



Write a letter to your family back in Great Britain describing your new life in Upper Canada.

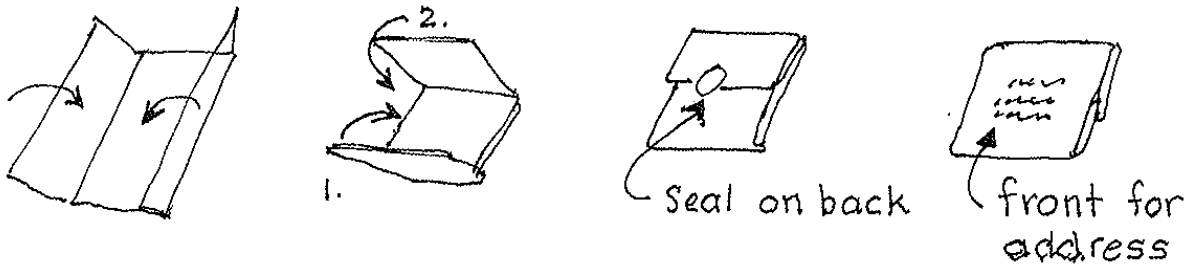
Letters home were treasured. Since many families would never see their loved ones again these letters were kept and reread many times. Postage was expensive and to keep the costs low many people wrote one way on the page then turned the page to the side and wrote over what was written. This is called **cross writing**. Both the sender and the receiver shared the cost of the postage. The sender from England would pay until the letter reached North American shores such as Halifax or New York. An overland cost from these ports to the nearest post office, usually in the local general store, was paid by the receiver. The same was in reverse.

Since envelopes were not in use before the 1850's the page was folded first to establish where not to write as part of the letter had to be reserved for the address and where to seal it.

Instructions:

Before writing your letter you first need to fold it to allow you to see where to put the address on the letter the area to address the letter. Here are the steps.

- Fold your sheet of paper in thirds length wise towards the center.
- Fold again in thirds into the center. Where the two folds join is the back of the letter and the other side is the front where the address goes.



You may wish to **cross write** your page or you may wish to include a **drawing of your cabin** as this would be of interest to those in Great Britain who had not seen a log home before. Include the outdoor cooking pit, log chimney and people doing different activities.

To **seal** the letter the teacher could apply a drop of sealing wax or a candle over the joint of the two ends. A small decorative button could be applied to the wax when it is still liquid to make an interesting seal.

