

EGP

Adams Run, S.C.
Jany. 3d 1865.

Col. Gonzales:

Dear Sir:

I am very sorry that it will be out of my power to visit your little son before you leave for Charleston this morning, but I will certainly call and see him this afternoon at 2 o'clock. You need not be uneasy about him. I will see him every day until he entirely recovers. I will be at the Station this morning, and will see you there. Please have some conveyance at the station for me. I will go there in the Ambulance, and from there to your place. I send two powders let him take one every 3 hours, and continue the [...] of how as I directed.

Very Respectfully
C. B. Hodison

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 2, 986

Charleston, January 4, 1865

General McLaws:

General Hardee desires you to remove as soon as possible from Old Pocotaligo, and send to Major Huger the 24-pounder howitzer and the two Blakely guns now there, also the two Wiard rifled guns at Pocotaligo Depot. General Hardee wishes a light-artillery section at Old Pocotaligo instead of the above-mentioned guns.

A. J. Gonzales
Colonel and Chief of Artillery Department.

EGP

Greenville 17th Jany [1865]

My dear Emmie

I suppose you have seen by the papers (which *we* have not) the extent of the damage done on the Rail Road by which we have been entirely cut off for a week past from our mail. Yesterday a courier came up with papers a week old, and we hope in a few days to get another mail, which may tell us where the damage is for no one here seems to know. I fear it may interfere with the transportation of Your moveables if not of Yourselves if the breakage is below Abbeville. I was very happy to find by Your letter of the 6th recd. Yesterday that Nanno was well again and that You were all feeling free from alarm at the possible approach of such disagreeable guests as Sherman might impose upon You. With so much time as You have had to prepare, your move may be accomplished, I think, with comparative comfort. I hope You will agree to my plan however of paying me a visit first. Tell Hattie the rooms engaged for her in Chester -- Jane Fraser writes are very dilapidated. "She pitied any one who would have to occupy them." Alice says Greenville is too much better than Chester, for supplies *can* be obtained here.

I received a most kind letter from the Genl. just before our communication was cut, so that I have not yet been able to thank him for telling me to send Elliott to *him*. I will write today hoping that an opportunity may occur for sending letters. Elliott infinitely prefers being with Gonzie but I really fear the increase of trouble he will cause him - of course travel is put a stop to for the present but I will get Elliott ready by the 1st of Feby. and he must get down by hand car. Most foolishly we are left on this side of the break without an engine. Do ask Hattie if blankets will be enough to send

with Elliott if she knows, whether Gonzie's accommodations will warrant another intruder. Elliott is studying every afternoon with Mr. Campbell, making the most of his short time. We are all well including Emma though the weather continues very cold. Frank J. has been quite sick in Columbia. He writes that, people are quite panicky below Branchville. The Robb Chisolms delightfully fixed near Orangeburg have gone to Alabama. Mrs Allen Lowndes and Sallie returned from their short winter at Cooper River ten days ago -- glad to get back to their dismal shelter here. I am glad You have Phoebe and Annie with You -- it must be cheering in these anxious times to have the merry Young folks around You. I never heard of the arrival of the homespuns, and am glad they look well -- tell Mama if She can furnish 18 lbs of fresh wood I can get a piece of flannel woven for her and 12 lbs of mattress wool, will pay for the work and expense of weaving. Elliott has just brought in a report "that Sherman has been met and defeated near Savannah" and that "it will be a long time before we get a mail." I feel constantly anxious about You, so please write often dear Emmie and with abundant love to You all, believe Me Your Affecte Sister M B J [Mary Barnwell Johnstone]

EGP

Charleston, Jan. 18, 1865

Mrs. A. H. Elliott

Dear Mrs. Elliott:

I avail myself of Tom's visit to Oak Lawn to write and to send you the basket that H. M. left here yesterday. It goes with a letter of hers, as I suppose. The shoemaker is in jail for not wishing, as a Scotchman that he is, to enter the militia. Unless he is liberated very soon you will not get the shoes. Get the corn in the meantime, in case he should come. Tom will tell you that the So. Ca. R. R. will be in running order tomorrow evening. Thence forward every thing can go & shall go *at once* that is to go that way. You have not one minute to lose for things material or immaterial. To move from *here* is now a question of very few days. I want Hattie & the children & nurse here at once, with whatever bedding and indispensable crockery & utensils they can bring. It will relieve the house by that much and the movement of the rest will be more rapid & certain as well as much less troublesome. The balance of the family should follow as soon as possible. If you are not needed at Oak Lawn you had better come with Hattie, for here you are on the way to any point and in case of a miracle like that of the parting of the Red Sea might go back to Oak Lawn. I will send Mr. Stender¹⁸⁴ to accompany you to the city. Alley & the girls could stay & see every thing that they have to see after and they could come last and Alley might stay & keep guard & wait for Jacob, if necessary. I do not see how your cattle can go up the country. The sale of what you have at Oak Lawn that you can't keep or wish to part with should be attended to at once. You are all behind time in every thing that has had to be done, and I fear that unless some one gives you all a military order to do, at the imminent risk of his head & reputation from a feminine courtmartial you will not be moved in time. Telegraph me as soon as you receive this to inform me when I shall send Stender, should Willie be about, to the station for Hattie & the children. I have not many more days to see them. Were you all here now every thing could be arranged that is of material use to you. Perhaps your chief clerk had better come and have a conference about all matters of interest. Mr. Woodward will do any thing that is desired & in his power. It is the opinion of some with whom I have conversed that it is desirable, if it should be possible, to convert your cotton into sterling & save all the worry

¹⁸⁴ His orderly, Private F. W. Stender.

& risk in all directions attending the keeping of it. Mr. Woodward has made to me a very friendly proposition. He is the Agt. here of some blockade running Companies & whereas the rate of shipment is *three* bales for *one* he will send your cotton or a part of it to Nassau *two* for *one*. But he wishes no one to be informed of it but those immediately interested. Mr. W. as you know has always been obliging & even generous in the dealings of his Co. with me but in the present instance he is extremely grateful because of my having obtained for him (before this matter was known to me) the protection of all his wagons, teams & wagoners & a free pass by any route to Cheraw, which he considers the saving of it in the troublous times now coming. Some written authority should be given in the matter of the disposal of this cotton one way or the other and the only practicable way and entirely satisfactory is for yourselves to be here. I am overwhelmed with labor. Not to neglect the first & imperative duties of which you can form no conception of my office in such a crisis, prepare the best way I can my own little matters & interests and attend to all of your multifarious affairs wholerated detail in so short a time as in given us, I assure you taxes every energy & endurance that I possess & all my strength of spirit the whole being upper by my anxiety at seeing you still at Oak Lawn with uncertainties before you & so much yet undone. Mr. Jacques¹⁸⁵ will write about the Stock and sends what he has collected.

Tom is knocking to go & I must close with love to Hattie & regret at not writing to her.

Yours affectly,
A. J. Gonzales

EGP

Dear Madam

I find upon Enquiry that by the Act of the Legislature passed at the last Session, your Overseer cannot claim Exemption notwithstanding the papers he holds. The only person who can exempt him is Governor Magrath. If Col. Gonzales will represent your case [...] to the Governor I will unite with him & perhaps we may then get him once more free of the military though I think the chances are not very good. I am however prepared to do my part.

I hope you are preparing to remove to the up Country with your family. The impression here seems to be that there is not much time to be lost.

Very Respectfully
Your Obt. Sev.
Richd. De Treville

24 Jany 1865
Charleston

EGP

Oak Lawn Friday [late Jan. 1865]

My Dear Mama

We are full of anxieties about you all. The rain after you left was pitiless -- with a baby, sick children & damp bedding I don't see how you managed or how you got from the station dry in the Cols [...]. Your first step as wanderers is trying, how will it be as you go further T'is best to die at home, I think & how I wish I could be allowed to do so. Mrs Manigault sent us word yesterday, that Genl. Wright said that "Charleston was to be held at all hazards." John went to see about the salt.

¹⁸⁵ Gonzales' clerk, Pvt. Richard A. Jacques.

Price was at home & said that his salt was engaged and was at \$50.00 the bushel. So you had best see what can be done in the way of exchange for corn. As the day is bad -- & the Mercury says passengers with baggage can not travel on the Rail Road for several days. Tom will be in no hurry for his wagon & man so we keep them to help thrash out the corn -- as we sent yesterday for the corn sheller but did not get it. Last night we stood thus -- No salt, no corn sheller, no wagon from Jacob, no cars for stock or servants arrived at station. We are glad of the last as in such weather we could do nothing towards loading them. The Butchers have not yet started with their cattle. They sent to me for a pass a little while ago to get into Charleston. Tom said that he would speak to the man at the New Bridge that there would be no difficulty. I have told the men to go to him or to Col. Gonzales to get a permit. Genl. Beauregard's permit to drive your cattle might have done (although it said drive up the country). We have furnished so many to the Government that Genl Hardee should certainly give the permit to drive so many head of Mrs Elliotts cattle to the city. It is a difficulty we did not foresee, not having been threatened with impressment & other people seem to sell without difficulty. Baring's were sold in this neighborhood & Pringle's at Ashpoo -- that we know of. I only mention these things in case of difficulty, perhaps you may not be applied to. We send down a basket with a bottle of milk, some peas for the children & a duck for Harriet -- your tomorrow's dinner. The leggins for the boys are being made. The oil was forgotten. We will bring it (not send) as you are near where it can be bought. Major Powell has no means of sending for the corn -- he writes. Major Harris has not sent the money & you have carried with you the papers, which you were to sign. Do look up the papers he sent for your first beef. The \$16,000.00. Sign them & send me tomorrow. Perhaps they may not be required to get the money but I think they will be.

Shrewsbury will pay you or Col. Gonzales, or Tom, for some cattle. I told him to go to Col. Gonzales' office to pay. You have sold \$17,250.00 (Seventeen thousand two hundred & fifty dollars worth) worth & have reserved a pair of fine oxen & enough cows & calves to commence housekeeping with.

We said something about taking off your old stockings yesterday. I do hope you didn't do anything rash. Tell Brosio Nannan missed her bedfellow very much last night & I missed Nanno. Tom's boys are very efficient & *good*. They are trumps for their countrys sake T's is a pity that they are not men. Do telegraph us if you want a carpet or anything. We will send something tomorrow. To-day Dick is occupied killing pork for the Government. I believe this is all. So good bye. With our love & kisses to the chicks.

Do ask Tom please to send the bags if he can spare them.

[Emily Elliott]

EGP

Oak Lawn -- [Sunday] Jany 29th [1865]

Your letter & the accompaniments was duly received My Dear Mama. I am surprised that you do not think of running back for a while-- by leaving bedding in Charleston you might always be ready for a rapid move from here. I hope that you got the prog of yesterday but my letter Ally forgot & brought home in his pocket. As for our dresses we want dress dresses, for our alpaca's are getting windy & we can wear them in lieu of calico & if we have sold anything out of our trunk we could afford to give a big price for a dress. Tomorrow if nothing happens before, we shall send Amy down to find out what she can about the trunk. Poor Little Beauregard, he was not prepared for city or company life. I have cut out a [...] for him & Bella is making it. I have no pattern or would make a dress for him out of the back which he might wear for the rest of the season without a charge.

T'is a splendid morning, frost over everything & cannon firing in the direction of White Point, but they sound like our guns. Arthur has not yet returned he must have gone to Salskahatchee. Ally has a horse per which he wants home instruction about as soon as Arthur returns we will send them both for we would not be in the way of their education for a moment. A bag, box & bottle went to you yesterday by Mr. [...] Charles, who is a rail road hand, today we will send fish, fowls, potatoes (all the raw are barrell'd up) & milk. Tomorrow if we can send any we will send some wood & light wood -- Supposing that the Col. can send his wagon to the depot. Good Bye with much love Yours Affectionately

Emmie E.

