Independence, Texa.
March 6th 1841

Dear Father,

This is Sunday evening and as I am not doing anything special, I will try and write you all one more time. I have been trying to get in the practice of writing every Wednesday evening, but some had to them something seemed to come up to prevent. As usual I have no news. Independence still holds her own and that is about all. I would just as soon go and live out on the broad open prairie and perhaps find news to write to as around Independence. Well, I am getting along about as well as I could be expected. I haven't as many studies as some of the boys, but I try to have them better than some of them. Some of the boys have 7 or 8 different studies and for my part I can't see how they manage them, unless they do as some.
of my classmates do and that is what they don’t like. We say “I haven’t had time to get over the lesson.” have you? They have troubled our Mathematics on our class and it makes me “spin my stumps” to keep within bounds. After Church, (as) I got to this point, Eugene Pope came around to my room and wanted me to go over to Dr. Ruthers with him see his sister and Carter—he had a very nice time—but didn’t stay very long. didn’t hear any news though, There are two students who are sick at the boarding house now one Alpheus Harlan from Pek Sullivan, the other Owen McRae from Smithville near Topeka, they have fevers and it seems a hard matter to break them up.

Dr. Grann is going up to Austin next Sunday to preach.

Father, if you can, I wish you would send me $25 for pocket money and I will try and be saving and also be patient about the other things that I wanted.
I will also have to have my boots half peeled again in order to make them last me until June. I got out my summer coat to wear Sundays for a dress coat until I can get some more in their stead. The coat is rather tight, but I make it as warm as I can.

The purpose, I don't know of any time so that you all would like to hear. I am growing awful sick now to leave this place. It is so boisterous and nothing but study. There isn't any kind of entertainment that we can get to only parents and socials and they are awful. Well, I guess we have to close and get to bed so as to be able to rise in time in the morning to study one hour before breakfast. And well, it is.

Tight, she said she wrote you today. Write soon and a whole lot of it.

Affectionately

Paul Osterhout.