

you all, and often says he wishes
he could go see you again just
to eat as many Apples as he
wanted. I tell him you would
not thank him for his visit
then, oh he says I would go see
Aunt and Uncle too -

A is well and sends much
love to both of you, also to Uncle
and all his relatives, he
joins with me in sending
you a Kiss, Hoping this may
find you in excellent health
My best love to Mrs - also
to all the acquaintances

I remain your
loving and afft
Sister M V Blakelee

New Orleans April 15th 26

Mrs E Stedman

My dear Sister,

Your kind letter
was rec'd in due time, I
was delighted as usual to hear
from you, I had promised
to answer it, so I thought he had,
untill the other day, he said
well he really had so much to
attend to; it had ~~slight~~ ^{slipped} his mind
entirely; we were truly sorry to
hear of his nephew's death, ~~the~~
says if it was not for you he
would not know anything about
his relatives, it gives him pleasure
so I wish you would write
often, he has been quite busy
untill this last week, and
I have too, for I have now gone
to housekeeping, in a very
small scale I assure you, for ever

thing is very high - but we don't expect much, I am so thankful that we are all together and well that I care for nothing else, and we are very happy in our little home, I do all my own work, and it keeps me quite busy for you know the children bring considerable sewing, and washing; but I get along very well, I do not like this city as well as St Louis, but it thinks he can do better here, so I am satisfied, for we have to live where he can make a living, for you know we have nothing only his hard labor,

We have had so much rain and bad weather lately sometimes the streets are all flooded over and besides what is worse they say the Cholera is in the city

I don't like that much for I am afraid of it, every one says that fresh pork is very bad to eat, so I don't have any more. it is very hot already. and it is only April, I don't know what it will be in July and August, I guess we will almost melt.

I tell you what is very scarce and dear here Butter, indeed we have not had good since we are here. they are asking 75^{cts} a pound, and poor people like us cannot give it. I only wish we had some of your good Butter and Cheese too. but it only makes my mouth water to think of it, so I must not give it a thought.

The Boys grow very much. I don't think you would know them, Being the oldest remember