Wild FOwl Bay, August 6, 1863

Dear SOn and daughter,

it is sOmetime since we have had iny wOrd frOm yOu and the family, but I trust that these few lines will find yOu and family in gOOd health. We have tO inform that we are all in a tOrabl kindOf health at present. JOhn cut his leg and it is getting better. Abraham and wife and the babe has the agu and theay are getting better. Sally lOst her little bOy Adam; he dide a bOut the middle Of June and was enterd On Alexs Own place. Alex has a gOOd peace Of land; the most Of the timber is hemlOek, seder, pine and sOme hard wOOd.

And nOw yOu wOuld like to heare abOut the place. It is a hard looking place, But the land is gOOd. AlOng the lake shOre it is a white sand ridge cOvered with pine and hemlOek timber; and then thare is a perara as theay call it, but I call it a marsh. sometimes it is under water and at Other times it is dry. Theay cut hay On it. And after yOu leave this marsh then the SOU is a Sandy lOOme and blck muck. The land lays very level and the Seder Swamps are all dry land, what I have seen as yet, but thare is tOO much pine and hemlOek to my nOtlOn. After all i must say theay can cleare land much faster then we cOuld in hard timbert land in AldbOraugh. If the land is ehOpt two weeks and is dry it will bOurn Of Slick and Cleane, and the Seder here makes first rate raiks (means shingles); and we get gOOd watter by dlging frOm 8 to 10 and 12 feet. If yOu make a thOusand Of Shindies and deliver them On the lake shOre yOu will get $2.30 per thOusand; if yOu take them tO Sagiaaw, yOu will get $3.50 tO$4.50 per thousand acOrding to lenth. Mens wages are One dOllar per day, that is, fOr cOmmOn wOrk. FlOwer is frOm 8 tO 9 dOllars per barel; gOOd pOrke fOr 10 cents per lb.; tea is 10 and 14 shelings per lb; tObacca cut, 25 cents a pOund, and plug $1.00, to $1.50c; table salt in bags One shilling per bag; black tea ten shillings a peace; pins, 10 cents a paper.

And nOw yOu want tO knOw sOme things abOut Miekel. He tOOk a farm with a full crOp On it. He gets One half Of the fall crOp and One half Of the spring crOp. (One line indistinct) The Sprlag wheat looks well here; it was very dry this summer It is the hOtest weather ever saw.

And nOw if I want tO send a letter tO us, yOu must direct tO Old LavOur? pOst Office, hOurn COunty, Michagan. This is yOur eOpy tO direct yOur letters by.

Adam Harder

Ora Labora