Klee Mark. this being the first  
time in life that I have been  
accused of. Inhumanity & I most  
bitterly denied the charge,  
and if you made such a state  
ment to them you uttered an  
infamous falsehood on  
your father who has always  
been your friend. Mark when  
you write to me, I want you  
to state what you said about  
me for I expect to have  
you brought face to face

with these parties. For it raised the Devil amongst us all. This thing just lately came to my ears. After a little falling out I had with Leo Kid my wifes Tenant. If you Said nothing disrespectful of me, or about me on that occasion State what you did Say and I will cast it in their teeth and Saddle the Diabolical lie on them.

Mark if you have any Sugestion [sic] to make to me, about what to do with your mare after the Clover is Cut Make it You know that it is indispenible [sic] to save the hay. I dont want you to Sell the mare nor Colt, I want you to Come back and work them you Can do better here than any whare [sic] else this family (Manuels) thats liveing [sic] here are happy and contented liveing [sic] well, with no Stock but a Cow. They are the best workers thats ever been here. Write to me Soon.

R. Miller

8  
with these parties. God it  
raised the Devil amongst  
us all. This thing just lately  
came to my ears, after a  
little falling out I had with  
Leidrid, my Wifes Tenant.  
If you said nothing disrespectful  
of me, or about me on that occasion  
State what you did say  
and I will cast it in their  
teeth and saddle the Diabolical  
lie on them.

Offark if you have any suggestion  
to make to me, about what to  
do with your Mare after the  
Clower is cut make it - you  
know that it is indispensable  
to save the hay. I dont want  
you to sell the mare nor  
Colt, I want you to come  
back and work them you  
can do better here than any where  
else this family (Manneld) that's  
living here are happy and contented  
living well, with no stock, but  
a Cow. They are the best workers that  
was been here. Write to me soon.  
M. Miller



*Letter from*

**Robt. Miller**

**to**

**M. B. Miller**

**January 13th, 1887**

Knoxville Tenn

Jan 13th 1887-

M. B. Miller

Dear Son

Your card to the care of Scottish C. T. & S. Co  
recieved [sic] this was the only item of news recieved [sic]  
from any of you for a long time. Since that time I recieved  
[sic] a card from Annie written the first of Jan stating that  
Snodgrasp is cutting the timber off of the disputed plot  
and putting it on the Rail Road. I wrote to her and also  
to Bob Smith my attorney in the matter hope he will be  
stoped [sic] till we can compare dates of the Land Grants  
by which we have agreed to stand the oldest Grant to take  
it without a lawsuit I thought you would have gone out  
on the Farm last fall but of Course, you will do to the best  
advantage to get along



Knoxville Tenn

Jan 13<sup>th</sup> 1857-

Mr. B. Miller

Dear Son

Your Card to the  
Care of Scotts C. G. & Co received  
This was the only item of news received  
from any of you for a long time.  
Since that-time I received a Card from  
Annie written the first-Jan stating that  
Smograp is cutting the timber off of the  
disputed plot and putting it on the rail  
road. I wrote to her and also to Rob.  
Smith my attorney in the matter hope he  
will be stoped till we can compare dates  
of Land Grants by which we have agreed  
to stand the Oldest Grant to take it  
without a law suit I thought you  
would have gone out on the farm  
last fall but of course you will do  
to the best advantage to get along

I had a long vacation last Summer without work. I had several good prospects for work but they all mip-carried [sic] Till the Scottish C T & Co. Comenced [sic] work here and then I put in Though at a low rate but beats doing nothing. My wages per month is equal to the intrest [sic] of nine thousand dollars at Six per cent per anum [sic] If you, or I had that much money on intrest [sic] we would think we could live without work--So you see what work is worth. I have worked constant ever since I began here Sept 15th 1886 I very often leave home at 3 A M Monday morning and get to the work before day--of Course I dont expect to Continue at these low figures when Spring, and good wether [sic] Comes, Kate has bought a lot on the South Side of the river near the end of the Rail-Road bridge We expect to build a neat little house on it next Summer and Stay up there in the winter months So that the Children Can go to School Lena is going to School here this winter



