Cranewaka Feb 25th 1862

My own Dear Husband

You will see I am now in Campbell. I wrote you and left it for Mr. McLean to mail. I left in such a hurry I asked Mr. McLean to stop in a line and tell you I had left. Mr. Wilson never got any letter and did not know till then that I had written to him. We came down there Wednesday had a very nice visit. Indeed, the children never enjoyed a visit more both wanted to stay there. Brother Wilson says if you can't come home in the Spring I must leave the boys there and go and see you. But I hope you will come home. Hattie enjoyed the visit as much as anyone. The little girls were so fond of her she was no trouble at all to me and Emma took care of T. He slept there till Saturday (yesterday) and Mary came home with us. It rained the whole time I was there and the river was up considerably though the bridge was not down. Mr. Wilson came to the river with us and three or four boys from tover, he said Mary must come with us for if one should be drowned you could never forgive him. But if his wife was along for perhaps you would not think so. He is a very kind man, but we got along safe and Mary went back in the carriage today. Well my Dearest I just got your kind letter of the 24th Wednesday. The day I got it I was so glad to hear from you, and that you were well. I hope you will not be so annoyed and have as much to do as you
have bad, any more, I know it is unpleasant for you to have so much bad weather. We have a great deal of rain. It is raining this evening. I had not seen your likeness since you left until I came down. It looks handsomer and even than ever to me. Baker says it is very nice. It is one thing I wanted to come down for. I will go home this week. Robert will go with us. The wagon will go up and carry supplies I was about out when I left home. It is raining the factory now but can't supply the demand here yet. It will be some time before he has any ahead to carry to Atlanta, thread is $2.00 and $2.50 per bushel, though. He has not sold any a high as that yet. It will be higher, it seems hard that thread is so high and cotton so low. We are all disappointed by Henry not coming home. Glover and some others in Campbell's persuaded the man that it would not be honorable to go as a substitute his name was Gibson. To and we are anxious of Henry cannot come home that he should join your company, you must help him all you can. I would be so glad if he was with you. I do hope you will have no fighting to do. I think the Beaufort fleet was nearly a failure. I'm afraid there will be fighting soon about Savannah. We are well enough fortified there. Our guns are not sufficient. I'm afraid, I do hope this war will soon close. Many think the blockade will be raised by the last of March. 5th Monday night, I intended to have sent this to the office today, but it has been raining all day and I have had no chance to send it, so it will not go out till Thursday's mail. We are all well, there are two gentlemen here tonight from below.
Fairburn, people come to the factory from all parts of
the country. I will close my letter tomorrow and send
to the office. God bless my Dearest tonight.

I will send my letter this morning by the man who stay.
here last night. They will mail it in Fairburn. I will
go down and see Aunt Leah today. I hope this will
find you well. I will send to the office today from
Aunt Leah's. I hope to get a letter from you. We will
go home day after tomorrow if it is dry enough. I will
write again when I get home. I send so much love
to Papa, Ma and all send love to you and Mama sends more
than pen can express. Hoping to hear from you very soon.

Sam as ever. Your own, Dear Wife.
At the hotel, I met Mr. Parker while I was there. He was very interesting and let me in the secret of interesting. I do feel sorry about your loss, they are fighting at Centreville, were yesterday, but I can't write you more at this time. The papers I received with a note you sent. If you could hardly have got back by this time, Colonel Oblis Reg. was in the fight. I feel confident that we will whip them, this. If you only will not have to go back, but I don't know I have heard you were on the way back. I know you have a great many trials, but I hope your will be strengthened by a higher Power to bear it patiently. I am glad to hear Mrs. Parker was with you again. I am sorry to hear of the Yankees getting your Camp chest and tent cloth. I don't want them to have the tent and your shoes, they are not in this. The Remse family is quite well. Your dear house is all rented out, and you is still hired out. I thought I would take her home when I had work to keep her busy. Papa's little boys talk more about you than anyone else did. Mama sends love and kisses to Pria. It is my daily prayer that you may be spared and I believe it will be answered, I know it will if it is Gods will. Hoping to hear from you soon. I will write again. Ransom sends love to you. Your son, Dearest Wife.
Campbell, Oct 17th, 1862

