

Filson Historical Society

Luce, Apr. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1868

Dear Cousin Wm.

I received your very welcome letter in due time and was very glad to hear that you were well. Mrs & Jimmy were here when I got it & it was doubly welcome that you were here and that a visit to a week we had quite a good time and often spoke of you and wished you were here. I do laugh for that you could be so perfect. That was quite a success. I wish you had with that I was having a journal that will not fail. The Wm. who do you mean by the Copperhead the Abolitionists we call the



002-224

democratic Copperheads and if  
it is them you mean I don't  
think they need quelling but may-  
be you should refer to them  
Our folks are all as well as  
common. Perrine is back out to  
Mr. Osborn's about 1/2 of a mile  
out of here for 13 dollars per month  
he commenced work last week  
it is where he has been working all  
winter it is quite pleasant today  
but awful muddy there is no  
getting around hardly.

I hope and pray with you that  
the rebellion may soon be crushed  
for this war is such awful thing  
but we must hope for the best  
and as you say it will  
be finished when the stars and  
stripes are at the top  
I hope the terror is near at  
hand. Oh yes we often have  
a game of Cache. an 45's  
and played a good deal while  
Kara and Jimmy were here

so you have not got your pay  
yet when do you think you will  
get it soon I hope so that you  
can buy you something besides  
hard-buck to eat - it is a good  
thing that you do not care about  
their new coin whether you are  
better off but I suppose it would  
not come across once in a  
while.

Will I have not's much  
time to write this time but  
please write soon and I will try  
and do better next time  
Next Sunday is Easter I hope  
you will make your pay so that  
you can buy some eggs  
I am as well as present but remain  
your loving Christian  
Bro.

Wm. J. ...

Write soon,

Filson Historic Society



Mr Samuel Cotton

Company

177 Ely St. Boston

24th March 1848

Copy of the Lib

of the Lib

of the Lib



002224

I have been thinking of writing you for some time but have been so busy that I could not find time. I have been thinking of writing you for some time but have been so busy that I could not find time. I have been thinking of writing you for some time but have been so busy that I could not find time.

001214



**WASHINGTON.**  
 HIS SPIRIT STILL GUIDES US.

*Philadelphia 18th Feb 1862*

Dear Samuel

As the folks here all gone to meeting tonight, & left I have been thinking of writing you for some time but have been so busy that I could not find time. I have been thinking of writing you for some time but have been so busy that I could not find time. I have been thinking of writing you for some time but have been so busy that I could not find time.

... I don't like to stir it  
so much. I finally decided to rent  
to them if I have to deal with them  
I would expect to get the rent  
after a while. I don't want to  
know why you are so sure. I can  
just wait with it for a while.  
I am to have the house to myself  
couldn't intend it to be with them  
so I told the old lady that she  
must leave the house, which she  
will have the house for my own use  
which she agreed to on condition that  
I should have the partition put across the  
chamber, from the chimney to the east  
side, which I have accordingly done. The  
lumber cost \$15.04. The old man does the  
work for nothing, it is my friend's job  
and he would do it for me, saved before he  
finished it. The old lady is going to have

... the south side of the partition for her  
sitting room & the north side for her bed  
room. She is not about her cooking & she lives  
rather better than I have felt. They  
are and you expect to live very well there  
that time together, to be very clean, tea  
with \$15.00 per month, of course to be so  
& the cheapest house anywhere. It is a  
\$1000 house. One hundred & every thing else  
in the same proportion. My goods are  
all higher. I don't pretend to buy any-  
thing without even if I had the means  
to do so. I don't expect to have  
any more of a bargain with them. I don't  
like to see them & do my washing & be  
in the house of the hedge. I have  
rent for some place to remain the house  
when she has separated them, right I have  
also contracted with a man for a  
place, William Allen, the best hand on

I think of coming out in the winter  
 I got a letter from him a few days ago he said  
 he was going to stay in the country some time  
 for a little while. Mr. Tamm is under arrest for  
 when accession & says you are in with the  
 south. Will say he thinks it will be  
 with him when he has been tried. He is  
 just lately had about it. He has been  
 in a lot of trouble care of Virginia the  
 when the school has not a center  
 in a school as being out a little  
 but in another case it should be always  
 working about the school even when  
 when as long as we are not obliged to. I have  
 a school with Mr. Tamm that school is  
 when but it is a very good one. I  
 it is getting late & I must bid you good bye  
 again for a short time. May the angels watch  
 over you & guard you from danger & give you  
 but in the hands of your loving wife Helen & father



COM. BIRMINGHAM

I was with Mrs. Thayer last  
 week she was gone to Chicago  
 one day while I was there. I thought  
 she was about to go & I had a letter  
 from her and was quite sure there was  
 some in the office. So I was determined to  
 come down to see her & I did come & walked  
 to the school & got my feet soaking wet  
 & I got the message & got no letter. I could  
 not find the school & I was disappointed but I came  
 back the next day & brought one one  
 in all right then. I was about gone  
 when I got a message from Mr. Tamm. I wish  
 you would I think I don't want you to  
 do more than this. You consider every one to act  
 according to your own judgment. But I can't  
 see it in my mind. The same light that  
 you do you have been your own  
 when you have been your own

142700

... I think it would be your duty to ...  
... I have conversed my sister ...  
... I have conversed my sister ...  
... I have conversed my sister ...

... I know you will come as soon as you can ...  
... I know you will come as soon as you can ...  
... I know you will come as soon as you can ...

Filson Historical Society

Franklin Tenn. April 22<sup>nd</sup> 63

Mr. Wm. Permond,

well Bill I received  
your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> a  
day or two ago.

We had a small fight here  
on the tenth. The rebs after  
fighting two or three hours  
shedaddled, since then they  
have not troubled us  
much. there is a large force  
of our men at work here every  
day digging in trenchments and  
cutting down timber to afford  
a clear range for artillery.

there is two siege guns (24 lbs)  
and two batteries beside ours.  
Gen. Granger is in command here  
judging from the preparation  
here one would be inclined to  
think he expected an attack



There does ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> appear to  
be any indication of a forward  
movement at present.

I think if the war is  
not conducted in a different  
manner than what it has  
been here before it will never  
come to an end. in fact I am  
~~beginning~~ to get discouraged. the  
papers are full of accounts of  
starvation in the south. they  
may be short of rations at  
richmond but the rebel  
army in the south west cannot  
be short of rations. if they are  
it is their own fault, as  
there is plenty in the country  
south of here. at least we  
found plenty when we were  
after vandorn last month.  
when we had the fight  
here I examined the haversacks  
of some of the dead rebels

and found they contained  
better grub than we get  
when on a march.

The train has come an hour  
and a half sooner this mor-  
ning than usual, so I must  
cut my letter short.

There was a forage train  
went out to the front  
this morning.

you said something about  
the copper heads in your  
letter. I wish both them  
and the cursed abolitionists  
wer wer all shot or colonized  
with the niggers. I think  
the plan of arming the  
niggers is a very poor one  
we may have to fight them  
some day after learning them  
the art of war  
in haste yours  
Samuel Patton

Franklin, Tenn. - April 22nd 1863

Mr. William Desmond: Well Bill, I received your letter of the 12th, a day or two ago.

We had a small fight here on the tenth. The rebs, after fighting two or three hours, skedaddled. Since then they have not troubled us much. There is a large force of our men at work here every day, digging intrenchments and cutting down timber to afford a clear range for artillery. There are two siege guns (24 pdrs) and two batteries, besides ours. Gen. Grainger is in command here.

Judging from the preparations here, one would be inclined to think he expected an attack. There does not appear to be any indication of a forward movement at present.

I think if the war is not conducted in a different manner than what it has been heretofore, it will never come to an end. In fact, I am beginning to get discouraged. The papers are full of accounts of starvation in the south. They may be short of rations at Richmond, but the rebel army in the southwest cannot be short of rations. If they are, it is their own fault, as there is plenty in the country south of here. At least we found plenty when we were after Vandorn last month. When we had the fight here, I examined the haversacks of some of the dead rebels and found they contained better grub than we get when on a march.

There was a forage train went out to the front this morning.

You said something about copperheads in your letter. I wish both them and the cursed abolitionists were all shot, or colonized with the niggers. I think the plan of arming the niggers is a very poor one. We may have to fight them some day, after learning them the art of war.

