

Folder 1: Correspondence to Simon Bolivar Buckner while at West Point, 1840

Aylett H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Military Academy, West Point, New York. June 3, 1840. ALS, 3 1/4 pp.

Father expresses pride and pain in letting son set off to West Point. Discusses son's travel to New York via Wheeling and Washington, D.C. Mentions family matters and quality of ore at Muhlenburg Ironworks, along with news on developing investments in the iron works, and interest rates in New York and London.

** has 2 page transcript

—[Nancy] Buckner, Rich woods, [Greenville, Arkansas] to S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West Point, New York. June 15, 1840. ALS, 3 pp.

Letter from Buckner's paternal aunt. Discusses her high opinion of West Point, but wouldn't want her son, Perry, to have to serve in the military during time of peace. Asks for news about her relations, Brother A and Elizabeth, especially about "Brother's New works."

**has 1 page transcript

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Work, [Greenville, KY] to S[imon] Bolavar [sic] Buckner, Cadet, Military Academy, West Point, New York. June 28, 1840. ALS, 2 pp.

Writes that Judge McLain, Mr. Martin, Mr. Weir, Mr. McLarney and Uncle John all expressed interest and confidence in her son. Discusses family situation and health; requests that he write to family and friends with news.

**has 1 page transcript

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Mr. S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Cadet, Military Academy, West Point, New York. July 26, 1840. ALS, 3 pp.

Pleased with son's report about West Point and seeing General Scott and Mr. Crittenden. Gives advice on conduct and keeping letters. Refers to stockholder in iron works, and need for a charter. Discusses his own travel to Louisville and Nashville. Discusses situation with slaves. Recommends not starting bad habits.

** has 2 page transcript

J[ohn] Edmonds Reno, Greenville, KY to S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Esq., West Point, NY. July 31, 1840. ALS, 3 pp.

Friend of Buckner's expresses confidence in his abilities at West Point, asks him to write. Mentions upcoming county and state political candidates, such as "Taggart", "Black Bob Fletcher", and "Thompson". Buckner's family is in good health.

**has 1 page transcript

Caroline M[orehead?] Gunn, Muhlenburg Furnace, [Greenville, KY] to S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Cadet, West-Point, New-York. Aug[ust] 29. ALS, 1 1/2 pp.

Aunt is writing for his mother, who is ill; Aunt Martha and "several negro men" also very ill. Father in Louisville and Lexington. Described her own travel; her husband is making arrangements to move them to St. Louis. Family sends love and requests that he take care.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Louisville, Ky. to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, West Point, New York. September 2, 1840. ALS, 3 ¼ pp.

Discusses how iron works are going, trying to obtain a charter, family matters. Interested in letters from Buckner, discusses mail situation at home. Sends money with advice on spending it wisely.

** has 2 page transcript

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West Point, New York. September 17, 1840. ALS, 3 pp.

Describes "ague and fever", illness at home. Mentions sending money with previous letter, hopes he spends it well as success of ironworks is questionable. Will visit Frankfort to get charter for company and selling stock; believes results of presidential election will affect his ability to sell stock. Mentions friends, family, discusses absence of letters from SBB and hopes for his conduct at West Point. Describes work at the ironworks and the ore.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West Point, New York. September 29, 1840. ALS, 3 pp.

More advice for son on conduct; family health and matters. Reiterates some of what SBB said in his letter to parents regarding West Point studies and classmates. "I say nothing about politicks [sic] as you ought not to have anything to do with them."

** has 2 page transcript

Chas. F. Wing, Greenville, KY, to Mr. Simon B[olivar] Buckner, West Point, New York. September 30, 1840. ALS, 1 p.

Letter from his father's friend complimenting SBB on his conduct toward J. J. Crittenden, who Wing knew from the Northwest Campaign. Pleased with SBB's description of West Point; sure of SBB's success. "Be obedient to your orders and never say they are too hard for a Kentuckyan [sic] to perform."

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West Point, N[ew] York. October 18, 1840. ALS, 3 1/3 pp.

Letter to son relates plan of study at West Point based on rule book SBB left at home; commends son on resolutions to study and keep to the rules. Both parents very proud of him and sure of his success. Advice for conduct, want to know about his health. If he neglects letter writing in order to study, they understand. Mentions family members, health, activities. Mentions the presidential election.

** has 2 page transcript

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, West Point, New York. November 12, 1840. ALS, 4 pp.

