Okaw Illinois.
June 19th 1860
9 A. M.

My Dear Father

Annie, Jennie, and Ma received letters from you yesterday all of which were very welcome both to us and to Grandma's folks also as they contained news from Aunt Caddie. every afternoon when the Southern Mail comes over and makes me go to the mail and she waits here until I come back. Ma came to me a little while ago and asked me if I would go down to the Garden with her she goes down every morning and a looks at the Green Peas" I have got a bed loaded with Peas they are so full they can hardly stand up we thought we would have some for dinner to morrow but they are not quite

full enough every Wednesday as Grandma come over to spend the day. Uncle Sam came down last Friday and Saturday night - they had "Ice" Cream over there and Mr. McKee and Mr. Wane were there, and last night - Ma had Ice Cream and all the folks were over here they were in the Parlor singing and now and then you would hear some one" say Oh!! how I wish Mr. Spanon were here! they always miss you when they "sing" I think by the time you come out I shall be able to sing several Tunes I wish you were here to help us along we meet every Sunday morning an hour before the time and practice singing we have got a small singing Book with thirteen of the sweetest Tunes I ever heard and with Mr Hickock "mag" to "lead" we are progressing fast, making preparations for the "Sociable" The Boys and myself are shelling Corn for Grandpa and Mr. Smith

and we only get two cents and a half a bushel for shelling and fanning to the last time we shelled we got 02½ for shelling alone. we only work afternoons as we have to recite to Cousin Billey in the morning, Ma has just gone over to Grandpa's to spend the day they are having a "B" over there to day for Cousin Billey's benefit he has had his office all plastered & fixed up and he is going down there to stay, they are making his carpet They are working on the roads down town now and Deltrom is supervisor and they couldent find one man in a thousand that would do as well as he, "Good Bye"

Your Affectionate, Son
George Spencer