

The Filson Historical Society

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41

Yandell Family Papers, 1823-1887

Correspondence, November-
December, 1861

72x2

20 items

Memphis, Nov. 12th 1861.

My dear Daughter,

The letter from Sumner in the Ac-
calauche is not one of his best, but it is a
good letter, and tho' I know he did
not dream of my publishing it &
will probably be a little annoyed
by its publication, I thought it would
give his friends so much pleasure
to hear from him after the battle, I
determined to take the chances of
displeasing him a little for the sake
of the general pleasure it would
afford. Nothing could be more inter-
esting to you, his brothers, & the child-
ren. How thankful we ought to feel at
his escape from the danger of the cap-
tured Cannon! May a kind Provi-
dence continue to guard his life!

I will now advert for one moment
to your letter which I received last
week. The execution of it coincides

Care and decided improvement.
You write a much better hand
than you did when you left
Kentucky, and there are few
errors in your letter - One is in
the name Daubigne, which is
the true name of the historian of
The Reformation. Tuesday, 19th Nov.

I was writing this to you when
you came last Wednesday morn-
ing. I got here yesterday with
something of a headache, & felt
quite annoyed at finding that I had
left my key - as well as my door
key - but by the trick I have in my
carpet-bag I shall be able to make
out till I come up. However, if any
good chance offers, send the trick
key down on Thursday, since it
may be impossible for me to come
up Friday, as it is my present
purpose to do. It is in my overcoat
pocket.

than than nobody to hear anything
since I returned. I find you
are avalanche of his morning,
in which you will find some very
interesting articles from an English
paper. So news today. Everybody
is expecting a great battle at Co-
lumbus. I pray that those dice to us
maybe should be in the favor of
bath, and that the God of bat-
tles may be on our side! No word
from your brothers today. Still hope
David will soon come down.
Some soldiers are here almost
daily, & more come every day from
the various Camps. Your mother
wrote me a very interesting letter which
I have just received. With much
love for her, I am my dear dearest
Dear, Most affectionately yours

S. P. Randall

[12 NOV 1861]

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The former sheet was torn after I
had written the first page, but I send
it tho' the remarks here but little
interest now. Your mother has written
telling me of your triumph after Wash-
ington, to the Cottonfield, at
which I am much pleased for both
to hear of you taking much exercise.
I have a great desire to see you a
fully-developed woman in body &
mind, enjoying I am sure in
some corpore, which is the high-
est earthly profession. There is no
enjoying life without health, & no en-
joying health without exercise. You
take all the exercise you find prac-
ticable in the open air; and when
not exercising or at work, keep
your mind busy upon some subject
pursued in books. In other words,
I have some book always on hand
in the pursuit of which you are

interested, and that while you
will make the time seem with
long, dull, nor tiresome, you
will be storing your mind with
knowledge that will serve you in
all after-life. It is reading that
creates the wide difference be-
tween people - between the poor
and the scholar. You are now
in most favorable circum-
stances for reading - with little
to do but read. Reading is really
a resource necessary to keeping your
time cheerfully, or will soon be,
when the weather shuts you up
more in the house. You ought to
esteem yourself fortunate in being
placed in a situation so favorable
to the improvement of your mind.
And in reading, combat your over-
taste. When you have read *Deau-
bigne*, take up whatever work strikes
your fancy - follow your own bent.

There are many choice works in Dr.
Crotch's & the Island's library you
can't so easily find. Practice
reading aloud to your mother - it
will gratify her & improve you in
reading. You are a good reader
for one your age and can easily
make yourself a capital one. In
fact, you have it in your power
to make yourself such a scholar
that your friends will be proud of
you. You will soon write a neat
and graceful hand, if you will
practice diligently, and lack
nothing but time & practice to
make you a good writer. I send,
my dear daughter, you will find
all these suggestions as from a father
wrapped up in his children, whose
highest happiness is to see them
fitting themselves for a high career
in this world and for a happy
one in the world to come.

Sunday Nov 17th 1861

My dear Father,

I have been very anxious to write to you since my last letter, but that night I was put in charge, with Dr Mitchell of the wounded Lincolnites and next day we took them up the river. Night before last I had a very severe ague and have been in bed ever since. I shall be up to-morrow. As soon as I get time I will write to you again. This will be handed to you by Dr. Williams if he goes down tomorrow. My reason for writing now is to ask you to write to Father & to urge upon him to give me a place in one of his Hospitals at Bowling Green or Northville. I suppose he can do it without trouble and he will find no difficulty in getting up. I wish to take my place in this regiment. I could do all the duties in a Hospital much better than I can those which we have in the field. I am no operator & Williams is equally incompetent. I ought to be in a Hospital & I believe you agree with me but I can not urge reasons or give arguments now. I am writing in bed and am very weak. I will not go into a

Memphis Hospital. I prefer to go
through the war in camp, rather than
being compelled to stay in Memphis.
He can put me in some other Hospital
and I may not be able to write to him
for some days - so please write to him at
once and urge him to this step.

Your obedient son
Jefford B. Zerkley

The Filson Historical Society

Columbus Nov. 18th 1861

My dear Father,

By a singular piece of good luck I received this morning your letter of the 12th inclosing the others. I had just crawled out of my tent, for the first time since Thursday night, when I accidentally met a private who told me he had a letter for me, which had been handed him by a wayward doctor in town, who had picked it up. It was broken open at both ends and was soiled that I came near putting it in my pocket without opening it, thinking it was an old one that I had lost. I wrote you a few lines in pencil yesterday which will reach you before this does. Brother disapproves my other wish and says not agree with me now, and, if you both think I am wrong, why I shall continue in my present position without grumbling. My reasons are these. I am no surgeon - of which I have lately had good opportunity of judging - I have confidence in myself as a physician and I am competent to assist at operations. I assisted Dr. Bell in several operations and dressed a vast number of wounds but I could not amputate a limb or ligate an artery. Williams is utterly ignorant of surgery. He is timid as a woman. He shuns blood, and will shrink duty in every way when we have surgery to do. He will endeavor to throw it upon me and I shall do my best. I should have amputated the other day had it been successful, but how hazardous would it have been to my patient.

Our regiment is composed of the best blood in Tennessee, and of the
the responsibility of the surgeon in such a regiment is great. I
I feel that I can not do myself much credit under the cir- We
circumstances if we have another battle, of which there is no doubt.
You know that I wished to go into the ranks when I joined the
Army - my reason was that I would infinitely prefer to in- in a
crease chances of death in that position - to a position for which
I felt my incompetence - in which the safety was greater. I
In a hospital I would have no operations to perform and all
the other duties I am fit for. I hope you will not misunderstand
I had me and imagine it timidity which prompts me to write to
you thus. I did not shrink from my duty on the battle field nor
when the big gun exploded a few days after - I have been among
the wounded constantly, and as I said before, if I had thought it
of any at anytime to operate I should have done it. I would almost
rather remain in my present place than to go to Memphis. You will
say that my prejudices against that place are idle - they may be but they
are very strong. I have always thought ~~Mem~~ ^{Mem} ~~ph~~ ^{ph} ~~is~~ ^{is} ~~not~~ ^{not} ~~a~~ ^a ~~good~~ ^{good} ~~place~~ ^{place}
to Memphis - and on that account I have deterred the plan - My
other reason for not leaving the town you are familiar with. My wish
is that by the time the war is over Memphis will have seemed to be
a desirable place for me to live in - I devoutly wish for that
If I am any clearer headed tomorrow I will write again, and I
I hope more clearly. I can scarcely understand myself.
I was somewhat disturbed when I first heard my letter had been
published for I know it was a poor one, but my confidence in your
good judgment soon pacified me. I never saw the paper but had

and of the letter. I wish I could have run it. A day or two after the
great battle Dr. Mitchell and I were put in charge of the Lincoln prisoners
to care. We took 105 wounded men up to Cairo and six or ten died while
no doubt we had them under us. They were very grateful and thanked every
one kindly when we parted from them. Gen McCorn was the officer
in charge of our boat and we were met by Gen Grant who came
for some three miles from Cairo to meet us we were not permitted to go
any further. Next day Grant was again as a spectator and for the
purpose of seeing some one from Louisville about having the
prisoners taken care of. I met Dr. Spud, Cap. Kalliday, & could report
to write to for the Journal. Spud told me Bernhardt moved into our
hill now house and would take care of every thing. We brought back
in among 93 of our men they had taken prisoner. It was an odd sight to
see the Rebels & Rebels mingling together fraternizing, smoking
almost and drinking and laughing, as though we were all the best of
friends. The explosion of our big cannon - a 128 pounder
was more awful than anything on the battle field. Our com-
mander ^(Grove) was about three hundred yards from the position of that gun. I was
looking in that direction when I saw the huge tower of smoke
rise. My mind was with flesh fragments on its summit - bits of men
to be seen - and heard the awful sound. I ran over immediately and saw
the man a night before Grant I saw men again rising. The first man
again, and I saw over a man almost naked - hair standing on end - face as pale
as death - I found he was not hurt and raised on. Next I found
the man from Knoxville (who was with me picking up the wounded on the battlefield
as in your) his jacket torn off and shirt torn open and his sides bruised,
but hair not broken, I saw at once he was gone and went

Coworker Cap. Wm. P. Bell who turned out to be only slightly
burned. I then assisted Bell take off a leg. The only am-
putation of the occasion. I then saw Gen. Bell, his clothes
were hanging in strips about his person but further than that
she was not hurt. I saw legs, arms, pieces of intestines, ~~and~~
one trunk ~~and~~ or rather pelvis, all the rest of the body gone.
One body was strewn in forty or fifty places I suppose. One
man's face and hands were burned so black that I thought
he was a negro he died half an hour. 8 or 9 men were killed
by the accident.