Father writes to son about not hearing from him for two months; doesn't want studies neglected but anxious about his health and well-being. Discusses class standing at West Point, family health and news, as well ironworks news including an explosion and his plan to go to

Frankfort for a charter. News about SBB's sister, Mary, who attended a party and is going to school soon in Nashville. Talks about his friend Captain Wing, a zealous Whig flying a flag on his liberty pole, which is over 100 feet high. Waiting on presidential election results. Discusses interest rates in Boston. Encourages SBB to work hard.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, New York. November 28, 1840. ALS, 3 1/3 pp.

Glad to have finally received letter from son and to know he is working hard on arithmetic and had been moved forward in the classes. Mentions presidential election; son Turner is going to get a Louisville Journal to learn results. Mentions trip to Frankfort to obtain charter for foundry again. Mentions situation in Europe. Fourth page gives partial list of electoral votes for 1840 election.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Nashville, [TN] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. December 19, 1840. ALS, 3 pp.

Father in Frankfort to bring Charter to legislature. Crittenden is elected a senator to Congress. Mentions locofocos. "Pittman was elected from our county" but is ill. Describes hopes for SBB's January examinations, especially mathematics. Mother is ill. Local news about man dying having "got drunk caught cold relapsed was recovering was ten in his right side with the Dead palsy in about a week appeared to be recovering and was struck...in the left side and was insensible about 24 hours and died."

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner and Mary E[lizabeth] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West-Point, New York. December 30, 1840. ALS, 2 1/4 pp.

Mother writes to SBB regarding news of his father's travel to Frankfort regarding a charter for his company; her health, local and family news; speaks in religious terms about preparing for death. Sister writes about her expectations to go to school in Nashville, her studies of arithmetic, and her affection for her brother. Both write about his January examinations.

Folder 2: Correspondence to Simon Bolivar Buckner while at West Point, 1841

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Frankfort, Ky., to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. January 28, 1841. ALS, 2 1/3 pp.

Father writes about getting his charter for the "Green River Iron Manufacturing Company." Returning home. Hopes SBB passed examinations. Suggests keeping up a correspondence with Richard A. Buckner, Jr., as it would help "cultivating a habbit [sic] of writing correctly and with elegance." Mentions James M. Bullock, former Secretary of State of Kentucky.

*includes 2 page transcript.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner and Elizabeth A[nn] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, N[ew] York. February 7, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Pleasure in receiving news of SBB's passing his mathematics examinations. Urges him to continue working hard to achieve higher standings. Discusses SBB's class at West Point, asks about SBB's standing. Thomas J. Wood may be getting an appointment to West Point. Discusses selling stock in his iron works. Mentions James M. Bullock, former Secretary of State of Kentucky. Postscript from father dated February 18, 1841, writing that he is in Louisville.

T[urner] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, West Point, New York. March 8, 1841. ALS, 1/2 p.

Brother writes that father is in Louisville, considering going east with "Bullock" to try to sell iron works stock. Mentions possibility of war with Great Britain.

*1 page transcript.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, St. Louis, [MO] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. Military A[cademy], [West Point] New York. March 9, 1841. ALS, 1 1/2 pp.

Writes that his travels take him to Illinois rather than New York; his colleague Bullock may see SBB in New York. Furnace on hold until stock sells in the East. "Times are hard in the whole west but Negroes are yet high in Ky."

*1 page transcript.

J[ohn] Edmonds Reno, Greenville, KY, to S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Esq., West Point, NY. March 10, 1841. ALS,

Happy to have letter from SBB; wishes he could join him, but pull of home is too strong. Flowery language. Mentions war – "Ky boys hungry for war." Also mentions "scarcity of money in this part of the country."

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West-Point, New York. March 14, 1841. ALS, 2 1/2 pp.

Father has been away from home for a month, selling land in Illinois. Sister will go to school when father can be more permanently at home. Discusses health. Enjoyed reading

President Harrison's inaugural. Writes of their love for absent son/brother. "The servants wish me to give their love to you."

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner and E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, M[ilitary] A[cademy], [West Point] New York. March 29, 1841. ALS, 4 pp.

Father has returned home. SBB's friend Thomas J. Wood also received commission to attend West Point. Hopes they will room together and challenge each other. Son Turner working on finalizing the issues with their Illinois land. Mentions trouble in Washington between Henry Clay and "King" which almost resulted in a duel; describes King as a "locofoco." Believes war is only being talked of to unite the two political parties in the country. Describes his own plan for electing a president via electors and lots; hopes to have it published. Mentions senate race of Morehead and Buckner. Family news.

* 4 page transcript.

