

Mr Wm B. Woods
Patentee of Mr Houston's Ohio

Worthington Jan 4th

Dear Brother

I had quite a time in getting over ^{here}, there was nothing of any consequence happened until we got to raccoon creek above Granville which was so high that it swam our horses. I did not get much wet only my feet, but Pinney got wet almost up to his waist and got his boots full of water, we did not stop to dry ourselves until we reached New Albany which was about three o'clock we got our dinners and was ready to start on by four it was four miles from Albany to walnut ^{creek} and we thought if we could get across it by dark we would have no difficulty in getting to Worthington that night as there was a bridge over alum creek. But when we got to walnut creek we found it higher than we had anticipated so we followed to a man, at the mill just opposite us and asked him if we could cross he told us that he thought we could at the ford below the dam which was about half a mile up the stream, there was no road leading to the upper ford from the lower so we had to take through the woods and pick our way the best way we could. we had a hill to go down which was about as

high as the cedar hill and very steep and
what made it more difficult was, the ground
being thawed on the top and frozen under
which made it very ~~slippery~~ slippery. we however
succeeded in getting down after a considerable
trouble, When we reached the upper ^{ford} we found
it was deep enough to swim our horses and
the current was very ~~rapid~~ rapid. But I
was anxious to get across, so I determined
to cross ~~at~~ it and run the risk of getting over
safe. I told Pinney that I thought we had
better try it but he was afraid and tried
to persuade me not to attempt it. I then told
him to let his horse follow me and I
would get a canoe and bring him across
this he agreed to so I started but his horse
would not follow I did not like to lead
him for fear he would get away from me
and get his feet tangled in the bridle after
trying several times to get him to follow we
~~had~~ had to give it up. The man we had
hailed at the mill came up to see us cross
I asked him if there was any house near
where we could stay all night for it was about
dark and we did not like to go up that
hill again for fear we should hurt our ~~horses~~
horses. He told us that there was one about
half a mile ~~farther~~ farther up the stream

When we got to the house we found it was nothing but a log cabin with but one room. We however asked if we could get to stay all night. The man told us that we could but said he had no stable to put our horses in. We did not like the idea of letting them stand out so we concluded to try and get back to Albany. It was now quite dark and we had considerable trouble in getting back to the hill where we had come down, and when we did get back it was so dark that we could not tell whether it was the place or not and the only way I could find out was by getting off of my horse and going up the hill and feeling around for horse tracks which I found after searching some time. I then climbed up the hill on my hands and feet and Pinney let the horses come up themselves and I caught them. We got to Albany about eight O'Clock.

The next morning we started at seven and reached Worthington about three; we had to go around by Columbus which was about twenty eight miles.

You must excuse me for not sending this sooner for I have had so much to do that I could not get time to finish it.

I received the money which father sent me by Danny Houston and also the stockings from sister Mary. I remain truly your Brother Chas R. Woods