Charlottesville, May 26th 1842

My dear Anne,

I received your letter by Mr. Hendel for which I assure you I was no little pleased, it had been so long since I heard from you by letter, that I had almost come to the conclusion you did not intend to write again, and as Mr. Berry remarked you were always glad of a chance to get off from the trouble of writing, so you see I have him also to prove your dislike to writing.

I hope for the future you will do better, we are all looking anxiously for the time to come that will bring you all to our home, indeed there are not many hours together but what your name are mentioned, that sweet dear little fellow how much we want to see him, keep him for me and tell him grand mother longs to have him in her arms,

Margaret Crane has returned she stayed in Pittsburgh a few days, and heard whilst there that your Aunt Jane and Hannah Frances were making preparations to visit us this month, they have not yet arrived but we are looking for them daily, the news I suppose is true of Hannah I mentioned it at Mr. Nickle where Margaret Crane stayed, you know Jane would like to take us by surprise and I suppose that is
the reason she does not write. The report Mr. Borg has heard about Rebecca Cramer is true, the time is not fixed yet; but I suppose it will take place some time this fall. It has been a long and sincere attachment on his part, and I hope they may be as happy as they deserve to be. Your Uncle James has quite recovered his cough; he has not been to see us yet, I expected him in to day to bring me some money (a very necessary article in this life) but it has been raining all the morning, which I know will deter him, the times being so hard he has not been able to collect any money for the hire of the servants or for the wheat that was sold, however he sent me word that he would try and get me some this week and I hope he may do so. Jane Rebecca says she wrote you two long letters and you have never answered either so she says she is done. I am pleased to tell you that we all continue pleased with Mr. Dutton he gives general satisfaction and I hope and trust he may be the means of doing much good amongst us. He gave a solemn and impressive sermon on last Sabbath from these words, “And ye shall be quickened who were dead in trespasses and sins,” the church was crowded; Aunt Frame calls Mr. Dutton a second Paul so you may judge of her attachment for him.

Very dear Anne I wish you to purchase
for me a bell such as one as yours. Francis says it cost 62½ cents at W. Lintecum if you have an opportunity to I would like you to do so if not you can bring it will you I will pay you for it when you come up you perhaps can tell me when you write what time you contemplate to be with us long to see you all very much Old Aunt Stephenson is not very well at present but is not confined to her bed Jane was here yesterday she had just returned from a visit to Elizabeth she said she felt dull all the time she was gone indeed she does not look very well herself I do not know whether I told you this or not that Mr. Moore received a letter from Mr. John I Brown in which he says he began to discern the signs of the time and had evidence of things not seen he has been nominated a candidate for Congress Mary says she is quite happy your friends desire to be remembered to you among the number is Mrs. Daughter she just left me Mrs. Daughter I am sorry to say is still in ill health he expects to visit Dr. Buckler of Baltimore as soon as court is over and get his advice he looks very badly indeed I am afraid he never will enjoy his health at any hour of the night I wakened I can hear him cough.
My dear [Name]

Your affectionate love and esteem will be sure to give you all the pleasure you wish to feel.

Yours affectionately,

[Signature]

Mrs. Anne J. Berry
Case of Rev. R. L. Berry
Georgetown D. C.
Charlestown Aug. 1st 1848

My dear Ann Eliza,

I have just received your melancholy letter giving me some of the particulars of my dear sister's death. What a comfort it would have been to me if I could have been with her in her dying moments, but in that I was disappointed. I never heard of the letter your father wrote to Eliza,Primitive (telling of my dear sister's illness, and wishing some of her friends would go and see her) until since her death, if I had known it at that time I could have gone. If my family were well, I (having just been to see me a few days ago and from her I heard it) My dear Ann Eliza, I know and feel you have lost a kind and good parent and my dear Brother and affectionate and tender wife, but I feel assured that your loss is her eternal gain, truly my dear nieces may you say that you have lost a dear mother, one on whom you could ask advice and feel assured it would be given with the deepest interest for your welfare. But my dear, you have the promise of a kind and good
God, who will never leave or forsake you, and I feel thankful that you have chosen that good part that will never be taken from you.

I would be much pleased if you would come and spend a few weeks with us, as I think you need it, you may be of service as you wish, say to your Father. I would be pleased to see him with you, I think it would be of service to both. I regret exceedingly that it will be out of my power to be with you on the next Sabbath. Eliza Lee is better, but Frances is complaining so much, that it would not be kind to leave her. I feel better myself but not well. Jane Rebecca and Virginia are not very well. Remember me affectionately to your kind father. The girls all join in love.

