

Cincinnati April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1863

Dear Will

I was very much pleased to hear yesterday from Philips you had got 20 days leave to visit home. I know what a comfort it will be to your mother and sadly she needs it now, it is a sad coming home to you. In your Fathers death you have the sympathy of the community but how poor all this seems at such a time to say we miss him conveys but a faint idea of the loss we all sustain here as I sit at home it is a sad, sad, thought that I shall hear his voice no more, or see his genial smile for a man who made so little voice in the world. I hope there are very few whose loss is more acutely felt, it comes home to us in the family, for I think there was no one in it, unless it is Uncle William, except himself, against whom no one had a word to say.

And dear Katie, I saw a great deal of her this winter, and became very much attached to her, that I always admired her womanly ways there is nothing within the range of feasibility I would not have done for Katie, all the comfort I have now is that every thing I could do for her since she has been here at school away from home, I did with a hearty good will, and I know she receives it in the same spirit, it is beyond our comprehension why one so fitted for usefulness in this life should be that early called away, perhaps it was from evil to come, it is well for those that can say "Thy will be done" for whether we accept, or not, there is no other comfort.

I suppose George and Jane are with you today. Aunt Elizabeth has been quite concerned lest they would give your Mother trouble. I hope she will not do so hereafter but then that comes to be family fare, if sister had known it in time she would not have let them go. Your Mother's teapot was done but Uncle William forgot it. Mr. Kinsay says it had been mended before and improperly done, he was obliged in consequence to take it all apart, but it looks beautifully now, he is a silverware manufacturer. I have some things to send down to James they will be in a valise which he ordered, could you take them down for me when you go. I am sorry to trouble you for I know the inconvenience of taking baggage but they are things he needs very much, which I have been looking out for an opportunity to send.

Will Jones may possibly go the Army of the Cumberland, but it is not certain, he has been offered the Colonelcy of a Kentucky Regt, also a Michigan under Burnside but he preferred an Ohio Regt which Genl Rosecrans has said he should have, it is not decided however, and if you can take these things please let me know, if not don't hesitate to say so Will, I shall not feel the least hurt. The Express is very uncertain, and a few days ago would not receive anything.

When are going through I want you to stop, and stay at least one night with us we would all like to hear your experience and opinions. Tell little Julia I have some more things to send her doll that were not ready when Uncle William went up. With much love to all.

I remain Your affectionate Aunt  
Rachel Reynolds