

Bro. B. has just
arrived and is only
a business regards
as my old enquiring friends
are dead.

Springfield Mo.

July 17, 1868

John Buckner

Esteemed Cousin

Notwithstanding

the shortness of our stay I know you will be pleased
to hear from us; how we were received and how
treated. We had quite a pleasant trip, and
it would have been much more pleasant had it not
been so warm. We were quite fortunate, not a single
accident happening ~~happening~~ to us with the excep-
tion of the breaking of one throat latch and hurting of
some of our horses necks, though they have all gotten
well with the exception of rats, and Frank is now
working him; he and W^r. Bickey went up to Marsh^s
to day. We were just twelve days on the road, averaging
about 31 miles per day; the horses look about as
well as when we started; mine looks better, he stood
the trip better than any of the rest. Our presence in
these regions is a complete surprise to all, and not a
very agreeable one to some of them judging from the
way they gape at us. I know they wish us back in a

in a warmer climate, that number, are not very
numerous. All with whom I have yet met appear glad
to see me. We were at church last Sunday on the
prairie Mr. Baxter preached a funeral discourse of
Mrs. Foster a sister of Mrs. Jim Wood lately married.

We met many old acquaintances and friends,
yet alas! how many familiar faces were absent, never
have I missed them so much before, their places are
supplied by others, yet by no means their equals in
my estimation. Saturday morning July 18. I was
prevented from finishing my letter yesterday evening,
having stopped writing to assist Frank W. make a rake, he
is now busy drying his hay; he left Uncle W. Boper in Round
prairie Benton Co. Ark; he traded his interest in the cattle
for two young bay horses that Uncle W. raised. Dave Boper
sold his cattle in Springfield this week did very well I
think; he had a certificate with the Benton co seal upon it
and the names of five of his Radical friends upon it certi-
fying that his cattle had been wintered in that co.
Horses are worth from 18 to 25 dollars here, horses from
45 to 200 miles the same, though there is no great
demand for either. I have been to town twice Springfield
is improving rapidly there are 15 brick stores
being built now. There is considerable excitement

about the railroad. Several surveys have been made
the most of which pass near John McCaughey's house east
passing through several farms stretching the prairie
on the high ridge between Aunt Margaret's farm
and Krag's Spring upon which point they have their
tent stretched. I have been to the farm once it
is all under fence with the exception of the new
strip on the south. Mr. Young is now living upon
it, and is a working man.. has about 75 acres
in cultivation this year, corn looks well the
meadow has tolerable grass upon it. I can tell you
more about it when I come. Crops are seed in
very much. John I will be unable to eat apples
one day for you as I promised, for I fear there will
be none left as fruit of all kinds is scarce.

I will have to stop writing, for I have the headache
this evening. This leaves all well. Uncle
Bob, Farny and Will Bickey as you know are here;
they are all upper country will come back to mor-
row W. Bickey is in very bad health has the consumption
I fear he will never reach home. John I have written this
little by little so you may not wonder at it want
of connection. With love to all I am as ever
Yours very truly Your Cousin Jessie