

Headquarters, Mexico.

Camp Buena Vista Oct 15<sup>th</sup> 1847.

My Dear Sister,

Yours dated August 22<sup>nd</sup> has come duly to hand. And so here except my most hearty thanks for a letter which afforded me much pleasure yours was received more than a week since. And I was due you a reply by last mail. Tho as I wrote Pa. and Ma. along something I postponed writing to you until the present. Hoping by this late date I would have something of interest to write you. This alas, I am again without news as usual. And have nothing to write about. Tho were you to come and tell me. If I were with you. I would sit with my arms folded for a half a day without having a word to say. I would tell him he lied. Then why can I not write. As writing is nothing more or less than our conversation transported from one place to another. Is this not good reasoning, I think it is. Thus it appears I must try to write something. And tho it may not be interesting. I hope you will excuse it. As you can not expect much from my insignificant self. Nevertheless here goes for the most from Mexico. It is no use for me to say any thing about my health. for it is unusually good. And you may believe the pork & Beans. has rather a poor show about my shanty. I am in hopes this may reach you all enjoying fine health. And no one have the gout. As I guess this will reach you about Butcher's time. And of course you will be living fine. Can you not send me out a mess of Sausages. As they would meet with a warm reception in this wooden country. I am in hopes you will not be so extravagant. but that you will excuse me as

You say in your letter. Cousin Sally. And Mrs. Shaver. and to be  
married. As well as Miss Hoffman. & Jake Maury. I am  
truly sorry I shall not be there to enjoy a portion of the  
frolicking, nevertheless, tell them I hope they will have  
a good time of it. I think Jake. should have gotten married  
sooner, that, that the poor unfortunate Babe. which was left  
in Mat. B. s. Pooch, might have had a mama. As I have  
no doubt Miss H. would make a very good one. as well as  
Jake a good Papa. It appears. as there is some strange things  
going on in that Country. perhaps I am fortunate by  
getting out of it. I should have felt rather streaked, had that  
muckache been found in my Bachelors hall. as it was  
in Mrs. P. s. Tell Mat. & Miss B. I am truly & sympathize with  
them. I am in hopes Miss Virginia H. was not there  
at the time. for fear she might have been so much alarm-  
ed. it would have made her blust. which might of interfered  
with her beauty. Tho dont you tell her I said so. else she might  
come out here and give me a scolding. What is Cousin Sally a  
going to do. with those large lips of Bebe. I am fearful she will  
have a difficult matter to kiss him. unless she is somewhat  
experienced in the matter after those wedding come off you  
must write to me and tell me all about them. What has become  
of Miss Kate B. I have not heard from her for a month or  
so. You speak of seeing Jake. why do. at you ask him  
why he does not write to me. And Doct. J. I understand. he  
is courting Miss Kate. is it true. tell her she had better wait  
at those courting affairs. And mind serious and chatty  
& serene. I wonder if they will be any person left for  
me to have. when I return. You must tell me if they  
is not I will bring a concrete with me, tell the girls

I should like to have an understanding, about affairs, as  
I should feel most mortally disappointed, if I were to return  
and <sup>find</sup> myself destitute, of a Chaned of some sort. I do not  
think I will be so particular when I return, about beauty  
and such as that. tho I am bound to have some one  
who can make good soup and such like, as I am utterly  
worn out cooking myself. Tell (Easter) our Cook. If ever she  
wants to do me a favour its will be to try and live until I  
return. that I may have the pleasure of eating one inon  
of her good Cooked meal. I wonder if I wont be mighty  
proud when I again have the Chaned to set down to a table  
and have a Knife & fork plates and such like to eat with  
you as its. and how we live here and what we have to  
eat. had I the time to enter into a long Bear story. I perhaps  
could inform you tho as I have not the time. I will assure  
you Wincarvey by saying its in no. uenia. per umbra. tho do  
not be astonished we do its up. much a beneta. and think its  
much a: Lumbra: A deas: Can you not persuade some  
of my Brother Chipe, to court some good looking girl or some  
one who cooks pretty well for me. or can you not make  
some arrangements with them yourself.

I have just returned from what we term dinner. a  
large Campettle of Beef Soup. It was quite good and  
I of course, enjoyed it very much. You would be diverted if  
you could be here sometimes to see us eating especially when  
it is rather scarce. I would pity one who had no teeth as  
I no he would come off, licking). You recollect, I am a great lover of  
Coffee and bread. tho in my favourite diet here we have no cream  
tho as we boil soup for dinner, in the same Kettle, we make  
Coffee at night, we get a very good substitute with in green.

Ud have no news here later than when I wrote last to Pa I wd  
what is to be the result of this war I am at a loss to say. Tho I can  
not see how it can last a great deal longer. Something must  
and will be done this winter. I wrote you some time since  
I expected to land at home by Christmas & see that was  
an erroneous calculation. Tho I am pretty confident we will  
bring the war to a focus some time this winter. Do you  
intend to have any dancing this winter, in old Rockingham  
if you do you must dance one for me. I was at a  
few dances in Sattilla yesterday evening and enjoyed  
myself very much. I have learnt all about the Spanish  
dance some of the figures are very pretty. I shall have  
some new steps to introduce. Should ever have the pleasure  
to receive Amanda what is the reason many and my  
aunt has never written to me. I wrote them along letter  
Shortly after I arrived at this place and have never received  
any thing from them yet. Surely I entertain a spot  
of friendship with them if nothing else. Tell them I intend  
writing to them next week. And if they do not write to  
me. I shall not forget it. Why do you not write longer letters  
Can you not persuade every body to write. And surely  
I when they receive some letters. You must write to Francis  
if she is going to Lexington, tell her she ought to devote her  
whole time to her studies. Also tell her to write to me. And let  
me hear how. Caution M. J. Bull in. and every body about  
Lexington. I must bring this scrawl to a close please  
excuse it its many glaring imperfections. Yes. You must  
not fail nor forget to write to me often. and tell me  
every thing that is going on. do not keep any thing  
out of your letters tho tell me all. Continue to direct  
your letters to this place. As they will be forwarded  
from here should we move. I will write if any thing  
may occur soon again. Love is true. And a very good  
and steady soldier stands well in the Regiment. Also Cal  
and B. Bile & Smith and well and enjoy a reasonable  
portion of pleasure. Now do not forget me to all the  
girls and tell them nothing could afford me so much  
pleasure as to receive a letter from them occasionally  
also remember me kindly to all inquiring friends till  
then I live in hope of meeting with them again. what has  
become of Sampson P. Bolen. I wrote him a long letter and  
have received no reply. I hope the girls have not smother  
ed him. Now do not forget. remember me to all  
and do not fail to write often. Oh you spoke of me  
sending you some flower seeds. And the presents I promised  
you. I spoke to a Convent to select some for me and I will  
send them in my next letter. also the presents I promised  
to you and Miss Kate. I have never advised  
John P. Groe No.