[Aylett Hartswell Buckner] to S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. April 16, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Parents are happy that Mr. Churchill had visited SBB at West Point, reports that he is well. Glad SBB and brother are corresponding; they should be frank with one another in their letters. Gives advice on avoiding bad habits. Hopes son will come home to find work after West Point, assuming there is no war. Discusses military generals, Scott, Washington, Harrison, Jackson, and how they rose to national prominence. Family news. Mentions rumors of death of President Harrison. [unsigned]

Simon Buckner, Washington City, to [Simon] Bolivar Buckner, Esq., West Point [New York]. May 5, 1841. ALS, 1 p.

Uncle writes to SBB introducing his young friend John W. Davidson, son of the late Captain Davidson who died in the Florida War. Suggests SBB befriend him at West Point. News of cousins Washington Perry and Josephine Buckner, who are in school, and his aunt, who is in Arkansas. Uncle will be in Washington for three or four weeks.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U S M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, N[ew] York. May 18, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Happy to get his letters. Sister Mary at school in Nashville at the Female Academy and teacher is pleased with her abilities at arithmetic and he is considering enrolling her in bookkeeping; currently taking geography, arithmetic, grammar, reading, writing, drawing and painting. Discusses McLeod case [Caroline affair or Caroline case]. Frustrated with Mr. Churchill, who was unable to sell AHB's Cairo property or any iron works stock. Mention's Harrison's funeral and the new president Tyler. SBB friend Thomas J. Wood traveling to West Point. More about Cairo property. Family news.

*tiny note on cover from J[ohn] E[dmonds] Reno that he will write soon.

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. Military Academy, West-Point, New-York. June 5, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Father back in Illinois to settle land business. Describes situation of Mr. Vaught[?] who leased good land above St. Louis. Father considering a move to St. Louis, which would be good for Mary to go to school there. Home alone, misses family. Mary friends with Sarah E. Wood at school in Nashville; EAB hopes SBB will room with Thomas J. Wood at West Point. Health/family news.

Dick Thurman, Springfield, Ky. to S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S.C., West Point, N.Y. July 1, 1841. ALS, 2 2/3 pp.

Sorry he has not written sooner; glad to hear that SBB passed examination and is officially a U.S. Cadet. Everyone is proud of him for his hard work. No longer planning to go to the Rocky Mountains. He is studying law. Family news and health.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner and E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. July 9, 1841. ALS, 4 pp.

Discusses land sales in St. Louis, possibility of sale of furnace to Scottish Banker. Issues with partners not selling stock. Proud of son's work, want him to be honorable, "Your parents would even prefer burying the last child they have than to see one of them return from honorable contest with disgrace." Mention grandfather's role in the Battle of Stony Point. Thinks SBB should go out for a profession like law if there is no war when he graduates. Advice on keeping good habits for future profession. Cautions son against calling people "Yankees" and having sectional prejudice. "You and Thos. J. Good ought to be cautious about letting sectional prejudices govern your feelings or your expressions you are an American and a citizen of the U.S."

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. July 30, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Sister Mary has been ill in Nashville due to limestone water; parents were with her, father returned but mother remains. Good hay crop. Anxious about purchase of furnace, hearing nothing from his agents. Anxious about not receiving letter from SBB. Mentions possible war with Great Britain, thinks they will try to gain Cuba.

E. B. Holloway, Richmond [KY] to S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Cadet U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, N[ew] Y[ork]. August 1, 1841. ALS, 2 pp. [tears along edge]

Expected to hear from SBB after leaving West Point, but has not. Objects to being appointed Quarter Master Sergeant. Currently on furlough [for health?], enjoying the local beauties. Will go on to White Sulphur Springs.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. August 11, 1841. ALS, 2 2/3 pp.

SBB has obtained Corporal rank. Father urges him to persevere. Anxious about land deal out of St. Louis. News about family health. Mentions profession for SBB after West Point. Sends advice to SBB's friend Thomas J. Wood, who is unhappy "resign and come home or be satisfied and not complain for...the army is not a bed of roses." Quotes General Harrison, "Our country – first, last, and forever."

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. September 3, 1841. ALS, 2 ½ pp.

Has not received letter from SBB for two months. Awaiting letter from St. Louis regarding land sale. Compares future abilities of SBB with cousin who went into Navy, "The Sailor language will not do for the professional man but your language will be alike qualified." Repeats suggestions for future. Discusses President Tyler. "Tyler has turned many loco focus out of office." "We are anxious to hear what Clay and the other Whigs are doing about a Bank."

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Nashville, [TN] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Military Academy, West-Point, New-York. September 4, 1841. ALS, 2 ½ pp.