Inhaste yours  
Samuel Patton

002224

Excuse this scribbling for I am  
not in the woods and have nothing  
at the best of my gun to write  
I will close for this time hoping  
to hear from you soon I remain  
yours friend and brother  
W. H. Desjardins  
correct errors

Direct to Bowling Green by  
to 6.12.9

Death. June 21. 1867

Mr. Samuel Tilton

Dear friend I  
now take the opportunity of depicting you  
a few lines hoping they will find you enjoying  
good health mine is very good at present  
and somewhat how do you like your  
present abiding place over as very  
pleasant on one of the highest hills  
in the world we can see for miles around  
with a spy glass we can see the coun-  
terland mountains when last I  
wrote you I expected to leave this  
place but we have only changed  
our camp to a higher hill I see  
the letter which you wrote some time  
ago but as I had just written to  
you the day before I got it I thought  
that I would not write until I had

any you again perhaps you thought  
the same if so you are reasonable  
if I am the same I have not heard  
from Cato since a last I write  
you have you I don't account for it  
Some what do you think of the Copper-  
heads of the North I tell you what I  
think and that is if the U.S. was sent  
home I would pity the damn traitors  
for my part I would rather shoot  
one of them than any scoundrel I have  
not I have seen a few of them at  
this a number of prisoners since  
have been here I suppose you have  
heard before this of those robbing a  
mail train near here we had a brush  
with them when we took 4 prisoners  
killed one wounded 3 we had been  
expecting an attack for some time but  
we are prepared for them unless they  
have got larger guns than we have  
but they will have to elevate them  
higher than they ever did before I think

with Sam has that day ever yet  
which you say for so much over  
is a warning and so is Christmas  
a warning I know the pay day  
ours has been missing every day  
for 3 months but we have not  
seen it yet I think it strange  
that all around us they have  
been paid off and we not but  
never mind we will get a pile when  
we do get it John Law is well he  
is playing up Gentleman at present  
he has done no duty since  
1st of March the reason is this he  
is under arrest for talking  
and sympathizing with the South  
he will have his trial next  
week I hope they will not be hard  
on him for his families sake  
I would have seen in time but he  
killed it not it is very warm  
to day but it has been quite cold  
for a few days back, you must

South. Sennell. Gen. H. 24. 1861

Good. Times. In. The. Army =

1. Air hard. Times  
I am a. S. Y. young soldier the truth I  
I'll die for the cause that bid me farewell  
And gave me a kiss so fervent and true.  
When I left her to fight for the red white blue  
And tho' good times good times in the army say

2. Our Uncle and Father. Sennell and Abe  
Farmers by ~~the~~ nature and Yankees by trade  
Know just what we need in clothing and food  
And furnish us plenty and that which is good  
And it's good times

I know that grumbler - no soldier who  
Complains of our clothing most bitterly  
And writes delightful letters set his friends in despair  
About nothing to eat and nothing to wear  
and it's good times

Our tents they are healthy we breathe fresh air  
We sleep oh so sweetly free from all care

002224

And dream of our homes all mirrored so bright  
In vision of splendor our hearts do delight  
And it's good times

Our drilling and marching is exercise good  
It gives no wish for all kinds of food  
Crackers are found - Oakes - fat pork is real  
Coffee catanba tobacco we steal  
And it's good times

To sum up the whole we have plenty to eat  
Plenty to wear from our head to our feet  
And he who complains of clothing and grub  
Should be sent to his mama and <sup>trub</sup> ~~nickel~~ <sup>trub</sup> ~~trub~~  
And it's good times

There are some who want money complain every day  
And swear they <sup>do</sup> ~~do~~ <sup>desert</sup> if they don't get their pay  
But the good union soldier thinks same a good debtor  
And will fight without pay if they can't do no better  
And it's good times

But I tell you the truth should the paymaster come  
I would be joy to the heart of unoch sand's son  
For money you know has a right pretty look  
And nothing so pretty as a filled pocket book  
And it's good times

Then Cofferheads North are trying to bite  
Traitors and cowards they never would fight  
But their vile namesake steal up in the rear  
And strike and retreat and run like a deer  
And it's good times

But never mind boys in a very brief space  
We'll whip out the rebels then right about face  
And march to our homes it will be mighty queer  
If we don't soon see up the fire in the rear  
And it's good times

And it's good times

produce is very high here now  
wheat 6.75 oats 45 cents beans  
3 dollars per bushel corn 1 dollar  
and so on Father is laying  
wall for Porter now there is  
plenty of work now for him to do  
well Will I guess I will  
write a few lines to Mr  
Carlton

Dear Mr Carlton  
I now take the pleasure of  
writing a few lines to you

I am very well at the present

I hope those few lines will find  
you enjoying yourself and in good  
health so you and William have  
good times do you well I hope you  
will continue so I suppose it is

hard enough sometimes I came  
very near enlisting last fall but I  
guess I am as well off now  
I would like to write more but I  
cant for the want of room I will  
close by saying you good by I remain  
your friend I must write again

Will I would like to write more but I cant for the want of room I will close by saying you good by I remain your friend I must write again

Mendon Apr 1863

Dear Brother Will

I now take the opportunity of  
answering your welcome letter which  
arrived here a week ago last  
wednesday but I didnt recit  
untill last monday so I havent been  
able to answer it untill to day

I will tell you how it was last  
sunday I went up to Mr Cornels  
to see Nora and Fanny bought  
it up to me last monday

so you must excuse me for this time  
I was very happy to hear that  
you had good health and enjoying  
yourself we are all well as usual  
we have very nice weather here now  
but the spring has been rather backward  
it has been rather cold and wet  
the farmers has began to plow few  
have done sowing we have got done  
sowing oats but we have got some barley

172 100

to sow yet we only sowed five acres  
of oats we are going to sow 8 acres  
of barley we are going to plant 12  
acres of corn I like to live with  
Daniel firstate and he has got a  
good wife the folks are all as well  
as usual around there Dick Stitt  
broke his leg by jumping out of a  
wagon Jake Mutter lives in the  
old schoolhouse Dan fixed it for  
him so it is a pretty good house  
now Jake and me have some  
good old times Jake is a good  
fellow to work with Will I  
wish you were here this summer  
you could get 18 dollars per month  
like a book and I think that  
is better than soldiering dont you  
and be sure of your pay I think  
it is ridiculous that you dont get  
your pay once in a while I hope  
they wont cheat you out of it but  
I suppose they will if they can

and so that bill wouldnt pass  
there well it is to bad you couldnt  
by a chew of tobacco with it  
well I think the folks dont  
know much down there if they  
wouldnt take that well you can  
send it back to me for it is as  
good as the wheat here and tell  
me what kind is good and I  
will send you some do you think  
shinplasters would be good there  
Monroe County bank that is the  
only kind is good here of shinplasters  
Mullers boys have bought Freed and  
Dixons farms. Freed works both  
farms on shares this year and lives  
in Dixons house Dixon lives with  
his Mother in law Mills is going  
to move the buildings on his place  
he gave 65 dollars per acre for it  
I think they will have land enough  
some by Albert has taken Smiths  
carpenters farm to work on shares



Ms A 2700

There is some ink in it for the  
the many guns, rifles, & the rest  
part of the set is safe & well  
no more. I can not say to  
you much more but let be  
that if you will please to  
write at an hour or so if you  
to buy a bag of powder  
some of the powder  
it is not safe to have  
off some of your  
and I will send you at  
I think it a shame  
then do not get me  
means that I  
be had until I  
be found I expect  
all of it by the  
order to me in a  
I give you a  
in the way of  
to get the  
been in the  
you have not  
I will be  
I will be  
I will be

Dear Mother  
I hope I am well  
I hope you are well  
I hope you are well

Dear Mother  
Jan. 27. 1840

Dear Mother

Dear Mother  
with much pleasure I had to  
answer your most welcome letter  
which I received on the 27<sup>th</sup> I was  
happy to hear from you and  
to think that you were well  
and please do not mind or  
worry about the time I  
have spent in the  
school to have an  
time to do work that  
you should not  
I should like to  
we have very good  
are still on the  
pleasant place  
that we should not

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for our health he went to me in  
health was not good but before  
I left he was in the region of a  
well and I am sure that it is  
not good to let a man  
be a soldier in the manner  
I met them, I met with several of  
his officers was appointed to him  
for being so intimate with the  
private when he left I met  
was long to see him again but I  
did not see him he had the  
well of most of our men was  
was so he before he left he was  
although the army was  
hand with all the provisions  
to me to get no food to have  
I guard prisoner or taken  
his own command and to report  
or a report it was in front  
to my part I put rather in the  
front than in the back what  
I thought that I could give as much

well here as any where at least I  
say I am sure he says that there  
has been of more men to the  
than any other's command that  
was in the army but several  
I met with all the British  
that were left to hear of the  
there was a company of soldiers  
I met with them so right from  
they are of the same strength  
in day time and at night  
to command an expedition  
the main people of the  
some of us came in contact with  
I thought to be back to  
there and were very  
in a way of occasion had me  
fine time of day but with  
we were at all moments  
I met with a few of the old  
I met him at a distance  
we have found that the world  
the best of the world  
mine to be the best

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There is some...  
a many guns...  
but if the...  
no... so...  
being...  
that if...  
good as...  
I had a...  
sense of...  
it... but...  
aff...  
and...  
I think...  
then did...  
money...  
to...  
the...  
all...  
to...  
if you...  
the...  
we...  
how...  
has...  
re...  
it...  
not...  
J. C. ...

Arthur Tappan  
No. 29, Nassau St. N.Y.  
J. C. ...  
S. ...  
South. ...  
Apr. 29, 1863

Dear Brother,  
I received your letter with much pleasure & had to answer you most welcome letter which I received on the 24<sup>th</sup> I was happy to hear from you and more than I expected to think that you were unable to write please don't wait so long the next time you feel anxious to hear from me often I will be reliable to have an action at any time now I do wish that I were with you and that I should like to visit you although we have very good times now we are still on the high hill and pleasant place but I fear that we shall not remain here long

002.2.24

for our friend has gone in his  
health was not good but after  
with me in his resignation to  
will and understand that  
not except to be kept in  
a hospital better man  
except than C. L. with most of  
his officers was opposed to him  
for being so intimate with the  
privates. when he left he said to  
us boys I now leave you, but may  
return but says he has the  
will of most of us men and he  
was not before he left he went  
all through the camp and shook  
hands with all the boys he is sure  
to bring to get us back to Chicago  
to guard prisoners are here but  
has no command and he says he  
is trying to get us in front  
of us just to get us out of the  
camp than to get to Chicago that  
there that we are there as much

as we are here as any other at least  
says Gen. Lane he says that the  
has been of more service to the  
than any other regiment that we  
know of we have had several  
times when with the Indians  
that attempt to hear of the  
there is a company of soldiers  
Franklin they are miles from  
they are of position through the  
in clay time and it will be  
to be committed some of the  
the same people as in the railroad  
some of us came in contact with  
them they had been sent to  
one of them and according to  
one of our men says that we have  
five times within last week  
we went out all mounted and  
armed in a pack of a deer did not  
find him but a brown well  
we have found a pack of  
the first of the month of  
the first of the month of

000211

Filson Historical Society



MAY 10 1880  
TEN

kt 2600

if I could get a furlough I  
I would go home, but that  
is impossible at present.

