

November 26 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Monday night

Dear Friend Mary

I am going to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope this will fiend you the same.

I will talk a little more about that det [debt] I told you of in my last letter to you. Now thare some people that dont care to be in det but that is not the way with me. I never was in det before this year. I always had monnie to loan. I will try and tell you how I came to be in det. I had a small farm of 60 acers and \$3500 in cash so I thought that I couldend do much on a little place like that so I had a chance to trade for this place of 175 acers so I gave the little farm and what monnie I had and of corse still leaves me a little in det and I know that if we have luck that we will soon get out. This is said to be as good and as nice a place as thare are in this section of the cuntry.

Now my dear I tell you this for fear that you may think thay while I am in det that meby I am a shiftless keind of fellow or a poor manager or something of that sort. You will not fiend enney person that will tell you that I am that sort of a man. I clame that I got what I have by a little hard work and a little good management. If I say so my self I know thare ar plenty of outhers that will tell you the same thing. . I

am satisfied that I can make 2 dollars here to one whare I was before. I think this is about all that I will say about this till I see you then you will understand things better. This is all all I will write to night. Good night Dear Eva. Your friend ever loving,

Joe

November 27 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Tuesday night

Dear Eva

Before retiring I will just write you a few lines. I hope you will receive my last letter to morrow morning and be pleased a little. Dear Eva Joe Burns came over to see me last night and I am all most sure that from what little he said that there has ben somthing found out about us writing. He was with Harrie one night last week. Tha both get letters from over there. Now while I want tell them enney thing nor enney one I just dont care what tha fiend out.

My dear I hope you will excuse this lead pensel I just thought I would try it for a change. Evaline I received an invertasion to day for dinner on Thanksgiving. Now if you wer hear we would be sure to go but I dont think I will go there. I may go over home whare I ust to live. I wonder whare my dear friend will take her thanksgiving dinner at. I will think of you whare so ever I will bee.

I expect you will see Frank before you write agan. He will tell you about the letter I wrote him.

I have looked over your last letter. I see so menney kiend things you told me that make me happy and I surley am glad that I ever did meet such a grand good friend as you ar to me. Now my dear you said in one place if I did the right thing by you I have a hart in me that would not let me do outhewise as long as you treet me kindley and I know you will allways. Now I will clos for to night. Good night my dear your loving,

Joe

November 28 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Wednesday night

My Dear Eva

I think I know just what you ar dooing about this time. You ar writing to me I bet. Dont you know that you have been on my mind all day. I gess it was because this was your day to get your letter and I hope you did get it. I am going to tell you what I was dooing to day. I sit [set] out a nice bed of strawbearys last spring and I was cuvering them with straw for the winter and I was thinking of you and expecting to see you picking some of them next spring. Wont that be nice to have nice strawbearys.

My dear Eva to think thare ar only 2 month more till I will start for your house. The time will soon be near.

Dear Eva my chestnuts ar nearly all gone. I have onley 20 left then I will have to wate till I come over to your house. I know you will have some saved up for me.

I was going to tell you that thare has been talk of ower mail line being changed. I herd to day that it would start the first day in December that will be Saterdag. It will be better fir it will be brought direct from the railroad. I will get my mail sooner in the day and I can put your letters on my box and it will go right to the train for Westminster the same day. You know the way it is now thay stay in Darrtown all night. I have been taking them to the office on Sunday or Sunday night for monday morning.

I will close for this time. Good night my dear.

Joe

November 29 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Thanksgiving

My Dearest Friend Eva

I have been wandering all day whare you was spending your thanksgiving. I had three invertasions so I went to the nearest neighbor. Tha had oysters and had a splendid dinner. I had quite a nice time but was thinking of you all the time. I think I will onley have one more day and then I will get a good letter from you. You told me that all the real plesher you had was to get my letters. I am sure that is the way it is

with me.

My dear it is geting late and I am geting sleepy. I just thought that I would not retire without leting you know that I am thinking of you. Now I will close for to night. Remember this is from your friend. Good night Eva,

Joe

November 30 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Friday night

Dear Eva

I am happy to tell you that I received your splendid good letter this afternoon and I was so glad to get it all tho I was hardly expecting to get it to day. I could enjoy reading a letter from you everry day.

The first thing I will speak of is what Frank told you of me coming in soon. All I told him was that I expected to see him inside of 2 too years. He dosent know how soon. I havent seen Harrie lateley. I would like to get to see him and have a talk with him.

