Dear Sister Lizzy:

It took Pharaoh butler a year to remember his fault, but I don't think it is quite that length of time since I wrote to you. Like the woman who told her experience, 'I know I am a poor wory woman, but hope to do better in future.' You remember the old lady in China whose uniform speech was 'It has been seven long years since there has been a reform in this place, and how can we live at this poor sleeping rate? I hope the reform comes than that.' But like your another sister, Elizabeth Hammond, sometimes it seems as though I am oppressed.'

I gave the book article a casual reading, but have little faith in the speculations of those scientists. I never took any stake in the theories that the world has been millions of years since it started to grow. The bible says God made all things in six days, and rested the seventh. I believe this and therefore cannot believe the other. I don't think Mother would have subscribed any such belief and I wouldn't attend here to her being.
than to that of Syndall or Bucknell or any other writer on Science fully so called. It is human nature to try to climb up some other way than the one provided. There is no fashionable doctrine for you and it will stand and will do its tie to.

Your Princeton views was the first that I have heard for a long time. None of them ever write to me, and you know me well enough to be assured that I do not write to them.

Joanna and the children start next week for Nebraska. I doubt how long they will stay. We are trying to hold a homestead there, but how it will end is to be determined yet. I cannot go without giving up my place, and it is as if going without something to go with.

I do not think of anything more that would be interesting or edifying.

Write as often as you can.

We are as well as usual.

All kind love

Sincerely yours

John E. Lovejoy
American Express Company.

L. D. Custer, L. F. B.

Oct 20, 1883

Lizzie:

By your last letter I was glad to find that like Pharaoh's butter you remembered your faults, and that conviction was followed by repentance. As to forgiveness and think we both now that as far as letter writing is concerned for we do not exercise the gift very often, do you ever consider old scores all wiped out and begin a new leaf. I can remember periods of my life it was not much of a task to write a letter, and it is not very hard yet when I get fairly at it, but that this procrastination steals away any time and so do the days Once months pass and any letters remain hidden and the world loses valuable thoughts. And now for some of your questions. What prohibition prohibit in Iowa? Most emphatically. No. In some counties where public sentiment is largely in favor of it, I have no doubt that the public sale of liquor is done away with. That is the case in a great extent in this county.

But while public drinking is stopped private drinking has increased, and I believe there is more liquor
Drunk in this county from before the law was passed in all the large towns and cities and in all the counties bordering on the Mississippi. There is no pretense of enforcing the law. I have no faith in it. I cannot give all my reasons in a letter. I hate the liquor business as heartily as any one else, but I have no idea that men can be made moral by legislative enactment. When people stop drinking then the selling will stop. And when you convince a person that it is wrong to drink he will stop. There is power enough in the Christian Church to banish all the evils to their natural home the infernal regions, if it would apply that power in the right direction, but it will never be done by women marching through the streets, and praying on the corners like the Pharisees.

What do I think of Cleveland? I think he is making a good President, and that the country will be better for having been there, although I do not look for a political millennium for several years yet.

I hope the book will prove a success. Perhaps I could furnish a short chapter by forbidding the episode of Joseph going into Egypt as related by old Dr. Stevens. But my sheet is nearly full.

All well and all loved love.

Yr off Bro. John & Lovingly
Chicago & North-Western
RAILWAY CO.

Central Junction Station, Nov 28, 1885

Dear Sister Lizzie,

Your letter at hand and as I am not very busy now ane may be hereafter, I answer it as one of custom and will proceed to business at once. I consulted Joanna, the wife of John, and not of Cleophas, as to the S.K. dress, and was told that anything that you think desirable to make over for girls or boys will be very acceptable from you although it might not be from every one. It sometimes becomes necessary to take Edith's old great coat to make young Edith a new great coat, and this holds good for both genders. So that nothing will come amiss that Providence may place in your hands to distribute. If any thing should be sent in a box, it will cost less by freight and if directed to me it will...
Come all right on the 24th Rep. and I can say the changes here.

I don't recollect of your buying anything about the Century. It was very acceptable whenever coming, but the Office did not get along yet! I doubt the morale of the Bostonians. I cannot describe any bond of point to it; and to see an indelgent expression I don't see what the author is trying to get through him. I much prefer Uncle Remus and Mr. Rabbit.

I suppose no one thinks more of the Republican party as it was under Lincoln than I do, but at the present time I believe is written all over it. The reason it has fallen from grace here is because it tries to occupy the positions which will not coalesce. The politicians of the party took up prohibition because they saw that it was the only hope of their continuance in power, but they make no effort to enforce it and thus disgruntle the honest portion of the party and they stand at home.

As to my claim in Nebraska, I do not know how it will come out. I cannot leave my place here to live on it without means. I presume the files will go on to it again in the Spring, but what the final result will be is hard to tell.

All best wishes here.

Sincerely, John E. Levey