

August 5th. 1855

Dear son we received your letter of the 29 of may
And was happy to hear that you were all
well we are all well at present with is one
of the greatest blessings we can enjoy the
friends are all well as far as we know I suppose
you have heard that John Russell and wife
and William Russell and family ^{arrived} here in April
and I think they had better stayed in Pa for
They are a disgrace to society so much for that
We had a very cold and dry spring but when summer
commenced we had the right kind of weather
Wheat crops are great and corn crops look better
then ever I seen them since I have been in
this country and every thing else looks promising
We have about six hundred dozen of wheat ~~and~~
Wheat is worth 1.00..25 cts per bushel but it will
come down to 75 cts before long corn is worth
40 cents but I think again fall it will not
be worth more than 20 oats is worth 30 cts
Beef is 8 a 10 cts per lb in vinton but I bought
some this week for 3 cts per lb bacon 7 hams 9 Shouls
8 cts per lb there is the greatest prospect of Potatoes
then ever I seen we expect three hundred bushels
Horses are very high ~~and~~ any thing of a horse
will bring one hundred and fifty to seventy

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Five dollars cattle - use rather coming down the
Prairie is all entered between this and Iowa
Rivers and is settled from 8 to 9 miles out from us
I spoke to Abraham Myers about that money he owed
you and he told me he thought black frank had
paid it and that was all the satisfaction he gave
me and he has left here and has gone to Hardin
County as I have nothing particular to write
I will bring my letter to a close

Nothing more at this time
But remain your father and
Mother until death

Mary Stephens Nicholas Stephens