P.S. We go to the depot this morning to see after our car.

Our potatoes won't last very long we have only a barrel & a half barrel in all.

EGP

Manning Feby. 2d. 1865

I have received My Dear Mother, by an intercepted mail, just this moment, your letter from Charleston, which, in the usual course, would not arrive until tomorrow morning; and so am enabled to answer by return of mail. I am quite sorry that you should be obliged to leave your house, and deeply sympathise with the feeling of desolation you must experience at the prospect before you; and trust at any rate it may not be for long; although I am skeptical as regards the Peace our over-sanguine people are so confidently expecting. I hope I am wrong but nothing but outside pressure such as a prospect of war with England, will bring that robber Yankee nation to terms. Negotiations however are going on, of some sort, but our people should not be cull'd into security, but prepare to defeat Sherman. Hampton's men are eager to fight him. They have no doubts as to the success of our cause & I hear that tis a positive pleasure to hear them speak.

I am sorry you are disturbed about Johnson. His case stands thus. Being a Bonded man, he is exempt from *Confederate Service*, and no power can take him from you until his year expires, to go into the regular army. But, he & all bonded men are liable to *militia calls* by the Gov. of the State for service *within the State*. The Confederate Government therefore is guilty of no violation of contract. All the militia have been organized, but in many districts they have not been called out & I understand *are* to be only the case of emergency. If you fear his being put into militia service for any length of time the only course is to apply to Gov. Magrath (who is Commander in Chief of the Militia) setting forth the peculiar circumstances of the case. Johnson it seems to me, is unnessesarily scary and fond of alarming you. Your case is a strong one & if the Governor excuses any at all, he must excuse Johnson. Treville was right in saying his papers would not avail him, for the Govrmt. at Richmond & that at Columbia are too very different and often conflicting things.

Ralphie's letter you were so kind as to enclose was not only a treat but great relief to me, as I feared his regiment was drawn into the fighting near Wilmington and have not heard from him since my last to him before you saw me at Xmas. He must have suffered from the terrible cold weather, but now it has moderated. I rejoice that he escaped injury.

I am still occupying the back room in my office, which would be cold did I not keep on hand a plentiful supply of wood. The cold although it wakes me long before day, has braced me up considerably & I have never felt or looked better than at present. I trust Narto has quite recovered, and that Hattie & her other chicks are all well. There is nothing of interest here. For two weeks I've been reading for occupation. No business but that of finding the absentees & deserters of whom I've succeeded in bagging a goodly number.

Phoebe's note came. Excuse this attempt but believe me dearest Mama
Yr affectionate Son
[William Elliott]

EGP

Charleston Feb. [1865]

My dear Emmie

Gonzie has just told us, what I am about to say to you for Tis necessary to act immediately. Solomon¹⁸⁶ the Jew says we can not have his house at Cheraw. Mr. Woodards house has been filled with refugees, he cant turn them out but will try to make room for us (but of course this is not to be thought of). Solomon tells Gonzie that there are several stores were we might get accommodation, that the people are kind & that when we have been there for a few days we shall be able to get shelter. On the other hand G. has had a long talk with Wagner who says that he has Gen. Beauregard's authority for saying that Charleston is the best place for helpless people for the reason that when taken the troops will be under control in the country they will be under no restrain whatever. Wagner has offered the Col. the use & choice of two houses here he says that Mama would not be disturbed, that you as sisters of soldiers would not suffer that I *might* be sent out of the lines. You will see when such matters as these are calmly discussed, in what a condition our affairs are. The truth, the melancholy truth is (but you *must* not publish it) that we have no troops to crush Sherman, that we have not heard one word of help from Virginia & that the whole State is at the mercy of Sherman who is now in the heart of it & can make raids where it pleases him. Gonzie has left it to us to accede what we shall do. I have told him that I can not remain here if the city is to be taken. Charleston is not Savannah & I don't believe that there will be law & order. Now you must say what you will do. Dr. Bachman¹⁸⁷ tells us that he expects to go to Cheraw before long with his daughter to stay at Col. Capers who would do anything for friends of his & who might tell us about the cattle & the Doctor says they would certainly be impressed near this -- but my reason for saying that we must decide at once upon Charleston or Cheraw is this that the N. Eastern Road may be sieged upon at any moment by the Government & we shall then be cut off. When I spoke to-day to Hardee of remaining here, he said I would have to do without the Col. for that he would have to move off with them. You will see from this that the army, such as it is, will be saved. Hardee does his best he has an immense line to defend & no troops! People in abusing him seem to forget that Beauregard is the Governor & Jeff Davis his Governor. There is a place called "Marion" somewhere in the swamps where we may get shelter but you have no idea of the difficulty in finding any place. The up country is crammed & no place can be said to be safe. Woodard has sent his silver from Cheraw it is apprehended that the Yankees will next cut the North Eastern road. We have just read your letter & feel distressed to hear of your fever. Mama will try and send you some quinine in this letter. Do take care of yourself my dear Child, you will need all your health & strength in the approaching campaign. Edward Kate is too unwell show herself. I am glad her old scamp came with her for no doubt she would have lost something if left to herself. Mama is almost sorry she came back so soon as Rosa was cooking for us very satisfactorily. We have been making Edward useful to-day, in getting locks & keys arranged

¹⁸⁶ S. S. Solomon.

¹⁸⁷ Rev. Dr. John Bachman, born 1790, pastor of the English Lutheran Church in Charleston.

by the Lock Smith. Stender¹⁸⁸ has bought Mama more sugar. She has now between sixty & seventy pounds. Dr. Bachman is extremely kind he has been here twice today (The first time none of us were up) he did not quite understand your note thought you wanted a place near the R.R. to keep the cattle until you could ship them. He went to see Robison agent of the road who said for him he might let them stay a while in his yard but if the cattle come in the car they can of course go on. Dr. B. says you must take feed for them & you know if we take them to Cheraw we shall have to support them there for should we get lands to put them on there would be nothing for them to eat in short barren country. Mama says tell you it may be best to keep only one or two & dispose of the rest. Tis very hard but what can we do. She says one should be killed at once for your eating & part of it could be salted Mama says if you determine not to remain in Charleston. You had better prepare to leave early next week. She says & Gonzie says Sunday at the latest. Tis better even if you have to remain here two or three days. Your stock should come *at once*. G. says he does not know what you can do but dispose of them. They will be too great an incumbrance in travelling. Mama has not seen the Butcher or she would tell you about her horses. About the colt Gonzie can't keep it. Of course Brosio wants it but you can not consider him in the matter -- poor children they have been too much indulged & wont understand that it is impossible to comply with all their wishes. Kate tells us that Major King has determined to stay & has promised his negroes if they remain with him to surrender upon the approach of the Yankees. Old John says that Edward Barnwell is preparing to plant. Will he too take protection from the enemy?

I am not subjugated but I do feel broken spirited about this war & I assure you that unless we have help from abroad we are gone! That wretched Mercer because the enemy crossed Rivers bridge,¹⁸⁹ has destroyed the guns along the Combahee & the Ashepoo also. Most uncalled for & reprehensible, but such things may happen every day & what notice is taken of them? Jeff Davis' classmate! Will you leave anyone to stay at Oak Lawn or rather have you asked anyone & what will A. do with her furniture. You can not afford to take the old negroes with you! Perhaps they had better join Patriot King's band. Annie must not fret about the cattle but consider how impossible tis to save them if they go to Cheraw they starve if to Abbeville they are liable to impressment on the way for Abbeville is now one of our lines of defence & besides how can they go over those dreadful roads, if they remain here the soldiers or Yankees kill them. The only plan seems to be to sell them. We are glad you will send down the corn by wagon though Ifen you may miss Dick in getting down the cattle. Mama wrote you about the cotton yesterday. We have heard nothing more today. Excuse this letter. I have a feeling as if I had a weight of lead upon my head & heart. As long as you remained at Oak Lawn I felt as if we might return but I have no hope now & feel this more on your account, although I have four helpless little children with no shelter in prospect but that afforded by a box car. With much love from Mama & self

I am Your affecte.

Hattie

Hardee & Roy desired to be kindly remembered to you. Dr. Bachman will christen the children the

¹⁸⁸ Gonzales' orderly, Private F. W. Stender.

¹⁸⁹ Rivers Bridge, the crossing of the Salcahatchie River, today a state park between Hampton and Barnwell, South Carolina

children in this room whenever I wish.

[*The next closing paragraph written by Mrs. Ann H. Elliott*]

The Stock Car Gonzie hopes to exchange for a box car here & I suppose this last is the one to be paid up ~~New~~ with such things as we have here. Telegraph when the stock will come -- if sold at auction they will bring a fine price now Gonzie thinks. God bless you my daughters & give you strength to bear your trials.

EGP

Oak Lawn Feb 3rd [1865]

Your letter has just been read My Dear Mama & I will begin in time to answer & touch upon all its points. First the butcher Shrewsbury - did not tell us about what he owed he told something to the boys - but not knowing that he said he owed you but \$15,000 we did not assure him of his mistake. I wrote down exactly the amount due to you at the time. I will draw up the bill on another paper - & you will have to trouble the Col or get Mr Jacques¹⁹⁰ to see about it for you -- he has a plenty of money & has offered 1200 for your horses - which seems a good price as Prince is only a corn collar if you conclude to take it you can make him pay you & send him up for the horses -- We can drive mules until the crisis comes. As to the cotton - We have done all that we could - it will be a cruel thing if T'is lost, & we shall have to thank that selfish Willie, who to feather his own nest with Mr Mrs Heyward, dodged our business for which he was furloughed. Why does the Col keep him as detail? he thinks himself a much cleverer officer at this moment, & is I am sure any thing but grateful. Why then does he keep him? he will be a bad example to Elliott -- There is a great want of proper deference in that officer. The deference due to a Superior officer -- That fellow Stender¹⁹¹ entertained the boys here, with Elias' running away, & how the Col. told him to run & catch him - but he was not

EGP

9 o'clock Friday Night [3 February 1865]

Dear Daughters

The Col. has just come in & says that I must write & tell you that a stock & a box car will be at the Depot at Adams Run for us tomorrow. He has heard that the stock car [...] has been sometime at the Depot waiting upon us -- has been impressed & sent off as well as the box car Emmie mentioned yesterday in her note. The Company complain that it cost them 400 every day a car is detained. They say that something must be put into the cars or they will be impressed & the Col. says so -- on acct of the Company as well as in our own acct the stock car & then ours must hurry up. ~~Sherman~~ We had left the Combahee & are marching towards Sherman -- they say at Head Quarters tonight. Many empty cars have been sent to Charlotte from Columbia to bring troops t'is supposed & the Col. has heard that Genl. Lee himself is coming. Government has impressed a train today -- either to carry or to bring cotton from or to Cheraw. Thus when the Government choose to impress, no rail road cars are certain. I have had to write tonight to Harper & Riggs to enclose an order the Col. brought in (to have the cotton ready in the Platform) for a train on its return from Columbia, wh. will not happen for several days to come -- Mr. Woodward having failed in getting the transportation

¹⁹⁰ Gonzales' clerk, Pvt. Richard A. Jacques.

¹⁹¹ Gonzales' orderly, Private F. W. Stender.

wh. G. has secured, if not too late as I fear it may be. I realized today how good for nothing I am when hearing some shells fired at the City as I supposed -- t'was at a blockade runner wh. had run aground, the Rattlesnake -- its 1st trip -- it was sunk.¹⁹² Another got in last night. I have bought today 22 lbs sugar at Eleven dollars -- 11 -- Shall I get any more?