In Nashville taking care of sister who is sick. Family health news. Heard his friend Thomas Wood was sick. Asks SBB to write.

John McLarning, Hopkinsville, Ky. to S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner (Cadet), West Point, N[ew] Y[ork]. September 17, 1841. ALS, 2 ½ pp.

Friend of father's writes to SBB, asking why he has not written as promised. Mentions a veto of Tyler's that the Whigs are up in arms about. Reminiscences about their meeting in Munfordville when SBB and Thomas Wood were young students. Gives recommendations on working hard. Discusses his law practice.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. September 21, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Glad to hear from SBB. Cautions him against taking too many demerits for fellow students, although agrees that he should not turn them in for pleasure, they should have to face responsibility for their actions; SBB is going too far. Family wintering in Nashville; discusses health. Hoping to hear from St. Louis regarding sale of furnace, otherwise will have to sell stock. Requests SBB write a request for payment for services to be transferred to his brother.

3 pp transcript.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Nashville, [TN] to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, N[ew] Y[ork]. October 23, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Discusses timing of letter-writing. Mentions locofocos throughout country; feels the "Republick" is in decline. Mentions peace between Great Britain and US since A. McLeod cleared by the jury; mentions President Tyler as "His Accidency." Mentions not hearing from men in St. Louis regarding sale. Hopes SBB is providing good example to classmates.

2 pp transcript.

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Nash Ville, [TN] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. Military Academy, West Point, Newyork. November 21, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Father gone to St. Louis, as there is a plan to sell the Furnace for \$30-\$40,000, which will allow them to pay off debt and live well. Hopes to settle in Nashville or St. Louis. Let them know if he has expenses, and what clothes he needs made. Requests that he have a miniature done in NY on his way home. Upset with Henry Wood as he did not call on them when in Nashville. Family heath news.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Nashville, [TN] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. December 16, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Father sold iron works for \$35,000 to Taylor and Ferguson of St. Louis. Very upset with last report on SBB from West Point – low in mathematics, “very negligent,” many demerits. Hopes son is not acting about because he is not allowed to room with his friend. Urges son to try harder.

Folder 3: Correspondence to Simon Bolivar Buckner while at West Point, 1842

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron works [KY], to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. January 23, 1842. ALS, 3 ½ pp.

Father manager for new company running the iron works; describes operations and the new owners "Scotch Bankers...having \$400,000 capital." Glad October report of son's progress at West Point was better. Describes greatness son will have as a soldier, mentions Generals of the past such as Washington, Bonaparte, Moses. Sends advice for son's friend, Thomas J. Wood. Mother asks about clothing requirements.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. March 9, 1842. ALS, 2 pp.

Mentions business, health. Gives advice on being a "General" and managing men. Asks about SBB's coming home, expense needs.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works [Greenville, KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, N[ew] Y[ork]. March 30, 1842. ALS, 2 pp.

Happy to hear from SBB. Glad son is doing better with studies. Describes what is happening with iron works. Mentions his partner's slaves being mortgaged. Mentions SBB coming home on furlough. Brother Turner is in Arkansas looking into sheep raising.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, St. Louis, [MO] to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, N[ew] York. May 1, 1842. ALS, 2 1/3 pp.

One of the new owners of the furnace fell overboard a steamer and is dead, so father is in St. Louis. Sent SBB money to come home, suggests he plan ahead with it regarding fares so as to not get scammed. Describes more about financial plans for furnace. Family news from St. Louis, Washington, D.C.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, N[ew] York. May 18, 1842. ALS, 1 ½ pp.

Asks about SBB's receipt of funds and makes recommendations about travel plans.

R[ichard] V. Thurman, Springfield, Ky. to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West Point, N[ew] Y[ork]. ALS, 3 pp.

Has never heard from SBB despite writing a year ago. Muses about SBB's future successes as General. He is still studying law and is licensed. Introduces SBB to Mr. Lowe, the bearer of the letter.

"Tom," [Thomas J. Wood?], Clarksville, Tenn., to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Greenville, Kentucky. July 29, 1842. ALS, 3 pp.

What he has done since he has been back (family travels); wants to know when they should return to West Point; mentions going to Baptist meetings and all the girls who have fallen in love with him. "The two prettiest among them were a cousin of mine and a nice young lady

worth about \$68,000 in negroes besides other property lands, etc.” Talks about messaging with a girl on *The Iris* who SBB liked.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. October 9, 1842. ALS, 3 pp.

