

February 3^d 1847

Dear Bro, John.

I ^{have} put of writing until I am almost ashamed to write at all. but you know the old adage says, "better late than never" and after you hear all my reasons for not writing sooner I hope you will excuse me. Your letter to Father dated Christmas day, and to Robert dated Dec 30th both came to hand on Monday last being February 1st.

None of us had received a letter from you for some time and we concluded you meant to keep your promise and not write to us any more. If this letter should fortunately come to hand believe me when I say that hardly a week has passed without some of the family writing to you since you left New Orleans, and judging from your letters, you have not received one in five of the letters sent you. And one reason for my not writing sooner is, the rest of the family writing so often and John what do you think, why the truth is we have a little "gal" at our house, it's just like other children, only a great deal prettier and smarter, and if you could only hear Sarah Helen Lillard (for that's her name) roaring for her breakfast, dinner or supper as the case may be, you would agree with me, that the young Lillards are beginning to make a great noise in the land.

And when you get back John and Mary Miss ~~Lillard~~ to whom you sent your special respects by Robert; and find yourself in my situation with a little low headed, blue-eyed, noisy Gal I know that then, ^{if not before} you will fully appreciate my condition, and excuse me for not writing any sooner.

Excuse my nonsense and I will now tell you all the news I can think of. in the first place I will say the family and friends are all well so far as I can learn, and are very anxious for the

day to arrive when you all will be discharged
and return home, for it is now rendered certain
that you will have no chance for a fight unless the
Mexicans attack you. it is the intention of Taylor
or rather Gen Scott to station your regiment at
Saltillo under Gen Worth. George McCormick
has got home safe, he says of all the pleasure trips
he ever took that one is the damnd-ist. his sweetheart
promised him when he came back that one bed
should hold them both if according to promise he
brought her a little Gold God and silver Jesus.
but as he did not bring them he is still an old
Bachelor. if you promised yours any thing you had
better bring it or you will be served the same way.
I collected the money on the constables receipt you left
with me, and went to see Parrent and Jenkins
twice, without getting any money, but when I settled
up with Carter he took in his order, and also them
two notes, so you may say I have the money or them
or at least their equivalent. Old uncle Matthew
Davidson has not forked up a cent yet he has had
about 6 hundred dollars to pay lately, and had to
sell a piece of land to Nick Green, the piece you
wanted and expressed himself verry ^{downy} that as he had
to sell it, that he did not let you have it.
he says I shall have the money in March
Jennings is using your horse and will do so until
you come back he wanted to buy him but is not
willing to give a \$100. for him. he will be
taken good care of until you come back.
I bought a Negro woman and child the 6th day
of October last, for 575 dollars and in two
months to a day she had the second one, but the
misfortune is they are both girls. I bought from a
fellow in Woodford by the name of Dickey.

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Father now has my note for 250 dollars
bearing 10 percent. Take care of all your money
John for when you come home it will bring you
a good percent. Bob has bought out a part of
Waller's paper, and is now Associate editor with
John L Waller. you ^{see} Bob's growing. He now
goes by the name of the Junior editor of the
"Western Baptist Review."

Tell Tom Gudgeon that his Brother and
Miss Mary Gains was married yesterday evening
Feb, 2nd. Congress has passed a law to raise ten
more regiments to serve 5 years or during the war
and will give you boys that stay twelve months
160 acres of land in addition to your pay.

I have not told you half the news but must
close or I will not be in town in time for
the mail. Give my respects to W W Lilla
Abra Thrailkill Bittersworth, and to all the boys.
John take good care of your self, suffer no bad
example to lead you astray from the path of duty &
of virtue in haste I subscribe myself your Brother
C. M. Lillard.

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Saundersburg Ky
Feb 4th paid 10
Lieutenant J. H. Lillard.
2nd Regiment ^{reg} Sig. Volunteers
Monterey Mexico
Care of Colonel McF.

The Filson Historical Society