

Merle Jan 22. 1905

Miss Pennington

My Dear little niece

I will try to answer your ever welcome letter which came to hand a few days ago and found us all well and I hope these few lines will find you all well and doing well. why dont orange write to me some times Esther I have seen your uncles all in the last few days and bilie was up here to day he went to see manie well Esther manie is married and she done well she married Mr Rabbert bettel and he owns a good home for her they was married on the ~~15~~<sup>24</sup> of Dec. and Bilie said curtis was with him and george and was well his is coming to see me when his school is out. but said tell you he has the cutis girl

you ever saw. Leen has gone to set up  
with a sick man to night he went to see  
his girl to day well Esther I have nothing  
to ~~write~~ write that will interest you the boys  
have commenced to plow up their land  
and I have a nice net wire garden and  
a new snake house and willie has  
a nice new room built in my yard  
and will farm here next year well  
I think you must have a good time  
riding with your fellow I hope when  
you marrie you will do well for I  
know your are quite a grown young  
ladie now. well I must close hoping  
to hear from you soon. Give my love  
to your mamma and all the children  
but keep a share for your self as ever  
your aunt Better Statham