

May the 21 1869

~~parallel to well by~~  
 Dear brother and sister it is with  
 pleasure I take my pen in hand  
 to write you a few lines to let you  
 no that we was all well at this time  
 and hope this may find you both well  
 I have nothing of importance to  
 write you at this time the circus looks  
 to be is nearly past my mother  
 and eight letters on it and it  
 looks well the children says they  
 would like to see you and have you  
 here to go with us to Sunday school  
 Johnny can spell some and Sally  
 nose her letters you ought to be  
 her and see how much better they  
 all feel since we got home Kingston  
 is a very good place and is  
 trying to make a large crop of butter  
 he says if nothing happens he will  
 by him alone next fall and then  
 I am writing to send for you and  
 I want you to come and  
 stay with us while will Gessey  
 you and Sally want think that  
 my children will stay with  
 them that we come with you

*[Faint, mostly illegible handwritten text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]*

don't like there ~~is~~ ~~is~~ one bit better  
than you do ~~is~~ don't let our  
children go with them at all no  
I don't believe in raising children  
in no suttle ~~any~~ ~~any~~ as they  
are raising these no I don't agree  
to raise mine with them for  
I consent raised that way my  
self and I want to raise ~~my~~  
~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~  
see my ~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~ ~~my~~  
in ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~  
I intend to take them to the ~~the~~  
school ~~on~~ ~~on~~ ~~on~~ ~~on~~ ~~on~~ ~~on~~  
them at home all that I can  
this year and next year we  
are going to try to get ~~the~~  
can send them ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~  
thing ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~  
that ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~  
some horses and he will come  
and you so I will be writing  
my letter to ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~  
you must ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~  
and spelling and ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~  
you got this thing ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~ ~~is~~  
to ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~  
H H and S L and S L

J. H. and S. L. ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~ ~~and~~  
I wish you ~~you~~ ~~you~~ ~~you~~ ~~you~~ ~~you~~ ~~you~~  
to see you ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~ ~~to~~  
and see me for I am so ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~  
that I can hardly live ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~  
there is nobody here that I  
no they are strange but we  
have good neighbors here  
but I would be ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~ ~~be~~  
satisfied if I was up there  
and I intend to come back  
up there if I can get him  
in the ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~ ~~in~~  
he will look for him ~~at~~ ~~at~~ ~~at~~ ~~at~~ ~~at~~ ~~at~~  
while he is up there after  
them horses and if he gets  
home up there I will be  
all right so ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~ ~~so~~  
for I don't ~~can~~ ~~can~~ ~~can~~ ~~can~~ ~~can~~ ~~can~~  
can read this ~~for~~ ~~for~~ ~~for~~ ~~for~~ ~~for~~ ~~for~~  
is no ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~  
a ~~bad~~ ~~bad~~ ~~bad~~ ~~bad~~ ~~bad~~ ~~bad~~  
letter so ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~ ~~no~~  
only I remain your brother  
and sister until death  
I H and S L and S L