

Today September 17, 1880

Oh dear Mary,

I was over joyed yesterday to get your letter which I had been waiting for a long time. I had hope with much pain and almost give up hope and I dreamed every night last week that I would get a letter. Finally your letter came my dream come true. You can believe me that you couldn't make me more happy.

For three weeks I have been away from the old place where I worked. Now I am about 20 miles away from my old place. Here I make square beams of logs and get paid \$20.00 a month. I am not so far in the woods like I was last winter. I am only one mile from the church so I can go to church every Sunday.

Now I will close my letter. Many greetings to you from your always happy lover.

John Lorang

Collegeville

Stearns Co., Minn.