

Doct. Mudge

Hamington 2 April 1836

Dear Sir

Your last welcome favor of the 9th March came to hand last evening & your former of the 23rd Dec^r in due time.

I did not answer the one for Dec^r not from want of respect, nor from indifference to the thrilling circumstances it set forth in regard to y^r Indian difficulties, but from the imperious that the conveyance of the mail had been cut off, and that a letter would scarcely reach you - From the moment we rec^d that letter we have felt an unceasing solicitude for the safety of yourself and family, nor have forgotten to send up our warmest prayers for y^r deliverance. On the reception of every news paper we have turned with trepidation to the Florida head to ascertain the fate of our friends; and the gratification which we felt on seeing the armed forces going out from S^t. Carolina across & other points to your rescue, is more easily conceived than described.

Two months watching night & day without undressing for to take repose; for the mind so long to be strung up to such a height of apprehension & dread; suspended between hope & fear, was a scene of suffering, which I pray god that you nor y^r family will ever be called to pass thro again. I assure you that the sympathy felt by our citizens for Florida, could not be surpassed by that of any other section. This was evinced by the prompt manner that the call for men from this county was answered - The Order reach our Col^o in the night - & in two days

notice was circulated, the militia called together; and instead of
60 drafted men - We had 100 volunteers on march for Tuscaloosa.

This winter a promptitude but seldom equalled & never surpassed.
In addition to this, the Citizens who met at Courtland to see the vo-
lunteers start raised \$1500 in cash, and handed over to the Captains
to be divided among them. But after all when they reached Tusca-
loosa they were sent back - The quota from the state having been
mustered into service, & march for Mobile before they arrived.

My mind is still anxious in regard to the protraction of w.
war. The Enemy can take refuge in the swamps and impenetrable
thickets of y^e country; and elude pursuit. Again, as the summer
approaches our soldiers must leave the field or die by disease.

and should hostilities be continued thro the summer, the consequence
to Florida will be incalculable. Families cannot return to
their farms - neither corn - cotton - sugar or any thing can be raised
for future support. And many it is to be feared of the poor
must suffer want. The picture is too gloomy for farther remark.

I pray the god of Armies to give your country a speedy deliver-
ance. - Before I conclude my letter, you must permit me
to advert to the state of your mind, which I cannot avoid perceiving
from y^e last, to be unhappy. Indeed this is not to be wondered at.

You have arrived at that age of life; when difficulties, and misfortune,
can not be borne as in the buoyancy of youth - I know that you
are naturally possessed of an elevated & indomitable spirit - perhaps
more so than one in ten thousand. But nevertheless it is almost
more than human - to stand firm & immovable against accumulated
ills. - Job perhaps is the only instance who was able to bear the pelting
of the storm without impatient. I have entered with deep
feeling

into of troubles. At one moment I see by an act of Providence
your prospects in life shaded, and overhung by a dark cloud -
your beautiful Branc Groves of a 100 of standing - and of great
value cut off in a night. - At another moment I see
your country over run by a savage & unthriftful foe, who neither
spare age nor sex - burning, destroying & laying waste one of
the garden spots of the world - I see 1000^s of women &
children crowded together in 400^s of huts & villages, for want of

prospect of having to remain so, probably thro' the approaching
winter. at the risk of their lives from disease if not from
the enemy. - Add to this your term of life - and the
ills you have suffered from those who should have been friends.

All this together is well calculated to chafe the spirit:
and destroy the finer feelings of the soul. And my dear friend
I fear it has created in your breast prejudices strong prejudices
which can never be eradicated. And should this be the case
the last evil is greater than all the rest put together. Yes,
greater! Because the others can only annoy for a time: but
the last thro' eternity. You must pardon me - I must be plain
A physician who will not probe his patient's wound to the bottom
in order to the cure, is unworthy of the name, and should be dis-
mised. The soul that fosters prejudices cannot be saved.