I am glad to hear you say that your brother is kiend to you. So your father dos not suspect enney thing yet. I have been a little jubers of him all the time. I know about theas old people but my dear I shal leave that part for you to manage. I think your brother will be quite a help to you to get things aranged to soot you.

So you had a lot of good thoughts on your mind for me. I am most sorrie that you had enney company just at that time to hinder you from writing them to me but you will think of them agan. I am glad to know that you do think of me so kiendley and all ways fiend time to write me such nice letters for wich I am thankful to you for. For I enjoy reading your letters.

You said you hoped that I would be able to make out your letters and understand them. My dear I have wished a menney time that you could get along with my letters as well as I did yours. It would be all right.

In speaking of your brother I dont remember meeting him. I dont think I saw him. I well remember your father wen Martha and I came down to see you and you was not at home. He was out in the potato pach with a sickel cuting the weds [weeds]. He is a pretty good talker enney way. Do you think that we would of both been happy if I could of been over thare for an ower. I dont expect you would of got rid of me in one ower.

You was speaking of last Sunday being a damp day. I shuld say so. I dont know wen we had such a day. I was real loneley I tell you I was just home sick to see you. The wether was so bad and I did not get to church nor I didnt get to see enney one. I just thought it was a terberl day. The wether is a little brighter now.

Now my dear friend I expect go to Oxford a town about 4 miles from hear to morrow and mail this and perhaps I will

surprise you a little in two ways. In one you mite get this monday not later than Tusday and in anuther you mite get a picture of some kiend. I dont know what it will be like. I am to get them to morrow. If I shuld bee disapointed in geting them I will wish I hadent said enney thing about them for I wanted to surprise you a little bit with the picture. So if I shuld fail in geting them I will send the next time.

Dear Eva I think some times that perhaps I write right smart some times that is not verry interesting t you but then it pleases me to hear you say that you can make them all out all right and do enjoy my letters.

The clock has struck 9 so I will have to hasten on and get throe. I will retire and go to sleep thinking of my dear friend in Maryland and go to town in the morning and get back by noon. I want to mail this on Saterdag to see wether you would get it on monday or not. So good by my dear Eva for this time. If you dont get a picture this time you will next time. I will not seal until I see about them. Excuse pensil writing. Good By my dearest friend Eva. From your loving fr.

Joe

December 1 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Saterdag night

My dearest friend Eva

I just mailed you a letter today but I cant help that I

feel that I must write you just a few lines enney way. It will be a good wile before you get this but it wont matter so much. I want to tell you that I just came home from Darrrtown. Thare was a turkey supper given by the Luthern church. I would have been glad if I had taken you with me to showed the folks what a nice girl I had. I came home early for there was no one thare that I cared for. Not like I care for you. You know I was thinking that I would come home and write a few lines to you. It is nearly 9 oclock and it is the best time pas time that I have to write to my dear friend Eva.

I saw Harrie Hook thare but did not get to talk with him. He was not with enney girl. I dont think that he goes with enney one. He ate his supper with some outhar boys.

My dear I sent you a picture. I will not say enney thing about it. I will let you do the saying. If it looks like me why that is all we could expect be it good or bad. I expect you ar at home to night hard at work sewing. How I wish I could walk in and see what you was dooing. I would like to surprise you a little for ones but dont fear I wont doo that. I will let you know. I want you to be expecting me wen I do come.

Now dear Eva it is late and I am sleepy. I will quit for to night. Remember this is from your truest & best friend. Good night my dear friend Eva.

Joe

December 2 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Sunday night

Dear Eva

I will write you a few lines to night to pas the time and because it is a grate plesher for me to write to you. My dear friend I am most sure that is what you ar dooing too. Yes you wer right thinking as you did last Sunday night and you can think the same way to night. It surly would be a verry grate plesher for me to meet with you to night or enney outhar time. My dear I will have to stop for my lamp is about drye. I will have to wate till to morrow night so good night your friend

Joe

December 3 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Monday Night

Dear friend Eva

I am going to ask you somthing and see what you think. Of corse thare is plenty time yet but thare will be no harm to talk about it. I think that I can get a round trip ticket some cheaper to come over to your house but it will onley be good for 10 days. I want to know wether you think that we could be redy to come back in that short time as I dont care to make enney vised much this time and dont want to stay enney longer then nessessary. Tell me what you think of it.

Dear Eva I have been comparing ower pictures. I think that tha look well to gether. I hope you will think so too. I think I will send Marthia one the next time I write to her and Lew.

