

(22)

Washington Barracks, Fort Mifflin
Dec 1st 1860 19 ALA

Dear wife

I seat myself to drop you a few lines which leaves me in good health at present and I trust this will find you in good health also all the family I have no news of importance to write to you we are camped in one mile of Mifflinburg we do not expect to stay here long we have not built any winter quarters yet I recd a letter from you by Mr. Vann also the clothing you sent me I was glad to hear from you also glad to hear get the clothing Mr. Rowland has not come yet we are looking for him every day and we are very anxious to see him we have got no commissioned officer with us Hagedorn had been gone some and the Capt has not come yet

Jesse Young has got back to us safe but I have not seen him yet it is reported that they have the smallpox in that regt and I have not far out to see him he says he was in the neighborhood of the whears and where some spear is not dead I want you to write to me soon write what the boys in the settlement are doing and where they are all gone if you know if you see any mason or any laborer send me some potatoes as I have not had a meal in a full winter Joseph Cowch died at Mifflinburg on the 30th Nov the Company is in very good health at this time we have not drawn any money since Sept we will

Camp near Murphreeborough

this December the 14th 1862

My dear Sarah I
 Dear Wife and Children I drop
 you a few lines to inform you that
 I am well at this time hoping
 to hear from you all in good health
 I wrote a letter by Robert Dickerson
 but Mr. Manby came in and he will
 reach you before Dickerson comes in
 I thought I would let you know
 by this letter that I send all you sent
 has been - But the Brandy the bottle
 came to hand but it was empty
 I sent Stouse put the bundle on top
 of the box and clothing fearful
 the bottle might get broken the chair
 was several with him and at the they
 had plenty of Brandy all the way
 and no cause for bawling mine
 he cannot account for it - without
 a Soldier took it - he took half gallon
 from sent Stouse the the Brandy is
 gone and send you the bottle to
 fill up and try again as sure it
 will come - We will leave
 to day on picket 12 miles towards
 Nashville We will take 3 days
 rations with us

Camp Near Murfreesborough Tenn

Decr 12th 1862

Dear Wife

I Seat myself to drop you a few lines Which leaves me in good health at present and I Trust this will find you in good health also all the family I have no news of Importance to write to you we are camped in one mile of Murfreesboro we do not exspect to Stay here long we have not built any winter quarters yet I recd a letter from you by Mr Vann also the Clothing you Sent me I was glad to hear from you also glad to get the Clothing Mr Rowse has not come yet we are looking for him any day and we are Very ancious to See him we have got no commissined officer with us Hagood Reed has gone home and the Capt has not Come yet

Jessee Young has got Back to his Regt but I have Seen him it is reported that they have the Smallpox in that Regt and I have not been over to See him he Says he was in the neighborhood of the Speares and Abraham Spears is not dead I want you to write to me Soon write what the Boys in the Settlement are doing and where they are all gone if you Know if you see any wagon or any chaise Send me Some potatoes as I have not had a _____ this fall & winter Joseph Couch died at Tulohoma Ten on the 20th Nov. the Company is in Very good health at this time we have not drawn any money Since Sept we will draw Soon again I recon I will close for the presant write Soon I Sent Some money to you by Mr Campbell he has come back and paid all the money to me again

I would like for you to write to me and and give me all the
things you have recd from me Since I got Back to the Regt
I will close for this Time write Soon Direct to Murfreesboro
Ten your husband untill death A. Doss
To Sarah Doss

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December the 12 1862 Camp near Murfreesboro
Tennessee Dear wife and children I write my
self this evening to inform you that I am
well all to a lead cold I do hope when these few
lines comes to hand they will find you all
well I have nothing new nor strange to note
at present we all are faring very well at
this time. Lieut. Davis got in yesterday and
brought all you sent me but the brandy
the shoes that you sent. now I can make
out very well with and do not very much
that you sent them to me. John sent me
some walnuts I read very well present
with the present the apples if I could get
the chance to send you any walnuts I could
send them buy the bushel we are rationed
rite in a walnut grove the potatoes that
I get I eat of them and thought of home
all the time I get the Apples that you sent
all so sorry I will send the bottle back
to you and you can fill it again and send
it buy the first chance and if you have no
chance you can fill it and keep it till I
come or tell you hear that I am dead
I would like to see you all very much
and will come to see you the first chance
I can get. Sorry I will state to you that