My dear Husband

Another Sabbath finds me still in Campbell. It has rained so much and the river is up so I could not get off. I was delighted Thursday evening to get your good letter of the 26th. It does me so much good to hear from you and hear you are well and not so much annoyed by Lint. Cook said you had a hard time of it. When you first went back, but I hope you will not be troubled so any more. I wish I could enjoy your society with you but it does me good to know you have them. I hope you will have plenty of something good all the time. I will try and send you something when Cook goes back. I want to see him before he goes back. I wonder if you get any eggs now to eat. I suppose it is cold here. How much I would love to look in your Emlen this morning. I hope you have preaching today, though I am afraid you have snow. It is cold and cloudy here. I went down to Aunt Leah's last Tuesday, rode on horseback. It is the first time I have been on a horse since you and I took a ride I thought of you all the time, had a very pleasant visit, met Cousin Belsey Bonner there, they all enquired particularly after you. Old Grandma wanted me to explain to her what this war was for and what kind of a Nation it was we were fighting. Aunt Leah said she could not make her understand anything about it, so I commenced by asking her about the Revolutionary war. She remembers a good deal about that, and in that way I
Could make her understand me; she wanted to know if you
wore a long plume with crimson tips. I told her all about
you and it seemed to give her a good deal of satisfaction. I
see she is failing, there is quite a change in her since
I saw her last. Her days are lengthened but I think she can't be
much longer for this world. Aunt Leah's health is about as
usual. Whitly has been home a 2nd time. He was drinking all
the time he employed Lockham against Aunt Leah.
I expect to go home tomorrow if the river is down. It was falling last
night. We had a letter from Henry last Thursday. He was quite
well. They have just got comfortably fixed in their winter-quarters.
said they were having an easier time now than they have had
since they left home. He says Glover is not willing to take a substi-
tute or transfer. I don't know whether he has power to prevent it
or not. He said he hoped to get a furlough soon. Since they have got
into winter-quarters, there were four come from that company last
Tuesday. Joe Camp, Billy Morris, Haney and M. Young all on
sick furlough though they are well now. Also, Smith's daughter
Mary was married Thursday night to Will Camp. Toni, Camp's
son, he has been trying to get her a long time. We are all
quite well. Parker enjoys himself finely. Little Hattie grows, she has
no talk yet. If the river is too high for us to cross tomorrow I want
to go and see Cousin Betty Home. I have sent over to the river to
see about it. We get no news now. I hope there is nothing
wrong. Somehow I don't think the Burnside fleet will
accomplish much. I am anxious to get home to gardening
but I could not do anything much weather as this if I was
there. I want to get seed in the ground by the 12th.
10th Rear my Dearest, We are all safely back at home again, we took an early start the morning and were detained showers at the river, so it made us mighty getting home, we had no bad luck got along pretty well. Came with two horses, Robert came with us, Alfred drove the wagon, brought meat, meal flour &c. The roads were very bad, it was very cold but I had the children wrapped so well they did not suffer. I came by Remounts, they were all well. Mother is at Mary's. I guess she will be home tomorrow. My dear I feel more anxious about you than ever. I have looked over the papers and see they are getting the best of us around in Tens. Also at Pea Ridge, and I heard they had given them three days to move the women and children from Savannah, they may take us all but they will never conquer us. All these things make me feel sad tonight and I miss you. Oh! so badly, but pray the Lord unfold you in the arms of his mercy this night. You know I feel tired and can't write much so good night Dearest. 11th. I have been out this morning I find sugar and syrup going up on account of communication being cut off between this and Memphis I got very good sugar 14.00 the dollar and syrup 50cts. I had not money to pay for it but I saw Mr. Watkins he has some rent money, forty dollars or so which I will get he did not have it with him. Lieut. Williams is home, I have not seen him, he says you were well. Mother will be home this evening, all the children send so much love to Papa. My time is out I did
not get a paper this morning, Robert is waiting to carry this to the office as he goes to school, he says tell you he will try and take care of us write often as you can, Where do you think you will get home again? I want to see you so much, all want to see Papa.

