

## **E.A. La Fever to George and family**

This is a letter from E.A. La Fever, Hiawatha, Kansas, to a friend and his family. La Fever writes about daily life, from trying to build a stable for his livestock to buying wood from nearby Indians.

Creator: La Fever, E.A.

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La Fever

Hiawatha Kansas  
Jan 19<sup>th</sup> 1879

Dear Friend Geo & Family

I no  
doubt you think we have  
entirely forgotten you long  
are this; but we have'n't though  
we have talked about writing  
to you every week since we  
left you, but have just put  
it off from time to time -  
we are well & getting along  
as well as could be expected  
under the circumstances -  
It was late in the fall when  
we got here & we hadn't much  
time to fix for winter but  
we got a little house that  
we are wintering in very com-  
fortably & my friend Neff &





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got Stabling for our Stock  
to-gether so we are getting  
along first-rate - I have part  
of the stuff hauled to make  
a stable on my own place -  
I intend boring a well as  
soon as the weather gets fit to  
work & build my stable & then  
haul my house to it - We  
like the country first-rate  
& will like to live here when  
we get on our own place & get  
in shape which we can do  
by another winter - We have  
had about the same kind  
of weather here as you have  
in Ills except rain - We have  
had but two light-drizzly  
rains since we got here -  
But have had lots of snow  
more than I like for I can't  
work any at my stable - We



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hadn't time to cut as  
much hay as we needed for  
stabling & get it up; but  
there is plenty close that  
was cut & let spoil for hay  
that we can get by hauling  
but it has been under the  
snow all winter & we have to  
wait for the snow to leave  
before we can get it. We buy  
our wood from the Indians  
& can get Maple & Walnut for  
\$2.00 per cord & I bought a  
lot of oak logs from one the  
other day for one dollar to  
do me all winter & he cuts  
them so I can haul them  
So far I have been able to  
get fuel cheaper than I  
ever got it in Ill. Corn  
is worth 15 cts per bu & plenty  
of it. Other things are about



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Paul W. Angle, donor  
1938

1881  
The same as in your country  
I can't see any reason  
why we won't have a splendid  
country here in a very short  
time. The balance of the Indian  
land will come into market  
this year & in a year will  
be thickly settled as no one  
can buy any land only  
on actual settlement & then  
not more than 160 acres  
which will make a thick  
settlement. I cut my thumb  
the other day & it hurts it to  
write so I will stop for this time  
I want you to write soon & tell  
us all the news - tell the boys  
I will write to them in a  
few days. I want to hear  
from all of you - it cheers us  
up mightily to get letters for  
we get lonesome sometimes  
Kate joins in kind regards to all.  
Yours truly E.A. LaFever