Tallahas. May 26, 1861—

My precious child—

Where are you this lovely Sabbath morning & how are you employed? Have you remembered it is God’s holy day? I had sweet communion with mine Saviour Father, Sanctifier. 1 fear far more the declension of your soul, the wandering of your heart from God, than I do the trials or hardships of war. At home you were constantly reminded of your duty. Morning & evening you were ever fixed to offer up the sacrifice of praise & prayer at our family altar. Sabbath found you at the Sunday school. The house of God, our humble place of worship & instruction in the country. Now you are in camp—surrounded by the thought— the forgetting of God—the wicked the profane & few I think are pious—do you & they publicly acknowledge God? I keep up any kind of religious worship? O my son, this is no time to lose your God or your Savior. You are en rizel, and I beg I let your heart go up continually in supplication to God to keep you from evil— from danger in His love— I to banish the fear. I want it be your highest glory to be known as one who fears God. Try to exert a good influence on those around you—especially those from our Sunday school. I shall meet them as long as they will attend—
I was reading last night - the letters of a Mr. Lighter - a young man - in the Crimea during that war. How he went from Place to Place - sheathing - distributing tracts & Bibles, I labouring for the salvation of these poor men - God helped his letters of love & many were brought to Jesus. You can do much where you are - the wickedest men, let us honour a consistent Christian - talk with your friends of the love of Christ - tell them their danger - look for those who will listen - pray with those who will allow it - don't tell me you have no time or place - if your heart is in it - you can find both - the silence of your tents at night - the hours of rest of day - you must find leisure to serve God or He will leave you alone - what then will you do in the hour of danger - perhaps of death? Better lose life - use earthly things - than the favour of God. He has promised to be with those who live & honour that every trial - even in the dark valley of death - but He has promised nothing but his wrath - to those who forget Him. Write me freely as to these things - for the hearing & experiment of the dead two weeks - you have told me nothing about your feelings - hopes - duties - I feel you are necessarily called on to be faithful as a soldier - God has aided you in many trials & they have shown you great attention.
If you are called to the Battle Field, commit your soul to Christ to God. The Holy Spirit will gallantly trace every duty. Never grieve before your enemy, but be strong and resolved to do what you ought. Let consecrations to God. I want you to be calm in fight - fighting for the armies of the ethereal God commended those who acted, but to do that you must have in the armor of righteousness - the shield of faith, the breast plate of righteousness, the helmet of salvation, the sword of the Spirit. These armed you need fear nothing. For whether you live or die, it will be well. Then you will feel no fear, for God will keep him in perfect peace whose heart is stayed on Him. We pray much for you, but you must pray for yourself. We remember all with You. Do not dwell on your enemies and your companions. Above all, be clear of our deep interest in them. Now this to John Hancock - I ask him to help you to do as your mother beseeches you to do. One on, but a babe in Christ - I need a stronger arm to rest on. Seek it from older Christians. Your dear father wishes to know if you had done enough to offset your offenses, whole out of Comp. We care for every thing. I hear of several who have lost clothes. If so, my nephews will tell you family and town matters. This is
only the outwelling of your Mother's heart on Sabbath Morning. I keep it read it after I
try to do so as she keeps of ye. Oh my Son. You
know not what your Parents feel about you-
The ardent love. The deep anxiety. The constant
uplifting of their hearts for your good. Oh that
you may keep be God's mighty power. From
The saints of the soul one. Your Brothers
& Sister shall write to you this week.
Do you wish your shoes sent to you?
Write as often as you can to your devoted
Father & Mother.
May 28, 1861.

My precious child,

Your letter reached me yesterday & was a cordial to our hearts - the chief concern you have on earth now, is to be ready to meet your God - you express a wish for your father to go to see you. We greatly prefer your making a visit of us. If you find your company is certainly to be ordered off, it can get the time to come up. Then we could all see you - but we want you to wait till you are about to leave, that we may see you before you go to battle. We rejoice to find you are still alive to your duty. I remember where alone your strength is - ever thank to Him for his kind care of you. I do every thing to deserve the love of your comrades - & confidence of all your comrades - till Capt. Shemake, his family, came Tuesday afternoon. I heard from them yesterday. Dunstall was not well. I am going there this afternoon, I went to see Lieut. Findings family yesterday - like Leut. Findings, I saw his sister & others of the family - his cousin, Emma - lived here. They talked tenderly of Lieut. Leut. He was also told Commander. He went to Richmond to dig sand & would go out to the camp & see you. The news of our comrades leaving for Manassas gave him a greatly disturbed these friends. How are we to bear these trials? It is hard to do it. I got two letters & answer it by this mail. Write to your dear Grand Mother. May peace ever rest on you. With love,
to do it. Before you leave Richmond. I try to go to see your Aunt Sally again. She will give attention from hear she is afflicted. I have been very kind to you. I write you a note in this for your Aunt Lucy your father's Engineer does not come step in the office. I know the reason. It is paid for late January. Don't fail to do it. If you go to the city, do you want your shoes sent to you? Let us hear from you often. It is our greatest comfort. Do to reading you a box of accounts. I would do you no good. Capt. Thomson said to asked as one would begin it as it would only make other dissatisfied who did not get any. We would do any thing to gratify you but that could not pay for the trouble you would have so many to share with. Better let you come home for a few days. Oh how dear you are to us all. We never forgave you at our family gatherings where else for many moments. I keep close to God my dear child. Religion is every thing to you now. If you go to battle I hope you will be brave. Not rash. Go trusting in God. And committing yourself to him in strong faith. Humble confidence. Although a poor unprofitable servant you can blend his goodness to accept you for his son's sake. Although our follies ask for the cleansing dews of his blood. Although weak ask for his grace to strengthen you. If you should come home bring your clothes. That I may have them put in order. Every thing you will take with you. All join in love to you. My darling child a fond face will from your mother.
Stafford, Va., Stafford Co. Dec. 22, 1862

"Griz Lette",

While sitting in my tent this beautiful Dec., after noon, I called to mind the past times and scenes of my soldier life, and among the rest, my visit to the neighborhood of Hoke's Shoe Run, which I have often called to mind and during life, I do not expect to forget it.

