

Sunday May 22 1886

Dear Ida  
your welcome letter received  
will congratulate you on the  
sacred - of the chickens - hope  
all goes well with them. I  
always was proud of a flock  
of the wee things. As for  
house cleaning we are nearly  
through too; have called a  
half at the patreys and  
laundry closets. Taking a  
rest. We both need it.  
It took longer as we could  
not get but one woman  
and about a half of a man  
and that half but part of  
the time. We are going to  
have the bath room done  
over and a cleaner for the  
saps later. We feel very  
clean now with clean  
curtains at the windows

The weather was so cold and dreary  
and then so dry that the garden  
work went slow, of course I could  
not do much there, did do some  
things though. We <sup>have</sup> lettuce nearly  
ready for use: radishes <sup>and</sup> onions,  
for the table - beets and chard up  
my tomatoes, sweet-peppers, cauliflower,  
egg plants; early cabbage, all looking  
fine - first sowing of peas up quite  
tall, beginning to ~~climb~~ <sup>climb</sup> the lattice,  
and the later peas and beans in  
corn sprouting out soon if this  
warm weather holds. My borders  
and flower beds are fine, only  
need here and there to get any  
help - I hope you will help me  
that box of plants as I have to take  
them up myself. This fall you  
can have more Iris but they are  
coming in too fast now that  
I could not get as many as I  
wonder here like to get. Had a  
good men yesterday to help. Mr  
Walters is sick again - got in  
my Dahlias - and if I had not been  
to visit should have put in my  
Linnias - that will come tomorrow  
Now don't you worry about Sara  
and me. We are getting on very  
well, all things considering - We  
will get a girl some day I hope  
just now we have a woman every  
two weeks to wash and iron,  
another to sweep every other Friday  
but to come in for extras when  
we want them. We take some  
dinner out and some times a

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pick up at home - of course  
when the women are here  
they have to have a dinner  
stomach. And it is but little  
more trouble to add our own  
to that. At Dentons & Mesters  
we can get nearly any  
thing we want cooked.  
OK, yes, we are all right.  
I wish we could get a  
woman for an hour or two  
every day to wash dishes  
etc. It would be so much  
easier for Lasa - Yes a little  
for me, too - I've just been  
to take a look at the garden.  
find chard and carrots etc  
all up; there is signs of a  
rain; which will be agreeable  
thing. Better come once  
stay a while as we are now  
drier and clear, maybe  
we will not be late. We  
shall think of going over to

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Some other arrange ment. - 4  
I have had ~~some~~ letters from  
the fam- one from Louisa  
They are all well, and want  
me to come there. I don't  
know as I can. Must wait  
to them soon. They have  
had the cemetery there  
chartered. My share is \$2.00  
which I shall send as soon  
as I can get a 2 dollar bill  
That cooker is a fine thing  
I put beet greens in it a few  
days ago they came out  
fine - Laska has come in  
it now for dinner - rather dry  
the cooked cream of wheat  
in it; every thing does well but  
potatoes. They persist in being  
heavy. Fiddille is going  
to have a "safe once lane" show  
ant. for the 4<sup>th</sup>. A parade

for the children, (some of older growth)  
music, races, prizes - etc. very patriotic  
etc. Well Pittsboro is great on fiddles  
can't tell yet - what this will be.

The engagement of Miss Laddie Farrell  
and Frank A. Sheabold - (at last!) is  
announced in this morning's paper

How are you! write soon  
Larsen's love, I guess. She is in  
her studio so I haven't asked her  
Sincerely mother