Dear old Dr. Bachman found us out this evening & paid Hattie and self a pleasant visit in the nursery & he sends his love to you & offers his assistance in any way -- hopes to see you -- he lives near by us -- & I wished so much to send him some of those fish & had no one to tell me where he lived or [...] have [...] them. he is very desponding abt. Peace & our recognition by England. Enquired if we had saved negros & provisions & was glad we are not ruined. He said he had been 3 times to Cheraw wh was not the worst place in the world -- 4 weeks since on his return there the galvanized Yankees near Florence attacked the car he was in, stole his truck with his whole wardrobe & a sow wh. wd. give him soon a dozen Pigs, a special present to himself. He recovered the sow which he accidentally met being [...] off in its Box by 3 men who he belabored with a stick he had picked up -- he heard trains flying abt. & broken legs complained of but he continued his labor & saved his sow. *[The rest of this letter from Mrs. Ann H. Elliott is missing]*

EGP

Friday night [10 February 1865]

I recvd. your letter & Basket this morning, yr. letter alluded to as sent yesterday has not reached me. The Col. has just told me that he has telegraphed you tonight that two box cars will go up to be left at Adams Run tomorrow & the Engine from Green Pond will bring them back at night. Mr. Turias will be able to tell you exactly if the train will arrive at night or later -- if possible send the stock & Provisions -- for probably we may carry them after all with us. The cars must be loaded & ready to come back to Charleston when the train reaches Adams Run & no mistaken, t'is our last opportunity. The Col. says that the Box car will do quite as well as the Stock car for the cattle. The Box car that you have loaded *must* come down on Sunday. The Col. also says that if you stay yrselfes for the Passenger train on Monday it must be ought our responsibility -- & as he cannot say at what moment we may have to leave I telegraphed you this even. to take the sugar for the oxen. Keep & bring with you the papers about the corn -- that we may [...] them before the Q. M. here.

In our houseless situation we were gratified at an offer made by Wagner to Col. Gonzales today of a home, on a fine plantation of his 7 miles from Darlington village. There are 200 negroes on it & every thing. The Rail Road takes us to the village & from thence, his wagons will transport us. We can carry our stock & Poultry & be all to ourselves. I'll copy Wagner's letter to Mr. Capers an old gentleman from Beaufort for whom it appears he bought this property that *he* might take care of it having lost his home & 60 negroes. Wagner has never seen the place himself.

Mr. Capers

Darlington

Dear Sir --

You wrote me some time ago that you would & could make arrangements to furnish my friend Captn Welsman and his family with a part of the house on my place. He has made other

¹⁹² According to the *Nassau Guardian* newspaper, the *Rattlesnake* blockade runner left Nassau, Bahamas, on Tuesday, 31 January 1865. At three o'clock Friday morning, it ran aground about three miles from Battery Marshall, on Sullivan's Island. "Loss of the Steamer Rattlesnake," *Charleston Courier*, 4 February 1865, 1.

arrangements, but I have just heard to day that Mrs. Elliott & her family are anxious to have some place to go to, & I told Col. Gonzales, that you would with great pleasure provide for them. I need not tell you how glad I would be to know you had made these friends not only comfortable but *feel at home*. Like yourself they are refugees & from your part of the country. I therefore commend them to your care feeling assured you will do all to render them comfortable & happy.

Yours

T. D. Wagner

The house has but 4 rooms & Wagner is sure that Capers will give up one of the 2 he has, leaving us 3. The negroes are well clothed & well fed & under discipline Wagner says. The Col. thinks we are very fortunate!! Hattie thinks *you* wd. have preferred. Wagner says we will have a plenty of wood & lumber to build with & that he supposes there is plenty of accommodation for our Servants. Chloe & Nancy too perhaps may go with us. The Col. says we had best be together & he has a fine chamber in a fine house in sight of this for you. The lady Mrs. Gilchrist leaves it on Monday. The gun boats have all left Toogoodoo to night. Tis reported that Major E. Manigault was killed at James Islnd. to day¹⁹³ where the shelling was going on but [...] by me. Gonzie hopes the report may be untrue.

Wagner says if the cotton was his he might take the risks of shipping it for he wd. have to wait, there being no vessel which now wants cotton to fill. As it is of such importance to us he thinks we sd. sent it to Cheraw for storage -- & sell a few bales for expenses if we chose -- five dollars here -- would give us only 1500 in gold!!

John Godfrey has bought my carriage horses, has paid me 300 this evening & is to call & pay me 900 in the morning & get my order & I go by the cars to the [...] Oak Lawn in --

Isabel's Husband said he could enquire & get us a nice place in Darlington! Ralph is near there. Gonsie says he says also his Brigade is sent for. I enclose R's letter.

AMF

Hd. Qrs Chief Fl. S.C. Dept.
Charleston [Friday] Feb. 10th 1865.

Col. Allan Mcfarlan¹⁹⁴
Cheraw

Dear Sir:

My wife & children and Mrs. & the Misses Elliott (my mother & sisters-in-law) will leave in a day or two for Cheraw under the trying circumstances of abandoning a comfortable home without even a place of shelter that they have secured. I have been disappointed in my expectation of obtaining for them Mr. Solomon's house. Mrs. Elliott carries with her provisions sufficient bedding, some furniture & her house servants. Presuming upon our former slight acquaintance, but more upon your disposition to oblige & your friendship with Ralph my brother in law, I make this hurried note

¹⁹³ Major Edward Manigault, South Carolina Siege Train, 18th Battalion of Artillery, C.S.A., was gravely wounded and taken prisoner on Friday, 10 February 1865. It was erroneously reported that he had been killed in action. See: Warren Ripley, ed., *Siege Train: The Journal of a Confederate Artilleryman in the Defense of Charleston* (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1986), xii, 243.

¹⁹⁴ Allan Macfarlan (1820-1869). In May 1864 was President of the Cheraw & Darlington Rail Road Co.

to request of you to assist the party ahead named, in procuring a house in Cheraw or a farm in its immediate neighborhood & to telegraph me upon the subject. Your aid in their behalf will be gratefully remembered & appreciated by all of us.

I am yours very truly
A. J. Gonzales

CMR and OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 2, 1153-54

Received at Richmond, Va., Feb. 10th 1865

By Telegraph from Charleston “ ” “

Gen'l S. Cooper
Adj. & Inspector Gen'l
Genl:

In the Department of South Carolina, Georgia and Florida there are one hundred and six (106) guns now organized & equipped as mounted Artillery. Of these, all but three Batteries (12 guns) are at this time serving in South Carolina.

Each of these Batteries consists of four (4) guns &c., but there are no General nor Field Officers serving with them.

I propose to inspect these several Batteries early next week wherever they maybe, with a view to their organization in accordance with your instructions.

I deem it however of great importance that a Brig. General be at once appointed to their command and Lt. Gen. Hardee Cmd'g the Dept. concurring. I respectfully recommend for this position Col. A. J. Gonzales, for more than two years and a half past Chief of Artillery of this Dept. and now the Senior Colonel of Artillery.

I have the honor to be Genl very Resp'y yr. obt. sevt.

J. C. Pemberton
Lt. Col. Arty.
Gl. Inspt. Arty. & Ord.

(First Indorsement)

Charleston, Feby. 10/65

Respectfully forwarded, approved.

Col. Gonzales is Chief of Artillery in this Dept. & his long experience, his thorough & practical knowledge of Artillery, & his great industry and zeal, fully entitle him to the position of Brig. General of Arty.

W. J. Hardee
Lieut. Gen.

(Second Indorsement)

Respectfully submitted to the Hon. Secretary of War.

John W. Riely
Major and Assistant Adjutant-General

Recd. A. & I.G.O. Feb. 11 /65

Respectfully submitted to His Excellency
The President

John W. Riely
Major & Asst. Adjt. Gen.

Copy sent Sec. of War
16 Feb. 65

Secy. of War, for inquiry as to Brig. Genls. fit for artillery command and who are available for this position; if none the question of selection is before us. Gen. Gorgas might give you information as to qualifications.

J.D. [Jefferson Davis]

Feb. 18 /65

Chief of Ordnance, inviting attention to the President's endorsement.

By order
Ja[...]
Asst. Secy. War

Bureau of Ordnance
Feb. 20 /65

Respy. returned to the Hon. Secy. of War.

Gen. Shoup¹⁹⁵ is the only Brig. Genl. here unassigned who could, in my opinion, fill the position in question.

Col. Carter, acting Chief of Arty. for Genl. Early so recommended by Genl. Alexander,¹⁹⁶ as fully qualified for this position. He has already been recommended on a former occasion for the grade of Brig. Genl., by Genl. Lee.

Major Haskell (of S.C.) Comdg. battalion of artillery in Genl. Lee's army, is an officer, who stands next to Col. Carter in the estimation of Genl. Alexander. He has, heretofore, been recommended for the grade of Lieut. Col.

Col. Gonzales is, in my opinion, not fitted for the position, and in this opinion I am joined by Genl. Gilmer, Chief Engineer, who had better opportunities than myself to observe Col. Gonzales professionally.

J. Gorgas, Brig. Genl.
Chief of Ordnance

Feb. 20/65

Respectfully returned to the Sec. of War.

I fully concur in the bias expressed by Gl. Gorgas; I'd know of no other offer than those he has named fitted for the position unless it be Gl. Elzey who has applied to be relieved as chief of artillery in the army of Tenn. with concurrence of Genls. Hood & [...]

S. Cooper

Rec. A. & I.G.C., Feby. 24, 1865

J.D. [Jefferson Davis]

Louisiana

Ans'd by letter Mch 3,/65

¹⁹⁵. Brig. Gen. Francis A. Shoup.

¹⁹⁶. Gen. Edward P. Alexander. Georgia-born West Point graduate. A veteran of most of the Confederate major battles before the age of thirty.

Write Gen. Hardee - Lieut. Gen. J. E. Johnston
Charlotte, N.C.

The joint recommendation of Col. Pemberton & yourself for the appoint of Col. Gonzales as Brig. Gen. to be Chief of Arty. and in your command, has been rec't, duly considered & I have the honor &c &c, to inform you that Gen. Shoup has been ordered to you to assume the position above mentioned and its claim of Col. Gonzales held under advisement to await the action of the President or similar applications in connection with the organization of the artillery.

Robinson

File

until the directions of the President are given, who has [...] the subject of Brig. Genl. of Artillery for the comd. (over)

the action of the President's on similar applications in [...] the organization of the artillery.

R.

Has not Shoup been ordered to Hardee as Chief of Arty.

A. R. Barlow, *Company G. A Record of the Services of One Company of the 157th N.Y. Vols. in the War of the Rebellion. From Sept. 19, 1862, to July 10, 1865. Including the Roster of the Company* (Syracuse, N.Y.: A. W. Hall, Publisher, 1899), 214-215.

February 19th Co. G were roused up at daybreak and ordered to get ready to move. The 157th squad moved toward Ashepoo Ferry, and there were joined by the other companies from the fort. The men had become acquainted with each other and the regiment appeared to them as one good big family. And when they met after so long separation, the larger half so clean and bright, and the smaller half so battered and rough-looking, appearances did not count in the hellos! and how-are-yous! of the hour. It was first, cheering, then a good all-around shake, and the band struck up "Hail Columbia!"

At night, after a pretty hard march they bivouacked, after dark, in a cotton field at Edisto Ferry. The morning of the 20th, Col. Brown drew up his men and announced the occupation of Charleston by their old general, "Little Schimmel."

During the day a foraging party was sent out, returning with cart laden with sweet potatoes, corn, poultry, hams and bacon, and a threatened famine was averted. Toward the night, however, their wagons came up and with them some supplies, but not such as are relished in a country running with fatness, sweetness and flavor.

The men crossed the Edisto on the railroad bridge and camped at Elliott's plantation. Before leaving on the 21st, for some reason, orders were given to fire the buildings and the column of Gen. Hatch moved out a short distance, and rested in a grove of pines. They were awaiting the arrival of the wagon train and moved on to Martin's Farm and camped. The boys were obliged to go nearly a mile to obtain water for their coffee.

PGB, Reel 7, Frame 244.

