

EMILY EWING TO NAN

Oct the 30th 1864

Dear Sister Nancy i sit down this Sabbath Morning to let you know that we are all as well as comin but My health has not bin good ever since Andy left home and Mother is going down hill just as fast as she can she is not much larger around the Waist now than i am some four weeks ago a horse run of with her and throwed her out of the buggy and hurt her breast very bad and if this war does not soon end i am afraid she will for it seems as if we could not indure the truble we have much longer you know the friends we have lost in the Army and now brother Commodore is a Prisner in South Carolina and you know he might all most as well be dead for they starv most all of our men to death that they get holt of and if any of them does get exchanged they have sufferd so much and are so reduced that it is most imposable to rais them it seams as if the head leaders in the south has no human fealing about them but when we stop and remember how they have whiped and tortered their slaves we do not wonder that their harts is calast [calloused] over for when they have no fealing for their slaves we cannot expect them to have for the yankee that is fiting against them well Nan the last we heard from Mc and All [Al] and D C they was all well Bes gets from two to three letters a week from Dewit and he all ways mensions Mc and All some of us gets one in about two weeks from Mc but we do not blame him for not writing oftener for his attention is another way Andy writes two and three a week to me and once in a while to others but i have not got but one from him this week but the reason is he is a coming home to the election and I look for him every train till he gets hear now i suppose you know they are furlowing off the soldiers in the Hos[pital] that is able to go for the election i will tell you who has come all ready Mr Crandle Micle Overly James and Darwin Youngs jim and Mat Fifield James Mcdougal Nathan Milard Dan Foolington albert Bates and Henry Smith and Lesly Hacket and we are looking for Andy and thomas and by Lewis and Ben Hilliard yet Hear you see 16 them names and all of them is for old Abe except Ben Hilliard and he would be if it werent for his Father and another thing those boys is all in Hospitals how our Army is weekend by the sick and wounded Henry Smith got another wound in his hand and on his arm above the elbow both slite Andys hand has never bin well yet and i dont think he ever will have the right use of it and one of his fingers is stif and then if you remember he had a lame leg ever since he worked at the furnis in old jackson but it never hurt him much untill he went in the service and now it is quite painful the most of the time and i am afraid it will make a criple of him yet so you see it is nothing but truble but I expect you have your one [own] share of it dont you Nan well i dont now how long it has bin sience any the rest wrote to you so i dont know what they have wrote and what they have not but I will tell you that Mate Jenkins is Married she Married Robert Cary he is a veteren soldier served his three years and inlisted for one year more and come home on a furlow and got his Mary and took her to indiana to all his folks and when his furlow is out she is coming home i believe well i will have to stop for the want of room you must ancer this and excuse me for not writing of times but i think some of our letters has not went thru either because they was not directed write or because they was not writen out or the other

Emily Ewing

Note: Hiram Powers, a Woodbridge neighbor of the Ewings, used to tell that at the election of 1864 when the soldiers came home to vote, someone challenged the vote of Henry Smith because Smith was under 21. It looked like it might result in a fight. Smith voted. Grandfather Enoch Ewing stood immediately behind him with clenched fist as Smith's defender. Asked if he intended to hit anyone, he said "no , but if any copperhead had struck a blow, I lowed to strike the next."

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