Serica, May 3rd.

Dear parents, as I thought you would like to hear from me, I would improve this opportunity, we are now encamped on the bank of the Illinois river within one and a half miles of Senica village. The weather has been bad most of the time since we started, and made the roads bad in places though they are getting better now. We have passed much beautiful country. Large prairies extending as far as the eye could reach. We plainly saw the city of Morris yesterday at the distance of eight miles. We have passed a number of trains going west and the inhabitants tell us that there is more emigration within the last three weeks than they ever saw before. Corn and oats are as high here...