I at last concluded I would write you a letter hoping it would be acceptable, and trusting you would communicate your answer, for I would love to hear from you that part of winter our journey was long since left Western Va. and since last July I have been traveling over Eastern Va.

Times have changed since then, for at that time I shall write.
the war would be over long before this time, but still the war is raging, and not much hopes of it closing very soon.

John Allison & Thomas Wood of the 52nd Ohio, I have not heard from that time, I have not seen for a long time. John Allison whose I heard of him last was sick at Franklin, not expected to live. The 52nd Regt left

out at Staunton and went to Winchester in July and were taken prisoners at Harpers Ferry. I have not been nor heard from Tommy since they left us.

I had some good times with the troop while we were together. If not killed in the battle of

Hadn’t I laughed Tommy was taken prisoner also.

Since last spring I have been in several battles but was always fortunate enough to escape unhurt. I was in the battle of

McDowell the 25 of May, battle of Groveton the 8th of June and on the Rappahamock the 22nd of August and the 9th

of August at Bull Run when Cape was so badly defeated. During that time we have had 48 killed from our 600 and from 15 to 20 wounded. No doubt you regretted not to get papers and of course you know all about those hard fought battles. During that time we have traveled over several hundred miles I was to visit the city of Washington. We are now 12 miles from Fredericksburg where Genl Burnside has had a hard fight.

The 25th are in Genl. Sigel's corps. We marched about 60 miles to reinforce Burnside last week and week before but the roads were so bad we were too late. The battle was over.

My health is good. I was at my home last winter. In fact I never have enjoyed such good. After my life as a soldier I would very much like to visit that neighborhood again for I have never enjoyed a visit among you.
I did that one, and never was among so many kind-hearted men of people. Give my compliments to all the folks that I know, and especially to Mrs. John Lane. If you had disposed to answer, I should be glad to hear from you.

Direct M. G. Stuart

Day 4th, 95th Regt. 3d

1st Division, 3rd Corps

Via Washington D.C.

P.S. If you wish to keep up correspondence let me know when you write. I should be pleased to hear from your friend and friend.

A. D. Stewart
Stafford N. H. Dec. 25, 1864

"Friend " 

I shall now attempt to acknowledge the receipt of your highly interesting letter, which came to hand last evening. I was much pleased to hear from you and to learn something from that part of the "dole." In speaking of the circumstances which brought us together to which I could say "enjoyed much better than I anticipated" I would first know ing I was going among strangers and among those whose views would be mostly different on the great question of the day. But I found that the prejudices which would naturally arise between a people during such times could easily be laid aside, and they could enjoy "social life" the same as before.

And believe me when I tell you I was never treated more like a "Gentleman" in my life. And I am highly pleased with much compliment.
"Devi that I left such a good impression on the
minds of the people generally, for it has always
been my motto to conduct myself in such
a manner that I could again return
to the same place—and be welcomed—but whether I would be welcome to return (if
circumstances should admit) to the neighborhood
of Horse Shoe Run, is not for one to judge.

Yes, let me still endeavor to fight
the battles of Christianity—as well as the battles
of my country—and am determined not to let
the allurements of camp life (which are many)
draw me into the vices and sins of this world.

Yet, many times, I find myself straying from
the path of rectitude and right; for we have
not the influence of female society, or the good
advice of a kind mother or sisters; for in our high
I would venture to say, there is not 20 professing Chris-
tians in it, and and Chaplain who is paid over $20,
free month, has not preached 10,000 over 10 times in
the Regt. was formed, which is about 19 months,
I have not heard a sermon preached since
last Oct.
This is indeed a horrid war, and my heart almost bleeds to think of aiming the deadly shot at my fellow men; who may be as innocent of the cause of this war, as I am. But then I think of the "Star of Liberty" that is hovering just above the horizon, almost ready to "sink into oblivion," and if once lost, it is lost to rise no more; and "I feel it to be my duty to endeavor to save a free government and do not deem me, or even many men like the liberty of millions whom I see, who are living in ignorance of even the name of Christianity.

Under such circumstances, you cannot blame me for fighting for my country. None will no doubt have to suffer for long, but this slaughter of humanity. You ask me to give you all the news that past, but the present position, and thought of the army I can not allow to give, if found but I would
he was punished severely for it. Burnside did not surrender his army until he had some eight thousand troops at Frederick after the middle of last month.工艺 Grassman had had a hard fight in Tennessee when he gained a victory but lost many men. I am anxious to hear by letter from home for I suppose I have a brother lost in the fight as his regiment was the 111th Ohio. I also have a brother & brother-in-law the 111th Ohio and many old friends in the same different regions. For there was in the town of Tuckerman recruited for the service 1st Corp for the 49th O 1st Corp for the 57th 1st Corp for the 40th and front of one for the 9th O 12th 1st Corp besides many others in different regiments I have been 19 months the 19th of this month since I left home and have not yet heard any further news from your brother back home, when he last gone? in the army or has he gone west again.

