

University of Mississippi

eGrove

Correspondence

Civil War Collection

May 2019

Roxanna Chapin Gerdine to Eliza McKinstry (1858)

Roxana Chapin Gerdine

Follow this and additional works at: https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar_corresp



Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

Recommended Citation

Gerdine, Roxana Chapin, "Roxanna Chapin Gerdine to Eliza McKinstry (1858)" (2019). *Correspondence*. 89. https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar_corresp/89

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Civil War Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact egrove@olemiss.edu.

I go north again: but I dare not
before that time he will be so engaged
in family cares. What he
will not care for my sweet
-anice looks. Mrs. Leland
has just-ventured to let a
day's worth of her
of her white Jennie
Whelock? He is beautiful
I think from the picture
glow with- know her!
Please remember me to
just- Mary & the family
and write soon to your
Affectionate
R. Emmet

Washington May 19th

Time a rainy day is
enjoyed. It- bushy. could you see me now. for while
writing, my clothes are literally soaked through. The
shower came up so suddenly while we were coming
that we could not escape and you would think by
the looks of my dress that I was a water cure subject
my white dress clinging so helplessly to me, and my sun
bonnet: just- lopping over my face. I wish you could
see that same bonnet: for you never saw the like at
home, it is made of buff satin and paste-board and is
the largest one, without- any exception that I ever
saw. Yet they all wear them here to keep the sun from
their faces, and a double veil beside. They had talked to
me so long that I finally concluded to make one.
I never know the state of the weather when I have
it on, and cannot turn my head at- all. One of the

Merchants told me that he wished I would buy
the materials of him if I ever made another. For
it would make him independently rich.

Soon ere I was just returned from School, while com-
-ing I was reminded of home by looking upon the
rainbow which is now visible. so glad have I seen
it while there, and as could not but admire its
beauty I thought of that better home where we all
shall meet soon if we are faithful, where my dear
mother and sister have already gone. I love to think
of them as Angels now, and perhaps if I ever do
reach Heaven they will be the first to welcome
me there. I am very happy here, but something seems
to tell me it will not be so long. I never felt so
free from care of every kind, and if my friends were
near, my earthly happiness would be almost com-
-plete. This town is perfectly delightful at this
season of the year, there is such an abundance of
showery, that the houses are almost concealed from
view. But like every other place there must be something
to prevent its being a Paradise, and you must
know what that something is here. The subject that

is agitating the union so much I never can
like it. Although I am becoming quite accustomed
to it. I never should make a good mistress for I
like to have them in such a hurry when they wait
on me. A thing which I never knew them to be
guilty of. Having that same measure tread always
I had one for my servant at the party which we
gave. She was Senator Toombs servant. She is a better
looking girl than I am, and dressed elegantly. She
has a fine Brunette complexion and has the prettiest
little white boy in town.

There is a revival here in our Baptist Society,
a number have been immersed, and a number
more are to be to night. So poor Presbyterians are
struggling on as usual, without any elaters.

I rec'd a letter from home to day. They are all
well. Emily has commenced her school by air and
boards at Mr Pennington's. Lenny has returned to Mt.
Hol. She is spending a few days vacation at home
now. She says Wendell Stephens is there on a short visit
preparatory to going west. Lenny says Jennie M. K.
is to be married soon, is that the case? I think Jennie
wrote me some time since that it was not so. but Lenny

said she thought it was a fact.

I should like ~~you~~ to invite you in to dine with us. one of the days. we have had lettuce, radishes, Peas &c this long time. also the most delicious strawberries. I think of the north often while enjoying them. and such beautiful flowers at our Hort. Festival the last week in April. I never saw a finer variety of roses than we have here.

I am anticipating a visit from Mr Prescott, a young gentleman from the north. I am not acquainted with him. but his sister thinks he will come to see me. You were mistaken when you thought Oscar came this way. I have seen nothing of him since he was in Mass. Adeline writes me that she has written to them from Panama. they seem to feel very badly that he has gone so far. I did not know that he was intending to go. until he wrote me from N.Y. Mrs. Conde Willards family all well. give my love to them. also to Conde Wint. Tell him that I am about to do as I would be done by. and write to him when I can find time. He told me long ago that he should know I was a "school ma'am". but now he has become more engaged in the "art of gunnery" than ever. I expect he will not claim me as a relative when