I still have a faint hope  
that some thing will be  
done soon that will cause  
the rebels to feel the  
weight of Uncle Sam's heel  
but it seem almost like  
hoping against hope. The  
North is the strongest and  
the last dollar and the last  
man will win, but I would  
like to see it settled before  
it comes to that, it is  
almost hot enough here  
now to roast a northern  
man and what will it  
be in a month from now,  
there is as yet no indication  
of any thing being done here.

MS. 2. 24



Franklin Tenn. May 2<sup>d</sup> 1863

Dear Nellie the second  
anniversary of our marriage  
has passed. Two years, it does  
not seem so long, it actually  
seems longer since I existed  
than it does since we were  
married, it seems as though  
it were but yesterday we  
spoke the vows that united  
us for life, but what an  
interminable length of time  
~~it~~ seems to have elapsed  
since I tore my self away from  
all that mad life happy.  
but if our national honor  
can be vindicated and our  
distracted country restored once

more to peace and prosperity  
we cannot regret the sacrifice  
we have made to secure it.

Last evening the brass Band  
of the 38<sup>th</sup> Indiana played some  
splendid pieces, it is one of the  
best brass Bands I ever heard  
and I have heard some pretty  
good ones. in conclusion they  
played "See't Home" with the  
most touching pathos I ever  
heard, while they were playing  
I thought of their thinned  
ranks, their noble conduct  
at Thompsons station when  
cowardice and treachery left  
them to contend with over-  
whelming numbers, of the  
half buried dead and up-  
turned faces with their eyes  
torn out by burwards as

they appeared when we passed  
over the field a short time  
after the fight.

you said in your last letter  
that you felt sad and lone-  
some and seemed to always  
carry a shadow around with  
you, you must try and not  
give way to such feelings,  
the more you do so the worse  
they will haunt you. I  
know it is hard, I often  
feel so, but it will not  
do. I would be as glad to go  
home as you possibly could  
be to have me. I cant help  
getting home sick at times  
but I find it wont do to  
yield to the feeling, if I  
did I would be perfectly  
miserable all the time.

and how to take to the messengers & set  
Nelly I must tell you what a time  
we had the other day while ought  
a foraging we went 20 miles from  
Camp near red river stopped at an  
old scotch house all night got  
a load of corn and oats of him  
we told him that we wanted supper  
for 20 but says he I have got no  
coffee nor sugar so he ordered the  
Black cook to get supper for us of  
which one of the Niggers of his  
Massa had any sugar by going  
Massa get plenty of sugar in the  
kitchen coffee he brought with us so  
we did not trouble him for that but  
he had plenty so when supper was  
made says of old man will you be  
so kind as to show me your chest  
where you keep your groceries he did not  
know what to say come says I will  
lead the way or I will see he led and  
to his surprise I happened to find a barrel  
half full of good sugar he showed like  
wooden man now says I get men  
to get rum in and you may believe  
I did not spare it I would write more  
but for want of room I must close  
my love to Ben James and Jimmie and  
remember me to all enquiring friends  
much love to you and my little ones love from  
write soon as possible your affectionate  
Wm H. Desmont

South. Linnell. Lin. May 2. 1863

Sister Nelly

Dear sister with  
much pleasure and excitement I  
now hasten to answer your kind  
favor of the 26 it reached Camp  
yesterday but as I was on picket  
and did not get in to Camp  
untill this morning we are not  
relieved from picket untill 9 o'clock  
and it make it quite late for  
breakfast by the time we get  
in Camp we have good times on  
picket now for the weather is fine and  
the trees are budding out and we can  
sit under the trees and write and  
shop Girts Jimmy a good long  
letter yesterday I gave the Collected  
Sail Columbia when you wrote to  
him ask him how the letter suited him



First a letter sister Mary not long  
since do you ever hear from her I think  
its strange that she does not write  
I am surprised to hear how Dan  
has acted in regard to the little sum  
and in trading off old bits why  
did he not let me know how old  
bits acted for I had rather sold  
my forty than parted with him  
he was an noble or a good one  
I think its strange that he does not  
write to me I am sure if I have made  
him trouble by leaving my little office  
to settle but under he receives what  
he has profited away I think that  
I will have to trouble him a little  
when I get back but I hate  
have any trouble with any one  
Soard ever find the rest of that note  
Nelly you can act at your own pleasure  
about my money if you think that  
you can not let it out safe you  
had better keep it perhaps you had

better anyway for unless Ben breaks  
some for me this summer I shall have  
to hire it Brake for I dont see  
how he can Brake now as he has only  
got his terms and they have plenty  
to do at home I shall try so more  
this time in a letter for there is no express  
Office near here and as soon as you get  
it write a few lines and I will send  
the rest the report is now that they  
are going to send the 100 in front  
soon for my part I had rather go to  
Nashville or Murfreesboro than stay  
here for there is only 300 of us here  
now the rest are north of us and 8  
miles and the Rebels have a good  
chance of Bushwhacking for the stores  
are leaving out so think for my part  
I fear them not but if we were to  
go in front we would not have so  
much picketing to do but perhaps  
a little more fighting to do but that  
is what we came here for to fight

Filson Historic Society

Mr. John Patton

Co. A. 1st Reg. Artillery

10th Division

Army of the Cumberland

Franklin Tenn.

Dec 1st 1862

Ed. P. ...

May 5<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear son I take up my pen once more to write you a few lines to let you know that we as all well at present hope these rays find you enjoying the same I have had health this winter and spring so far for which I have grate reason to be thankful you write that have been in a little and have been brought safe through for which you ought to be very thankful that life has been preserved I have been engaged all a thorus of God Grace for you that if it be his holy will he will bring you safe through I have been hurried very much with work since cotton has got so high the want flour barrels to put flour in they are worth 40 cents Charles Hollen was in Livingston I see this winter working at mending waggons he home this and started to go back a gain went as far as Lewisville and had to turn back a gain Rosecrans had sitche at the road the get 950 dollars a month if you could get to work at your trade would it not not be doing as much good as any thing you could do there seems to be grate call for blacksmiths Charles said that there would be over a thousand waggons there at a time to be mended the wheat crops looks very bad there this spring it has been winter killed

Still writhe as often as you can I still feel anxious  
to hear from you I hope that the Almighty will  
protect you and bring you safe. thorough for I thank  
our Cause is good nothing more at present  
but remain your affectionate Father

William Patton

to his son Samuel Patton

Still when you write if you know any thing  
about your share write for they are anxious  
to hear from you they are very kind to me my  
best news

Franklin Tenn  
May 6<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Nellie we are  
ordered forward at last.  
it is getting daylight, we  
leave in a few minutes,  
the teams are hitching  
up. enclosed I send  
twenty dollars, which  
makes seventy. I have  
sent.

~~th~~ I had a  
letter from Tom.  
yes to say he is well  
and has got six months  
pay. I will write  
as soon as I have an  
opportunity.

Good bye.  
Samuel



Mrs. Nellie G. Patton

Chattworth,

Livingston Co.

Ill.

1854

Filson Historical Society

tell, but the boys say (with  
with a contemptuous curl of  
the lip) that "it is strategy"

We heard yesterday that a  
desperate battle has been fought  
in Virginia and that Hooker  
has defeated Lee, and then it  
was partly contradicted, we  
have nothing reliable yet on  
which to base an opinion,  
but await further news with  
intense anxiety. We will  
probably hear in a day or two,  
if he succeeds in capturing  
Gen. Lee's Army it will be a  
severe blow to the rebellion.

62234  
But I dare not hope, it  
is too good news to be true,  
I will write again in a few  
days, when perhaps I will have  
more to write about, when certain  
either good or bad, will take the place of  
suspense. Your Samuel

Franklin Tenn May 8th (3  
I want you to write as soon  
as you get that money and let me  
know how you get on in all.