Raleigh, N.C.
20th March 1865

Col. Gonzales
Ch'f of Art'y &c
Colonel

Pursuant to orders from Genl. Johnston, Genl. Beauregard directs that you have all Artillery

now here without horses, sent to Greensboro until the arrival of the animals at this place, when the Guns &c can be returned here, if required.

Respectfully
Yr. Obdt. Servt.

A.A.G.

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 710

Raleigh, March 28, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough

Have important orders for you from Smithfield. Where shall they be sent? Answer quick.

J. M. Otey
Assistant Adjutant-General

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 725-26

Raleigh, N.C., March 31, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Hillsborough

Independent of the battery ordered by General Bragg to Salisbury, you will send the one ordered this morning, and if there be any troops at Greensborough, it can be stopped at that point; otherwise it must go on to Salisbury. Communicate any orders given you by General Bragg.

G. T. Beauregard
General

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 726

Raleigh, N.C., March 31, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Stoneman's raiders are reported at Wilkesborough, marching on Salisbury. From thence they may move on Greensborough and Hillsborough. Be prepared accordingly to move back your artillery to this place or Smithfield.

G. T. Beauregard

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 726

Raleigh, N.C., March 31, 1865--11:50 a.m.

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough

Send a battery of Napoleons, fully equipped, to Salisbury immediately by rail to General Lee or officer commanding troops at that point.

By command of General Beauregard:

John M. Otey
Assistant Adjutant-General

PGB

Head Quarters &c. &c.
Raleigh N.C. March 31st 1865

G. L. Dudley
Capt. & Mil. Supt.
Rl. Rds.

Captain

Col A. J. Gonzales Chief of Arty, at Hillsboro, has been directed to send at once by Rail a Battery of Napoleons (4 guns) with Horses and Equipments complete to Salisbury, N.C.

Genl. Beauregard desires that you cause the necessary transportation to be speedily provided and the transfer of this Battery, to the point designated in the shortest possible time.

Respectfully, yr obdt Servt

A.A.G.

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 726

Raleigh, N.C., March 31, 1865--3 p.m.

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Besides two batteries ordered, hold another ready to move at moment's notice. Cars will be ordered when needed.

G. T. Beauregard

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 726

Raleigh, N.C., March 31, 1865--9:30 p.m.

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Hillsborough, N.C.

Orders for disposition of artillery are plain. One battery goes to Salisbury, another to Greensborough; but if there are no troops there it must go on to Salisbury to prevent capture. Third battery must be held ready to move at moment's notice. A train will leave here in morning for second battery.

G. T. Beauregard

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 744

Greensborough, N.C., April 2, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Independent of Bachman's and Maxwell's batteries, and the one ordered to be held ready to move, send two batteries fully equipped, under a good field officer, to report to commanding officer at Danville. They must march by dirt road, taking nearest and best route.

G. T. Beauregard
General

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 745

Greensborough, N.C., April 2, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales

Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Send three batteries to Danville instead of two.

G. T. Beauregard
General

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 745

Greensborough, N.C., April 2, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Send forthwith the batteries ordered for Salisbury and this place.

G. T. Beauregard
General

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 769

Raleigh, N.C., April 8, 1865

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

The battery left ready to move at moment's notice will no longer be required.

G. T. Beauregard

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 778

Raleigh, N.C., April 10, 1865--10:45 a.m.

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Return to Greensborough, by rail or otherwise, the two light batteries lately there, or two others, if more convenient, provided Johnston's battalion from Salisbury be not there already.

G. T. Beauregard

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 778

Raleigh, N.C., April 10, 1865--12 m.

Col. A. J. Gonzales
Chief of Artillery
Hillsborough, N.C.

Johnson's battalion is not at Greensborough. Send the two batteries referred to.

G. T. Beauregard

OR, Series 1, Vol. 47, Part 3, 780

Raleigh, N.C., April 10, 1865

Col. Archer Anderson
Assistant Adjutant-General
Smithfield, N.C.

The following just received:

Hillsborough, April 10, 1865

Only two batteries here, and from the field General Johnston's orders are to send them to

Smithfield as soon as possible. Johnston's battalion is at Salisbury. If you think that Johnston's battalion cannot be made available, I will send the two batteries referred to to Greensborough. In that event will you send train? There is none here.

A. J. Gonzales
Col. of Artillery, &c.

General Beauregard directed Colonel Gonzales this morning to return to Greensborough by rail or otherwise the two light batteries there or two others, if more convenient, provided Johnston's battalion from Salisbury be not there already. Having just arrived here and not being conversant with the general's wishes or intentions, I beg to ask instructions necessary in this regard. Will probably leave here to-morrow.

George Wm. Brent
Colonel and Assistant Adjutant-General

CMR

A. J. Gonzales, Col. Chief of Arty., Hardee's Corps, Appears on a list of members of the Artillery in Genl. Hardee's Corps Genl. Johnston's Army, who are at this time in Greensboro, N.C., and paroled in accordance with the terms of a Military Convention entered into on the 26th day of April, 1865, between General Joseph E. Johnston, Commanding Confederate Army, and Major General W. T. Sherman, Commanding United States Army in North Carolina.

List dated Hd. Qrs. Chief of Artillery, Hardee's Corps, near Greensboro, N.C., April 30, 1865.

Paroled at Greensboro, N.C., April 30, 1865.

Number of roll: 778.

NA, Microfilm M1781, Muster Rolls and Lists of Confederate Troops Paroled in North Carolina, Roll 2, Greensboro.

Paroled May 1st 1865
Register of Detachment

Name and Rank	No. of Men	Designation of Detachment
Admiral R. Semmes	246	Naval Brigade
Genl. G. T. P. Beauregard	54	Staff Officers
Major Smith	21	Quartermaster and Commissary
Flag Officer Forrest	74	Naval Brigade
Capt Taylor	96	Detachment of Lee Army
Lieut Duvall	36	Signal Corps
James Sloan	27	Major and Chief C.S.
Genl Butler	9	Staff Cavalry
Genl Logan	6	Staff do.
Capt E M Hollenay	76	Cmdg Escort to Genl Johnson
J F Caldwell	21	Telegraph Corps
Capt Wm. Quirk	61	Provost Guards
Capt West	106	Camp of Instruction
Buckner	46	
Major Shannon	55	
Dr. Hines	10	Post Hospital

J. Hammer	13	Staff of Maj Hammer
Capt Haris	120	Artillery
Col Parks	7	Invalid Corps
E W Johns Surgeon	13	Officers and men of Hosp Dept
A Commack Capt A.Q.M.	51	Employees of Q.M. Dept
A F Abell Capt	126	Artillery
J H Yates	97	Artillery
Capt A A Moseby	41	Palmers Battalion
Maj Johnson	28	Officers and Men of Engineers Corps
1st Lieut McQuin	36	Lewis Brig Mtd Inftry report to Pro Marshall
Cummings Section		
Lt Col Stan & Major Taone	57	Field and Staff [...] Bat.
Brig Genl Herbert	3	Engineer Officers [...] Brg Staff
Capt Sutherland	87	Artillery
Capt Bedham	68	Artillery
Major Marge	3	Reporting to Q M Genl
Capt Kelly	100	Artillery Col Starr
“ Ellis	13	“ ” “
H Darden	18	“ ” “
Major Trezvant	44	Depot Commissary
Major H B McClellan	61	Cavl Head Qrs
Col Wm Wallace	154	Post Commander men from [...] command
Col. E J Harvie	170	Army Head Qrs
Surgeon John Clostin	4	Officers & Men in Purveyors Office at High Pt.
Lt Col Gonzales	8	Hardees Chief of Artillery
Col Cofer	245	Provost Marshall

EGP

Springville May 2nd 1865

Rev. Dr. Bachman

My Dear Doctor

We hear that you are to be found at Cashville & were seen at Society Hill not many Sundays since. So [*torn*] to tell you of our situation & to ask you for a few crumbs of comfort, if you can spare them as to the state of the country. We are very comfortably located & find the good people of Darlington & Springville abundantly kind. They supply all of our wants & we have not felt any of the horrors of refugeedom. You are with friends & have I suppose a like experience unless the Yankees were more rough to you & to them than they were to us. They robbed our negroes but got from us very little. We met them on the piazza & so kept them from entering the house -- a circumstance we are a little proud of. The visits of three separate parties [*torn*] the opportunity thus given us of a nearer view & closer examination of the Yankee Raider, has not increased our inclination for the Yankee yoke & Iron. Do Doctor give us a crumb of comfort. tell us that *we are not* going, that *we can not* go back into the vile Union. We hear it reported & the terms of our admission to eternal disgrace are discussed & I am ashamed to say believed. We have seen Genl. Johnson's official order suspending [...] negotiations. but we have had no reliable information to the

effect that we are going back into the Union to enjoy the same privileges as of old! The surrender of Lee & reported surrender of Johnson & assassination of Lincoln, Seward & to have followed so quickly upon each other that we look for some mighty results but we can not bring ourselves to believe that our four year struggle has been in vain that our heroes have lived & died in vain & that we are to be despised & conquered people. We have no mails & hear nothing from friends or interests in other parts of the State. Mrs. Gonzales hears from the Col. by private hand, but the letters are a month old before they reach her. She is having a return of her Adams Run fever -- but the children, your little Christians, are well. Anne is employing her energy upon a very poor piece of land & will have some reward.

Mama & sisters join in kindest regards & in the hope that you will find the way to Springville & will pay us a visit.

I remain very Respectfully & Sincerely

Emily Elliott

EGP

Greenville 9th July 1865

I wrote you a long letter two nights ago My dearest Ralphie, but as you wish me to give you the *latest* news for Mamma's benefit, I write again, and hope Dick will not have departed before this reaches You. although I have nothing of interest to add to my last, excepting that we have survived the trying heat thus far and strange to say are all suffering from wretched colds. Elliott was quite sick last night with his attended with fever and pain in his limbs, but seems better and is dressed to-day tho' not up. While Mamie, Emma, Fran, Edith & self are all "in for it." Annie has just got home from her fortnight at the Wilsons, looking and feeling quite [...], and I shall be [...] for her to take the fashionable ailment. Miss Hinckel is better and Miss [...] arrived last night after 8 or 10 weeks absence in time to help our now reduced domestic circle. I had written to advice her to make other arrangements if she could benefit herself, as I had no compensation to offer her. She did not receive my letter but without my speaking of it, said she had returned expecting to help without pay for a while at least. [...] had a wagon driven to her door yesterday and loaded with her luggage, and departed for other lodgings without a goodbye to one of us. I am really glad she has gone for she had become utterly useless. Jossey was married and off a week ago, and Lawrence was so impertinent that for some days past I have not given him anything to do, and he has of course absented himself entirely. Grace, Edward and Ben are our attendants for how long I do not know, their plans are doubtless unsettled and when I *advice* Grace she answers *nothing*. I asked Frank to speak to them, which he did very kindly yesterday. I am quite willing to dispense with Lawrence (that he may work for his family) and support the wife and three others giving them each several days in the week, but the negroes have entirely turned foot and they act as if *we* had always been their worst enemies. I hear that many here are seeking labor for their daily food, so altho' worrying to change, if Grace does leave I *can* get help. it is pleasing to see how helpful the children can be too and Miss Hinckel is such a [...] putting her room "to rights" and helping in so many ways. *I* have grown strong with the necessities and can turn a heavy mattress beautifully with help, I think it a mercy that active duties banish in a measure the thoughts that would otherwise overwhelm us. I am so sorry that Mamma and my sisters should be inconvenienced by the desertion of their well cared former servants. I am mortified at Kate's behavior and Jacob and Dick too. John I felt sure would remain with his best friends. I feel quite attached to him and to Chloe but enough of the negroes. I must send you Frank Johnston's message. He would like very much to see you and begs you to come up this week, as he

must leave this on the 19th for the Wateres. Frank offers Mamie the use of some furniture in his house here -- the house itself I would like you to see, it has a splendid lot for gardening and is in a good neighborhood. His rent expires on the 1st November and I really think Mamma cannot do better than come to Greenville when she leaves Darlington. She could leave with reliable parties there all of her valuables not needed for immediate use to be cared for until the family can return to Oak Lawn -- this reminds me dear Ralphie that the report you mentioned of the destruction of Oak Lawn I cannot believe -- especially as Mammie and You did not allude to it. We hear that Tom's house, at Bethel, is unburnt and I hope for the same good fortune for Mamma. The garrison is expected here to-night. I begin to think it will be for our benefit, the negroes will then be more settled in their notions and begin to realize that freedom has not turned them white [...]. Your [...] says you must positively be here by Wednesday thus "I know you will not have so pleasant a time without Julia but in this broiling weather quiet is advisable" there are some very captivating girls just opposite anxious to know you.

