Ashland Ky. 2nd Jany 1865.

Dear
Mother

Your of the 27th ult came to hand Saturday night. We were very glad to hear of your continued good health and of the family. Hattie says she thinks you have great faith in this latitude and people from your anticipations for names. We have not determined on any name for No 6 and your recommendation is among the first. We are not ready for John.

We have not heard of any package by Mr

block of Smith. — Also a package of Yr Books each for "Thomas" & "Hamy" which we received the other day without any explanation, save the names fastened to each pair, which we supposed were from Union. They had made a trip out to Buena Vista, and were sent back here, the young men in the office there having no need of such articles. Where from and how they came we could not tell. — Hattie is getting along finely, her reputation helping some. I sent to Mr. Boal (Now in City) to send her a keg of Ale. He sent by return of boat Yr BW saying that as I had mentioned "the number of boys", he did not know but we might need a double portion. We had about 7 inches of snow Saturday morning — All join in love and wish a happy New Year to you and family.

Your obedient Son

John Mead.

1865

Cincinnati Jany 2nd

Dear Sir

I feel ashamed that I have not written you sooner & that I have been getting other matters in shape is no excuse so I will throw myself on your good nature

I have at the urgent wish of Will opened an Office here to sell Iron &c I have sold some 180 or 5 tons averaging 74$ per ton except the last 25 tons all in small lots to the City & delivered from the Boat without hauling or yarding, Iron at present is very dull, so much for my operations here in connection with P. G. Furnace the last 25 tons sold at 70$ - With respect to steamboat affairs I have always been in favor of concentrating the stock and I think like you that the Co ought

to give Mr. N. a fair price for his
Stock as he has always been true to
the Co & his friends You know that
I think Work truly & unreliable and
any Course You advise will be
Satisfactory to me or in other words
I will Sanction your act in either
Nicholes or Bartons Cases or any
other Matters that may come up
With Respect to Selling Iron for
Bellfont & Buena Vista we can
try it & if You still think favor-
-able off it. When we get a little
in Shape will write and post
You up how we are progressing
& be I think I will make a fly-
ing trip up by Telegraph Sime of
these days & see You. I Congratulate
You on the Boy I know some
folks would like such a Gold Scrub
as a New Years present I have to
get a Waggon With one wheel for
a youngster in Ashland & must close
John Means Esq Respectly John Kyle

Pine Grove Furnace Jany. 12 - 1865

Dear John -

Our payment (the 2d) on Real Estate matures Feb. 10 and we shall need some accommodations to enable us to meet it. The amt. of principal and interest will be about 25000 dollars - We have had difficulty in making sales up to this time and Capt. Kyle thinks it hardly proper or wise to force our iron on the market in its present condition - And if it were possible to effect sales of any magnitude, it would be next to impossible for us to get the iron to the river this winter - The pig iron buyers in Balt. appear to be short of funds and are slow in paying for small lots sold for cash - Having nothing but iron with which to meet our Feb. payment, I think it best to take steps for a loan forthwith, and propose to give our own paper with pig iron as collateral - Do you think we could get Ten or Fifteen thousand dollars of the Bank of Ashland for 90 days? We need make our

notes payable there or at 2nd Nat. Bank of Boston. Would prefer they should not pass through the 1st Nat. Bank. If this amt. can be obtained at Ashland I think the balance can be managed without much trouble. We have sold altogether only about 200 tons pig iron and have the balance on hand inclusive of some 80 tons at Pittsburgh and 15 tons sent to Henry Davis for benefit of A. Means & Co. Our iron is not weighed but we think that Pine Grove has made about 1000 tons during the present blast. Let me hear from you soon. All well. With regards to your family I am truly

Your bro.

A. Means

Pine Grove Furnace Jany. 17-1865

Dear John

You will recollect that about this period last year or a little later, we were somewhat exercised about father's will and contemplated having some amendments made to it — In looking over the copy I have here I am more than ever convinced that it is of importance to all concerned that it be amended or a new one drawn up, as it does not in several particulars meet fathers wishes if I am not mistaken in his intentions — I am now satisfied the will is very imperfect and justice to you and myself especially, requires that it should read differently — Come down if you can on the Telegraph on Thursday and come out on the Cars at 1 P. M. from Trenton as the roads are very bad — I propose that we have a consultation before having any steps taken in the premises — Father is not well, and we cannot be too prompt in our attention to this matter —

Truly Yours W. Means

Home

Jan 19th 1865.

Dear John

As I am about to follow your example; and leave the state of singlebleess-edness- I thought I would tell you of my arrangements- My marriage (of which I suppose you have heard ere this) takes place on the first day of February- The ceremony will be performed in Church- I am not going to make any wedding- or of course you and

cousin Hattie would be among the first invited —

Rev R. B. Herron, my future husband, is now preaching at Pleasant Ridge (seven miles from Cincinnati) immediately after the ceremony we take the Boptona for Cincinnati, where we will remain a day or two before going out to P — R —

Cousin Susan Spencer entertains us one evening and Aunt Ellen the next —

What are you all about? Is the new baby as good looking as the one I saw at the Landing? I've never seen the twins yet — send me their photographs — and if you do not send me yours, I'll find some other gentlemans opposite Hattie —

It is growing late and I must close — Give my best love to Hattie, and kiss the little folks for me —

Hoping the friendship that has always existed between us may ever remain unchanged — and with the assurance that your brotherly kindness of the past will ever be warmly remembered by me I am affectionately yours

Hale Ellison

Hanging Rock Jany. 19-1865-

Dear John -

Father wishes me to write to you and say that he is willing to furnish the money for W. W. C. — My opinion as to the matter is in accordance with your viz- that there was nothing said about furnishing the money for Calhoun when we met at the Landing in the fall - But I presume it would be better to get his services, although in drawing up your agreement I would not give Mr. C. too large a liberty in the management - You can see Capt. Kyle about attending to Cin. business for Buena-Vista -

Truly yours
W. Means

Pine Grove Jany. 25th 1865

Dear John

Yours of 17th is at hand. It will suit Mr. K. & Co. very well to have Capt. Coles hold his note till Apr. 1st and I would be glad to have you so inform him. Capt. Kyle is now fully posted as to our finances and will make ~~some~~ effort to make sales to some extent immediately. You will remember that we computed or estimated last spring that we would need for our business about $200000, and this without calculating on the purchase of a certain Rolling Mill for $10000. Also our estimate for improvements at the Coal Works was $5000. they have exceeded this about $20000, The Trail itself costing about $13000. These things taken together and having sold only about 200 tons pig iron for which we have only been paid in part, leaves us as a matter of course not very full handed. Cannot say yet how much we shall want from you (if any) back until I hear from Robt. Hamilton. Come down soon and let us talk over these

other matters I wrote you about – They should have our immediate attention – All well at my house and send their love as usual –

Truly your bro.
W. Means

Pokeepsie N.Y. Jan
24. 1865

Dear John

Yours of the 10th inst has been received some time but I had a very bad cold and did not feel much like writing. Geo Ellison of Manchester arived here about a week ago, he come to go to Eastman's. We are having some very cold weather here now the snow is about two feet deep it snows every other day, there is splendid sleighing but livery is most to high to take man rides. I recieved a letter from Will to day in which he says Father is not very well.

I saw the largest Yoke of cattle here last Saturday that there is in the U.S. they 2,000 lbs. they were raised back here in the country. Barnum of New York bought them. I have changed my boarding house again since I last wrote to You. What is Jack Means doing this winter; One of the boys that rooms with me has got the measels. a good many of the boys in school have got them. That Mr Hutson I spoke about in my last letter is one the writing teachers here The Boys as generally thinny dont like him very well I guess I have written You all about all the news.

Bob is waiting to go down to the Post office so I will close and take this down. Write often

Yours Truly.

Thos. N. Means Jr.

Dear Mother

Your of
came to hand Saturday —
I think Father took a
mortgage on the land
sold Pomeroy. If so
you need not be alarmed
the land would sell
now for double what
Pomeroy was to pay — I will
be in Cinti this week and
inquire concerning him.
If he does not pay interest
nor principal due he
should be sued. Advise
with Mr. Putnam who
will know what is best
for you to do —

Your obedient son

J. Rhu Mearns

Ashland Jan 1865

My Dear Mother

I will try and
write you a few lines to let
you know I am still improving
in health — My nurse has
just left me this afternoon
having been with me four weeks
I am gaining my strength
slowly — I suffered greatly at the
time of his birth as his head is
quite large & he weighed 9½ lbs —
but I had very few after pains
& my milk came more easily
than ever before she have taking
it all without my having to use
breast pump or an irish woman
to draw it as I always have
before — he has a splendid

apetite and I have to feed him a little already —
he is very fat — the flesh lying in rolls on his neck & arms he already looks very pretty in long neck & short sleeves — his hair & eyes will be the color of Hany's — whom he will resemble very much The children are all delighted with him — Hany was at first afraid of him but now is very fond of him — It was right hard for me to get any sleep at first the children by day and babe at night keeping such a noise — but now the babe sleeps well & I do better — he has no colic & is very well & good — but has been much troubled with bils about 30 or 40 some large ones all on him & he has been raw under both arms ever since his birth — If George could send me any remedy I should be glad Dr. Bies gave me medicine but I can see no good from it — His name is not decided yet I wish to call him Ellison Cook — being his Grandmothers maiden names — I like Hildreth but Prescott I never admired — Tell me how you like Ellison Cook — John calls him (in sport) Lincoln altogether but he wont say what he want him named — I do hope you will get down in the Spring with Mary —

The children are much obliged for their presents the hose were beautiful — but my eyes hurt me & I must stop excuse bad writing I will write again soon

Hattie —

and wake the baby up –
Tell Mary that Harry is as handsome
as a picture this winter – but the
baby absorbs so much attention now
that nobody notices him much
except Biddy – Tell her all the girls
are out skating Mr Coles said he
had five pair of ladies skates
at his house – Mrs. Martin got a pair
for $6 – from Cincinatti the other day – she
goes on the ice twice a day – our
poor ditches make beautiful ponds
for skating – & Mary would enjoy it
much – If you know any very
handsome evergreens or nice pear
trees send the names as I shall intend
ordering a large lot of new ones soon –
I wish I knew the name of those
winter sweet little red apples you used
to have – I dont know whether I ever
wrote you that he did not see Mr
Sinton in the City last week, as he was absent
one that could tell him about Mr
Pomeroy – If you wish he can write
to Mr Sinton & find out – I hope
you will keep well this winter &
will be well enough to come with Mary
early in the Spring to see us –
Much love to George & Mary
Your
Hattie

Ashland Jan 28th 1865 –

My Dear Mother

I will scratch
you a few lines to let you know
that I am still well in spite of
the weather – The thermometer stood
at 2 above zero – at seven this
morning – the river is full of ice
and it is more than I can do to
keep myself & the children warm
I can count nothing so much as
one of Anselm Lyd's Franklin
stoves for my sitting room – and
I want you to get Sarah Lovell
to ask him the price of his largest
sized Franklin stove one like
you have in your sitting room
& let me know in your next
letter – I think if I had one I
could get warm for once –

Lily & Rose both have colds today & Lily cried all night nearly with the ear ache & today I see it is running some - but I hope it is nothing serious Dr. Weis is so busy with his hospital & town practise that he never stops to sit down & I miss old Dr. Van & his hour long calls very much - Dr. Weis says the name of the baby's disease - is the "Porrigo" Italian I suppose the old women would call it the nursing scald head - he has at last given me medicine for it & his raw arms & ears & I am hoping he will some time get cured he grows finely & would be a good looking baby if he was well of his disorders - he is good natured & sleeps well in spite of his sores - I have had a sore nipple something I never had before with all my seven children - & it has been very painful but last night I tried a tea of white oak bark & mutton suet together & it has helped me very much - I am busy as can be from morning till night as the baby requires so much attentive in washing & dressing & annointing &c I could dress the twins when babies both of them in much less time - Bessie was delighted with the ark she has been quite a treasure since I have been sick, as she knows where everything is & can go at once & get it - while I was sick she gathered up all the dirty clothes for the wash & put away all the clean ones - something which never was done right before during any other sickness - & she is so good & helps me so much with the children & Harry - If she was as old as Hilarett she would be of great use - while he like all boys is only good to make a noise

Marietta Jany 28. 1865

John Means Esqr

Dear Sir

I take the liberty of writing to ascertain where Mr R A Garrison is.

