

Winona, Minn. Oct 10 1889

My Dear Lord was very glad
to get yours of the 5th and to
hear you were getting along
as well as you are I have
been real sorry I did not
go down there last summer
and more so since I have
come out so poorly this fall
it is now two months since
I have been up town and can
only get out to the barn
and do part of my chores
if it had been good weather
I think I ~~so~~ would have
been much better off the
weather has been just awful
and the roads the worst they

say they ever know them there
is another thing that has
bothered me I had some money
to raise and had made an
arrangement with a man to let me
have four hundred dollars
and was to secure him on
part of my place he dallied
along with one excuse and
another until Christmas
and then wanted I should
make over to him property
worth more than four thou-
-and dollars including my
insurance policy which is \$1500
on buildings and \$1200 on
contents and more than
\$2500 of real estate you see
at once when I would be
I knew that those here who
were in the habit of having
money to let had it invested
in such a way they could
not call it in and I was
on my back and could not
stir from home I knew also
that farmers who some years
since had from one to two
thousand dollars surplus
was now behind hand and
it has worried me you may
wonder how it happened
just as it has to a great
majority of the farmers in K
who have had to hire I
need only go back 6 or 8 years
I owed some could have paid
it any day and had personal
property enough left to get
along very well was hiring say
8 months and boarding cost
me at least from \$250 to \$300
more than it costs me now
our crops were growing short
and prices growing less I
found I was running behind
I bought nothing to eat drink

or we can even use the old buggy
I had when you was here today
I had to buy two horses
a hind man killed old
faw and Old Mellic gone
but by Old ag two years
since three years since I
stopped buying but the horse
cost me \$30. and I had to buy
a grain binder which cost
me \$20. still everything
a farmer had went down
and crops were poor but
I have managed to not run
behind and if I could be
as well as I have in the past
I could work out yet as I
intend to work along for
a time in hopes times may
improve and I will sell
part or all of my farm
and get me a little place

but I cannot sell anything
in the line of farms now it
cannot be any worse

I could even next fall
sell everything off the farm
and pay all my debts but
that would leave me bare
handed and I must have ~~at~~
three or four hundred d.
dollars this winter if I can
get it but if I cannot get it
will get along with less

If I could look around
I think might find it here
and could get it if it was to
be had but that I cannot
do Now can you help me
out any you shall not loose
anything by it I will see that
you are made good whether
I live or die I am not bank-
rupt by no means and do

not intend to be if I live on
one meal a day why last
year \$15. would pay all I hired
except my wood and I earned
more than that with my team

now if I expect you will be
tired if not I am if you can
help me I would like it by the
first of March at least I want
to know where it is coming
from now I must stop

Give love to Emma and
Lodie when you see them
and I shall ever remain
your affectionate

Father
Y Bourgee