Thank Annie for the melon seeds. I will plant them myself. We had the first [...] squash for dinner today, it was extremely good -- our vegetables are a great help to us -- bring your letters for Flat Rock, there are frequent opportunities & I will add to this tomorrow, if there is anything to tell you dear Ralph and in the meantime say goodbye with a great deal of love from all of us I am ever your affecte. sister M.B.E.

My letter to *You*, will answer for Mamma this time. I will write [...] opportunity [...] her.

Monday Evg. 10th. The invalids are rather better today dear Ralphie and seem much delighted at the prospect of seeing you very soon. The children all beg you to ... Grandmamma to come to Greenville and I really think with corn from Abbeville and a pr of mules for hauling wood the family can be quite comfortable here. The garrison did *not* come last night. I have had seven applications today from washerwomen, and have engaged one to help Grace several days in the week at 25 cts per day and two meals. She got on already comfortably and I think Grace has determined to stay -- good bye again. Poor little Gertrude how she must mind this heat. Yr. affecte. Sister

Alice's baby is quite ill.

EGP

July 11th [1865]

[First four pages missing from Ralph Elliott's letter to his mother]

5

I have ascertained from Harrison, & others, that rents in Charleston will be exceedingly high next winter while from the scarcity of money & abundance of provisions, they will be very cheap in the upper country -- in Greenwood there are already several new houses for sale, which may be rented for less than a hundred Dollars for the next year-- but, you would be no better off *there*, than where you are, except from the proximity to your base of supplies. Emmies letter to the Bishop was sent by private hand to Augusta where he was last week, should a reply be sent her to this place, I will endeavor to get it on to you, by under ground R.R.

In the mean time let us try to be patient & hopeful, & bear the misfortune, poverty, & degradation which has been put upon us, with fortitude. The ladies through the country are depend of, most of, & in some cases *all* of their domestics-- & I am struck by the cheerful & smiling manner, in which they assure you "t'is a great relief to get rid of the horrid negroes." The men in the vicinity of the colored garrisons have also taken a great dislike to the almighty nigger-- & the country is proving unhealthy to such as wander the town limits so much so, that *white Yankees* are rapidly

coming forward to relieve them.

I have succeeded in obtaining enough factory thread to make two dresses, & will try to get them woven as soon as possible, if I succeed in this, will get two more done after a while. Greenbacks can be obtained here for corn but as they are daily depreciating I will not be in a hurry to sell corn for them, but try to get specie-- in the mean time try to buy what corn & flour you need, by giving your note, payable 1st December "in current funds." A man (a distiller who lives on Lynches Creek) named Atkinson offered me \$150-- for the Grey Horse, I therefore send him back, & think you had best get Mr. Capers to try & arrange with him for you, for half money, half in corn, wheat & flour & whiskey. Capers knows the man & thinks him slippery.

Horses are selling for from 25 to 75 Dollars each in this neighborhood. Excuse, my dearest mother, this jumbled letter & believe me to remain your devoted son Ralph

P.S. Do give my warmest love to my sisters & William. I trust they & yourself are in better health. My thanks to the General¹⁹⁷ for his saddle, which is returned by Dick, there being no opportunity of selling it.

R.E.E.

United Daughter of the Confederacy, South Carolina Division, *Recollections and Reminiscences 1861-1865*. South Carolina: n.p., 1990, 546.

Reminiscences of Mrs. Mary Gray Crockett: A Girl of the Sixties and a Belle of the Pee Dee, January 22, 1923

"Not long before the close of the war, General Hardee and his troops passed thru Cheraw. The general and his staff were entertained at Colonel Woodward's, and I was invited to take supper with them, so I met the general and his staff. I had a very pleasant evening. They were fine-looking gentlemen, all diked up in their beautiful uniforms--all brave, and gentlemen of the first water.

Another distinguished gentleman, General Gonzalos [*sic*] of Cuba, was a guest at my wedding, which took place the summer after the war ended. He was a splendid performer on the piano and gave us some fine selections.

At a reception given my husband and myself at Colonel Allan McFarlan's, one of the guests was a nephew of General Beauregard--Lieutenant Proctor."

RG 59, Records of the Department of State, Civil War Amnesty and Pardon Records, 1863-1867, Amnesty Oaths, 1864-1866, South Carolina, Box 117, Entry 1001.

I *A. J. Gonzales* solemnly *Swear* that I have carefully read the Amnesty Proclamation issued by ANDREW JOHNSON, President of the United States of America, on May 29th, 1865, and that I am not excepted from the benefits of that Proclamation by any one of the fourteen exceptions therein made.

A. J. Gonzales

Sworn to and subscribed before me at *Darlington, S.C.* this 28th day of *July* 1865.

B. B. [...]

L. Col. & Pro Marshall

Mil D. E. S.C.

No 2

United States of America

¹⁹⁷ General Ambrosio Jose Gonzales.

I, A. J. Gonzales of the County of Darlington State of South Carolina do solemnly Swear in the presence of Almighty God, that I will henceforth faithfully support and defend the Constitution of the United States, and the Union of the States thereunder, and that I will, in like manner, abide by and faithfully support all laws and proclamations which have been made during the existing rebellion with reference to the Emancipation of slaves--So HELP ME GOD.

A. J. Gonzales

Sworn to and subscribed before me at *Darlington SC.* this 28 day of *July* 1865.

B. B. [...]

L. Col. & Pro Marshall

Mil D. E. S.C.

The above named has *Dark* complexion, *Gray* hair, and *Hazel* eyes; is 5 feet 8 inches high, aged 45 years; by profession a *Planter*.

(The original oaths will be transmitted, by the officer administering them, to the Department of State, through intermediate channels, and a certified copy thereof will be furnished to the applicant for pardon, to accompany his petition.)

EGP

Augusta, Augt. 2, 1865

My Dear Cousin

Yours of the 28th June asking my opinion upon several points was nearly a month in reaching me & I have been in vain seeking for an opportunity of sending you a reply.

Most sincerely do I sympathize with you & your Sisters in the sad collapse of your fortunes. We have but one consolation in our affliction & that is that the suffering is universal & that a strong bond of misery binds us all together.

I have no faith in emigration. Our means are not sufficient to support us. Even in comfort, in a civilized country & we should only find greater misery in going to an uncivilized one. Had I enough to live upon, even decently, I should go to Europe. The Continent is very cheap & one can enjoy more comfort there upon less money than any where else. As for Brazil, Cuba, &c. it is mere nonsense to talk of going there for they are very expensive countries and have no use for the kind of talent we should carry there.

My advise to you would be to remain in Carolina among your own people & kindred. I think that you all find your lands be very available recourse after a little while, should you be able to recover them. The proper plan will be to lease them out & live upon the money & not to undertake to plant them yourselves under the new system. There must be scant economy for a few years & perhaps a fierce struggle between the whites & blacks, but eventually the blacks must come to order & work or perish. [...] over & the country will revive again. Things will be better when we get once again under our own regimen.

Should you find it necessary to dispose of any of your plate for temporary support, do not sell it in either Charleston or Augusta but send it to New York, there you will receive its value more decidedly. There is a combination of the necessities of the people & giving them for their plate no proper compensation.

My family is still with Mr. Carmichael. We shall probably return to Sav. in November. [...] is with us quite well. All send love to you and yours.

If at any time I can be of service to you, command me. I assure you that it will give me great pleasure to be of any use to my cousin's family. Very sincerely

yr. friend & cousin
Stephen Elliott

EGP

Charleston Aug. 3rd 1865

Miss Emily Elliott

My Dear Friend

I was delighted yesterday to meet **Col. Gonzales** & to hear that you were all well. When I arrived at home I recd. your kind letter, then came the trouble to know where to write to you. I did not know that any mail route existed to Springville. Just now however your servant came & relieved my mind by saying he would this evening call for my answer.

Well the barbarious, greedy for plunder, did all they could to break my spirit, but I am not yet subdued. When they have killed me, then I will cease to look upon these robbers & house burners, torturers of women & infamous liars, with contempt. My library had been sent for safe keeping to Columbia. It had been collecting for 60 years. I had been elected an honorary member of nearly all the Nat. Hist. & Philosophic Societies of England, France, Germany, Denmark, Sweden, Russia, &c. These publish only 50 copies of their transactions & one copy is sent to each of their honorary members. I recd. all these works of most of the societies I was the only Hon. Member in America. The original cost of all these works could not have been less than \$100,000 in gold. The incendiaries were implored to spare these works of science as they could not be replaced in America. The [...] with a curse applied the torch & burnt them all. I had presented them to Newberry College. My Herbarium the work of a life time was also destroyed.

At Col. Cash's they kicked me & knocked me down 8 or 10 times to make me tell where the silver was hid & my watch concealed. I got the beating but they got neither the silver or the watch. Two weeks afterwards at Florence I was requested to look at some yankee prisoners & ascertain whether I could identify any of my robbers. There they were -- conspicuously a big Lieutenant the personification of vulgarity & brutality -- frightened until his teeth chattered -- They were now trembling cowards -- begged for their lives like whipped curs. My young friends were there begging me to point them out -- their pistols cocked -- ready to blow out their brains -- but I spared them.

In Charleston they robbed me of my carriages -- horses, bedding -- household furniture &c -- but I am still here hitting them hard wherever I meet them -- in church & out of church. I am trying to do my duty & my people & strangers have welcomed me & treated me with all manner of kindness. I take no salary & take my meals among them. I am in health & happy in the love of my friends & in the performance of my duty. My children are at Mars bluff Greenville, Columbia & Abbeville -- all well but much reduced in circumstances.

My dear friends I sympathize with you all under your trials & disasters. And is that beautiful residence which I so much admired & Where I enjoyed such [...] hospitality in ashes now -- Oh what friends. I cannot but think that our time is coming yet -- the avenger cannot be far off.

Do my dear Emily write me a good long letter -- let me know whether the [...] have left you any support. All the members of your family are dear to me. I pray for your peace & prosperity. Remember me affectionately to your mother & your sisters.

Sincly. yr friend
Jno. Bachman

EGP

Greenville, S.C.
Sept. 5th 1865

My dear Grandmamma,

We have heard of a gentleman who leaves this place for Darlington to-morrow, and as you hear from us by every opportunity, this one shall not be neglected. As Mamma is too busy to write just now, I shall take her pen until she is at leisure.

We are all quite well. Our family has somewhat decreased in size since you last heard from us. Miss Hinckel left us on Tuesday last for New York. By this time I hope she is safely there and among her friends. Gov. Aiken had engaged her passage in a Steamer which was to leave Charleston on Saturday last; and she was to spend a day in Columbia with Cousin Mary M.; then another day in Charleston, so as to be quite rested before taking the sea voyage which she expected to enjoy very much and derive a good deal of good from.

A Nurse of Mrs. Urquhart's was her travelling companion and I suspect took very good care of her. I went with Miss H. as far as Cokesburg, where I spent a day and night with the Seabrooks who are all quite well. Of course I saw Uncle George and "Miss Bower" as the Cokesburians familiarly call her, and Cousin Bet.

