

Monk Dec. 28. 1867

Miss Esther Pennington

my dear niece I
will attempt to answer
your more than welcome
letter which came to hand a
while back but I have put
it off ~~to~~ waiting because
I have been so very busy
and I hope you will pardon
me for my neglect well I
am glad you all are
pleased with your new
home and hope you all will
do well and have good
health Esther we are all
well at this time but I have
been right poorly with

neuralgia this winter and
all the children have had
bad colds Esther Lee has
gone to a dance to night
over at farm John Bellis
he has about 12 acres of
land listed up and I hope
we will make a good crop
next year for I do sure
need it. I know you had
a nice christmas and I hope
you a happy new year I
took christmas dinner
with my sister Kattie and
will eat new years dinner
with Alice if nothing
happens well Esther &

I think They will make
a good crop well Esther
wrote that Ebbie
and Edd was getting along
fine I hope they will do
well. you spoke of poor
Katties baby girl but it is dead
I am sorry for Kattie she
will have such a hard time.
I wish her and Willie Ratter
could get along together
Esther this has been the prettiest
winter I ever saw we have
had some very high wind
and a little snow one time
but it has been a very mild
winter Willie come to see
me about a month ago

Elin sent me the Picture
of his house and he is sitting
out in front and he looks
natural Elnor has been
down here but she has come
back home now The children
are still going to school
Ether I wish I could see you
all it seem so long since I
saw any of you all well I
must close for this time
hoping to hear from you soon
give my love to your
mother and all the little
children. as ever your
old aunt Bettie Stotham
may god Bless you
all is my Prayer