

Letters, 1875-1882. Call Number, Oshkosh SC 68

Brainerd, Mary Pease, 1811-[s.l.]: [s.n.], [s.d.]

https://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/FFO2BECYLVCXP8O

This material may be protected by copyright law (Title 17, US Code).

For information on re-use see: http://digital.library.wisc.edu/1711.dl/Copyright

The libraries provide public access to a wide range of material, including online exhibits, digitized collections, archival finding aids, our catalog, online articles, and a growing range of materials in many media.

When possible, we provide rights information in catalog records, finding aids, and other metadata that accompanies collections or items. However, it is always the user's obligation to evaluate copyright and rights issues in light of their own use.

Mere faring for my fun to for to to for to for to for t D'anneille abug the 13 1875 vary Perce La Como. Then Brainerd My Dear Muce To - Lavina Peace, Lexas trunship Sunday Dansville, Wiscon Kalings & milger Jours of July 22 is received many Thanks for It was exceeding glad To hear from you all again and To to learn you were all usually well & hope you will all continue in the enjoyment of it as health is the greatest bleping we can enjoy, Mow Lavina I suppose you are out of school by this Time and engoying a vacaliz at home - do you intend to teach this fall or winter, I feel pust as if I would the to look in and see you all this morning my visit, to your house that scurch got alguainted I think lots of things that I wanted to ush about but forgot until & yot home well & hope we shall all meet again

and have a longer viset next lime. Now Lavine how did your Pa, wheet Crop Turn out I hope it proved to be better that he thought it would when we were there . very glad his prospects are good for a good Exp of Corn, how has butter makeerry been This summer I suppose your that is buisy makeing it as ever I really hope it will pay for the prouble, & Can hardly realise that I have been to Minagan it seems like a dream well life is a dream, Thow does that widdowy get along I suppose when that fakes place you will come here on your weding Tour well people will Talk of They did not they would not say any thing at not would be better for some if They did, say What they do especially when They squit it. I hope you be will have good Crop of buck wheet if he does you must all eat and grow fat you may send me a Cake Crost the wires, Mow for us in Dannett we are foying along in the same old rul as ever

nothing new nor strange taken place of of late . We find plenty to do to keep out of Mischief and are enfoying a usual Jegree of health which we ought to be greatful for, Farmers here have mostly goten through Cutting their Wheat but have not commenced stacking yet as the reather has been showery for a few days parst what crop is good in This vicinity, the forfart of the reason was so wet that the Chinch bug did not dannege the wheet and before the dry weather Came on the wheet was out of the your of them so people are happyly descriptionded for they were locking for the bugs to destroy the Wheet, the weather been quite dry for some time untill of late we have had some nice showers Corn is very late we shound have any large mough to eat this two week the weather has been to cold and dry but still if feast holds off long enough we may have a fair Crop. We had a very nice Time for harging no rain-Cured and

& thinks formed you the own to one of the out the suting that there is any of our lite at fin ann a pool and stacked in good order. We had a very heavy crop of grafs and cloves. our wheat ground was let out by the acre to we have not any-our coin is put out on shares gray, is our principal crop this season - this part of the letter in relate to Crops perhaps Lavenia will not interrest good but I thought that your The might want to have in regard to them. Head from John and Maile and also from Will not longe since form and family have been out to visit Mate Pdout lenver as they have returned get I am looking for Mate home some time in Oct. Will & puppose has your to housekey. as his house was dong last week- his I wife went out three weeks ago - they have had quite a time giting ready or giting a house. Had a letter from your abuit Lavinin last week all rade there.