May a kind and good God have you in his keeping, and this prayer of your affectionate Aunt,

Eliza M. Briggs
Dear Father,

I was in town yesterday and upon receiving your letter directed to Sanzy and not being there Aunt Bee told me to open it. Sanzy had given her leave. August Aunt Bee sent off six letters to Cape May yesterday to you and I wrote one. There is a grand military parade in Shepherdstown of all the companies in the county today, and they say every vehicle in Charlestown is engaged. I am glad to hear that you have been benefited by your visit, and hope it may prove lasting. Sanzy is staying out at Aunt Jody's; they are all very well I believe. All in town are also well. I must close as I hardly will have to take it to the depot. All join me in love to you.

Your Loving son, Charles Davy.
Carrollton via Feb 16th
Thursday morning

My dear Father,

As I have not written to you for a time I will write to you. I suppose you have got an account of the Election held here on Monday through the newspaper it came of very quietly though there was not a sight large crowd in town there was not any quarrelling or fighting among the people. Bartow & Odum were elected by about 700 majority over Hunter & Lucas.

 Cousin Frank Lackland came home last Saturday he is very well and has been in town every day since he came. Uncle Lee has not been in here for four weeks and I have not seen him on four weeks. We have had very fine weather for the last 4 or 5 day but business is very dull. A party of men from haters burned town yesterday and were going out to M. Odums.
for to give him a seconda it looked very funny to see them going through from in wagons with their Downs and the Heylingers last got back in Town about 2 o'clock all of them went home but eight that stayed in Town. All carpenters commenced his shop in Town on Tuesday and had Twelve scholar. They are all very well at home and I am True.

Your affectionately,

Son Francis W. Berry
Charlestown May 27th 1861

Dear Father.

I received your most welcome letter a few days ago, and it gave me great deal of pleasure to see you write in such a Southern style and way of peeling. I reckon you will be surprised to hear that instead of being in service as I thought I would by this time I have Cavalry Co; on the day appointed to go to the Ferry we had not half enough men to unite with the Clark Co, and also there did not seem to be much likelihood of our procuring arms in a short time. The Co is still extant in name, and is to be kept up as a nucleus around which to form a Co in case of dangerous
It was necessity, but each member had the privilege of joining any other Co. if he wished to in the meantime. I intended to write to you to ask you to let me join the Rott's Dragoons, but Mr. Campbell is trying to raise a Co. and I have joined it. The county is to furnish the uniform, so I say I have belonged to every arm of the service, artillery, cavalry, and infantry, and have not been in real service yet. So I would like mightily to come over and see you, and I am going out to see if I can get a house to-morrow and if so I will come, but do not look for me until you see me. I was sorry to hear that they had taken
Alexandria but it could not be helped, and I hope it may, all for the best— as the God of battles is on our side. We received a letter from Lawrie the other day and he was very well I believe, there's no danger of the school up I'm afraid. Aunt Frances said she would have answered your letter before but she has had so much company that she had not time. Cousin Nancy Snyder expects to leave the East of the week for Georgetown as her son is still there, Cousin Ellinor Abbott and family have gone to spend at Cousin Betsey Lacklands a week. Cousin Frank is appointed Lieut., Col. 1st regiment N.V. he has been Capt. engineers heretofore. We have about 12 or 15,000 men at Harpers Ferry
and vicinity, and it is said that it will take double that number to drive us out. As it is getting late I will bid you good by, hoping to see you soon. Give my love to my aunts if still there, all join me in love to you ever your loving Charles Berg

P. S. Postage stamps are valueless after the 31st but will be redeemed on Saturday.
Richmond, May 29th 1862

My Dear Sir,

I have received your letter on the subject of procuring for some time an appointment as State Cattle on the surveying the Institute, and would like to proceed to make inquiries and the subject. I learn that there are opportunities and rewards in the Board of Directors in the full loan to the General Director. The head of the institution in Board continued and other avenues to advance them.

I have accordingly written twice one strong letter on the subject and been asked time if the application I know be favorably received, as I trust it will be, to correspond directly with you at Frankfort. This course is the proper one, as there are certain from realities to be accomplished nothing more true of confirming the favor of the President, which can only come properly from yourself.

I hope therefore upon your own terms your own terms and therefore upon your own terms.
There is nothing new of public interest. Mrs. Hunter and Florence are
with us now; and they desire to be remembered kindly to you.

Very truly,

From the Reh.

Addressee.

