Talladega, Ala. December 14th/62.

Lieu. Dent,

Dear Sir,

On Saturday last Capt. Robertson's Servant arrived here safelly with the horses sent by you, and I have taken charge of the Captain's Poney, and will have him well cared for till he is called for. The boy also brought a letter from you, for which I am much obliged, as it is a great pleasure to me to hear from my young Friends in the Army - your Command are particularly endeared to me, having so long, been the associates and friends of my dear young Son. My heart goes out in interest and love for all our brave young Soldiers - What Woman's, not to say what Mother's heart does not? And could we with justice and honor call them home, how soon would we do it! But Life, Liberty and every thing sacred demands their stay, and we must cheerfully resign them -

I dread to hear the result of the impending Battle near

Nashville - Many a noble Southern Boy, I fear, will fall there a victim to the Cause. Some how, to-day, I have felt more uneasy and depressed about Silas than I ever have done since he first left us, and entered upon his Country's Service. I know he is brave and will not hold back, and he has so often escaped unhurt, that I fear for the future - God grant that he and all of you may be spared, not only to see the close of this cruel War, but live many years after, richly to enjoy the blessings you have so bravely fought for!

Whether, tho' you fall or survive, if you are Christian Soldiers, you will obtain that priceless Liberty, which lasts longer than Life itself, and of which no ruthless Enemy can deprive you.

I was exceedingly sorry when I learned Capt. Robertson had passed thro' without stopping to see us - I received his card informing me why he could not call - I should have been very happy to have seen him.

You say, he would probably inform me, what brought him home, or to Alabama - Was it any special private business? I thought, perhaps, considering some things, which transpired here, if he had any arrangements of that kind to make, he would certainly stop in Talladega -

Tell him, he has got to consult his Mother, (as I now consider myself) before he makes any bargains of that kind — (giving away Ponies "to the contrary nothwithstanding" —)

You speak of Winter approaching — how we dread it on account of our poor Soldiers — Southern Boys in that cold climate must suffer much — and many of them, I fear have not the necessary Clothing and Blankets to protect them from the cold — and we have in the material here to supply them —

If you or any of your Company are needy, please let me know, and I will try to have something done for you. Our Soldiers must be clothed and fed, if it takes every thing we have to do it.

Did Capt. Robertson recieve his Package thro' Silas? Tell Silas I wrote to him a few days ago, and will write again very soon.

With many kind wishes, I remain

Your friend
Louisiana Bradford.