Brunswick June 21st 1844

Dear Margaret

For the first time since our marriage I find myself seated to address you (by letter I fear) I shall not be able to stay half as much with you, as you will think I might, yet I feel sure it will be no step welcome after I left you in the cabin & remained on about the boat, until the Corvus & Baggage was shipped, Mr. Burr & myself then went aboard in the flat. I stayed with him that night & took breakfast in the morning. When I went to the magnates in the morning, I learned, the boat had some trouble in getting out from the landings, I do not. I am superstitious, & when I reflected on Capt. L. Thuford's, on the river & felt a miserable dread, that some accident had happened, I have reason now to believe, that my fears were idle, as later, that you have not been with. Kind friends, I should feel more uneasy, than I do now, could I have been persuaded to have you leave home, but for the abiding confidence, that you would be benefited by, staying so, & the feeling of pride that every attention necessary for your health & comfort, would be attended by the best this lady, & need not remind you how necessary it is that you should strive to compose your minds & act conductually be careful not to expose yourself in any way, in all things conform strictly to the strict instruction, under whose care can be permitted of a kind protection. I trust you will soon be restored to your wonted health & friends at home, we are all, getting along very well. Emily has moved
up in to the Dairy room with cup. she is much better, though she
has changed the worst, went from night to day. she is getting
free of her cold & does, not cough, as bad as when you left.
I believe Mrs. & Ann. have just left. Ann. says cup is a going
to be Nothing there. Susan is the same old two bits. I had to whip
her last night, for this imprudence. She broke the detonator
(yesterday) & told his aunt Em. there was no body here
too see it now. Polly had a child Friday afternoon, she
did not nurse cup. that night. Nor but little since, Em.
thinks she would be better without her than with them.
She does not give milk enough for both the children.
I told them, she must feed him more; as soon as cup gets free
from the hooey we had best wear them. She will be help
trouble she have better health, Polly is now well. Her child
was slight produced from colds we had an excellent sermon
today, subject the conscience of God, after service the proceeding
of the decision on Blue Picture, was read from the pulpit or
rather his excommunication, Mr. Yale was very much
affected so much so that it was with difficulty he could
read some portions of it, John Matherston was present. I hope
it may have a good effect upon him, the scene was
Polono, & impressive. Mr. Yale prays. in conclusion. Em. not
fail to be remembered by all that were present; it was an appeal to the throne of grace for Blue, and
for the congregation. God grant, that it may "sanctify
for the good of all present; it is done, heaven to the professor, how? careful should we be, least we fall from our high calling.

Mrs. Purnell has just called; she is very kind, comes over every day. I saw Mr. Shackelford yesterday; his wife is better though unable to help herself yet. Parson Lide thru. Mr. F. Hatter will go down with William next trip.

The once wall of the academy, the old part, where the stairs goes up, has fallen down, in digging the basement of the new part, they dug under the wall, or close to it, and did not build up so as to secure it. The basement is half full of water; the ground underneath soaked and gave away. The School will be delayed in account of it some time, they are going to work immediately will have it repaired soon.

Enclosed a long letter from home yesterday from Austin, it treated Mrs. Thompson brings up the history of thing from the 11th November until the 14th January; it took one two hours to read it. Austin says the mail not expect any more letters from him.

Luncheon is over; ready. My sheet is nearly full. Din at my elbow asking questions faster than I can answer. Dinner come to a close, make your self comfortable, & present for short time, give my respects to the lady and Mrs. Cline. May God help preserve & protect you. It is the constant prayer of

Pah! Pah! Who am you writing to?

Pah! Ladies, live a long time, lives.}
2. Comment writing the same. (Write soon)

If your affectionate husband

T.B. Goddenum
Greenvill, Nov 24, 1859

Dear Daughter,

Your kind and affectionate letter of the 18th inst. received last evening. As we have no service in our Church this evening (Mr. Middle's sick) I have thought I could not better improve the time, then in writing to you. I have your letter before me, and as I read, in my fancy I see & hear you would, that the were not the pleasure of a fond imagination, you there is pleasure, and God, in your absence. In this conclusion, no. I shall not call it an illusion, for though then not the voice nor the form, I have the pencil of the mind form which I am enabled to catch the budding light of intellect as it puts forth its playful effort to interest one, won't it not for this presence of almost daily communence with you, our separation would be intolerable, yet, when I reflect upon the object.
already one privilege to enjoy the fruits of it, by the practical evidence of mental improvement, it must needs move to compensate for the pleasure of your presence with us. You have frequently expressed a wish that I would send your brother Henry, it would be pleasant. I know at while I can have him under the care of Mr. Stetson, I shall not think of removing him until we is prepared for college, but were I placed in the same situation with him for a good school that I was with you, I should not hesitate to send him at once if I had the means to defray this expense, which I trust a Divine providence will continue to me a sufficiency of should it be necessary for all of you, it is true that I gave attention to some duties of prepare, as that I would never find another daughter from me to do. P. on my arrival from Barrington, but it the sum
This of duty proceeds itself to my mind. I shall be prepared to make a like sacrifice, for each of all of them, that I have for you. Nothing but this sense of duty to you, reconcile me to your absence, could I have accomplished for you, all the advantages here that you enjoy. There or as I believe approaching it, I should not have thought of sending you from home, had not then or now. Now, do I much believe, will ever have been. Do you see the prospects if we are spared & remain here that they will all have to learn how to appreciate home & absence from it. You make a request that I am not now prepared to say you can or may do that is a visit from your aunt. Nothing would afford me more pleasure if circumstances will permit I will try to accomplish it. But this instance yet to determine.
You are now in the Great Metropolis of our free and happy Country, oh! that as a nation, our whole people could properly appreciate the blessings they enjoy, that my sisters acknowledge the Author of all, yet how few comparatively live or act as if they were accountable beings; God may the people hasten to be wise! It is especially grant, we be wise. Due to My learning that instruction, that shall guide him to counsel wisely. Those who in the providence thereof, best appoint him to near instruct. Often my dear child is this petition off, and yet I feel that I am unequal to the task, for (as I remarked I think in a letter to your other eldest sister) The older I grow, or more I learn of most things of the world by daily communication with Him. The to ability have I to concentrate upon my thoughts, intellectually either.
To myself or those to whose care I was pleased to entrust you, I am satisfied that the information you have listened to, your desire, and your love of God, are now able to grow and spiritually to discern and appropriate the riches of grace. As you approach the rich helpings of the Lord, do not my dear child, do not suffer your mind to become obsessed by the many thousand novels that present themselves in the Bible that for the time you are familiar with. Give constant heed to duties for which you are made to attend. Let your whole study be to improve your opportunities for instruction in science, giving diligent attention to your practice, which if you have not already you will soon acquire a fondness for that will make it a pleasure rather than drudgery to attend to at your leisure. Hours improve the time in suitable recreation, reading, writing.
you should give especial attention to. It affords me great pleasure to see from the tone of your letter that you write with ease. There is no accomplishment more to be desired than that of being able to happily and gracefully express our thoughts, whether in speaking or writing. To do either you must write much and often, by which you train and discipline the mind by a constant application of the studies you are engaged in. Think of ground you in the principles on which the structure of your mind is to be formed; could you realize what it costs me to write you a letter, you would then be able to more satisfactorily account for my anxiety. If you all to be well educated, without the privileges that you enjoy, could not have acquired the education I intend. proceeded permitting, you all shall have opportunities for it if I had been...
had some one when at your age to have counselled and advised upon me the necessity of their training my mind by reading. I wish I had been a far superior man intellectually to what I am. Confusion is the order of things in my head now as I attempt to write it. If I may express it, ideas come crowding each other out of my head in such confusion that it is with difficulty I can arrange them intelligibly to myself or others. Had I may desire to add learn from this example that my dear child. To now, while the mind is active. Reconfiguration good to strengthen them. Then, by diligent application to all the duties now incumbent on you to make yourself an accomplished man. Leady, do not think of any thing I have here said that I think there is any want of
attention far from it, yet I do, will you think it is important for your future happiness to be diligent now you mention that you had not yet seen any of the Fellows family but would next day at this know you are in the city. if they give attention as I have no doubt they will kindly do. receive it as your Siring's direct whose advice and direction I wish you to be governed by while in the city. well well my dear child. I think i am about to accomplish your desire on a letter of eight pages you must mind the spelling & grammar which by the time accomplished, you will feel the great advantage of a good portion of at least.

