

Nov 17, 1863

bring the South to terms, that will be acceptable to the Union Government, by laying down their Army;

I have nothing to write ~~to write~~ that will interest you, but must scratch a few lines, to let you know that I have not forgotten you.

I had a letter from Hannah some time ago, of date Oct 18<sup>th</sup>, which I have not had time to answer yet, but shall soon. She wrote that you was Custom-house Officer, of Van Buren. I was very glad to hear that you had got ~~so~~ good a chance.

I had a letter from Sam<sup>l</sup> a short time ago, he told me that he was going to move up to Lincolnville or to my old place, of which I was very glad to hear. I had rather he would live there, I have all he can raise, (Hay included) if he will eat the Hay on the place, than to have

it left without any one on it. I think he can make a living by working out a part of the time and raising what he can on the place. If he goes there, I hope he will stay longer than Joel did; if I thought he wouldn't I should not count on to have him go.

If I live to get out of this, I think I shall ~~go~~ <sup>go</sup> up to your part of the State and if I like the County, may stop some times. But there is no use of making any calculations on the future, for life is very uncertain. I should be very happy to see you all; if it is the will of the Lord, I shall at some future day.

But I must close. Please write to me as often or convenient, and I will do the same. You ask, if I think we shall succeed in stopping the South!

I answer yes; and that before  
many more months have  
rolled around, too! And according  
to their own account, (taken from  
the Richmond papers) they  
begin to think so too.

I expect you are having  
cold weather in your section  
of the country about this  
time. We have had one very  
little flurry of snow in Virginia  
about the 9th of this month,  
but it soon left us.

We have had some rain  
of late, which has made it  
very muddy. And of this  
kind to make a team  
or artillery at present.

No more this  
time.

Remember  
me to your wife & children  
and may this find you  
all as well as it leaves me.  
I wish of your  
brother  
Darius.

From Darius  
in Virginia

Nov 17 63

Nov 17, 1863

Camp 19th Me  
Near Culpeper Va Oct 17/63  
Dear Brother,

Yours of Sept 25th  
came to hand in due time.  
I was truly glad to hear from you,  
but very sorry to hear of your  
lameless, was no better.

You must excuse me for not  
answering your letter before, for I have  
not had time, for the last ~~month~~  
month, to write scarcely a letter.  
We have marched from 280 to 500  
miles, since I wrote to you before,  
took about 3000 prisoners, 15 pieces  
of artillery, 10 or 15 battleships,  
& a good deal of other Rebel property.

I can't tell how much longer this  
war will last, but it does seem to me  
that the South will have to give it  
up before long. I think this winter  
and another Summer campaign will