I am now under marching orders—expected to go here tomorrow & think I may return home before long. I will close this short letter from you & then send the letter with the Black Post of 19th of this month. Remember me your many friends & sister to all.

With affectionate love.

[Signature]
Brookes Station, Virginia
Feb'y 14th 1863

"Dear Friend Bettie"

Yours of the 8th Inst. is at hand and I now undertake the pleasure of writing a few lines in reply.

We have just been having a series of bad stormy weather, and the rain, rain, rain combined which has made the roads off all bad — and of course the "Grand Army of the Potomac" will have to "lay quiet" for awhile yet.

So do I; you have learned that the Army of the Potomac has changed Commanders. Gen'l. Hooker has command in place of Burnside. The troops here were reviewed by Gen'l. Hooker on Monday last. Since I wrote to you before we have moved twice — once to Bell Plains 14 miles from Stafford C. R. C.
And then back to this place—on the P. R. from Alexandria landing to Tidewater—5 miles from the landing. I was pleased to hear you are having such good meetings in your part of the world. Oh! how glad I would be to be once more able to attend some such meetings as I have, before the war broke out, and even closer—But such times are past never to return until I am once more out of the service and may never be realized by me in this world—yet I shall live in hopes of a "better time coming."

Another of my old acquaintances has given their lives for their country. Such seems to be the fate of war. When you write again let me know what Regi Lebothe boy was in—

I suppose you have heard of the great battle of Murfreesboro—most of my
A acquaintances that are in the army were in that battle. And many near dear friends fell victims to the fate of war. My brother was wounded — I had a cousin killed and to the side men, the 1st A, 9th A, D.O., lost over 200 apiece in killed & wounded.

News at present is somewhat scarce — "times dull and prices high." Butter sells at retail for 56 cts. a lb. Apples from $1.00 a bushel — at retail for from 4 to 6 cts a piece. Of course there is no occasion for it — for apples & butter butter being a moderate price in the North. But speculators know we cannot get those articles only as they choose to bring them into the Army so they sell for whatever they choose.
You ask me to send you an occasional paper—I shall send you this time a review of the court martial of Genl. Porter by Judge Advocate Holt, and you will see why we were repulsed at the battle of Bull Run—I shall try and send you a paper when one comes of interest—but in so doing I shall request you will only read them yourself and not send them to your brother in the Army for I think I am running a risk by sending papers so near the Confederate lines. There was a Sergt. of this regt. who had the pleasure of lying in the State prison for several months for revealing our force and position &c. on Cheat. Mt.—He was corresponding with a young lady whose acquaintance he had formed.
I hope you have enjoyed the same great blessing since I last saw you. Oh! what a blessing it is to have good health. I am glad you are enjoying yourself as well in your Christian duties—and I trust you will always remember me at a throne of grace. Living a Christian and soldiers at the same time is like traveling through a "great Desert" with here and there a small "Oases" to feed on after we have in a manner fasted during a great part of our journey.

Nearly a week ago I sent you two papers and will send you some more occasionally.

I hear from my brother that was wounded at Murfreesboro—occasionally—he is at Nashville town and is getting along well.
Give my compliments to all inquiring friends. Write soon and give me all the news.

I must close for I have all ready overslept the etiquette rule of letter writing, especially to a lady, but I'll beg your pardon, hoping you will write long letters in return for I love to read long letters.

I have the honor to remain as ever your friend.

Don
while along the R. R. she had a brother in the Confederate Army and as fast she got the news from this young man she would send them off to her brother. It was a long time thought he would be shot for treason. I hope you will not deceive me in that way. How I cannot for a moment think you would be guilty of such a base act. Therefore I shall send you a paper occasionally and be pleased to hear all the news. Agreeing in mind I shall send this letter in a large envelope and will beg you to excuse the size of the envelope for I want to send that piece in the letter not having any wrappers to send papers in at present.

I hope you will remember me to your sister living a short distance above where you do—Her name I have forgotten, she made a deep impression.
On my mind as regards the duties of a Christian—and I shall always remember her for her good advice.

One man out of each company is allowed to go home out 15 days furlough since Hooker has got command—although I have been out from home over 20 months I don't know as I shall try much to get a furlough of this length yet I would be pleased to hear from you visit my friends in Ohio.

My position is somewhat better now than when I was at your house. I was then Corporal, since Nov. 3rd I have been Sergeant and once had a flattering prospect of being promoted to Captain as my Col. recommended me to the Governor for such, but our circumstances were changing in the way which closed the progress of affairs. If it is possible I will close hoping to hear from you soon.

My love to all—from your friend A. S. Stewart
Camp near Brook's Station

"Friend Delia"

As the precious moment of time is fast slipping by—and as the stream of time is fast bearing us onward to our "eternal homes," I shall endeavor to improve a few of the fleeting moments at the pleasant task of responding to your kind and ever welcome epistle which came to hand last evening (only being 4 days from the time it was written) and as I like prompt correspondence, I thought I would be prompt in answering your letter and follow up the Golden Rule "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." Is not that a good idea if only lived up to? Need I tell you that your letters are read and read with the greatest of pleasure?
And that they are ever welcome guests for nothing does the "mean Soldier" so much good as to have the pleasure of perusing the well-filled pages of a letter from a friend—one whom you can esteem as a friend.