I can not write more now I am too
much exhausted

Your devoted son

Henry P. Vandell

Williams present to Berlin

The Filson Historical Society

Memphis, Nov. 25th 1861.

My dear daughter,

I wrote to your mother yesterday that I had heard nothing further from your brother than to agree to doubt whether he had telegraphed Dr H. that he was coming. I came from Los Grove, this morning, that he received a telegraph dated the 19th saying that he (David) would be here in three days. Something unforeseen has detained him, but I think it probable he will come to-night. I will try to convey you word of his arrival and let you know what night to expect as. Memphis is all astir today about the militia service and many are greatly disturbed at the thought of being forced to enlist; but the feeling in the city is more resolute & hopeful than it was a week ago. Many doubt whether the Federals will attack our forces at Columbus, and all seem confident that we shall repel them if they come. The fight at Pensacola up to yesterday, the latest intelligence from that point, was in our favor, & Bragg was confident of ultimate victory. Altogether, our cause appears prosperous still, and I am in good spirits about our final success. The sick continue to come to our Hospital - we have 20 and odd additions today - most of them measles, which forms our worst cases.

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This was our coldest morning, but the
day is bright & fine. I have met a number
of our neighbors, this morning - Mr. Nelson,
Mr. Claborn, & Mr. Geo. T. Taylor. I am
hurry'd as usual to write more scrolls. I
do hope you are writing every day my dear
daughter & studying hard this favorable
time. Give much love to your mother,
and believe me very affectionately your
father

L. P. Randall

Mrs Sally Randall
Cornelltown

The Filson Historical Society

Memphis, Mo. 20th 1862.

My dear daughter,

I wrote to you yesterday and placed my letter in the hands of a Soldier for Columbus, but as he may forget to hand it at Major's & it may not reach you, I write again today, without having anything special to communicate. Every day the great drama in which we are engaged assumes some new phase which it is interesting to contemplate, and every day little incidents occur among the sick at the hospital which might make a letter entertaining, but no new events of an exciting character have occurred, tho' they seem to be impending. Memphis is exceedingly nervous in prospect of a second battle at Columbus, which it is believed will be a bloody one, and is feared may end in our defeat. I think the citizens are decidedly scared. Capital is always timid, and property-holders naturally dread the approach of the enemy to the city. I feel courageous myself, & have faith in our brave men driving him back, as in all the encounters which have taken place. At all events, I am hopeful of victory, and am thankful for my sanguine temperament which causes me to look at the bright side.

My duties in the hospital engage me less than
they did at the beginning, but I still feel that I
am useful to the Confederacy in my present
situation. When I get to feel that my services
are not required I shall return to cheer
you and your good mother in your lonely home.
As an illustration of the little services I am
able to render by which the poor sick soldiers
are made happier, I will tell you of one ^{a case} ~~little~~
of last night. An emaciated young man who
has been long here asked me what I thought
of his case. I was compelled to give him
an unfavorable opinion. The poor fellow
replied, after a solemn pause, in answer to
some ridiculing advice that I gave him, that he
had been trying to give himself up into the
hands of his Savior; but added, that he
thought he ought to get well, and tho' so feeble
hoped he might, if he had money to buy some
things out of the store. I asked him what things?
He said he wished very much for horehorend
candy. I told him I would go at once & get
him some. I brought him 10 cents' worth. It was
after 10 o'clock. The poor fellow said he was
worn out to put me to so much trouble, but told
him to make his wants known to me & they
should always be gratified. This morning he
told me the Candy had done him much good.

I want to bright him a pound. I don't know
that he can recover - perhaps he will not,
but it will be a consolation to me to know that
I made the poor man happier by this little act
of kindness. Another pale invalid has no
pastaf, and wishes to borrow a few cents; &
a third wants a letter written home to his mother
and so on; and in this way, besides mini-
strating to the necessities of those who demand
medical treatment, I alleviate the suffering of
many a poor fellow who simply pines for
human sympathy, which lightens the burden
imposed upon my ^{own} troubled breast by this wicked
war waged against us.

I said a good deal in my letter yesterday
which, I hope, will encourage you to diligence
in your studies. I am ambitious to see you make
a brilliant woman, and it will be your own
fault if you do not. As a little girl you
were deemed quite remarkable, and your
friends will be disappointed if you don't
make a remarkable woman. Mrs. Brinkley
told me she had heard so much of "Sally
Yandell" that she was quite curious to see
her. You see, then, you have already a repu-
tation to support, and you can support it
only by hard study - diligent reading - for the next
two or three years. You must store your mind

with knowledge that you may be able to sus-
tain yourself in cultivated society. Now is the
time to do it. In a few years you will be
fairly in the world, and then few young la-
dies read or study much. Your brother Lemmy
has often written to you most improperly upon
the subject of not slighting present opportu-
nities. Read his letters again. By the way, his
old preceptor, Perryman, expressed the opinion
to me yesterday, that the Yankees would con-
quer us, and that we would give up. I am
glad the expression of such an opinion came
from Perryman. I have never heard it from
any other man. It is possible it may be true,
but certainly there is not a man of my
acquaintance whose opinions I should not
respect quite as much.

After a very hard rain last night the
day is glorified - as fine as ever shone upon
the earth. Court Square is radiant in its beauty.

I still propose coming Friday evening, but
may conclude to wait till Saturday & so put
Sunday in at home as heretofore. Write me
again, send over Friday evening & there will be
a paper & letter if I am not there. Give a great
deal of love to your kind mother & advise me
your devoted father
L. P. Chandler

through I
I am as
very thank-
of soon

kip for
brother
help.

Columbus Nov. 28th 1861

My dear Sally,

Your brief letter came to me several days since, but as Williams being away I had not time to answer it then. We are building log huts to live in this winter, and the question about our movements till spring seems to be decided - we will stay here. My tent is exceedingly comfortable, and I am in no hurry to get into a house. I have a brick fire place in the back of my tent and a mantelpiece made out of posts and boards - a bedstead made of staves and planks - a washstand constructed of a box - You would consider it a small, dirty, crowded hut, but to Maj. Henry & I it seems quite a palace. The fire makes the tent warm and the comfort you want not only keeps me warm at night, but gives the bed an airy tidiness quite charming. I hope to visit Memphis soon, and shall pay you and mother a visit while I am away from camp. I have gotten from Richmond a capital military overcoat - it is rough - grey - warm, and expensive - cost \$42; but nothing is cheap now except human life - and I was compelled to have it. I shall take my old one to Pa, and with his remarkable faculty for rejuvenating old clothes, I dare say he can make it quite new again. Since all the excitement incident to our late battle has passed away - the army has relapsed into its usual monotony. We see the papers only occasionally, and find little of interest in them. God being in an imaginative mood and having no incidents to

ulate I am almost at a loss what to fill up my letter with. I am glad you are so popular with the servants. Let it be your aim through life to be loved by all. Avoid selfishness and ill-temper - and above all things - gossip - slander - you will then be like our sainted mother. Cultivate charity. devote yourself to the happiness of those around you, and happiness will inevitably be your reward. Your two most inviolable faults - I may call them misfortunes - are indolence and temper. You will find it more difficult to overcome the former than to govern the latter; but you have made progress in both efforts since you have set your heart upon doing your duty. You can never become perfect, for perfection is never reached to mortals; but you have it in your power to become man's image. Few children ever had such a model from which to shape their characters. The more nearly you approach her purity, purity, and nobility of nature, the further will you be elevated above the common herd. You have a mighty, and a lifetime task before you, to become like her; but you have it in your power to attain all that I hope of you, and I have an abiding faith in your final accomplishment of this great work. I know you have too much goodness to be made vain by praise, or offended by plain but judicious truths, else would I not write to you so freely. You have done much towards the end which I pray you may attain, over during the past year. You have acquired a certain mastery over your temper, and a degree of love for study. I hear many good accounts of you, which make my heart rejoice. a big

letters with. Don't I beg of you relax, for a moment, your efforts. Do
let it be your study hard and write much. Become a scholar and learn
and ill - to write a good hand. Let nothing interfere with your studies
will then be After your religious duties, let your mental culture be
yourself to the preeminent above all other thoughts in your mind. Make every
inevitably be thing else subordinate to your studies. Visiting friends and
I may relations is well enough sometimes, and it is your duty to
- You will make those who visit you, happy; but I beseech you never
to go even to allow friends, relations, visiting, or visitors, or any pleasure
th efforts ^{to} interfere with your writing or other studies. Please take pains
duty. You with your writing. You write a better hand sometimes than
escape to others. Let every letter you send off, be superior to its fore-
me was summer. I received a cheerful letter from Pa tonight. He
on which always tells me something of you which gives me pleasure.
know Mr. You have a happy home and have infinite reason to be
will you be thankful to the Giver of all good gifts, for the blessings
mighty, and by which you are surrounded. Every one speaks in such
you have exalted and cordial terms of our stepmother, that I know
and I hope you must love her very much. Always be amiable
& of this obedient to her - but I know you will be - I know you will
en to be always strive to do your duty, and to be cheerful, & amiable.
& judicious I have found by sad experience that moroseness and despondence
You have duty are worse than unless, and that they may both be
may obtain, overcome. — I commenced this letter last night —
a monastery tonight it is very cold. The earth is wrapped in a white
hear many snow, and the wintry wind howls around my tent; but
a big wood fire keeps me as warm as though I were in a

house, and I am writing without my coat, though I
have the gay jacket, that mother sent, me on. I am as
merry as a bug in a rug - as cheerful as a cricket, and very thank-
~~ful~~ for the blessings I enjoy. I struck my head out of doors
a few moments since, and it is bitter, bitter cold.