We are all very well at home or at the plantation I have not called a fact. than this summer, my own health is better than it has been for twenty years. I am heavier than I ever was before, it is 120. 0'clock & at the future last page good night—guardian angels protect and affection your father.
Dear Wife,

I reached this place on last Saturday, & found May well, as I got off the cars a little boy recognized me & said Mary was looking for me. I walked out on the platform & was waiting to attend to my baggage & expecting to see her until I reached the house, but she could not wait for this. After I was a round of her presence, she threw her arms around me & kissed me, I came near him three times over, there was a crowd around them. They knowing where most of them, deceased with her, she was not bashful or at all embarrassed in giving attention to him. I lay out seeing men & asked plenty room & feeling that I could continue in a week. The weather...

G. H. Barrington

Mississippi
has been cold and unpleasant most of last week & today it is raining & drizzling so that we cannot get out. I expect to remain sometime up in the country. This week with Margeret exclusively we will go to Miss Long's whom I must spend a day or two. I feel anxious about home yet I cannot get my business up in New York so as to start home before week after next, as early as possible I hope in it to start home as soon as to be with you. Sabbath two weeks last of this I will write you again when I know more definitely at what time I will leave. I have been very well all the time since I left home & expect in the means of a kind providence that...
I am now all alike. But Margaret has improved on much every way. She is well
hearted but there is nothing Gross in her appearance. As she is others have at times
interested but what is equally gratifying to me the sense evidence of mental culture
that will in the end more
than compensate for the loss of her company at home.
She is constant & cheery & I am sure enjoys herself as well as she could any
place from home, yet after all I trust that we will be able to educate the others at home
even if we can not have the same advantages, for them. The baby
for me, Miss Charles Henry, he must be
a good boy, as it is 3 I will write to bring "Maos" is much
I wrote 15 day to Mr. Mills about a memorial to tell Col. King if he has not yet written to me not to fail to do so at Princeton.
Greensboro Augt. 26/60

Dear daughter,

It is so long since I have written you that I fear I may have caused you some anxiety, but think that I am indifferent about you, if God did by this time I feel I should merit the conclusion, but this I feel certain I am never again from you. Come what will I have an abiding assurance of the affection of all my dear children and more than yourself, the absent, are always present to my mind. Absent absence only making them more clear—nothing but my earnest desire to keep you picture happiness, prompted me to separate you from all this most interesting period of your
life nor can I hope to be com-
compensated for it in any other
way than by the more perfect
development of your mind
than I believed could or
would be attained here in this
I feel assured I shall not be
disappointed. I am aware that
in some respects, your education
is not as pleasant as you feel
it might be under different
Circumstances. But there are
considered by the Condi-
I have to the parental care you
receive at the hands of Mrs.
for the time you have yet to
remain the presence of Mrs.
Storer, and him. Example I
precept will add to. The
Advantages, you have already
richly profited by. You cannot
inquire in each of all of your letters
when I shall be there, Nothing
Could afford me so much pleasure as to say I should, as you have hoped & expected, be there next month, but my dear child in this I now fear I from necessity shall have to disappoint you, when being left here I had not a doubt that I should do so, but circumstances now forbid it. I find myself entwined in many business & must necessarily go, my dear husband, every cent I have, though it depresses me. For a time I nearly lost all pleasure, of being with you again for a season I feel bound to make the sacrifice. When I disposed of my interest in the store, I had no doubt of being able to meet all my engagements from @collebers but in this I am disappointed.

To add further
To my consternation the crop is almost an entire failure we had an unprecedented drought in June & July accompanied with the hottest weather I have ever experienced on the 28th July the rain commenced flooding all of my bottom rice cotton which was all I hoped to make much from the ground had become so dry that the effect of the rainfall due to reach most of the upland cotton much of it looks as though a black frost had fallen on it the consequence will be that I can not make more than a third or half of a crop & that very indifferent you know I am not proud to complain but now indeed things look gloomy but
I try to bow in submission to the will of providence, and should muster or thank ful heart complacency for I have a good corn crop, this will give us bread, which many of our people will have to buy, well I fear I have made you unhappy by my murmurings & misfortunes. I wish to hear you ask what will you say to me about coming home, I will frankly say to you my daughter I scarcely know what to say, but this I will say do not be uneasy or uncomfortable about one, or yourself, make yourself contented, I give all diligence to your studies.
completed. I know of no place from home where altogether you can complete it as where you are, you are now old enough to reason and a little reflection will teach you that pleasure and study do not often meet or if so much that is profitable is sacrificed to it do not improve from this, that I think you disposed to be lost astray by it, far from it, I only mean to say that having progressed thus far under my advice you could not receive the same benefit from another for the next year as you could from here. The only change would be equal to a loss of half the time make up your mind then to remain there continued.
until you learn from me directly what course it is for me to pursue. It is in the Providence of God I put it, my duty to call you home. I will give you timely notice, in the mean time, my daughter, permit me to urge upon you the necessity of a rigid economy. Practice it now to acquire a habit of it. Without it, I do not advise nothing with it, you can adapt your self to any position in life to fail. Constructible, for all your necessary wants I think not fail to provide, write to me briefly, cheerfully & I will try to write you oftener, oh! my dear child, you know not what pleasure it will afford me to be able to accomplish my desire in your education.
give them your earnest attention and improve your privilege that I may not be disappointed. They will return with Mr. Horton and meet you as far as I shall.

I am sure you will feel thankful you have renewed your wish for you to come home. I should want you to see Tobermory and this I am afraid would be distasteful to you but certainly not as profitable.

Now my daughter, though I have written a long letter you will feel it is a cold letter, yet I sincerely hope not, but that you will rather enjoy it as I do. Think it is better now to make the sacrifice & complete your education than to return traveling.
The last part unclear.
I will write to Henry in a day or two, as you can plainly see.
If not sitting here, not a word has past without word of us writing since he left. Tell him to write again.

To love, at that inattentive
for if Lincoln is the elect
we shall all have to come
with his advice and our
and then I'll keep the contents
of this letter to yourself.
Now I say my love once till
I say my love, know my dear child
Then adieu.

PS I write in great affectionality
and do so to both your fathers
than with a pen.
Union Mills Aug. 18 61

Dear Sister,

Your last letter was received day before yesterday, and although a short one was very acceptable & interesting— I have received my letters so much more regularly at this place than at any other place we have been stationed, that I would prefer to remain here—but our stay here is growing short & "beautifully like" every day—some of the Brigade having already taken their leave—but enough of that, for Government says home folks, or outsiders, must know nothing of our movements. You may change the weather for this prompt reply to your letter—it has been raining all the morning and so giving us a short recess—undoubtedly much to our worthy Co's chagrin—who is passionately fond of drill—

I mentioned that I was among the list of the roster down on the night of the battle—but not one succeeded until we were returning from the field—having marched between 16 & 21 miles in quick
sometimes double-quick time. It is very amusing to hear how lightly an unsophisticated individual speaks of our marches, but one day's experience generally convinces them that it is not all an imaginary thing and soon now we grumble when we hear the word march—so it necessitates involving loss of comfort and a great waste of many articles useful in camp.

I thought I had written home about dinn's than in the Capture of the Pracht's his dog—it is true—he was not the real captive though he took the fellow's gun. He was acting corporal on picket guard at the time—and was called by the sentinel who had halted the enemy compelled him to ground his arms—so he walked out secured his gun's marched him to the main body of the guard line kept the dog at first but finally gave him up to the sentinel. Those newfoundland dogs which the enemy brought down with them have been quite annoying in camp and the sight of one now causes one remark the artillery being dog I so much more fierce's importance have almost eclipsed all other species—

I should like expeditions to witness the
He is improving however - and is staying at a house in the country - where there are, I understand, some very pretty young ladies - since I heard that, I feel inclined to despair of his very speedy recovery - at least sufficient to come to camp. I should like very much to be with you on the trip to Wayton - with me whether Uncle Tom is in the army - if at all. We are all in remarkably good health & spirits - I speak of those in camp - and the cases of homesickness are less frequent than at first - I have however had one or two tolerably serious ones of late - but like at school it is unfair to tell tales. I won't mention names. We would feel very much indebted to the ladies for their courteous efforts to prepare us for winter - and if the especially the young ones, could hear the flattering remarks I could direct the much more flattering thoughts entertained of them, their looks would undoubtedly be pleased. They will probably be able to take their selection from the soldiers when the return - without meeting with a single negative response.