Mur Perind to And multiplicate a And point of the second And point of the second And point of the second And price and your a And price and your a And price and your a and your second the second All the second for a second all complete soon To - Some Peace Mint do you Think of your dunt Mary for not answering your letter before this Time. I unagine here's you say she is real mean & don't blance you at all for thinking so for I think it is mean Too -but neverthelefs hard you seen all the work that Phere herd to do This fall and winter I think Multe you would encus this seeming neglect, but still & dont mean to bet work hinder me from writing to my friends but our are no apt to delay writing untill a more convent Time. I was very very glad indeed to get a littles from you and to hear That you rave well and many Thanks for your picture I did not have one of them before P think it is fust splended it looks as

January 1-1876, Do Lavinia Peace, Lexas township, Kalamazoo Co. Michigun a student at Kulamazoo College, if it minght speak - & think was po match of it, I can't but thinks about Those Burglass that intered your house I should to your Ta and Ma would reduced have been frightened out of This receson & should ? know Phope they neves will have to pus, through the kind again, were Those Bugless arrested. Cour wither thus far has not been very severe other, very comfaitable with the exception of a few days two days in Now the mercury was Twelve degrees below years and one or two days in Dec It has been raining for the last three days last night it Cleared off and frage some the Traviling is just another the frost is out of the ground the mud is dief we did not here any reins last fall the roads were good, I was expecting Anate home last fall to spend the writes but she did not course but is Coming in the spring of nothing happens and will spend the summer with us

From, Danville, Wisconsin Blenn and John Brannerd, ter rous; Berming Bleed a letter from William this week all well & wees some expecting him home on a visit this write but he is so full of burness he cant come and is the sume "John their burness is such that it Confines them it all most impossible for them to leave I am glad Munia you are attending school , this winter & hope you will make a meceppul teacher and will have a pleasent time, heaver Joli, have you been to any more practices in the rain I think you must had a delightful time but & suppose you herd pleasure enough while these to make it all up, I have not heard one wood from Lebbics, ow Uncle Ripleys folks since the went East meither did & Senow that she had your until you wrote, have not heard from your dant Elizar, since the she left Mishigan. I am very glad Times that your be did not go to Tennesee I really hope he will not go I don't think I

Hun eyen must not certain it may close you Studies how hong here you think and and your any place for a Mothern man should not want to bring up a family there under the present State of things . Jester was Mero years where and how did you spend it and also Christmus did It Claros put any thing in your stocking if the yours was as rearry in Misheyan as it was here I mayin you could not have a very Cheefed one for it was gloomy enough here . but I hope this year will be a happy one to you and may you live to see many Them, Preceived your Por and Ma letter and was very glad to hear that they were usual will Pintended to have answered it long ago but have delayed but if nothing happins shall room, your Much has pust come in from doing his choirs at the barn and rurs it is Tune to get dennes so I must mind we must mind the focds of Creation you know. More how do you get along with

Principal and and the solution and the solution and the solution and the solution of the solut My Deen neve Winin Sunday counting to hear from you all, this long Jime but dont tenors as I shall unligs I write it peems to be the only thing & that stimulates me to do it is that is I may hear from my friends for I ? must acknowledge that I am a very Asoor Corrispondent, Mow Vince how do you all get along how do you all do is your Mother better I hope she in and your father is he will and the pest of the family, as for us here. We are moving along about as usual your Mindle is Complan of not feeling very well has a had cold ? I aimfeding about as well as usual although not very strong I have had quite a serious attact of Eycipelas this winter

Taken in my Toe with chills and fives I remid like the putried find that used to have East I had i very bad foot there was a while that it looked if it would mortify but it is all right now. These has been great deal of protenegs about here this winter, queit moing death monthe among our news neighbours and Id setters some that were here when we moved here among this was William, wife, Mother she had been out of health pome time but droped away very sudingly The roads were all blocked with more at the time so none of the firends could get here only those her closet by could get no wood to Wills wife nos the other friends by Beligrath or any other way untill several daigs after death neither could they bury her untill the fourth day after his death on account of the prov it toole a good many men to shovel roads in order to get here they live two miles from have the burying ground is not four from here and then they had

had to shovel rouch from here to bolumbus to get the Coffin they hard to go Crost the fields and every other way in order to get their it was a Tudle Time prov three feet on the level and puch herge prov banks. we never had putch a prove before here and it permis as if never would go off it moves so slow here it is most objer sind sulch a body of mois, The was revel days the trains did not move could get no. mail from any quarter it reemed lonerome monigh it was still worse in Minn. There Muste is provo four fact on the level there was a month at a fine the Trains Could not move they got the mail once as time. in that Time by going over the mow with a hand sted some forty miles, They don't generally have very mutch provo these. not as mutch as we do here. Scaple were not looking for putch as Time donot as well prepared for it as they minght have been the merchants got out of supplies so