Much love to mother and a kiss for
yourself. Write soon and often so long letters.

I am your devoted brother

Samuel P. Yandell.

The Filson Historical Society

Columbus Nov. 2 9th 1861.

My dear Father,

Your cheerful letter of yesterday was handed me tonight by Ed Pelcher our Quartermaster - and with the letter my reward. The fellow who carried it to Memphis for me, told Pelcher the charge on it was seven dollars, instead of three as you wrote me. The reward was given me by Col. Kully, and is one he wore in the Indian war. I sent you a letter a few days since, which I hope has reached you ere this. As to my desire to get into a hospital - I shall abide entirely by your judgment and wishes ~~entirely~~. Whatever you and he think best I shall concur in. As I said in my last letter I shall have much time for the acquirement of knowledge this winter, and I shall improve the opportunity. I presume we are settled here till spring, as we are building winter quarters. This is a bitter cold night and snow covers the ground, but my big fireplace keeps my tent very comfortable, and I write with no inconvenience, except that my hand next the door gets rather cold. My letter that you mention again, I have read - and I confess I was heartily ashamed of it. The typographical errors added to its own imperfections, made it a sorry letter for a scholar's son to write. I never hear it spoken of without a feeling of annoyance. I am not willing for my friends to ^{regard} that as ~~an~~ ^{specimen} ~~sample~~ of my epistolary ability. I have heard it complimented a little - as you say you have - but I know what the letter was worth. Mr. Leiper of Knoxville who was here yesterday, said he had read my letter, and that it was the most readable and the best des-

cription of the battle he had run. I was obliged to him for his politeness, and hope he may be forgiven as it was one of those little and white lies that seem to be unavoidable among men of the world. But the deed is done and all that I ask is, that it may be forgotten. Jim Keller was to me metoday. What a pleasant, plausible fellow I wish he is for a short time? I am surpris'd to learn Brother David I am has not been in Memphis yet. I hope he may come this way. But I hope to visit Memphis before many days to get a suit of clothes made and while away from camp shall visit Woodlawn if I have time. I saw a flattering notice of Brother a few days since in the Courier, copied from the Northville and Journal. The men of our regiment are in good health, and we have had no pneumonia although some of the regiments are suffering severely from it I hear. Col. Nelly intends bringing Mrs. Nelly here when he gets his house completed, and if he does, I expect I shall live with them - or at least board with them, which will be charming. Mrs. Nelly is one of the most refined and best of women, and I have no warmer friends than her & the Colonel. I have bought an overcoat - an absolute necessity, for my old one didn't keep me warm, and I shall fetch the letter to you. You will be able I expect to get a good deal of service out of it yet. I don't expect I shall be able to go to Woodlawn Christmas, but if I can I shall certainly do so. I hope Willy is with Brother David, for a few for his health if he is kept in camp in Kentucky. I am glad to hear such good accounts of Morous health. I do hope the dear fellow will get well. It may be that my aunt denies my judgment in the matter, but I have always felt a pe-

for his statement that he would get over his malady. What a pleasure
those little ant world this would be, if all the people in it, were men
to world. as he and his wife are? I have never known so faultless a com-
be forgotten. You say Mrs. Mason will mend my trunk up - up when?
the fellow I shall bring it to camp with me when I go to Memphis.
the door I am not sure I can get leave of absence from our Genl.
this way. but I hope to. Gordon & Whitsett are poor and unworthy ob-
ject of clothes jets to waste sympathy upon, and Genl. Pillow would con-
I shall ride it impertinent in me to make the suggestion you mentioned.
since in Gordon is a rot, and was drunk all the time he was here. He ut-
a man of tery failed to attend to his own wounded men while he was here,
pneum. although he was put on his parole of honor for that purpose.
nearly from Whitsett was so drunk when captured that he could not stand.
when he This wounded men carried back to camp anything but a fa-
had line variable report of their conduct, and Genl. Grant will treat
be charming. them rather roughly when he gets them I expect. I have
I shall great sympathy for wounded yankees, but none for live ones.
get an o - It is a most capital thing that the negro soldiers have got into
to me want, a negro pen! I received a letter from Sally a few days since
I expect which I have answered tonight. Remember me to the noose.
I shall. Present one to Sam. Gwin and my other friends & believe
shall see me your devoted son

Samuel P. Yandell Jr.

B'Green. Dec. 3. 61.

My dear Father,

I write you at my first leisure moment. I have never been so laboriously engaged - have never been so incessantly occupied. I write now from the house of my dear friend Gen^l. Buckner where I have ^{been} passing the night with his little boy who is dying by inches with general disease of the lymphatics. Arent, our old Rath's friend, who really is a friend, is the Director of Gen^l. B's Division & attached on the child while I was in N. but on my return I was called in again as consultant, & Arent having gone to M'boro for a few days I have charge of the case. I have been up most of the two last nights & write now at 6 AM.

^{to have seen you all}
I had hoped, two weeks ago, & had the order not been countermanded I, & Marie, & Allison would have been quartered on you. We were all ready & Fanny was to follow in ten days when the telegraph brought the abrupt ^{order} ~~announcement~~ ^{order}: "Return to B'Green immediately," and here I am.

Willy, the soldier, is so popular & his health is really so good & his Col & his Gen^l. (J.C. Buck-

inists are so averse to having him go and he himself seems so indifferent about it that I have had a world of trouble in my efforts to get him out of the service & haven't done so yet. I am, however, promised his detail as a Clerk & shall send him to Warville to Surgt. Pim, who will use him & allow him to go every night out to stay with F & B. who are now entirely without a protector. The noble fellow's old enemy will shortly begin to show itself & then, if he desires it, Pim can get him discharged. He is said to be the best soldier in his Co. He is nearly as large as I am. He is very well & has \$40.00 in his pocket. He will call in again to day & I will have him with you.

When the telegram ordering me to B.G. was sent, all the army believed we were going to have a battle. Day by day however, the prospect, in my judgment, grows smaller by degrees & beautifully less.

I handed Genl. Johnston yr. note about Gordon & Whitwell & he promised he would think about it. I shall ask him in reference to it to day & do my utmost to have the two creatures released. Whitwell was a Southern right man last summer. Gordon I don't

[3 Dec 1861]

remember.

Fanny has intended visiting you this winter, but of late she has grown rather timid about being so near the Mississippi as she would be at yr. place. Pillow's pronouncements are calculated to frighten all the women, old men & children south of him. But for the "God & Liberty" style of his effusions, I am sure you would have had a visit from F & the children. Nor do I despair yet. You write to her on the subject.

Touching what I have written about Memphis hospitals, I can give no immediate encouragement. I have written to my friend Joe Newman, of Nashville, Med. Dir. of Genl Polk's Divi. on the subject & you might do the same. Joe is smart, clever, dainty & vulgar - a good shot, fond of sport & a hater of nearly all the doctors. Still he can be used & I fancy you would know how to do it.

I am without a horse. Has Uncle Geo. no fine horses or mules?

Give much love to yr. excellent - Miss Sally - excuse haste & brevity

To. day

Sally

72x2

different footing, which is desirable.
If maybe that I shall find a good
excuse to retire. I enjoy, when I hear
of my neighbors & especially my kind
people getting sick, wish to be at home.
I am very sorry Sally is sick & that
I was away when she was so. Give
her my love, & also her gentle mother,
and assure them of my sympathy &
best wishes. Wish to see her sometime
on Saturday. I am anxious, if pos-
sible, to effect an arrangement for
Mr. Brodner's report of the Platte-
River, & think I ought to be able to do it.

I have bought the "Bag of Neps," but
as I can't see into it I can't judge
as to what is my bargain. As wife
see when I come. I fear I can't find
any shoes to fit you. With a great
deal of love for your mother, I am,
My dear daughter,

Truly yours

L. P. Gaudes

Memphis, Dec. 4th 1861.

My dear Daughter,

I received an interesting letter
from your good mother this morn-
ing at the hands of my gentlemanly
pastor, Mr. Phil Thompson, whose
business in our neighborhood I had
predicted, tho', I confess, I did not ex-
actly fix upon the individual. I
admire Mr. Thompson's choice. He
is a young man of taste.

I enclose you a copy Cordial & charm-
ing letter from your sister, from which
you will perceive her heart is quite
set upon visiting us, and as, generally,
there is always where there is a will,
I hope having this desire in shall have
the happiness to see her & the darling
children some time during the winter.
And then, if Mrs. Shalder's no battle
at Columbus, which I should decide,
then will, probably, be no receipt for

for my remaining here, and we may all gather around the hearth at Woodlawn. When they will have an opportunity of coming, will depend upon your brother's engagements, which seem just now to be onerous. They may continue so for some months to come. - Then just look a patient in my words - an old son - a cultivated, scholarly young man from Pine Bluffs, Ark. I expect his death more than I can say. That has occurred in the hospital since I came. I had hoped he was spending up to the time he began to decline this evening.