Since your last letter has been read I can put confidence in you as a lady of honor—one who is endeavoring to do your duty to your fellow travelers to the bar of God.

I would be sorry to have to be deprived of getting your letters, why did I not write to you long before I did but I did not know whether you would answer my letter. As yet I have not heard anything about Green and Allison—only I noticed in the papers the other day that the 32nd O.R.D. was down in Mississippi. I forget what grade they are under. You say Bill Sisk was under "Stonewall Jackson" who knows but I have been in some
of the fights he has—fore we fought—"Stone-
wall Jackson's" force at McDowell last ing-
and Lewis Ferber also fought him at Cross Keys. "J. Jackson" was also at the Battles of Manassess, Bull
Run, Gainesville, Chantilly—and in fact he was all through the Cam-

day during the month of August on the
Rappahannock. If I was to meet
him on the battle field and if I should
know him—I should hold out the hand
of Friendship—for I think it would be
accepted, if we could only be together for
a minute.

News in this part of the world
is somewhat scarce; nothing of note
occuring—only some of the men are getting
furloughs under a
late Order of "Old Fighting Joe Hooker";
but I do not see any chance of me get-
ing a furlough—for there is too many
men of families who have the prefer-
ence of us single men.
You ask me to tell you my full name. It's quite long, but I guess I can get it on this sheet—my full name is Andrew Donaldson Stewart, but I usually go by the name of Don. Among friends at home, I don't know whether I have your full name or not—if not, give it me in your next letter which I hope will come to hand soon. I don't know but I may be out of my place—but if you have no objections, I would like to exchange likenesses if I can get mine taken.

If you can and will send me yours, I will send you mine as soon as I can get mine taken which I think I can most any time by going to Stafford, etc.

There is a report about now that we are going to Texas—but I think it nothing but talk. My health is good and has been good of the time during my 'solderly life.' I am and considerately myself in good health and could have stood as much than a chips without being sick ever.
Camp near Brooks Station
May 7, 1863

"Dear friend Sellie,

Yours of the 21st is before me and thinking I could not have the time of more pleasant for a short time than by writing a short line to say I wrote your ever welcome favor which came to me the evening of the 1st while on the battle field across the Rappahannock.

I cannot say that I was on the battle field that time but was lying in a hospital waiting for the evening to advance on us and were expecting them all the time but a great battle had been fought on Saturday afternoon and Sunday and there was not much fighting done after Sunday no doubt you could like to know how the battle went. On Saturday our night was turning and we were
rebuked for a while, another corps coming up, meeting the enemy about 10 o’clock at night, and the stillness of the night was disturbed by a dreadful hard-fight. On Sunday morning it was renewed, and for 24 hours I don’t think there ever was much harder fighting done each side being determined to stand there from. We had done our fighting the evening before and were not called into action. The clash of musketry and crowd of artillery was awful. While we were fighting them there (above Fredericksburg) none of our men took time, but afterwords were forced to evacuate, the Rebs getting heavy reinforcement, and afterward the whole army fell back across the River. Oh well, now in our old quarters I cannot but say we have been defeated with considerable loss, but I have no doubt the enemy lost
more than we did. I suppose our Regt lost as heavy as any Regt in the fight 168 killed, wounded & missing. We had 67 men in our Co. when we went into the fight and had 1 killed, 17 wounded & one missing also our fire all missed wounded, most of them wounded and some of them mortally.

Oh! war what a hard sad thing to hope, I shall never have any more fighting to do.

You say you got a letter from your Chrm advices the Rappahannock when you write again just give him my compliments and tell him probably some future time I would like to become acquainted with him but at the present it would do no me good to be acquainted. Well well.

at a loss to know what to do for the day before we get orders to march. I got a return 7 am and did not
All is well, and carrying it along the march I got it toiled some.
I cannot get a photograph without going to Washington, and I don't know where I can get any at all. I hope you will accept this. I will send it and it may be long time when you get it over and have it from your family. I will send you a good one. Hoping I shall not have to wait long on you. I say if I ever get home I can show you some other. What a good looking fellow belongs to this.

Yes, that fellow belongs to this.

I must hurry and close this I want to write a letter for one of my comrades that was wounded and taken prisoner to let him find out what has become of him.

I give my love to you and I can collect my thoughts together in fact I would like to be at home this morning.

You will take all my love and give me all the news. Remember me at all times. God bless me and I wish I was in your place that is we meet and in pieties, we marry and have children. God bless you all.

Yours, A. D. Russell
Camp near Brooks Station, Va.

May 31st, 1863

"Dear Friend Settie,

I ardently communicated and now have a day before yesterday, and its pages were read with delight. In fact, am always glad to hear from you, more especially because you are in a different part of the world from my other correspondents, and a woman of your high qualifications a lady, and endeavoring to make your letters doubly interesting to me. Being so highly entertained during my short visit at your house (with my two friends, Upton \\nAllen) (also during my visit throughout the neighborhood), I was much pleased to have the privilege of forming an acquaintance with so intelligent a person as you.