Low coppin with Them had to thing at on foot be so plead to be so plead to see such some have you will be an that south you will have the from that be a will be a beach to the south of the the south of the people had, do without many things they rounted although there was no sufformy in that place but great suffering in some others for food and fuel many have mining there died for want of food and fore they could get to nobody and no one to them and out of every thing and of coursetties have to proish, They were well at Anedes we got a letter this week the firt we had for sometime, Selbie was being afflicted with Jobos Comporters aside from that well John and family are well as usual and eilso Williams Johny wife has a going daughter, There has been more proteness and deaths This winter than before since we lived here Lipthy measters and scentet fever, some have lost all their children, there is one family not few from here of severn Children four of the oldest have chied lately the oldest 22, 20 18, 16 more sich when one of them died they could not get to bolim

and have been browned the states of the sound of the soun all do in thich today how & would like to come in and see you all and have a good cheet with you we would find hots to say to each other and how recould enjoy it. It is very pleasant here too day although the Juniting is baid had quite a rain last night the weather reems mitch like Spring the month so far has been very pleasant and warm, and a very open winter not mutch like last winter last winder was fireful. We are all as well as usual my health is mutch better them it was last fall- pohn is very mutch as he yencely is winters

y care mue & ver mound the children he is on the couch now a sleep Wills, family is here yet he has gone to Montannee and John also and Mater husband is estimating to go in the Speng so you see my family is a good ways of they have been gone there werdes we had a letter from . them when they got at the end of the Rail Road they were about to start out on the last part of their fourney on foot some three hundred miles I ray on foot not reactly although they will foot some part of the time they toole with them a mule team there males and waggen, they took a tent each one armed with two perolvers and bove lenges, provision for themselves and miles, blunkets und heffels robes and powder and whatever they could carey for their comfact they also took a store They will have to camp out among, wild animals and Infins it is quite

This year is any yokaline weader fifty a an undertaking we feel very antious about them shall begin to look for letters next week it will take something like a month for letter, to get around They were in the Northen freet of Montainne up in the mountains among the mines There are men from John place abready there Joho pardener went with them, he went there last full and made some puchees for the boys the reports in regard to the value of the mines are good they expect to go in other burness there beside ring , when we get letters from the m boys and find out pointhing more ? will write again. It is some time (INNEW YOGK JATE) Cust I suppose it is my own furth for 9 have not answerd there last letter thought Proved went untill & heard from the boys. you would feel bad if you thought your children would be scentteed as. mine is, Thope they never he

The second with the second find bith day seventy one years old can it be? received on that day the present your and yours family presented me with which you have many theenter & think it mee and pretty and appreciate it very mutche as it came from you and yours, Morshow are your decuselves I hope to Sarah that your health has impround since I hast heard from your and that brother Win heatth is good Thope you will both be carful of your healths and live to a good old age don't commit succede by working to hard those we may all meet again some time on earth. Is Dine teaching you tell his Phace had noves about his Phacesd There was talk of his Takeing a school for life commencing with one pupil. I opped Mm and first are men it reams but a little while since they were little children, do you remain on the same four that you thave been on

(Page One)

[To Lavinia Pease, Texas Township Kalamazoo Co. Michigan. From Mary Pease (Mrs. John Brainerd), Danville Wisconsin]

Danville Aug the 15 1875

My Dear Neice L

Sunday

Yours of July 22

is received many Thanks for it was exceedingly gald to hear from you all again and to learn you were all usualy well I hope you will all continue in The enjoyment of it. as health is the greatest blessing we can enjoy. Now Lavinia I suppose you are out of school by this time and enjoying a vacation at home - do you intend to teach this fall or winter, I feel just as if I would like to look in and see you all this morning my visit was so short to your house that I scarcly got aquainted I think lots of things that I wanted to ask about but forgot untill I got home well I hope we shall all meet again