Rev. R. T. Bunge.
Dear Father,

Once more in the Valley, I take the opportunity on this quiet Sunday to drop you a few lines after my long silence which was on account of my absence. We reached the valley day before yesterday after an absence of 32 days all of which time we were in the saddle. In that length of time we rode about one thousand miles, and for the first six or eight days almost day and night only stopping an hour or two to feed out a time. I slept in six days about ten hours except what I did while riding along on my horse. In one day and night we rode eighty miles made four charges and had but one horse feed.

Our regiment and 1st Battalion were in Oakland, Md. The people in that section were strongly Union except...
one or two families in Oakland. I saw a gentleman there from Wheeling. I spoke of knowing Mr. Baker, and he took my name saying he would let him know he saw me. After leaving this place we went to Kingwood, Brown's to Thorne to Morgantown. The George B. is halfably seen from being in the south and Yankeedom, the people here here are well dressed as in times of peace. Young men and ladies parading the streets and business is carried on with alacrity. The war does not seem to have affected them much. The inhabitants of Morgantown and vicinity are intensely disloyal to the cause. Four or five hundred citizens had assembled here to check our progress but hearing through their spies of our force they disbanded and left; all along our route the hills were dotted with bushwhackers ready to pounce upon any
unfortunately one who might struggle behind or wander from the road in search of horses. As we neared our line once more, we traveled through most desolate country (about 150 miles) sometimes we slept at night we had nothing to eat but beef, and that we cooked on the coals without salt, but generally we had meal and that we cooked on a shin-gle or rail. I rode my horse about 4 or 500 miles and then sent him back from Beverly with the captured or rather stolen horses, our men in many respects squaled the Yankees in the way of plundering and roguing; there was too little discrimination shown between Southern and Union men. But enough of this. I suppose you are tired of it. I hope your health has improved as the spring advanced, and you are now enjoying this pleasant weather. Have you heard from home lately, and how are they all,
I hope they have not been disturbed by the enemy. I would like to get there to get a new supply of clothes; may be you had better send me those pants although I have put in a requisition for a pair I may not get them. I am now wearing borrowed pants mine were so ragged I threw them away. I have had my boots made they are very good for summer cost about 75/$.00. They need not send mine from home now.

I am very well now although I had a severe cold and cough on part of the trip from exposure to the cold and rain.

Goodbye write soon to your coming.

Charlie

P.S. Never mind sending the pants, as I have driven a hair since.
Dear Father,

We are now far far away from our beloved Valley where we had fondly hoped we would have been ere this, but fortune has ordered it otherwise, and we do not know when we will get there although many rumors are afloat about our going there before long. I sincerely hope that we will winter there. The morning I left I found the Co had passed through W about an hour or two ahead of me, but I did not succeed in joining it (nor it the Brigade) until arriving here. Therefore that money you gave me came in very well as bills were very high through the country I passed. We are camped about 5 miles from Fredericksburg and I intend to go there in a day or two to see Aunt Ann Berry. I passed through there a few days ago and the ravages of war are plainly visible on its almost deserted streets, and the buildings which have been shattered and torn to pieces by the enemy’s artillery. I wrote a letter yesterday to Uncle Lee and I hope to hear from him before long. Mr. North was in our camp a few days ago, he is now a refugee since the
Yankees burnt his property in C.

He is looking very well. Wednesday 25th.

We are now about to leave (I know not where) and as I hear of an opportunity to send this I will finish it. We have had very uncomfortable and damp rainy weather for the last few days, but there is a prospect to day of its clearing off. We have gotten along very well in our shanties (army phraseology) made of oilcloth spread over poles, although we have no tents. I still see no signs of the cloud of war being rent by the sunlight of peace. Foreign nations seem to have forgotten us entirely and sought will save us but the God of Battles and our own strong arms. All I have some hopes from the talk of the Northern press that a great financial will overtake that madmen and infatuated people and they will see the folly of this war against us which is ruin to both sections.

I hope you will not be visited by the enemy any more as I hear they did some damage in former raids. You need not send me that cloth for my crescent unless you think best but don't forget my hat. All the boys are well and my health is pretty good. Love to all when you write. Goodbye your loving son,

Charlie.
Dear Father,

I received yours of the 9th inst. by Pvt. Petty, which was very welcome, not having seen you as I had hoped to do while the army was here nor having had a long letter from you for some time.