Your own Dearest,
Atlanta, Feb. 14th, 1862

My Dearest Armstead,

It is bedtime and all have retired except myself, but I must write my Valentine this night. Yes, I've perhaps you were thinking of writing one and I expect you are writing one tonight, but the change in the circumstances, how different our prospects now are so bright and so dark, but I am not at all discouraged. I believe we will whip out, but we must depend on ourselves. I don't think Europe will ever help us, but we can get along without it. I received your kind letter the day before yesterday. I gave it to Scott Wilson. He knew I had got home and did not send it to Campbell. I was very glad, for I would not have got it in several days yet. Maj. Farcy was some days getting back. I mailed a letter to you after he left which I thought you would get before the one by him. I mail a letter every week, I never wait to get one when the time comes to write, though a week seems a long time, you write rather discouraging about my accommodations there, but I trust you may
visit us this spring, Hattie, is crying so I must close for tonight. May God bless my Darkest, I imagine our joyful surprise today to see Henry step in, we were not looking for him at all, we were so glad to see him, he is looking well, I never saw him near so fleshy, I would hardly have known him for he is not on furlough, but recruiting for the company, has 30 days, he will go home tomorrow, go down by Mr Wilson's if it is not too rainy, we have had an awful day today, the hardest snow we have had this winter, it must be very cold with you, it is late so I will finish this tomorrow, hoping my Dear is comfortable and not under a leak, I bid you good night, 11th, It's still rainy and cold, but Robert and Henry started for home this morning, they got a buggy at the stable, we are all well, we do have so much bad weather, I intended to sew peas on the 14th, but it was too rainy we are going to work just as soon as the weather will do, I have oats to sew the patch, our potatoes are good, Robby, would have ploughed it yesterday if it had not been wet, he has commenced studying very hard, he is studying Arithmetic Algebra, Geomet
Geography and Latin he is a great deal of company for us, Henry thinks we will have hard fighting in the spring, but I hope the North will be bankrupt before that time. I had a letter from Lister & a few days ago she had received your letter, was very glad to hear from you, Mary told me to tell you to write to her, Miss Minerva and Mary spent the day with us Wednesday all well. You and the Capt. have not come home yet, he went very slow, he has got a discharge, I am afraid he will never go home but I hope he will, there is a loud call for volunteers now and I expect they will soon draft, I will be glad to see the loafer Jews Irish and speculators drafted, I hope there will be no substitute law, Henry says if he had got a substitute for him, he would have joined your company, I don't think he would be content to stay at home now at all, until times are more quiet. I cannot now see any prospect for peace, but I still hope for it, everything is very high, writing paper that I paid 40 cents for gram weeks ago is now 75 cents, so I must fill my sheet and not loose any, I called to see Mr. Watkins day before yesterday and he paid $51.50 rent money.
The brick house is not rented out now at all. Parker hardly knew Uncle Harry, but soon found him out. Little Hattie did not know him. She is a little afraid of strangers, she will not know Papa when he comes. We are getting on first-rate, our cow does as well as she ever did. Hammaths folks are well. I have not seen her since she received your letter. I hope to get a letter in a few days. It seems like a long time since you left us. It will be two months tomorrow, but it seems a year. Hattie is calling Papa now. Dr. said Aaron sent by Mr. White for a coat and some other things. I have not seen him. I can get jeans at $1.00 a pair. I don't know whether he sent the money or not. We will try and make him a pair. I will close and send this to the office. All send some love to Papa and Mama sends more than all. I would like some of your nice oysters, but I would rather see you than all the oysters of the Atlantic. Write often as you can. Mother is well as usual. We have plenty of eggs now. Write soon to your own dear Wife.
Camp Marion Feb 19 1862

My dearest Louisa,

I have nothing of interest to write you this morning but as I am writing Mr. Welling a few lines about sending my store & I thought I would put in a few lines for you. The weather continues very bad, it did not rain yesterday but it is raining today. I have never seen so much bad weather except in Cala I see in yesterday’s paper a Proclamation from Gov. B— calling for 2000 troops & if they are not made up by such a time they will be drafted. There is a good Read that ought to be drafted. I heard good news last night by passengers from Richmond that after 3 days fighting at Fort Donelson the enemy being repulsed each day that subsequently the enemy send reinforcements and drove us out of our works & that it was rather believed that the Vandals would get to Nashville soon. I am anxious to see particulars.
of the last deep fighting at the fort. I am in hopes that it will not be so bad as reported. I do that we here also evacuated Bowling Green also. I am in hopes that it has been done for some good purpose. Gen. Busey is in that vicinity which gives me more confidence. I see from the Northern account that they intend to take Savannah this day. They had got the water cut off from the city. and were to of landed on last Monday. But troops above Savannah and that they were to of landed a rather large force at Port Royal to proceed to the Railroad. I think that they will find Jordan is a hard road to travel down they get through. Well Brother Millie Pappel took a look this morning at yours & Parker picture they looked very sweet. Now you turn a real leaf since Christmas. I hope that this will find you all well with a plenty of food & something to eat. I am in fine health. Aaron is well & hearty. My love to all. Yours most affectionate husband.
you will be pleased to come down. I am anxious for you to be discharged. He is so much needed here. We is not able to attend to the factory at all, and can employ no one competent to attend the factory. Henry ought to be discharged, he says, tell you, he is here eating hog meat and corn bread. Would not notice bed and purchased corn for fellow, he will not enjoy it much longer; you must not be surprised if my letter is disconnected for they are all talking around me so. I have to listen, once in awhile, I will not carry Willie home tomorrow, we will have a load without him, we will go by Sandtown, Mary is getting on finely. I have put on black, died several dresses very nicely. I did not feel like going back among father friends, without something to remind them, after she was so dear to us. It is hard to give her up, but it's must be so; how disappointed you were. When you did not. At 10 Col. Bush of Illinois was at.
there alone, Pa and Robie came up with me today, Pa is not stout, at all, he is quite feeble, I fear it will make him sick. I think I will call and see Gastrel in the morning and see if he can assist in getting a discharge for Henry, it seems very doubtful what our Army is going to do, some think there will be more fighting, Oh! May you be spared to come home Very soon. We have almost despaired of your taking Christmas dinner with us, perhaps you will come tonight. Pa has gone home today, and Mother and I don't think we can stay alone, she and Parker will go to Ramsticks this evening, and I will, baby will go to Mr. Wilsons they are very anxious for us to come, Ramsticks has no help and I sent Lizzy to Cook for her, she will stay her tonight, it is very