Describes work at the furnace, family health. Battling with Iron Works owners over coal and ore in the area. Turner Buckner is in St. Louis getting money owed the family so they can move. Suggests SBB practice speaking before his fellows. Family news.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. November 17, 1842. ALS, 3 pp.

Received good report from West Point about SBB. Encourages him to work on speech. Discusses his finding of iron ore and other work. “Turner has gone to Arkansas with the negroes but hear [sic] at Greenville they think they are in Tennessee.” Discusses plans regarding settling debts, subscriptions to his iron and coal rights; SBB is not to tell anyone what AHB’s plans are. News of family health.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Muhlenburg Iron Works, [KY] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U.S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, N[ew] York. December 25, 1842. ALS, 3 1/3 pp.
[crossed]

News of health. Working on settlement with Leedon [?] and Churchill. Bringing suit in chancery court. Churchill acting as his agent. [Trying to break up a partnership?] Health is very poor, which is why he was not writing to SBB; Turner has taken all of their Negroes to Little Rock. He is still looking for iron ore, has subscribers, hoping to beat out others in area. Leaving for Little Rock on December 31. SBB had issue with someone [Pickett?] behaving ungentlemanly toward him, spreading rumors; AHB suggests truth being published in *Louisville Journal* once SBB can find out specifics about what was spread around from others. More advice about improving his public speaking.

Folder 4: Correspondence to Simon Bolivar Buckner while at West Point, 1843

E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Little Rock, [AR] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West-Point, New-York. March 19, 1843. ALS, 3 pp.

EAB writes that SBB's father and brother Tom have been absent for two months "improving" a new place 25 miles from the "Hot Springs" and 50 miles from Little Rock. "The society in the country here is the lowest in the World." Brother wants to live in a "healthy" place due to his sickness. Mother cannot get gold changed for paper money, so SBB must wait until father returns. Sister going to dancing school, improving. Glad to hear of SBB's good examination marks. Family news regarding Uncle Simon Buckner's debts and alcoholism. Mentions comet and the end of the world being predicted by William Miller [the Great Disappointment].

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Little Rock, Arkansas, to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. May 13, 1843. ALS, 3 1/3 pp.

AHB describes lack of post office near new property, a "farm"; family health; discusses the study of law, and how he gave great advice to a young lawyer. Suggests SBB consider law rather than staying in the army after graduation. Describes local people around their farm as "bar killers." Hoping to move to Little Rock. Describes bear hunting "laid him out a dead as Crockett would have done in his best days." Describes sister's dancing abilities and compliments the relatives they are staying with (Mr. Reardon and his wife, cousin Priscilla). Describes bank note included [actual note is not with letter], "The note included is rated as specia and it is the best I can now get." [Letter of 17 September 1843 relates that it was "\$10 of South Carolina Paper".]

J[oseph] Stewart, Hancock Barracks, Maine, to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, U. S. Military Academy, West Point, N[ew] Y[ork]. June 1, 1843. ALS, 3 pp.

[Graduate of West Point, 1842, from KY] Former classmate writes that he had been stationed at Ft. Adams in Newport, Rhode Island, which was wonderful, good society, friendly people. His post in Maine is out of the way, there is a very small population, and the officers are more stiff and formal than at Ft. Adams. Very close to the Canadian border; good feeling between them and the British soldiers nearby. Asks to be remembered to several classmates.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Hot Springs County, AR, to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. July 19, 1843. ALS, 2 pp.

AHB writes that he is farming and growing corn. Not moving to Little Rock. Describes location and farm, economy of the area, prospects for the coming year. Mentions locofocos trying to blame all of the problems of the area on the Whigs. Confesses to SBB that the compliments he wrote about their cousin who they were staying with were false, for her to read – he paid room and board to stay there, despite EAB sewing for her. "Novel reading is all Priscilla cares about her husband is broke and she is completely a poor man's curse for she does nothing nor sees to nothing in a word she knows nothing about "house wifery" she is as ignorant about all the Female Useful branches as an ass." Mentions family health.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Little Rock, [AR] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] A[cademy], West Point, New York. July 23, 1843. ALS, 1 p. [under same cover as above.]

Upset not to find a letter from SBB waiting for him; mentions post as Marshall of state, which he hopes to get for SBB if Clay is elected; continues to talk about SBB studying and practicing law.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Richland, Ark., to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. September 17, 1843. ALS, 3 pp.

AHB very concerned that he has not received correspondence from SBB in 5 months. Family health news; SBB's prospects after graduation (suggests he take up civil business rather than military); brother Turner helps to care for them. Concerned about sister Mary's prospects due to remote nature of their current living conditions, but fear to move for sake of brother Turner's health.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Little Rock, [AR] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. October 19, 1843. ALS, 1/3 p. [under same cover as above.]

