

Chicago April 12/77

My Dear Brother

I Received your letter  
a few days ago and was  
glad to hear from you  
and Family although  
it has been a great many  
years since we have  
seen each other it is our  
duty to be punctual in writing  
I have been here going on  
five years and I find  
a lively place plenty Business  
done here but I have  
not made any money  
since I came here  
but have not lost any  
I have kept my Family  
out of the proceeds

My health is about as  
usual and not very  
good at that My wife  
was over here about  
two months ago I think  
one week I visited  
young Horse and  
Ma and I stay a  
few days with my family  
I have not heard from  
Jesse or William or Thomas  
or Phoebe in a long  
time Thomas what  
away from a year ago  
last fall and never has  
wrote since

I got a letter from one  
of Phoebe's boys this winter  
they were all well  
and doing very well  
getting out logs and  
Hemlock Bark the bay  
was full of log bay

for both they are  
very industrious boys  
The weather is very  
pleasant just now  
when you write  
I'm at A-guard Rapids  
as before

wrote after  
from your Brother

John Belong