(Page Two)

and have a longer visit next Time. Now Lavinia how did your Oa, wheet crop turn out I hope it proved to be better than he thought it would when we were there - very glad his prospects are good for a good crop of corn, how has butter making been this summer I suppose your Ma is buisy making it as ever I realy hope it will pay for the Trouble. I can hardly realise that I have been to Mishagan it seems like a dream well life is a dream. How does that widdower get along I suppose when that takes place you will come here on your weding tour well people will talk if they did not they would not say any thing. it would be better for some if they did not say what they do especially when they squib it. I hope you Pa will have a good crop of buck wheet if he does you must all eat and grow fat. You may send me a cake crost the wires. Now for us in Danvill we are paging along in the same old rut as ever

(Page Three)

nothing new nor strange has taken place of late. We find plenty to do to keep out of mischief and are enjoying a usual [d]egree of health which we ought to be greatful for. Farmers here have mostly goten through cutting their wheat but have not commenced stacking yet as the weather has been showery for a few days past wheet crop is good in this vicinity, the forpart of the season was so wet that Chinch bug did not damage the wheet used before that dry weather came on the wheet was out of the nay of them so people are happily disappointed for they were looking for the bugs to destroy the wheet, the weather has been quite dry for some time untill of late we have had some nice showers corn is very late we shant have any large enough to eat this two week - the weather has been to cold and dry but still if frost holds off long enough we may have a far's crop. We had a very nice time for having no rain-cared and

(Page Four)

and stacked in good order. We had a very heavy crop of grass and clover - our wheet ground was let out by the acre so we have not any-our corn is put out on shares grass is our principal crop this season - this part of the letters in relate to crops perhaps Lavinia will not interest you but I thought that your Pa minght want to hear in regard to them. Heard from John and Mate and also from Will not long since John and family have been out to visit Mate I dout know is they have returned yet, I am looking for Mate home some time in Oct. Will I suppose has gone to housekeeping as his house was done last week his wife went out three weeks ago - they have had quit a time geting ready or geting a house. Had a letter from your Aunt Lavinia last week all well there.

(Marginalia)

I think Lavinia that you must be relation to our family as you dislike writing so much & dont think that there is any of our family that like it for myself I am poor corrispondant Now Lavinia you must excuse this for my pen is most miserable, does your Pa still talk of Tenesee Now you must write as soon as conveinent and let us know how you prosper Very mutch Love to all and a vacation for yourself

Yours lovingly Aunt Molly

(Page one)

[To Lavinia Pease, Texas Township Kalamazoo Co. Michigan. From Mary Pease Brainerd, Dodge Co. Wisconsin]

Danville Jan the 11 1876

My Dear Neice

What do you think of your Aunt Mary for not answering your letter before this time. I imagine I hear you say she is real <u>mean</u> I dont blame you at all for thinking so for I think it is mean too - but nevertheless had you seen all the work that I have had to do this fall and winter I think you would excuse this seeming neglect _ but still I dont mean to let work hinder me from writing to my friends but owe are so apt to delay writing untill a more convenient time. I was very very glad indeed to get a letter from you and to hear that you all well and many thanks for your picture I did not have one of them before. I think it is just splended it looks as

(Page Two)

if it minght speak - I think ever so mutch of it, I cant but think about those Burglars that entered your house I should think your Pa and Ma would have been frightened out of their reason I should I know. I hope they never will have to pass through the kind again, were those Burglers arrested. Our wites thus far has not been very scveu others wise very comfortable with the exception of a few days two days in Nov the mercuary was twelve degrees below zeeow and one or two days in Dec It has been raining for this last three days last night it cleared off and froze some - the traveling is just aweful the frost is out of the ground the mud is deep we did not have any rains last fall the roads were good, I was expecting Mate [daughter, Mary Brainerd] home last fall to spend the winters but she did not come but is coming in the spring if nothing happens and will spend the summer with us

(Page Three)

[William and John Brainerd, her sons; Bloomng Prairia Menteuto] I had a letter from William this week all well_I was some expecting him home on a visit this winter but he is so full of buisness he cant come and it is the same with John their buisness is such that it Confines them it is all most impossible for them the leave. I am glad Vinia you are attending school [Kalamazoo College] this winter I hope you will make a successful teacher and will have a pleasant time. have you been to any more parties in the rain I think you must have had a delightful time but I suppose you had pleasure enough while there to make it all up. I have not heard one would from Lebbia [Pease] nor you Uncle Ripleys [Pease] folks [at Nottawa, Michigan] since she went East neither did I know that she had gone until you wrote, I have not heard from you Aunt Eleyer [Pease] since she left Mishigan. I am very glad Vinia [Pease] that your Pa [William Pease, Kalamazoo Co Michigan] did not go to Tennesee I realy hope he will and not go I dont think

