

Accession No. M1981-1010  
Bruce Collection  
Box 6, Folder 201

[Letter from Ellen Teal to her sister, 1882]

Mclean Co. Ill [County, Illinois] June 21<sup>st</sup> 882 [June 21, 1882]

My Dear Sister -

I received your kind letter in due time and have sit down this morning to answer it and to tell you of the death of our dear sister Fannie she died the 9th of June I was with her for several days before her death I was sent for and I stood by her bedside until She breathed her last I asked her if she was ready and putting [putting] her trust in God she said she was but I hate to leave you all she suffered so much she nearly lost her mind and was almost blind her children was all with her but Mary and Ben her Husband was so kind and good to her said

[page 2]

said he felt like he had lost all the friend he had in the world and the neighbours [neighbors] was so good and attentive had her funeral preached and she was laid by her first Husband and our beautiful Cemetery [Cemetery] and I have been to her grave and decorated it with flowers that I got out of her yard and mine. I am at Georges now am going to Belleflower Friday I have sold my farm for 62 1/2 \$ per acre got 1000\$ down paid 3 of the children off with that and the other 3 their Pa paid them before he died it was money their Uncle left them so there will be 4000\$ left for me to live on ef we will loan it out I won't get that until next March when the man will take pofsesion [possession] I want to get a nice monument for Mr Teals grave so I dont [don't] want to go any where until I get every thing [everything] fixed as I want it John Pumpelly

[page 3]

has sold out and they are going to Kanfas Wichata [Kansas, Wichita] to live Lucys [Lucy's] health is not good as Sam is talking of going to Kanfas [Kansas] too and I will have to go ~~I hope~~ we shall all live to meet one another again when I go to Mo [Missouri] to see Mary Sanders then I will make you all a visit but no place in this World feels like ones own home I do feel so lost and so lonely sometimes I don't know what to do I

always was contented and happy when Mr Teal was a living but I cant [can't] be now  
although my Children are as good and kind to me as they can be they wont [won't] let  
me do any hard work I dont [don't] have anything to do only what I am a mind to I hope  
your health has improved since you went to the Springs I do want to see you all so bad I  
have written to Brother William hope you will excuse all mistakes and bad writing for I  
am

[top of page 3; upside down]

Write soon and often

[page 4]

on my lap and have to stop to wipe the tears from my eyes give my love to Henry and  
all the Children and bushels of kifses [kisses] and reserve a large share for yourself

from your only dear Sister

Ellen Teal