I have a note and acct which I wish to get the pay for

I would be very glad if you will either collect it or let me send to you and you put it in the hands of some one who will be under your eye and who will collect & pay it over in a reasonable time

I do not wish to sue the note or account, and if he cannot pay — if he will give a new note payable in six Months or so — will answer

Can you let me know where a letter would reach John Garrison

I have not heard from him for a long time

The last letter he wrote me, he promised to send me some money soon. Since that I have not heard from him

He owes me for his last College years Board, also for advances made for Clothing &c &c for the amt of 210$ beside his Board Bill

I think it about time I should have some money from him

your attention to above will much oblige the writer

If you cannot undertake the management of R W G. acct, will you be kind enough to let me know — who will be the best man for me to send to

Yours truly
R. P. Lamb

Cincinnati Jany 29th 1865

John Means Esqr

Dear Sir

We have nothing new in the Iron Market since you left. There is considerable enquiry & some sales at 65$ pr ton although some quotations are lower unfortunately I have none to sell I thought on the opening of Navigation you ~~[illegible]~~ might need some supplies &c if so send me the order and I will fill it for you and will attend to any little matter you want I suppose you know the Telegraph has to go on the ways - I think Iron will be brisk in the Spring

Respfly Yours

John Kyle

Steubenville O. Feb 2 1865

Dear John

Your of Jan 9th was received, and the conditions of partnership between Means & Co and Sd. Means & Co presented and explained to my father. At present he is not willing to enter into the new partnership, but I think he may do so, when he understands the matter more fully. — You will send him the contract so that he can see all the conditions. —

I am still staying at my father's but do not know how long I may remain, not longer than a day or two, and may leave to-day. I think I understand Adams plan of operation. He will not come himself, or I would be ~~inclined~~ to wait for him, I am not uneasy about being arrested by the Sheriff of this county. This new Requisition is for Kidnapping Jno C. Adams. Your Truly

— Over —

Archibald Means.

In looking over some old papers, I found an envelope belonging to you, containing six stamped envelopes. How they came into my possession is more than I can tell. I enclose stamps for them. — Yours truly

Lucel Brown of Lamoille
Ills —

Portsmouth O
Feby. 3d 1865

John Means Esqr

Sir.

Your order is rec'd. for which please accept our thanks. We will fill it sometime in March. Will probably be able to furnish the whole order with one or two exceptions. European Holly is not hardy we lost all ours last season & can not supply it.

Have some Boxtrees & some ~~Ev~~ Euonymous Japonicas that are beautiful Evergreens

Should you wish other stock please order

Resp Yours
R Bell & Co

Ashland Feb 14th 1865 –

My Dear Mother

I am very glad to hear that you still keep well during this distressingly cold winter It will be almost a miracle if you do get through with it without sickness. I hope you will be well enough to make me the promised visit by April, I am getting very anxious to see you and dont feel hardly well enough to undertake the trip to Marietta this Spring – I am going to be as long as usual getting strong again – feel well enough when I am sitting still but am very tired if I walk upstairs have not been out doors yet – We have had so much bad weather that it has kept the ladies so much at home – That I told John last

enough to consider it myself – I received the letter from Prescott that you spoke of & was quite surprised by its contents I hope you will keep all the property in your own hands & spend it just as freely as you can possibly wish – I would not be willing that you should divide it – for I do not think there is any more than you need for a comfortable support – While every thing is so dear John said Mr Curtis in Cincinnati & he said Geo Woodbridge was a decent man since he had paid his debts – If he hasnt paid Fathers bill yet If I were you I would get Mr. Knowles to hand it to him you may as well be paid as other people – I often wonder if that Duck Creek land father gave the old College would not have bought an oil place, now – I expect it might have done to speculate with anyhow Pres. gave me P. a setting down as they say in my letter I hardly knew what to make of it – Tell Mary Mrs Coles has some nice daughters (8 of them) that she will like very much – Jane Means is to be married to Mr Bert Culbertson on the 23 of Feb (he was engaged to Esther Means) & is to live at Buena Vista which he has rented for five years – She is only 18 not through school yet – I think she is so foolish – Buena Vista is so lonesome – & she is just old enough now to have a good time & bury herself alive out there – is horrid – She is to be married in church at Hanging Rock in the morning – Love to Rita & Sis. I wish one of them could come down with you & may if they could stay as long as you can – Love to all the family – Yours aff. Hattie –

work I had almost forgotten
how a lady looked — If Mary Ann
had been here she would have
had a splendid time skating —
as the ponds have been in good
order most all winter & the girls have
enjoyed it very much — The baby
grows finely & has recovered almost
entirely of his sores & boils — he is beginning
to laugh & talk some & is a fine, stout
looking baby — though not quite as
handsome as Fanny was — Tell Mary that
Fanny does not talk any yet, is very
pretty — by far the handsomest child I
have & has just got on his first pair
of heeled shoes with brass toes & scratches
up the chairs at a great rate with them —
I am in such a hurry for spring
to come so the children can go out
doors to play & the poor baby get a
winks of sleep in the day time — which
he can hardly do now as he wakes very
easily. I will try as you say to get
through the winter without the stove
The one I gave you for the parlor chamber
I beg of you to leave there for my benefit —
as I have no doubt I shall set by it
gladly many times yet — I notice
Lamott advertises a Kerosene lamp
to cook by — Please get Mary or George
to ask the price of it I would like to
send for one — if I could make tea
by it next summer — it makes the
house so warm to make a fire in
the stove, summer afternoons — Get
Mary to see if she pleases, if there is any
Moreen to make skirts of — in the city
window curtains you know would do if
a brown color — I like it better than
anything else for them — & John never
will get any in the city for me —
Please get her to ask the price of it
a yard, & send me word — I suppose
you will soon begin your annual
house cleaning — I shall not clean
till May or June — Till I get strong

Pittsburgh Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway Company.

GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE

Pittsburgh Feb 23 1865

Mr Jno Means

Ashland Ky

Dear Sir:

I think you can be of much service to me again. I will present to you the facts for consideration. I started last week to go to Springfield Ills. for the purpose of finding Col Smith the officer that arrested Adams, and also to have an interview with the Governor of the State, to learn whether a case could be presented strong enough to induce him to recall the Requisitions, or to refuse granting one upon the Governor of this State should it be demanded. On my way to Chicago, I fell in with a Mr Thompson, a brother of J. D. Thompson, formerly Cashier of 1st Nat. Bk. Cinti, now Pres. of Central Nat. Bk. Cinti. From him I learned that Col Smith lived in Chicago, — I found Smith's law partner, who informed me that Col. Smith was still in the Army, in command of the 16th Ills Cavalry, now at Pulaski Tenn. I found that I

could not get South of Louisville or Cairo, so that for the present I must rely upon a mail communication with him. I wrote a letter to him, and got one of the present law firm to write to him too, stating what I wanted, in order to prevent a Requisition being made upon the indictment for kidnapping. I can not tell whether Col. Smith will pay any attention to my letter or not. — I requested a statement of the facts, and if consistent with his feelings, in the form of an affadavit, that I wanted to present it to the Governor of the State. — He may write a letter to the Governor, but the question with me now is, will he write a letter, or give an affadavit that will be satisfactory to me. So that I am not sure that I can present my case to Gov. Ogleby. — I will not trust Key, — there I disloyal I could depend on him. — I think you can do more than anybody else, as next to myself you are better acquainted with the case, and I think it worth while to attempt to carry out my present plan. —— Capt A. J. Allen, gave me a letter of introduction to S. M. Cullum of Springfield, who is a lawyer, but is now a member of Congress. ~~Hon~~ Mr Thompson says that Cullum is too much of a politician, and is not considered a good lawyer. — He says that Mr Herndon, formerly Mr Lincoln's partner is the best lawyer, and would have the most influence in every respect, — but you can use your judgment as between parties. —— I cannot hear from Col Smith for two weeks yet, should he answer my letter at once. — Col Smith's partner ~~says~~ thinks that Gov Ogleby will not grant a Requisition, if the case is presented as I state it. —— I am now trying to prevent a Requisition upon the Governor of Penn, that is the first step, and if I can do more, it will be better, but Gov. Yates issued

Pittsburgh Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway Company.
GENERAL SUPERINTENDENTS OFFICE

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the other Requisition, (without any knowledge of the case it is true,) and I doubt that the present Governor would recall of any of Yates official acts.

If Col Smith does not answer my letter, would it not be best to present the matter to Gov Oglesby, and perhaps he would call on Smith, through the State Adjt. for information. I have not been able until lately to find what had become of this officer, which may be a satisfactory reason to Gov Oglesby for not attempting to meet the case sooner, ——— The whole affair with Adams, and the issue of those law suits would terminate, if Col. Smith will state the facts, and as he is still in service, I think he may be <u>induced</u> to make a statement.

My object in preventing a Requisition upon Gov Curtin, is that I may engage at something here. A vacancy has occurred in an Iron House here, and there is a probability of my getting the position. I am of opinion that it will suit me very

well, and I am anxious to accept it, if I can do so with safety. Think I will run the risk if the place ~~presents~~ is offered me, — The situation is of such a character that I would have no spare time, and if I am still to be annoyed, could not retain it. ——

I wrote Hill from Chicago that I wanted all the papers I had put into Key's hands, I then intended going to Springfield myself, but if you take charge of the matter, you should have them. — It is best that Key does not know anything about my intentions, and I do not want to come to an open ~~rupture~~ break with him. He may be all right, but I prefer act without his knowledge. —

I think you can effect more than I can do, and you can go anywhere, and are not watched. If I do not get the place I ~~spoke~~ referred to, I will go if you desire it. If you cannot attend to it, I of course will have to do it. —

I learn that oil speculators are quite abundant in Ky. Would it not be a good time to sell Burns Vista, I don't think it will pay to lease any of her, — before six months the supply will be five times greater than it is now, — If you conclude to lease, I want to get ~~a lease of~~ 500 acres, or 1,000 acres, ~~If~~ I think you can with safety take $100,000. for the property, and if oil is found near it you can get it easily. Yours Truly

A. Ulmars

Write to Steubenville

Warren, Feby 27, 1865.