Your affectionately,

[Signature]"
proved to be. While at your
home, I thought of proposing a
Correspondence, but was most
to timid, thinking you might
think me most too free. Yet at-
least the Correspondence was opin-
ed and I hope it may prove ben-
eficial to us both. I hope the
three will come ere long that cir-
cumstances will be such that I
can return to that part of the world
and again renew my acquaint-
ance. I don't suppose you will
ever be so willing to leave your
home among the mountains and
find a home in the level coun-
dry of Northern Ohio. Or even
take a visit there, your so much
attached to the "sacred soil" of Va.
you will please excuse me for writing
as I do, at least you must not be
insulted so much as it is not given
for that purpose.
Since I last wrote you, we have moved our camp about one half mile; more among the pines and have the nicest camping ground we have ever had. But I entirely sick of this war, and hope we'll soon it will close and peace may one more rule "King" but we may "cry peace, peace, but there is no peace". I had strong hopes of getting home to see my friends during the month of June or July but by means of furloughs are stopped for the present, at least in some of the Regts. and now I don't know when I will get home but I hope I will before long. I have just attended preaching by the Chaplain of the 55th Ohio Regt. He has no Chaplain of our own, so he comes over and preaches for us now and
you asked me to do it at any time to do, or get your letter unless you speak about any of your precious letters.

Then he is a very chaplain, and I love to hear good preaching and attend good meetings. Our chaplain left sometime ago, he did not amount to anything any way.

Our wounded are getting along mostly, tolerable well.

Permit my thanks for the book you sent me, when the mail route is a month free I shall try and send you something in return. I will look at every letter I receive from you for that picture of yours. If I get to leave home on furlough I would like to show it to take home with me to let my friends know what a good looking friend I have in "Dove".

I had heard all about the hand in Va, and wonder how the mails get through at all, the "Rebs" having possession of that part of Va.

I will give you my army address and you will please direct in that way till further notice, for when there is too much direction on a letter as yours from them, you are inclined to make time for a letter to go to you and return in about 10 days and you can answer every letter if you认 that when you write again you can keep up a dandy correspondence.

I expect to hear from you soon.
Camp near Brook Creek, Va.
June 28th 1863

Dear Friend Bettie,

Your ever welcome missive came to hand yesterday, I found, as usual, in good health, spirits, etc. You will see we are no longer at Brooks Station but left there the 12th inst. marched by the way of Culterville to this place arriving here the 19th. The weather was very warm while marching and it was very hard work marching through the dust for it was very dry, since coming here we have had considerable rain. How long we will stay here I cannot tell nor where we will go next, for soldiers don't find out these things very long before hand, and things are very uncertain during war times.
I hope you will have a fine visit while at Oakland, for I know it's quite a disappointment for any to go any where for the purpose of visiting and then not be able to have a good time. I suppose the war is carried further into Maryland at present that is pleasant to some of the people, I should not think it would be pleasant to live in the midst of such a war as this. I know it's hard enough to be a soldier. I was quite well pleased with the manner in which you answered my last letter, and will as you say drop the question for the present. Probably I done wrong for I may have been interfering with some one else claim of so I beg pardon. I hope our friendship will not be lessened by what has been said & if we are never permitted to form

my closest ties than those of pure disinterested friendship. I hope we will always remain good friends at least, and not let the present war cause any hard feelings between us. Indeed, I do not feel like leaving my country cause at present; yet I do not know as I understand what you mean by me deserting my country cause for you.

This country is rather poorly watered for an army—that for drinking water. Yesterday we rec'd a mail for the first since the 13th and of course it was a good big one. I need 4 letters—one from each of my brothers in the army and one from my cousin. One of my brothers is in Denver, the other in L.A. They were both well and I will have to close for the mail goes out in a few minutes.
You will please excuse this letter and I shall do better next time. I did not get to write as I spoke about for the day I in-
kindled writing me marched.

Yours in friendship

A. J. Stewart

P. S. Direct all before
Christian St, Hosp. Phila.
August 24th 1863

"Friend Lettie"

After a long de-

-lary, I again take my pen to
write you a few lines, although
I have not yet received anaw-
-
-en from my last letter I
wrote while camped at Goose
Creek Va. But as I have been
so long absent from the Co.,
that I have no doubt there
has a letter come for me from
you. I suppose you have
long ere this read the full
account of the great battle
of Gettysburg, which commenced
the 1st day of July. I was not
so fortunate as usual but rest on
a very severe ground, between 2
and 3 A.M., July 3rd, through the
left shoulder. The ball entering close to the lower part of my neck and coming out near my shoulder joint, fracturing my collar bone, so much so that several pieces of bone have come out. I stayed at Gettysburg (with many other wounded men) until the 9th when we were taken to Baltimore and from that to Philadelphia where I still remain.

Part of the time I have had a severe time of it, but I am doing fine now. After I was wounded I saw the Lieut. and he promised to send my mail to me as soon as I would let him know where I was. I wrote to him, and if he sent any letters they have never reached me.
I have never learned the loss of the 2nd or 7th Regt as I was wounded in the first part of the Battle, but I believe it was tolerable heavy. I hope I will yet get your letter if any you sent to theosis for fear that likeness may be in it.

I want you to write as soon as you receive this. I would have written long ago but I was waiting thinking would receive yours. My left arm is perfectly helpless, and I do not expect to have the right use of it for a long time.

My father was out to see me since I have been here. I expect to go home on furlough as soon as I am fit to leave the Hospital which will be some time yet.
As I am quite weak, and am getting tired, and news scarce I shall close hoping to hear from you soon. you will please excuse this poor letter.