Franklin Tenn May 8th (3

Dear Nellie, I suppose you  
will open your eyes when  
you see this dated at Franklin.  
That is, if you got my last  
letter stating that we were  
ordered forward, well that  
morning we got orders a little  
after twelve o'clock to pack  
up every thing and be ready  
to move forward at four o.  
clock. we all thought we  
were going for good, but  
when we started we found  
it was only our division that  
was moving, but, thinking  
we were merely the advance  
and that the rest would  
soon follow we moved on in  
good spirits, when about a  
mile and a half out we saw

troops and baggage wagons moving forward on an other road, this seemed to confirm our previous opinion, particularly as there was a large ammunition train with us. soon after, however, the head of ~~the~~ our column turned to the left through a strip of woods and we of course followed. this movement surprised us all, officers as well as men, but imagine our chagrin and disappointment when the infantry were ordered to stack their guns and we to park ours. I need not say that this movement elicited curses ~~not~~ not very loud, but awful deep. it had been raining all morning and this did not diminish in

the least the ill humor of the boys. we ~~we~~ got our dog tents up, sealed some of bark for a floor, and were soon making our selves as comfortable as our disappointment and the dreiring rainy weather would admit of. our present position is one of the most abominable that could have been selected for fighting. tho it makes a pleasant camp ground, if the enemy should attack us they would have all the advantage they could desire. it is rumoured that we are going back to camp in a few days. the main part of the force are where they have been heretofore. what is the meaning of this movement I cannot



Pontiac May 9th 63

Madam

Yours of is  
recd, and contents noted. I am  
sorry that I cannot accommodate  
you with the hedge plants which you  
want - at least I dare not promise  
now, and it is not very probable  
that I could at all - All plants are  
not all gone up but are all  
engaged if the men come after  
them - and very one almost is  
wanting plants now - we are ourselves  
resorting to the white willow both  
for filling up our old hedges and  
making new ones. We have had  
it (the true white willow) for pine  
or dry spruce and know what it  
is. There are perfect hedge fences  
already made of it that will  
turn anything. We can furnish  
you the willow at 4.00 for 1000 - we  
expect to be planting it in a week  
or 10 days yet

Yours truly  
G. A. Murphy

There are no aspen plants to be had anywhere  
that I know of and I have searched much. G. A. M.

officer you write direct to Company etc.  
First Reg. Ill Light Artillery, 10<sup>th</sup> Division  
Army of the Cumberland Franklin Tenn.  
war:charlie

Franklin Tenn. May 10<sup>th</sup> 1863

Well Wm I received a letter from you  
a few days ago but have been unable  
to find time to answer it till now.

You stated that you had got your  
pay and did not know what to do  
with it. I can easily tell you what  
I would do with it, if I was in  
your place I would try and secure  
that other forty acres of land. you  
can probably get it as easily now as any  
time, and I think you should strain every  
nerve to get it while you can or then  
you wont be fooling away your money  
but will have something to show for  
the time you have spent eating hard  
tack. I think you was very foolish for  
giving Ben. money to buy a steer to mate  
old bright. you should have known him  
better, but still I cant imagine  
what you want with a yoke of cattle  
while you are in the army.

we received six months pay a short  
time ago, I have sent seventy dollars  
home in letters. when Mellicie wrote  
last she had received thirty of it. I

sent ten or twenty dollars at a time.  
I wrote to her not to lend any of it,  
a man might as well give money away  
as lend it on the Prairie, your kind  
offer to send me some money was fully  
appreciated but as I have got my pay  
I of course do not need it.

The army here is doing nothing but  
cutting down timber and digging for-  
tifications, you said in your letter  
that you wished you was in our Battery  
I think you are better where you  
are as I think we may have some  
hot work to do this summer.

Welle stated in her letter that she  
had received the twenty dollars you  
sent home in a letter.

We get the Lewisville papers here next  
day after they are printed, Cincinnati  
papers two, and Chicago papers three days  
after they are printed.

The news from the Rappahannock has  
been rather unfavorable for a couple of  
days, but a telegraph dispatch received  
at Gen. Grangers head quarters here today  
states that "Richmond is taken" but  
this news is too good to be true, write  
often, your friend and Brother Samuel Patton

Franklin Tenn. May 12<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Nellie we are again in our old camp and have been here several days, it is nearly sundown, it is too hot in the middle of the day to write or do any thing else with any kind of comfort, I am sitting under a peach tree on an ammunition box, there is a great many large peach trees here, they are all loaded with fruit about as large as the end of my thumb, they are growing verry fast. I went into that garden I told you about in a previous letter to get some goose berries yesterday, there is a gard in it now he ordered me to leave but being some distance of I ofcourse did not hear him but kept on picking as fast as I could til he came up when I had to leave, but I had managed to get enough for a taste, I cooked them in a tin cup and sweetened them and (whether you believe it or not) I tell you they did not taste verry bad, the gard told me his orders were not to let any one in to the garden without permission from the owner, it is my opinion that the man who owns it is one of those persons who

who wish to keep on the right side of both parties. such persons remind me of the fellow who, wishing to cross a dangerous foot bridge, prayed to the "Good Lord" that he might get over safe, and then as he placed his foot on the bridge exclaimed "the Devil aint a werry bad man either"

We have heard nothing of a decisive character since I wrote last the accounts from Hooker's army I think ~~are~~ are favorable, we heard he had been defeated, and then a Telegraph dispatch of a different character was received at head quarters, and we were told that they "had received good news from gen. Hooker" but next day the papers gave a confirmed account of his defeat and retreat across the Rappahannock, then a Telegraph dispatch received at head quarters Sunday the 10<sup>th</sup> of Nov. stated that "Richmond was taken" the papers next day also announced that the "National Flag was floating over the Rebel Capital". but the papers today say nothing further about it, so we still remain in uncertainty, tho I am inclined to believe it, as we had an army within a days march

of the place, ~~and~~ <sup>and</sup> most of the  
rebels available fore were undoubtedly  
by either fighting Gen Hooker or march-  
ing to reinforce ~~Lee~~ <sup>Lee</sup>, and if such ~~was~~ <sup>was</sup>  
the case Richmond would not be  
very hard to take, but at any rate  
Gen. Lee must be in a bad fix with  
his communication cut off from Richmond  
and Hooker pressing him in front as  
last accounts state he is, but you  
will probably know by the time  
you get this, and I will probably know  
about as soon as you do, but the ball  
is in motion and I look forward with  
hope,

Morning, Aug 13<sup>th</sup>. as twilight faded into  
darkness last evening I quit writing, but  
now resume the pen to finish my letter,  
we went over to town yesterday morning  
to get some boards to make benches of, as  
we had lost those we had, by moving  
out, while over in town John Martin and  
we climbed in at the window of a deserted  
mansion and helped our selves to  
a lot of books and magazines which we  
found there, so we will have plenty of  
reading matter for a while, we can get  
Chicago paper here two or three days after

they are printed. they cost ten cts apiece.

there was four 8 inch howitzers came here last week. they are intended for shooting shell and canister. I believe they are expecting four Parrot siege guns this week. the parrot guns are rifled and are considered the best for long range shooting. three of them and one of the howitzers I believe are to be placed on a high hill on our left.

The train has arrived. The news is still provokingly contradictory. but I still hope for the best.

I shall soon begin to look for those pictures of you and Abinnee.

I received a letter from father a few days ago they are well. they complain of your never answering their letters. Caroline wrote some time ago she said she had never heard from you since they sent father's likeness and did not know whether you had received it or not. but I must close my letter.

So good bye for the present.  
your husband  
Samuel Patton.

[1863?]

Get out on your own  
I hope they have not  
the up more than  
I hope they have not  
I hope they have not

Direct your letter  
to Mellie Churray  
No 30 Kent St Rochester  
N. Y.  
and then it will be sent  
to you

Rochester May 15<sup>th</sup> / 65

Dear Cousin

I received  
your welcome letter last week  
and now I am the first  
applicant of answering it  
I was glad to hear you  
were well and hope you are  
you get I suppose the are  
having a terrible fight now  
I have tried to find out  
but could not whether your  
regiment was in it or not  
but I hope not what do you

Ms A 7 24



think about it are the South  
going to beat us or not  
some think they are I hope  
not but then I don't believe  
I would care much which  
would beat if the war was  
only over Dan Own works  
are all well I am the worst  
myself for I have an awful  
cold I am so hoarse I can  
hardly speak Well William  
have you had much rain  
out there this spring we  
have had a great deal here  
last week it rained nearly  
all the time it makes it  
real bad for the farmers  
they have but very little  
ploughing done yet Aunt Mary  
brother <sup>Wm</sup> W. Barry has been  
here this week he has been

in California for fifteen  
years and in the army since  
the war commenced he is  
Lieut. Colonel he has been  
fighting the Indians there  
so you see he is quite a  
popular man they were very  
glad to see him he went  
back yesterday I have been  
out this afternoon with Mary  
Desmond she said she rec'd  
a letter from you I have  
not heard from Marcie in  
two weeks it seems a long  
time to told Dan to write  
to you I guess he will he  
will tell you all the news  
from Greece Write soon  
and accept the love of  
your Cousin  
William  
Mel. Murray

Filson Historical Society

Mr. Samuel P. Ten.

Company Me.

1st Regt Ill. Inf. 1st Division

1st Div Army of the Cumberland

Franklin & Nashville

Tenn.



002281

222  
The baby was very ill  
and I must not go  
even if my feet were  
ill.

Mrs. Simons had had been quite  
well this week, but very fever. She felt  
pretty so, and this morning she was  
so that she got to bed. She  
was the old lady as not very well  
but she had a fever the night  
before. I know she is not well  
but she is not very feverish.  
very good in having a fever that  
you get her board & then work  
to her board too. I haven't any  
appetite at all. I eat a whole  
piece of bread at once & last night  
I ate two whole pieces. Don't you  
think she does fairly well for a  
months old baby. We weighed her  
this morning with nothing on but  
she weighed 10 1/2 pounds.