My love to all - I hope to receive your next letter soon.

Affectionate Brother

I. H. Boardman
Union Mills, Aug. 3rd, 1861

Dear Father,

When I wrote you last, I little thought that I should write again from this place--but we still remain--not having found ourselves quite comfortable enough to be put up yet—that being always a precursor of a march--although expecting daily orders to march. We have all just received Beacons—and now having an opportunity of reading one—I shall stop my letter a few minutes. Be the 3 you have not had one sent to me as I asked you! The Beacon has very little news this week, still it is a satisfaction to see it, merely from the fact that it is from home— I am from it that the idea that our boys are suffering from the want of clothing & shoes this I can say is to a great extent a mistake—it is true that some may stand in need of a few things, but there is no such thing as destitution--suffering (as any one following in the "wake" of one of
our marches would plainly see & I am very much afraid that our kind friends at home--in their praiseworthy determination that we shall not want for anything will flood us with clothing that we will be unable to transport it--and they should remember that a soldier's only vehicle for transportation is his pack.

Col. Herr bought me an overcoat & jacket in Richmond--paying $2.5 for the two--and for which please pay him. I shall probably have one besides to pay for. He wrote me from Richmond that Caesar had disappeared, but he had found him.

We have been hearing during the past two days more news of the success of our army both in Missouri in the State a little north-west of us--but as at home, when to rely on reports we know not. It is said that we captured 1600 of the enemy at Leesburg a few days ago--without any loss on our side--I hope it is true.

We are all glad to hear that more recruits are on the way for us from old Smoke and we hope they may be able to endure the hardships as well as we have done. Ourlicks have nearly all returned to camp or circuit.
has improved enough to be up & a Ed Pasteur are at a house about two miles from camp- very comfortable located- and undoubtedly recovering- as S. Snips would say- as Kudgen atays with them- the company will regret very much to see him leave- and if solicitations will avail any he will probably remain- he can be of very essential service to us- I can very well imagine what a stir in our comming the arrival of Maj Nel "just from the seat of war" caused having been with us and near us during the war time that we have been in danger- our men suffered from their advance- and are made to feel it very forcing every time it rains- which I late has been quite frequently- we had sent to Richmond for a "SS" to our tent- which arrived at the station- about two miles from our camp- the day before we retreated from the X roads- and we had not married it to camp- the consequence was that the enemy came in possession of it- but we hope to recummerate ourselves from their stocks- the first opportunity we have- it will be a great pity that we move from
here as we are so well friends the majority of our tents more having plants floes the one annoyance we have come in the way of those and I never was so anxious in my life besides being so bold that to get free of them we have almost to take hold of them Our Co for several days has been more span of his drills than at first and we are proportionately thankful and more prompt in willing when the calls come I hope you received my letter about sending a bug in time to seed but I some one of our scouts I have no idea how I miss Caesar It's a great pity the scouts don't know how highly they are prized We are having a little cool weather now the nights being particularly so but it is much more pleasant and much more healthy than that of a week ago I never felt better in my life What progress the enemy are making in their organization I can't say as we hear from them only occasional thunders of cannon My love to all
Affir for Lou
J. L. Boardman
Dear Father,

I have not written as often to you in the last few days, as I wrote to both Sis and Henry, and I know all my letters are pretty proper at home. Nothing has occurred of interest on this line here since I last wrote except a very daring reconnaissance of Gen. J. E. B. Stuart, of which you can see an account in the Richmond papers. It was truly a daring and important exploit—and may result in immense good to us here yet, in regard to information. Being drawn up in line of battle over and hour or two in the last few hours is becoming quite agreeable—but continues agreeable.

Yours truly,

[Signature]
I am sorry to say that the health of the Co's. and is not as uniformly good as for some time past - still now are seriously sick.

If you think you will find it difficult to get an substitute in Ala write me what amount of funds you can raise - as one can be easily procured in Richmond. If you conclude it best to try Richmond Uncle Joe or Mr. Parish could probably furnish you with the name of some person responsible and who would be kind enough to attend to the employing and notifying one. It is a matter which has to be attended to promptly and carried through expeditiously. If attempted at all as only one a month is allowed a Company. Are some occurred in the Co's on the 14th? Jannich 93.

Bly Grosvenor being. The second received the first having left unaccompanied in
a few days after I received your letter I wrote daily expecting a letter from you in regard to the matter.

The weather is becoming exceedingly warm here, rendering soldier's life any thing but comfortable. Particularly while having bad water, as we have to drink.

When a general engagement will occur here, it is impossible for any of us to say or know what will constantly tend to it; and it is hardly possible that two such armies as are here concentrated can remain confronting each other for a great length of time without coming to near and decisive blows. But when it does come, one may be confident that the Confederate army here collected will give a good account of itself. I have no doubt as to the result of the battle; and I think the Yankees have little themselves. or the affair would have been over long.
This - a wholesome dread of our men, and distrust of themselves I think pervades their whole army: and all of Whellan's long dispatches and addresses can not sway them up to the status he wishes, to enable him to march to Richmond. Our troops are in good spirits and confident of victory whenever the attack comes or is made. Brawny's movements have become somewhat unraveled, but not sufficiently for us to know definitely his dispositions. Still I have no fear but that Hallisey will be soundly drilled at the proper time.

My love to all.

Aff T. Po. [Signature]

Late 1863
5th Ala. Regt.
Camp Near Richmond July 11th 1862

Dear Father,

Your letter of the 25th Ul was received yesterday, during the fatigues of a seven days march. In it you spoke of having written a previous letter in regard to the matter of a substitute. That letter I have never received, and the last had been delayed somewhere. I say not I have not received your first letter in regard to that matter, because it has been a matter of great concern to me for some time, and is as still and has been considered in my imagination view. With the advantages and disadvantages to accompany from the change and I admit, as you say, that there are some consequences attending such a change, which demand serious and careful reflection. But as I said above, I had fully weighed all matters before I
wrote to you on the subject—now that you would certainly have
concluded a second thought—but as I had not considered
the disadvantages which you presented, I must say that I am
still unchanged on the subject, and if possible shall have
this arm of the sentence regardless of the remarks of
creatures, who unjustly suppressed community among you. That
fault to conceal their own... and to allow oneself to be influenced
by the remarks of that class of persons, is to show oneself devoid
of proper self-respect and an independent spirit. I would
not have you think that I entirely disapproved that class. I
would not allow myself to be swayed or influenced by their
remarks. One must have some yard for such men,
for one reason than another. They are selfish or unscrupulous
men. But should not be forgiven. I think...
am still willing to pay almost any price for the substitute, the
I would, like of course, to get
him as cheap as possible. Our
Chances however are rather
slim, however. I pointed
cause the Gov't has forbidden
sounding of unnaturalized for-
men as substitutes, and as you
say Mr. Jeffries is trying to supply
two to form the first cause
unless you can procure one
in Alabama this age of the year
I shall probably have to bear
down the hogs. And from the
delay which must ensue if
Mr. Jeffries succeeds, our only
being allowed to a Company
when we could introduce him
or either the fate of war or foreign
intervention may render it
unnecessary to get one still
of Mr. Jeffries does not succeed,
as you can find one from him,
and if you can procure one
then, send a strong man and
I would prefer the latter of course
as soon as possible - This will
possible to supplement or the
subject above and may possibly
answer for all - because I am
jealous that we will be unable
to get one.
Mr. Sheldon has reached us
and delivered your message.
But the contents of your letter
of the 25th. We had heard him
the trouble.
From the date of my letter to
you will see that we are
again near Richmond, having
withdrawn from the
immediate presence of the
enemy, which was under cover
of our gun-boats, was in a
babe though crippled condition.
We have thus been driven by
hard fighting, since that date,
with an enormous loss of
men and stores of all
kinds, and munitions of
war. Our own loss has been
very great indeed. But the
enemy has been allowed to
plunder your stores and
labor.
I’ve gotten to a safe position. We have withdrawn, either to induce him to follow, or to prosecute aggressive movements, I am at a loss which I hope the middle alternative will present itself and my satisfaction to both parties. As I am confused it will not happen to a delusion which we have hugged to our hearts for so long that it now will not be disappointed us, for me to grasp it now. Though the army has been and is very favorable to such an action, all I use in camp, some thirty I believe, are well, are wounded, with one or two exceptions, are in proper. Since I last wrote you, E. Jeffers has lost a portion of the body. My expectation, I am now than merely, which I last wrote you, but have since been found. And both were severely wounded, the latter.
wound is very dangerous, and
any form mortal, but I
hope not. I saw was wounded
but only slightly. I hear P. Smith
is safe. Tell Edgar, wife
and mother that he is well,
and that all the army-
the last few weeks I suppos-

e my love to all. Write soon.

