Lynchburg May 31st 1861

My Dear Aunt

We received your letter yesterday. We are very glad to hear you arrived at home safely. Hoppie Goodman stopped here and told us you had gotten safely as far as Farmville. Hennie Ford came in to meet him went down to the depot but did not see him so concluded he had not come and came on up here. She had been in only a few minutes when Hoppie came. Mr McGee came up yesterday. Said every body had left Hampton and the Federal troops had taken possession of the town. He could not get a wagon to move his furniture as every body was moving away. Some persons had to leave every thing not even taking their clothes. One gentleman lost forty servants. He said it was sad, sad to see the state of things down there. The yankees had burned the college and houses into the wheat fields. Mr Wingfield will go into camp next week. I feel very sad about it but think it his duty to go.

Annie received a dispatch saying her sister is worse She will go down tomorrow or next day. Sisters Martha & Mary are over there today helping her get ready.

I feel very sorry for her. Brother John says if Mr Wingfield goes to war he is going too that he does not mean for him to go without him. Annie is afraid he may go while

she is away. Mr Mitchel returned from Manassas Gap yesterday - says the men are all well and in fine spirits. Saturday evening there were a good many on the sick list - Sunday morning the alarm was given that the yankees were coming and in ten minutes every man was in the ranks. Some one went round to see about the sick but there wasn't a sick man in the whole encampment. He said they were all eager for a fight but perfectly cool. They were much disappointed when they found it was a false alarm. Mr Ivey is going to the gap to-morrow or next day. They are giving a large box of eatables for Winston. The ladies are still at work for the soldiers. I sewed so constantly yesterday that my eyes were paining me so this morning I have not been sewing any scarcely today. Several of the soldiers have died since you left. The rest of them are out of danger. Aunt Ann has been complaining for several days. Mrs Fayle stuck with us last night. She and Sis Jennie went down to the Hall today. We have had strawberries and milk ever since you left. Mr Wingfree is in a hurry to go down town so I must stop. Give a great deal of love to each one and for yourself receive a large portion

Affectionately

Jennie.

My dear Sister Jane.

I have but a few moments in which to write; have been busy all day — Was very glad to get your letter — Read it with much pleasure. Will try to follow your good advice —

Jennie has told you we go into service next Monday — the Company is ordered to muster in at that time — I am not certain about the result — Some of the leading men in the Company who have been all along strong secessionists have deserted us — This has created ill feeling among a good many of the lower class of men and they say they will not go unless the other class of men go — they think it was a trick to catch them — Now of the officers are included in this number — the others have acted in bad faith to the Company, Officers and Country — So the mustering in is by no means certain —

There is nothing new here that has not already reached you —

Bro McKee thinks the peninsula between James & York Rivers very much exposed — He says there is not sufficient force to prevent Lincoln's men from marching up the by road and taking the batteries in rear —

Annie expects to come monday — Love to all

Affectionately your bro

C. W. Winfree