... I would get some young trees  
all in a day & see if I could  
have them such as them there were  
had with them as when I was sent  
for his trees I sent by him for some  
peach trees & currant & gooseberry bushes.  
He made a mistake & didn't send for the  
peach trees but the bushes came all right  
as soon as they got here I had the  
men dig up the ground & set them out.  
I sent out & understood the work myself  
so that he would get the same  
the bushes the right distance apart &  
well we got them set out and they are  
now growing beautifully all leaves out.  
I have a row of currant & one of goose  
berries in a row in the garden, just as  
you wanted it when the men were  
sent - was provided when we had trees

Filson Historical Society





102700

Filson Historical Society

how you can tell how  
 time when you are so  
 far from you  
 I have been all night  
 thinking of the  
 morning, if you like  
 with a pretty long  
 some time went  
 was commenced to  
 did a survey of  
 in ball. I don't know how far  
 weather can be for the public, unless  
 they will suffer so much with it. It  
 must be decided for us in a quarter  
 of the world to be crowded together in  
 a number of cities. It is very warm & I  
 hope that the sun would come  
 an end before it gets to us  
 with the sun, but I am not sure.



863

Dear friends  
 I spent all of yesterday  
 afternoon in trying to send you  
 a letter, taken to send you this  
 one, but failed to get a good one. I  
 tried to write any, but you know the  
 difficulty of writing in them. The  
 second day, Ed Park lived, he  
 wrote in the letter, so in a dark  
 back was no wonder. He can't  
 get good pictures there, there is only  
 one place in the room  
 & that you know. I am not sure  
 he can't work till nearly noon, for  
 the sun shines in too bright  
 in the miserablest continuance  
 I ever saw, for taking pictures.

I am sorry to let him try once more  
& then if he doesn't get a good one I  
will go to the bank & get them taken out  
but there is an artist there but  
I don't know what a name it is  
I hope you will have some more  
anyway unless you get another  
copy of the money has all the same  
they are going to move in  
the whole of the whole of the  
going to a room in the  
of a business  
will be a success in trying for  
I shall be sorry if you don't see  
in this letter after your waiting so  
long for them but never mind the  
longer you wait the better they will  
be when you get them. I am sure at  
last. for she will take better as she  
grows older but she is so white &  
has so little hair that I don't expect  
you will get a very good picture of her  
or even see her eyes as they are or light

I have seen the two letters from you this  
week. The one you wrote me was  
just as you thought you would  
take a start I got it  
other one Thursday. I was  
open my eyes pretty wide when I saw  
but one dated at 18th April for I had  
from you the letter that you had  
left that letter for me  
same. I don't imagine you will  
by taking you out there  
under they thought that  
and I had said where you  
was I to take was ever names here  
and the sketch would be a good  
clear wonder you all that is  
proof of the war things are many  
of it, as I can find out they  
you the advantage every time  
or instead to make you  
then there are they might have entered  
the lake house it was raining & it  
would be a very good to search in

evidently didn't think it  
very good if we could judge  
any thing by his looks.

Our first round mad the  
group of officers who were looking  
on, grin, and when we fired our  
second round Gen. Granger and  
his staff claped their hands  
and cheered us, the shells burst-  
ing at, and tearing up the ground  
all around the target, even.

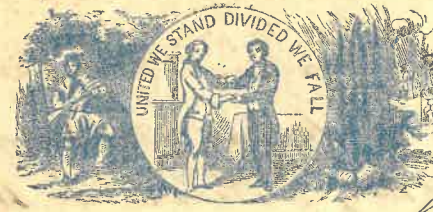
Gilbert joined in the applause.

Gen Granger said "give me the  
first Illinois yet" our battery  
is generally called the first 9<sup>th</sup>  
here, as our guidon is marked 1<sup>st</sup>

and the batteries from other States  
are not ~~numbered~~ lettered in

Regiments as those from Ill. but  
are merely numbered which is  
a great deal more convenient.

The 18<sup>th</sup> fired two rounds after  
we got through, they did better than  
the 9<sup>th</sup> but not so good as our battery



Franklin Tenn May 17<sup>th</sup> (63)

Dear Willie I received a good  
long letter from you yesterday.  
I received one from Wm. day  
before, he was well. I got it  
next day after it was written.

Gen. Granger has ordered sixty  
families to leave Franklin and  
go south of our lines. They will  
be here within a day or two.

is blowing up the foundation  
of some large brick building  
along the river next to our camp

they come down with a crash. I  
think it is his intention to  
burn the town if the rebels

attack us again, it is said  
Gen Rosecrans has men at work

I am glad the women are not  
going off to war in these  
times. I am sorry you  
feel very good  
on and it don't  
the place I am staying  
a large lot on  
present as there is  
nothing for the  
I will have to quit

What you  
to get what records from  
is long the same

and fortifications all along the line.  
since Gen. Hooker's defeat in Virginia  
no. much as they attempt to smash  
it over ~~the~~ <sup>Hooker</sup> evidently got soundly  
thrashed. when did you ever  
hear of a defeat in Virginia  
that was not at first reported  
as a great victory.

The rebels may mass their  
forces and make an attack on

● "the dog Rosecrans" but if  
they do I think they will find  
he is a good Purp<sup>er</sup> to fight.

The Batteries here were  
out shooting at a target  
yesterday, the 9<sup>th</sup> Ohio has been  
boasted of by a great many  
as the best there was here,

Gilbert and his staff doing  
all they could to discredit our  
before they had ever seen us

fire a shot the chief of Gilbert's  
staff told the Captain of the  
18<sup>th</sup> Ohio Battery that our Battery  
was not worth any thing, but  
shot all over creation and co-  
not hit any thing. The 9<sup>th</sup> and  
18<sup>th</sup> had been out shooting, a  
few days ago but I don't know  
what kind of shooting they  
done as I was not there to  
see, yesterday the 9<sup>th</sup> Ohio first  
fired two rounds at the target  
which was about three quarters  
a mile distant, and then moved  
out and let us take their  
place, some fellows who were  
looking on said "all the good  
shooting has been done now,  
but then the 9<sup>th</sup> Ohio has  
been out the longest and ought  
to be the best" but Gen. Granger



Bill Remond was killed  
near Atlanta, Ga. September  
of same year

Mr. William S. Remond

Georgetown E

129th Reg. ILL. Inf.

South General Jones

Via Memphis

1870



Filson Historical Society

we dont fare verry well here  
now. we have been ordered to  
have one man cook for the  
whole company and men are  
detailed to help him, he can  
cook good if he has a  
mind to but dont do it,  
but cooks as though he was  
making feed for hogs by the  
whole sale, there was men  
detailed to build a brick  
oven, but it did not do us  
any good as he took our dried  
appels shugar and flour ~~and~~  
and made pies which he sold  
to the boys for twenty cts  
apiece, and gave the officers what  
they wanted for nothing, last  
night the oven saved in which  
did not seem to please the officers  
verry well, one of them said he  
would give five dollars in  
green backs to know who done  
it, but I guess he will get to  
keep his money, at the men are too  
well pleased with the operation to  
tell who done it, yours Samuel Patton

Franklin Tenn. May 21<sup>st</sup> 1863

Mr Wm. F. Desmond

Well William I received  
your letter of the 14<sup>th</sup> next  
day after it was written, it  
seems odd to get a letter from  
you so quick when you know  
how long it used to take a  
letter to go, I generally get letters  
from home now in a week after  
they are written when it  
used to take from four to six  
weeks for them to come.

I saw Frank rose yesterday,  
I was going past him when I  
caught a glimpse of his face, I  
thought it was him, so I stoped  
and took a fair look at him, he  
was as much surprised to see me  
as I was to see him. ~~he said~~

he said he was acquainted  
with another fellow in our  
battery but never thought  
about this being the Battery  
I was in. Frank has a more  
sensible look than he used  
to, he don't squint and look so  
foolish when he talks. I guess  
he has got some of the green  
rubbed off. he is in the Co. G.  
96<sup>th</sup> Ill.

The general impression here is  
that we are on the eve of a  
forward movement but it  
is not likely we will know  
any thing about it til it  
occurs, we have been ordered  
to store all our extra baggage  
in Nashville, a soldier is only  
allowed to carry <sup>one</sup> blanket  
one shirt and a pair of socks  
in his knapsack, the order, which

is from Gen. Rosecrans, says "if  
a soldier is found straggling  
behind his Company or Regiment  
the rear guard shall examine his  
knapsack, and if any thing more  
is found in it, it shall be  
thrown out." This order was  
read to us on the 17<sup>th</sup> and  
said that the baggage of  
officers as well as men should  
be reduced <sup>immediately</sup> to the standard  
allowed by the Army regulating  
for field service.