(Page Four)

any place for a Northern man should not want to bring up a family there under the present State of things. Yesterday was New Years where and how did you spend it and also Christmas did St Claws put any thing in your stocking if New Years was as rainy in Mishigan as it was here I imagin you could not have had a very Cheerful one for it was gloomy enough here. but I hope this year will be a happy one to you and may you live to see many of them. I received your Pa and Ma letter and was very glad to hear that they were usualy well I intended to have answered it long ago but have delayed but if nothing happins shall soon. Your Uncle has just come in from doing his choers at the barn and sais it is time to get dinner so I must mind we must mind the Lord of Creation you know. Now how do you get along with

(Marginalia, Page Three and Four)

[January 1-1876 To Lavinia Pease, Texas township, Kalamazoo Co. Michigan a student at Kalamazoo College. From Danville, Wisconsin]

(Marginalia)

your Studies_how long before your term closes do you expect to teach in the spring, now be a good girl and mind your Pa and Mar bud please excuse this you must not critizise it very clost

Now Vinia I wanted to send you a small present for new years but have not been any where to get any thing so I will enclose a little n bit so you can get what little thing you want it will git a stick of candy. Write soon Mutch Love to all

Lovingly Aunt Molly

(Page One)

Danville [Wisconsin] March the 26, 1881

My Dear Neice Vinia

Sunday

I have been wanting to hear from you all, this long time but dont know as I shall unless I write it seems to be the only thing that stimulates me to do it is that I may hear from my friends for I must acknowledge that I am a very poor corrispondant. Now Vinia how do you all get along how do you all do is your Mother better I hope she is and your father is he well and the rest of the family, as for us here we are moving along about as usual your Uncle is complaining of not feeling very well has a bad cold I am feeling about as well as usual although not very strong I have had quite a serious attact of Erysipelas this winter

(Page Two)

taken in my toe with chills and fever it seemid like the putrid kind that [they] used to have East I had a very bad foot there was a while that it looked if it would mortify but it is all right now. There has been great deal of sickness about here this winter, great many deaths among our near neighbours and old setlers some that were here when we moved here among them was William [Bramend], wife, Mother she had been out of health some time but droped away very suddingly the roads were all blocked with snow at the time so none of the friends could get here only those here closst by, could get no wood to Wills wife nor the other friends be teligrath or any other way untill several days after death neither could they bury her untill the fourth day after her death on account of the snow it took a good many men to shovel roads in orders to get here they live two miles from here the burying ground is not far from here and then they

(Page Three)

had to shovel roads from here to Columbus to get the coffin they had to go crost the fields and every other way in order to get there it was a terable time snow three feet on the level and such huge snow banks we never had sutch a snow before here and it seems now as if it never would go off it moves so slow here it is most offer send sutch a body of snow. There was sevel days the trains did not move could get no mail from any quarter it seemed lonesome enough it was still worse in Minn. where Mate [Mate Flinn] is snow four feet on the level there was a month at a time the trains could not move they got the mail once or twice in that time by going over the snow with a hand sled some forty miles, they dont generally have verry mutch snow there not as mutch as we do here. People were not looking for sutch a time a not not as well prepared for it as they minght have been the merchanto got out of supplies so

(Page Four)

people had to do without many things they wanted although there was no suffering in that place, but great suffering in some others for food and fuel many have died for want of food and fue they could get to nobody and no one to them and out of every thing and of course they have to perish. They were well at Mates we got a letter this week the first we had have for sometime, Lebbie [Pease] was being afflicted with gobs comforters aside from that well John [Brainerd] and family are well as usual and also Williams Johns wife has a young daughter. There has been more sickness and deaths this winter than before since we lived here Diphtheria measles and scarlet fever, some have lost all their children there is one family not far from here of severn children four of the oldest have died lately the oldest 22, 20 18, 16 more sick when one of them died they could not get to Columbus