i feel the honor of seeing the president Davis
last Saturday

Corn an meat is cheaper hear than its
is thear corn can be bought hear at 100
per bushel pork is worth from 12 to 15 cts
per pounds you wote to me to get you some salt
but there is no chanes sayy for me to get
a bit more sayy for vary smatch for salt
meat selrs but i am going to send you
25 dollars buy Robart Dickerson and
i want you to buy salt enough to do you
let it cost what it will we havent drawd
no money in near 4 monts when we draw
i will send you more this i send you
now is the money that i started to you
buy covered hules right it back to me
sayy if you havent bought corn enough
to do you i dont want you to delay any
time and see shose not to stop tell you
so that you have got a plenty to do you
if you havent got money enough tell frank
minter to assist you and i will send the
money just as soon as i draw it
capt Hanley and his father jest now
come in and it may be possible if
old davy stays some days that we
may draw money and if so i will
send it buy him sayy i will send you
afire corn so i must close at Doss
to sayy Doss.

December the 15 1862 Camp near Murfreesboro Tennessee Dear
Wife and children I avail myself this evening to inform
you that I am well all to a bad cold I do hope when these
few lines come to hand they will find you all well I have
nothing new nor strange to write at present we all are
faring very well at this time Luit Rous got in yesterday
and brought all you sent me but the brandy the Shous that
you sent me I can make out very well with and was very
proud that you sent them to me John sent me some walnuts
I was very well pleased with the present tho John if I
could get the chance to send you any walnuts I could send
them by the bushel we are situated here in a walnut grove
the potatoes that I got I eat of them and thought of home
all the time I got the 3 apples that you sent all Sa-
sary I will send the bottle back to you and you can fill
it again and send it by the first chance and if you have
no chance you can fill it and keep it till I come or tell you
hear that I am dead I would like to see you all very much
and will come to see you the first chance I can get Sary I will
state to you that I had the honor of seeing the president
Davis last Saturday

Corn and meat is cheaper here than it is there corn can
be bought here at 100 per bushel pork is worth from 12
to 15 cts per pound you rate to me to get you some salt
but there is no chance Sary for me to get a bit we suffer
very much for salt ourselves but I am going to send you

25 dollars buy Robart dickinson and i want you to buy
Salt enough to do you let it cost what it will we havent
drawd no money in near 4 monts when we draw i will Send
you more this i Send you now is the money that i Started
to you buy cambel he brought it back to me Sary if you
heant bought corn enough to do you i dont want you to
delay any time and bee Shore not to Stop tell you no
that you have got aplenty to do you if you heant got
money enough tell frend minter to assist you and i will
Send the money just as Soon as i draw it
Capt hanley and his father jest now come in and it may
bee possible if old davy Stays Somedays that we may draw
money and if So i will Send it buy him Sary i will Send
you afine corn So i must close A Doss

to Sary Doss

(25)

fought,

Camp Near Winchester Tenn
Jan the 5 1863

Dear wife & C.

drop you a few lines to inform
you that I am well and get
ing on tolerable well the
Battle of Muffeersborough was
harder than Shilo was we got
several wounded W. Sandrum
Virt Henderson was wounded and
died Wash Berry was killed
J. B. Falke W. L. Varr and
W. J. Mannon Bob Baird Lieut
Hagon and Rouse was all wound
ed and several others slightly
wounded we fell back to
this place and we are ordered
back to Shelbyville 25 miles
we whiped them bad but they
was reinforced and we had
to fall back I will write

again as soon as we settle
we have been out on picket
and fighting and marching
for the last 23 days we have
not seen our close sence we
started out on picket I
want you to make me
some close as I am afraid
D that I will lose them
it was reported that I was
missing in camp but it
wasnt so we started on
3 day picket next morning
after the capt and we stayed
out 15 days and we havent
got to see the capt sence
he is with the wagon train.
I will ^{write} again as soon as I can
you must write I will try
to come home when when
we get settled if I can.
I will close some more
A. D. S.