Mr John Means

My dear Sir

I enclose a copy of the will of Dr Hildreth – & my letter of 19th Jany to Dr C. C. Hildreth & other papers which will explain themselves. With you & your good wife please examine them, and if you concur in the agreement, which Charles Prescott has signed – attach your signatures, and return it, with the other papers to me, with the understanding that it is to be signed by all the other parties named. With love to Harriet and the children, I am

Truly Yours
Douglas Putnam

Portsmouth Feby 28th 1865

Mr John Mason
Ashland Ky

Dear Sir

Your favor of 23d inst is received - I think I can get you 3 or 4 of the Henry Rifles - but they will ask a large Advance on what they paid for them - can get them for 65$ including what Cartridges they have on hand which will average from 1 to 300 Charges - One or two men said they would not take 100$ others offered to take 65$ as stated - They seem to be a fraudulent Gun - If you want can probably get them as stated

Yours Truly
W B Tuckshurry

Steubenville O. March 1st 1865

Dear John

Yours of the 28th Feb. with contents is received.— John Evans done some work for me, and I suppose the Bill for $6.25 is right. Please pay him that amount and take receipt. I spoke to Joe McGarry last fall about doing some work, repairing the tops of the chimneys of my house, he said he would do it. Dr Stein can tell whether the work was done, and what there was of it, you will please pay for it Yrs. ——

I came down from Pittsburgh this evening and will probably stay here awhile. Have not heard from my Chicago man, I ~~was~~ saw Derby and wife in Pittsburgh. he says that he could get me through to Nashville, and to Pulaski, but thought the trip south of Nashville extremely hazardous, the country being full of thieves and guerillas. I had a letter from Hill to-day, but not a reply to my last letter to him. I think it worth the attempt to influence Oglesby, not to grant a Requisition upon the Governor of Penna, and whatever more we might accomplish. From Hills letter I judge that a letter ~~may~~ could be had from Gov. Brough to Gov. Oglesby, that would not be without its influence. I have waited and waited so long upon Hay, that I have got discouraged about the whole thing, and cannot help but think that he has been

lending himself to his political friend. —

I saw Col. Gallup in Pittsburgh. he is "in Oil," said that he had 47,000 acres of oil lands on Sandy to dispose of. He is now in New York. The excitement does not subside, and nearly every body here about are now or has increased. The most money is made by ~~selling~~ buying and selling, or leasing and selling leases. —— I would like to have a plat of Bunn Viale lands, and also the position of R R to the River. I only want it on a small scale, so that I could give a tolerably correct idea of its situation.

I saw Mert and Jane in Pittsburgh on Sunday. — They went East on Monday afternoon. — I was too late in making up my mind about accepting the position I wrote you about in my last letter. but I have made up my mind that I will try something before very long. —

All well. Yours truly

A. Means.

P. S. Since writing the foregoing I am informed that I have been enrolled for the Draft in this Township, and I have doubts that I would be exempted if drafted. — I do not think that I am enrolled in Boyd County, although I would rather take the chances in that county than here, for nearly all the able bodied men left are Cops. — What are the chances, and what would I have to pay for substitute in Boyd county? Can I get on for $300.00 and Gov. Bounty. Let me know soon. I will want on for a year. — Have you heard anything from Jas. H. Artice. I would like to pay him his money. $100.00 Yours

A. M.

Steubenville O. March 8th 1865

Mr Jno Means
Ashland Ky

Dear John:

I have just recd a letter from A. H. Sellers of Chicago informing me that he has recd a letter from Col R. H. Smith enclosing one for me. I wanted an affidavit from Smith, (but I think the letter will answer my purpose) and requested Sellers to inform me by mail of the receipt of affidavit or whatever Col Smith would send, and I would go to Chicago on my way to Springfield and get it. — He says that Col. Smith states, "on what authority he made the arrest of A. — (information from a detective), says he does not recollect me, & believes you (S) had nothing to do with the arrest."

I think that such a statement is a good basis to start on, and with the papers I have sent into Keys hands, we can make a very strong case for Gov. Oglesby. I think it

with an attempt. I have not received ~~an~~ an answer to my first letter to you on this subject, and do not know what you think about going to Springfield. If you go, I want to make an arrangement to meet you there or at any point you wish, (except Cairo) — I will have to go by the way of Chicago, to get Col Smith's letter. I am always ready on an ~~hour's notice~~ hour's notice to take train, so that you can notify me by telegraph. I think however that the best way is to set a day to meet at Springfield. You should get the papers that Hay has in his possession. It takes so long to get an answer to letters from Ashland and Hanging Rock, taking 4 or 5 days each way. I may see Culbertson in Pittsburgh on his way back, and if I do, may have something additional to say by him.

Yours truly
A. Lincoln.

Portsmouth O
March 17th. 1865

John Means Esq.
Dear Sir

Tomorrows Telegraph will deliver you bill of—

12 Apples 2,50 / 1 Std. Pear 50		3,00
6 Peaches 1,50		1,50
		$4,50
Also		
2 Austrian Pine 1,50 / 2 Silver Firs 1,10		3,00
2 Thuya Aurea 3,00 / 1 European Larch 75		3,75
1 Paulonia 50 / 2 Magnolias 2,00		2,50
5 Std. Pears 2,50 / 7 Peaches 1,75		4,25
1 Delaware 75 / 1 Grape 50		1,25
1 Cherry		50
		$19,75

I had not all the varieties of peaches you ordered but put in others that I felt certain were as desirable — sent you

the best Lunch on the place.

One Chinese Arborvitae is about half winterkilled so that it is unfit for sale therefore I put in the Golden Arborvitae which is better & much more rocky seen. I paid $3. for the parent tree 3 years ago and have succeeded in making 5 plants - - - - - -

I have a fine collection of well grown rare grapes both black & white - would you not like from 6 to 12 varieties - the prices range from 50 cts to $5.00 each

Hoping your bill will give satisfaction I am

Resp. Yours

R Bell

Ps Angle

Pine Grove Mar. 27th 1865

Dear Brother John

Most probably you have heard of your brothers illness - He is now confined to bed, unable to attend to business. He wished me to write you asking you to see Capt. Coles about the note he holds against Means Kyle & Co - due Feb 10th and have the note presented for payment at the second national bank Groton sometime this week. The note will be honored when presented.

If convenient come see us — Company benefits your brother, as he is rather inclined to feel blue at being sick when so much business is pressing - My love to Hattie and family -

Yours very truly

M. E. C. Means

[27 MARCH 1865]

This Indenture made & entered into this 27th day of March Eighteen hundred and Sixty five between John B Temple and Blandina H Temple of the city of Frankfort and State of Kentucky of the first part, and Edward F Dulin of the town of Greenup and State aforesaid of the second part, witnesseth that for and in consideration of the sum of twelve hundred dollars to them in hand paid the said Parties of the first part have bargained and sold and by these presents do grant bargain sell and convey unto the said Party of the second part the following town lots or parcells of ground situate lying and being in the town of Ashland County of Boyd and State of Kentucky viz: Lot No (43) forty three Range (1) one East, beginning at the easterly corner of Greenup and 1st Streets thence with Greenup Street South easterly (50) fifty feet, thence Northeasterly (92½) ninety two and one half feet, thence North westerly (50) fifty feet to 1st Street, thence with 1st Street South westerly (92½) ninety two and one half feet to the beginning:— also Lot No (7) Seven Range (2) Two West; also Lot No (116) One hundred and Sixteen Range (2) Two West-

also lot No (20) Twenty Range (2) Two West: also lot No (25) Twenty five. Range (2) Two West: also lots No (20) Twenty, (21) Twenty one & (22) Twenty two Range (4) four West; also lots No (66) Sixty six. (67) Sixty seven, (68) Sixty eight and (71) Seventy one Range (1) one West; also lots numbered (31) thirty one (32) thirty two (33) thirty three (34) thirty four and (36) Thirty six, Range (3) five West, all as more particularly set out and described in the deed of the Kentucky Iron Coal and Manufacturing Company to said John B Temple dated the (23d) Twenty third day of January eighteen hundred and sixty and recorded in Book N page 284 in the office of the Clerk of the County Court of the County of Greenup; also lot No (1) one range (4) four West in said town of Ashland, deeded to said Temple by E W Martin & wife to which deed reference is made, together with all the priviledges & appurtenances to the said premises in any wise appertaining and belonging — To have and to hold the above granted premises with the appurtenances unto the said party of the second part his heirs and assigns to their only proper use & behoof forever; Subject nevertheless to all and singular the provisos & conditions in the said deeds of Conveyance to the said John B Temple contained.

and all the reservations privileges &c in the said deed contained are to inure to the benefit of the said Party of the first part as fully as to they do or may do to him the said John B Temple; And the said Parties of the first part Covenant and agree with the said party of the second part and with his heirs and assigns, that they will and that their Heirs Executors and Administrators shall Warrant and defend the said lots or parcels of land with all the appurtenances unto the said Party of the second part and to his heirs and assigns, against the claims of all and every person whatsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same

In Witness whereof the said Parties of the first part have hereunto set their hands and seals on the day & date first before written —

J B Temple (Seal)
H Blandina Temple (Seal)

State of Kentucky }
Franklin }

I Alexander H Kennick, clerk of the County Court for the County of Franklin, do Certify that the forgoing deed was this day produced home in my office with a one dollar and fifty cent Revenue Stamp thereon attached and was acknowledged by John B Temple and H Blandina Temple his wife the Grantors therein named to be their act and deed and the same is Certified to the

proper

proper office for record

Witness my name as clerk this 27th day of March 1865

A. H. Kennedy Clerk
Franklin County Court Ky

State of Kentucky }
Polk County } Sct.

I W. O. Nampton Clerk of the County Court within and for the County & State above named do certify that this deed from J. B. Lemple and wife to E. F. Dulin was this day produced to me in my office duly stamped as required by act of Congress and filed for record, whereupon the said deed together with this certificate and the certificate of authentication thereto attached have been duly recorded in my office

Given under my hand as clerk aforesaid this 17th April 1865

W O Nampton Clerk

John B. Lemple & wife
Deed — to Edwd F. Dulin

Recorded Deed
Book 7 Page
241-242
Examined

John B. Lemple
To
E. F. Dulin

Filed for Record
April 17th 1865

Recd 2.00 Fee

Steubenville O. Mar 29th 1865

Mr John Means
Ashland Ky

Dear Sir:

I have been much longer getting Col R. H. Smith's letter than I expected.— Railroad traveling was owing to the very high waters, very precarious for several days after I returned home, and I concluded that I would depend upon the Mail.— It came to hand to-day. It is not quite satisfactory, for if the "some one" to whom he refers, is myself, his memory is not very good, or reliable. You can judge of the merits of the balance of it, for I do not know anything about what passed between the Col, and the detective, and I did not make it my business to know.—— I enclose A. H. Sellers letters to show how the Col's letter came to me. It will not do to try to carry Andrew along with me. I sent him to Olney for the purpose of watching the child, and to follow if he was removed, further than that he was acting upon his own responsibility, until he quit me, the day before Adams was arrested. Let me hear from you, and know your movements. If you desire it I will be within call by telegraph, say

Dear Mayne Brd. I do not know that I can state anything that will be of any advantage.