P.S. Please send my coat
uniform to the earliest oppor-
tunity as I am said to need
it both.

P.S. 18
Dear Father,

I hardly know what to write this morning. The extemporal habit of writing to you at a stated time has however become so fixed that when that time arrives I almost invariably find myself making preparations for that purpose. I should perhaps write now, did I not know that since the old expressive catch of "All well" would be welcome and give you some satisfaction. We are occupying the same apathetic position as when I wrote you last, lying in wait, it seems to me, for the enemy to recruit and fill up his decimated ranks. Our experience since your return has not been disturbed as we have orders this morning to be in readiness to move, but whether, no one knows. It may prove a long movement, as many other such orders have, nowhere, and we remain another month or more in utter idleness, rare drilling, and occasional picket...
fourth. To our great delight, the weather has changed from an excessive hot temperature, to a somewhat cool and breezy one, similar to our weather along the coast of September. And that reminds me of my deep disappointment at not receiving your note upon the arrival of Miss Williams. I hope some one will be coming soon, by whom you will be able to read it. It is now getting time that several of our wounded should return, and I look to go some of them every week. Nothing interesting has occurred on the hills around Richmond since my last. All things seem tending toward a severe engagement between Jackson & Pope. God grant that Jackson may again be victorious. All as well.

My love to all.

Affrs to Sr

Lt. E. Brandman
5th Ala Regt.
Camp near Richmond Aug 27th

Dear Father,

I can today communicate to you the intelligence of a victory by a portion of the forces over a portion of the whole. The capture of Major Lee and two other commissioned officers besides three hundred privates. And I congratulate you upon the fact that these officers have received a portion of the treatment threatened them by our worthy Executive. They - the captured officers were sent to Gordonville handcuffed - while the privates have been treated as prisoners of war. This is reflecting punishment where it is due - where the military and voluntary assistants of the in his unscrupulous policy of destroying their property. There is no sympathizers who may be within his laws - while those compelled by law his assistants to cooperate in the work of destruction are treated with lenience. A few weeks will show whether we shall be compelled to furnish privates we like manner with the officers. I hope that this partial success of Jackson's is only the prelude to a complete victory over the whole force confronting him - and trust that with his present force, and the reinforce and on their way to him, he may be able to clear a clear way, and carry the war with assistance.
hand into the enemy's control, and make them feel with all its rigor the policy which they have chosen to adopt towards us.

The time for leniency and mercy is a relented one, it seems to me, has past; and the time has arrived when we should meet fire with fire - torture with torture - and if necessary, the complete destruction of whatever portion of the enemy's territory may fall into our possession, in return for the wrongs inflicted upon our own people and our suffering (save the fact of sympathizing with us), citizens. Our army has ignored the rules of civilized warfare, and shall we maintain them in contending with an uncivilized and merciless foe? Every fiber in our nature urges us not; but it is necessary that we should declare these things to you. I have no doubt but you will receive with me at any measure which our Army may adopt to diminish the effects of this inhuman invasion of our territory.

Our company was made glad a few days ago by the return of one of its members, who has been spending the last three months in a remand in the deep, which the generous Yankees have constructed for the special benefit of the Confederate prisoners. He was captured on the retreat from Yorktown. His name is Morris, and he was enrolled at Martinsville, when we left home. I'm sorry we lost him, but his health at the time of our retreat was poor and he was unable to keep up with the rest of us.
and consequently fell into the hands of
the enemy—All the exchanged prisoners for
the same account of their treatment while
prisoners, and it reflects no credit upon
the humanity of our fore-
toone intelligence from Jackson’s command
in connection with the news of his late victory
events seem just tending to a general
engagement, and I trust his usual
success will attend him— If failed
in this attempt, I think the enemy will
abandon the idea of obtaining possession
of Richmond for some time to come.
The news from Europe indicates to my
mind, that we have, by our own exertions,
to bring this war to a close. And it will
be best for our Gov’t s people to look at
it in that light, and act accordingly.
Foreign intervention is a delusion which
has well might proved fatal to us already;
and until the reality comes, it behooves us
to prove of the necessities—Well, I
think this is enough war talk for the
present.
All are well in the company, I believe.
Jem Locke has been discharged from
the service. I have his discharge in
my possession, signed by Gen’l Lee
and have written him to come after it, as
I am fearful it will not reach him
if sent by mail. So the Colo sent & may
have all necessities on that account.
It is our turn to be free men, a very
curious position to hold.
I must here ask you again to send my uniform & boots by the earliest possible opportunity - I have been compelled to buy a pair of shoes in Richmond - and what price do you suppose I had to pay? Eighteen dollars for shoes, which you and I used to open our eyes at when asked four. Common uniforms are asked thirteens, forty dollars for new. So from this you can judge what extortion is practiced upon our soldiers in our Capital - and what our necessaries must be when we pay - I can assure you necessity compelled me to buy the shoes or I should never have done so for; though I could not appreciate the value of money when I left home. I now have the highest appreciation for the cement, even for shingles &c. and hold on to it as long as possible. All cotton has been taken from this immediate line. If the storm savors in the neighborhood of Gordenville, so that nothing need be expected to occur here - we are all going quietly as camp drilling goes - I am still attached from the company - and growing fat as fast as possible under the circumstances - wish more than ever to see you in my life - My love to all.

Afft Wsc

Sall Boardman.
Dear Father,

We are still making our observations. Having an interesting, dull time. Our camp during the past few days has been surrounded by several skirmishes, some encouraging and others not, making it appear to be most discouraging. I speak of the news of our defeat at Corinth and in account of the impression that our army has been badly whipped there. Our Panorama of course under the circumstances is considerably improved. All now think he has been overrated and some of them would adopt the Yankee prescription in such cases as his just now. I hope that when the facts become full known the affair will not be so disastrous as we now imagine it is. We are all of us unusually anxious to know the full truth of the affair as such a defeat will more endanger our homes than one in any other section. But here we are in an almost isolated position. Seldom receive a paper and when received so old as to neither confirm or contradict the current reports. And we consequently consider a stay in this region by no means desirable and are extremely anxious to be moved nearer.
to R. R. Connection. We have the report from Northern papers, and confirmed gossip, from my division, that Gen. Sterling has been in PETERSBURG. A considerable commotion among our Whigs neighbors, and wheresoever, there is a good man. There is a rally general of Philanthropy and charity. We have assembled, in the main, with his forelock and also having in charge several prominent citizens of that state. Stewarts adventures here, have been the precursors of some important move on the part of our army; as his trip to McCollins men was followed by our hostile movement, leading the battles and victories around Richmond. Also his trip to Pope's men was followed upon by the victory at Manassas. Whether this last expedition will be similar memorable remains to be seen. I presume it accomplished all that was intended, and that it will not be pursued on account of the latitude of the season and the difficulties of obtaining and transporting supplies upon such an expedition. To keep our army supplied with provisions were here is a matter of great difficulty -- owing to the thorough manner in which the Yankees stripped the County I mention upon which to establish an army, and they were compelled to desert. The weather is becoming quite cool at night and morning, and I am fearful that the fall rains will come convenience, which will add immensurably to our already great difficulties and discomforts. We have at last received word, indirectly, from
Our captured comrades - the only information is that three members of 5th Ala Res. - who were captured on 14th Oct. at Richmond at Camp Lee on parole. Other companies have heard directly from some of their members there - so that we firmly believe that our members are also there. If some of them have written home before this, and you probably know more than I about them, then it is our duty, I think, about their fate. They have been placed at Camp Lee, near the 85th, to await an exchange which I presume will take place. Our own - I hope some of not all of them will be able to visit home, I hope; but it is hard to venture. Our army is just forming a regular one in discipline and administration, and in that you know a subordinate officer of a private army - a moving picture to me. There is much changed now than when we entered Maryland, and I had been as strong then as it is now. I have no idea what Shiloh has had to face in this side of the river. Gen. Lee says in his address that we repulsed on every attack on the 17th. at least three times our own numbers. Showing very conclusively that the evil of straggling was all that prevented our gaining a decisive victory on that day. We hear nothing now of the whereabouts of the enemy - not knowing even whether they have crossed the river or not as yet. It is supposed however that they have not in very great force. It is certain that as soon as they do Jackson will do his best to know something about them, and as we are in his Corps, it is
provable that when necessary we shall know something about them. As it is however we can only write in our most candid manner for them to take the initiative in moving our greatest need here is provisions. Shoes and clothing but the latter are held in such small estimation that I provided the two former no great noise will be made about them. We have about thirty members of the Co present all well with one or two exceptions in good health. Write soon. My love to all.