Camp Near Winchester Tenn

Jan the 8 1863

Dear Wife I drop you

afew lines to inform you that I am well and geting on tolerable well the Battle of muffedresborough was harder than Shilo was we got Several wounded Wm Landrum Vert Henderson was wounded and died Wash Berry was killed J B Falks W L Vann and W J Vann Bob Baird Lieut Magood and Rouse was all wounded and Several others Slightly wounded we fell Back to this place and we are ordered Back to Shelbyville 25 miles we whiped them bad but they was reinforced and we had to fall back I will write again as Soon as we Settle we have been out on picket and fighting and marching for the last 23 days we have nt (not) Seen our close (cloths) Sence we Started out on picket I want you to make me Some close (cloths) as I am afeard that I will loose them it was reparted that I was mising in camps but it warent So we Started on 3 day picket next morning after the capt and we Stayed out 15 days and we havent got to See the capt Sence he is with the wagon train I will write again as Soon as I can you must write I will try to come home when when we get Setted if I can I will close So no more

A Doss

Genl & Capt. John Doss

January the 18 1863. Corinth near Shelbyville
 Dear loving wife and children: Tennessee
 it is with pleasure I seat my self this evening
 to answer your most kind and loving letter
 which was dated 28 it give me grate satisfaction
 to hear that you was all as well as you
 was I am enjoying very good at the present
 and I do hope these few lines will safely reach
 you and find you enjoying the same like
 blessing Sarah I hope you will find the
 8 of this month which will give you a small
 sketch of the battle that I was in if you get it
 the sketch I will say that the Shiloh battle
 was not a comparison to the one which was
 fought here more dead men in one field than
 I saw in the whole Shiloh battle last year
 drove the remaining all the time that we
 fought we went in the line of battle from
 Sunday morning till 12 o'clock the next
 Saturday night the fight was so heavy
 that it was not till 1 o'clock in the night was the
 hardest contest we had but we stood
 ground and drove the enemy back in the
 we were ordered to fall back which we did
 all this time that we was out was the
 most cold and rainiest time ever
 experienced all most our life

Sarah is let tell i paid Capt Stanley
for that corn that i got from him the Spring
before i left that is retold for if it ever
comes against you i want you to
write to me how you are making out for
sault and all So whether you have caught
any corn or what is the charges for you
to get corn Sarah is from the time
that we left camp & we was some 20 or
day's till we got back to Indian i could get
my rucksack and when i got it some
one had taken my rice if it is yours
out of it and i have some rice i want
yet but i caught some from Capt
Stanley and had to pay 10 dollars for them
clothing is very hard to get
Some want you to make me a sleeve
jacket and line it with some and i want
a new button and it is easy to take the buttons
off of my coat i want an iron and i want
you to put 9 buttons holes up the coat
Sarah i want to know whether you ever
got that 10 dollars i sent to you from
Madison give my best respects to all
enquiring friends write as soon as you
get this letter So nothing more at present
at Gass to Sarah Gass

Sah Doss

January the 18 1863 Camp near Shelbyville tennessee
Dear loving wife an children it is with pleasor i Seat
my Self this evening to anser your most kind an loveing
letter whitch was dated 28 it give me grate Satesfaction
to hear that you was all as well as you was i am enjoying
vary good at the presant and i do hope theas fiew lines
will Safeley reach you an find you enjoying the same like
blessing Sarah i dropt you afiew lines the 8 of this month
whitch will give you a small Sketch of the battle that i was
in if you get it tho Sarah i will Say that the Shilow battle
was not a comparason to this an sicke as i was for i saw
more dead men in one field than i Saw in the hole Shilow
battle but we drove the ennimey all the time that we faut
we was in the line of battle from Sunday morning till 12
o clock the next Saturday nite the fite on Saturday nite
beetwint 8 and 9 o clock in the nite was the hardest
contest we had but we Stod (stood) hour (our) ground an
drove the enemy back an then we resevd (recieved) orders
to face back whitch _____ all this time that we was out
was the worst cold an rainest time ever exspearnt (?)
all most in life