They also are well and desired that their love should be forwarded to you as soon as an opportunity occurred.

According to Uncle Ralph's directions Mr. Johnson (at White Hall) had sent his horse to the Pinckney's, on which I returned to Greenville, bringing Cousin Tom with me. He and Uncle Ralph have gone on a visit to Flat Rock, which is to be of a week's duration. When they return Uncle R. will be with us at least another month unless his services are needed elsewhere. It is a great pleasure to have him with us. Since Miss Hinckel's departure, I have turned School Master, at least. I teach Emma & Fannie, while Mamma teaches Annie & Mamie, & Mamie teaches Edith. My two scholars have finished their lessons to-day, & Mamma is now busy with hers. I read French to Mamma while she sews every day.

And the Genl. has really gone to Cuba! I met a gentleman the other day who told me he saw him on his way. When does he intend to return?

Uncle Ralph has taken a large house for you just opposite us. I suppose Mamma will tell you all about it, so all I will say is, that I wish you would make haste to come up, it will be so pleasant to have had you here. I wish Aunt Hattie could come too. Greenville is a very good place to live in, after all, & I think you will prefer it to where you now are.

I am very sorry to hear of Uncle William's failure of health, do give him much love for me and tell him I am sure our climate here will suit him better than that of Darlington and that he will recover as soon as he comes up.

Mamma has come just as I have got to the end of my sheet so I will yield my pen to her.

With the greatest quantity of love to all

Your most affectionate

Grandson

Elliott [Johnstone]

EGP

Greenville 5th Sept [1865]

The opportunity Elliott speaks of is not a direct one dearest Mamma but I will take one of two chances I have heard of I do not yet know which, Dr. Huger is going to Cheraw and Capt. Chesnut

to Camden, by one of them I will send this letter, and hope it may reach you. We have been hoping (Ralphie and I) for the return of a Mr. Hatch, by whom we sent your letters three weeks ago-- but although due he has not appeared. Ketchy too-- who wrote that he was coming by a wagon has not yet arrived-- and the last letters we have received from You were of the 10th and 20th received through Mary Man this day week. I thank Emmie extremely for her's which reached me at the same time. I will write to her when I have more time and less headache than I have at this moment. I was so grateful to find you were all well and comfortable at Springville. That you all have *work*, real work to do, is I must think, in the present times and in your unsocial neighborhood and actual blessing. With John and Chloe I am sure you have not many menial occupations, and for the rest, being busy keeps you from desponding. I will give you a little sketch of *my* present life, which might be so much worse that I dare not complain. I get up generally before five, go into my little pantry, where I mix bread for breakfast, skim milk, wash and prepare vegetables, wash and cut up beef or bacon, put the dinner into the cooking utensils and feel very glad, if when our meals are served, they are at all eatable. My actual work could be done in much less time of course, if it was not for the unwilling aid of the negroes who never having any thing in order keep me waiting for kettles and pans in the most provoking manner. I often wish for a cooking stove, where we could do our own cooking. Miss Hannah and Annie make up the five beds in use. A little girl of Jackson's brings water, sweeps and empties slops in the chambers. I get through with my work by eleven and then go to the school room to hear the lessons which the children conscientiously learn, even the German I pretend to hear.

You will be sorry for my loss I know in Miss Hinkel. She had fairly given out, and unless she recruits rapidly, I fear will never teach again -- even if she did however I could not expect to re engage with her. You cannot think what a trouble and mortification it was to me to be unable to provide her with one cent, on her leaving (owing her \$2000 for five years) of course I would not pay her during the war in such uncertain funds, and hoped to have increased her means at the end for a trip to Europe. Wm, I and Ralph tried in vain to borrow even \$50 here, and but that her brother in N.Y. sent money for her road expenses, she could not have left. Of course she expressed herself like a perfect lady on the subject telling me if I could not pay her for *ten* years, it would make no difference, but I know that unless I can manage to send money to her this fall she cannot get to Germany-- her brother's family being now unable to return to him, because of the price of gold. It is difficult to believe in our utter ruin, and yet present difficulties tell us plainly enough what the future may be. I bless the hard work I have to do for making me weary enough at night to go *at once* to sleep. Waking refreshed for the next routine. My *pleasing* thoughts are, dearest Mamma of your coming up here; it will be so much more cheerful to work together, helping each other. tell Annie I will change with her sometimes, doing her washing, if she will do my teaching, and for Emmie I will keep house sometimes and let her rest. So far my washing has cost but little an excellent washer can be hired for 25 cts specie a day and two meals. Six dozen [...]. Grace having the whole week to do it, accomplishes the ironing. You will have Mrs. Lowndes and Sally on one side of you, and we are just opposite. Sally has a little school at home of ten scholars.

I think you will find some very comfortable rooms at the Mills' and they will be most glad to have you inhabit and care for their house, but I wish that we could stretch this cottage and be together. The uncertainty of Flat Rock too prevents my giving up this cottage for the winter, as it would readily find a tenant, and we might be prevented from leaving Greenville next Spring -- otherwise I would propose living together, where we might economize fires, lights, and a great many little matters. Of course Hattie's movements being undecided, it is impossible for you to know when

to leave Springville. The Mills' will vacate their house in October and I already picture to myself the running about of Hattie's little ones, instead of the little Stoney's, in their large lot.

Hendersonville has been quite excited lately. Those renegade No. Carolinians have been disbanded and returning have been behaving very lawlessly, beating the citizens and threatening Trenholm's house again etc. Tom B. has gone to try and collect his stolen goods. The family will move up in April he says making it their home. Mrs. Reed poor soul in spite of all advise against the contrary, is going back in October. She finds Edgefield ruinous to the children and longs for her own home. The de Chauseuls have taken a house here for the year, hoping to get a few scholars. Mrs. Young sent them some money. The Urquharts have gone to New Orleans. Col. U. went North borrowed \$25,000 to pay his taxes and I suppose has saved everything. Miss Sarah Barker is going to accept a position as companion to Mrs. Gen. Butler of Edgefield. She is without *one cent* and cannot pay board. Mr. Lowndes has offered her a home which she will not accept. Tell Wm. James Lowndes has a school for boys. I would gladly have sent Elliott but \$5 in specie a month, was not to be thought of. I am distressed to know what to do with him. Since the Arsenal cadet life, there has been no study in him. Ralph thinks Anne & Emmie would do him a vast deal of good. Tell Emmie Mrs. Jim Barnwell has a daughter two weeks old, in two weeks more they all go North for two years. Mrs. Fowles has gone to Philadelphia having secured her property there 30,000. How hard it must be to go and live among Yankees. I would rather starve here. I hope William is feeling much better, give my love to him. The children join me in much love to You all dearest Mama. We cannot stand any disappointment about Your coming here, so dont think of any other plan please.

Miss Hinkel begged me to remember her most kindly to you all. She was very much overcome at parting and I was afraid would faint. I am anxious to hear how she stood the very hard journey. Kiss dear Hattie, I hope she will come with you.

[Mary B. Johnstone]

EGP

Greenville Sept. 10th [1865]

I wrote you a few days since My dearest Mother but will send another note by Capt. Chesnut who leaves tomorrow for Camden. Ralphie thought it best to write and request Mrs Burnett when leaving to put your furniture etc in charge of Capt. Chesnut who offered him (Ralph) to store it away for you, if you agree to this, you had better write at once to Ann Burnett, and suggest it to her. The house they have belongs to the Chesnuts, and of course they are in communication. Ralph did not return last night, as he thought he would, indeed I did not expect him, and am glad he is at Flat Rock in this terribly warm spell. He had been indisposed (from change of water *he* thought) for several weeks, and no doubt will be benefitted. We have Elliott quite sick just now, with dysentery. He was attacked several days ago, but was treated promptly and the Dr. says his tongue is better and he has no fever this morning. Miss Hannah and I are kept busy with poultries and fomentations, but I hope his recovery will be speedy, and in that case, we shall not need help, which is freely offered.

We have not heard of Miss Hinckel since she left a fortnight ago. I trust she is enjoying ice and other luxuries in New York, and that a good diet will soon restore her. The children are very good saving me all possible trouble.

Our black garrison has been replaced by another white one, which threatens to keep the darkies in excellent order. Last night they broke up a drilling party capturing the leader and beating others. I am sorry Edward, our trial, was not one of them.

We hear nothing from you dear Mamma, it is very tantalizing. I hope letters may be on the

way for us. Has Hattie heard from her husband -- how far had he got? and with what prospects.

I hope Wm. is still improving, much love to him. I hope Anne and Emmie are arranging for the winter here -- everyone says the coast, excepting in towns is impossible for ladies -- and I am sure you would not like to draw Yankee rations, as many of our acquaintances are doing in the cities.

Good bye I will add to night before sending my letter how Elliott is.

Most affecty. Mary

Monday 12th Elliott says he feels better to-day dearest Mamma but his decease is unchecked. he slept better after Clovers powder and landanum. The Dr. will give him more Calomel I am sure. Miss Hannah is invaluable to me as a nurse. I will write you again soon.

love to *all* Yr. affte. M.

EGP

Charleston Sept 11th 1865

Mrs. E. Elliott

My very dear & affectionate Friend

Your kind confiding letter of the 6th affected me even to tears. I always esteemed your family, & yourself especially, when I partook of your generous & elegant hospitality in the days of your affluence, you are doubly dear to me now when we are all poor & dependent together. I would like to encourage & cheer you my dear child. I would like to discover & point out to you here & there a bright spot in our murky sky & assist you in sweeping together some crumbs of comfort which our vile oppressors & greedy thieves have unwittingly left behind. I cannot say much in this letter in regard to advice as I am not fully informed of your circumstances & of the events that are yet to transpire. I am not without a hope that our sea board country which is now a scene of desolation may be placed under some stringent regulations by which the rights of property will be secured & the negro be placed in the situation for which God intended him -- the inferior of the white man. Things cannot go on much longer in the manner in which they have thus far proceeded without ruining the Master & destroying the negro. We have I believe 300,000 negroes in the State. From estimates made of the deaths on various plantations in several parts of the State it is shown that 100,000 deaths will occur by the end of the year. This is a fearful rate of Mortality. On the Islands they are dying with small pox & other diseases -- Here in the city where the whites are unusually healthy the negro hearses are going from morning till night. They offer themselves daily to work for their food & clothing. The abolitionists outwitted themselves, instead of having been the benefactors they have become the murderers of the slave.

We will be able to judge now correctly of the possibility of carrying on the plantation under your superintendence & graced by the log cabin -- after we have the protection of the civil law. With your energy & perseverance I am sure you would succeed -- if any one could. The Savannah R.R. must soon be repaired -- at least I hope so. But we will talk of these things at a later period. In the mean time please write to me -- tell me all your plans I desire to advise you. My sun of life is going down but I wish to know that it will yet shine brightly on you all. It is no scandal to be familiar with me & love me if I am worthy of it. I am an old fellow of 76 & I would like you to look upon me as a Grandfather ask my advice & assistance -- I have been robbed of almost every thing -- have lost \$100,000 in Bank stock & have only my house left -- the vandals also burnt my valuable library; but I am not in despair. I never cared for money & my people who now are as poor as myself seem more anxious than ever to cheer & support me.

My dear child do not be cast down. I anticipate the time when things will look brighter around

you -- I hope yet to eat a fine big plate of strawberries at the old spot where the berries once grew.

I would not go to the convention. I knew the yankees were anxious to have our heads cut off -- and I refused to take their broad one -- they may do it themselves.

Kind remembrance to Mrs. Gonzales -- [...] all round. Remember me to your Sister Brother & whole of your dear family. I have written this between 5 & 6 oc. & must now go out to breakfast.