Aff. & Sou

E. H. Brandman

P.S. I close this letter thus abruptly to see if I can get something in the indistinct lines from the Investigation Report.
Dear Father,

As I have the opportunity of sending a letter direct to you, I shall, and being uncertain whether my last few have ever reached you or not, I shall avail myself of this to inform you of anything of interest that has occurred. We have remained at this farmhouse for nearly two weeks and are becoming somewhat tiresome of it already, and I am anxious to be disclosed to the Yankees. As to what about, I can tell you nothing, not having heard of their crossing the river in any considerable force. Since they were driven back so vigorously by Gen. A. P. Hill, I shall send this letter by Sec. Meltzer, who, on account of some physical indisposition, has not been ordered into service. I will leave on my return home this evening. In case of accident, I will reenlist again, while I have written several times before, but my chart to one of the first opportunities to write the others good-bye. If this is received, I hope you will receive and get these. Ellena left for Richmond several days ago, and promised on her return to bring my clothing with her. Thus saving me considerable trouble.

We have not as yet been able to hear a word from the boy, who was taken prisoner and I fear...
now of these may have met with a worse fate. Though I could designate any individual and excite hope of my fears may prove groundless. Say nothing about this as it may unnecessarily increase anxiety. According to the order, for exchange we certainly should have heard some thing of them before this, and I am at a loss to know why we have not. However, I hope we will one day hear from him, but all these hopes are vain. We have had an addition to the company. Quibali has been transferred, at his own suggestion, from the 11th to our company. You can let his mother know that he has or will very likely write to her. And as we are almost strangers in intercourse, it might be well to say nothing of it. If Quibali goes home, he is now off sick. You probably can get him to bring me my sheet.

We can now have a delightful walk, and all are in good health.

I have been no estimate placed upon the loss of either army during the recent engagements, but as the enemy had a much superior force engaged, their loss must have been considerable. The next order was read to us yesterday from Gen. Lee, highly complimenting the troops for their good conduct and stating that one force was big about one third that of the enemy, in the engagements. It is of course a desired tribute, but many a great many, should have some other distinguishing mark. But it is almost impossible to single out any instances without wounding some good man's feelings, and it is therefore best to leave each to his own reflections and allow...
to take so much of the compliments to himself as he thinks his due.
My prospects of getting a position below that of a commissioned officer in either the Commission or Quartermaster's Department have been completely frustrated by an order from the Adj. Gen's office in Richmond for holding the Office, the stationing of Commissary men in those departments. So I have concluded to rest as contented as possible as high private in the Greensboro Guards. So there is no use in making any further attempts at present to get out of it. But I must acknowledge, it is no desirable position. I sincerely hope that we will not have to remain much longer in service, though I have no grounds for such hopes. As present events give no means with our present condition to carry on a cessation of hostilities. And vain hopes have been our bane already too much. I have nothing of interest to write and have already done a lot of nonsense, which will be calculated to move to more than interest you.
My love to all. Write a letter to Richmond stating Reg't & Brigade & the same will reach me.
Aff & Son
L. E. Boardman
O. P. Gazelle sends his love to his wife & mother. 

His case is very severe, and I expect I shall have to administer some medicine. 

Please forward thirty-five dollars for him. 

Aff. 7th Jan. 
2218
Oct 23rd 1862

My dear Father,

Since my last to you, our patience and endurance have been tried by.pt. In a few hours after I closed my last letter the order to move on was received, so that we were up that night cooking. The next morning we started in march, no one knew when about daylight in the direction of Charleston, the place memo

He as that of the trial, conviction and execution of John Brown distant about eight miles from Harpers Ferry. When we arrived we were turned off upon the P.R.
ordered to stack arms and to demolish Rebel Road, which we did.

That was accomplished in a short time, we then waited about two hours and received an order to take our places in caissons about dark. We did it reluctantly. I can assure you as we went through my mind having marched about twelve miles and come up about two miles of R.R. road. However we were fully formed and started off again. Marched through Charleston and on to within four miles of Harper's Ferry, and ordered to tear up the Rebel Track again. We were engaged in that work for the rest of the night, and now there is not little of the Harper's Ferry & Winchester R.R. left. So you see from what I have said that we marched over forty

miles, destroyed several miles of R.R. Track, with no sleep during the time—and my little cat can judge how ample.
must have been our disposition. On the next morning, this was all done in less than thirty-six hours. Our whole division was engaged in it, but I do not wish to relate our share, what our own brigade did. We crossed one day and night near Charleston and were started off yesterday morning, and after marching about twelve miles reached this place, which we have now reached. I have not time to write in detail. We are however some-what to the North-East of Richmond and between it and Charleston. I think this is the first time during all our travels that I have been completely ignorant as to our geographical position, and this time I am wholly so. This portion of the country known as the richest portion of Va. that we have yet seen is, and as a grain-growing country, should always be held in our hands. It supplies us in provisions and forage would more than repay the toil.
ment for all expense incurred in its defense. I hope that what I mentioned to you in my last letter will neither cause you any uneasiness or deter you from coming here. If it was your intention to do so, it would be well however to wait until the moon is near some R.P.O. as you would not be able to walk from the R.P.O. is when we arrive and it is impossible to obtain a means of return unless one buys a horse. I hope we shall soon fall back to some R. Road and in fact if we should winter quarters we will be compelled to have some such transportation. Active operations I trust, will come close on this line unless the weather continues mild. The health of the R.t. is very good. My own was much better. My love to all. With love.

Affly I. Son

La S. Boardman.
My dear Sister,

Your letter containing the brief and unfortunate intelligence of Henry's capture was received a few days ago. I should, on account of his health and youth, have greatly preferred to have heard of his being wounded, but still do not regard his misfortune as gloomily as you indicate nor do I myself do. It is true that the life of a prisoner is in the hands of our vile enemy, so hard and cruel with sufferings and outrages; but still the extreme cases of the latter are rare. As the prisoners, I think, have been sent to New Orleans, we have good reason to hope that he with the others will meet with some assistance & comforts from our loyal friends in that city to be sent them so far better than to be placed in their miserable state farther North. This being our first misfortune since the war, attributable to it directly, let us bear up as cheerfully as we can—hoping that public opinion may soon drive the Yankee nation to a recantation of the exchange & that he may soon be restored to us in safety. With the good clothing which you say he has, it is not probable that he suffers too much in that climate; let us firmly trust...
that he who alone can will shield men from sickness. His falling into the enemies' hands may be a providential preservative from a worse fate; let us hope for the best. I hope you have not carried out your intention of soliciting favors from the Bedfords &c. &c. You know my own & also Neely's opinion of the former &c. I know he would not wish you or anyone else to ask aid for him from that source. As to Lotho, he was kind to Alford Ward, though personal feelings alone—having been a warm friend of his—and it is hardly possible that we would act towards any one else as he did toward Alford. It is asking of a stranger and at least an enemy. Mrs. W. & Mr. M. I know would render him all the assistance in their power, and this would be no improper way of asking it at their hands. I wish you to let me know immediately when you find out to what point he has been sent. If North, I will write to Mr. Murray myself. I hope we may soon hear positively his destination, though I think the persons have been sent to St. Orleans, and our anxiety be somewhat relieved.

It seems as if misfortunes never come singly as I had hardly heard of our own personal disaster in the Capture of Newburg before the news of the fall of Atlanta arrived. It is a great blow.
not absolutely cut off from home - till our chief direct route is in the hands of the enemy. This is the greatest misfortune that has happened to our armies since the campaign began, and is particularly disastrous at the present time, or giving encouragement to the enemy's hopes of eventual success in Ga. It is to be seriously hoped that this will be only a temporary success - that Gen. Hood will soon make them repent of their daring. But for fear of accidents, let me make some personal requests. Will Father be sure to send me my coat & once money before the Yankees cut me off entirely? I am no means low spirited on account of this unfortunate affair, but believe that the farther they penetrate into our country the greater will be their disaster. But may be you say, "so you have said all the time, come some time before they reached Atlanta?" That is true, but I still hold to my belief that they will eventually defeat. Though they have achieved more than I anticipated, would Gen. Hood succeed in routing them in the course of a few weeks. I have strong hopes that this will be that last campaign of the war, which has been so devoutly prayed for. And I still hope that though discontents among themselves, if not prompt, will cure on our part that we will lift of Peace, which
will send a word of joy to every heart on the continent except the few Abolitionists whose existence almost depends on its continuance.

