

REBECCA McNEILL TO MACK

West Unity, Wms  
May the 12th/Ohio  
Mr. Ewing

Dear friend after a reasonable elapse of time, I again take my pen to respond to your kind letter, it gave me pleasure to hear that you were all well, but I was sorry that you could not come down here as soon as you had calculated. we are all well at present but we feel sadly, it is alltogether likely that you have heard about my brother joining Uncle Sam's forces. he volunteared. Apr the 22nd & started for Cleaveleand, O. the 23rd. we have rec'd three letters from him. he volunteered for 3 months. the greatest excitement prevailed here the week & week before the Soldiers started. James writes that he is in good spirits. it was not excitement which enticed him to go forth. it was his love of country. he had not attended any war meetings before he started. he had remained at home untill the day before he started. with him the love of country was stronger than the ties of home & so he went forth to incur the dangers of war & adopt for his Motto, death to traitors. I was a little surprised to her that none had started from Hillsdale yet. O I forgot to tell you that, Henderson, & Milton Radabaugh has gone too. there are a great many more that I might mention to you I only knew them. so it wouldnt interest you. you will excuse me for writing so much about the times for there is nothing else talked of, nothing else thought of, & how could I write about any thing else, even a love & murder story cannot interest any one now. I had quite writing for a spell & during that interval a gentle man arived with horse & cariage to convey me to my school which commences tomorrow do not misconstrue my meaning it is one of the directors & a married man at that. now I set a time for you to come here as you cannot suit yourself as to the time. I want you to come two weeks from yesterday. we will have a quick erly meeting Saturday & Sunday & I shall be at home at that time. I dont know my address & so I cannot give it here & I dont know when I can get your letters but my folks will not break them. my paper is very poor & [?] not very good so I will finish with pencill I want you to come at the time I set for you for I do not know when I cn be at home nor if you set time it is uncertain whether I can get the, no, Mc if you dont come at that time I shall conclude that you do not want to come at all. I hope I shall not have to judge you harshly. that Meeting will be May the 26th 29th. if you have not forgotten your promise (that is to lend your watch to me) please bring it along with you. I was at Issac Ewings last sabath they were all well but Mr had the chills you will excuse me for my sembling way of writting for I am in such a hurry Mc dont forget me your absent yet faithful friend. B & I promise you the same. I think of you often very often indeed. I have looked for you and have been dis apointed as often. but I hope I shall not be this time in seeing you at the time that I have appointed. some gentleman would be very much disgusted with a lady who would appoint a time for them & urge them to make her a visit but I know your generous heart, & I know you will make ample excuses.

Good by  
from your friend Rebie

P.S. They are eating & I will have to seal my letter & leave you must excuse me for not asking you to write for I want you to come first.

Rebie Stevens Mcneal

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Note: The envelope is addressed to H. M. Ewing, Esq./Cambria Mills/Hillsdale/Mich. AEE assigns the letter to 1861, but with a question mark.

WKE 100396