From your friend,

A. O. Stewart

Dear

A. O. Stewart

Christian Street House

Ward No. 4

Philadelphia 7th
Christian St.-Neufch.  
Phila.-Sept. 18" 1863

"Dear Friend"

After waiting patiently a long time, I had the pleasure of reading your kind missive which came to hand yesterday morning. I was truly glad to hear from you once more, and to learn you were still in the land of the living and in good health. My health is very good at present and my wound is going very well, but as yet I have no use of my arm, and at times it pains me very much. Someone you did not know but he may be in the hands of the enemy. I know in their lines from the time I was
wounded until the morning of the 31st, when they retreated. After I felt I did not get up until they came on too near me for my men were going back at that time, but fighting at the same time. I went to one of their hospitals and was well cared for by both their surgeons and nurses. Since the war commenced I have always tried to do my duty in battle but when I got wounded men or prisoners into my hands I tried to use them as men and not like as if they were brutes.

And I was fortunate in getting on to the hands of just such men, yet I was kneaded at by a few of the ruffler class. I think I shall be transferred to Ohio if I can and I may not stay here long.
Your Brother, yet you did not tell me which one it was, please tell me in your next letter, so if I don't get to go I will know whether it David or Dock. Accept my thanks for the picture, I think it is very good. At first I did not think it looked natural, but now I do, for being among strangers at that time I had almost forgotten how you looked. I do not know anything about your friend you spoke of, in fact I have not seen a Rebel prisoner since I been in the city, if I do see him I will let you know. I am now able to go out and have seen the city considerably, visiting some of the Public Works and Buildings; was in the State House look a look at the Old Independence Hall, where the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1776.
I have just read the
Guide to Holiness from you
and have been singing the
piece of music at the back
part of the book.

Winnie is now ready and
well I did get through writing
the sentence until my dinner
was brought to me, so I
had to take my paper off the
stand.

I will close my
letter, for the present, you are
write soon and direct as you
did before. Then you think I
ought not go into the Army
again; well I don't know but
if I don't fight well I know
I won't. Give my compliments
to all.

Yours in friendship,
H. D. Stewart
St George, July 16th 1874

My Dear Hendron,

Not that I have any desire to weary you by writing so often, but as I have been deprived of the pleasure of seeing you, I thought I should spend a few moments this evening in coming evening with you by way of fun. It is not that I am hoping you will not think it unostentatious or unprofitable in me for writing again without hearing from your end. I know your will not render the circumstances though when I last wrote I did not think I would write any more till I was able to hear from you. I had hoped to see you yesterday but shall not censure you for I know your absence has been no fault of yours own.
that occasioned by some unavoidable circumstance not in your power to control.

I was at the quarterly meeting (what of in my last) yesterday heard the splendid sermon from Mr. Hamilton and enjoyed myself tolerably well that in as well as I could in your absence for it was impossible for me to enjoy much happiness in the society of any one while my heart was far away with another.

That was your old rival A.D. for a gallant to and from church and he was no little affair that you would be there and "take his shunt." While at church I heard the sad news of the death of Miss Woolridge's mother. Poor Mary is left lonely enough no one remaining but herself and father.
But she was a good Christian and we doubt the last gone to dwell that 
goodly number of those who have "gone up through great tribu-
ations having made them ashes and midnight white in the 
lead of the Lamb."

Dear Henderson, I hope this will find you in the enjoyment of 
good health and all the pleasures that this world offers. Though 
not without a share of sorrow and change, yet I trust not what a 
day may bring forth, somehow I have felt very bad to day 
and have had a strange pre-
sentiment that something serious has befallen you. Whether it 
is all imagination or not I can not tell. At least I hope 
so and that I shall soon be convinced of the fact either by letter or otherwise.
I shall look for a letter from you in tomorrow's mail and will be disappointed if I do not get one.

But I close by saying yours own affectionately,

Hardy County 1862
Hardy County 1862

Dearest Husband
This is the 10th letter I have written to-day, so excuse the blots—and mistakes. My fingers are sore. Franklin sworn to serving so much for the soldiers June 22nd 61.

Mr. Neil.

I can hardly express the pleasure I experienced at the reception of your letter as it was the first I had received since the departure of the Emancipation Virginia. I had been very uneasy, not knowing what had become of you. To what point your were ordered, or whether you were ever back. I am very grateful to you for your kindness in writing to me, and thus dismissing my fears.

I do sincerely regret that you are ordered to 12th. The mail facilities were to be so bad, I am afraid we shall seldom ever hear from you. It is too bad, indeed it is to be so widely separated from our friends and no opportunities of hearing from them. I can sympathize with you having to walk a hundred miles—although worse than an angry and
Shall I write as it now? I hope that you will arrive safely at your destination, completely rout the enemy. Drive them all from Virginia and return home by September.

Franklin will visit my home for the remainder of this year. I am staying with Aunt Sarah as she is always with Capt. Math.

And his company started for Ch.

Brother is with them. All my brothers will come home, and then, I do not know what will become of me. I hate and dread to see them leave but only calls and I wish there are no obstacles in their way. Let them go, trusting in God.

I shall tell you how accomplished I am on your return. I am taking music and painting lessons and lessons in leather work. Learning how to cook and sew—and do all other things relating to a home. Congratulations am being very...
successful so far.

The Pa. ladies deserve your praise,

if they have acted as you say.