(Marginalia)

for coffin with team had to bring it on foot. Every body will be so glad to see warm weather again. have you had sutch a winter with you. I had a letter from Hetta Williams recently saying Henry had got home aint it to bad he cant behave himself I am sorry for them. [Henry was a hard drinker]

Vinia are you still in school do you expect to teach this sumer. How is Willie get along with school does he like it. Jewit I suppose is going to school. Your Uncle is making a fire for me to get dinner so I must go and get it. Do you hear from your Uncles folks often. Be a good girl write often.

Loveingly Aunt Molly B Mutch love to all

Mary Pease Brainerd Letter #4

(Page One) [Mrs. Sternberg was mother of Aunt Mary Anna (Brown) Pease] [William and Sarah Pease, from Aunt Mary Pease Brainerd]

Danville [Wisconsin] Feb the 14, 1882

My very Dear Brother and Sister

How do you all do in Mich too day how I would like to come in and see you all and have a good chat with you we would find lots to say to each other, and how I would enjoy it. It is very pleasent here too day although the traveling is bad had quite a rain last night the weather seems mutch like Spring the month so far has been very pleasent and warm, and a very open winter not mutch like last winter last winter was fearful. We are all well as usual my health is mutch better than it was last fall - Mr. John [Brainerd, "Molly's Husband] is very mutch as he generly is winter time.

(Page Two)

he is on the couch now a sleep Wills [Brainerd] family is here yet he _ has gone to Montanna and John [Junior] also and Mates husband [Flinn] is exspecting to go in the Spring so you see my family is a good ways off they have been gone three weeks we had a letter from them when they got at the end of the Rail Road they were about to start out on the last part of their journey on foot some three hundred miles I say on foot - not exactly although they will foot it some part of the time they took with them a mule team there mules and waggen, they took a tent each one armed with two revolvers and bowe [bowie] knifes provision for themselves and mules blankets and buffalo robes and powder and whatever they could carry for their comfort they also took a stove They will have to camp out among wild animals and Indins it is quite

(Page Three)

an undertaking we feel very anxious about them shall begin to look for letters next week it will take something like a month for letters to get around They are in the Northern part of Montanna up in the mountains among the mines There are men from Johns place already there Johns pardener went with them, he went there last fall and made some purchases for the boys the reports in regard to the value of the mines are good they expect to go in other buisness there besides mining - when we get letters from the boys and find out something more I will write again. It is some time since I have heard from our friends East [in New York State] I suppose it is my own fault for I have not answered their last letter thought I would wait untill I heard from the boys. you would feel bad if you thought your children would be scattered as mine is. I hope they never will be

(Marginalia Page Two and Three)

This year is my golden wedden fifty years since I was married the children did talk some of coming home to celebrate the day but did not

(Page Four)

Last week was the fourteenth of Feb my birth day seventy one years old can it be. I received on that day the present you and your family presented me with which you have many thanks I think it nice and pretty and appreciate it very mutch as it came from you and yours. Now how are your dearselves I hope Sarah [Pease] that your health has improved since I last heard from you and that brother Wms [Pease, Kalamazoo county Michigan] health is good. I hope you will both be careful of your healths and live to a good old age dont commit suicide by working to hard I hope we may all meet again some time on earth. Is Vinia teaching you tell her I have bad news about her I heard there was talk of her taking a school for life commencing with one pupil. I expect Wm and Jewit [Pease] are men it seems but a little while since they were little children, do you remain on the same farm that you have been on

(Marginalia)

How is brother Ripley [Rifley Pease, Nottawa Michigan] and family Libbia is still with Mate or was the last I heard from them. I suppose Mrs. Stamlibuge is still living I expect Mary has some Trials with her. I wish things were different with them in some respects. That they could get along pleasantly

Now Brother Wm and Sister Sarah I hope I shall hear from you soon.

Lovingly Sister Molly [Mary Brainerd] Gave my Love to all the children and also to Nurier [Swift].

I will send John['s] too he is just now at the barn he would send it if he was here.