Camp Alabama.
Aug't 8th 1896.

My Dear Wife,

Altho' I sent a letter on yo[illegible] to you, yet as Mr Dews leaves to day, dinner Greensboro, And as you may not receive the first, I have concluded to write you a few lines by him. To tell you of our present location and of our future movements would be but repeating what I have before stated to you. I must therefore beg of you, in advance, to excuse me for writing you a very dull letter.

I have just been aroused by "the spirit-stirring drum and the ear-piercing-fife" at reveiller - This is always at day-break and we have to be early risers, of necessity. I am in hopes the habit will be so finaly fixed upon me, before I return, that it will be kept up, ever afterwards.

I had gathered you a box of the Cactus, to send by Mr Dews, but have just been informed by him that the Boats will not let him take them, as he saw them refuse in several other cases on yesterday. They grow in great quantities here and there are many varieties of them. Some few, I have seen in bloom, are very pretty. There are a great many curiosities here, in the way of plants and animals & insects. Horned-frogg's are very common, so are the Armadilla's and many other things which would be esteemed curiosities at home.

I will endeavour to bring some of them & the Cactus when I retu[illegible] [illegible] dear Wife - [illegible] to all - [illegible]

S. Moore.

When I was at Matamoras I lodged in the building which had been used as the Custom House. It was a large building, with many [illegible]s. In walking, thro' one of the back rooms, [illegible] the 2nd Story, I happened to see a large bundle of papers and being possessed as you always said of a good deal of curiosity, I commenced looking into them, to see what they contained. Many had passed by without noticing them. I found it contained a large bundle of letters, written by persons in the U. States, to their friends in Texas and from a paper with them, I learned that they had been taken by the Mexicans and sent on to their government. Some of them were letters from girls to their sweethearts; others from wives to their husbands and they contained some amusing things. One letter from a man's wife to him said that if he would only return she would never drive him from home again by her unpromptable temper. One was from a young widow in Mobile to a bachelor cousin of her dec'd husband, and it contained some strong hints that she was very much in love with him. Gen Gaines & some other Mobilians were with us & they knew the lady, & were very much amused indeed. Bill and some of the rest of the boys, preserved some of the love letters — It was really, a rich treat, to read some of them. The writers had but little idea that they would ever be found after such a long time as they were written in 1837.

I have felt very uneasy about you my dear wife for some time. I would give every thing I have to be with you at time of your confinement. It is painful the extreme to be compelled to be absent. You have heretofore had such good luck that I am encouraged to hope that it will be the same this time. I have great confidence in your fortitude to bear up with afflictions & trials. My fervent prayer is, that you may do well & bear well the trial. So make some one write to me as soon as it is over. I shall send to day for letters and hope to hear from you and my dear children. I can't help feeling still uneasy about my dear Alfred, tho' I hope he had no relapse and continued to improve. I was so miserable on his account — If we had come for 6 mos we would not have gone home — We will probably tho', get home by the expiration of that time. The joy that will be afforded me Mamy to see you again. I hope to find you in good health, with the same smile to greet me, that you always had when I came home — to see that clear blue eye, that dear loved face and clasp you to my bosom again, oh my dearest of wives, it would fill my heart with rapture and delight. Be of good cheer: we will meet again and live I hope, a long time, to make each other happy. Kiss my dear boys — love to all — yrs devoted Husband

S. Mason

Mrs A. M. Moore

Care of Mr Dews

Greensboro

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