The Apples (3 Bbls to you and 3 to your father) were shipped on Tuesday. I regret that I did not know their ~~real~~ condition, as I suspect they were not as clean as they ought to have been. They cost you here $3.50 per Barrel. I tried to buy some in time as soon as I returned, but could not get them except in lots of 40 or 50 Bbls @ $4 & upwards.

I send you the articles of co-partnership and lease. I tried to ship the apples on the Golden Era, but she passed Tom in the night going ~~both~~ each ways. I saw D. A. Livingwell yesterday, he will be in Ashland in a few days. Caution him

Yours Truly

Arch^d Mears

N. B. What can you say about leasing 100 acres of Buena Vista Territory for Oil purposes. ⅛ Royalty in one tract, or two of 50 acres each. The fall in Gold has brought down the price of Oil and Oil stocks. —— I think now that Seward's "60 days" time will settle the Confederacy; the have been having such continued success for so long a time that a reverse would be terrible

A. M.

John Ellison, ~~W. B. Ellison,~~

Banking Office of John Ellison & ~~Co.~~

Manchester, O. April 1st 1868

John Evans Esq

Dear Sir

Yours of 27th
rec'd in hand & in answer would
say that you will please dispose
of Stock named at such time as sale
can be effected, John, E. Means
is here, I am afraid he will not
recover. Mr Ellison's mother is quite
crazy & requires constant care &
watching, I think I will have to
go up & see you when my
old "Chum" - Peter Hildreth - gets
home, with best wishes

I remain Yours as ever

John Ellison

Manchester.

Friday Evening. April 7th 1865.

Mr John Means.

Dear Cousin.

I send by S. B. Telegraph. some Log. Honeysuckles. Clematis and a Rose (the name of which I have forgotten) — hope you will receive them, and they will grow. — suppose by this time your yard is looking quite gay! Recd a letter from brother this morning. Tom has left Poughkeepsie — but will visit one of his friends before he goes home.

John Means is as well as usual today. is out walking. Uncle John's and Uncle Andrew's family's are well. — Kate commenced housekeeping a few weeks ago.

Grandmother and Mother unite with me in sending love to you, cousin Nattie and the children.

Very truly.

S. J. Ellison.

D. D. Geiger & Wife
to
Deed
Thos. W. Means

Acknowledged in open court by D. D. Geiger & Anne his wife & ordered to be recorded. Received for record this 23 day of April 1865 & duly examined & signed
W. O. Hampton Clk

Recorded in Deed Book No. 3 Pg.
294-295
G. Marmon

Ind. 50
Rec'd for Rec. 1865
$7.75
W. O. Hampton Clk

[April 24, 1865]

We David D. Geiger and Anne his wife of the county of Boyd State of Kentucky of the first part in consideration of Five thousand ($5,000 00/100) Dollars to us paid by Thomas W. Means of Lawrence County Ohio, of the second part, the receipt of which is acknowledged; do hereby grant, sell and convey to the said Thomas W. Means his heirs and assigns, forever, all our right title and interest in the undivided One eighth (1/8) part, of the property known as the Buena Vista Furnace, situate near the East Fork of Little Sandy River, in the counties of Boyd and Greenup, and State of Kentucky, described in the following deeds, reference to which is here made, and for description the same are made a part of this deed; namely Deed from Thomas W. Means & wife to David D. Geiger dated 24th Sept 1861 - and recorded in Deed Book No 1 - page 207 & 8 Boyd County Court Deed from Francis Fairbairn and others by Thomas Joyce their Attorney, dated 29th Nov 1864 and recorded in Deed Book No 2 page 66-67 & 68-69 Boyd County Court -, and all the estate title and interest of the said parties of the first part in law or equity of in and to the one eighth (1/8) part of said premises, together with the privileges and appurtenances to the same belonging - to the only proper use of the said Thomas W. Means his heirs and assigns forever, and the said David D. Geiger and wife for their heirs executors

2

and administrators hereby covenant with the said Thomas W. Means, that they will warrant and defend the same against all claim or claims, of any or all persons claiming by through or under them, but against no other claims nor persons

In testimony of which we have hereunto set our hands and seals this 24th day of April 1865 in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and sixty five (A.D. 1865)

D D Geiger {Seal}
Ann E. Geiger {Seal}

State of Kentucky, Boyd County, Sct.

I C. W. Wilson Deputy for W. O. Hampton Clerk of the County Court aforesaid do certify that the foregoing deed from D.D. Geiger & wife to Thomas W. Means, was on the 24th day of April 1865 produced to me in my office by the grantors and acknowledged by them to be their act and deed,

Given under my hand this 24th day of April 1865.

C. W. Wilson Deputy
for W. O. Hampton Clk. 1866

State of Kentucky — Boyd County Sct.

I W. O. Hampton Clerk of the County Court of the County aforesaid do certify that this deed from D. D. Geiger & wife to Thomas W. Means was on the 17th day of March 1866 stamped as required by law, lodged in my office for Record, and together with the certificate of acknowledgement thereto attached and the certificate have been duly recorded in my office.

Given under my hand this 19th day of March 1866.

W. O. Hampton Clerk

army - Mary could have got his
Experience if she ~~had been~~ was here -
Love to Rila & Sis Nye & I will
write to them soon - Love to Mr
Ross & all inquiring friends -
The ladies are all anxious to hear how
you got home - as you know you are
a great character in Ashland -
Write soon to yours aff Hattie

If you will send down the bonnet
& lamps some time on the Ohio
I shall be much obliged to you -
Biddie sends love to Mary - Tell Mary
when we dont get Laly so many eggs
as when she was here - it was too
bad that she went away without
her scrabble

Ashland May 6th 1865 -

My Dear Mother

I was very glad to
hear that you arrived safely at home
I was fearful you would reach there
in the night - but perhaps that was
easier for you than it would have been
watching here late at night - You
must indeed have felt lonely on
reaching home again - I always
miss dear father more when I
first get home than at any other
time - He was always so kind to
meet me & so glad to see me - Had
the house seems so desolate without
him - How I do wish you would
break up housekeeping & live with
me - I would have an extra room
built on for you - if I could induce
you to live in it - There, you might
be free from the noise of the children

which would be the greatest trouble you would have in my house - I missed you so much when you were gone - you & Mary - I hardly knew how to stand it - I had to go to work & begin house cleaning to occupy my mind - I hope you will experience no bad effects from the visit - It seems like a dream that the visit which I had anticipated so much pleasure from, for so long - is all over now & I cant see you again till next fall - It seems too bad that we cannot live together in the same town, at any rate - I some times almost wish that I had never left Manitta - it seems so hard to be ~~so~~ away from you so much -

John expects to start next week for Springfield will be absent two weeks or more - I shall finish house cleaning next week & after that I shall be lonesome enough - Mother Wilson is going to West Union next week to visit a sister who has lately lost two grandsons - starved to death in the rebel prisons - & she feels their death so much Mother Wilson is going to comfort her - Anna Means sends love to Mary Ross - Biddie has had a sore hand so more house cleaning has come to my share than I intended doing - The children are all well I think the baby misses you & Mary very much - as he dont have half so much fun as when you were here - Give my love to George I am much obliged for the photograph which is excellent Tell Mary if she had waited I would have had a beau for her as Tom Bayless the preacher's son has just returned from the rebel

Pittsburgh May 24th 1865

Mr. John Means
Ashland Ky.

Dear John, I wrote you last week and at the time did not think to ask you what are the chances of selling my house and lots for something near their real value, and what is the prospect in future about renting at a fair per cent. Business is very dull here except what is done with the Oil Region, I think that 4/5 of the trade of this house is in that direction, and I suppose the other iron houses have a large trade too. The Association put down Bar Iron last week $15.00 per ton, making the Card rate now 4 3/4 cents. I think from present appearances everything is going to come down to low figures, and that I may have an opportunity during the present summer of getting at something for myself. I am getting $100.00 per month, which keeps me comfortably and to spare, but as Aggie is likely to move away I am not sure about being comfortably located afterwards. I am kept very busy, and like the place very well. I can't tell you anything about Charcoal Pig Iron.

I want to get all my affairs about Ashland settled up. I do not know of any claims upon me by anybody, but if you hear of any

let me know of them so that I can judge of them. I saw Capt Cole and Mr Peebles here sometime ago. I suppose they have returned home before this time. What is the style of firm. Are E. W. Martin & W. T. Nicholls are in, in Cincinnati? Is there any quantity of Bar Iron sold at the Mouth of Sandy. If so, who by? Is Jno D. Minor dealing in Iron at all? and is there any oil well Tubing going up Sandy River? — If you ship Books, Red clothes or to me, send to me at Steubenville, as I will not bring them here. What course will be adopted in regard to the Portsmouth case. Will my friends force a trial at the coming term of Court or will they wait for the other party. I do not think that they will force a trial. I learn that since Mr Ross death that you have Setten in your adjoining county. Greenspring is the proper place for him, while his light holds out and he ought to stay with his friends, and camp on their Kentucky hospitality. I suppose you are delighted to have the dear Southern brethren <u>swing</u> brothers, among you again. It is so much like old times to have them back. They are no doubt very gentle and kind, and deserve to be honored for their treason. It looks so at this distance. Let me hear from you. I would like to see you, but I have not much hopes of your coming here, as your business is with Cincinnati. How is Mr Culbertson getting along at Buena Vista. The prospect for this year dont seem very encouraging, but business may revive after we find where we are, and prices of everything gets settled. —

We here had a very rainy month thus far, with several heavy frosts, one almost a freeze. Peach trees were unusually full of Blossoms but there will be no peaches. Grapes killed, and a greater portion of the pears. <u>Apples none</u>. — Wheat is looking finely, and I never saw such a prospect for Grass.

Give my Love to Hattie

Yours Truly

Archibald Means.

Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne & Chicago Railway Co.
Office of the General Superintendent.
Pittsburgh, Pa. May 25th 1865

John Means Esq.

Dear Sir. Although personally unacquainted with you I have heard your name mentioned by Archie so often that I almost feel as if I had met & known you, & feeling so, I write this letter, unsolicited by, or unknown to Archie, to thank you in my own name for having so successful a manner relieved his mind by your efforts in his behalf with Gov. Ogelsby of Illinois

Having been so closely associated with Archie as I have been for the past year and a half I have known probably better than anyone else how much this affair chafed and annoyed him and I cannot sufficiently thank you for relieving him

My warm interest in Archie & in all that pertains to his welfare will I know be a sufficient apology for writing this letter.