I sent a letter home this morning by one of our boys, and would have sent this to you, but had not time to write it before he went, but I shall have an opportunity in a day or two again. I wish I could spend a week or so with you. I have not seen you since April, I shall try before long to get away for a few days if everything keeps quiet. I believe uncle Bo has been detailed temporarily I suppose in the Ordnance Department at Gordonsville and is now there, I wish he had the situation permanently.
He was well when I saw him a few days ago. Mort Lankford has been detailed from our Co as a courier to the signal corps attached to our brigade, and he likes it very well, everything in the army remains "in status quo" as when we came here both armies seem to be resting and recruiting. The field of active operations seem to be in Tennessee now, Rosecrans is on the move against Chattanooga, and Burnside against Knoxville. I suppose the next few months are big with events. I hope that the God of Battles and Ruler of the destinies of nations may cause to shine forth from the clouds that now environ us, the bright star of peace which may shed its beneficuous beams on our now stricken land.

Hoping that this may find you in health. I remain your
April 16th, 1864

Dear Nancy,

Yours of March 28th

was the first time I have written. I sent two letters the last of which you received and one to Bank. I have heard from neither of these, hence I am glad to hear you are getting along better than you feared. You see by your own experience how unreasonable, unfair and unjust those exaggerated fears of which we are naturally so prone to allow our selves to indulge, how unfounded they are. To dwell upon our doubts with anxiety about the future instead of faith in the future by faith. Wherefore I trust in that Providence which with all over all is better to believe than to despair of being comforted than to fear. It is more necessary to be believe
form the fear of evil, then
from end itself. So I have
we suffer less from any evil
than the fear of it. I am truly
sorry to hear of our Dear Mr. M's
calamity. It is indeed a serious one
at this time. I wish you to render to
her I Mr. M. my sincere sympathy
myself. I feel for them and
make of all that. There is not
in accordance with all truth in spirit.
ual Hesings. I regret also to hear
of any fear that anything other
lives in the loss of my child. I
can imagine what his feelings are
for I have felt the same. May
the Lord sustain me comfort him
of his wife, remember me kindly
as they do. Mr. Rees family
and others has another boy. She is fulfilling the original
the
certain.Fortunately, I tell them that Mr. Frank is with them and they will help them. I am pleased to hear that they employed Mr. Frank himself and fulfill anything for any trip but I do not think with care of his enemies. I wish that you are your guard and will have

me with you in derelict or by the coast, now and while I wish him at all times to meet me kindly respectfully as dependents of fellow creatures. I do not wish him to make enemies of them. You do not know as I do the friends and dangers that beset the path of a boy from

and communications of corrupting associations. Every precaution that be taken to guard and preserve the nature, modesty, reserve of these

ard and youth of the unused help them from the strain of the desti

...
do not know but how early
than the pretensions of passing
be shunted aside which I am to be
know in the end. I kept from the
occasions of evil - I hope a word
to the wise wise be sufficient. It is
a point on which I feel the deep
satisfaction and through you for my own
sake that I am not
with them to watch her. Nor what
think on my friends. I have heard no
other news from her but what you have
heard. Charlie was with me for a few
hours lately I was well except for
luminescence from which the worst did
occur. The letter of calling before this
to join the one in the same as #25
I received. Mother is off to
 אלד.w and now I am off to
was at the cabin. The family all well
I drove cattle at the office and I left
and I enjoyed for general. I admired
to hear Aunt Fanny's health is better.
for my love to #25. I lettered for
I hope Frankie has not felt the want of
my clothes. I am sorry I let them
all quiet here now with love to
all yours affectionately 12 18
Hunt Royal Va
Dec. 5, 1865
My Dear Sir,

I took up Capt. Enoch to Mr. Justice to-day. I enclose 13 to you. Tomorrow if the 3rd bill I start on my journey. And as long as un

...enjoy to you in the event of anything happen

...and act as my executor. Sister

...I believe Lowe but I am deeply engaged to the family in Charlestown. I for the lady

...of Arline. Some other little

...James Turner gives one

...my hand in my subscription to my salary. Three 4 $310

...due me here for one year. Salary of which about $40 has been paid. I am made, salary

...ever tried by faith to cast
all my care for you all you
and who care for you. I do
commit the keeping of you
men unto Him to whom you
were previously dedicated in
your baptism. I know I have
but little of the world goods
to leave you. I have tried to
instruct I knew you in the
fear of God. Which is the
best inheritance a parent can
leave a child. I urge the
present hope. I do by my constant
prayer, that you may do while
each one of you become a
Child of Servant of God. Who
having faith in their Christ.
I hope you will always fall
charged with the trust of being
the guide & counselor helper
to your younger brothers. &
especially the youngest, for
whom it naturally fall the
most schedule. May God
bless I hope I judge you also
to the Master of your.
affectionate Father,

P. T. Berry
Richmond Station
Hanover Co., Va.
Dec. 24th, 1867.

Dear Charlie:

