Ring-branch June 13th

Brother Loren

Since I heard you had sold your place I have felt some anxiety to hear what you intended to do whether you thought of coming to this teritory or hammering out your life among the rocks in old Susquehanna and lest I might have conveyed a wrong idea in some of my epistolary correspondence I thought I would try to describe some things to you but have no hopes of giving you a correct idea of this country or anything else. if you should see this Teritory you would have your own ideas of it, I know one thing the crows are mighty thick and are intermined to pull up my corn water corn is all I do now days

I have 10 or 12 acres of corn now if this produces 40 bushels per acre as a methodist preacher told me it would and I get 1,25 per bushel which is the price of corn this spring how much will I make, or if it is so dry that corn wont grow on sod as I understand was the case in 1854 & 55 how much will I make. but corn or no corn I shant kill myself loving here after the ground is broke we take the sharpest ax we can get strike it in through the sod drop the corn in put your foot on to close the sod and say grow or no grow we does no more to you

in the fall some pick off the ears bro-
and all and throw it in a shed others
build a pole pen and throw it in witho-
any cover some let it stand all winter
in the field. The prairie is lolling
free from stones or rocks (as the hoosiers
call them) except in some bluffey places
there is lime stone. ~~in some places are~~
~~to a very large quantities of~~
the stones are piled I think there is lots
of them enough to build Jerusalem they
are not situated so they will soon be buil-
into fence if ever they are along the stream
many streams course through the
prairie some within 2 or 3 miles of each
other. some places you couldnt get to a drin
of water in 10 miles this stream has
lots of stone in it some of the way it is
limestone bottom some gravel bottom
not any fish that are worth catching
the stones are in the bluffs gen principally how
far in or how many I have not been
into see but to appearance lots of them
the timber if timber it may be called
is along the stream in the bends of the
streams where the fire could not get to it
the timber is very scraggy in conseqence
of the fire having run through it
but little saw timber can be found
in this section I do not think there is
timber enough ~~in this section~~ to
supply families on ½ of the quarter
sections

[illegible] a mile and there
have hardly timber enough for fire wood
stone coal has been found in several
places and there is in many places
appearances of coal it is bituminous
coal I think it is in small quantities
in a good many places perhaps.
The soil appears to be very rich the rock
is limestone many good springs are found
along the banks of the streams. This is
a dry country in my opinion there has
been but one rain that wet the ground since
I have been in the teritory that was on
the night of the 13th of May the wind
blew awfully takeing part of the roof
off Harrows house I let the rain
come on to Smith & I smoke but we got
under the featherbed humped ourselves
to make rafters ~~to~~ for our beds we got
some wet but thought nothing of that
as this is Nebraska. The weather is
very pleasent now a delightful breeze is
sweeping over the prairie all of the time
From what I can learn the sum-
mers here are very pleasent but the
winters about disagreable. What to
think of this country I dont know
I have talked with men from Ohio
Indianna Illinois Wisconsin Michigan
Iowa Minnisota Missouri and all prefer
their native place to this but I have
not found a man in this teritory
that I could put confidence in what
he says

we have lots of wild stuff
cranberries goose berries strawberries beans peas black
berries potatos onions wallnuts hickory nuts
&c wild rye grows also these are Hoosier names
the apples are a kind of plums. the beans
peas onions and rye amount to nothing
the potatoes are a kind of artichoke not
half as good as those in Pa. the land here is
open for prex essption a person can live on
his claim 3 days out of eight or not prove
up pay up and get a deed now. I presume
this will be the case for 2 or 3 yeas. the law
sais may come on sooner but the talk
now is it will not. I dont know what
~~they~~ to think of this country whether
we shall ever have society or what it
will amount to I cant decide.
I dont hear of any thing now send me
some old newspapers the troubles in
kansas were as near as I can learn
about as described in the tribune
I dont know what I shall do here
or any where else I may make
enough to live on but I should not
think it strange if in less than a
year I should be stranpped entirely
my porridge dish has been wound end
up since I have been here I received a letter
from W A the 7 I suppose he has moved
how is fathers health where does grandmother
live when this letter will get started for
Pa is uncertain I expect my letter
remain in the office a long time Yours G K Miller
Direct Nemaha Co Tabercock city