



Farmington Ap^r 30th 1849.

Dear Cousin E-

I received your letter some time ago and should have answered it some time since is

but you know what a busy time this ^ among us farmers and now I have been plowing all day and am very tired but if I wait for a leisure time I shall never write. Perhaps you heard that my school-house took fire and burnt up last winter I kept out the remainder of the term in a Church near that old school-house. It was an unpleasant place to keep in, so large every noise make many echoes and sometimes the noise was almost deafening.

Mother has been unwell for some days all the rest of us are well and have been all winter. Henry returned from Scott County last Saturday in good health and spirits he saw the girls Louise & Caroline at Beardstown, they are well C- is teaching school Louise talks of coming home in 3 weeks I hope she will it seems very lonesome here without her. Sarah has been weaving carpets one for herself & one for Mother.

In a little place like this you know there is not much going on and one has not much to write. I believe when you were here the Academy was not built – but now I recollect, Cousin Henry was up in the Winter and attended an Astronomical Lecture in it the school was well attended during the

winter but this spring the school grew smaller and smaller every day until there were but 8 scholars and then broke up they intend to commence again I believe in the Autumn

I suppose you heard the death of Mrs Galt of this place Mr Galt married again in three Months pretty well for a preacher.

You are the first of my Cousins that has ever taken notice enough of her old bachelor cousin to write to him and I am much obliged to you for it and think you are the most sensible cousin I've got.

If I can get time after planting I intend to take a ride down to your house and down to Beardstown it is a long time since I was in the Bottom I should like to see all the good folks there once more

Everybody has gone to bed - my candle is nearly out good-bye

Your affectionate cousin
E. Dutch Jr.

P.S. direct your next letter to Richland we are there 3 or 4 times a week.

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