AHB glad to receive SBB's letter; mentions Shelbourn [family's slave] being in bad health; cousin Perry Buckner ill, with parents in White Sulphur in KY.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Little Rock, Ark., to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. October 21, 1843. ALS, 3 pp.

AHB stayed at Little Rock to rent a house for later in the year; must discuss it with family. Glad to hear of SBB's success in examinations of June 1843. Gives another description of their farm, its location, land, what crops grow well; good for stock raising. Have wolves, bears, and panthers. Describes situation with the iron and coal he owns in Kentucky; wants the mechanics and laborers to take stock "this all to be done on the Washingtonian or Temperance principal (no Drinking)." Claims that steam boats and some railroads were owned that way. Lays out future travel plans.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Little Rock, Ark. [AR] to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. December 2, 1843. ALS, 3 pp.

AHB glad to receive SBB's letter and report from school. Mentions family health and plans to move to Little Rock in February 1844. Approve of SBB's plan to stay at West Point in July and August 1844. Discuss future plans for sister Mary's education. Mentions SBB's wish to join the dragoons as pay is higher; hopes parents financial issues will not influence SBB's plans. Explains plan to get some money to SBB. Describes plan to sell stock for ironworks in Muhlenburg and Ohio Counties in Kentucky to white laborers and mechanics who will pay with their labor, thus they will be more invested. Believes he may start a dairy. Procuring law books for SBB.

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Little Rock, Arkansas, to Cadet S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, U. S. M[ilitary] Academy, West Point, New York. December 29, 1843. ALS, 2 1/3 pp.

AHB reiterates wish that SBB study law after graduation, but hopes he will come to his own conclusions. Agrees with SBB that situation would be different if country were at war. "We are now at peace with the world and I think will remain so Capt. Tyler's mushroom courage against Mexico to the contrary notwithstanding." Suggests SBB stay at West Point until August, as traveling to AR earlier will be detrimental to his health. Talks about politics.

Folder 5: Parents to Simon Bolivar Buckner Correspondence

A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner and E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, no place, to Anonymous [Simon Bolivar Buckner], no place. no date. ALS, 2 pp (incomplete).

Encourages son to succeed and suggests the path of the lawyer. Relates the story of how their relation, Robert H. Buckner, turned his fortunes around.

Folder 6: Correspondence to Simon Bolivar Buckner from Friends, Cadets, etc. 1840-1910

John E. Hopson, Philadelphia, [PA] to Cadet [Simon] Bolivar Buckner, WestPoint, NY. August 6, 1840. ALS, 2 ½ pp.

Discusses his failed attempts at finding a military position. Requests for Buckner to inform him of any openings and ask for a small loan of money.

John E. Hopson, no place, to Cadet [Simon] Bolivar Buckner, WestPoint, NY. August 25, 1840. ALS, 1 ½ pp.

Relates news of a position opening and his application to the Secretary of War. Ask Buckner to find out whether the position will be filled immediately or in June 1941.

J[ohn] E. Hopson, Phila[delphia], [PA], to Cadet [Simon] Bolivar Buckner, WestPoint, NY. September 21, 1840. ALS, 1 pp with envelope.

Requests information about openings at West Point following the graduation of some Kentucky Cadets. Informs Buckner of a possible arrangement with the Navy if no positions at West Point open.

Chas W. Vandeph, Bordentown, NJ to Cadet [Simon] B[olivar] Buckner, West Point, NY. July 27, 1841. ALS, 1 ½ pp.

Inquires about the reason for not receiving any letters from Buckner or E. G. H recently. Discusses his health and asks for Buckner to send him his monthly "Ladies Companion."

J. Hewary(?), Newport, RI to Cadet S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, West Point, NY. December 1, 1842. ALS, 3 pp.

Writes about conditions, his duties, and citizen interaction at Fort Adams. Criticizes Buckner for [unknown] foolishness and sitting in his room all day at West Point.

Cousin Kath, Frankfort, KY to Gen[eral] S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, New Orleans, LA. July 11, 1865. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Laments about the Confederate defeat in the war and the state of their Confederate friends in Louisville. Conveys great concern for Buckner's well being.

Seminole, Louisville, KY to Simon [Bolivar Buckner], no place. January 2, 1867. ALS, 2 ½ pp with envelope.

Expresses his concern for the nation and feels that "a legacy of hate" remains which makes his life difficult. Discusses the closing in the T. M. Department and suggests starting a telegraph venture in New Orleans.