Our battery, as well as others  
stationed here, is ordered out  
every day to practice target  
shooting, under the supervision  
of Gen. Granger and the chief  
of artillery on his staff, who  
is an excellent Artillery officer.  
The best I have seen since we  
entered the service,

*John W. Allen*



AR 709

Filson Historical Society

*Wm. W. G. Patton*

*Chalworth*

*Livingston Co.*

*Miss*



I have bought me a fish  
and we have crabs and one barrill  
of fishes for the company we will  
have a taste anyway so Ben did  
not fancy my letter well I wrote  
just what I thought only I  
thought more than I wrote when  
he wrote me a satisfactory letter  
some time I'll bet that I will him  
I will enclose two tens in this letter  
for it is not safe to carry much  
here tell Emma to write soon and  
you will please write a few lines in her  
or write to me soon so that I can know  
that it has reached safe they  
never see can write off as I have  
not written them very plain and  
if you know of any opportunities  
them a copy of the first one  
I should like to write more but I  
have no rum and the letter will be full  
remember me to all my family  
a kiss from my mother to you both W<sup>m</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Samuel

Head Quarters Co. E. 129 44<sup>th</sup>  
South Tunnell. Tenn. Nov 20 1867

Sister Kelly  
With pleasure  
I pleased to answer your kind  
redemption and long letter for letter  
which I recd the 24 at the same  
time I recd one from Samuel and  
from Jimmie and one from sister  
Kelly so you can imagine what  
a good time I had reading them  
all I was in sickbed when they  
came and when I came in camp  
after my supper I got them  
all it was Sunday had been  
quite lame all day as the  
post which I was in was in a  
deep ravine on the railroad at  
the mouth of a tunnel  
surrounded by hills and crickets

17700

write soon

but whilst perusing these  
letters little did I think  
of the ripples at the present  
time I would have been an easy  
prey to them had they supposed  
to spy me or not troubled  
by them much for they are just  
they now they come within range  
of our Yankee guns and well  
they may be well Nelly I think that  
if the news is true that we get last  
night of pickets being over and  
several other points which Grant  
has taken lately that the main  
artery of secession has been bleed  
but I fear that it is to good  
to be true now will tell but  
if the late news is true I think  
that Samuell and myself will  
help you eat a dish of mush and  
milk in a few months and we  
go into the swill and flapjacks

Two things which I sent by a  
messenger by the name of Berry the  
last vest of February he belongs  
to our company he has gone home  
in a fortnight there was an order  
that 8 men out of each company  
could go home in a fortnight  
and when they returned 8 more  
could go only 20 days fortnight  
but the order has been countermanded  
by Gen Beauregard so there is no  
more fortnighting to be done for my  
part I care not as 20 days  
would be only an aggravation  
I have more to send home full  
I fear that we will not have a home  
there was an order read on dress  
parade last evening that all of  
our surplus clothes should be packed  
up and sent to Washville. guess  
what I am going to haul for Nelly  
beef, fish and potatoes for

Triune Tenn. June 2<sup>d</sup> 1863

Dear Nellie it is getting  
dark and I have no candle  
so I cant write much.

we are camped here for the  
night, we go forward in the  
morning, nearly all the  
force that was at franklin  
is with us besides those  
that were here.

Rosecrans is evidently mass-  
ing his force, we will  
probably move on shelby-  
ville immediately, it is  
reported that we are to  
start on the Shelbyville  
pike tomorrow morning.

it is getting too dark  
to write, so good bye  
for the present.

your husband,

Samuel Patton.

00224

when I have a home, and  
 such a home as I have, or once  
 had (but from which I am  
 now an exile, I cannot help  
 longing for the day when  
 we will meet again, when  
 I look at the slow progress  
 of the war, and the chances  
 of getting home before the ex-  
 piration of my term of enlist-  
 ment, and the possibility (if  
 not probability) of never get-  
 ting home at all, my heart  
 almost sinks at the prospect.  
 Still events may take such a  
 turn this summer that we  
 may get home next winter  
 or next spring, but we cannot  
 read the future, and must wait  
 for time to make its own  
 revelations, but I don't feel  
 any worse about it than I  
 expected to when I left home,  
 when I enlisted. I had weighed

I have no more room to write  
 so better stop. I am  
 your affectionate  
 brother  
 John

Dear Nellie, we are still  
 here and I don't think we  
 will leave til richborough  
 is taken, grant seems to have  
 a tough job there, but I think  
 he is equal to it.

Well Nellie, we are no longer  
 under old gilbert, he has left  
 at last, and is now a captain  
 in the 6th regulars, he has  
lost his stars and is now only  
a captain, in future when  
 he marches, instead of riding,  
 with about thirty cavalry  
 men at his heels, he will  
 have to walk. his chief of  
 staff (the scamp that ordered  
 me to be tied up for killing  
 a hog at Spring hill) is sent  
 for better duty.

1  
 2  
 100



to Nashville under arrest for  
forgery, you need not think  
these facts please me at all.  
I don't think either of them  
would have counted the tears  
that were shed for them  
when they departed.

He are now in gen. Baird's  
Division of gen. Rosecrans' reserve  
Corps, the Corps is under gen.  
Gordon Granger's command, William  
will be in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Division of  
this Corps, I understand that  
the 12<sup>th</sup> has been ordered to  
Taveruge, but I fear it will  
be very difficult for me  
to get to see him as they  
won't be insid of our pickets,  
Taveruge I believe is about  
four miles from here.

I have not felt very well  
for several days but feel

better this morning.

It is reported that rebel  
gen. Forest was killed at Spring  
hill a few days ago, it was  
reported that he was moving  
on this place with a large  
force of Cavalry, mounted  
Infantry, and Artillery, some  
deserters who left before he  
was killed, state that his  
men had eight days rations,  
and when they stoped at  
Spring hill he told them  
that he was going to take  
this place.

There was eleven Regiments of  
Cavalry reviewed here yesterday.  
I wish the war was over  
and I was back home again.  
The time was, when I think  
soldiering would have suited  
me very well, but now

ruin, but Nellie it requires but little courage to face the shot and shell of the enemy compared with what it required for me to stare myself away from all that was dear to me on earth, but the people at last seemed to wake from their lethargy and the call for mor men was met with a response worthy of the American people and now I think the rebellion is slowly, but I hope, shurely sinking under the weight of Uncle Sam's heel.

I received your letter of June 7<sup>th</sup> a few days ago.

William Jones has never answered my letter, I have written to several persons

but all or nearly all of them seem to have forgotten to answer them, but I don't want any one to write me if they don't want to

After-noon,

Well I did not get my letter done in time for the mail, and so must keep it til tomorrow, perhaps you would like to know the reason, well <sup>it</sup> was this, I saw a cow a short distance off, and taking my tin cup and some salt I started in pursuit of some milk, but I soon found that game was played out, she would smell at the salt and then go away, the fact was she had seen too many soldiers, and been salted too often, ~~and~~ and consequently had no

myself as young so many things  
I relish for salt, but I was  
not going to give it up that  
way. I tried to get her to  
stand still but she would do  
no such thing, but kept walk-  
ing around picking a mouthful  
of grass where ever it suited her  
best, so I walked along side of  
her and when she stoped to take  
a bite I would milk a stream or  
two, after following the old  
cow around in this manner  
for about an hour I got my  
cup nearly full of milk, when  
~~for me~~ unvolubly for me, I held  
on to the teat a little too  
long, when she was going to step  
and got more than half of my  
milk spilled, but you know I  
am not in the habit of giving up  
for trifels, so I kept on as befor  
only I was considerably more care-  
ful how I held my cup, and  
at last got it full of milk.  
we had rice for dinner and as  
I told you once before we scarcely  
ever eat it, but to day I mixed  
mine with milk and put a  
little shugar in it, well I shant  
under take to tell you how good  
it was, as language never was  
framed that would be adequate  
to describe the satisfaction  
I experienced in eating it, well  
perhaps I acted the hog a little,  
and possibly more than a little, at  
any rate when I quit I did not feel  
as though I could eat any more, I believe

5  
well the consequence of the  
step I was taking. I foresaw the  
weary hours I must pass befor  
I could enjoy the home then  
so dear to me, but I thought  
of the fearful consequences that  
must follow if this cursed  
rebellion should be allowed  
to succeed, when I enlisted you  
know it was the most gloomy  
hour of our National existance  
our Armies had been driven  
back and the Presidents call  
for "three hundred thousand more"  
men seemed to fall unheeded  
upon the ears of the nation,  
it seemed as if the light of  
patriotism was fast fading  
away, I looked at the gloomy  
prospect and thought that  
whatever others might do  
I could not stand by an  
idle spectator of my Country's

we might see again, or use your thought  
so impressed with the scene by you  
as to have room for no others. I read  
an account of that shipwreck in the  
papers. I find the number of rebels  
killed, but I know it was a good  
many. I was wishing today that I was  
sick, & what use do you think I should  
make of my inability; I would come & see  
you. I think I could find my way  
there if I only had the means, wouldn't  
you be surprised to see me come  
marching into camp some day. I  
only wish I could. Mr. Law came home  
today on a furlough. he is going to stay  
two weeks. I haven't seen him &  
speak with him, but the quartermaster said he  
told him that Will was sick again.  
or at least not very well. I wish he  
could get a discharge, for he has been  
sick about half the time since he  
went away & I am glad that he

Dear Samuel  
I have some sad  
news to write you this time. it is  
that poor Haenohun is dead. he died  
this morning about nine or ten, after  
a sickness of only four days. when he  
was first taken sick the Dr thought  
it was like measles, but after he had  
been sick a couple of days they sent  
to the Dr for Dr. Hulley. Then  
they consulted together & came to the  
conclusion that his sickness was caused  
by over-heating himself. he was black-  
smithing this summer & you know about  
this time of the year there is always  
plenty of work to do. he worked pretty  
hard & overheat himself & it has resulted

MS. A. 1. 1. 1. 1. 1.

orchestrating himself cannot inflammation on the brain  
in his death. When you come home again  
I shall be most afraid to let you work  
in the shop. for fear it may kill you but  
but Thenshaw was so fleshy he couldn't  
stand the heat as well as some others.  
I saw over there just now. I see he was  
it looks quite natural only his face is  
spotted some & is turning purple. I pity  
his poor wife with her three little children  
he could hardly make a living for them  
when alive. I don't know what they  
will do now that he is gone. I feel very  
sorry for them. his father & mother takes  
it pretty hard. he is to be buried on  
Smyth's place. The funeral is tomorrow  
morning at ten. I think I will try & go  
if Anne feels well enough. I wrote  
you in my last about Swinnies being  
sick, with the lung fever. she is a good  
deal better now, but is not very well yet.  
after a while you had she was when now  
& for a few days she was very sick.  
Dr. Hulley was in town the same to see

Wm Thenshaw, & I had him come  
in to see her. he said she had had  
the lung fever but it had settled into  
a kind of intermittent fever. that  
I would have to be very careful of her  
or she might never get over it. he  
advised me to keep giving her Dr  
Bersham's medicine I have followed  
his advice & she is now much well.  
for which I feel very thankful. for I believe  
it would nearly kill me to lose her. for  
she is a great comfort to me in my  
loneliness & I should miss her very  
much. more I presume than I could  
if you were at home with me.