Truly & affectionately

Your friend

Jn. O. Bachman

EGP

Springville
Province of So Ca
Sep 21st [1865]

My Dear Mary

I enclose a few words to say that Annie & I insist upon your sending Elliott to school to James Lowndes - as soon as he feels strong enough. We pledge ourselves for the specie payment & esteem it our right & privilege to do all that we can for you & yours - little 'tho it be. We are most fortunately single women with thanks to the teachings of the war -- few wants. We must try & not only support ourselves but help those who are dear to us.

I am determined My Dear Mary to work but put it off until the New Year -- all being dark & doubtful now. I depend upon our good old friend Dr. Bachman to put us in the way of work. We would rather be with you than any where else, & put seeing you before every thing else, but as there will be no opening for our energies in Greenville, I don't think that we will be able to stay there long. We thought of course that the Mills House was for you as well as ourselves -- & shall be much disappointed if we are not together -- inclination economy -- necessity almost calls for it. What do you think on the subject of a good white servant. We can't afford black servants, & oh Mary they are too hateful. One real white servant could serve us all & we would have less drudgery to do than now. I think we must try for one. I hope that Ralph will see about the Lands on the low country. I have written to Mr Treville & to him on the subject, but fear that the Yankee Mail miscarried. The Oak Lawn negroes expect John hears to return there in the fall, & we wish most urgently to prevent them. The right to the place must therefore be established quickly. With much love to your household & the hope that Elliott is well.

Your attached

E. E.

EGP

Greenville Sept. 25th 1865

My Dearest Mother

I have just found a private opportunity to Charleston by which to send you Col. De Treville's communications a copy of them having been taken, & retained by me in case of accident. Portions of the Petition are *hard to stomach* but, on reperusal you will find that these parts are merely the "fiction of the law."

Since my last, in company with Tom Pinckney, I visited Flat Rock. We found things at "Farniente" much better than we had expected. The House, out buildings, & fences, all in decent order, very little (if any) of the furniture missing or injured. Miss De Choiseule's servants in charge

were about to remove, & it was feared that the Yankees would seize the property as “*abandoned*,” so I gave Farmer¹⁹⁸ a “special right of attorney” to occupy & hold the place for seven months. Stedman & Tinsley having both applied for the out house, & the charge of the premises. Farmer was ordered to give it to the one or the other of them. Trusting that you will not deem me over officious in this matter, I made the arrangement to the best of my ability.

I leave here for Abbeville on the 1st. Oct. Mamie will inform me as soon as the Mills House is vacant -- when I will give you notice of my approach & then come to bring you here, by the most economical mode I can devise.

The box in the Abbeville bank will be taken out when you come this way. I have not examined it, & dont know what was in it. Farmer has charge of your boxes of China at F.R. They have been to some extent robbed -- about two thirds probably. What remains has been repacked & locked up in F’s store room. Excuse my brevity, dearest Mama, & believe me to remain with love to William, sisters & chicks your much attached

Son

R. E. Elliott

TRE

Springville Oct 8th 1865

My Dear Tom

Your letter of the 24th of Sep. reached me only two days since -- too late for you to get my reply by the first week in October in Charlotte. I therefore direct this to Charleston where I hope it may meet you & intrust it to Jacob who takes his wife to join Old Frederic at Hilton Head -- whilst he knocks about until the 1st of Jany. when he hopes to try planting again -- “for Missis” of course! Parson D. did take one of your mules (we had none). The other was taken by the Yankees, when they raided through here from a farmer who had agreed to work it for its feed. Parson D. is death on a horse or mule trade, finding that he was one of those who would overwork what did not belong to him. We succeeded in getting it back. It was scarcely recognizable. Mr. Capers tried to bring it up again, & it had improved very much when it was taken sick & died. I am really sorry to give you such a sorry report. There really seems no end to our disasters. We are being as severely punished as if we were true & true rebels. The reclaiming of our lands has given us great anxiety. Mr. Treville our lawyer being in Greenville from which place we have been entirely cut off. Ralph being there & there about & not to be communicated with. Wm. originally nothing of a businessman & now a decided invalid. Rumors, of confiscations reports of purchases & seizure by negroes & Bureau orders shocking our nerves, whilst we were obliged to keep quiet & not act on account of our petticoats, for sooth. By private hand we succeeded in getting a letter to Mr. Treville & he has just been able to communicate with Mama & has sent her a Petition to sign, which she is to send on with “The Lee of Allegiance” as Annie calls it. So yesterday Mama got to the village & did her business & Jacob will take the papers to Mr. Treville who expected he said to be in Charleston. Title has to be made to all of the abandoned property, & so the House in Beaufort has to be included in this Petition. Mr. Treville has so included it. Mama has to receive the property before it can be turned over to the heirs. Mr. Treville thinks there will be no difficulty in getting the right, but some in getting possession of the Port Royal property -- The Negroes believing it theirs. The Negro question becomes daily darker.

¹⁹⁸ Henry T. Farmer, Cheeha River rice planter and owner of the Flat Rock Hotel.

A few months must decide the matter. The merciless Yankee not content with what he has done, is going on deluding the poor creatures. The Garrison in Darlington have raised a Liberty Pole, around which they dance with the Negro women. Was erected, they say by order of Mr. Lincoln -- & Negroes carry [*torn*] et cet as tribute to Genl. Beal, a Main Speculator, whose command is capable of the meanest meannesses, such as paying the Negroes with Confederate money, painted green on the back for which purpose they have been buying up Confederate Money. I do hope that your hopes for the future may be realized. The stern present is all I trust myself now to look at & Mind!

The small prize has been in your Bethel House. Wm. is looking very badly & requires a great deal of care taking. His place is leased not sold, it can be claimed for the Estate if Mr. Treville thinks it advisable. Good Bye with Love from all --

Your affectionate Sister

Emmie

EGP

White Hall, October 15th 1865

My Dearest Emmie

Your favour of the sixth Sepr. would have been answered sooner, but that I presumed Mr. De Trevilles budget, and some of my own, written about the same time may have reached you & explained my seeming want of energy, in the affairs of my mother & sisters. The rankling hatred & contempt, and never-dying animosity, which I hear towards the Yankees, and their treacherous tool, the traitor Perry -- renders me unfit to act, except under the advice of a cool head. I have therefore been awaiting Mr. De Trevilles orders -- he is now in Charleston where your orders may reach him; as soon as it becomes necessary for me to be present on the coast he will summon me -- where you may rest assured that no exertion, privation, or danger, shall be avoided by me, which may in any way contribute to the recovery of your homes. I will even, if it be necessary, take the oath of allegiance, on Mamas account. I'd die rather than take it on my own. For months past, young men of my acquaintance, have been selling their little valuables, & going to Charleston & the coast -- most of them have obtained transportation from the Enemy, or begged money from their former slaves, and returned to the up country -- being unable to recover their houses, or to make their bread in the city. Having no money of my own -- and not desiring to spend the very little that you may have *uselessly*. I have profited by their example, and content myself by remaining where I can be of least cost & some service to you. I have several correspondents in the city. I enclose you a letter of one of them.

Mamas & your favours of the 21st Sep. have just been kindly enclosed to me by Mamie. How I feel for, & sympathize with you, My Dear Sisters, in your continued losses. The actual, pecuniary value, of the articles stolen from their hiding places at O.L. was no doubt very considerable. but, I know that to you, ten times the amount of *money* might have been stolen without causing you so much real sorrow. It makes me burn with vengeance, when I think that those beautiful vessels that use to grace the family board, on festive occasions -- and about which, cluster, so many tender reminiscences, and fond recollections, of those dear ones, now, no more -- should now be defiled by the touch of loathsome Yankee hirelings, or contaminated by the daily use of vagrant negroes. I am still a *rebel* -- thank God -- and these acts, sanctioned by "the best government the world ever saw" dont make me the less of one.

I do not my dear, hardworking, noble hearted sister, like to write you disagreeable letters, but as all business is unpleasant now, and you have the right to know all about your affairs here, I shall try in as few words as possible to put you in possession of the facts.

Imprimus -- The corn has been harvested, and measures 1200 bushells. Farm expenses, overseers tenth, laborers hire, et cet, will reduce it to 600 bushells -- 400 of which I expect to ship to Greenville, & the balance to sell for 62 1/2 cents (*specie*) per bu-- The unprecedented drouth, has cut off the cotton, pea, & potato crops sadly. The last we will defer gathering until *frost*. The Peas measure 15 bushells, resured for your winter use. 4 Bales of cotton gathered -- one more hoped for. Fodder untransportable, & not yet saleable. From the cane we have 90 gallons of Rum and expect 100 gallons of molasses -- also 100 bu. R. Rice.

My idea at present is, to take the wagon & team with all the cotton (S.I.¹⁹⁹ included) to Orangeburg, early in November -- consign to Willis & Chisolm, Charleston -- & proceed thence to Darlington to move you. This depends however on what I may hear from you in the interim.

Hattie's 2 horses, 1 mule & wagon are still on my hands in first rate condition, but I can't get a bid of more than \$45 a piece for them. The uncertainty as to *when* she will need the money, worries me, & may compel me to sacrifice them. Please write to me at *Greenwood*, once a week at least, dearest Emmie and explain your wishes freely. Mr. Johnson says better sell your Pigs & Poultry & buy in Greenville, so say I. I have 3 porkers for you (confiscated property).

Love to each and all from your much attached brother

Ralph

EGP

Greenville Nov 3rd [1865]

My dearest Emmie

Your letter of the 8th Oct. has just been received showing no improvement in the mails -- it was most welcome however for the previously received letter was dated 20 Sept. and I began to be quite miserable about you all, fearing fevers, which I know were prevalent in your region. Anna Lucas who is not far from you, mentioned the existence of typhoid and poor Mrs Maxwell died of it after a fortnight's illness. Your good report of Yourselves is therefore most welcome, and I trust Wm. has been able to obtain an indulgence in his newly tried beverage with benefit -- how I wish he had two bottles. Alice Ravenel has just sent Emma who no longer takes it. Wm. will have to go to Tom in Beaufort, will he not? I hear great accounts of Mary's good nursing, how I wish he had something to sell, that might enable him to spend the winter in Cuba.

Every one says "be patient until Spring and times will be better" at least dear Emmie I do not see why *You* should be obliged to work -- but we will *talk* that over. I suppose Your next will tell of Hattie's plans poor child. She has been spared separation from You all for so long it will be a shock when it comes. I pray that comfortable prospects are in store for her, and that her strength may (like mine) improve with the necessity. I cannot but regret that we are not to see her sweet face before she leaves, or those of her little children. It seems that the movements of everyone now are biased by want of money. The malady is *almost* universal.

I find much to do, more than usual, for Grace has an infant a few days old, and the three little torments are dreadful. I suppose Grace will be ready to move by the end of the Month and I shall be truly glad to get rid of her dishonest family. Annie saw some of our purple dinner set in Main Street for sale a few days ago altho' the key of the cellar where they were stored is always in my pocket. I am glad John is coming. Tell him if he will bring Phillis, I will feed, clothe and teach her. We shall

¹⁹⁹ Sea Island cotton.

need a little girl after Jackson's daughter leaves. I will enquire about a place for John's boys, but he did not specify the trades preferred. I am *sure* if only Mamma Annie and Yourself come it will be altogether better for us to live together. We can help each other so much. I am going to get a Man and Woman to live in the yard who will for the use of a room do the washing attend to the cow etc. Then if John is as smart as Maurice, he can cook *and* wait for us -- While my daughters, with Phillis' help will do all the chamber work. We will hire a wood cutter once a week and get on finely. Mamma shall not suffer from cold one bit. I have china enough and bedding enough. Your clothing and some of those Knives Mamma protected from the Yankees is all you need bring to make you comfortable.