Sarah i pade (paid) capt Hanby for that corm that i got
from him the Spring beefore i left that is Seteld for if
it ever comes against you i want you to rite to me haw
you are makeing out for Sault (salt) and all So whether
you have bought aney corn an what is the chanes (chances)
for you to get corn Sarah i was from the time that we left

camps we was Some 20 days tell we got back to whear i cold
(could) get my napsack and when i got it Some one had
taken my new jeans pants out of it and i havant Sean them
yet but i bought a par from capt hanby and had to pay
10 dollars for them clothing is vary _____ and hard to
get Sarry i want you to make me a Sheall (shell) jacket
an line it thru an dont put aney buttens on it i can take
the butens off of my old coat an put on it i want you to
put 9 buttens holes up the brest Sarah i want to no Whether
you ever got that 10 dollars i Sent to you from nasville
give my best respects to all enquiring frens (friends)
rite as Soon as you get this letter So nuthing more at presant
A Doss to Sarah Doss

Thank you again I rec'd & will close for
the present write David I sent some money
to you by the Courtyell he will come back
and paid out the money to me again

I would like for you to write to me and will
give me all the things if you have need from me

Since I get back to the Dept I will close for
this time write some Direct to Mrs. Susan Lee
your husband until death in A. D. 1801

Elizabeth Lee

I had - your letter by Capt Hanby
and was sorry to hear of your
being sick. I do hope that you will
recober soon and remain in good
health until we meet again -
I have clothing plenty to do me
this winter tho when you can go. So
make me a suit of Gray James
the dont be in any hurry about it
I send thirty five dollars by Mr
Hanby. We have had snow
our train that see us but will
soon - you will get the letter
by Mr Dickerson soon I will
close this so my dear and
affectionate wife I bid you farewell
for the present - yours till death
Amber Doss
to Sarah Doss

C. H. B.

tell uncle James Yacht that
Abram Sphers is not dead and
is now nearly all in Southern
Army

Camp Near Murphreborough

this December the 16th 1862

Mrs Sarah Doss

Dear Wife and Childern I drop you A few lines to inform you that I am Well at this time hoping to hear from you all in Good helth I wrote A letter By Robert Dickerson But Mr Heanby Come in and he Will Reach you Before Dickerson comes in I thought I wold let you know By this letter that I Recd all you sent But the Brandy the Bottle come to hand But it was Emty Luet Rouse put the Bundle on top of the Boxes and Clothing fearful the Bottle mought get Broke tho thair Was Several With him tho they had plenty of Brandy all the Way and No Cause for drinking mine he can not Acount for it Without A Soldier took it he took half galon from Lieut Rouse tho the Brandy is Gone and I Send you the Bottle to fill up and try Again as Save it till I Come We Will leave to day on picket 12 miles towards Nashville We Will take 3 days Rations With us

I Recd you letter By Capt Heanby and Was Sorry to hear of your Being Sick tho I hope that you Will recover Soon and Remain in good helth untill We meet Again

I have Clothing plenty to Do me this Winter tho When you can Do So make me A Suit of Gray Janes tho Dont Be in any hurry About it I Send thirty five Dollars By Mr Hanby We have knot Drawed our Draw that Due us But Will Soon

2

you Will Get the letter By Mr Dickerson Soon I Will Close
this So my Dear and Afectionate Wife I Bid you farwell
for the presant yours till Death

Ambrse Doss

to Sarah Doss

N.B.

tell uncle James Jacks that Abram Sphers is not Dead and
his land Nearby all in Northern Army

1914 AL

Mrs. Walter Otto
8816 Ferguson Ave.
Savannah, Ga.

MAJOR SOL PALMER.

Sketch of a Distinguished Educator and Former Citizen of Marshall.

A telegram from Birmingham Saturday morning to Robt. N. Bell announced the death of President Solomon Palmer of the East Lake Athenaeum. Major Palmer died at 9:26 a. m., May 15, from apoplexy. He was out walking in the lawn of the Athenaeum about 7 o'clock with a party of gentlemen, apparently in his usual health, when suddenly he was stricken about to fall. The gentlemen rushed to his assistance and carried him into the college unconscious. In this state he remained until death ensued within about two hours. It develops since that Major Palmer had already received a warning that paralysis or apoplexy had marked him, but the physicians had deemed it wise not to fully unfold to him the nature of a premonitory shock he had sustained. The diagnosis of the physicians proved correct and apoplexy came as a final summons. Death came peacefully, in the presence of his devoted wife and young children.

