

It is rumored that you are going to elect Sam Houston
Governor of Texas and that he is going to try to set up a separ-
ate nationality and call the Texas troops home if he does we
will come home and hang as a cowardly traitor we hope
he will not be elected for we consider him an unbound
man

Brownsville Miss June the 29th 1863

Dear Father & Mother

There is a gentleman
going to start up to Texas tomorrow morning
who will carry letters for us and as there is
no chance for us to send a letter home
unless we send it by hand ~~and~~ we have to
avail ourselves of every opportunity that we
have. John & I & all the other Limestone boys
are well. Johar had an attack of the Dropsy
but he is entirely well of it now.

Our horses are looking well and we have
plenty to feed them on.

There is but little news here of interest
for there is not any fighting going on here
except at Vicksburg = they are shelling each
other there more or less every day, We can hear
the guns very distinctly. The firing some-
times is very heavy though it is said they do
little or no damage to our fortifications.

They have made several attacks on the line
of fortifications since they have been here but
met with a terrible repulse every time and
they will meet with no better fate if they
were to attempt it an hundred times oftener

The Yanks admit the loss of from 60,000 to 65,000 men in the different attacks on Vicksburg and Fort Hudson and there is no doubt that they have lost a great many from disease for the citizens in this country say that they are in the sickliest country they ever saw and the sickly season has just commenced add to this that the water is very scarce so very much so that they have to drink out of mud holes or bring all their water from the Mississippi river or the Big Black which is not much better than the water from the mud paddles after it is hauled 15 or 20 miles through the hot sun. We have all confidence in Johnston and if there is another man in the world that can keep his plans as profoundly a secret as him I would like to see him — There is not a man that knows anything about his plans unless it is his corps commander and that is very questionable at present.

We have been on several small scouts in the last week but have not effected anything though we come very near running on their infantry last Friday before we knew there was any infantry there for the first we knew of it was by hearing their drums between a $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile and a mile off beating a call to arms — we listened awhile and then turned

back about half a mile. The Yankees thought they would have a good thing of it for they had sent a brigade of Cavalry up the road late the evening before and they thought we would go down it to get a peep at the webfoot and they & the Cav^y would come up in our rear but they were mistaken =, The Cav. Videtts were looking at us all the time for they fired on our advance guard as soon as we started back but hurt no one our boys returned the fire and held their place for some time. After we had fell back about half a mile we stopped and offered the ~~the~~ Cav^y battle but they would not accept though this was but one Reg^t and one battalion of us and a Brigade of them.

I have but little else to write about the army here though our arms have met with a signal success in Va^a at Winchester. Gen. Ewell commanding Jacksons old Corps captured Gen. Milroy with 7,000 or 8,000 men. When Ewell demanded the surrender of the place Milroy told him that if he was attacked he would burn every house in the place Ewell refused that if he did he would hang every Yankee in the town. Milroy did not burn the town. It is also reported that Gen. Lee is advancing into Pa^a at the head of 50,000 Soldiers. I dont know whether it is reliable or

not, though it is certain that Gen. Stuart
has made a successful raid in to that state.
Hooker it is reported is trying to get in
a head of him.

I will now have to close by sending
my love to you and Mother and all the
friends and request you to send this
to Bettie for when I write a letter to
one I want it to be considered to all
for I cannot write to all every time I
write. I received a letter from Cyrus
it was written about the first of May,
he was in remarkably good health.

Tell Bettie not to get mad because I
donot write her a seperately letter.
and Fred I ought to answer his letter but
I cannot now. I would have answered it
sooner but I could not. Tell him to read
this letter and consider it headed To Mr
Fred Warner and then write an answer for
I like to receive letters from my stay at home friends
And now with filial regards I remain
your Son Sam^l