I was much gratified to find a letter from you when I reached
Lahore. The news of the Congress was
I was much surprised. Not a little
start at not having read a line from you
nor Holmes before, since I left you. I
could not account for it. But I accept
your excuse. I regret you have had so
much trouble with your eyes. You say
"good fortune does not seem to be with you;
but fortune you must remember is a
fickle goddess that much to be trusted.
Fortune or misfortune after all in this
world is my much the result of our own
prudence or in prudence I believe in a
special providence. But my little misfortune
Perhaps if was not providence in you or
prudent. to order the river from its past
a distance so late in the season. As you
could do nothing like the thing I thus ask the loss of both your money and the vines. But as you say, all may be for the best, and I hope it may. Experience is the dear school in which we all have to learn. To profit by its dear taught lessons is the true secret of success in life. But we must not be discouraged, but try again, therefore more strength in the future disappointment of our worldly scheme. Whether of profit or pleasure are intended by a very more safe God to remind us to take heed. It became of contemnors for a man's life, considered not in the abundance of the things which he possesses, or gains. I had somewhat indulged the hope of seeing you here to-day, on my return from Calcutta, but it was perhaps as well, except for the disappointment of not seeing you, that you did not come, as I fear I shall not be able to go to Washington this fall, as unfortunately my horse has been sick. It is too late to fight a battle through.
Thank you so long a ride, I was very cold the day I left. The road heavy with snow which caused him to labor strongly. I think he took a sore cold which shocked him up considerably. But he is now recovering. I wish I could moderate the hill a little. He is a very delicate horse. Can’t stand coughs, fever, riding like Jack. Lost anything which happens to him while in any possession. I send you my note for $150 which I suppose will be a fair valuation for him at present. I would like to have him a while longer. We expect to see the cars this winter between here and Port Royal. I thank you for your kind, affectionate spirit and wishes and purpose concerning me in connection with your own future. Of course what is due from a child to a parent. But of a not every parent towards whose children are directed to fulfil and act faithfully, or dutifully. Especially in their declining years. It has been over a matter of special gratitude to my part to God whom all.
God despotically come. That my children have my patulous affection and dale fall. I have true (with many imperfections, I know) to be a kind affectionate, faith; faith Father to you. My heart, I hope, a Christian heart, of my responsibilities to God for your temporal and spiritual welfare as far as lay in my power. I have desired nothing so much as that my long showed confidence in me as their best friends; earthly friends as well as respect my authority as a Father, I have no recours in their intercourse with me. That I have come short in many things offended, in the sight of God, in my duty to you, both to the honor, and the God I am often painfully conscious, foremost, but the divine forgiveness. In spite of affliction, temptation, necessity, I beseech the master in weakness, in fear of falling. They say I have stood by the grace of God to doing, only to My God, my fellow man. But it was nothing but my duty. In which I and conscience of having sincerely failed I come that I should have failed utterly as an act but for the help of God without
Please come and be pleased to see your son at Blinday on Thursday evening at Fockeb
Dear Charlie—Tuesday evening, July 6th,

Frank has just come in and tells me Mr. Peyton Brown (who got home last evening after an absence of three months in Dixie) so his son Willy told him, says that when our men fall back (if they do) they will take all those between seventeen and eighteen as a reserve and they will be put in some town as a guard. Willy is just seventeen. I found a little older—both boys are thinking if they hadn’t best make arrangements to join your company. The difficulty is about a horse—I wish his Pa was here or would come soon to advise with Frank—if I could I would prevent his going, but of course if he is required we shall have to give him up—and a deep sorrow it will cause us. He is willing to do his duty and I wish I was more forthcoming that I could relieve.
grish him more cheerfully. I will hope an army will not leave here shortly or that something will prevent this going. Perhaps we may have peace or affairs come to such a crisis, that the fighting may cease—he does not know that I have added this about him—but of course I know he would like to be counselled by his father and brother. I do not like him to act entirely for himself in such a serious matter—I wish you may get this Thursday evening. The day Miss Peggy expects to reach your neighborhood. Mrs. Waters from this town takes her over and will leave the next morning and get back Saturday evening. It would be a good chance for you to come over in his wagon if you are able and could know it in time. I feel anxious about you it is so warm the weather—and your wound. I would judge from your letter doesn't feel good. Mrs. Henderson told me yesterday that Charley's 6½ has healed, but his arm was paralysed. I think he is somewhere in blood running. Crane who was badly wounded is also doing well, his mother is with him he is in or near Hampton. He was paroled when the rebels got into Hampton. The cannon accidents still go on, but the intervals are longer.