Remember me kindly to your Father & Mother —
Should you at any time come to Pittsburgh I would be much pleased to see yourself & Mrs M at my house

Very truly yours

J. D. Layng

this fall - I am looking for Jane & her sister in law & the girl - up to night on their way out to Buena Vista to begin housekeeping tomorrow -
Mrs. Charles Wilson sends her love to you - Mr Bayless sons have both returned from the rebel army & Mrs Bayless son also - The soldiers got after Brainerd Bayless, (who has been in the rebel army two years) last night & beat him & knocked him down insensible - They threaten to whip the other two boys but they wisely keep out of sight - Mr Polage was to tell Mr. Bayless that he could not raise his salary - but his heart has failed so far he has not had courage to do it - Give my love to Sarah if she is yet with you from Janesville - Love to George - May & Mr Ross - Write soon to Jones off -

Hattie -

I enclose the money for the bonnet

9'50
2'75
$12'25 -

Please give Sarah Louk this note -

Ashland May 31st 1865 -

My Dear Mother

I was much pleased to receive your last letter & find you are still well & I am happy to inform you that the bonnet arrived in safety and is very pretty I think - Mary Ross would have laughed, had she seen me when I first tried it on - or rather tried to get it on - & finally I had to go over & get Sophronia to come over & arrange my hair so it would come at all on my head She & Aunt Amanda both pronounce it very pretty - & admire the veil very much I was very much disappointed about not getting the lamp - The bonnet came so safely that I think she need have no fears about sending the lamp as soon as she can get it - I need it so much that I should be so much

pleased to get it so tell her to keep trying till she succeeds - & if she cant get the particular size she wants - get a larger one - I was very much surpised to hear of Mr Fordes death - I had just written to Sarah that day not knowing that she was sick - We had a great time entertaining strangers last week - The Ashland Coal Company met & Mrs Coles - Aunt Amanda & I had all the gentlemen to entertain - The three from Cincinnati are so grand & live in such style in the city - that I was quite afraid of them - Mr Gaylord & Benny were here among the rest - John got me some new mattresses for my other spare room so I was a little better fixed than when you were here - They have spent already $180000 on the road & works - And say just to spend as much as they please they have plenty of capital - but not to take in any more partners - as they are so pleased with the prospect of making money out of it - They say it is splendid coal will do to make iron with - they will dig 30000 bushels a day - & supply five rolling mills - They will send up a fine passenger car soon - & there will be a long train of coal cars coming in twice a day - They think they can get it to the city four months in the year when it cant come from Pomeroy - Father means put in $3000 & gives John one third of it - so I hope it will be profitable The baby keeps well & grows finely Harry is getting well burnt in the sun as he wont wear his hat The children still go to school & I think are beginning to learn some particularly Bessie - One of your monthly roses is in blossom - We have planted out 1500 sweet potato plants & from the size of the patch I think there will be some potatoes

Know all Men by these Presents, That the KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, in consideration of Six Hundred Dollars in hand paid by John Means the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, does by these presents give, grant, bargain, sell, and convey unto the said John Means his heirs and assigns forever, the following premises situate in ~~Greenup~~ Boyd County, in the State of Kentucky, to wit:

Lots # 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28, Range 5 West in the town of Ashland Ky, Described as follows, Beginning at a stake at the Westerly corner of Railway Avenue and 2nd Street, thence South Westerly along the line of said 2nd Street Three Hundred (300) feet, to stake on corner of 2nd Street and Bath Avenue, thence North Westerly along the line of said Bath Avenue Three Hundred (300) feet to stake on corner of Bath Avenue and 3rd Street, thence North Easterly along the line of said 3rd Street, Three hundred (300) feet to stake on corner of 3rd Street and Railway Avenue, thence South Easterly along the line of said Railway Avenue Three Hundred (300) feet to beginning.

Recd. Mch 2nd 1864 of the Ky Iron Coal & Mfg Co. Ninety (90) dollars, being 15% of the purchase money of the above described premises. W.J. Scoville Treasurer

together with all the privileges and appurtenances to said premises in anywise appertaining and belonging. To have and to hold the above granted premises to the said John Means his heirs and assigns and to their use and behoof forever.

And the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY does hereby covenant with the said John Means his heirs and assigns, that the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY is lawfully seized of the above granted premises, that they are free and clear from all incumbrances, and that the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY has good right to sell and convey the same to the said John Means as aforesaid, and that said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY will forever warrant and defend the same to the said John Means his heirs and assigns, against the lawful claims of all persons whomsoever. Provided, however, and this conveyance and the estate hereby created are upon this express condition, "That if the said John Means his heirs, or assigns, or any person or persons holding or claiming said premises by, through, or under them, or any of them, shall, at any time hereafter, sell, or knowingly suffer or permit to be sold upon said above granted premises, any ardent spirits, or other intoxicating liquors, in any quantities whatever, either great or small, then this conveyance and the estate hereby created, shall be therefor and thenceforth wholly void and forfeited; and the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY may immediately upon such forfeiture, re-enter in said above granted premises, and hold and enjoy the same as an estate in fee simple as fully and absolutely as though this conveyance had never been made: Provided, however, that in the event of any such forfeiture of, and re-entry into, the above granted premises by the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, said Company shall be liable to pay to the said John Means his heirs and assigns one equal half of the true value at the time of said forfeiture of said premises with the appurtenances, to be ascertained by the appraisement thereof, under oath of three disinterested men to be selected by the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, and, provided also, that if the said John Means his heirs or assigns, shall, in good faith lease the whole or any part of the above granted premises to any person or persons, and shall insert in said lease, that the said lease and the interest and the estate thereby created shall become void and forfeited, in case the said lessee or lessees, or he or those claiming under him or them, shall sell, or knowingly permit to be sold thereon, any ardent spirits, or other intoxicating liquors in any quantities whatever, either great or small, and shall, in case of any such forfeiture for said cause, immediately take the necessary and proper steps to enforce said forfeiture, and re-enter into the possession of said premises as soon as practicable; then and in that event, this conveyance and said above granted premises shall not become void and forfeited to the said KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY, but the title thereto shall remain in full force and virtue."

In Testimony Whereof, The KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY has set the signature of said Company by Wm. T. Nicholls, President thereof, and caused the common seal of said Company to be hereunto affixed, this 17th day of March A. D. 1864.

W. T. Nicholls Pt

Executed in presence of

KENTUCKY, ~~GREENUP~~ Boyd COUNTY, SS.

Before me, C. M. Wilson Deputy clerk within and for said ~~Greenup~~ Boyd County, appeared the above named KENTUCKY IRON, COAL AND MANUFACTURING COMPANY by W. T. Nicholls President thereof, and acknowledged the foregoing Instrument of Conveyance to have been executed as the voluntary act and deed of said Company, for the uses and purposes therein set forth, and that the seal thereunto affixed is the common seal of said Company. Whereupon the same together with this certificate have been duly recorded in my office.

Given under my hand ~~and seal~~ this 17th day of June A. D. 1865

W. C. Hampton Clerk
By C. M. Wilson D.C.

Deed

Ky. Iron Coal & Mfgt Co.

to

John Means

Lots #15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 and 28. R. 5 H.

~~Acknowledged by W. J. Nicholls this 24 day May 1867~~ ~~J. H. Pitts C. B.~~

Acknowledged by W. J. Nicholls and Stamps as required by act of Congress.

this 31st day of March 1865

C. H. Wilson Deputy for N. O. Hampton C.B.C.

Recorded in Deed Book No 2 Page 330 – 331 & 335.

Examined

Fee $1.75 – Pd

Ashland June 22 1865 –

My Dear Mother

I have been intending for some time to answer your kind letter inviting us to visit you – but as half the pleasure of this life is in anticipation – I concluded I would let you enjoy yourself in that way a while, before I told you that I could not accept the invitation – In the first place Catharine who you said must keep house for me had engaged to nurse Mrs. Gatrell, and she is not confined yet, poor woman – to the great trouble of herself & husband, as he poor man has to stay here & can amuse himself no other way but in getting drunk every day – Then the boats have ~~are~~ nearly all gone running

ached my head off – for they bled all night till I got so scared I was sure I would bleed to death – and John said was determined I would die anyhow – and my mouth is so sore as I took cold in them – & as they were all the lower back teeth I had I have to eat on my front teeth & cant learn how so I am nearly starved to death – Just as soon as I get to Marietta in the fall I shall have Dr. Tenney make me some back teeth – as I am afraid to trust any one about here to make them – I have had an awful time I assure you – Last week the Presbyterian ladies gave a Raspberry Supper – We had it in the Hospital dining room – & made $190 – It passed off very pleasantly no quarreling as every body did their own tossing – no head or arrangement about anything – If there had been much more world there have been needed, as there seemed no body to wait on anybody or take the change – or at least if they did it was done without any appointing every Presbyterian lady that pleased selling cake & taking change – The entrance fee was 25 cents which entitled them to a plain supper Cake & ice cream extra – 15 cents saucer ice cream 15 cents raspberries – 5 cents a slice of cake – Auction of what left – Aunt Amanda's Marble cake brought $22.25 – the other cakes sold for less than cost – Proceeds are to fix up the church – Love to Mary & all the family that are with you – Louis Hattie

& to go around by Portsmouth with the baby & keep milk sweet for him on the trip, this warm weather would be nearly impossible - & he could hardly miss getting sick. I should like very much to see Charles, Sarah & Prescott - but I went up last year & Sarah would not come down. So I think she will have to come to Ashland to see me - Give my love to them all & tell them I would like to have a visit from them all - Tell Pres that John Ellison says "as soon as Kentucky is a free state he expects to meet Prescott in Ashland" And he wont visit us until he can meet him here - I expect you are most worn out with the Convention & Commencement together - I hope you have had plenty of help in the kitchen I knew if I had to bring a baby I would not be much help but considerable trouble - John had a notion of going but would not go without me

So I think I will wait until I can stay longer & have cooler weather - I have been suffering very much with my teeth & rather without my teeth - Bro had a new dentist come to town & I took Hildreth down & had him have one pulled that ached badly & finding he pulled it easy - I concluded one day when mine ached that I would have them out - So like a great goose I marched down with the thermometer up to 90° - & had three pulled the eye tooth that was broken off - as he said it was too far decayed to put in a false one on a pivot - it hurt terribly too to have it pulled worse than the two double teeth - I came home feeling well pleased with myself & quite provoked at John for saying he did not think I was such a fool as to have so many pulled at once - but since then I have concluded he was right about it & if I had them back again I would not have them pulled if they

Pittsburgh June 29th 1865

Mr John Means

Dear John. Enclosed find my check on Bank of Ashland for One Hundred and Eighty five 50/100 Dollars to your order, for which send me Check on Cincinnati for Eighty five 50/100 Dollars or One Hundred on this City or Phiada. or N.Y. even if you have to pay for Exchange. —

My informant although a lawyer was mistaken about the action in Court, about which I wrote you in my last. Mrs Burgess has not been made a party to any suit whatever by the other creditors. —— I could scarcely credit it myself, but my authority was so undoubted.

