

From Mary E. Bedford to Alex M. Bedford

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Savannah[,] Mo[.] July. 17.

My dear [*text stricken through*] Husband[,]

With the most sanguine pleasure I seat myself to respond to your most kind and welcome epistle which came to hand a day ago which afforded me great pleasure to hear from you once more and to know you are bouth well! It has been reported heare you would be exchange soon -- my anxiety are grate to see you[.] our children often ask me when I am gong to see you, poor little children[.] they think long of the time to see there Pa -- I would come now if it was not for my children[.] you know it cost a great deal to travel[.]

I expect Sister Virginia will leave me soon and I do not know how I can give her up[.] she has been a great deal of company for me[.] she has been with me ever since you left home[.] I so hope this war of distinction and distress will soon come to and end!

I did not get our horse you left in Clay Co[.] it was took as

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counterband like the rest.

Parson Kent joined the united States Service soon as you left home[.] Mr. [Robbers?] is at home[.] he belonges to the State malisia [militia][.] this leaves us all well in body[.] times are gloomy here[.] the southerners have left and sill [still] leaving this part of the county[,] are nearly all gone[.] Uncle Sam C[.] & Cousin George Coffe and Cousin Pack Anderson have left and Aunt Jane have give away nearly ever thing she had [*text stricken through*] and they are all going to leave soon as they can get [*text stricken through*] away[.] all [*text stricken through*] Aunt Jane family has just come[.] they are afraid to stay at home[.] Oh my dear Husband it greaves me [*text stricken through*] to think about the affares of this Country[.] Denis Webb have gone from home[.] I cannot tell where his Father have gone to[.]

Mrs. Stiles wished me to ask you if you [*text stricken through*] new what Command Party belong to[.] she wants to go to see him! Mrs[.] Webb requested [*text stricken through*] me to tell you if you ever saw [*text stricken through*] [Modones?] Webb to tell him to be sure and write to her! John Snider have [*text stricken through*] left home and all his grain are going to wast and a great many others are left in the same condition -- George Snider went to

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Kentucky last Spring a year ago[.] he is entirly differant from the other boys.

Goods are hight & here [MS. illegible] shirts cost 65,c per yard & [*text stricken through*] pants was 1.25. per yard[.] the Boots was 6 dollers a pare and the blankets was ten dollers[.] handkerchiefs 1.00[.] Cotten are 35,ct per yd.

I have wrote to that Lady about the miniatures[.] I am so in hopes I will recv them[.] I expect I will go to Ky with Aunt Jane and I will be sure and come to see you[.]

Father[,] Aunt Jane and Ginnie and all the relations that are here joins me in love to you and [*text stricken through*] brother[.] Martha [MS. illegible] are very [MS. illegible] of you saying you are going to send her a ring[.] she sends you a kiss and all the children do[.] write

immediately[.] My the Lord bless you and protect you [*text stricken through*] is the prayer of
your Wife[.]

So Good Night
M.E. Bedford

P[.]S[.] I express you 25 dollers last Friday and so Brother Jo express the same amount to
Brother Redman the same time[.] I hope it rech [reach] you[.]