

Dear father and mother  
It is with the grates of Pleasure that  
I have seated my self this day to inform <sup>you</sup>  
that we are all well at this time hoping  
that these few lines may find you the same  
I say all well I mean those that is at  
home George is married and gone to  
Goway Thomas the second boy has gone  
to try the realites of the other world dear  
boy he had the measles with the rest of  
the children he was getting so as to be  
about he lay down out of doors and  
went to sleep he took a violent cold  
and fell victim to his disease it was  
grate satisfaction to us to see how willing  
he was to go he said he wanted to go wha  
re he could sing and Praise and not  
be disturbed thank the lord for his  
grate work he talked about going  
home he said to me one day I wish you  
and mother and macey was ready to go  
with me O what a trying time it was  
to his brothers and sisters especially to  
mamy he was her favorite brother and  
she was his favorite sister he was sick  
about five weeks altogether



he is wonderfully missed in our  
little band he was the first in the  
morning and the last at night he was  
first and fore most in all things he  
would have bin sixteen if he had lived  
till october next he Died the third day  
of this month and was interred the fourth  
it was made none to me about three  
months Previous to his death that one  
of our number was to be taken  
away but it was not the one that I  
expected the lord giveth and the lord  
takeeth away thanks be unto the name  
of the lord Thomas marshal was here  
whilst Thomas was sick he stayd about  
three days I did not enjoy his visit on  
the account <sup>of</sup> sickness and our accomodations  
being limited and I was well convinst  
at ~~that~~ that time that he was the one  
to die the doctors and neighbors thought  
he was getting well mr marshal thought  
he was better when he left but my  
mind was fixed and I could not be flatterd  
I was not at myself rightly whilst he was  
her he appeared to like this Country better  
than any that he had seen he left here  
for monmouth and thence to galesburg  
and thence to Peoria that's the last account

if you receive this letter I want  
you to send me the ages of you and  
all the family but my self for I have  
forgotten them Thomas had fathers  
likeness and his little boys taken toge  
ther fathers looked natural I would  
like to see you both once more and will  
if live and opportunity serves I had  
forgotten to say that I Received your  
letter and to Polyjoyse for not answer<sup>ing</sup>  
you before I had not forgotten you  
neither had I abandoned the idea  
of reteing Please to rite soon  
and I will try to doe better nex  
time no more at Present I send  
my respect to father and mother  
brothers and sisters fare well  
one and all I wish you well

this is from John D. Reynolds  
to Capt. John B. Reynolds. C.S.G  
and Mary Reynolds his wife