I made some enquiries yesterday for Hanging Rock, Pig Iron, having an order for 10 or 15 Tons. I give you some of the quotations made me, viz Pennsylvania 50^{00}. Cambria 55^{00} 4 mos Ohio or Pine Grove 65^{00}. Vinton higher, but did not ask figures. Mr 1 Anthracite Foundry 41^{00} to 44^{00} Cash. There is not much doing. —

I read a portion of Beriah Magoffin letter this ~~letter~~ morning. He cuts down gracefully. —

Yours Truly

Archd Means

Archibald
29th June 65
Answered 8th July
Inclosed checks
On Pittsburgh $100.—
a Cents $5.80

Ashland July 16th 1865

My Dear Mother

I was much pleased with your nice long letter and think you must have gained your strength again, or you could not have written me so long a letter. I should have enjoyed seeing Sarah very much and Charles & Prescott. You did not say how long Prescott stayed so I suppose he could not have been with you long. Why did not Sophia & the children come with him and is he still living on the Monroe farm? I expect they all enjoyed their visit very much. I wish they could some time visit me. It was a fine thing we did not go as John was taken with a carbuncle on his nose just at that time & it made him sick & look so outrageously

tired of dried brans. A gentleman told him that his carbuncle was caused by his lard diet. Tell Mary Ross to persuade & get me the lamp if she can for I shall use it next winter accasionally when I am in a hurry for supper & Kitty is tarrying as she generally is on Sunday afternoons. We had a nice time the 4th of July in the Park. Speeches songs & a Sunday School celebration. A basket dinner the children enjoyed it very much. Mrs Gatchell sends her love & other ladies frequently send it to you & Mary but I forget to deliver it. Mrs. Wilson had a night blooming Cereus bloom last week & sent for us to come down at ten at night to see it open. But I of course pretended to go to bed. It was beautiful ~~of course~~ no doubt. I have just commenced the baby some short white dresses. Its likely you may see him in them some day. I look forward with pleasure to my visit to you but cant make up my mind which children to take & which to leave. However I shall have time enough to consider the matter. Love to George & Mary Mr Ross. Rita & Sarah Lovell. How is her health now? Much love to yourself & write soon to your Hattie.

It suffered a good deal with it
& it made one side of his nose enormous
Uncle Hugh was very sick with Cholera
Morbus, came near dying one night
& does not walk any yet – There has
been a great deal of Cholera Morbus
about town caused by Blackberries as
his was – Blackberries are so abundant
here – 15 & 20 cents a gallon – I have made
wine & jelly & canned one a bushel –
They stain so meanfully that to save
the table cloths & children's clothes I have
not bought as many as I otherwise
should – I suppose you have plenty
of your own raising – They must be very
fine this year as some of the common
ones are nearly as large as the Lawton
I envy you your apple trees – though
I suppose the children would make
themselves sick if I did have them
Early apples are so scarce about
here – that trees like yours would
be great treasures – And your sweet
apples baked are as nice as preserves
Mother Means is up on a visit to
Jane & me – I sent her word if she
did not come pretty soon I would
change the baby's name so she may came
up immediately – She admires the
baby very much as Mag does also
they will be in from Jane's tomorrow –
Mary Anne has returned from the east
She made Aunt & Uncle Day a visit –
Mrs. Gartrell is confined at last
has a very large baby – a girl but one foot
is twist under – She will have to get it
under some Cincinnati doctor's care to
straighten it – Mr. Gartrell was drunk
all the time nearly for three or four
weeks before & after her confinement
now she is better, he can travel again –
My garden looks finely – I hope I shall
soon have some melons – You must save
me some seed of your onions as next
year I will raise some as he
wont eat anything – & is soon getting

CIRCULAR.

Ironton, O. Aug 1st, 1865.

Messrs H. Means & Co

Dear Sirs

You are earnestly requested to attend a meeting of the Furnace, Rolling Mill, and Foundry proprietors, of what is known as the "Hanging Rock" Iron region, to be held at Ironton, Lawrence County, Ohio, on the 15th, day of August 1865, to take such measures as may be deemed advisable to co-operate with the American Iron and Steel Association, of the United States, for the promotion of Protection to American Industry—believing that our great interest is at present suffering great derangement from the want of proper discrimination in our Tariff laws, and that a united effort should be made for a re-adjustment of the same, and to take measures to be properly represented, at the meeting to be held at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 23d day of August, 1865.

We earnestly hope you will not fail to be represented at our meeting.

JOHN PETERS,
A. McCULLOUGH,
C. ELLISON,
JNO. ELLISON & CO.,
BELLFONT IRON WORKS CO.,
JOHN CAMPBELL,
H. CAMPBELL & CO.

Ashland Aug 11th 1865

My Dear Mother

I expect you wonder why I have not answered your letter and I should have done so but I have had a sore finger which has kept me from sewing & writing as I cannot wear my thimble on it yet - or write write as you may see -

John has been quite sick - Friday night he was taken with vomiting & a severe pain in his right side which continued through Saturday & Sunday & confined him to his bed for the first time since we were married I believe - Dr. Weis attended him & said his kidneys were out of order - He is well enough now to go down street - but feels weak yet -

The baby has five teeth & another

nearly through - I am sorry I
cannot make the exchange in fruit
you spoke of - but I gathered all my
crop in the garden & they only filled
12 cans! The wet weather has caused
them to rot & drop off & some small
boys have been in stealing them so
that our early peaches are almost
a complete failure - And I shall
not have enough to fill near all
my cans as I have but two or three
more trees that will be nice to can
I have been drying corn to day - I
gathered all in the field that was
ripe which must have been over
20 bushels and I am lucky enough
to have a clear hot day so I think
it will do well - Bessie had
her birthday party on Tuesday
as she was seven years old -
Had nineteen children to supper
& they had a gay time playing
in the afternoon -
We are having Camp meeting in
the park today - I am going
over to see how they look when
I have finished writing - Biddie
attended last night & this afternoon
They have quite a crowd there -
tents up - & cooking going on - store
& boarding house &c Mary Ross would
enjoy it - How are you off for Muscadines
here - We are having our vais up &
plenty of them - I shall not want
to visit you till they are gone - if
you have more than we do -
Uncle Hugh is still sick having
chills now - Love to Mary & George
& Mr Ross Write soon to your
Hattie -

Notice is hereby given that Hugh Means has this day withdrawn from the firm of H. Means & Co. by selling his entire interest therein to Thomas W. Means who has assumed all his liabilities on account thereof and the remaining partners are authorized to use the firm name in settling the business of said firm

Ashland Ky
August 31st 1865

Hugh Means

Notice is hereby given that Hugh Means has this day withdrawn from the firm of H. Means & Co. by selling his entire interest therein to Thomas W. Means who has assumed all his liabilities on account thereof. And the remaining partners are authorized to use the firm name in settling the business of said firm

Ashland Ky
August 31st 1865

Hugh Means

This indenture made by and between Hugh Means of Boyd County Kentucky of the first part and Thos W. Means of Lawrence County Ohio of the second part, Witnesseth that whereas said parties of the first & second parts being of the partners in the firm of H. Means & Co. of Buena Vista Furnace, and the business of said H. Means & Co. having proved unprofitable the said Hugh Means does hereby sell, and agrees hereafter to convey, by good & sufficient deed, all his right title and interest of in and to the property real, personal, or mixed, belonging to said H. Means & Co. In consideration for which the said Thomas W. Means hereby agrees and binds himself his heirs and adminis-trators to pay of the indebtedness of said H. Means & Co. any and all for which said Hugh Means may or would be bound as a partner in said firm of H. Means & Co. In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands this thirty first day of August 1865

Hugh Means

Notice is hereby given that David D. Grigsby has this day withdrawn from the firm of T. Means & Co. by selling his entire interest therein to Thomas W. Means, who has assumed all his liabilities on account thereof. Ashland Ky. 8th September 1865.

D. D. Grigsby
Thomas W. Means

Notice is hereby given that David D. Geiger has this day withdrawn from the firm of W. Means & Co., by selling his entire interest therein to Thomas W. Means, who has assumed all his liabilities on account thereof.

Ashland Ky., 8th September 1865.

D. D. Geiger
Thomas W. Means

[8 Sept 1865]

This indenture made by and between David D. Geiger of Boyd County Kentucky; and Thomas W. Means of Lawrence County Ohio; Witnesseth that said David D. Geiger and Thomas W. Means being both partners in the firm of H. Means & Co of Buena Vista Furnace; and whereas said the business of said H. Means & Co. having proved unprofitable; the said David D Geiger did sell, and convey to said Thomas W. Means by deed dated twenty fourth (24th) day of April 1865

all his interest in and to the real estate belonging to said firm of H. Means & Co. for the sum of Five thousand ($5000 00) dollars; the receipt whereof he does hereby acknowledge and does hereby assign to said — Thomas W. Means, all his interest and right in and to the property personal, real or mixed of said H. Means & Co; and in consideration of all these the said Thomas W. Means does hereby bind himself his heirs and administrators to pay of the indebtedness of said H. Means & Co. any and all for which, said David D. Geiger may or would be bound as a partner in said firm of H. Means & Co. —

In testimony whereof the parties have hereunto set their hands

over

this 8th day of September –
Eighteen hundred and sixty five
1865 –

S D Gipps
Thomas W. Means

S. D. Gipps
Thos Williams

soon I think – Bess has a very
sore nose & has had a sore foot so
she could not go to church –
Harry has made up with his
Grandma & behaves himself very
well – I hope you will write to
me often & tell me how the
rest of the children are – Give
my love to them when you see
them & tell them to be good
children – Much love to yourself
from Your Hattie –

Marietta Sept. 20th Tuesday 1865.

Dearest John

I have been intending to
write to you ever since we came
but have been so busy I have not
had a chance – We arrived in safety
on Saturday Morning in time to break
fast with Mother – who was quite
surprised & delighted to see us –
The children kept well & I would
have had a pleasant trip but
the baby's milk got sour & I

could not get any sweet milk
for him so of course he was half
starved & screamed all night
to the edification of all the passen
gers & myself. As there were no
other babies on board of course he
had a right to scream —
Rita — Sis & Henrietta have been
very attentive — Sis & I have been
here almost all the time since
I came — Sis wears a widow's cap
& looks quite charming & lively —
John Newton was married Monday
morning to Mrs Walker — Jimmy
Dunn on Thursday to Rhoda Jones
a match that has made much
fun around town — Eliza Skinner
was married to a Mr Stebbins
whom she converted when a sick soldier
in the Hospital — Manetta has
changed so much among the stores
that I have to get some one to go
with me shopping to show me where
the stores are — Sad Dr. Finney
takes the impression of my jaw
this morning shall grow some teeth

Constitution Sep. 22/65

Dear Nephew

We want to hear from you, and your current family. You wonder why I do not write as often as I formerly did. The true reason is, I do not go to the City as often as when Dr. Hall Neth lived there; and therefore I can not make my letters so interesting. My views of our National Establishment, are so different from other folks, and I feel such an intense honor of our National Deity, the Goddess of Liberty; and I feel so much upon the subject

that I cannot hold my pen. I hate to bore my friends.
Paul was pressed in spirit at Athens; and so am I, in the N.E.
We are all in good health, hoping these few lines &c.
Write to us about your Family, your Aunt MacLunsfton &c. &c.
Where are you winning up.

Your old foggy friend

Dyer Burgess

Send love from your aunt

New Haven Conn. 24 Sept. '65.

John Means Esq
Ashland. Ky.

Dear John

I suppose Uncle Hugh has told you about me coming out here. I have been here about two weeks am going to W. & College I like it pretty well so far. I had a firstrate time coming out here. We stopped in Philadelphia two ~~days~~ nights and one day I saw Independence hall Navy Yard and several of other places of note. I went in swimming in salt water I liked it firstrate only I could not keep the salt water out of my mouth. I went out sailing on the sound yesterday.

How is Buena Vista doing?
is she making much Iron?
I saw Arch.d in Pittsburgh
he was getting along fiastrote.
I have a boarding place
but not much to eat.
So Jack still in Minnesota;
I have not heard from home
yet I am very anxious to know whether
we got the Farm. The weath-
er has been pretty cool here
the last week. Some of
the militia have been
in camp here about
a week. John & Jim have
gone to Dartmouth College
Hanover N.H. they could
not pass the examination
at Yale. Give my love to
Hatty. Direct to Box 1075.
New Haven Conn.