The weather here is fast becoming cool, making fine by no means uncomfortable, especially on damp days. My misfortune is that my winter clothing was deposited with others when we passed through Staunton. But I have no fear but that I will be comfortable.

My love to Cousin Mary. Tell her I had no means to forget her. I hope she may soon have the pleasure of meeting her again. I have not heard any thing of the price of horses since he was captured.

I have no news to give in regard to our little army in the Valley except that it is between Winchester and the Potomac and keep the Yankees in a state of wholesome dread, and am ready at any time to give them substantial reasons for continuing so. I am able for this once to comply with your request for paper.

My love to all. 

Affectionately,

[Signature]

Oct. 24th

P.S. Don't fail to let me know immediately on any news hearing from Strasburg.
Camp near Spanish Fort on Eastern Shore
Mar. 23rd, 1865

My dear mother,

Since I last heard from you we have been transferred from Mobile to the Eastern Shore, for the purpose of taking back the city if possible. They have landed twelve thousand men down below here about fifteen miles N. W. and are preparing to advance over this place. Sherman's Ala. Brigade, Stetson's Ala. (Brigade, one Regt.) form our Brigade (the 21st Ala.). 

Clanton threatens to make a successful stand, before this time I don't think we will have had a bloody fight ever due & trust a glorious victory. She will not attempt to take this place I think, because the Yankees can flank us here & cut us off from all communication with the upper country. The fight will take place if any does come off, as I think a place as (6)
Miles in the rear of this post, I hope I may yet have the honor to hear from you in safety, but God only knows and I will try. Uncle Jos. Pugh has been discharged from the hospital with the sickness for two or three days past. If he is well I hope to see him in a few days. I suppose you have heard that this year our Pugh has been transferred from the Reserve to the regular service. He is now in the 62nd Regt. Ala Vol. Thomas' Brigade. Army of the Gulf. In future you will direct your letters to that regt. By the by speaking of letters reminds me that I have been two days without a single letter has reached my hand yet. Just like those two dear, loving, affectionate sisters of mine (I mean Laura & Margaret). The two they are big enough to make letters. I have dropped their correspondence altogether until they answer those half dozen letters I have written them. After they are answered, I shall write five (5) whole sheets before I can begin to write them a single line. If the Yankees don't knock my chimney out in the meantime, I wrote you about a week ago to send me a $300.00 in some money by Smith & Powell. I hope you got the letter and time to send it if not do so.
The first opportunity, as I am in great need of both, Dick is too small for a march you have put a map of itself to it and.

Until I must close now. My love to all.

"Oriel Derry"

I will write a plain in a few days, provided she Billy Young to let me alone.

Office for our Henry Brandon

.......

0 0 0 0 0
Camp Baton 27th July 1864

My dear sister

I read your kind interest letter last Wednesday. This is the first opportunity of writing that has presented itself since. Our duty has been heavy, and that we have little or no time for writing. We will be relieved this week while I will be able to write please. will do so. For nothing of sorts be greater pleasure than writing. You must not discontinue writing as I have regularly seen you write because I do not write. Have Laura it is about time she was writing to me. The Inspector came on Thursday and says it is going to inspect our Company this Monday at 12 o'clock now. buy any man presents a very busy scene. Some are combing their mustache others digging stumps, stacking tents dry big clothes are hung to dry. All seem...
to Arms at something. The Captain wants his Company to present as good an appearance as possible so we may be noticed off. They are now organizing Companies of 125 men over forty. This to do the Reserve Duty in this place. When they are organized we will be ordered back to Selma or up on the 61st Point R.R. from where we will be in striking distance of that 38th R. & the Prairie Colony. They (that is the ones in authority) are expecting raids from the Prairie country in the W. S. & the State this summer for the purpose of destroying the Corn crop. They want all of the Reserve Corps between 17 & 18 there to prevent these. I am very anxious for the time to come when we will be ordered back for they are not feeding us down here according to my notion of things. I know got as much more time at we did at Selma. Our
Mr. Brown's meat was due and doctor uncertain any more until Monday. I have been compelled to buy salt for Caesar ever since I came down here dit to drawing too heavily on my "money box" to suit a poor man like myself.

Miss Hallie Chicklin lives in this city and have been having a plan dit time with her. I have called on her twice already and am going to call again this coming Friday. The Captain will give me a "hug." Miss Chicklin has taken a great interest in her future son-in-law (which is perfectly natural). She took me the other day if I should be taken while in camp as here and not make her house or hospital the would never forgive me. Of course I said I would. I was sure ly tempted to report on the sick.
Blanche will be down the last of this week or the first part of next. I wish you would tell Father to send money. All the paper money is scarce. They cost so much that I can't buy them. I have bought some stamps and all of them. I can't get any money for the three since I can't use it.
Camp Batton, Aug. 23, 1944

My dear Sister,

Your kind letter was duly received last Saturday morning while I was preparing to attend a dinner party given us by Mrs. Melton. There were some fine young ladies there who enjoyed themselves very much. I believe I enjoyed the dinner more than I did the ladies’ company. You will know I had a nice time when I mentioned that Mrs. Sallie McKelvie was among the invited guests. I have called on her three or four times already with two...
go there again tomorrow evening. I am not on duty today, I can get away. I suppose this does not cost much. I need some money enough to buy one. I would like to know more. Ask when I turn on just enough. I wonder if we will have to wait until after. This was when things get cheaper and don't have to pay as much. Aunt Barney D. Brand arrived in the city on the boat this morning, but has not yet made his appearance in camp. He came down via the boat with Aunt Ophelia this
"darker" than a very fine past and time with mine & O'dear. We sent out to camp for Capt. King this morning to go & scale on the old stuff with him. They are going to try for the new 5 order us back to our Battalion. Hope they will succeed for if we stay here much longer I thinkware will all die. Twenty-two men from our Company are in The Hospital now with fever. None are serious. Last Thursdayools left one tick yesterday.
Morning went to the Hos.
pital in the evening. I hope he will not be made 
ly ill, he only had a slight fever yesterday. Don't 
Mrs. Susan tell about it 
for the world if he felt 
any worse I will write. 

There, the doctor has just 
called me to take charge 
of a working girl so I 
was compelled to close. 
Excuse this hastily, will write 
letter. I will do better next 
letter.

Your affectionately,

P.S. Will write to father 
sometime this week.
Euston Sept 11th 1868

My dear daughter,

I have not seen Mr. Nelson, but learn that he will leave this evening for N.O. Falls. Henry wrote on Saturday that Laura returned on the 10th but I fear neither of them will reach here on time. Eliza is at her aunt in Natchez. Henry is not far at the plantation. I arrived safe at home Wednesday night without any accident, or incident worthy of note. Found all well but Henry & I in convalescence. The health of the village is better than when we left but I fear the inclement rain & warm weather will produce sickness again. It has rained almost daily since we left and still continues to do so. Its effect may be to produce sickness again but hope not.
I was truly 8 call to read your cheerful letter, let us hope it is an account of returning good health, for which let us all be unceasingly thankful. If the source from whom all our blessings flow, we are in the hands of a most beneficent God who does not afflict his children, but for a purpose to their good. Though we may not comprehend his reasons, we should not distrust, or murmuring at his dispensations, for we know that all things shall work together for good to them who truly love 1 serve him, that you may continue to improve, the permit it to return to us with renewed strength.

is our constant prayer. I have not heard a word from your brother since I returned, but full armed he is well. Aunt Jane, Miss Helen from NC is at your cousin Bellis. I called to see the old lady yesterday. She is
A pleasant and intelligent lady of the old school in middle class of Society, always the best. She will remain here sometimes, she is anxious to see all the children and yourself particularly. Your cousin, I think, are about as well as usual.

Mr. is well & the Parson also.