Eva I was going to ask you for some time now wether Burdett preached a Zion or not. I was just wandering wether he was your preacher. You asked me wether we had enney of the storm of last week. We had plenty of it but the worst part of it was farther East of hear. The wether has been nice hear for severl days now but thare ar some sines of rain this eving. You supposed that I would not be sorrie wen the time came for me to come. No I will not and you think we will be best pleased wen we would get back and I would fiend out that you liked the cuntry hear. Now my dear I onley hope and pray that you will be pleased and saterfied hear. If you shuld not be we will be in a bad shape.

My dear friend that is one reason why I am anksus for you to know all about me and the place you ar coming to and as much of my busness as you want to know and as I told you in the start that I did not want you to be disapointed in enney thing after it would be too late. Dear Eva I surly will doo my best to keep you from geting verry bad home sick. If you shuld we wont let every body know it will we. I will do my part by you Eva as far as I know how trusting that will all be.

Well now Eva it is geting late and this sheet is about full. I will quit for to night. I hope you will get your letter tomorrow Tusday and be a little pleased with the picture

from your true friend. Good night.

Joe

December 4 1900

Darrrtown Ohio

Tuesday night

Dear Eva

I will just write you a few lines to night to let you know that I am well and hope you ar the same and I mite say that I am thinking of you near all the time. I even drempt that I was writing to you last night. I surley think that you received you letter and picture this morning and meby you ar writing to me to night. If I get your letter in time I will mail this one Saterdag at Hamilton that is ower county seat. I will go down that day to pay taxes.

Dear Eva if I was a good writeter I would just write you A grate long letter this time. I would like to tell you how peapel ar gessing what Joe is going to doo for a house keeper. Thare is talk out now that I am to be married to a widdow lady in Oxford that is a nuther one on the string you know I told you of that one in Collinsville. I met with her uncle today. He is trying his best to have me come over thare. Tha think of a little of everyy thing to say. Tha dont know that thare is a grate hie fence bilt around me and dont you fear that it will be tooren down. I feel that it is thare to stay. I dont know what tha will think of next. I gess that

wen you come over It will settle them.

Now I gess I will close for this time and retire and see what I will dream to night. Your loving friend. Good night Eva.

Joe

December 5 1900

Darrtown Ohio

Wednesday night

Dear Eva

Dont you know you have been on my mind all day today thinking what you did say to your ,self when you received my last letter and what you realy did think of that picture. My dearest friend I dont beleave that I can think of enney thing that would interest you verry much to night. I will just write to let you know that I am thinking of you enney way and I expect that you all redy maild a good letter for me to get on Friday. I hope I will get it on Friday so I can mail this on Saterdag as I all redy told you that I would go to Hamilton on Saterdag to pay my tax and then mail down thare so you mite get it on monday I dont know.

Dear I will close for to night and retire and as you told me I will think of you till I fall to sleep. Good night

Joe

December 6 1900

Darrrtown Ohio
Thursday night

Dear Eva

I will just write you a few lines to night to let you know that I am well and hope this will fiend you the same. Eva the wether is some what cooler and have the appearence of rain agan. I have such a mean pen it lets the ink down too fast if I ant verry careful. To morrow is Friday. I will kinder look for a letter to morrow afternoon. I hope I will so I can mail this Saterdag. My dear it wont be long now enney more till you will see me over thare. I will not write enney more till I get my next letter. From your true friend.

Joe
December 7 1900
Darrrtown Ohio
Friday

Well my Dearest Beloved Friend I am truly happy to tell you that I received that good and sweet letter of yours this afternoon and am sorrie that I cant fully express my self to you the keind feeling your kiend and good letters bring to me. You surley have sent a good letter this time and I doo wish to truly thank you for the menney good and kiend things you told me. My dear I know that I shal be truly happy to see the day

wen I shal meet you my dearest friend.

Now my dear I hope that you will excuse me if I fail to speak of all the good things you spoke of. Dont fear that you get your letters too long. I dont get a bit tired reading them. I just keep reading them till I get a nuther I am glad to hear you say that my picture pleased you and all so that you can read and understand my poorly ritten letters so well and you spoke of the organ and sewing mashine. My dear we will see and talk of those things wen I come over. So father thought that you wer jokeing about him having to bake buckwheat cakes for himself. Poor old man will be sorrie to see you go away so far. My dear you can look out for some talk wen you hand in your resocnasion as teacher. Tha will all know what you ar going to doo then. My dear I have all redy wrote a lot so I think I will close for this time and mail on the morning and look over your dear letter and write more for next weak. So good night for this time and be good to your self from your loving friend.

Joe