We thank them too for their kind

ness & our friends. I agree with

them, in saying the "Pa Boys will

do." I wish I like so much to

see those mountain sides, hills and

collies of which you speak—

I wish a great lover of nature

and nothing would delight me

more than to be a Poelcie, and

dress them with you.

Alas! for the hills you left

them are behind—but rocks of

the right kind are of next to

beautiful." When the war is ended

I intend to travel all over the

Southern U.S. if you know, I can't

get the "where with" I do it,

you can not imagine how

respectfully I trade with & Munan,

I never miss love another place

so well. So many pleasant remem-

brances are connected with it—

so many happy hours spent there

as many kind friends with me.
Answered July 6th 1801.

you send your respects to Miss A. L. Sanders. I am sorry to say that I have nothing to do with the lady; no communication will ever at present, and do not expect to have in future. She may be on speaking terms with T——, but that is all. The ociability once ever again exist between us. I know you are surprised. But Mr. Abel, you know me, will I know that I cherish all my friends, so long as I can trust them. When any device has been destroyed I can never be a friend. And I am never an enemy, though in this case, our justice to myself I ought to be still I am not. Brenda Meyers, her parents home yesterday. He died in his. Poor fellow said sorry for being. Nothing new in Newnau. All are well, but very lonely. Please write as often as possible. I can always glad to hear from my friends, who are members of the Starks.
Dear Sir,

Your long and interesting letter by Ross came safely to hand above in the last course, to Beulah, as with my paper on Mrs. Hearn and one of others, to the front. This came so late in the morning as it was too late to write in return.

I will not work to write a new note now under the circumstances even if I could at any time, but in proper time you can make it out by taking. Hence I would have written all you as long as 12 years if I could have done it. I gather from your letter that you feel the cold, and that feels even when surrounded by a crowd on no cause. This may be from some one with whom it came to communicate different from the warm that even a letter may be too anxious and suggest a train of thought that will to a certain extent modify your feelings for days. We have been receiving a good rain, the first for several weeks, in which lasted the first rainy night. As I have not had time to write in the morning as the weather were not so intolerable I would have got it in my duty to get it done this morning, but the snow drifted so that I could hardly get there at all without riding and was not best than some distance so as some of the cities to be only one or two per cent. drove. I was quite glad to see how much it looked like a big job for the first trip for there, but it is the winter and in the state of the country. The roads were not good and best. They he went and hung for a long while but of the road not come by the next day. I don't know how it would have felt or the head as a single bulge in the stove, while he was gone of the difficulty of any one else but to suffer getting on the cars. I went to White in Oakland, where he was gone reporting home when. I came there that we were influenced to get him on the cars. I suppose the winter is coming along early that the don't get to town any after dark and the cars come along soon and he got on without any difficulty and came to California. When they had over the next morning he took me the car with a notice of the project for the morning, it was very good to hear directly from there. I would have been over as on the afternoon when he started but if that was not. I would not have done. I wonder what is done. The weather was so cold it would have been cold. I was quite wet. I don't think the car in the winter is doing any good.

Yours, 

[Signature]
I hope you will not be disappointed and do not expect to be if we have no trouble and the rails let the railroad alone. I agree many who I thought ought to know more of the matter themselves to have been kept in ignorance of some delusions but I never could see my thing or calamity had all blown over now and many lucky things now will turn to be fought out of something else does not come up. We got a letter from Parker a few days since he was home sick after traveling and staying by several days the women the boys talk of being home coming it. I don't know the car train runs regularly once a week and takes place in the part of the state while he was gone and so many had room away that another went home to take place in a few days. He made up the deficiency he says at least two-thirds of the citizen's were lean for all Kansas will live the spring. Then and if we can got them a place she would come back. Bill is very anxious to have them come and he would come to him but Taylor says he will take them, he has been wanting to spend it. You go back and ask so often and I thank so too the shoals have stared hard for him. I have kept some at home because the winter I haven't eaten very much away from home since the commencement of my school the first of Lee and have went to meeting up there I have done in the same time for 15 years. If the snow was not kept as much thought go of coming anything but I do not have that I would for there is nearly always a bush, too, fine or else there such attentions of evening. I have made very little washing this winter I have waited but three times since I began my school you may think there is stamp of getting musty but we don't seem to look very neat I have made about two garments of worn ones since my school began besides helping in the kitchen of which I have done but one meal when I began school I have two pairs of pants a wise coat and four blouses to make and right around clothing to do yet and also a need to make but to do not intend to do that. I would not make as much as some others even if I could sit at it and do 15 by little steps it would be worse still. My teaching close at home has not pleased me from seem a good many people the people close here have seem to care little they when they travel you called here last night about 5 or 6 o'clock on his way to a neighbor's house and take the purpose going back again last night I thought it felt enough to walk to the sea in the front yard and wear.
yesterday morning, I looked for him till late in the day but he did not come and I was very much disappointed. He had not come. He had not come in the middle of the night. The landlord said he had not the key at that time. He was away about three days and every work but generally he would come home some time in the evening or at night. This day I was not going to school but went to take a ride among my little crops, at least, to see them. I was out for a walk. I was gone four days to bed with that illness which was a great sorrow. Coming home and resting having this done to one and gone to do after death, I could not see what he had to do so much but it was always somthing. To sorrow the few weeks having his feet in the mud. Sunday, Tuesday, went to Cumberland Watson by or Thursday coming back and I don't know what day or Saturday but some day in October. One of my O.T. friends writes to me. God bless you. While that was gone, it was late and I had this fur muff and this red fur down so that I could read but I lost both of these.