A word now as to your return. You will find no difficulty in coming, at Blue Mountain if the stage gets there before the train. You will have to go to a house, about a hundred yards from the road, where you can have a good bed to rest on for the train starts late. Since you had best remain until you write to us, that you brother or myself may await you unless you must with company if you feel safe with, be sure to write that we may know when you start from there, your expenses to
Get home will be about $450 dollars. I mention this that you may have a little means you have. Be sure to make your calculation so as not to leave your husband is $50 for one month from the time we arrived there. You have 15 or 20 dollars over what is necessary to pay the way home. But be sure to have a surplus if possible. I am sorry to have not the means to help you. Then a month longer. But it is useless to repeat the things we have no power to avert. These trials may yet work together for our good. That you in his mercy may so direct those at ease even now to his kindness we commend and command you trusting knowing our may soon again together. May his blessing be upon your affectionately

John F. Star
Chautauqua July 26th, 1879

Dear Emily,

Many apologies for not answering your kind letter long before this—but I promised to send you my photograph when I am able. I have been writing anxiously to get it, which I did only yesterday evening. Send it some healthy, strong, and if you cannot trifle the original off for a blue copy, Chautauqua—she is for sale, but the one must be a high one. It matters not how old or ugly she may be, or that her copies are well filled with the Ohio's yellow paper. But why should I write such foolishness, when I will know that so long as Mrs. C continues true to her pledged faith I would not sacrifice her baser for that of a Bragg—were she as wealthy as a Ceres I could rival in beauty as Venus.

By the way, Mrs. G. has been patiently waiting for that furnished letter from you. I told Laura to deliver her message in regard to it to you—did she do so? She did not go to Alabama as she re
pected when you left her. Further more
Grills dress. Treated with paralysis.
the ins go on not her boot entirely and
Laura to spend in Dayton. I arrived
her. I saw them last week on Monday.
Brother to still wish us he expects
to leave next Saturday.

My cropping prospects are good at
present. Carrier promises a fine yield.
Can now get all old Billy yield enough
to meet the plantation another year.
Lum been is almost deserted or at least
boats so it is as dry that I never go
due in the day and
hunt Forrest is planting his P. L. chis
we hope soon to have it at 4. It is
planted to within three miles of town.
They are heavying the track this side
of town some this has for they have
reached I don’t know. I think it pos-
ible chnt the track may come here by
the first of October.

The weather so far has been very uncom
mended. Real hot. There is a good deal
of drought in town and thru the country.
The nothing penins that I learn of
Our family all continue to remain well
my own health was never better than I
Our turner than when you left.
They report are having a full time
of it here. Accept yourselves. Hurrying
each other. Few were that last
with. They made an attack in Sandy
Charles last Friday night. Died several
lives bits his kind but the result of
Killing the deed was all, comes by friend
ed. Thank you. One little package this
in his head. Attending her first time.
both sides & cultures her long no loses.
Had they killed him yes we once
have died but every one regrets that
she should take the bullet. This to date
alive. The public hopes are uncertain
of her final recovery.
Well I believe I have written you all
the news. So will have to close.
I peek lost me when I arose to give
her last love try in. Much much love
To office Bro
Henry.
Dear Daughter,

As Henry has lost a page.

Blank. I couldn't say but what I should at 2 but my mind is a blank, and I attempt to write any thing of the bad things of the rebellion of C. of the Reunion of Cleason Capias, etc., as Henry says worry all well. I wish you to let the people know that all is still in good condition. Indeed my dear, you never better, for that time Henry says. The place is still with me. Our Union has some appearance of 42. He tells me of the attempt to shoot a citizen. On last Friday night 2 of his house was fired into, not bullet but the intent to kill him. But now was sawing by the wound. He was struck him on the jaw passing through what a bullet struck him on the jaw, passing through. At first he
twice the turn, but I could not take the turn of the turn. I could not save my turn but now have hopes the man recover. The 40 men, or the dead 13 at that

Old Lawrie & Jane Grace, don't work well in<br>trances. Here the war and I should not be returning. If we have any more I should sacrifice blood, between this and the soldiers. The White people are indifferent and speak the bad. How soon he begins or never many are called upon to say. They do not disturb them. all great Aunt Louisa's injury. Only sorry in ever with a large well done. as there's will wait until he sent k.
Guthridge, Oct. 17, 1873.

Dear Sister,

As Kate has given me a letter to write for my composition, I will answer your kind letter. I was very much obliged to you for the nice candy you sent me. Tornini enjoyed his too, said his Auntie in Selma sent it to him. Millie Sandeen has got the diphtheria, she is very sick. Mr. Frierzon has been very sick, he is better to-day. Rice pim, and myself have got two such pretty fingers.
But give it name clerk, I mine is name Spot. Fayette goes to school to the Academy. We didn't come home earlier than twelve o'clock, so we didn't have much time to play. We are going chirpuppin hunting to morrow, Sammie sent me a big basket of hickory nuts. I told him this morning I am going to give Emma some for the birds. Dick can sing now, I must close now, as Fayette wants me to come play some. Write to me soon.

Your affectionate little brother.
Grafton, March 5th, 1874

Dear Daughter,

Your kind & affectionate letter was in last night, & I should not have had time to write again before you leave for home. I trespass on the Sabbath & amon. inKate’s last I wrote you something I hardly know what or whether it was legible. For it was done just before dark. I enclosed a part written when I could not see to read it. England I sent you your Aunt’s letter that I know was a treat to you. I will compensate for my scribble. I can never cease to be thankful that your curiosity, or rather I should say your warm Christian heart, prompted you to seek them out. Language would fail to express my feelings when I read in, for days and nights after, I was living over the scenes of my early life in my native home, in my letter to her. I gave her a synopsis of all the principal incidents of my life since I last saw them.
and requested that in the answer to that she would do it twice. Briefly, she has done so. I say briefly because I wrote 13 pages without perhaps giving any clearer view of the situation than she has done. It is a source of infinite pleasure to know that she together with her family at Boston with his are all in such comfortable circumstances. Oh! in the good providence of God I were able. What pleasure it would afford one to visit them, I see the beautiful country as I left in how I would rejoice to see it in its improved condition. Whether I shall ever be able to do so, is doubtful, yet I shall ever live with the hope while life lasts. that I may do so. Should I be denied the pleasure I turned some one or all may be permitted to do so. I say to my dear children that you have felt neglect. I ought to have written to you. I only delayed it because I had not the means to send you I desired to write this week had not despaired of leaving it. While it was humiliating to me, it was ought to prosper that you called on me to furnish you. It was
Greensboro Math 17th

Dear Son:

Understanding other circumstances, it would seem unnecessary for me write, as your sister will have told all she knew better than I can express it. That can be of interest to you of home and its surroundings, but I feel that Contest has far more without leaving a word from me to you. My long unanswerable they lack in coming to you in, and their own be a source to you of painful regret, my only apology was that the constant receipt of your letter to your sisters, in reply to theirs to you kept up a weekly communication. And my aversion to letter writing for the poverty of language to
express my ideas and feelings as I would like to be able to do, and more.

My dear boy, in your affliction what can I say to make amends. I can but ask that you will not attribute it to indifference. No, no. This surely can have no abiding place in your thoughts. Though about you were even with me and the fond hope of again meeting you has been a comfort to me. I know when I learn of your continued illness. To feel that in the providence of God I may in this life never again be permitted to do so is torture. But I have no language to express, I can have no hope that the returning Spring and Summer may be accompanied with such health and strength, but if it is otherwise ordered as you intimate in your last letters, you fear
May be, or let nothing of pain
self-sufficiency lead you to
neglect that preparation that
The lessons of your youth instructed
you were indispensable to a well-grounded
hope of future happiness. How in
our day of trial, some affliction
commit yourself to the energy
of a merciful God who alone
has power to save and who
will not turn a deaf ear to
the cries of his suffering children; woe is possible (I should)
have been with you on the
first news of your being dangerously
ill, but the hard hand
of adversity has taken the
means of doing as my heart
would dictate. I can but
submit. O dear, to the plenteous
mercy of being deprived
of doing so, knowing it being
that it is the will of God.
That I shall never again be permitted to press you on earth; that the tempo and
be strong, before I must be taken by the grace of
God will there be permitting
the meet the dear ones
gone before, to be. There shall
be no more parting forever
May God in his mercy
bring you up to prepare
you for a joyful meeting
with all of his transmuted
Children. Is the journey
of your
Affectionately,
[Signature]
Dayton Jan. 21st

Dear Margaret,

Do not you will be surprised to hear from me at all at this place. Laura had a letter from home this morning and I gather from it that you think I live at home as I come through Mason last Thursday night I requested Tommy Aborn to drop you a note that I would return on Saturday and ask you and the children to meet me at the depot. Lulu did I expect to find my family in the best of health—suffering as she was after the birth of her baby to had several letters from Women and one from Dora saying they are getting on so well I would have come down a week sooner but Daddy had a chill and I was afraid to leave home and afraid to take him with me.

