

JIM McNEILL TO MACK

Sept the 16th /60
West Unity Williams/Ohio

Respected friend it is with pleasure that I embrace this oportunity to adress a few lines to you to let you know that we are all well at this time. hoping thoes few lines will finde you and your relatives enjoying the same. I Received yours baring date Aug 12th, 60. It gave me pleasure to hear that you was able to get round eaven by the slow mode you mentioned (crawling) I hope e'er this reaches you you will all be upon your feet; hearty and ruged I would have writen to you sooner but I thought I would put it off til after the Union Fair of West Fulton Cos Ohio. there was considerable fine Stock on exhibition the Mechanical arts was wel presented & the agricultural production was excellent tell Will Ewing that ould Jas took the first premium [prize] on brood Mares which was \$3.00. her coalt that was foaled on 26th of Aprille/60 was the best coalt on the grounds [the rest of this page is too dim to read]

I was up at Isaac Ewingses two weeks ago they was well at that time. I heard from them yester-day. Mc has had chills sinse that. he is well again. Isaac had the chills this summer. you invited me to come up and go south with you to your coledge-School this fall. as I can not be with you whitch I regret. I wish you success in climing the hill of science whitch no man has reached the summit. I scratch a little at the base once in a while but I am not persevering an iough [enough] to get a long. now Hank if you will come dow here we will go to the Union School at west unity. I have got the pretiest 3 year oald mare in this part of the country. at least a good many has toald me so. we can make a Sleigh (for we have boath worked in wood at least I have chopod some fire wood) & when sleighing is good we can hitch Saley to it & go in a hurry to School when it is not there will be an other young Horse at your service & we can go a Horse back. faith & we havent but one Saddle but diddy has got a shape skin & there is plenty of linbark for stirups. Hank I am in earnest a bout going to school this winder if you come it wil cost you only \$3.50 for three months Schooling. the School is graded and that will give us a mutch better chans

Mother has just come from Hollinshead. Permelia is verry low; & is worse too day than She has been since your father & mother was here. James Jenkinses folks are nearley all down with the chills the rest of your Folks are wel so far as know. I bought a lincoln medal and his life last Monday. if we had not a divine promise that the wourld would not be destroyed by water I would not know but the second delluge was opened upon us. I think that 40 days & 40 nights would set us a swimming.

Monday morning there is a prospect of a clear cool day I have not writen so mutch as expected too. answer this soon fail not & let me know whether you are coming down to go to School or not. if you are I will be able in my next letter & give me biggest & best spechs to all inquiring friends I will close my self your friend from

Jim Mc

too
Henry Mc. Ewing

Mr H. M. Ewing
Esteemed friend

it is with great pleasure that I embrace this oppourtuny to respond to your brief epistle. I am well except a bad cough. you stated in your letter that you dare not come so far from home on account of those delirious spasms to which you are subject, but just try it and if you do any

devilment on that account, I will give your bail so now come along. Tell Martha that I am very very sorry that she cannot come Here to school for I fel very lonesome, before I became acquainted with the girls, but now it is very pleasant only she is not here. The bell is ringing and I will have to start to school pretty soon or I shall be too late. I will finish writing this evening. I cannot think of any thing to write I had to go to Mr Booths to sharpen my pencil and I will have to go again I guess for it is broken. I was at the fair saturday there were a great many curious thngs to be seen. Oh no Mc do come down here and visit School, I cannot recommend the young ladies as very good looking but come and see your frends and write soon. I am here in town and attend to the Office evry evening. Good bye Beck,Mc}Beck Mcneill

Note: The letter has no envelope. It is written in a combination of ink and pencil, and contains the first reference in this correspondence to Abraham Lincoln and his candidacy for President of the United States.

WKE 121296