Wednesday May the 14 1863

Dear Mr Ball

I recieved your letter yesterday it was not unexpected to me yet I had felt as if I wanted to see poor Lou once more

I expected her end would be calm and peacefull one so pure and good as she was could not die otherwise

You than my heart felt sympathy But it seems to me I than had so much trouble that nothing that could happen now could cause me much more

Did Bolling get to see Lou Oh: Mr Ball all that I had loved than nearly all gone and left Sister's brothers children and now Lou nothing to look to now for pleasure willingly Oh: willingly would I then exchanged places with her

But I will not trouble you with my troubles for I know you has as much as you can bear but when I get to thinking of how many dear ones are gone before Oh: is it wrong for me to wish to follow my dear brothers I wish I lived closer to you then I do and I wish I could be contented to stay away from my own family longer I would try to take some little of your manifold cares and troubles off your hands You do not know how often I

think of you worried and worn out with the cares of a man 4 sons in the war and then have to be annoyed with the domestic cares of a family Oh: I know you have not a sister that feels and thinks of you as I do Oh: sometimes I hope the dear departed can not look down on Earth and see the trials of those they love on Earth If so I no one that could never look on you and not feel troubled If angels in Heaven are allowed to feel trouble

We are all well Walter sticks closely to his farm does not ever come up to dinner Eddy has gone to Tullahoma have not heard from him in 4 weeks

Please persuade the children to write to me I will not ask you to do it for I know you have your hands full

I have been so anxious to hear from your house not one word have I heard untill I got your letter yesterday since I left

God bless you my dear brother and may you recieve the consolation from on High that you can not recieve from us poor mortals As ever yours Affectionately

S A Crenshaw

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