Hear our Saviours own words - If ye forgive not men their
trespases neither will my heavenly father forgive you of trespases,
and without forgiveness salvation is impossible. Thanks of
these things my dear friend - & commit all of difficulties to my heavenly
father and pray that he may do and give by his grace - that
you may freely forgive all injuries - & find my way to a world of
rest - which may be of set is my prayer for all sakes. - We are
well - Sally & her six fine children are well - Bess is gone to look at James
with view of marrying there if he likes - have heard nothing from Mr. Jones for
two months.
Affectionately
J. A. M. D.

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Erasmus

Friedrich Madam

Wid. Marg. Augustina

Florides

Maria Marg. Augustina



Farmington 3 April 1836

Doct^r Weedon

Dear Sir

Your last welcome favor of the 9th March came to hand last evening & your former of the 23^d Dec. in due time.

I did not ans^w the one for Dec^r not from want of respect, nor from indifference to the thrilling circumstances it set forth in regard to y^r indian difficulties, but from the impression that the conveyance of the mail had been cut off, and that a letter would scarcely reach you - From the mo^ment we rec^d that letter we have felt and unceasing solicitude for the safety of yourself and family, nor have forgotten to send up our unworthy prayers for y^r deliverance. On the reception of every news paper we have turned with trepidation to the Florida head to ascertain the fate of our friends; and the gratification which we felt on seeing the armed forces going out from S^t Carolina, Geor^a & other points to your rescue, is more easily conceived than describd.

Two month watching night & day without undressing for to take repose; for the mind so long to be strung up to such a height of apprehension & dread; suspended between hope & fear, was a scene of suffering, which I pray god that you nor y^r family will ever be called to pass thro again. I assure you Sir that the sympathy felt by our citizens for Florida, can not be surpassed by that of any other section. This was evinced by the prompt manner that the call for men from this county was ans^w^d - The Order reach our Col^l in the night - & in two days

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This evinced a promptitude but seldom equalled & never surpassed. In addition to this, the Citizens who met at Courtland to see the volunteers start raised \$1500 in Cash, and handed over to the Captain to be divided among them. But after all when they reached Tuscaloosa they were sent back - the Quota from the State having been mustered into service, & march for Mobile before they arrived.

My mind is still anxious in regard to the protraction of the War. The Enemy can take refuge in the swamps and impenetrable thickets of y^r country; and elude pursuit. Again, as the summer approaches our soldiers must leave the field or die by disease, and should hostilities be continued thro the summer, the consequences to Florida will be incalculable. Families cannot return to their farms - neither corn - ~~cotton~~^{cotton} - sugar or any thing can be raised for future support. And many it is to be feared of the poor must suffer want. The picture is too gloomy for farther remark. I pray the god of Armies to give your country a speedy deliverance. - Before I conclude my letter, you must permit me to advert to the state of your mind, which I cannot avoid perceiving from y^r last, to be unhappy. Indeed this is not to be wondered at. You have arrived at that age of life; when difficulties, and misfortunes cannot be borne as in the buoyancy of youth - I know that you are naturally possessed of an elevated & indomitable spirit - perhaps more so than one in ten thousand. But nevertheless it is almost more than human to stand firm & immovable against accumulated ills. - Job perhaps is the only instance who was able to bear the pelting of the storm without impatience. I have entered with deep feeling

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your prospects in life shrouded, and overhung by a dark cloud -
your beautiful Orange Groves of a 100 y^s standing - and of great
value cut off in a night. - At another moment I see
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children crowded together into Forts & villages for safety - & a
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with view of moving there if he likes - have heard nothing from Y^r Bro. W^m ~~for~~
for months. Affectionately T. Saunders
Wms favor

Dost. Frederick Weedon

St. Augustine

Florida

Rev. Turner Saunders, (1782-1854)
married II in 1826 Mrs. Millwater,
née Henrietta M Weedon (1793-1869)
Her brother - Dr. William Weedon
and sister Mrs. John Oliver

Saunders, James E. Recollections of North Alabama p. 362