

## GRANDMOTHER'S LETTER

Letter written by Sarah Clark Miles Austin to her daughter, Clara Miles Mitchell.  
Original in the possession of Joe Mitchell, image of which was kindly shared with Kerry Patrick. (A Possible Translation to clarify detail)

March the 17, 1870

Dear Daughter,

I thought you had forgot me. I got your letter and was glad to hear that you was well. We are all well but La. He is very sick today. He has been sick all winter off and on. The rest of the Family is well. I have had a sore finger. Alice Austin's Baby is dead. Marge Johnson's Baby is dead, and Mr. ?Arvaine? is dead. Lafayette's Grandmother Grant is dead. Clary, I got a letter from my Mother. I will send it to you. You can read it and keep it until you come home. Miss Ellis is a-coming here on Sunday.

Kate is at Boyd's yet. Eunice is at School, so is Oscar. Charley is hunting the eggs. I get lots of eggs this spring. Isabel is a-working for Jim Borders, Beck McGee is at Alice's, staying. Harrison Dial is married. Clary, Mar Preston is at Trenton a-going to school. He got a pretty Valentine from St. Louis. Clary, I want you to learn far as you can for I want you to come home when school is out so you can help me make garden. I have been to Belleville to the Doctor to see what he could do for my arm. It has been lame all winter. I will tell you what they are all a-doing. Dolph is a-shucking corn. Alex is a-sitting before the fire. Will is fixing the fence. La is in bed, sick. Mag Mitchell is ??? in to Tom Stevenson. I haint got no more to write to you. Be a good girl and mind Cousin Elisa and Stephen. Tell Naomi I want her to write to me. I got a letter from Pheb. she was well (and) coming. I want you to w(rite) often as you can. Lucy is a-making out a new quilt. It's pink and white. We got the pattern from Miss Ellis. Anna Dale is with Miss Ellis. She is a fine girl. She has been here. Clary, Jo Davis has moved to Cairo. No more. Good Bye. My love to Stephen's Family.

Naomi, I long to be remembered. By her sis, I send you my love and a kiss on the cheek for you. Willy and Lucy both send their love to you, Clary.

My Dear Sister,

I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know I that I am well this evening. I have just come home from school. I have won every mark since he has taught school. Mr. Ellis and his wife and sister are a-going-to come here next Sunday, if it don't rain. I have been to (?5 Points?) this winter. Mr. Ellis is a-going-to teach school here next summer. Tell Naomi (?that we are well and?) hard at work. Tell Naomi that from my best (?report?) to (?her?) and (?Mary?) also Horine. A kiss to little Horine. Is my fellow is all right yet and spirited as ever and sweet as candy?

From Eunice A. Miles and Sarah Miles  
To Clary Miles