The famous Monopoles, which the State - passed up the river on the way to Columbus today, has wind by millions of people, who will sleep more securely tonight than no doubt, in the firm belief that the cold little craft will never derive a single

gun boat that old the May and down the "Fathers" waters. "Shoals very stormy very brave - a very little fog could be rendered - iron-clad all over, and so glancing in the shape that bulls would fly from it upon which we past they might improve. I confess I look for great excitement from the fall and little war boat. - I propose to come up Saturday morning, and as Dr. Keppel says home tomorrow than his patients in my charge, that probably have to return Saturday night - nor is it probably certain that I can leave Saturday at all, but hope to do so, I could have hoped that I might be able to remain till Sunday night, tho' this is quite impossible. We have a Hospital Director who has just come, and who will probably put our hospital upon a somewhat

Instead of expiring at his death
we try to see Mackay that he was
permitted to visit you, and found
and made his visit so pleasant.

Your affectionate father
L. P. Audubon

Wendell

Samuel Joseph

Memphis, Dec. 9th 1861.
My dear daughter,

Your brother Sam's visit,
to happy on my account,
was indeed much more
delightful by the improvement
in you which he remarked.

His expressions of pleasure on
that account were very strong,
and he will be happier all his
life for the progress he saw you
had made. Will this not strike
like you, my dear daughter, to
write haste for future progress
in knowledge, but - critical, it
be disagreeable? I know it will.

What a hard lesson to learn here
a brother! What a pleasure to
increase his happiness! You
are justly proud of him. It
must make you much happier
to know he is proud of you.

Hope you will see him in the morning as he passed up to his camp. The memory of his visit, of his words, and of his noble person & appearance will remain long with you, & his, to invite you to effort to become all that a brother could wish to find in you. I think, his fathers are as much blessed in sons as I am, and I know you will make yourself worthy of your father, & your brother's. In temper, man-ness and taste you are, and only lack a few years of undertired application to render you so in mental accomplishment. Improve labor in it earn it.

I send the St. Paul containing Lincoln's abominable message. Read it, with the accompanying remarks of the editor. You will notice he does not allude to the contradiction of

Major Schiller. He had come so, he must have appeared or demanded the act. Condemning, he would have been obliged to tolerate him; while if he appeared, he would be taking a stand which he would not wish to take if England made a just about it; and so, like a moderate crowd, he passes the act but reluctantly.

The number of our kick is likely to increase, I think, and should not be surprised if I came to you by Christmas that I might be spared from the hospital. But there is no knowing what a day may bring forth. Something may appear to give us more to do than we have ever had. — Go to hard study and try to occupy your mind pleasantly while the prep of parting with your brother is great. This is the best remedy for sorrow — to occupy the mind actively.

Columbus Dec 11th 1861

My dear little sister,

After a tedious ride I arrived here last evening about five o'clock — I should say afternoon. Soon after tea, rain came, and with it ~~precipitation~~ ^{violent} wind. The wind and the water seemed to struggle furiously for the mastery for several hours, but at last the cold came to the assistance of the wind, the rain ceased and the ground froze. During the storm my tent flapped furiously, and shook like a ship in a gale. My bed trembled as if it had an ague, and I feared my frail house would fly away; but it stood firm, and I was able to sleep soundly. Today it has been cold, and it is wintry tonight, but my cheerful glowing fire keeps the chilly atmosphere at bay.

My visit to mother was one of unalloyed pleasure. Though Pa had given me encouraging accounts of you, I was not prepared to find you had improved so much and in so many ways. You are a darling noble girl and you are all yes more than I could have expected, & I have an unalterable faith in your becoming all I could desire. Mother's blessed precepts and example have not been lost upon you. You have improved diligently the talent which has been placed with you, and time will develop in you all those noble qualities and purer virtues of mind and soul, which so exalted He who has been taken to that far and fair land, whither you shall follow when your earthly mission has been fulfilled. You have faithfully

endeavored to follow the strict and narrow path of duty. Think on my precious one. You will be successful and an abundant reward will be yours in the consciousness of having lived not in vain; and you will be comforted and sustained by the love and approbation of all whose love deserves respect. My heart is wrapped up in you. I love you better than my life, and my constant study is to make you happy. If sometimes I seem to be severe with you - if sometimes you deem me unkind, or unjust, be convinced that my conduct emanates from a fervent desire to insure your future happiness and welfare. Upon Ma's deathbed she said to me - "The greatest regret I have in dying is, that I could not live to see Sally grown. She is approaching an age when she will need, somewhat a mother's counsel; but I have endeavored to instill into her, correct principles. She is a noble child and is a Christian. You have more influence ^{over} ~~with~~ her than any one else has. I leave her in your charge. God forbid that I should ever prove recreant to that charge! I have no complaints to make if you doiling. I am proud of you. Always, be a good girl. - Weary not of well doing. The effort to be good will make you happy. - I have been interrupted frequently while writing, to visit one of our Sentinants who had a chill last night, and who ere morning will be gathered to his long home. Alas how sad! In the prime of manhood - in the noble service of his country - away from home - debored from the ministrations of female ^{Gentle} nurses, he is suddenly struck down by the arrow of death. May God have mercy on his soul! It is now after one o'clk, but I must not retire to bed, till his fate is decided. -

I need not tell you that I loved ~~another~~ when I met her.

7 We can not be too thankful that it has pleased providence
to give Pa so good a wife - so estimable a companion - and
to us so kind and lovable and amiable a stepmother.
I have never heard but one, universal sentiment, expressed a-
bout her - "that she was one of the best and loveliest of women."
I have had the pleasure to hear her much praised, and she
well deserves all that has been awarded to her. Aside from
the pleasure of seeing you - my visit was one, more of duty
than of pleasure to Woodlawn; but hereafter the prospect
of a visit ^{to Woodlawn} will always gladden my heart. Be kind and gentle
to mother - but why do I ask this of you when I know full well
that you can not be otherwise. You have a good home till
I get an establishment of my own, and then I shall claim
you as my housekeeper. Get ready for our European tour.
Mrs. Mason whom I met in Memphis asked anxiously
after you and spoke most cordially of ~~the~~ Mother. She
counts confidently upon a visit from you this winter, and
I hope you may be able to visit her. She is one of the few persons
of my acquaintance, whose society would be worth as much to you
as books - and you need not give up your books while visiting her.
You will then have as much time to study as now - never relax
your studies. You are aware that I consider Mrs. Mason the most
remarkable woman that I now know - She is wise, discreet,
pious, amiable, cultivated, refined. You will find her society
improving to you, and her example worthy imitation.
I was delighted to find you so popular with the servants at mother's.
You know how poor people and servants always loved me -
I always endeavor to gain the love of children & servants - the
effort to gain their love, gives happiness to them & confers happiness ^{upon me} upon me.

When I left merrimack for camp Mrs. Pop - wife of Lieutenant
Col. Pop - and a friend of mine when she was a young lady -
put herself under my charge - she was going to Columbus.
She could not have reached Columbus had she not been
in my charge - as ladies are prohibited from visiting
Columbus - but I managed to smuggle her through.
She was very grateful - and I was happy to send her a note.
There is nothing new in camp - except the houses. Nearly half
the cottages are finished. The men made them wholly - cut
the logs - ~~raised~~ the boards, built the chimneys & doubled the
sides. They are exceedingly comfortable! One man today
I saw putting up a frame house, I remarked that I liked
the log ones best - They were warmer - He replied that they
were too close for him - that they were air tight. What a
Cormorant appetite he must have for fresh air!
If there is enough cloth to make a vest of for my pants are
made ask mother please to save it. When she can find some nice
grey goats to make me a coat of I will have it cut out and get
her to make it. I am in no hurry for it - however. Hamlin
Williamson is a little unwell - nothing serious. Ben is well. Ben is
a noble fellow and I esteem him most highly. River is well.
Remember me to my friends, your neighbors, & to the servants.
Give mother my love. I will write to her soon.
Adieu my pet. It is half past two o'clock.
The Lieutenant is dying.

I am your devoted brother

Samuel P. Youndell -

P.S. You remember Pa said he had heard me mispronounce but
one word while with him - I noticed but one in all
your conversation - and you turned out to be correct instead
of my being so. L.P.Y.

Columbus Dec 15th 1861

My dear Father,

Your letter by Drs. Hoke & Rogers reached me this morning. Also the clothes and the dog, with which I am much pleased. I think he will be a pleasant camp companion. I hope Wiley may not be in danger, and that the dear fellow may soon be well.

The contents of your letter and of Sally's afforded me much pleasure. I shall ship you the gun by the first opportunity. Dr. Mumf's report of our camp, is, I am sorry to say very correct. We are without a General, without engineers, & without a medical Director. It strikes me as most singular, and is most deplorable, that the key to the Mississippi valley should be left unprotected. It has just been decided that we need eight thousand more men. It was Providence or mere chance which defeated the enemy at Belmont. Our Generals proved themselves incompetent, and our men showed they were not invincible. This balmy weather is favorable to an attack by the enemy, and if it continues, we will be attacked in all human probability - Gens. Polk & Pillow anticipate an attack. Polk is said to be very nervous about it. Pillow is too egotistical and arrogant to doubt any undertaking in which Pillow ~~to~~ Grant has a hand. He has the courage and confidence of a fool. Should we be attacked, my only hope is in Providence, and I do not feel comfortably sure that Providence will give us all the victories, though our cause is just. The ways of Providence are unsearchable past finding out.

