Mr Edward F. Smith

Bradleys School House Sept 28 53

Dear Brother

You last and first favors were rec'd nearly at the same time one lay in the office I or somewhere nearly two months. I was glad to hear from you (for to tell you the truth I thought that you never would write to me, by your writing to Frank and never to me, and to hear that you were well, you found us all well and I am in hopes this may find you the same. Your No 1 One I have lost, I had at the door examining it and drop it, I looked for it I dont know how long and Ann too but we could not find it, but in looking for it I found a shilling so I take it for granted that it was Silver ore, send me some of the gold ore and I will try to be more careful of it I am teaching school yet and has some right fine times every friday all my Schollars speak on that day and I muster all the Boys and I have the drum and fife too the smaller Boys have wooden guns and the larger real ones Frank was here last week and see me drill them he says that they beat his company some fridays there is some 25 or thirty people to hear them speak and to see them muster and lots of girls amongst them I write this during recess and have no time to collect my thoughts so you must excuse this short letter, I saw Pa at Court they were all well. We all Ann Martha Peter and John send our love and believe me I am as ever your Brother E F Smith

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