I had a long vacation last Summer without work. I had several good prospects for work but they all slip-carried till the Scottis C. J. & Co Comenced work here and then I put in though at a low rate but beats doing nothing. My wages per month, is equal to the interest of nine thousand dollars at six per cent per annum. If you, or I, had that much money on interest we would think we could live without work. So you see what work is worth. I have worked constant ever since I began here Sept-15th 1880 I very often leave home at 3 AM Monday morning and get to the works before day - of course I dont expect to continue at these low figures when Spring, and good weather comes; Kate has bought a lot on the South Side of the River near the end of the Rail-Road bridge we expect to build a neat little house on it next Summer and stay up there in the winter months so that the Children can go to School. Lena is going to School here this winter

I intend to sell my little place up at Greeneville for what I can get and put it into the building of a house here as fare [sic] as it will go. it is not doing me any good there nor never has, eight acres with the house. If it was that close to Knoxville we would be well off. it would be worth two thousand dollars

We have the finest little gal Baby at our house you ever Saw, it was born on the 30th day of Sept her name is Maud. The other Children think a great deal of it. She sits up in a little arm Chair (I. E. tied in) part of the time in the kitchen and looks after the cooking. The Scottish Companys Mill will Start in about one month. They have five boilers and two Enjines [sic] Circle Saw and Band Saw two distinct Mills in the Same house

I intend to sell my little place up  
at Greenville for what I can get and  
put it into the building of a house  
here as far as it will go. it is  
not doing me any good there no  
never has, eight acres with the house  
if it was that close to Knoxville we  
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worth two thousand dollars

We have the finest little gal Baby at  
our house you ever saw, it was born  
on the 30th day of Sept her name is  
spana. The other children think a great  
deal of it - She sits up in a little  
arm chair (I for tied in) part of the  
time in the kitchen and looks after  
the cooking. The Scottish Company  
mill will start in about one month  
They have five Boilers and two  
Engines. Circle Saw and Band Saw  
two distinct Mills in the same  
house

what have you done with Manuel who lived in the little house below is Alf working for Edd yet? I guep [sic] you have your Black mare and Dixie yet. you Should have. how is Emma, and the little fellow getting along? I would like to see you all Still thought-- I would get to come up between Christmas and New Years, but I could not get off write to me

Remains as ever Your Father  
Robt Miller

Direct  
Care  
Scottish C. T. & L Co  
Knoxville  
Tenn

what have you done with Manuel  
who lived in the little house below?  
is he still working <sup>for</sup> Ed did get  
I guess you have your Black  
mare and Dixie got you  
Should have, how is Emma, and  
the little fellows getting along? I  
would like to see you all  
Still thought I would get to come  
up between Christmas and New  
years, but I could not get off  
write to me

Direct

Care

Remains as ever  
Your Father  
E. J. Miller

Scottish C. I. & L. Co

Pinotville

Tenn



*Letter from*

**M.B. Miller**

to

**Wife**

**Mrs. Emma Miller**

**Feb 22nd 1887**

Knoxville Feb 22 nd 1887

Mrs. Emma Miller

Dear Emma

I just arrived in the city just now and met Mr. Paty Have this opportunity [sic] to write you. Papa is improving fast the Dr. was to see him today and said that he would dismiss him for the present. I think that he will be able to sit up some again at Friday. I went to Ma's as soon as I came down found her only moderately well. will go to see her again before I come home. You may look for me the last of the week. May God ever bless you and the little ones kiss Bessie and Dick

Yours affection M. B. Miller



Knoxville Feb 22<sup>nd</sup> 1887

Mrs. Emma W. Miller

Dear Emma

I just arrived in the city just now and met Mr. Patty. Have this opportunity to write you. Papa is improving fast. The Dr. was to see him today and said that he would dismiss him for the present. I think that he will be able to sit up some again at Friday. I went to Ma's as soon as I came down found her only moderately well. will go to see her again before I come home.

You may look for me the last of the week. May God ever bless you and the little ones Will Bessie and Dick  
Yours Affection W. Miller

How is Dick. He is at Fordtown sick of mesels [sic]

Mrs. Emma Miller

At Home

Care

R. S. Patty Esqr

How is Dick, He is at  
Fordtown sick of measles

Miss Emma Miller

At Home

care

R. S. Pally Esq



