

Waterloo Iowa June 2/1905
Mrs M. E. Thompson

Dear daughter

I received your letter of the 4 of May
in due time Informing me of your
sale of your place in Kansas & I
supposed from ^{what} S. C. said to me when
I was there that if he sold there that
that he would come back further east
so as to get where there was more rain
and not so much dry weather but
instead of that he has gone farther west
where they have I suppose still less rain
I can sympathize with you in leaving
your home your chickens your fruit &c
but perhaps you may be able to secure
as good ones in Garden City I hope
that when Roger gets through with his
studies he may find some profitable ^{business}
for himself and be @ blessing to you & himself
and I suppose Irene now will want to do
something for herself if possible I would have
her at home as much as possible as she is yet young
and may need @ Mother's watchful care for awhile at least

how time slips away as I look back it does not seem long since my children were seeking homes for themselves now they are parents with grown up seeking homes for themselves may they be careful and not make mistakes which cannot be rectified what is once done is done forever and cannot be recalled (I have made mistakes in ^{my} younger years which I would gladly recall but that is impossible would the young but realise this and weigh each act carefully before they ^{act} I suppose you are beginning to realise that your family are leaving you and that you may ^{be alone} with your husband be alone in the world that is that your children may all leave you and you will feel that you are alone Ella closes her school to day Frances has sold off some of her household goods preparatory to going west I suppose she will not go for a month or six weeks yet

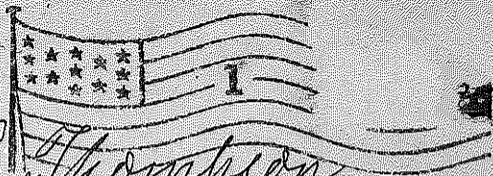
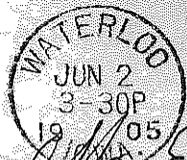
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as to what I shall do as yet I do not know Ella seems to want to hire a woman to keep house for us if we can find one to suit if we cannot I suppose we shall to board out somewhere if we had not more than half of the house room that we have and not more than half of the household goods we might board out I do not like to rent our home and it is not arranged for ^{any} family and it seems like a waste of room for two folks who are boarders to keep it all and we would need some help occasionally to fix it up and there would be a lot of needless furniture and bedding to look after I suppose that it would be cheaper to sell out house and every thing except our ~~it~~ clothing and board but I do not like to be without a home I would like to have a home not only for myself but for Ella also in case of sickness a home is very desirable

returns leaving the other 4 large myrror brown
but I must close your respect to the old children
when I came west I had no home
for some years) if I was well all way
well I had no one else to look after
but I can ^{not} feel so now, not but what
Ella can take of herself but I feel somehow
that I ought to provide @ home while
I live) (when I was young I was looking
forward with hope to the time when
I might have @ home of my own
now I can only look forward to the
grave as my future home in this world
and that probably that will be soon
I feel as if I was alone in the world
yet I feel that I ought to be very
thankful to God he has spared my
life these many years & given me
some of this worlds goods so that I am
not dependent on the Charity of the world
for my support) Seneca is dependant on the
county for his support the bounty gives him \$ dollar
@ week his daughter has @ little home secured to her
by a will & that is all she has to support herself
and what her friends may give and her health is poor

we are having quite a great
deal of rain last month it
rained yesterday when you
receive this letter please write
and tell us how you like
your new home, how much
rent do you pay you a good
garden how the crops look
have you had much rain since
came there what is your
prospect for fruit there
strawberries promise well here
some change I do not know
about apples grass looks well

I also received
your letter of May
22 1885



Mrs W. E. Thompson
Garden City
Shinnery County
Kansas.