Most of our men are now in worn log huts, and we have but little pickup. Dr. New came to see me a few evenings since and would have Henry & me to go to tea with him. We went, and found Col. Marks and several cultivated, sensible men were his mesmates. Henry and I were both much ashamed of being introduced into such company, by such a fellow as New proved to be. It was evident that he was held in no high estimation by the other members of the staff. He is the most unmitigated fool I ever saw. I sincerely believe he is crazy. No man, in his right mind could possibly act and talk as he does. May I never see him more! I received a nice little letter from Sally a few days since, but as I had written to her the day before I had not yet replied to it.

I hope in the reorganization of the Hospitals at Memphis, both Keller & Potts may be left out. Potts shamefully neglects his duties & is totally unfit for the place of Purveyor. Keller you know, owing to a nervous headache which I have felt today, I am stupid and can not write much tonight. I had been full of ideas for several days but today I am barren of them. I hope to have the trunk here soon, when I shall return your cloths, with some other things. Please ship the stone by first opportunity - I am in no hurry for it however as we have not got our house down yet. Please buy three joints of pipe which with the piece on the stone will be sufficient. Second hand pipe would do as well as any. And enclose the bill of costs and Maj. Henry will pay it - I furnishing the stone.

Have you learned yet if the saddle is sold & what at? I must postpone the completion of this letter till tomorrow.

Nothing has transpired worthy of note since last evening.
I sent the gun and accoutrements by Hamlin Williamson
this afternoon. He promised to send it to Mother.
I have no fire in my tent tonight and it is too cold
to write without it. Much love to Sally & Mother when
you see them. When you write to Sister ask if she has
received some money I sent her by Adams' Express not
long since - while I was in Memphis.

I am my dear father
your devoted son

Samuel P. Gaudin

The Filson Historical Society

Columbus Dec. 19th 1861.

My dear Father,

It seems that I am never to get the malarial poison out of my blood entirely. For five years now, I have had chills occasionally, whenever I have been. For several days past I have experienced the faintest possible dumb chills - no chill at all in fact, but a headache with a feeling of fullness about the head and face. Without positively suffering pain, I am rendered nervous, and irritable, with a tendency to despond and feel gloomy. My mind is rendered inactive, and I have a perfect aversion to mental or physical exertion. Quinine will soon restore me however. I have several times thought of trying a course of Fowler's solution, but I am afraid of it, as I am sure it was the cause of the same stomatitis I had last fall - I believe it was last fall. I tried some other that, and my gums began to get sore, and I gave it up. The beautiful weather which we have enjoyed for some time, is favorable to an attack from the Yankees, and I should not be surprised any day to see their Gun Boats come in sight. Genls. Polk & Pillow both look for an attack before long. A spy from Cairo, who arrived last night, says the enemy is certainly preparing for an attack, and he thinks they will come down next week, probably Monday. He judges from what he saw of course, and may be mistaken. There seems to be no doubt here about our being able to repulse the invaders, no matter how strong they may be.

From the papers, I judge there will be a fight at Bowling-green ere long, and I look for an attack here simultaneous with the one there. It may be that England's course will have some effect upon Lincoln's movements against us. What a happy effect it would have could we whip him at here and at Bowling-green at the same time? Those two defeats, together with his foreign troubles, I expect would reconcile him to the Southern Confederacy. I do pray that England may declare war against the United States. I hope she may subdue the Yankees and abolish their government, putting a ruler of her own over them. I should prefer England for a neighbor, to the U.S. In a few days we shall be in our hours; but we shall have to pay about 30 or 40 dollars a piece for them, which I do not much relish. They are made of upright plank, covered with boards and will be moist in any - nothing like so warm as the men's log houses.

A sad accident occurred to one of our men yesterday, who was digging a cellar under his house. The earth caved in upon him, fracturing the femur just above the knee of one leg, and breaking the tibia and fibula of the other, driving them through the flesh. He is only about 17 years old and has a fine constitution. The tibia & fibula are fractured near the ankle and I fear will produce immobility of the joint. Another sad case occurred not long since. Smit Brown, aged about twenty four or five, a stout healthy man sent for me by about 9 o'clock one morning. He had had a severe chill the night previous, lasting from 12 to 3 o'clock. I found him with full and frequent pulse, though he was sweating. His mind was somewhat affected, and he complained of severe pain in the head and

cooling side. I saw him several times during the day and in the
evening called in Williams. His perspiration did not last
more than twenty minutes. We found him, restless and suf-
fering with pain in the head, some pain in right side and
to him also in the region of spleen. He complained also of severe sore throat.
His pulse was ^{very} frequent and full. Skin dry & hot. Williams
examined his chest and thought he discovered slight dulness at
the base of the right lung. At his suggestion we put him on
the Tart. emet. & morph. to reduce his pulse. He threw up the first tea-
spoonful of the medicine and I was called to see him two hours
and afterwards when he had taken the second dose. I found him
in with small, feeble pulse and intellect much disturbed. He had
evidently not taken enough of the medicine I am sure, to have produced
the symptoms, but he sank from that time, and died early
next morning, in spite of brandy and ammonia etc in large
doses. His pulse was not perceptible at the wrists for six or eight
days before he died - (it was barely so, occasionally) and yet his
extremities kept warm. The symptoms of his case reminded me
of your case at the Gayors in which you administered Zulu-
mum. The two doses of medicine he took contained but half a
grain of Tart. emet. and half of this he threw up. We called
it a complete still, but really there was but little sign of con-
sultation anywhere. I am unable to debate any adequate course of treat-
ment in his case. The general health of the army is good. I had a pair of
fine high topped boots made when I was in Memphis by Walker on Court
night at between Main & the river, and he promised to send them up, but
he writes me it will cost fifty cents to do so and asks me to send
him the money for them before he sends them. I enclose you
\$1.18 to pay for them. Please do so and send them up as soon as

you can. Eighteen dollars is a terrible price to pay for boots,
but they are a "military necessity," as riding is very destructive
to hoofs without one wears them in his boots. I tried shoes in
camp but found them insufferable. They let in the mud,
water & dirt. Say to Hester that I shall expect her to make
me another pair if these do not fit me. I mentioned in my
last letter sending Sister some money. It was \$50 instead
of \$75, as I believe I stated to you. I wrote Sister a long letter
not long before I went to Memphis and I hope she will an-
swer it soon. Much love to Sally & Mother when you see
them.

I am your devoted son

Samuel P. Garrison

P.S. I have not forgotten your suggestion about writing
an account of the Bullmont battle - When I get in time
I will do so - but I do not expect to write anything worthy
of publication - as the subject has been exhausted in the
papers long since.
S.P.G.

P.S. no 2. Fearing you may not have received my last letter
in which I mentioned the stone, I will ask you again to send
it up at once with three joints of pipe bends that already
with it. Second hand will do very well.
S.P.G.

Columbus Dec. 21st 1861.

My dear little sister,

I have just finished a chaiming
lunch of ham and cold biscuit. Our dining room is so cold be-
ing out of doors - that I have to eat very rapidly to get through
before my teeth begin chattering, and as I sit up unusually pretty
late at night, I put a lunch in my pocket at supper, to eat
before retiring - a bad habit for any body except a soldier, whose
hardy life renders his digestive organs all puissant. About eleven
or twelve o'clock I become ravenous, when I attack my bread &
meat, destroy an apple or so, abolish my hunger, pick my
teeth, smoke a pipe; and then read a little, or write as I am
doing tonight - after that comes sleep. The roosters have just
began to crow, and my watch, though it says not a word
but "tick, tick," in the most demure manner, shows by its hands
and face that it means twelve o'clock. I received your short
sweet letter soon after I returned to camp, but having written
you a long letter only a day or two before, I allowed circum-
stances to delay my answering it, which I should not have
done otherwise. You know you promised to write to me once a week
all the time, whether I wrote or not: for I am sometimes un-
able to write, owing to business or something else. I look daily
for a letter from you, and feel disappointed each day when
the letter man says "no letter for you doctor." In a few days
I shall be in my new house, but I fear I shall gain nothing
in comfort by the change from my old tent, which, though
small & with a dirt floor, is as snug as a squirrel's winter nest.

