Sunday April the 11 1864

Dear affectionate Brother Isaac

I take my pen hand to let you know that we are well at present, hopeing that this may find you the same we received your letter yesterday the 9th and we was very glad to hear from you, I have been thinking about you a great deal this while past so I was very glad to hear from you, But I would been gladder to hear that you would be at home with your family But I think that wish is all in vain at present,

I hope that this cruel war will soon come to a close so all those that have been spared so far can again return to thier respective homes where they can meet their families with great joy,

Joy stated in your letter that you have not heard from Henry Taylor since you left murfurs borough Tennessee we received a letter from him last evening the same time we got your letter, he is well and they are still there yet at murfurs borough, they have a great deal of picket duty to do Susan Taylor is [illegible] his wife is living with us yet she is well at present she has a young son she is two weeks old to day,

I nursed her which which made me work pretty hard in my old days for these two last weeks

this is the way it goes in this troublesome world we all must have our troubles and trials,

You mentioned something about your socks
I was sorry to hear that that your socks are lonne
But I was sorrier to hear that you fellowd of your birth
when you was darning your socks and almost broke
your neck you must not take quite such a long
thread the next time then it will go better perhaps
You must excuse me for not answering your
letter I will try to do better in the future
further we will let you know something about the
friends they are all well at present as far as we know
times looks a little discouragging at present
we had a very cold spell last new years and it froze
almost all the wheat in these parts
some of the farmers are a going to plow down their
wheat and put in spring crops out in the place
of wheat
you stated in your letter that you was under marching
orders I am sorry to hear that I wish you had marching
orders to march home instead of marching into Reb's
I heard your other son enlisted I was sorry to hear it
for it is very hard for your wife
You mentioned in your letter that Abraham Suits
should write to you but you must excuse him he is
a very poor writer no more at present
you give my best respects to your wife
Remember your affectionat sister Elizabeth Suits
to Isaac Kettinger
answer this letter soon

Near Union River Dec 28 A.D. 1863

Cousin Isaac, Yours of 28th ult was rec'd 10th inst we noted therein that you was well and right side up with care, the same found us all in about enjoying the same fix, will apologise for the time elapsed since I rec'd yours, I have had long since, had many letters to reply, Cousin, my eye sight fails me fast, can write but little by candle or any other artificial light, therefore have to devote daylight to do my inditing, but am, (when compelled) allways ready and willing to write by moon shine, night shine, dayshine and will do so, rather than not to, by-purely, the Star, Jubiterss shine, will inform you, I rec'd a few lines from Maryan Cornill, wife, of Samuel Cornill Esqr of old Niagara Co, the same stating are all well, (& old Sibb single, cant double, just now's to young) says, boys in them diggins are volunteering to serve father Abraham and help him out of this war affair that is to teach and convert the rebels and copperheads (Kinks) a little common sense, with sword and

powder, moral suasion, She writes us that our Uncle Samuel has gone to that bourne, from whence no traveler returns, my Son writes us from Cairo, stating is well and likes, thus far, soldiering well, he is at present by his Regt, at Baton Rouge, I did not in any letter write you that one of Jacob Walters sons is now at Baton Rouge, is in the same Regt and Co that John is in. Had late news from your sweet home stopping-diggins, to the effect, that they were then, all well and flapping, Henry K; and Thomas M, esqrs, noted hunters &c, are off, and in the State of Michigan setting traps, take therefrom, (if they can,) will catch rat, weasle, opposom, marten, mink, coon, otter, beaver, ferret, and skunk and some more skunks akin to the copperhead institution, disposition, inclination and composition, I wish them great luck and top o the mornin shure; I let our P, M, read yours. to some time quite a crowd of men, not one, that I wot of, but are well pleased with its contents and righteous and sensible comments, we are, just now, and for some 4 weeks past, having right smart heaps of snow, and a right spry share of the same article, is laying, running and many times traveling about smart fast; Adieu, Will close, But more Anon I wish you, and your loyal comrads all a hapy new Year, a long life and for ever a merry one, with great regard yours &c J, K, Miller Esqr to J Kittinger Esqr

Caledonia

Caledonia, dear Cousin

as Levi and Martha are writeing to you i will write a few lines i supose thay have told you all the news pleas excuse my long silance it is very hard for me to write but i am just as glad to hear from you as any one can be i am very glad to hear of the improvement in your health Levi is hear looking thin and pale but he is gaining slowy your folks are all well

the weather is clear and cold

pleas write again and
I will try and do better
next time from

Betsey Madison

This is Maddisons Reply to my
2 good Letters, they have played out
getting Letters from me you better
guess - I. guess they think property

goes ahead of friendship well I.
think myself in many Cases it does
but I. believe man dies and Land
does not so. I. immagine that
friendship goes farther then
the evil avails of this Earth
Base &c.