March the 29th 1877

Dear Aunt and Family

I take my pen in hand to drope [drop] you a fiew [few][[1]](#footnote-1) lines in answer to your kind letter [.] I was very glad to hear from you and to hear Lige had got back home [.] William Marton come [came] back from thare [there] and said Lige was on a Buffalo hunt [.] he is gone home now [.]

Aunt Pollie [,] you said to tell you what PollieAnn’s Baby and its name [.] it was a Boy [,] it was not named [.] she talked of calling him John Wesley [,] so Ma told Bud [.] Bud said Dow was in great trouble [.] he was dissatisfied with the Country and losing their Baby made them worse Than before [.] Aunt Pollie [,] I have been in bad health for [some] time[.] I had the black skirvy [scurvy] a long time and I got very lean and weak but my Baby was in good health [.] she has been very healthy with the exception of bad colds [;] she had a very bad cold in the winter [.] I am getting stout again [,] I think I will get stout now spring has begin [begun] [two illegible words] and the weather getting warm [.] Aunt Pollie we think of starting to move again the last of April if the stock is in fix to travel [.] The winter has been so cold and bad that the stock has got very Coor [?] we have had bad luck all the time but I will try to live in hopes for the better [illegible word]it is a long lane [?] that has [illegible word] [.] Bud takes everything just as it comes [,] I must tell you the joke on him when he went for the Parson [person ?] [.] He rode one horse down and was til Midnight getting one and when he went after the grannie he rode [illegible word] down [.] he rode about 35 miles but was in time at last he rode very near all night [.] he says he has worse luck than any [body] but I tell you he takes it better [.] he spoiles [spoils] Alta as bad as I do [.] she is as fat as a ginnie [guinea] pig [.] she ways [weighs] ~~19~~ 19 pounds [.] so no more at present [.] write as soon as you get this [.] if you wil [will] we can get another letter from you [.] write [,] we are here so good by [bye] M.A. Ervin

Ervin, Mary Adelaide Hamilton. *M.A. Ervin to Aunt Pollie, March 29,* 1877. Letter. From Abilene Christian University: Center for Restoration Studies, *Ervin Family Papers*, *1877-2000*. Transcribed by Sarah Dannemiller (September, 2014).

1. For the benefit of readers I, Sarah Dannemiller, have placed spelling corrections within brackets throughout the letter. These are based upon my own inferences drawn from the context of the letter. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)