

(LOGGING CAMP LETTER)

Loyal [Clark County Wisconsin]
November 9, 1871

Dear Sister

It is with pleasure that I try to _____ a few minutes in writing to you. I have not heard one word from home since I left. I have written three letters to Florence since I came up here but have received no answers. Dear sister I am pleased with this place. I was happily [disappointed] in the offerings of this place. The people seem to be very kind and some few seemed to be pretty wealthy. There is a great deal of lumbering carried on in this country I suppose there is some dozen camps within 10 miles and perhaps more and most of the Christians are very zealous. They seem to take hold with me in the glorious cause and Mottie the best of all is God is with us. I feel that I am growing in years. I had, last night in prayer meeting, one deep [fling down in the purple flood]. I enjoy more than I did at home, to God be all the glory. I feel that I am in the path of _____ when praying in the secret spot. The Lord is with me in the prayer meetings. He is there and when I try to hold up his name by way of preaching His word, glory be to God He is there. I know the folks at home pray for me, I feel it in my bones. Don't think I am exciter Mottie by my talk but the Savior has been very freeious to me. Mottie do try dear sister to cheer Florence all you can about coming up here. She must not think this is out of the world for her for she will find some good people up here. Brother Bushnell intends to go with me calling upon the camps. He is a blessed little man and he is my friend.

Mottie the unconverted are my fast friends. They use me with respect and I can see that some of them are getting converted. One backslider was reclaimed in our prayer meeting one night, and there is one man who is a blacksmith who used to be a dreadful wild man, offered to shoe my horse and it would not cost me anything. He has shoed [Charley] in the forefeet and told me when I had anything to be done in their line to give them a call. I tell you this to let you know how kind they are. I look for a great revival of God's work this winter here and how I am praying for it. I want you to pray for it to dear sister, you never seemed more dear to me than since I left home. God bless you dear Mottie and may God bless your family and all the dear people who live down there. Tell brother not to feel uneasy on my account for I am here among my Father's children. I was some afraid of the local preachers when I first heard they were here, but two of them are _____, they stand by me at all times. And the other is running a saw mill. I am afraid he is pretty worldly but he is a kind man. Mottie, while I live humbly the Lord will be with me, I know He will. I am _____ (sentence missing) _____ saying to write to you. Oh if Florence was only here I would be happy. We will have to live with a young couple

this winter, they are good Christians though and they have no children. So I guess we will get pretty well. Encourage Florence all you can, you know she needs it and she looks on you like a sister. Give my love to all inquiring friends give it to David and Meggie and the folks at home. Oh Mottie pray for me everyday. Let us be sure we have the blessed Lord with us daily and nothing can harm us. Goodbye dear sister, write soon, from your affectionate brother.

Samuel E. McLain

Niellsville, Clark County, Wisconsin
In care of S. E. Honeywell