Jane & Lew was married on Tuesday morning as you already know. I met them at Townsend on the way to Noble and New Orleans. Women with the courage to take one out home he told me Laura was just so well and was suffering with her Breast but hoped it would not last anything serious. I found him with high fever and suffering intensely with his Breast. shutting being imperious in getting up on Saturday or the extreme cold weather I am unable to judge at least I must say I fear it was imminent in her to get up. Dan Aborn assures me she never saw one get on letter than she did for ten days. As far as I see she has had
every care and attention and I believe the very best of medical attention. Though neither Mrs. Askew nor myself agreed with the Dr. in the treatment of her breast, I think I have seen in my confinement any breast to look as much like rising as Laura did the day I got there on or three times and I did think with proper treatment it might possibly be arrested but I knew Dr. Hendrick acted concursingly in what he did and had to come to his mode of treatment at last but it was too late to arrest the rise it was very much afraid that she was going to have Pneumonia or Child Bed Fever for several days after I got home the Dr. told me he did not see how she could escape fever she had none now for several days but has suffered so much with her breast I don’t see how she could stand it if she had both to contend with when I left home I expected to find her doing well and intended to stay but a few days as it is very inconvenient for me to be from home as you well know and I did not come prepared to stay and love Buddy with me and my constant dread that she will get sick. He has improved astonishingly since the day I got there she was a little sick from getting very cold the ride from Townsend but her was dreadful cold the worst part of the trip is the day after I got there I asked Dr. Warren to write for you to Mr. Boardman and T. H. Lin to condition and that I did not know when I would be home Laura had a letter from Tony this morning which says they had received Warren’s letter but I judge he did not tell them how sick Laura was. I have written to them to right Warren says he will send this and your letter to Townsend and Maitland.
Dear Margaret,

I wrote the first part of this letter below Ten o'clock Wednesday night to be sent to Townsend but my fare was so different as much I could not get time to finish it. I wrote to Mr. Boardman at the same time I expected to go home last Wednesday but when I went, I saw anything about going home it would distress her so much. The Dr. thought her breast would be ready to come Thursday evening and she would be so much relieved that I could leave her Saturday and I am only prepared to go so but he says it will not be ripe for several days yet at my request he brought his wife with him to spare me from that painful restraint. Oh, if I could suffer for her, I would not only willingly let myself do it. Last night, she suffered more than any time since I came. Mrs. A. and myself sat up with her all night and sent for the Dr. at two o'clock this morning as he was very sick himself and could not come out but a dose of Peruvian to give her which quieted her and gave her the only rest she has had for twenty-four hours. I am in her room alone tonight except an old graying nurse about as big as an elephant that makes the house shake all over when she walks and sounds grow when ever she comes in the room, but she will how to roll to rock the crib. I have had but one meal at the table since I have been here they send my meals to Laura's room which I am very thankful for as I have been polishing and greasing till I expect. I do not make a very genteel appearance I am thankful that some and his
party have not returned. They looked for them tomorrow. I have told you nothing about the baby yet, but he is really very pretty and they all seem to be very fond of it. Particularly Miss A. I must close on Laura is getting restless. I am waiting behind her ber my table the floor with the lamp by my side. She asked me just now what I was doing. I told her I was she said give me your hand To let me read and tell her I wish to speak with you. I had like to have forgotten to tell you that Laura received your letter today, I am very much troubled to hear the news from home about your money. I am very sorry it was not at home. I very much dread the consequences of her going home; and yet it may be a restraint on your mind knowing her treatment of her being made public. It would seem that it ought to be the only opinion than the man is a lunatic; but he does not see it and she certainly could shelter the child from the cruel treatment. The baby has just waked; and I must take him. I fear he will disturb Laura. I think I will come through in the morning tomorrow morning if Laura does not get a great deal worse I must go home then; if I have to return. I was very much troubled to day to hear that the scarlet fever had broken out in the Jullian and that one of the boarders has died—hope you may be able to write your letter but don't let you and the children try and meet me Monday at the depo. I am very much disappointed that I could not go to1
Greenbrier Aug.

Dear Mozart,

I received yours and Laura's letter yesterday and am glad to hear from you and that you are having a pleasant time in the great City of Helena. I am sorry to hear that Laura has been home sick though nothing serious. I expected she would come here.

I hope you will not think of coming home on her account, not that I am not anxious to see you or be glad to have you home but for the benefit of your own health and the pleasure it would be to you to remain with your Brother the short time he has to stay in Helena, for I can tell from your letter that he intends leaving for Montana soon—Laura will have in opportunity...
of coming up with the Carson

To borrow evening which we think
she has better do — and let me
beg you again not to let her
influence you to come home
if you think your health is impair
and you are enjoying your self
and your Aunt Brother and
all are anxious to have you
remain, which we doubt they
will do.

I hope you were not disappointed
by any not sending the guitar
you left for me to have finished
for you. I finished it myself
on Monday and had it ready
to send to you directly
but your Father object to sending
it by them, and have had no
opportunity since, that I have
known of. I intended to have
the & Mrs. Smith to spend part of
last week with us but was too unwell
myself to have company. My love to
all.

Your affectionate Mother
Dear Laura

I have but a few moments to you a few lines—
I sent Mrs. Tharp the Peaches you wished me to send her.
Mrs. Tharp and Lou Colt was very ill last week. Pati and Lenie went up to see them one or twice last week, I have not heard from them to day—I suppose they are better. I think you had better come home with Mr. Carson. I do not know when you will have another opportunity but am perfectly willing for you to stay if you can be contented. I could not get the money to send down to you to get any Bonnet—Tell Sis'ter I tried to get her silk back sent up from her last week but could see any one from there would love me sent it down to her. May love to Aunt & Brother Willy. Affectionately, Will
Dear Sis.

You see I am a

Rousin Betty, Stayed all my

Mights. She is quite sick, but much

Better. This morning the breezy

boy comes in a few minutes

So I have only women to cry to

For notes. The stage heaven nothing

from Henry's house and Two 3

Three letters from James, in his

last he says. The Nan to me

have been orders to go among

to appear. Hope to get along:

Thursday, he was on a blank.

She will come back to the

Banjos, she is taking steps to

a cavalry company. Oct 26th 18-6

Wills into the breezy. Then took

last Sunday night I got a ticket that

It is believed that Mal is as well

as he has not been seen since

these battles. Walter Bosting has had

his arm amputated to the death

shoulder. He works all weel at

Tomas Harris has been sitting
up every other night, with little Harry coming. He was
sharkfully hurt on your last
family week Plattsburg kiss
her breaking the knap in
two places. I do not think he
was properly recovered.
As regards your coming here
I can't only hope I wish you were
here and if you are sure
May is coming week after
next I believe I will get a note
for you it is such a long while
that I have not seen writing if you
want to come let me know the
Friday of the week and we will
hear from you. If May is not
coming there some other time let me
know. I suppose that you come
how much think about you left?
Give love to [illegible]. Affectionately
Uncle Ben.
Greensboro, December 1861

Dear Daughter,

Your kind and affectionate letter was duly received, as has been your letters to Custer.

I have one to write. It is

Do, since I have at

Still to write a letter other than

First thing pertaining to the

duties of the office, to come to

The girls have an invitation come

with it. Some of them will be

sending one filled with all that

was sent in.

The Mamie is nearly finished.

A cozy house will be our

own clean one. We are all well, in

The town to, currently a good deal

of sickness, but as you see, I

love...
[Handwritten text not legible]
was completed I would take you if possible. See or hear and visit them and once more look at the old familiar land marks of my birth place it cannot not give up the hope of doing so any year if spared nothing could afford me more pleasure even though I should send no one to recognize or remember me than walk over the grove on which I played in my youth the old school house school and the grave yard where I should the remains of many if not all those I once familiarly knew few if any are living that were there when I last was.

Wll done at the office to eastern It will have to be done to day or tomorrow to get them. Leave you to imagine estamin I could say. Save that all are well at home or graves yesterday.