I think you had quite a narrow escape  
when that shell went over your heads.  
didn't you feel very thankful because it  
didn't strike you? I did. it seems dread-  
ful to be exposed to such dangers. how  
did you feel when the battle was going  
on, & what was you thinking about. did you  
think of home, & loved ones that you think

June 24<sup>th</sup>

Well Samuel, I will now endeavour to finish my letter. I had to stop writing night before last to take care of Minnie & yesterday I went to the funeral, so I haven't had a chance to finish it until now. I don't think I have seen so many people assembled together before, since I have lived on the prairie, as there was at the funeral yesterday. There was 28 teams (Cherokee county them) & every wagon was as full as it would hold. I went with Caborn's folks. There was 4 wagon loads full went from here. They met at his house & when we got over to the schoolhouse it was full of folks, as they had to adjourn to the Grove, in front of Whitaker's house. It was very cool & pleasant there, but it was so very warm riding over there at the grave that it made me very sick. I had a dreadful heart-ache when I got home, so I had to lay

down. we went just for Pierce's and it reminded me strongly of the time you & I went there the winter before we were married. Mrs Miller spent the afternoon with me one day last week. I gave her her singing books, & lent her your glee book. She had forgotten that she let you take her books before she went east, & she said she had hunted the house over for them since she came home.

She was gone & all her children have gone to her father's to stay a couple of months. He is enclosing the names of Abbotworth & vicinity, preparatory to a draft. Abbot is about charabak at Fort Mac, gets one thousand dollars per year. I think he ought to make a living now if he never did before. I presume he will if his wife isn't too extravagant. well I guess I must close & leave the rest to write another time. see you. Lovey wife - Belle

Filson Historical Society

Chinnis asked for some candy that night  
I gave her some but she has no more  
I don't feel so well no more myself.

won't stand it till his time is out.  
I sent him some candy & maple sugar  
then sent by a fellow that came home  
from there & was going back.

I am glad you think I look better than  
I did when in Chicago. for I try hard  
to be cheerful & keep the wrinkles  
off my face so I won't look like an  
old lady when you come home. I  
laugh & play with Chinnis a good  
deal when she is well, but since  
she has been sick, she hasn't  
felt much like playing. so you think  
Chinnis looks pretty well in her picture  
do you's it's not half as pretty as the  
original & you would be sure to say  
so if you could only see her. I expect  
by the time you get to come home  
she will be able to run & meet  
you. she looks at your picture just as  
though she knew who it was.  
I'll be glad to welcome to you. Maria.

going to be brought to  
 a close before another year  
 has commenced, I think next  
 New years day will find the  
 stars and stripes waving  
 over our entire country and  
 the "Southern Confederacy"  
 be a thing of the past,  
 July 15<sup>th</sup>

Mellie when I commenced  
 writing this letter I had  
 a counter to write on, but  
 have no longer <sup>any</sup> such conveniences  
 as we are now camped on the  
 bank of Duck River about  
 half or three quarters of a mile  
 from town, yesterday I went  
 out and got a lot of apples  
 and brought them in and  
 sold them for 80 cts, but  
 I find I can't get stamps  
 even if I have money as  
 there is none to get, but  
 I got a lb. of butter for

Shelbyville Tenn,

July 13<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Mellie, we get along  
 first rate since we came <sup>here</sup>  
 we get fresh bread most  
 of the time, we can get  
 good fresh butter for from  
 twenty to thirty cts per  
 lb., there is no end to the  
 blackberries which we have  
 abundant time to pick,  
 milk is still pretty dear  
 being twenty cts per quart,  
 pies sell at fifteen cts  
 apiece, when the rebels were  
 here pies sold at three dolls  
 apiece, the extraordinary  
 cheapness of provisions has  
 played sad havoc with  
 my postage stamps, but  
 I suppose we will be



<sup>2</sup>  
said soon again, but if  
we don't, I don't care, as I  
can get along very well  
and if I have no money  
to spend now I will have  
more when I get home, which  
I begin to hope will be  
no very distant day, I may  
not get home this fall  
<sup>but</sup> I feel very confident that  
I will be home before  
next spring, the way mat-  
-ters ~~now~~ seem to be pro-  
gressing now, if gen. Mead  
succeeds in capturing the  
rebel Army where he  
has got them now, it  
will virtually end the  
war, in a month afterwards  
I don't think any of the  
leaders of the rebellion  
can be found in the coun-  
try, the last accounts we

<sup>3</sup>  
had from gen. Mead's Army  
stated that he had taken  
thirty thousand prisoners  
and cut off the retreat of  
the rebel army, and also  
that the Potomac was  
very high and Lee had  
no bridges to take his  
Army across on, Gen. Rosecrans  
is waiting for supplies to  
come up, when I suppose he  
will again commence offen-  
-sive operations, tho I don't  
think he will advance any  
farther than Chattanooga  
tel Gen's Grant and Banks  
bring up their line to the  
western boundary of Georgia,  
Gen. Rosecrans is at present  
collecting all the horses he  
can get to mount his  
Infantry on, from all  
appearances the war is

8  
only drives him back, it  
will be but giving treason  
one more breath, as its end  
I think is assured by draw-  
ing near, it is said that  
Bragg in his retreat from  
here kept most of the Tenn.  
troops in his front to keep  
them from deserting but  
many of them even then  
escaped, rebel soldiers who  
wont take the oath but  
prefer imprisonment,  
say that if left to a  
vote of the people this  
difficently would soon be  
ended, it is reported that  
since the surrender of  
of Vicksburgh on the 4<sup>th</sup>  
Gen. Grant has sent a  
part of his force in  
pursuit of Gen. Johnson,

5  
twenty five cts, a quart of  
sweet milk for ten cts. and  
half a dozen apple dumplings,  
which cost me ten cts more  
I had some sugar with  
which I mad "dip" of the  
milk and had a splendid  
dinner, the <sup>rebels</sup> had a brick  
oven in a building in the  
rear of the one we occupied  
and when they left they  
had not time to take  
it down, so our cook used  
it to bake pies and dump-  
lings in and that is the  
way we got our dumplings  
but we must do without  
them now, or get them of  
the citizens, but they  
are getting to sell them  
more reasonable, yesterday  
I saw half pies (turnovers)

Sold for five cts a piece.

I suppose they thought it pretty hard to come down from secesh prices to those they sell things for now but there is only occasionally one who will take rebel money at all, and they take it only at an immense discount, since we have been here the Marshall's office has been thronged with citizens, and deserters from the rebel Army anxious to take the oath of allegiance, over four hundred took the oath on Saturday, and still they come, ~~and~~ <sup>at</sup> one time twenty five rebel deserters with their captain of their company rode into town and took the oath, Congress from Jones has taken the oath of allegiance here.

17-7-61

7  
though it is fair to presume that it will not be taken with such alacrity throughout the entire state, but the strongest secesh can't long fail to see that the rebellion is about played out, and will join the strongest side for the sake of saving their property, I don't think it will be a great while before Jenn. makes an attempt to get back in to the Union, there is a report that Louisiana has asked to be permitted to come back, but the news needs confirmation, but if gen. Mead captures gen. Lee's Army it will be only madness for them to fight any longer, and even if he captures the rebel

9  
when Port Hudson is taken  
there will be troops enough  
in the southwest to "lick  
up the southern Confederacy  
like salt", as Grant says  
about Johnson.

if you get that curtain  
I sent you, out of eyes,  
Brags carrying I want you  
to let me know.

Those things you were  
going to send me by  
Law, I don't think will  
ever reach me as I un-  
derstand that the 3<sup>d</sup> Divis-  
ion is still in Nashville  
and won't be likely to  
be much nearer than it  
is now, at least very soon.

I was sorry to learn that  
William was sick but  
hope it is nothing very

10

serious. I hope neither  
of us will have to stay  
in the army much longer.  
O, how I long for the  
time when we will all  
meet one more, when I  
can see my Nellie once  
more and see my Minnie  
for the first time, it is  
now nearly a year since I  
enlisted, but only a couple  
of days, what a long weary  
year it has been, but  
the future looks bright  
and the happy day may  
be even nearer than we  
anticipate when we can  
enjoy our home once more.  
but I must bring my  
letter to a close hoping  
that through <sup>the</sup> blessing of  
God ~~we~~ we may all  
enjoy good health.

Your Husband Samuel Patton

The war is carried on ever so vigorously, we will hardly

all discharged before that time  
butler myself, and may possibly  
not be til Spring

I received three ~~letters~~ <sup>loggers</sup>  
a few days ago which you  
sent me, I have got two letters  
from you since. I came here  
one dated June 18<sup>th</sup> and the  
other June 28<sup>th</sup>, the mail  
comes here now regular every  
day.