Maggie L. Morehead, Hawesville, KY to Simon [Bolivar Buckner], no place. July 26, 187(0?). ALS, 3 ½ pp with envelope.

Requests information about Lily because she had not received a letter from her recently and sends love to various family members. Discusses the summers' excessive heat and lack of rain.

L. L. Conrad, Baltimore, MD to Gen[era]l [Simon Bolivar Buckner], no place. November 7, 1871. ALS, 2 pp.

Conveys his happiness on learning that Buckner recovered all his assets from a legal dispute in Chicago. Discusses Johnny Gallehen recent visit with him.

Jane C. Kingsburg, Old Lyme, to Simon [Bolivar Buckner], no place. December 5, 1876. ALS, 1 ½ pp with envelope.

Informs Buckner of her decision to take out loans to make improvements rather than working with a fixed sum.

Maggie L. Morehead, Hawesville, [KY] to Gen[eral] S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Louisville, KY. September 15, [1874]. ALS, 2 ½ pp with envelope.

Accepts Buckner's offer to take charge of her education. Relates news that her grandpa died recently, but assures Buckner that she and her grandma will soon travel to meet him.

Mary [Elizabeth Tooke], Glenlily, [KY] to Brother [Simon Bolivar Buckner], no place. November 6, 1878. ALS, 6 pp with envelope.

Discusses the settlement of their mother's estate and her relationship with the family. Writes about Lily's travels and well being.

R. T. Yeatman, Arlington, NJ to General S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Louisville, KY. March 1, 1897. ALS, 1 ½ pp with envelope.

Informs Buckner that he heard him speak in 1891 about the Buckner family history. Writes about Buckner family genealogical connections to President Monroe and the American Revolution.

L. J. Kingsbury, Waterbury, CT to Gen[eral] S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Munfordville, KY. June 11, 1910. ALS, 6 ½ pp with envelope.

Write about his excitement for Buckner's travels with his son to battlefields in Mexico and Tennessee. Sends condolences regarding the death of Mr. [Morris B.] Belknap. Relates news about buying a summer home and well-being of family members. Informs Buckner of new information regarding the death of Henry, [his son?], during the Civil War

Miscellaneous envelope from [Susan Wary?], no place, to Gen[eral] S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Rio, KY. no date.

Folder 7: Simon Bolivar Buckner to Family in Arkansas 1841, 1850s

S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, West P[oin]t, NY to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Greenville, KY. January 16, 1841. ALS, 3 pp.

Informs parents that he passed the difficult January examinations in mathematics and French, and as result has risen in the rankings for those subject areas. Expresses confidence that he will graduate from West Point.

S[imon] Bolivar Buckner, Bedlows' Island, New York Harbour to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland,. AR. March 7, 1850. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Relates news of his transfer to Fort Wood and his subsequent loneliness on the military island. Passes on a message from his "lady-love" and discusses the possible date of his upcoming marriage.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Bedlows' Island, New York Harbour to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland,. AR. April 4, 1850. ALS, 7 ½ pp with envelope.

Discusses his conduct in the military and declines his father's attempts to gain notoriety for his actions at the Valley of Mexico. Mentions meeting Colonel Crawford and asks about the family's cotton crop. Relates news of his impending marriage to Mary [Kingsbury] and the recent visit from "Susan."

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Bedloes' Island, New York Harbour to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland,. AR. July 3, 1850. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Expresses happiness with his recent marriage [to Mary Kingsbury]. Thanks his parents for sending money though he did not need the income. Discusses his possible transfer and preference for a military position in the West.

L. G. Sherman, New York, [NY] to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland,. AR. August 19, 1850. AN, 1 pp with envelope.

Receipt for a twelve month subscription to Harper's Mag[azine] for three dollars from the Cheap Publication and Periodical Depot.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Bedloes' Island, New York Harbour to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland,. AR. August 21, 1850. ALS, 3 ½ pp.

Discusses his upcoming move to Fort Snelling and visit to Kentucky, but regrets to inform his parents that he will probably not be allowed a leave of absence in the winter to visit them as he previously promised.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, New York, [NY] to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland,. AR. September 25, 1850. ALS, 1 ½ pp.

Informs father that he has been relieved of duty at Fort Hood and tomorrow will start to travel to St. Louis. Write his planned visit for the winter to Arkansas will probably be postponed due to his new appointment.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Fort Snelling, MN to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. November 16, 1850. ALS, 6 pp with envelope.

