

Berbow va
Jan 5 1904

Dear Maggie

I have been putting off writing thinking I would get come down but it looks now as I never will get to come the roads are so slick I recond I will have to walk if I get to see you before you move I am going to try to come down how is the baby has her neck got well is the rest of the folks well I have been sick and have not gotten well yet with a pain in my neck and shoulder I can't turn my head to do any

A letter written to Margaret (Maggie) Corell Graham from her younger sister Anne Corell Buchanan. Maggie and WR Graham are getting ready to move their family to Loudoun from Tazewell. The baby on page 1 is referring to Ocie Graham. Jim (page 3) is their nephew, son of William Corell. Oscar (page 4) is their 11 year old brother. Mary (page 4) is Maggie's oldest child (10 yrs at this writing). Kathleen (page 4) is Anne's 2 year old daughter.

The original letter did not include any periods. Paragraphs below roughly reflect the different pages of the letter.

Jan 5, 1904

Dear Maggie

I have been putting off writing thinking I would get come down but it looks now as I never will get to come. The roads are so slick I recond (reckon) I will have to walk if I get to see you before you move. I am going to try to come down. How is the baby? Has her neck got well? Is the rest of the folks well? I have been sick and have not gotten well yet with a pain in my neck and shoulder. I can't turn my head to do any good.

good I haent seen ma
since New yearsday I was
down there she was not
very well pa was well
but had bad luck with
his goats some got in
the mountain and got
possim lost Six which
you know give him the
blues Maggie I am going
to send. are bring you
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your kettle I ask you to
save for me I dont record
I can take it I have spent
all of my turkey money
and it leaves me out please
dont think hard of me
ma said for me to tell
you she was going to
try to come down if the

I haven't seen Ma since been yesterday. I was down there she was not very well. Pa was well but had bad luck with his goats some got in the mountain and got (?) lost. Six which you know give him the (blues?). Maggie I am going to send or bring your rug "trick" home. Will send it the first chance. Your kettle I ask you to save for me. I don't record (reckon) I can take it. I have spent all of my (turkey?) money and it leaves me out. Please don't think hard of me.

roads melts out Jim and
Della spent the day with
us today you ought to see
the baby ~~good~~ great big fat
thing and Jim thinks no
one has a baby but him
Maggie when do you think
you will move? have
you got your sewing done?
I wish you lived close
so I could walk to see you
I would find how you
are getting along well Maggie
as it is 11 o'clock all the
rest in bed I guess I had
better go and keep them
company. Ma said for me to tell you she was
going to try to come down if the roads
melts out. Jim and (Della?) spent the
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going tell Mary that
Kathleen thinks she can
talk will come and whisper
and then kiss you and
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and a long letter tell
me all the news if I
dont get down write to
me as soon as you get
there you have my best
wishes for I hope you all
will do well write soon and
let me know you are
getting along and when
you are going to move
from your sister
Annie B

Mamie is always talking about Ollie and what her and Ollie will do. Oscar won't have that Aunt Mag is going to move (of?). It makes him mad to tell him you going. Tell Mary that Kathleen thinks she can talk (Will?) come and (whisper?) and then kiss you and (??) Write soon and a long letter tell me all the news if I don't get down. Write to me as soon as you get there. You have my best wishes for I hope you all will do well. Write soon and let me know you are getting along and when you are going to move. From you sister Annie B