The sutlers dont have as  
good a time here now as  
they used to when they  
could charge their own  
price for ever in thing, it  
does me good to see these  
miserable unprincipaled  
"Army Leeches" whose only  
ambition <sup>was</sup> to get the soldiers  
money from him by extortion  
standing around their deserted  
tents, their "long faces" con-  
stituting the greatest part  
of the <sup>and may be seen, but</sup>

I think it is about time  
for me to get another letter from  
you, I am anxious to hear how  
you are getting along as you have  
not written for some time  
I think you were  
near the 4<sup>th</sup> when you wrote last

Shelbyville Tenn, July 22<sup>nd</sup> 1863

Dear Nellie we are  
still camped where we were  
when I wrote last, on the  
banks of Duck River, except  
that we have moved our  
tents a short distance from  
where they were, into a more  
shady place, our camp is  
on a grassy ridge a short  
distance from the river  
and is a very pleasant  
locality, the place where  
we first put our tents was  
not as nice as where they  
are now besides being exposed  
to the sun most of the day.

We can go in swimming when  
ever we choos, go picking black  
berries have notes of being home by early time

2  
berries and then cook and eat them when we get back. Lay down on the grass in the shade, or sit on the pile of corn sacks and discuss the probabilities of getting home soon. in fact we have about the best times we have ~~about the best times we~~ ~~have~~ had since we have been in the service, to the enjoyment of which the prospect of getting home soon, adds not a little.

We get fresh bread from the bakers every day, but beyond this I cant ~~get~~ much of government rations, as we are furnished with pork and beans captured from the rebs. the beans taste musty, and the pork

3  
is alive though it has went through the process of being salted and smoked, yesterday we had seesh coffee but the boys would not drink it, it is ground, and is probably made of burned Peas or some such trash.

but as long as we can get good bread we can get along, as there is plenty of black berries, and the people begin to bring in ripe apples which they sell very reasonable, and peaches will soon be ripe, so, as long as we have a little money of our own we can get along first rate, at any rate I dont feel disposed to grumble, if I can only get good bread and butter even if I have to buy the

8  
since the fall of Vicksburg  
and Fort Hudson and the  
demoralization of Bragg's Army  
and its retreat or rather  
flight from Tenn. The immense  
armies now at liberty to  
move forward in the west  
or rather south west can  
soon wipe out both Charles-  
-ton and Mobile when there  
would be nothing to prevent  
their march on Richmond and  
if the armies of the Nation  
were assembled around that  
nest of treason a single volley  
from the Artillery alone would  
sweep it out of existence, and  
if the Infantry and Cavalry  
were permitted to empty their  
cartridge boxes on the place where  
it stood it would be huried  
beneath a pile of lead. The war  
cannot last much longer, when  
the large rebel Armies, or whiped  
they may break up into gurrella  
parties, but our Infantry will

5  
of their stature and their,  
lower jaws almost dragging  
on the ground, it does  
any of the boys as much  
good to steal from one  
of them as it would to  
steal from a secesh.  
yesterday one of our boys was  
buying some eggs from a  
citizen who wanted twenty  
cts a dozen for them, and  
he told him they had  
been selling for fifteen  
cts a sutler who was stan-  
ding near remarked that "he  
need not grumble at twenty  
cts, as he had seen him pay  
forty cts a dozen for them,"  
"yes," replied the soldier - when  
I had to buy them of  
you, and two thirds of them  
were rotten at that, he



then invited the sutler  
to attend to his own  
business, adding a few remarks  
not very complimentary to  
the character and patriotism  
of "Army Decker". The sutler  
had no more to say about  
the price of eggs.

When you write again I  
would like to know where  
William is, ~~as~~ I have lost  
track of him all together,  
the last I heard from  
his Regiment was before  
the army moved and I  
don't know where it is  
now, I have not seen or heard  
any thing of it on the  
march, though I suppose it  
is in the Third Division  
of this Corps. I don't know  
what Brigade it belongs

to, and the Brigades of the  
same Division may be sta-  
tioned a long distance apart.

They are raising lighter  
troops here, I understand  
they have got between one  
and two hundred enlisted.  
It seems that Gen. Lee is  
getting back towards Richmond  
and Gen Meade is on his  
track, though Gen Meade's  
victory is not as complete  
as at first reported I  
think Lee has got the  
worst of the fight, he  
has at least been foiled in  
his plans of invading the  
North, it is rumored that  
Charleston is taken, if this  
is true the rebellion is  
certainly on its "last legs"  
but even if it is not,

and I think it would not only be criminal but unwise, as it <sup>would</sup> be only offering a premium to future conspirators who would think that they might also deluge the land with blood, enrich themselves and when they could no longer pursue their wicked course receive pardon from the government and sit down and enjoy their ill gotten wealth unmolested.

I dislike Seward's policy, I think it shortsighted and foolish, I would say fight them! fight them!! fight them!!! keep fighting them, "tread the wine press - if need be - till the traitors' blood flows, even to the horses' bridles"

After noon 22<sup>d</sup>

Well I have just had a good dose of bread and milk, unfortunately I happened not to have any black berries or I would have had milk and black berries, but I did very well as it was, perhaps you would like to know where I got it as my money is very scarce and I believe I told you that an order had been read to us when we came here stating that if any one was caught foraging here he should be shot, well this evening I was taking a walk when I discovered a lot of cows out towards the pickets and out of sight

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of the camp and met an  
Infantry fellow with a canteen  
full of milk, I did not ask  
him any questions and he did  
not tell me any lies. But  
I turned about and went  
back to camp and got my  
canteen, there was a fellow  
named James Rollins laying  
in a tent next to mine, asleep.  
Rollins had went with me  
from Pontiac and enlisted  
when I did, I went over to  
his tent gave him a kick  
and told him to get up and  
go along with me, he asked  
me where I was going, I  
told him it was none of  
his business but pointed  
to his canteen and asked if  
that was his, the fellow who  
was in the tent with him  
looked up but said nothing  
probably thinking it was

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be mounted and the rascals  
hunted down like murderers  
and receive no quarter when  
taken, and when they find  
that death is the penalty  
for bushwhacking they  
will be glad to return to  
their homes, and ask protection  
from the government, they  
have tried so long and  
so hard to overthrow, but  
the majority will not  
go that far but when  
they find their cause grown  
desperate they will hasten  
to return to their allegiance  
for the purpose of saving  
their property, the leaders  
I think will leave the  
country unless the govern-  
ment by a criminal elem-  
-ent offers them pardon

MS. A. 9. 2. 11

much danger of privates reporting on each other as it is considered the meanest business they can engage in, and by doing so even if so disposed they will get the ill will of all their comrades, but chiggers will blab for the sake of gaining favor with the officers, one of them once reported three of our boys for stealing hay from Gen. Gilbert, and got them tied up to a tree one night in the rain,

The same chigger one dark night not long after dragged himself out of a mud hole, complaining of a sore head and bruised shins

I wish the black whelps were all in Africa once more, they will be a curse to our country as long as they are in it whether free or <sup>in</sup> slavery but if they must stay it would be better for us to keep them as they were, but as that is impossible without imprinting a stain on the Nation that can never be eradicated I say get rid of them send them off as fast as possible no matter what it costs it will be cheap at almost any price, I go in for sending every man, woman, and child, out of the country, who has a drop of chigger blood in their veins whether they

want to go or not, as far as freeing chiggers is concerned I would not place myself as a target to be shot at one moment <sup>to free</sup> ~~of~~ all the chiggers on earth, I would make an effort to get rid of them as I would to get rid of lice or any kind of vermine not because I love them, but because I consider them a nuisance and want to get rid of them.

we have just heard that nearly all of Morgan's force has been captured and also a rumor that Morgan himself was captured while attempting to make his escape disguised as a cooper, I hope it is true as he has been a hard customer, your Husband, Samuel Patton

MS. A. 9. 2. 100

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*the conference was not as long as I supposed*  
*I suppose you were with me*

none of his business either, Rollins got up took his canteen and followed a short distance behind me til we got over the hill when I told him what I had found, we then went along til we came to the cows where we found a couple more fellows on the same errand we selected a cow and one of us watched for Citizens Officers and chiggers while the other milked, as soon as we got our canteens full we went down to the river and held them in the water til the milk got cold when we returned to camp without being discovered, there is not a word of them, *time passes more pleasantly when I get letters from you frequently*

Chicago July 24/63  
Mr. B. F. Barnum

Dear Sir

We have a Boy  
from 12 years of age Hugh  
Boyd who wants a home  
His Father's dead & his  
step father drinks & abuses  
him His mother wants  
him to get a home for himself  
& as he is a very smart active  
Boy of good appearance I  
think perhaps he would suit you

I do not know much of him  
only that he is a Mission school  
Boy or is spoken well of  
you would need to keep  
watch of him no doubt

shall I send him & what  
will you do for him

PC Bre 2.50 & J. M. Chapman

Please reply by next mail  
order may be given

Hugh has just come in his  
14 years old. Can write some  
has studied reading Geography  
Grammar Arithmetic &c.

Says his mother never drinks  
& is a good woman. Hugh wants  
me to send him right off  
but I must wait until I hear  
from you if someone does not  
take him before. He is so  
quick & appears so well I think  
him one of the best boys we have  
had.

R  
J M C