Yours truly
T. D. Means Jr

Marietta Sept 30th 1865 -

Dearest John

I have been intending to write, ever since I received your letter, but had not anything particular to communicate as I was having rather a quiet time - ~~Thur~~ Wednesday Mother & I were invited down to your Aunt Burgess to dine - We reached there at eleven & left at half past two and had a very

children as to dos well they are keeping I am so afraid Hildreth will have more chills - Mother sends love to you & wants you to come up & make ~~us~~ her a visit - I want you to send me $30 or fifty dollars, ~~more~~ as you feel like it, for I am afraid I shall run short - Everything is so dear ~~to~~ here & Biddy wants considerable - & teeth & all cost so much more than I expected - Write to me whether your father has moved & if I could stop there & make my fall visit on my way home - I hope you keep well & are having a good time at Sister Berys - With much love to yourself & the children & all inquiring friends I am your affectionate ~~Hatie~~ Hattie

pleasant visit - They were all well - Mr Burgess seems rather more infirm than I have ever seen him before - Next Tuesday we are invited to Mrs. Cutler's to dine - Yesterday Mother gave me a tea party - We invited about 14 - and 10 came seven only to tea - Gen Geo. Morgan was here making a speech & Rita thought she must make him a Woodbridge tea party so it rather interfered with Mother's

and I was quite disappointed - however we had a good supper & I enjoyed that of course - Bessie has been invited to tea at Mrs Smith's & this afternoon is spending with Minnie Knowles - I have just returned from taking dinner with Rita in company with Fannie & Lydia The baby has a horrid cold today & yesterday, Harry had a chill - I have been giving him Dr. Reis Quinine powders today hoping to break it up - I am very anxious to hear from the

Manitou Oct 6th 1865 -

Dearest John

I received your very disconsolate letter yesterday - and hope you are feeling better in your mind by this time anyhow I have concluded to stay until you send me some more money - as I shall not have enough to take me home & I dont like to "borry" - I wrote you to send me fifty dollars & I hope by this time it is on its "winding way" here - You should not have

were here - and probably be gratified if you could hear all the compliments that I have received on my good looks & young looks &c - Having six children they think of course that I must look as old as Grandmother and seem quite surprised that I dont - Dr Tenney has not yet made my new teeth - seems to be taking his time tom long that I cant spare them long here - Have been to dine with Rita since I wrote you & attended the club at Fannie Slacks - Have been invited to Mrs Cutters & did not go as the children had such bad colds - Bessie has taken tea at Mrs Knowles Smiths & Daphnes & is to tea at Mrs. Smiths tomorrow & I am invited to Mrs Knowles tomorrow to tea - I have been shopping to day & spending the rest of my money & walking until I am tired - I am having a grand time - & Monday is the day of Dan Rices great Animal Show which Bessie & I will attend & see the Elephant - and I am anticipating much pleasure from the sight - Biddy is well & anxious to see her lover - If you take a chill send for Mother Wilson to give you some castor oil with a little sugar on it - Biddy's style - Love to the children I hope they may keep well & behave themselves Jessies nose has completely recovered - Hannys bruises are in good order - & the baby has learned to make patty cakes - accept much love & kisses from yours

Hattie

mentioned in your last letter that your Aunt Mag had had chills again - as that discouraged me from coming to such a sickly place - Mother thinks you had better come up for me - as she wants to see you very much - I think I may possibly come home on the Wagoner next after next - and stop at Hanging Rock and make a long or short visit (according as the dogs are agreeable) perhaps may stay a week and you will have to come down after me as I cant get six children on a steam boat alone possibly - I hope the squashes & sweet potatoes are safe on the kitchen floor and chickens all alive - I hope you have not lost all your heart to Mrs Berry & Mrs. Posey & the young ladies I went to a party at Mrs. Rolstons last night and had a young gentleman wan. home - What do you think of that?- Mr. H. Goddard has called - and talked over old times, when he used to go home with me & call on me & think me "the loveliest creature in the world"! - I think you would surely be jealous if

Ashland Nov 1st 1865.

Dearest Mother

I was glad to receive your letter last night & find you were still well and missed us so much it is so agreable to find one's self of some consequence in this world I was quite amused at your account of the Baptist procession coming to town - and am glad that the shadow of my presence kept you free from company There must have been Barkers enough to take the town - snap eyes & all - Mr Dawson has cousins enough by this time I suppose - I have been having an awful time nursing the sick since I wrote you last - Hamy has been very sick of lung fever - For

She always has a great many very particular enquiries to make about you But I must quit & go to bed & get so little sleep with my sick children as all the nursing day & night comes on me & some nights I scarcely have slept at all John Cannot stand it to lose his sleep - so I have to do all the night nursing besides the day & I have been nearly worn out - Hamy & the baby both are sure to cry at once - Give my love to Mary & tell her I have had to subscribe for another Ladys magazine to help a sewing lady get Lucy a sewing machine so I shall take great pleasure in lending the magazine to her when it comes - Love to George McRoss & Sarah & Sam Putnam if you see him & Mrs. Nye & Rita & tell her to please write to me I hope you will keep well & write soon to your ever affy Hattie -

12 days he has been sick in bed
9 days he ate nothing but ice water
and he has fallen away so - that he
does not look like the same child
I was very uneasy about him a while
he seemed so very sick - he is better
now but still lies in bed & cannot
walk or sit up - Hildreth has
had lung fever also and was
sick in bed several days but not
so bad as Harry - today he is up
with his clothes on but has a
very bad cough yet - The baby has
~~a~~ nearly had the croup & has a
bad cough & very bad bowel complaint
Rose & Lily have been threatened with
croup & ~~all~~ Bessie and all of them
have a very hard cough - I never
had such a time nursing in my
life - I was sorry I had not
stayed in Marietta a week or
so longer until Ashland became
healthier as perhaps then the
children would not have been sick -
Marietta is the only healthy place
that I know of -
John Means is in very poor health
he is as dead in a consumption & now
has a constant diarrha which is a
bad symptom I believe - Much Hugh
is very much worried about him -
John bought me a crumb cloth in
Cincinnati according to my orders of
Dugget & when I came to unrol it I
found it wrapped in a very handsome
brussels carpet which will fit my spare
bed room up stairs - of course it was a
very pleasant surprise -
According to your direction I give all
the ladies your particular love which
seems to please them - Mrs. Chas. Wilson
has sent me a choice collection of daily
roses which I hope may live & do well
she called this afternoon & brought me
a dish of fancy pickles to taste

to marry a Warner Girl next week, and Miss Lizzie Starling (some of the Woodbridge folks) is to be married in Frankfort to Mr. Pepper. I shall be very much obliged for the Lady's book, what one is it? I have not found out how much your pins cost yet, but hope I shall soon.

You must excuse this writing but I have been writing so much at school and am so tired.

yrs.
Mary.

Marietta Nov. 7 – 1865.

My Dear Hattie,

I was pleased to receive a letter from you on Saturday, ever in answer to mine mailed on Tuesday, which is quite an improvement on the old mail lines; I was pleased to recive the letter tho' the contents were not as agreeable as I could wish, what a distressing time you must have had, in body & in mind, we all pitied very much I do hope the worst is over, & health is heard in all your borders. It must have been so difficult to nurse Harry, as he would not tell his wants.

I should have enjoyed your visit to Day longer but I fear'd the weather would grow cold & the children would get sick going home. I was amused at your observation thinking Mr. was so healthy, when it has always borne so different a character. I think you are a true lover of Marietta. It does me good to see you here, you seem to enjoy every thing so much.

Before I forget it, I will write you some particulars, perhaps your family would like to know. — Mrs Lewis call'd to see me on Saturday, in the course of conversation, she observ'd that she had just had a visit from Mr. Adams, — he told her he was in great trouble about his little boy, that he had there with him once; that your family had taken him away & he could not find out where he was, he had not any idea where to look for him, he had some Reason that he might be around Mr. he had got a man to watch for him — in Warren as he did not know but he might be secreted there at Mr. Burgess's he said that he had four men employ'd to find him in different places; he felt so badly for the child, thinking he must be so unhappy to be away from him, as he was so much attach'd to him.

Mary has just come in & wishes to give you some town news so I will conclude after requesting you to write soon. You must not be surprised if some day you hear something about Miss Maria W. & Mr. H. W. H. Goddard. I should much prefer it to the widdows cap

Dear Aunt Hattie.

I am going to tell you about all the weddings that have been or are going to be. Charley Newhall and Mary Dana were married yesterday at 4. P.M. She is a sister of the one that Mrs. John Shipman adopted. They are going to Niagara for their bridal tour. I don't think I envy them this cold weather.

Sussey Cadwallader and Mr. Quackenbush are to be married this eve. at the Episcopal Church. I suppose Mrs. Cadwallader is happy now. Mrs. Hildreth and family have invitations to call and to the ceremony. She got some very nice presents, a great deal of silver, only 3 sets of salt spoons. Mr Charles Putnam's son is going

Ashland Nov 22d 1865 -

My Dear Mother

Yours of Nov 7th ~~it~~ had just arrived having taken a trip to parts unknown - N.S. I expect - I was wondering why you did not write and began to fear you might be sick - You had better make your ly - a little plainer next time - rather impudent aint I? - It has been so long since I wrote that I have forgotten where I left off - ~~Lily~~ Fany - Hildreth - the baby had all been sick when I write you I believe - Fany was in bed 11 days + Hildreth five with lung fever - The baby was very sick from our cows milk not agreeing with

Send Eliza a new dress piece and the remainder in dolls clothes & a pair of Kamons soap - Charles is he pd -

The children are anticipating Christmas with great delight - They went to the stores the other day to buy presents for each other + have had a great time ever since planning whether they shall give them or not and to whom - whenever they quarrel they threaten each other with the loss of the presents and Rose cried when she found she had spent her money and wants to keep all her presents for herself - Mary Ross would be quite amused - John says to tell George that they are ~~digging~~ delivering 4000 bushels of coal a day at Ashland at the mine + soon will deliver 10000 a day - and as he is one of the chief managers - he is well pleased with the prospect - (George said nobody would make money out of it, but the managers you know) - Love to Mary George - Nita + c - Hoping to hear from you soon I am yours ever

Hattie -

him - but since I am buying milk for him he is quite well again - Lily had lung fever also but would not lie down all day but had her clothes on every morning - but they are all now pretty well again Fany still has his three weeks chill - The Dr insisted on giving him Quinine - but I begged for him to take Arsenic instead - as he hates Quinine so and Gilbert was so deaf for a few days from the heavy doses of it that he took - Mrs Weis has a sister & her husband & children visiting her - As she had a tea party for you I thought I would make one for her friends - I intended to ask about 30 - but invited fifty & about 41 came I had a nice supper considering the scarcity of eggs - only ten to make ~~the cake of~~ 4 layers of Brides cake & gold cake cream Jelly cake & fruit cake & ask Mary Ross how I did it & a basket of kisses macaroons &c which Abe got me in the city - hot cream cakes (your old favorites) biscuits & bread & butter pine apples & a pyramid of wine jelly - which was all satisfactory except I broke 3 of the glasses - I needed you to help wash them - and Oyster soup - Seven cans which was a good deal more than they could get through with - though they tried their best & coffee tea &c We will finish house cleaning this week - Biddy washed the walls of my room & the sitting room a terrible job - but quite an improvement - My new brussels carpet is down in the spare chamber & looks charmingly the red carpet from that room will be put in the sitting room & the sitting room carpet in my room - So it all looks nice & clean & I wish you could step in & help me to admire it. Biddy has a carpet on her room & the new stove in the kitchen and feels quite grand -