President Palmer was fifty-seven years of age and leaves a wife and eight children. The latter are, Lillie, wife of Robt. N. Bell of Guntersville; Sarah, wife of Rev. J. B. Cummings, pastor of the Methodist church at Attalla; Millard, of the U. S. railroad service between Attalla and Guntersville; Misses Maude, Claude, and Laura, members of the Athenaeum faculty; and Misses Lela and India, not grown.

A sketch of Major Palmer's life will be a beacon to guide aright the struggling youths who seek to do honor to their country and a blessing to their race. He was born in the vicinity of Reolap, Blount county in 1839. Being reared on a farm, his early days were devoted to study, under the care of frugal but temperate parents who encouraged him as far as possible with limited means. The son who sought an education

as a means to rise in the world and make of himself a good and useful man. After having received what education was then furnished by the public schools of his county until manhood faced him, he determined to go further in the path of learning. To this end he worked hard and saved his money. In time he had enough to pay for a year's schooling at the State University at Tuscaloosa. In order to make his earnings go as far as possible he walked to Tuscaloosa, and there matriculated and received his collegiate education.

He had scarcely finished his studies at the University before the war came. He enlisted with the Nineteenth Alabama as Lieutenant of his home company, and served gallantly through the whole history of carnage. After the battle of Shiloh, in which he was under the intrepid Joe Wheeler, he was promoted for bravery and good service to the rank of Major, and retired with that title and the reputation of having been what was known as a fighting soldier.

At the close of the war Major Palmer returned to his home, afterward coming to Guntersville to locate in the practice of law. Here he was a number of years chairman of the county democratic executive committee, was county superintendent of education, and in 1880 he bought the DEMOCRAT, which he conducted with ability until in 1887, when he sold it to the present owner. In 1884 he was made state superintendent of education by the democratic party and again elected until he had served three terms. One term longer than has ever been accorded to any Alabamian, and narrowly missed nomination for the fourth term.

After he retired from the office of state superintendent of education he settled in Birmingham, and, with the hearty aid and co-operation of the East Lake Land Company, organized a school for girls, which was given the name of the East Lake Athenaeum. Plans were called for and submitted, and when a proper one was selected and the contract awarded ground was broken and the first steps taken toward erecting the beautiful structure which will ever stand as a monument to his devotion to the higher education of his race.

The building was completed and the first session began October 7, 1890, under most favorable auspices, and has been more and more successful each year.

Not only was President Palmer deeply interested in his own school, but he took an active interest in all matters pertaining to education. He was a regular attendant at the annual sessions of the National, Southern and Alabama Educational associations. He was a warm advocate of the Hundley amendment to the constitution, and desired much to see it adopted by the state.

At the time of his death he was making extensive preparations for the commencement exercises of the Athenaeum, which were to begin May 29th.

The funeral was held Sunday afternoon at the Athenaeum and the large crowd of distinguished people present gave a practical illustration of the high standing of the deceased.

The grave of its founder and first

president was made in the Athenaeum grounds where a suitable tomb will be reared in his memory. The beautiful Athenaeum building, however, will stand as a fitting memorial to its founder.

The pall bearers were: Our next governor, Capt. Joseph F. Johnston, a long time devoted friend of the deceased; State Sup't. of Education John O. Turner; Sup't. of Birmingham Public Schools J. H. Phillips; Col. Robt. S. Jemison; Dr. J. H. Finch; Prof. S. L. Robertson; Dr. A. W. McGaha, President of Howard College; Prof. I. W. McAdory; Prof. A. J. Waldrop; Capt. W. R. Nutt, and Tax Collector R. G. Hewett.

Rev. Drs. Hosmer, McGaha and Ellis conducted the funeral services in the college chapel.

Rev. J. B. Cummings will take charge of the Athenaeum and attend to all matters pertaining to the college, and will continue the unexpired term until commencement, which event takes place on the 29th.

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