I accidentally learned today that my stove and trunk had arrived here, and tonight received a note from Pa informing me of their shipment, and mentioning also a letter from him which I hope to get tomorrow. If you have not finished the cap yet, you may make the hoodlock to cover the cap all over, instead of only behind as I suggested. If you have finished it though, it is all right and I kiss my hand to you my pet. I have another companion now besides Moj. Henry - He is Jiff. Thompson - a funny little piece of addity and ugliness. I intend to get a cat and a rooster besides, and when I get all these things I expect Moj. Henry will have one to request the emancipation of my pets. I am anxious to finish this letter tonight that I may send it by the morning's mail, but my ideas flow so slowly, and I have more an aversion to that letter, when they are tokens and messengers of love - friendly family letters - that I fear I may not get this ready in time, for if I don't finish it tonight, I can not do so before tomorrow evening, because of my camp duties. I hope and believe you will profit by my good advice to you in my letters. It is the only means I have of talking to you, and as I deem your future well-being and happiness my greatest mission, and their accomplishment to my greatest happiness, I think about you much, and endeavor to supply the absence of my body to you, by the presence of my thoughts. Your letters were a mine of wealth to me, they were of incalculable value to me. May my letters prove not wholly worthless to you, my pet, my charge, my little sister Sally. Some of these times you will know how much I love you - yes I believe you do now. Now I do wish I could be with you oftener. I am proud of you - proud as an old hen of her only chickens -

had I dare say you have seen the news from England. Is it not
ing glorious? The Yankies surely are mad. May their madness prove
the forerunner of their destruction. Affairs are vastly complicated
but coud by England's course - though of course I believe it will
cap adorned to our advantage. The United States will be around by
have a war with England, as we of the C.S. have had by our
our war with the U.S. They will turn out their whole strength and
the worse all their energies. They will endeavor by a mighty effort
and to crush out "this wicked rebellion" as soon as possible, in order
to be ready for England. Where this war is to end, no mortal
one tongue can tell. We may see within the next twelve months
the whole civilized world in arms. It is more than possible. Imp-
d, but how we should have a ten years war! There is no fore seeing the
that end of this great struggle. You may have to see your own
family break before you die my child! Think of that! Be prepared
for and have a heart for any fate - Remember that life is but short
now that "this world is not an Inn but a Hospital; not a place to
you live in but only a place to die in." With a clear conscience and
only God for a protector, you have nothing to dread in the future. Should
well - you be bereft of all whom you hold dear, and in addition
ishment to this be reduced to poverty - even ^{to} beggary, you would still be
deavor upheld & comforted by the recollection, that your Heavenly Father is
my omnipotent and that he does all things for the best. I don't know
of yet when I can see you again, but one thing I do know, and
I wish that is that I shall go to see you just as soon as I can. Far-
one of course are very difficult to procure and I may not get one
believe for two or three months, but I hope it will not be so long.
I am I hope dear Willy is not ill. Doding, noble fellow! are you
not proud of him? Well don't dwell I must wind up - it's

late and I have written to is tomorrow. Write soon, write
often, write carefully & write long letters to your mother.
Help mother for me. Tell her I shall write to her. Remember
me to the servants and to my friends in your neighborhood.

I wish you would mention to Pa - but you need not
mention it either - I will write to him tomorrow.

Good night my darling.

Brother Jimmy.

The Filson Historical Society

B. Green. Decr. 21. 1861.

My dear Father,

I wrote on Sunday. The Central Army rec^d. orders last night to strike tents & move forward this morn^g. at daylight. A rain storm has delayed the march and the order has been suspended. I sit by a blazing fire instead of being in my saddle en route for Green River. The rain has dashed the plans of the General & the army remains in its tents. A more timely and fortunate rain fall never occurred. The dirt roads will now be impassible and the enemy will be confined to the rail r^o. & t. jike - we can not now be flanked. ~~This~~ fore is certainly tremendous and his purpose ~~was~~ unquestionably was to attack ~~at~~ ~~on~~ several points simultaneously. If the rain will only fall, fall, fall, how thankful I shall be. General J. said yesterday "Give me mud, not blood".

72x2

Everybody here that I talk to seems perfectly confident of the result of the battle which has been impending on this line for so many weeks.

I am not so. Twenty to twenty five thousand is the extent of our army. There are 70 000 of the enemy within a days ride of us.

So far as I am individually concerned I am very well fixed. I have two good horses, instruments, books, everything in fact, necessary for my surgical outfit. I am pleasantly situated with my companions in arms and out of arms.

Avent has my old place with the Gallant Buckner, whom, by the way, I regret I ever left. Seavey of St. Louis, is the Director of Gen^l. Hardies Division. He is quite young but very accomplished and pleasant. Lawrence, of Hot Springs, is Hospital Inspector, Pim, of St. Louis, is Post Surgeon, Nashville - and so, with hardly an exception, my associates are old and esteemed friends.

My relations with both Gen^l. Johnston ^{+ Hardie} are very agreeable, indeed, all that could be desired. I am confessedly at the head of the Medical Department and what is most gratifying, the confidence is even more hearty among the surgeons than with any other class. Of course Gen^l. I. would

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have preferred in the beginning a director who
had experience in his business and I have no
doubt that if he were to be offered an "old army
man" he would incline to take him. But I am
above Genl J. now. I have done a great work
in this Dept. — have made a name which no-
thing that any military man could do would
sensibly affect. Enough of myself.

Killy is still in N. I have advised that he be
sent down to you. Yr. long & welcome letter of
— I recd yesterday & sent to Fanny. Mr. Dure
handed me yr. note without the vials to day.
He left the box containing them. No money
can be sent to any of the O'Briens through these
lines. When an opportunity occurs I will advise
you. Johnston has decided that our brother
Chips in prison at Memphis are bonafide
prisoners of war & consequently that they must
remain. Genl. Buckner referred yr. letter to him
and I urged the matter, but he is inexorable.
There is no communication between here and
Glasgow so Dr. G's letter cannot reach his

friends. Please ask Sam. Argeu to advance as
much as \$25.00 back to Whitwell + Gordon for me.
They are in need of it I have no doubt.

Fanny certainly contemplated a visit to you all
about this time, but she will not have much
heart for such a pleasure while there is any
likelihood of a battle in this vicinity. I wish
she could drop down on you. The children would
throw a flood of sunshine into Gr. quiet home. Their
good grandmother would be delighted with them
I know.

The rain falls, falls, falls. How charming the
sound! I never felt such pleasure ^{before} in any sound.
If it but continues another 24 h. it will add
10,000 to our strength.

Much love to Sally the excellent Mother.

Your very affectionate Son,

D. W. Chandler.

Columbus Dec 24th 1861

My dear Sally,

Your letter of the 19th reached me yesterday
no, I am mistaken, I received it today. Let mother I am a thou-
sand times obliged to her for making my pants, and sincerely
hope I may be able to enjoy a visit to Woodlawn again soon,
but if things do not change very much from what they are
now, there is but faint hope of my getting a furlough for
a long, long time. Genl Polk will not give leave of absence
to anyone except on business of the most vital importance.
However there is pleasure in hope and I shall continue to look
forward to my next visit with pleasure, hoping to be able
to accomplish my wishes. Many thanks to you my pet for the
havelock which I look for, with the pants, daily. It would have
afforded me much pleasure to have witnessed the servants dance.
I love both to hear them sing, and dance. They do such things with
so much vim and earnestness. When they dance, they dance all
over; and when they sing there is no superficiality about it, they
sing from the very deepest depths of their souls. I have a vast
love for "black people"; they are a race of beings whose study has
afforded me a great deal of enjoyment. I can't read you the same
in this letter, but I shall do so before a great while. Poor, dear
Willy, I hope he is really not sick much, and as you have not
heard from Sister Loty, I am inclined to believe his disease has
turned out to be only a mild malady. This evening I received a
jar of delicious jelly from Mrs. Priscilla Williamson. When you re-
present her my compliments and thank her kindly for her welcome

present. It was so nice that I ~~did not~~ ^{I must} thought not to eat it myself for
so I have divided most of it among some of my patients, who
find it exceedingly grateful. I appreciate Fred's regard and will
join him in the wish that I had him with me. I must have a
servant, and I had intended in my next letter to Pa to ask him
to hire me one. I imagine negroes will hire cheap next year and
I am willing to pay a reasonable price for a clever boy. If mother
can spare me a man, or a boy sixteen or eighteen years old, I
will promise to take good care of him. But I expect she will want
all her servants on the farm. I want a boy to attend to my horse, and
to wait on me and to cook or assist in cooking. I believe any
negro can learn to cook, and the only qualities I should require
in a boy would be, energy and a knowledge of the care of horses.
For two days now, I have been ~~been~~ endeavoring to get my trunk and
stone up from the river. I hope to succeed tomorrow, and then I
shall move into our frame house, which will prove, I hope a trifle
warmer than out doors, but I fear it will be much colder than
a quack. I received a note from Pa telling me he had written to me
by the Kentucky, but I have not been able to hear anything further
of the letter. I saw by the papers yesterday that Tom Taylor had
been killed in Virginia. He was Colonel of the Kentucky 1st Regt
Tom, he was a noble, wholehearted fellow. He was a true friend, a
high gentleman, a brave and gallant soldier, and with a big
heart overflowing with generosity. It is the saddest incident of the
war to me. He was one of my warmest friends and I was excee-
dingly attached to him. May God have mercy on his poor soul.
The dream, as you will see when I read it, contained much concern-
ing Col. Taylor. We are living wretchedly at present. All our coats
have left us to spend the Christmas holidays, and we are living

uply from hand to mouth. I had written this far night before last
to, who but was interrupted and compelled to lay my pen aside. Last
and night my tent was filled till bed time with company, so I
we a have concluded to attempt to finish it this morning before the
him fair leaves. If I can find some friend going down on the
and R.R. I will send this by hand today, but if not I shall send
mother it by mail tomorrow. I have just received a letter from Pa
I dated on the 19th - Letters do come very slowly. I sent Pa some
want money to pay for a pair of boots at Hankel's court St. Memphis,
hours, a few days since. I hope he has received it. My present boots
any are worn through on the bottom. I am glad to learn from Pa's
since letter that dear Wily is better. If he visits Woodlawn - as I hope
hours. he will do, I shall send my mustang for him to ride. I have
and not time to write more now. Love to mother.

