for I shall surely come after them. What has become of Livonia. You have not said a word about her for a long time and her and Fanny and all the rest of the good folks.

Saturday, 28th

There is not any prospect of my letter going to the office to day so to go out in to day's mail. For it has rained hard as it could pour ever since eight oclock this morning, and not a sign of clearing off. The streets are flooded with water. Now Birdie write soon. Don't wait as long as you did before. Tell me all the news. If Albert has got home from Cal, I never heard. How all the folks are and every thing you can think of. Don't say I never wrote a long letter. Good bye for this time.

From Ellen to Birdie and all the rest the folks

Birdie I wrote this letter a month ago but I will send it along for fear I never will get another one written. Write to me as soon as you get this.

Ellen

Eau Claire, Feb 7th, 1876

Monday Eve, Dear Sister,

Your letter came to hand to day and I will hasten to answer it. This finds us all well as usual. The girls are both going to school this winter. Carrie has never been to
school before, until this term. She went over the river tonight and bought her a new First Reader and slate. She feels pretty proud of them too. I began to think you had forgotten how to write, or had run away, because you did not write. I was so disappointed because I could not go down there this winter, that I could not bear to set down and write that I could not come. I got almost ready but Jeff failed to raise the money because it is such hard times here now. He has money owing him but he could not get it. I told Asa not to tell that I talked of going home. Then if any thing should happen that I did not come you would not worry. I think Asa was very foolish in going back when he did. He left a good job here. He might have had a team to drive all winter. Jimmie took his team after he left, and toted supplies up the river to the camps until sleighing. Then he went to the woods to haul logs. We have not heard from him but once since he went to the woods, heard that he was doing first rate good business.

We have had a very beautiful winter here so far, just snow enough to make sleighing, and very warm and pleasant. I never saw a nicer winter in my life.

I have been over to Charley's once since they moved into their new house. They have got a splendid house now I tell you. Down stairs there is two parlors, one sitting room and a large square hall, dining room and kitchen and two pantries. They
have three pair of folding doors. The rooms up stairs are all large sleeping rooms with a closet to every room and Mary's room has two, one for Charles and one for her self. The hall is very large. They use it for a sitting room this winter.

Ida is attending school this winter. Mary says she will graduate in the Spring so she won't go to school any more. I thought to my self I wonder what she will graduate in. I am confident that she can't in any thing except "lieing" and deceit.

Charley's folks are well. I never saw Charley so fleshy as he is this winter. Jeff saw All and Lizzie Saturday over the river. They said they was going to write to Father yesterday. So I expect you will hear how they are. Almon has been raving and distracted to sell out and go to Florida this winter, and the last I heard he was going to Texas. But he don't seem to sell out yet and I don't think he will right away. Lizzie said she was coming down after me and take me home with her when she did not have so much to do. As near as I can find out she don't do much at home for she ain't there only about half the time. She has had a hired girl since last fall, hired one for a year. Jeff has gone over to Ferd Vinton's to practice to night. He has done lots of playing this winter. I have filled up this sheet and he told me he wanted to write some when he got home. But I guess he is going to stay all night for it is nearly eleven oclock and I must go to bed or
I shant want to get up in the morning. Send along your pattern and I will send you some flocks. Where is Addie. Why don't she write to me. How did Albert say Uncle Cirt's folks were getting along. Does Af talk of going there to live. Write and tell me all the news.

Ellen

Eau Claire, May 12th, 1876

Dear Sister,

As I have a few leisure moments, I thought I would write to let you know that we are all well as usual. Dennis and Charley got here one week ago last Wednesday morning. They were just thirty six hours coming through. They went to work the next Monday for the Eau Claire L. Co. Charles set them at work for $26 dollars a month. They seem to like to work there first rate. Dennis was at work in one of the mill last Thursday and stepped through a hole in the floor and hurt one leg pretty bad, nothing very serious. He keeps at work. We had awful high water here the last of April. The Chippeway River was up twelve feet above low water mark, and the river was full of logs. They run at the rate of three million feet of logs per hour, so you may know by that what a sight it was. They had no control over them at all. They stopped the most of them. A Beef Slough down below here a run them into Half Moon Lake, so a great many was saved that would have been lost.