

A2004-061.0008.0001: Letter 52, December 31, 1872

Letters from J. Russell Lord to his wife Alice Lord

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 1

Envelope

Size 3 ½ x 5 ½

Cancellation Stamp: Mittineague, Mass

Addressed to:

Mrs. Alice Lord
Warehouse Point
Conn

End of Page 1

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 2

Dec 31, 1872

West Springfield, Mass

Dear Alice,

I now sit down to answer your welcome letter which I received this afternoon and was very glad to hear from you. I hope that when you get this letter that your cough will be better also was glad to hear that Mother was getting some better. I hope that ere you get this she will be considerable better. Myself and the little ones are all well. In regard to keeping house I would say that I get along nicely. All I have to do is to give them enough to eat and they are all right

End of Page 2

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 3

They are real good boys, all of them. I ought to be thankful to the Lord that I have such a good family of children. Royal gets up in my lap and says where is Mamma. I tell him Momma gone way of down to Grandpas'. Then he will say Momma gone way of then he will put his arms around my neck and love me. Then he will take hold of my nose say pudding Papa. Now make big eyes. Now see what big mouth. Dorrin & Jinney got a present on the Christmas tree down to shad lane. Orrys was a watch and chain and Jinneys' was a paper doll in a large envelope. It has a cap and two or three dresses. Orry feels pretty crank over his watch. He says he is agoing to

End of Page 3

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 4

wear it to meeting next Sunday. In regard to Mothers' going down to Manding, I presume she would like to have her come down not only one day but a good many more if she would do the work. You know what I mean. You know that I am mean enough but enough of that. Tonight is the last of the old year 1872. Tomorrow will the first of the New Year 1873. I have been thinking while sitting here all alone if I was ever alone a night before New Year in all my life before. I believe I never was since I can remember. I have been a thinking back through my past lifetime I can see. I can see way back when I was a little boy and used to go

End of Page 4

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 5

To school & used to play marbles & slide downhill & skate. I can see some of my past life has been a blank to me but it may be all for the best in the end. The Lord only knows, you know, that God works in a mysterious way, sometimes his wonders to perform. I have just looked to see what time it is and it wants ten minutes to twelve. Almost the New Year is upon me so I must bid you a Happy New Year and good night. Wet kiss and something better if I could. May the Lord be with you and with us all is the prayer of your ever loving husband.

J. Russell Lord

End of Page 5

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 6

The departed year

Midnight! The year is fled. Turn back thine eye along the path of life and mark the way or over which thy soul with many a tear and sigh hath reached the dying years departing day. Hopes blighted love estranged and friends grown cold the gorgeous dreams of youth in darkness lost. These are the wrecks our saddened eyes behold on life's dark seas all wild and tempest tossed or if thy way was decked with tree and flowers and calm blue skies were brightly o'er thee spread twere well that solemn thought at this lone hour should whisper know thy happiest year is fled. Hark on the breeze the lingering echoes swell thy voice is hushed thou dying years. Farewell.

End of Page 6

A2004-061.0008.0001, Page 7

N.B. In regard to sending you some money I would say I would send you some in a minute if I had any. The milk folk have not paid me any and I hate to ask them for it. I guess you can borrow enough og Mother to get home with some of them.

J. R. Lord

Alice Lord

End of Page 7