Writes about his trip with his wife, Mary, to Fort Snelling. Remarks on beauty of the landscapes they passed through and the snow in Minnesota.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Fort Snelling, MN to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. December 24, 1850. ALS, 2 pp.

Discusses sending his father the drafts of his personal account of the Mexican War and inquires about his brother Turner in California.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Fort Snelling, MN to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. March 20, 1851. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Writes about his travels over snow and ice to Fort Ripley to serve as a Judge Advocate. Relates the news that the reserve bill was defeated in the House and so the reserve will remain with the military for the moment.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Fort Atkinson to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. November 5, 1851. ALS, 4 pp.

Remarks on the landscape and hunting buffalos during his trip from Fort Leavenworth to Fort Atkinson.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Fort Atkinson to Col[onel] A[ylett] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. November 23, 1851. ALS, 4 pp.

Discusses the landscape of the area surrounding Fort Atkinson, the Indian tribes, and difficulty in getting wood to the camp.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, Fort Atkinson to T[urner] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. December 24, 1851. ALS, 4 pp with envelope and 1 ½ page transcript.

Expresses his excitement regarding his brother's farm in California and reminisces about the landscape of Nevada. Relates his frustrations being so far from civilization and his wife who is spending the winter in West Point, [NY].

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], Fort Atkinson to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. March 10, 1852. ALS, 2 ½ with envelope.

Discusses the irregularity of the mail and about asking permission from the Army to visit his family. Remarks that several thousand, possibly unfriendly Indians will be coming to area soon.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, [Near Brandenburg, KY] on Steamer Gen[eral], Ohio River to T[urner] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. September 23, 1852. ALS, 3 pp.

Informs brother that he left Fort Atkinson and is heading to Detroit. Reminisces about their childhood in Kentucky as he passes along the Ohio River

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], New York, [NY] to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. December 8, 1852. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Writes about his unexpected appointment as Captain in the Subsistence Department of the Army and how remarkable position is for such a young officer.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, New York, [NY] to T[urner] H[artswell] Buckner, Elizabethtown, KY. May 19, 1853. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Discusses his opinion about the disadvantages of Porter's rifles and the advantages of Sharp's rifles.

S[imon] B[olivar] Buckner, New York, [NY] to T[urner] H[artswell] Buckner, Beechland, AR. March 7, 1854. ALS, 4 pp with envelope and 1 ½ typed transcript.

Asks about his brother's opinion of Texas and writes about the status of his position in New York. Propositions his brother to send him money for investing.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], New York, [NY] to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. March 20, 1854. ALS, 4 pp with envelope.

Discusses the welfare and recent Texas trip of his brother Turner.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], New York, [NY] to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Mount Holly, AR. December 29, 1854. ALS, 2 pp with 1 page typed transcript.

Informs his mother of receiving a leave of absence that will allow him to travel to Arkansas to visit her.

[Simon Bolivar Buckner], Chicago, [IL] to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Mont Holly, AR. August 19, 1855. ALS, 2 pp [incomplete] with envelope.

Thanks his mother for sending money and expresses concern for Duffy.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], Chicago, IL to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Mount Holly, AR. September 23, 1855. ALS, 3 pp.

Write about his recent meeting with old Kentucky friends and relates his plans to travel south soon to visit his mother. Informs his mother about Duffy's wish to go back to Arkansas and warns against her writing to Duffy.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], Chicago, [IL] to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Mount Holly, AR. November 21, 1855. ALS, 3 ½ pp.

Informs his mother about a delay in a lawsuit which has prevented him from traveling to visit her. Suggests taking John's [John A. Took] advice in his absence regarding her upcoming move.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], New York, [NY] to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. July 3, 1856. ALS, 2 pp with envelope.

Relates news that Major Kingsbury passed away. Discusses the possibility of her moving onto a farm by the Missouri River.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], Chicago, IL to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. October 30, 1856. ALS, 6 ½ pp with envelope.

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Inquires about her preference of location regarding a farm on the Missouri River.
Discusses his personal preferences for the location and crops to be grown at the new farm with Mary and his mother.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], Springfield, IL to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR.
January 22, 1837. ALS, 1 ½ pp with envelope.

 Informs his mother of his upcoming trip to Georgia to look for property.

[Simon] Bolivar [Buckner], Atlanta, GA to E[lizabeth] A[nn] Buckner, Beechland, AR. February 20, 1857. ALS, 1 pp with envelope.

 Updates his mother about his travels around the South looking for property.

Two unmatched envelopes to Buckner's parents.

ALS- autograph letter signed

AN- autograph note