

White Oak.

Oct 8, 1858.

Dear French Seld.

I recd a letter from you several days since, but owing to there being no opportunity of sending to the office I have delayed answering until this time. I can't promise much being very unwell. I am suffering with neuralgia with which I have been annoyed occasionally ever since I left B. It is the most distressing pain I ever suffered. I am doing almost nothing in the way of studying, nearly all my time is consumed by other things, you know Adm, how it is when one is at home, there are too many things that claim a share of his time. Yet I hope to be able to accomplish something this winter. I am glad to hear that Raw was able to return to school, I feel a partial compensation for my own misfortune in knowing that such a friend as Raw is, is not so unfortunate as myself. I must submit to the decree of providence. I am half disposed to murmur

at the Dispensation of such favors, they
do sometimes seem unfair, unwise and
unjust. I am afraid I am
not one of that kind of whom it
was said "Throw him into the Nile
and he will come up with a fish in
his mouth." I do not believe I can
turn you a calamity to an advantage.

And I suppose you have heard
that Sulphur Springs was garrisoned
with about 1800 troops, perhaps you
cannot see the necessity for so many
soldiers at such a place, there is no
need of them, but here is the point, thro
troops would have voted the democ-
is tickets had they been in any
state which would be granted the
glorious privilege of voting. Mr Grant
is Generalissimo, he has sent these troops
out of So. They things show how void
of principle Grant and his party are.
I am pleased to hear of the flattering
auspices under which the school has
opened, but Ad W. whom we count on
Mr Carlton's merits is no more there
we ought and have reason to expect
- And I hoped you would get
out of the prison apartment

I now have an idea how tired
you get of the tremendous stock.
It is to be hoped that sizing the
pile you will have a most select
lot of girls at Mr C this session.
How is your son Dick getting
along now?

I have been trying to
persuade Pa to move to B. but
have despaired of success. I now
regard him as a "fixture" here where
intelligence is regarded as a mark
of merit. I know it is to his
interest. A fair will begin at
Wabtown on the 13. people are manifesting
considerable interest in it. Fair grounds
are being prepared, several of our family
acquaintances are coming up from Rock
Co to attend. I will send you a
Circular. An address will be delivered
by Mr Wason, President of the Shreveport
and Marshall R.R.

Since Sam has got so near Miss Ellen
and is with so much good company
I suppose he has forgotten me as I
have not rec'd a line from him for
more than a month. Give my love
to Mr Leath's family. Your friend
John D.