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## Albert H. Clark to Margery Clark (18 January 1863)

Albert H. Clark

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Goldston N.C. Jan 18<sup>th</sup> 1862

Dear mother

After undergoing my sabbath morning duties I have concluded to undertake the pleasant task of writing to you we are all well at present and I am growing quite eager to hear from you You received a letter from uncle Spence Threlson He said that our folks were well a few days before he wrote I just wish we were near enough home to hear every two or three days I reckon I know why it is that you have not written to us you are expecting Pa to come home His furlough was not approved and so he did not get to come I was sorry that he did not get to come home For I know that you would be looking for him and would be sadly disappointed if he did not come So I would be glad to come home myself But I will tell you now Ma that you need not look for me home until the war is over For there is no chance for a man to get a furlough if there is any probability of his being able for duty in six months there is a man in our company who was shot himself accidentally through the hand and there is no chance for him ever to be able for duty any more and Pa never has been able to get him discharged or will Ma I do not believe that we have any news worth writing only there has been a great many letters passed this point in the direction of Wilmington it is rumored that the Longstreet Division going to Wilmington I expect that we will be ordered to that point as soon as Longstreet passes down

I expect that Duffs Company has gone down  
by here I would have went and seen <sup>them</sup> if I  
could have known when they passed by but the  
orders are so strict that we cannot leave our camp  
but a short time we have five Kollicals a day  
and if we are absent at Kollicals we are sent  
in the Guard House but I can say one thing I have  
never been sent in a guard house yet I have  
always tried to do my duty if it was ever so hard  
The U Me we herd that the Yankes swiped the horses  
with the and gave him an old broken down horse  
for the little horse that Pa got from Albert  
Murphree I do not mind that if they have not  
interrupted what the people has to eat or mistreat  
the women a Lieutenant of our Regiment herd  
while the Yankes were in Canada that they had  
hang his sister this is bad indeed we herd that  
David Fletcher had piloted the Yankes into our  
Country and another man by the name of Purcell  
was killed for the second offence while trying to  
make his escape after our men had captured him  
we also herd that they had taken a wagon and  
five mules from old Joe Sawelling every man  
in our Company was glad of that  
I guess the old Con went be so strong a union  
man as he was before for after he finds that  
acting the Traitor does not save his property  
we also learned from Mr. Buford of the 11th  
that the people of Oxford and Quena were treat it  
very badly we can never tell what is coming

Mr Patterson received a Letter from his Brother  
stating that Richard James Wheelers Cadetry  
I was sorry to hear that For I do not believe that  
he can stand Camp Life I tell you ma that  
I have known men to sicken and die in a few  
days and not hardly. Know what was the matter  
with them James White for example he and I  
were on guard together and talking about the  
past James said that he hoped ~~that~~ he would be  
permitted to return to his family for if he  
should happen to die he did not know what his  
wife and mother would do that he was their only  
support well I thought but little of that white  
at that time ~~would~~ have was in better health  
then I ever saw him well in a few short  
days he taken sick with a desperate Cough  
well I thought he had only caught Cold &  
would soon be over it but he got insensibly  
worse and was sent to the Regimental  
Hospital out side of the Guard lines and the  
next news from him he was dead this  
brought to bear on my mind about the time  
we stood Guard together and it made me  
sorry to think how hard it would be on  
Mrs White and his wife Ma maybe that  
~~it is it~~ she has not gone to that Company  
and if he has not gone please dont let him  
go no how in the world if you can help it  
tell him that I know he cant ~~help~~ <sup>stay</sup> it  
desires this it would be more than to him to stay  
at home and take care of his mother than to go  
to the army there is no sumer allowance to them the

die in the army they are forgotten forever  
among those that loved well me. May the war  
end soon and in our favor & may we meet  
again at my sweet old home to live a life of  
peace and we are not permitted to meet on earth  
Let us meet in heaven & live in full confidence  
that your prayers are continually going up for us  
may you and the children have an easy time  
and not be interrupted by the enemy is my  
prayer. Tell Ike to be a good boy. Tell sis to  
be a good girl and tell Mollie and Helen  
Joel and Sam that me and Pa and John  
will come to see them by and by. I must close  
now. There is a sermon going to be preached  
at 3 o'clock and it is about that time  
the preacher has got up now.  
Goodbye. Me I hope will forever  
your son J. H. Clark