

December 29, 1942

Dr. J. Russell Wickey
Belleville, Illinois

My dear Cousin:

I was very glad to get your recent letter and to hear about the members of your family. I can't recall at the moment the name of your half-sister in Weiser, Idaho, or I should write her a letter also.

My number of relations on my father's side consist solely of yourself and sister. Some way I have always liked you and am always glad to see you or to hear from you.

Like everyone else, our business has been affected by war conditions, but we have been fortunate in having a good year, one reason being due to the general elections in which we supply many counties with primary and election supplies and the other reason is because of the presence of the Sunflower Ordnance Works, ten miles east of town, from which we have had a nice line of business.

Just what the new year will bring forth, I can't say, but this I know, that your ancestors and mine have lived thru every pestilence, war and famine, that the world has ever known, or else you and I would not be here, and I can't help but feel that we ought to be able to take it if our old ancestors made it in spite of a lack of most all the things that we now consider essential to living.

Bless your heart, I hope you have a profitable and happy year, and I want you to give my love to the members of your family.

Thanks for the Christmas remembrances.

Your loving cousin,