My Dear Patty, the news of poor Lons death was a severe stroke
more particularly leaving him behind me, and fondly hoped
to see him ere we were seperated for life, it was a wound
to my heart, and conscience, never to be reconciled on this Earth.
the very thought of the seperation from my Children renders
me miserable whilst I remain this side the grave -
The almighty has dealt very mercifully with me & suffered long
with my folly, of which I have now to repent, friend left
(I may say) in this wilderness a refugee an Exile to dragon
a miserable existence whilst I am hermitted to remain
this side the grave - but the will of God be done, in all his
ways he is just & righteous & it is well for me to feel &
know that it is a an evil & bitter thing to have so long
forsaken my God, since I took you I sensibly feel
a rapid decline in Constitution. I have been wonderfully
blessed with good health until I came here & never
appreciated its real value, until now I feel its loss.
but all things works for the better. & so I trust for me -
you ask me if we have any place of worship Convenient
to us, we have such a variety of religions, and meetings
all around from 1 to 2 a 3 Miles that I can hardly give
you a discription of them. I have subscribed to two
houses, one Calvin unites Brethren, & the other moves
Albans, neither of which is yet built altho I heard my
Dear two years ago - we have methodists Baptists
Calvinists and a very few Presbyterians with mormons
other sects scattered over the Country, and very am I to
say few to be found worthy of any denomination, all at
variance. the mode I pursue is to read the scriptures to
My Family & teach my Children on the Sabbath as well
as I can, during the week. I am imployed from daylight
until gun o'clock, every night when able working out
by day & the night making & mending Shoes &c
for my Family - our hopes will not afford us to hire
hands to labour - procuring & hauling fire wood, attending
to the Cattle & horses, fetching things we require to the mill
we necessary attendance alternately with Granville & Ma
Wile, leaves not a moment to spare during the week.
& my wife's health as well as my own has been very uncertain
during the summer; & indeed she is so busily imployed among
us both, but my oldest little girl, thank God we look
nothing, the Children are all well something like unto Mitty
near in Clothing, but plenty to eat & drink we should
therefore be contented & thankful - respecting the quantity
of the 84 acres of Land we couldnot avoid it well, it is
so situated along our water Course, & had by flood gone
beyond our line, that we couldnot block off our dam
sufficiently high to do good because of the neighbor without
going to law, a quarling about it, we got a good bargain
please Providence I will establish a Distillery early
in the fall, but the very idea of going in debt there
is dreadful to me - Whiskey new bottled for 18 Cents the
Gallon at Cincinnati & 13 a 14 here so you see it is but poor
encouragement to erect a Distillery particularly as I am unable
attend to it my self, however we have been trying to Cleanse the
Canal from Cincinnati to Lake Erie has been looked upon Vessels
have been very scarce & difficult to get here I offer 8 dollars
if you cannot get back as I could depend upon your at
a transient time, I would give extraordinary wages to a faithful &
Confidential man, could I find him - in short such is not to
be had in this Quarter, truly speaking there is no dependence can
to be placed on the generality of this description of people they
consist of loose morving fellows from Ireland, & Carolina, &c
indeed from almost every state, & it's latest, & have been with them,
& the folks throughout this Country, all for themselves, void of
principal - my Dear Patty, I feel most sensibly my
rapid decline, the rheumatic pains & weakness has reduced me
to a mere skeleton & the thoughts of leaving my helpless Children
Situated as we are altho't rends my heart, no school, no means
of educating them, strangers in the midst of an unfeeling selfish
People, is a reflection almost intolerable, but I trust my
God will grant them grace & wisdom, under all these calamities
we certainly are able to have to get through the domestic
Concerns necessary for a family in this Country, all my
dispositions time is amply imployed, making mending, washing & &c
so that altogether we are slaves to all intents & purposes, but contented