

Tullahoma Tenn 20 March 1863

Master Henry C. Scuple jr - My dear Son; I
am glad to see your big writing - You can not
be more anxious to see me than I am to see you

I should like also to see your little brother
as you say he is such a "fine boy"

I hope your mother may turn out well &
that she will help to make corn to feed us all.

I am glad to know that you court the
girls - All the men I ever met, who were
good men, were fond of associating with
girls, when they were boys - Such habits
refine the character and make boys
gentle and kind in their manners &
conduct - You must not think that men,
who are gentle & kind, are not also brave -
Our bravest soldiers are as amiable &
good, as any men - You alarmed me
by telling ^{me} that mother was sick in bed - Her
letter however speaks of her being got well -

Love you with civilities & practical kindness
& gentleness with her - Try and induce her to
use her hand so as to rest it, & make it as good
as the other - Be good & patient with her

and Darry also - It is nothing to be
good to those who are always kind &
good to you, but it is Christian and also
gentler to be good to those who sometimes
hurt and not you - God bless you my
dear little son - Your affectionate Father
H. C. S.

Don't see my darling Em I can see the
letters in the order they come.

I cannot help thinking how
patient & good you women are and
especially yourself my dear, for while
I confess that I have been almost absorbed
in my troubles & sorrows, I have given
you little consideration to the troubles which
you daily & hourly encounter - I do hope,
I may live some years with you yet, to
show you how I appreciate it & you -

"Poor old Ned" died the day after
he got to Montserrat - I hope they have
buried him - I should like to visit his
grave some day with you and the children
who know him -

I hear Mr Pollard is much changed
and hope he may have sufficient
elasticity left to support Mr & P. in
their common affliction -

We shall all have many gaps
in our family circles & lists of friends, after
the war is over - Another 12 Mos. & scarcely
a hour but will have given a rent to
the Country.

May God in his mercy send
us a happy & speedy peace, & the
wisdom to learn from our afflictions,
a lesson of patience & prudence, & also
to be prepared in all our affairs,
for civil convulsions for the future.

Sister my wife I suppose he will
visit Alfred, and he will doubtless visit
him when he will be little exposed.

I would have offered to take him
with me, but it would have been
production of no advantage to him &
would have been made by other the
means of annoyance to me -

John Sute has put you down
on sick leave for 30 days - He is
my man from Dine, as they call it
in camp - I am doing pretty well
myself at present -

Yesterday Paul Johnson⁴ came
up & we had a review of our troops
except 2 brigades on outpost duty -
we had out about 12000. Then & as
they marched by at a charge in
column of Regts. uttering yell & cheer as
they were swiftly by, it was a noble
sight - I remembered one spot which I
had seen before the charge in the battle
field, marking over the line of the enemy's
halting & refusing before a third, under a
heavy fire, & then attacking and dispersing
it - I pray that I may not have to go
into another action, but also that I
may go in with something like equal
numbers if we do fight again, so that we
may have something decisive - If the
Summer had come & the Tramers & Cumbe-
land were down, and we should meet and
break up Rovaccas' army, we might end the
war in Somerville or Bine. I hope my dear woman
by this time will again - with kisses for me & for myself
& the boys - I am affectionately yours S.



Tullahoma Tenn 20 March 1863

Master Henry C. Semple Jr. -

My dear Son;

I am glad to see your big writing ----- You can not be more anxious to see me than I am to see you. I should also like to see your little brother as you say he is such a "fine boy".

I hope your colt may turn out well & that she will help to make corn to feed us all.

I am glad to know that you want the girls ----- All the men I ever met, who were good men, were fond of associating with girls, when they were boys ----- Such habits refine the character and make boys gentle and kind in their manners & conduct ----- You must not think that men who are gentle & kind, are not also brave ----- Our bravest soldiers are as amiable & good, as any men ----- You alarmed me by telling me that Mother was sick in bed --- Her letter however speaks of her having got well ----- Son give sister courtesies & practice kindness & gentleness with her --- Try and induce her to use her hand so as to restore it, & make it as good as the other --- Be good & patient with Me & and Darry also --- It is nothing to be good to those who are always kind & good to you, but it is christian and also gentle to be good to those who sometimes tease and vex you ----- God bless you my dear little Son -----

Your affectionate Father

H. C. S.

You see My darling Em I answer the letters in the order they come ---

I cannot help thinking how patient & good you women are and especially yourself My dear, for while I confess that I have been almost *absorbed* *ration* acursed in my troubles & vex *hatings*, I have given too little consideration to the troubles which you daily & hourly encounter ----- I do hope, I may live some years with you yet, to show you how I appreciate it & you ---

"Poor old Ned " died the day after he got to Montgomery ----- I hope they have buried him ----- I should like to visit his *ave* *Grav* some day with you and the children who knew him ---

I hear Mr. Pollard is much changed and hope he may have



sufficient elasticity left to support Mrs. P. in their common affliction---

We shall all have many gaps in our family circles & lists of friends, after the war is over --- Another 12 months & scarcely a house but will have given a son to the country.

May God in his mercy send us a happy & speedy peace, & the wisdom to learn from our affliction, a lesson of patience & prudence, & also to be prepared in all our *affairs*, ? for the future.

Lindsay will I suppose be with Alfred, and he will doubtless put him where he will be little exposed ---

I would have offered to take him with me, but it would have been production of ^{we} ^{no} an advantage to him & would have been made by others the means of annoyance to me ---

John Scott has gone home on sick leave for 30 days --- He is very weak from ^{ree} Dism, as they call it in camp ---- I am doing pretty well myself at present---

Yesterday Genl. Johnston came up & we had a review of our Corps except 2 brigades on outpost duty. We had out about 12,000 Men & as they marched by at a charge in column of Regt. uttering yells & cries as they ran swiftly by, it was a noble sight ---- I remembered one regt. which I had seen perform the charge in the battle field, running over two lines of the enemy & halting & reforming before a third, render a heavy fire, & then attacking and ^hdisparcing it.

I pray that I may not have to go into another action, but also that I may go in with something like equal numbers if we do fight again, so that we may have something decisive ---- If the Sumner had come & the Tennessee & Cumberland were down, *and we should meet* and break up Rosencrans' Army, we might end the war in Louisville or Cin--- I hope My dear you are by this time well again ---- With kisses for ^{Counties} Emily, yourself & the boys ---- I am affectionately yours