From John A. Bushnell to My Dear Eugenia

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Calhoun Mo[.]
Sept[.] 27th 1864

My Dear Eugenia

Your very pleasant letter has just been received, finding me in rather gloomy spirits. though quite well in othe respects[.]. Mr Allen was over yesterday and in conversation with him he told me he had ordered executions against me, and I [inferred?] intended, he and A[MS. illegible], to clean up the docket in the same way against all. So be it, As a paliation he dep[re]ssingly remarked he did not expect there would be any Court[]. I rather think there will not be any. the News in the papers and the moves of the troops in this state show something is up[,] various rumors are afloat. about which I would write if it were safe[.]

I went to Clinton last saturday. while riding along, going and returning, could not help my eyes looking in the direction of your house, but I could not see you except in my minds eye. I need not get in sight of the house to do that[,] for it often occurs both at day and night--in riding- Walking and talking &c[].

I shall start to Sedalia in the morning

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and may go to St. Louis before I get back[,] although I do not expect there will be any Court yet[,] I want to see what I can do to be prepared for it. if there should be Court[,] I fear it will be a sad affair for me, unless I shall be fortunate enough to get help in some way, but so far as I can see the prospect is gloomy. A deliverance may intervene. I trust it will, but it is hope against doubt. I may have the opportunity to return good for evil should some of my friends be similarly situated that they will I feel certain. that I may be able to [help?] them may be and is doubtful, how bad it would make them feel for me to do so[.]. If I could attend to business and see those who owe me I could avoid any apprehension of trouble or loss[,] but as I cannot I shall enquire into the motions of those who would not only prey upon me, but upon all who are similarly situated[.]

I am now boarding at Mr[.] Knox’s. this will somewhat surprise you, I can hardly explain how it happened. If things are quiet when I come back, think I will bring my bed and put it up in my room and perhaps take my meals with Edy[,] but as much may be expected to happen

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before that time I will wait and see. I shall bring my bed up any how as it will be just as safe here as at Sedalia, perhaps safer[.].

I Know of no news that I can write so will close by sending love to all- and hope I shall be able to see them all before the leaves fall. I will write if I go to St. Louis[.]

Yours Affectionately
John A. Bushnell
[P.S.] I will leave word with Fannie or Jennie Hastain to let you have the papers[.]