

Palmer Christian County Illinois Jan 27th 1874

to Supplina Hamilton Dear Nephew I Just now

venture to write a few lines to let you know that I am as well as usual & safely at home again I left portland Oregon on the 28th day of Nov last on the Steamship Creplam & arrived in San Francisco Sat on the 2^d day of Dec & made the trip across the Mountains in Eleven days coming at home in Palmer on the 16th day of Dec having been gone from home a little less than two months & had no sickness while out I had a hard struggle while in the City of Portland between going home or going to see you I did want to go ^{to see you} very much and knowing as I did that it ^{was} late in the Season ^{to} take a trip by Sea or to cross the mountains in the Snowy Season & more I was very short of funds & it pleased me in every perplexing circumstance I had went out there to near Puget Sound on purpose to look after a quarter Section of Land which I had Bought from one of my Neighbors here in Palmer & thought I should sell I only had \$250. when I started home & when I got back to Portland I had but \$40. when I met your friend Lewis from Auroraville he urged me to go & see you saying he believed you would supply my deficiency of money I really did not wish to make my self burdensome visiting my friends & you ever knew me you knew that I would pay my way I could not sell my land while there so I implored a man to sell my land for me I got a letter from him last week & he says he has not sold it yet so I wrote him immediately not to sell it as I should go there next Spring should I live untill Spring as I can not stand the cold nor hot weather here any longer your Brother William says he will go out there with me & do not expect to return to this Country again but stay there until I die near Puget Sound & now I want very much that you should write me a letter since I have known