If you have anything saleable in Darlington, I would advise you to avoid expensive transportation to turn it into money. With regards to dressing up here, You will not find it as bad as You expect the Greenville people let you alone and the refugees are fast disappearing. The Robt. Barnwell's (who are quite distant and I have never seen) the Fullers, the Lowndes and Mrs. Arthur Huger & Mrs Williman are all that will remain. I do not think Mamma will need a white servant just yet, tho' I think if we can ever give good wages and pay expenses "out" Miss Hinkel might send her one. We have not yet heard of Miss H's arrival in Germany but each of her brothers have written me very gentlemanly letters. I suppose Miss Hannah will remain with us this winter, altho' she has other notions occasionally.

I hope Ralph may run up here for a day before going down for You. I believe he fears the expense but it will be more satisfactory. I scarcely hope for another letter to reach you, so will not write again unless something special occurs to tell you of.

Give my warmest love to dear Hattie and tell her I beg her to write to me, that I may not feel she is too far away.

With love from all of us to you all I am dear Emmie

Your Affecte. Sister [Mary B. Johnstone]

EGP

Charleston Nov 9th 1865

To Mrs Ann H. Elliott

Dear Madam

Your petition was received only a few days ago. How it came I have never been able to find out.

I presented it in person to Genl. Saxton, who said that as to the St. Helena Parish Lands and House, he had no longer any jurisdiction and referred me to the Commissioners of Taxes. As to the other lands, he required another and a separate petition, and another and larger oath, which I have copied and enclosed. Please sign and swear to the petition. Examine the oath and take it if you can. I send a copy of Our Masters proclamation, which after reading (for you are obliged in your oath to say that you have read it) return it to me with the petition and oath.

I called on the Commissioners of Taxes, in relation to the St. Helena lands, and obtained this information -- to wit, Shell Point has been sold and purchased by one John Conant. Cedar Grove has been purchased by McCrea. The Ellis Place by United States, and the house in Beaufort is advertised to be sold on the 6th December for taxes. I immediately on getting it, requested Mr. Fraser to telegraph your son in Charlotte and inform him of the necessity of coming himself, or sending down funds at once to save the house which I have heard is his by his father's will. The Commissioners promised to put him in possession as soon as the taxes were paid. The amount the Commissioners are not prepared to give me, but said it was not much as they assessed the house at about 1/4 of the

assessed value in 1860. I am to have the amount next week. If you can communicate with the Capt. (T.R.S. Elliott) you had better urge him to attend to this matter at once, not that I think he will lose his house by neglecting it, but because he will save a great deal of trouble and expense by attending to it now.

I suppose measures will have to be taken in Washington for the recovery of the lands which have been sold, perhaps it may be advisable to let each one of your children assert his or her own right, instead of making one claim for the whole. Just at this time, perhaps we can do no more, but wait events.

Please send me with the papers a certified copy of the late Mr. William Elliotts (your late husband) will.

Mr. Bee to whom I applied for the mode of communicating with you incidentally mentioned that he *believed* your cotton in Orangeburgh had been saved, but he spoke of it as a matter of some doubt. I hope the Yankees did not discover it. It is now very valuable, but prices have a downward tendency at present.

Very Respectfully
Yours, Richd. De Treville

13 Nov. 1865

EGP

Dear Madam--

I wrote you a full account of your petition & its fate several days ago, but [...] if no letter way, I sent it by Doctor Jenkins to Greenville to the care of your daughter Mrs. Johnstone with a request that she would continue the means of getting it to you. I see however by the heading of your note this morning that I might have perhaps reached you sooner by the way of Darlington. The material information I communicated was that Cedar Grove, Shell Point & Ellis' had been sold -- the latter place to the Government -- & that the House would be sold on the 6th December but might be saved by the payment of taxes &c. I immediately caused Capt. T.R.S. Elliott to be telegraphed at Charlotte to come down & attend to it at once. I expect to see him every moment though I have not heard from him. The Lands on the Main must be applied *for by another petition* & another oath both of which I enclosed. The Myrtle Grove place on Hilton Head I learn this morning has also been sold. The Commissioner says that all of the Lands except six tracts, on that Island were purchased by the Government. The other six were purchased by individuals. Myrtle Grove he thinks is owned by the Government. The title to this tract was never vested in your son William. I think therefore that you must apply, to the authorities at Washington for this with your other sold Lands & have them all restored at the same time. There is no doubt that the Freedman's Bureau & tax commissioners are carrying on a most extensive scheme of fraud [...] but I can not see how we can save ourselves. It will take time to procure redress if we ever get it. As I have written to you more fully by the way of Greenville, trusting to your earlier receipt of that I will say no more now except that Charleston is no place for a native of So. Carolina to live in. Of every twenty persons you meet in the street, nineteen are Yankees or negroes.

Very truly yours
Richd. De Treville

16 Nov. 1865
Charleston S. Car.

TRE

Charleston Nov. 28th 1865

My Dear Wife,

I am quite worried about home affairs not having heard one word since I left, as no news is generally *good* news, I must hope for the best until my return. I have been the most unfortunate man in the world since leaving home been nearly killed twice, & finally robbed of my valise with all my goods & papers. The Thief, jerked the valise out of the car on the So. Ca. R.R. at night, when the car was in motion & made off in the woods & it was useless to pursue, it being too dark to see in which direction he went. I offered one of the detectives here \$100, to recover the property but as yet no result. I have been staying here with W. Raymond on the Battery at no expense he has the fine House corner Water & E. Bay & is quite a Gentleman, & an exceedingly kind friend to me. I made his acquaintance coming from Greenville, & he invited me to stay with him. I have just returned from Darlington where I found My Mother & Sisters well, but William by no means so, he has a dreadful cough & I am fearful may terminate seriously. Genl. Saxton has been removed from Beaufort & another man put in his place, who is to attend to his duties. The agent for the restoration of Houses & Lands is here, & Col. Treville has been negotiating for one week to try & get my House in Beaufort back by allowing me to pay the Taxes & has not succeeded so far, but we will make another effort to-day & if successful I will leave for Beaufort tomorrow.

I cannot say at present if it will be safe for us to remove to the Low Country before the 1st of January. The Negroes are getting on their high Horse & say they intend to fight for the land, particularly on Edisto, it is rumored here, that 20,000 white troops have been ordered to the coast for the purpose of keeping the negroes in order & compelling them to work -- how true I cannot say. George Hayward & family are here. Jane is quite well. Edward & his wife have left them, in consequence of a want of provisions. Edward has engaged himself to me as a cook & says he will stick to us. I wish I had you with me, your long head would help me in many things. The loss of my valise has sorely oppressed me & I feel at times a great desire to jump in the cars & return home, but I must accomplish all my business first.

Did you get my Telegram requesting you to send Willie here? if not tell him he had better come at once as I wish him to assist me in many ways.

I have much to tell & write about but the confusion around me at this moment is so great that my ideas are scattered. I am writing in Savage's office & the noise of drays & tumbling of boxes & talking of men confuses me. Genl. Drayton is here looking well, he will go along with me to Beaufort & Hilton Head tomorrow, he has not got his Pardon yet.

Do write me & direct to Charleston to the care of T. S. Heyward & Son & they will forward to Beaufort for me. Ann is quite well & looks better than she did. I have seen Wharley also & will bring the dresses when I return.

I must say good bye my Darling with much love & Kisses for all

I am your affc. Husband

T.R.S. Elliott

I have not yet seen old Will, he is on a visit to his Daughter somewhere.

EGP

**Headquarters, Assistant Commissioner,
BUREAU REFUGEES, FREEDMEN AND ABANDONED LANDS,
SOUTH CAROLINA AND GEORGIA.**

Charleston, S.C., December 9th 1865.

Mrs Ann H. Elliott an applicant for the restoration of *Three Tracts of Land called "The Bluff" "The Middle Place" "Social Hall" in Colleton Dist. SC and a Tract of Land near Charleston S.C. called "Oak Lawn"* held by the Bureau of Refugees, Freedmen and Abandoned Lands, having conformed to the requirements of Circular No. 15, of said Bureau, dated Washington, D.C., Sept. 12, 1865, the aforesaid property is hereby restored to *her* possession, it being understood that such restoration does not include the rents or other profits that may have accrued to the U.S. Government during the time said property has been in its possession, and that the aforesaid *Mrs Ann H. Elliott* relinquishes all claims against the U.S. Government for damages, and that any land now under cultivation by loyal refugees or freedmen, will be held by them until the crops now growing, or yet unharvested, shall be secured for their sole use and benefit, unless a full and just compensation for their labor and its products, to their satisfaction, be made, with the written approval of the Assistant Commissioner.

R. Saxton

Bvt. Major General,
Assistant Commissioner

Triplicate

EGP

Charleston, S. Car.
Decr. 9th 1865

Dear Madam!

I have carefully examined the whole will of Mr. Elliott, & now send you my opinion of the manner in which you ought to [...] and execute it. Had it not been for the heavy losses occasioned by the War there would be not the slightest difficulty in giving effect to every part of it, for it is written with great clearness & perspicuity. Your chief difficulty now will be in making up the legacies given by the 8th clause to your three unmarried daughters. When you write again please inform me what Bonds, Notes & Stocks you now hold. If the Stocks are of the "*Union Bank*" I think they are of the very best -- that is, almost the only Bank which will be available to meet its entire liabilities.

Dec. 12th 1865

I have after two interviews (one with General Gonzales) succeeded in obtaining from Genl. Saxton an order for the restoration of your Lands in the Main. I hope it will prove satisfactory. The Conditions towards the close are quite unmeaning & will in no respect conclude you. I enclose the order.

Very respectfully Yours
Richd. De Treville

[Envelope addressed to:]

Mrs. Ann H. Elliott
Springville, So. Car.

EGP

Charleston Decr 19th 1865

My Dear Emmie,

I am now on my return to Charlotte for the purpose of deciding about my family movements & cannot yet say what they will be -- it is impossible to take them to Beaufort at present. The Town

is not fit for a white Lady to stay in, Yankees & Negroes are all the rage. I met with universal politeness from our former Slaves. They were glad to see me & inquired after all the family. Ben & Bristol expressed great hatred towards the Yankees old Bella also. The Elliotts & Willie Elliotts family are staying in my House, old Brisbane gave them permission to do so. I suppose in January I will be able to get it out of the hands of the Govt. Hilton Head is a Town, I was lost in wonder at the vast buildings, the wharf is 1400 feet long & cost \$300,000. I did not go to William's Plantation as I had no means of getting there & the day was bad. I saw the man who hires it from the Govt. & he is like all the rest of the Yankee nation a skin flint. What will be done by Congress to restore the lands to the former Proprietors it is impossible to say. One Regiment of Negroes has been mustered out & the other will soon be. White troops I hear will take their place. I am glad of it. I visited Pocotaligo. My House still stands but the Sashes & shutters are nearly all broken but one, out House remains, my Kitchen, the Trees have been shamefully destroyed, & the old place looks like the Devil. There are no Negroes on the place & I went there & placed a Man & his wife on it to protect it. I saw Judd in Beaufort & applied to him for a certificate of Ownership but he told me he had nothing to do with the lands over the Ferry, & I could therefore go & take possession. I have hired two Yankee Overseers, who planted last year on Port Royal & they have engaged a good many hands already who say they will contract in January. I have hired some very fine lands (1500 acres) & will require 350 hands to work them. I have also made arrangements to provision them. I do not think that there will be any difficulty in getting labor, starvation will bring them to their senses, by February at any rate. I have much to write about but am feeling very unwell from indulging too hastily in oyster, which were not sound I think. So you must excuse this. Ralph had better come down as early in January as possible & see what is to be done. Jacob is here & says that he wishes Mass Ralph to come & plant. I do not think the country safe this winter for families. The men must come down & stick it out. It would not be worth the trip to William to come here before some time in January unless his health required a change. I wish it were in my power now to help him, so that he could make a change.

With love to Mama & Hattie

I am your aff. Brother

T.R.S.E.