I am your devoted brother Samford.

The Filson Historical Society

Columbus Dec. 26th 1861

My dear Father,

Following a day of most varying temperature we have a cold tempestuous night. I am writing with my overcoat on. Your letter of the 19th only reached me yesterday. I am sorry you could not procure any stone pipe as I find it difficult to do without it; however I shall make out to use the stone, and I hope to find it comfortable. I am still in my tent, but to-morrow evening I hope to get in my room. I must have a servant. It costs me as much to live as I have been doing, as it would for me to have a servant of my own, and the annoyance of using servants over whom you have no control is very great. I imagine negroes will hire low next year, and I wish you to procure me a boy - One under nineteen would be too young. A man is preferable. Please send me one as soon as you can lay your hands on him - let him bring his bedclothes with him. I will of course take the best care of him - and being a physician I can take better care of him than ~~or~~ a non-professional person could. We hear nothing to lead us to expect a fight here soon. The attention of the enemy seems turned towards Bowling Green, and we think here that a battle there soon is almost certain, and we have sent reinforcements to Johnston. I shall send my valise to you by the first opportunity. The hat and cap you can dispose of. I had a cap which Sally may unravel & make me a cap of, or give it to Wily. I should like a red moose cap of some sort. I am in need of my boots, but please be very careful about sending them as there is danger of their being lost. You shall have Jeff Thompson when I get tired of him, but I can't give

him up yet. My horses are at last under cover, and Cap. Jackson's
legs already improved in flesh, and consequently also in appearance. He
certainly must be a beauty when he is fat. If Willy visits you, in
and I hope you will urge it upon him to do so, I shall send the
mustang for him to ride. I had nearly forgotten that yesterday was
Christmas. I dined with some of the privates, and enjoyed one of
the most delicious turkeys I have ever eaten. It was stuffed and
cooked by themselves. I only got my trunk up from the river
last evening and the delicious oranges you kindly sent, made
me think of the Christmas days of long gone by - and wish you they
had sent me a paper of candy also. I have heard of no carnal
ties arising from Christmas drinking; though the army was
drunk Christmas eve and had a headache Christmas morning -
A few harmless jests and a vast amount of yelling, were
the only evidences that the boys were "taking Christmas" - I stayed
at home all day, and received a number of visitors, though
I gave them no egg-nog. Williams managed to get a furlough yester-
day and will be about five or eight days. His father's estate
was to be divided out and he urged the absolute necessity of his
being there, so strongly, that Genl. Polk let him go. Today our
apothecary being sick, I have done duty as surgeon, druggist, and
apothecary. Should Sister and the children, and Willy, be with you
about a month hence, I shall try mighty hard to make one of
the happy coterie. All the servants being away, we can get but
two meals a day, and they are not always certain. I am making
my supper, or a small piece of stale bread which I found on
my mantle, and a chew of tobacco. The tobacco is the most palat-
able. Does not seem so certain as it did a few days since that there
is to be a war between England and the United States. The dogs of the

From Prophets are passed, and verily no man knoweth what a door may
bring forth. The farthest seeing eye can not see when this war
is going to end. Use anything you find in my valise. I shall need the
the summer clothes next summer. You must see by the way I jump from
day was war to wearing apparel, that I find it difficult to make out this
of letter. I shall halt here for a while and trust to an inspiration
and before bed time. Dec. 27th Last night was bitter cold, and this
morning the air is biting. Our sick list is increasing, and I am kept
very busy, having to do all the work. I don't think of anything fur-
ther to write about, and shall close here hoping to send this letter
by hand. Love to Sally & mother.

I am your devoted son
Samuel P. Gendell

The Filson Historical Society

Columbus Dec. 29th 1861.

My dear Father,

Your welcome letter entrusted to Rivers man, came last night. Poor dear Sally, is she dead or only sleeping that her letters have ceased to come? I received a very tiny letter from Sister yesterday in which she acknowledges the receipt of the money. She says nothing about coming down. I have written to her urging her to come with the children. Shall I send Willy the mantray? It will scarcely be worth while if he is going to Mississippi, as I think will probably turn out to be best for him. We had a gloriously beautiful day for our division review today, and our review was worthy of the day. It was a beautiful night. Genl. M'Coron's division comprises two batteries of light artillery, five regiments of infantry & four companies of cavalry. Officers and men were in full dress. Genls. Polk, M'Coron, and Cheatham with their staffs were present. My place was in the rear of our regiment, in which position I maintained myself in my new clothes, top boots, sword & sash, upon my grey charger, with all possible gravity and aplomb. The Genls. marched in front of the troops from one end of the line to the other, and then the troops marched in front of the Genls., the men saluting them with their guns and the officers doing likewise with their swords. Here it is that you see the "glorious pomp and circumstance of war" not upon the battle field amid the dead and dying soldiers, mangled chargers and blood stained ground. I wish you could have seen our review. I assure you it was much pleasanter sight than the Belmont field, and I am sure we all enjoyed it far more.

We have an epidemic of jaundice in our army, and yellow men are
as common almost here as they are in China. It is very manageable
however and the men soon get over it. Genl. Pillow has sent in his
resignation to Genl. Polk. Whether Polk will accept it or not I can
not say. The general sympathy seems to be with Pillow, and I believe
that notwithstanding the poor estimation in which Pillow is held
as a general, Polk is considered a poorer one. Polk is respected for
his integrity, and polished manners & goodness only. Pillow is respected
for his indomitable energy, his wonderful dispatch in Brune's mat-
ters, his extraordinary rapidity in supplying the necessities of the army,
and for his unflinching bravery. You see Pillow's qualities are superior
to Polk's for a General - Just here I was interrupted by one of a

Genl. McCown's aids who came to tell our Colonel to hold our regi-
ment in readiness - that the enemy is coming down upon us - that our
pickets have been driven in - It is quite a dark night as we have
no moon and the stars are not bright. We may have it in the
morning - till I learn something more I shall stop writing
An hour later. McCown's aid has just been here again and reports that
the cavalry pickets saw three men whom they ordered to halt, and not
halting the cavalry fired and ran into the infantry pickets who were
a mile nearer camp; the infantry pickets ran in to the guard
guard, who are still nearer the encampments. The cavalry and
infantry pickets have been returned to their places; and the opinion
seems to be that the alarm was groundless - So write it be -

As I was proceeding to remark when the interruption occurred, we
have no General; and though Pillow be but a broken reed, Polk is
a ^{but} man of straw, and consequently, we lean upon Pillow as the
least weak prop of the two. Surely Columbus can not be a point
of no ~~importance~~ importance, or at least of much danger as we deem it, for

are or President Davis would send us better leaders. Notwithstanding
all the disadvantages under which we labor, there is still ^(and a universal) an abiding
his faith ^(amongst us) that we can defend Columbus against any attack the enemy
can may make upon us. I have no fear of our being whipped here.

O he - I am surpris'd there was not love enough for the spants as the tailor
is told measured it. I should like to get my cap as soon as you have an op-
portunity to send it. Please send me a servant as soon as you find one to suit.
How does Sally progress with her studies? Does she study her Latin faith-
fully, and as if she felt the necessity of ~~her~~ improving her mind? Does
she seem to look upon the few years that she has before her as she is a
young woman, as so many ages in which there is ample time to put off till
of a more convenient season - a more agreeable opportunity, the cruel
torture of study? or does she justly, and consequently appreciate the fact,
that each year that rolls by, flies with increased velocity, and that those
few years are more precious to her than gold? Tell her the story of the Sybil.

She has burned some of the books & those which are left she must
siege upon now, ere it is too late. O that I could come her to look into
the future with my eyes, and see what pain and mortification she
not will suffer if she does not improve herself now - or see what thank-
fulness and gratification she will experience when she is grown, if she
does improve these precious - precious moments. Sally is my great so-
litude. She is a noble, generous, lovely child, and she wishes to do
her duty in all things. She has a most superior mind. Nature has done
her duty towards Sally's intellect; but alas! what will her intellect be
without cultivation - a steamboat without wheels - a locomotive
without a track - a bird without wings. Does all this talk do
any good? Does she appreciate it and understand my motive in writing
it, or does she feel that it arises from my great love for her, and anxiety
for her happiness; or does she think I am harsh, unkind, unreasoning, fault-

binding? I hope mother has recovered from her indisposition. Give
her my love & tell her I look forward with great pleasure to some
future visit to her. I should like to hear from Willy. I wish he felt
the importance of taking better care of the clay which contains
his big heart. I am delighted that he is going to be a large man.
I like large men. It is late and I have nothing more to write
much love to dear Sally. Tell Margaret her husband is very well.