The same to the first one was sitting some moments before. I recognized them, I had not seen him for near a year or two, which time we had had an affection of this past and so what has considerably disfigured him. But I would not have him to come and declare me under any circumstances. David was not at home and none of the childrenrecognized him before I did but I knew to do he knew me as soon as I saw him. There is not much going on here. The soldiers come up some times but they are quite a gentlemanly kind of fellows compares with the 'Yankees.' They have never disturb any one, always praying for what they get and seem anxious to trade their extra rations of sugar coffee and tea. They gave us about seven lbs of sugar and a quart of sugar coffee day before yesterday, for a bundle of potatoes and some kinds of cabbage. If I had time to bake them pies & s. I could lay in a supply of sugar to sustain my current and large pie almost tomorrow. I think I will try to get some perhaps the blackbeard will come down again in the spring, but if it does not I may not have to go to a gentlemanly a squad of soldiers. They are very poor. I was very sorry for the way by the name of Myers and the way Raymond is. Brother of the men who lived in John Coulter's house. All the men band were some of these. They have hard lives. I believe Taborians so more the men on either side. I hope four of the union soldiers to come. I have my sister who is now twenty to this in the house, but there is not room and no money.
...write what you have to be but they are not all so near to the... respect themselves in their own eyes. I have, the... much stayed in my room, and it is impossible for me to do... love, nor are they all so near to the... I have, therefore, the utmost hope that I can get... This is the thing that I most want to hear from you... that I am not sure. I am not sure that I can... more than the rest, and it could as easily be... look upon it as any of the things that shall please you for... It would be perfectly right in telling me that the state... have the opportunity to favor me in any way. To do this, it... you may never make you happy, and also assure her heart is at... and he feels a hesitancy in marrying you, perhaps you are not... the first one. He has been to me, perhaps some one close... urging upon him as a fulfillment of engagements and... may happen to any other great man's name, that he is... will of you. I only can respect him unless upon a... He feels different from what I have been, and I am... an indication to the young man's name, will he, in... though it is not clear, that I would strongly urge you to consider your own interest. I have... from your own interest, you know, it would be... not encourage this. Do not think you are unhappy, for you have... have been that he is full of, and he cannot help it. I engaged to think of yourself... the barest idea of what you were to the chief object, that your... great alone breasting over the cutting truth, and hence heart, has been necessary to be borne in the manner. Life is the most valuable... circumstances, and then compare your present situation to... be grateful for the contrary. I thank you had better, then the risk of how... the journey of life a few less than forming such a connection at least if you consult your personal happiness. For you know what you put... suffer in your present situation, and nothing but experience you... that when it is easy, it is better to think of the evil—can give you a proper conception of what those endure who are "sincerely good." You were not perfectly right for that you were doing right and perhaps... God has answered your prayers in thwarting your designs. I... the scripture that we are in the largest conscience and the seeing of the Holy Spirit, it is best, your ease on God, and all will be well in the... manner, it too may appear now you will always have for... would take care of you. I hope to see you in the spring, when we can talk better. He looped them on your steps of light to release as soon as I can return in about a month. Sincerely, J. M. Flanders.
Envelop: Spring P.

Addres: Mrs. L.H. Boswell
           St. George
           Tucker Co.
           No.
D. E. Bentley,
Land and Livestock Broker.

Colorado, Texas, April 24, 1885.

Post master.

Dear Sir,

In looking over some old papers today I found a letter addressed to myself, having date Oct. 23rd 1861. Signed Lettee Bonnefield, Bonnefield Mills, Iuka, Co. N. Virginia. I was a member at that time of the (2d) Batter of the volunteer Command, C.S. Army. On the retreat from Laurel Hill, near Philippi, our baggage was lost near the home of this lady. She says she found a writing-desk containing letters from my mother and other things of some value. In my wanderings since this was lost this letter has escaped attention at my hands. I wish to greatly oblige if you would make inquiries among your Citizens for this Bonnefield
D. E. Bentley,
Land and Live Stock Broker.

Colorado, Texas,

family near the Bronnfield Mills in your County and especially for her who so kindly wrote the letter. My mother to whom she refers in terms of regard did not live to see the war ended. She went to her reward in Heaven. I was not with her when she died. For aught I know she is in Heaven. I pray for her soul. May God have mercy on her. If as she has forme been just to Jesus, for she writes as a Christian. Oh, how much I would prize those memories of my Sainted mother. May be they have been preserved as relics of the war by some of her family into whose hands they fell. How like yesterday I can recall that at one and its sufferings. Hoping you will attend to this urgent matter with speed - I am -

Your very truly D. E. Bentley.
Mr. Belknap's letter to P.M.
Six letters to D.E. Bentley, a soldier in the Civil War, by his mother in 1861. These letters were lost on the retreat from Laurel Hill, near Phillipsburg, and were found by Lettie Bonnefield who wrote a letter to D.E. Bentley on Sept. 23rd 1861 informing him that she had found a valise—desk (or portfolio) containing letters from his brother. The letter was understood by him and years later he came across it and on April 24, 1873 he wrote to the Postmaster at Bonnefield Mills asking if Lettie Bonnefield still lived. The letter was forwarded to S.H. Smith (who had married Lettie Bonnefield) and was at that time Postmaster at Layhill, Grant Co.
West Th. Little Bowmfield had passed to her reward Dec. 10 1881. R. E. Bentley's as follows.