

Dear Sir we received your letter and was
happy to hear that you were all well
We are all in good health hoping these few
lines will find you enjoying the same
things we have had the cultivated winter
that ever I seen in fact we had no winter
yet worth mentioning until yesterday and
on day is pretty cold the migration has
been occurring in all the time and the
to enter then are twelve miles south of us
it is really surprising and not knowing
where to get timber Benton city is improving
very fast we have our good store there and are
fort office are every part of the same measure is
is entered our office Benton the county seat
is also improving very fast the have also credit
A large store will have fishery &
them freedom is coming out here in the spring
and many more from that country join
Russell is going to move out some where in the
neighborhood of Iowa city Elizabeth learner
is wanted to John Dillon and also Henry Tate
but you must not get scared when I tell
you have to well I guess I must tell you at
any rate I must rest a while before I write her name

State of Iowa Benton City
January 21st 1855



it is my standers and it surprised the late
County Whittaker learner has a fine garden

you want to know how black frank is getting
along I can not tell you much about him he
was to see us twice this summer & heate that he
had sunk five hundred dollars the last year

George myers and the late family is living in
Benton city daniel is married to that girl that we
to live with them in merion old george has got
the ferry at the city that money you was staking
about I want you to do the best with it you can
lets see and let us know all about times in
that country direct your letter to Benton city
Benton city Tenn

Nothing more at this time but
Remain your father and Mother

Nicholas Stephens
Henry Stephens