I am your devoted son

Samuel P. Yandell

The Filson Historical Society

Columbus Dec 30th 1861

My dear Sally,

I was delighted to receive along a letter from you as the one I received last night dated Dec 28th. I dare say the haddock will answer quite as well as if it were larger. And it on. Last night I had considerable fun at our Supt. Colonel's expense. He and several other officers were in my room after supper, when the brassband came up to headquarters to reunite Supt. Col. Stahl. After playing sometime, they ceased, to call for Stahl to make a speech. Though they yelled for him in stentorian tones, he seemed to be loath to gratify them. They resumed their music again and at the end of their recent performance Col. Nully woke up, and in response to a call upon him, made a few remarks, closing with a call for Stahl to come out. At last he did go, and I to avoid making a speech, which the crowd of soldiers called for, took Stahl, placed him on a door step, and introduced him to the audience, now numbering several hundred. Taking off my hat and waving my hand I said - "Gentlemen of the 4th Reg. I have the honor to present to you the distinguished Supt. Col. Stahl, whose great bravery is only equalled by his personal beauty!" now he is not handsome by any means, and the boys roared with laughter & huzzahs like savages for a long time. When silence was sufficiently restored I continued - "You now have the animal before you, & he will immediately commence to perform." You never heard me shout, as came from the boys at this joke. Stahl made a short speech, and though very much embarrassed he took my rough joke very kindly, and the boys say, he thought I was in earnest and

consequently was very much flattened. When I shall get through the
I was hurried up vi et armis to the stand. My first remark was a
motion that the meeting adjourn, but they would have a speak, so
I made an extremely brief one, but as I had started my audience to
laughing there was no difficulty in keeping up the snipe. Last
night - I mean tonight I was interrupted in my writing by a
band of negro minstrels who paid me a visit. They were some of our
men blacked, and disguised otherwise, as dummies. They danced, sang, and
told and made music in real carnival style, and did it remarkably
fine well. Jan. 2nd 1861. I have not been able to finish my
letter till now, but I trust you will pardon me, as the delay was
unavoidable. The telegraph brought us the startling news today
of Dr. Williams' sudden death from a congestive chill. I need not
tell you that it has cast a gloom over all of us at head quarters - I
poor fellow! he had many good qualities, and though like all of the
us he had his faults, they are all forgotten and forgiven now, and
we have but one feeling towards him - we only remember his vir-
tues and regret his loss. He left here Christmas day in his usual
health. Verily in the midst of life we are in death, and yet how
little do we seem to feel or appreciate the solemn truth! O may this
sad warning not be lost upon those of us who are left. I have suggested
to some of our officers that we should hold a meeting to give utterance to our
feelings concerning poor Williams' death. I imagine we will hold it to-
morrow. I am kept hard at work by the sickle of the regiment,
though most of the cases are not violent. Last night I was called out
three times. In my last letter to Pa I complained of your not writing,
but I hate pleasure now in retreating it all, and praise you for keeping
your promise faithfully. Be a good girl my darling, and study hard.
You are my pet and my charge you know - and I love you more

things than you can now believe, but when you grow older you will know
how deeply I have loved you. I think about you constantly and very
often, so substitute to me you all that our precious mother who is in Heaven wishes you
to be. Mary Ann's husband has just been in to send some messages to his
dear wife. He says he is as well as usual but is very much disturbed that he
by a can't make any money. He wishes her to collect some money which some
one of the boys owe him. He says she need not mind making him rocks or
any, anything of that sort. He sends his love to her and howdy to you all.
I should be most grateful to me as we are living mountains
rough. I wish you could visit Mrs. Mann and aunt Matilda, but
times are too hard to think of pleasure now a days, and we ought to be
today filled with thankfulness by the many blessings which we enjoy, when
there is so much privation, and suffering, and sorrow in the land.

I am glad to hear Willy's health is somewhat improved. I wish I could see
all of the dear fellow. Give him my love. I can not write more tonight.
Was Pa received the money I sent him to pay for my boots? I sent it to
Memphis by Express. Give my love to mother and to Pa.

I am your devoted brother

Samuel P. Yaudell

Dr. Madson is quite ill, and it is uncertain
what his disease is. No one is doing any
practice - The city was never more
healthy. I would like to hear Bishop's
and Entropy Church. This morning
was going this evening with Miss. Some
say. You have to go to church with
her when it first came to Memphis.
You hoped and made up. But
dependent by means of you. But
let us talk any more about weather.
There is no necessity for me being in
business today is the right one in my
case - There is nothing to be lost by delay.
I am not staying, and I believe I believe
I can make business as I am. Two or
three years hence I shall be better off
to mean and I can mean better than I
could now. I wish I was as well
wiser, more accomplished, and I will
have more reputation than I have now.
If in the mean time however it should
be my good fortune to meet with a

Memphis Sunday. 1861
dear Father

I received a letter from
you yesterday, and one today, and
also one from Sam. I am compelled
to use my pen all today, but will
change it tomorrow. Today night I
was sent for by Mr. Andrew Polk of
the Gays who wanted to see me.
He was staying all night with him, and
I am sorry that I cannot say that he would
like me to stay with him also. He
has just returned from New York, and great
fear of him, and says he makes
his home. I shall change him
a good piece. There is no other
or more. I am not
in my best health today. It
is a pity. Yesterday I was
sent off by the Com. Charles and
I am behind the moon now. I

12x2

will satisfy you when I get the
money, and will not mention the
subject again till then. For I might
Mr. Chalmers, and the minister under
stand his words were more congenial
to me, but the truth is, I never
was another imprudent brother of
head, but almost abstaining. The
better view we or he will hold
go likewise. Friday night I called
on Mrs. Chalmers, wife and daughter.
Evening the conversation turned
European and traveling, and other
asked how long I was in Europe.
By course I replied "not long" when
would not ask at present because, she
has never better than under the
eye that I was, and she said she
tried several hundred that she
I suppose she got the impression from
the knowledge that her husband
The views, and how far that
There are quite a number of

members in the profession here.
I had been young, but a few moments
before that I thought much of the young
men I had known who had made
the East India Trade, and returned home
with their hands turned and their
brains gone - in some, was 2-4 feet.
I told her I hoped she was not ab-
sent her opinion from that circum-
stance in any case. But your letters
were interesting exceedingly, and with
some I thought, but I don't know
you were surprised at a point
even by me but not mentioned
the fact I approved of you, for
sally, and I am not in position, and
but you will say it out. That is the
clear child's mind from that
will have trouble in understanding, he
but we can see I know will
mean, he is simply. Probably we
had a week or two, all day, and
This afternoon it is not at all.

by its fruits - look at his children!
 As to myself - I may only say that
 I have more hope of myself than I
 can to have, and am altogether more
 hopeful. Mr. Tobin and I get on
 capitally & comfortably. We still yearn for
 Jim. He has never whipped St. Roger's
 brother got hold of hair and whiskers
 and braided his hair up beautifully. His
 prints hope it will do him much good.
 Chew is well and I shall soon discharge
 him. I have nothing more to ask
 you this evening, and without something
 comes up I will close my letter with
 this next tomorrow. I ought to write to
 you before writing to you again, but
 I have not had material to write a
 letter for him since some time. It is
 all in the family anyhow, and I dare
 not want make much difference when
 we write to, so you all hear from me.
 If a bad bird is an witness of genius
 this letter will place me for about any witness
 of a witness of it.

a young lady of a family as good as
 mine, accomplished, polished, sensible,
 amiable, handsome, and able to take
 care of her self though I die or become
 incapacitated for labor, and if she be wil-
 ling to undertake her fortunes with mine, I
 assure you I shall offer myself to her.
 But I do not intend to wait for a wife.
 Twelve months ago, though a fit of in-
 sanity on my part, and your influence
 I got in the notion of marriage instantly
 and would some time in the morning upon
 a paper like woman in Knoxville. Thanks
 to her and circumstances I did not get my
 wish at the time; and the thought of
 her and my marriage is I am quite
 sure, gone. I never and later, work
 try that. Her correspondence still contin-
 ues although I thought it had almost
 ceased several times. It gives me little
 but all however, and to, indeed, and I
 must of course give her the privilege of
 breaking out first. I have I had more

by Mrs. Morgan, and I am myself no
concern about the matter nowadays.
I am doing very well for the present, &
I shall let well enough alone for some time.
I am contented, and I have many things
to be thankful for. The doctor which naps
over ends, will bring me a wife in due
time. I am determined not to marry till
I can out-marry myself, as for a brother
David did himself. I am sorry to hear
together improves so rapidly, but I will do my
best for it. He can only evolve to be patient
and take things easy. He can be comfortable
if he wills it. God's gifts are more and more
more cheerful. He was more afflicted than
either and bore his afflictions with great
patience, but he was inclined to be sad &
dispirited. I think, he did not have the
benefit of my advice as brother he, and
for that brother ought to be thankful.
As to my love spiritual and consolation,
it is all on paper - I am as gay as a
lark and inclined to such.

I think I have the sweetest and prettiest
man in the world; the highest and
noblest nephew in the land; the best
and most promising; and next to my
and affectionate sister and nephew; my
inter-entail is perfect. The admiration of
all who know her - the gentleness of
nobility - and that my friends feel
in love with her at the eyes, among
the rest Zan. Ombert, who knows a thing
when he sees it. One of my brothers is at
the head of his profession, is well off, is pro-
fessing and doing - is universally popular &
beloved by every body, and altogether is a
brother to be thankful for and proud
of - and I have both thanked for and
proud of him. My younger brother is
as much as any body here, more amiable
than any body here, an excellent man as
a doctor or pastor or bottom land in a
good reason. As to my Father it is un-
necessary to say; you know him, my
brother knows him: I too must be judged