Dear Grandma,

I am writing you a letter to read when I have gone home. I am going to learn to talk fast and come up again

Your aff. Grandson.
Thomas Fitchett
Meares,

Paid 5 cents

To Grandma.

from

J. H. Means

Ashland Nov 23d 1863

Dearest Mother

According to promise I write you a few lines to let you know that I have safely arrived at home again — I had a tolerably pleasant trip down — sticking all the afternoon & all night at Blunchassets — I thought if Miss Titus & her school had been with me they would have seen enough of the Island to do them some time — but perhaps it was all for the best for it brought me to Father Means in the day time — At Parker's Bung 400 soldiers came on with a brass band & the officers & their wives so it made it more lively for "Paty" & me — Mrs Robbins lame ancle was much better when I

that I dont know what to do — Ashland will seem dull enough to me for a long time —
There seems to be a good deal of sickness here yet —
Love to George — Mary & all the family & inquiring friends — I hope you will soon write to your ever Hattie —
John came down Friday to see us & came down after us ~~again~~ today — The six children & all the baggage made quite a procession

left her - Capt Hart was very polite he said he used to work in your "garden when he was a little lad -" I could not think at first where he had made my acquaintance he seemed to know me so well -
I reached Father Means Friday morning in time for breakfast I like the new house very much It seems as large as a hotel & the grounds around it are beautiful The verandas & shutters are just large enough to be pretty - Out houses & barns are in perfect order - I never saw any place where everything was so perfect - They are all delighted with it - They have making butter to sell so I did not get my cow but Father Means promised us a horse instead of it - The children were glad to see me but in as hurry to get home Harry ~~had~~ was so sick Saturday that we sent for the Doctor & to day he had another chill & has been quite sick all day but I concluded we had better come home which we accordingly did & reached here in time to take tea with your friend Mrs. Berry - who inquired very particularly after you -
We then came home & found the house in the usual condition of John's housekeeping - every bed unmade in the house - a tremendous pile of pumpkins in the kitchen - four bushel of apples in the Hall - sweet potatoes piled in the garret - so it looks as if we would anyhow have something to eat -
Have made a call at Uncle Hughs John has returned from Minnesota very low with consumption - Aunt Amanda &c - are well - I am so homesick for Manetta & you again

[23 NOVEMBER 1865]

Know all men that I Thomas W. Means of Lawrence County Ohio, for One thousand ($1000.00) dollars received from, do sell and convey to, John Means and Hariet Eliza his wife, of Ashland Boyd County Kentucky; Lots No. Sixteen (16) Seventeen (17) Eighteen (18) twenty two (22) twenty three (23) and twenty four (24) Range six (6) West of Broadway Street in Ashland Ky = bounded, beginning at the Southerly corner of Bath and Third St, thence Southeasterly with Third St, three hundred (300) feet to Easterly corner of Third and Montgomery St, thence Southeasterly with Montgomery St, One hundred and fifty (150) feet, thence Northeasterly three hundred (300) feet, to Bath St, thence Northwesterly with Bath St One hundred and fifty (150) feet to beginning; The same conveyed to Thomas W. Means by Kentucky Iron Coal and Manufacturing Company, in Deed of 29th day of April 1859, recorded in Deedbook N. pages 30, 31, & 32, of Greenup County Court; with all the privileges and appurtenances thereto, to have and to hold to said John Means and Hariet Eliza Means their heirs and assigns forever; and said Thomas W. Means will warrant and defend the property hereby conveyed. In Testimony whereof the said Thomas W. Means and Sarah Means his wife who hereby relinquish her rights of dower in said premises have hereunto set their hands and Seals this twenty third day of November A. D. 1865

Witnesses
W. C. Bartram
John Campbell

Thomas W Means

The State of Ohio Lawrence County ss.

Before me the undersigned Authority in and for said County personally came the above named Thomas W. Means and acknowledged the signing and sealing of the foregoing conveyance to be his voluntary act and deed for the purposes therein expressed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official seal this 23d day of November A.D. 1865.

W. P. Barnard Clerk
Court Common Pleas Lawrence Co Ohio

State of Kentucky Boyd County ss.

I W. O. Hampton Clerk of the County Court within and for the County and State aforesaid do certify that the foregoing deed from Thomas W. Means to John Means &c. was on the 10th day of March 1866, stamped as required by law to date in my office for record and together with the certificate of acknowledgment thereto attached and this certificate has been duly recorded in my office.

Given under my hand this 13th day of March 1866.

W. O. Hampton Clerk

Thos. W. Means
to
John Means &c.

Recorded in Deed Book No 3 Page 5

Examined
Fees Paid

New Haven Conn. 27 Nov. /65

John Means Esq
Ashland Ky.

Dear John

Your kind favor has been received some time. I have had a very bad cold or else I would have answered it sooner I am glad Means Kyle & Co have bought out Mr Linton for I think it will be a great deal less trouble for Father. and another thing Mr Linton is out of the way. I saw an account of Uncle William's death in the Cincinnati Weekly Gazette. I suppose Ashland will grow

same. if they build a rolling mill &c. What are the Pittsburgh men going to do with the Hotel; There has been a Balloon going up here to day. they have pay so much. for going up a 1000 feet. they are going to let it go tomorrow. It is the same man who had one in the army of the Potomac. A good many of the boys are going home to spend Thanksgiven. John and Jim Means are going to Canada to spend their vacation. They have an idea that they can get clothes cheaper in Canada than here The No. of my Box is 1075.

Write often

Yours &c

J. W. Meanor

Ashland Dec 7th 1865 –

My Dear Mother

I was most happy to receive your letter and find you were still in such fine health – I only hope it may continue through the winter That was indeed good news in regard to Mary Ross, hoped for conversion I ~~only~~ hope it may indeed be genuine – Her angel Mother will rejoice with us, if she has indeed chosen Christ for her portion –

I should like very much to attend some of the meetings – Our church here is in such a cold state & always has been since I have been connected with it –

To day is Thanksgiving day I have been to church but have had no turkey to dine on afterwards

he can find and stands up by chairs very well – he is full of monkey shines as he can be – making faces & cutting up antics, to the great amusement of the children – Mary Ross would be highly entertained with him – The children have all gone down to Mrs. Wilsons with the little wagon to get a little rooster & hen which she promised them they are white & are said to lay perpetually – (that is they hens) They will be very acceptable I was much pleased with your description of the stove & when they get them in Manitha will send up & get them –

I am glad to hear Sarah Nye is better Tell Mrs. Nye to send her my love & get her to write to me how she is pleased – She owes me a letter – Tell Rita if she is not too busy I should like to have her write – Do you hear anything more of her & Wm Henry? – Love to George Mary & Mr. Ross Cor Pt & Maria Dana – Tell Sam Putnam I am glad he still keeps up his Sunday visiting – Write soon to your

aff Hattie –

as you & probably every other family in Manitka have done - However though I could not succeed in getting a Turkey for my own table Mrs. Coles has invited me to take tea with her & as I have noticed for six turkeys, in her back yard I probably shall have a taste of a turkey yet, before Thanksgiving day is over - The Cincinnatti gentlemen are up again to look after the coal lands - only two of them this time & Mr Gaylord & Peebles - Mr Worthington stayed here last night & I expected some of them to dinner today - but they went out to the coal banks today & we had to get up by half past four to get their breakfast this morning - as the cars go so early They will stay till Saturday John bought four cans of oysters to feed them on - & with beef & chickens I will try & live through it - I think Capt Coles & John ought to make some money out of it for their wives have trouble enough with the strangers -

They say the coal is very popular in the city as it burns almost as clean as the Cannel coal - Mr. Coleman from Pittsburg will have a company & dig coal he has bought land of Mr Biggs & a landing in town & will bring his coal in on the rail road he talked some of buying the big hotel but got out of the notion again The children are all well - Hamy & the baby are getting quite fat Hamy's clothes are getting too tight for him - John cut his hair & I thought it would not curl again but it curls prettier than ever - It does not talk yet though - The baby creeps into all the dirt

turkeys are a scarce article - I often think of you meat shop with the turkeys & chickens ready dressed waiting for customers at all hours & wish such an establishment was in our town. John went to the City since I wrote to you & bought me home sixty wooden chairs & six very nice cane bottom chairs - 2 coal buckets - 2 sets of shovels & tongs and five pair of nigger fingers - a high post bedstead for Hildreth to sleep on in the sitting room - cost only $85 - rather more than I expected, when I sent for it - a new Book case with glass doors to stand in the upper hall & a Black Velvet Bonnet for $15 - which will keep my head warm this winter -

I am sorry to hear Sis Lowell is so bad ~~this~~ Do you still think Rita & Wm Henry will make a match - Please give my love to ~~them~~ Rita & Sis - Mrs Nye & Mrs Hoskins - Love to Mary Ross & tell her I sent her the Ladys Field for a New Years gift - I wonder if she has been as busy making book marks & pin cushions for Christmas as usual - Love to George & Mr Ross - I suppose I shall get all the news by Doug & his wife - Tell them to bring the baby - I hope you will take care of yourself & not get sick this cold weather & dont expose yourself too much at church - Write soon to your affe Hattie -

Ashland Dec 25th 1865 -

Dearest Mother

I was much pleased to recive your letter and find you still in good health and the children were highly delighted with the very fine present the letter contained - they are a thousand times obliged to you for it - What to spend the money in, has been a great question with them - finally I thought they had better have something they could keep and so I bought them four Bibles and wrote the name of each and Christmas gift from Grandmother Hildreth 1865 in each one - So now they will keep them for some time Hildreth can read in his & carry it to Sunday School & the other three will soon

learn to read theirs - as they are learning very fast at home this winter - faster than they did at school - The other dollar I shall give half to Ellison Corke + the other half to Fany + put it away for them to start their fortunes with - as I cannot buy any pretty testaments for them here - The children are enjoying their Christmas very much - They found their stockings filled to overflowing and have had two or three donations of candy besides, from their friends They started early this morning to carry Christmas presents to their friends + have been making a day of it - They had been buying presents for each other some weeks ago + had them laid up + have been guaneling about it ever since - Rosey + Bess were only able to invest ten cents in their purchases - While Lily + Hildreth had spent 30 cents each in theirs upon the strength of which they gave themselves airs + had some notion of not accepting the other gifts - However they all presented + accepted this morning so now they will have nothing left to guaneil about - Biddy has been traveling fast all day + enjoying herself much she says I believe a ball will close her religious services - as she overslept this morning + did not get to early mass - I am invited out to Mrs. O'Farrells to dinner at four o'clock - of which I am glad as I would like to have a little fun myself - I bought a splendid turkey this morning + I cant make up my mind whether to eat him myself or save him for Doug Putnam + his wife - as they wont be down for two weeks I am afraid he will turn off before they get here - We have had oysters this winter in such abundance that they made me quite sick - but