Union Pacific Railroad
Nebraska May 12th 1874

My dear Mother,

I am going to send you a few lines today though they can only be written with a pencil. Our way still has been pleasant and prosperous. I was really sorry we could not remain longer at Waukegan. Uncle and Belle & Louisa came to the train with us yesterday morning. Uncle expressed his good will by giving his niece twenty dollars. The girls talk seriously about coming out to Fort S. The weather has been all

that could be desired - it rained enough last night to lay the dust - the country we have passed through is pleasant gently prairie - several fine towns and numerous villages we spent about an hour and a half in Omaha this morning - such crowds of travellers & quantities of baggage that time was all required in getting things arranged. We brought quite a supplement of provisions from Hawkeye as my husband tells me. I am to say that I stand the journey better than he does - I do bravely according to his opinion - it is very easy when I have nothing to do but be made comfortable & have some one to think of everything for me - I have slept splendidly better than he has done -

he took so cold & has had a slight
sore throat since yesterday - I have seen since
leaving Omaha or Council Bluffs one - prairie
grass on fire - an very extensive burning however.
The train by which we meant to send this has
just passed so I will have to keep it till tomorrow.
475 miles from Omaha
The Bluffs - Wednesday Noon noon - Since I wrote
yesterday we have passed over boundless plains & this morning
have been in a hilly region but still no trees but a few
stunted pines - Mr C's throat still troubles him some - I
am well - the further I get away from you all at home
the more my heart goes out towards you - but there is one
Lord over all. If you have not written before you receive this -
good if you have - please do write immediately again - we shall
likely reach Victoria by the twenty-fifth. Love to all from
us both, especially to my father & yourself
dear mother -
Emma.