Abberville April 2 and 57

Dear Mr./Miss [Name],

It was our intention to have paid you all a visit the first three or four days of the fair, but having a part of our children to stay or the fourth part of the winter with us it did not suit for us to go down. Alice is now with us, and her husband has gone to Georgia at this time to look at a mine or what is said to be a rich gold mine which my wife has a third in. He has purchased the other two-thirds, though he said at first not to prove to be a mine, he cannot lose much as I think the land is self-sustaining. [Name] has been busy, engaging in fruit trees, etc., while we have a very backward spring. I commenced planting soon on the 20th of
of the last month though some of my neighbours commenced on the first of the month they have had to plough and plant over & so in the end they are not much more forward than I am. You mentioned that your tree had fear to do so well until they began to pull to secure the flowers I have never myself thought anything to prevent them from blooming but I was told by my old friend Capt. B. Sanders that he tried some trees by boring in near to the heart of the tree & putting equal parts of calomel and sulphur & then planting it up tight & he found it to answer well do you had better tie a few of your trees later if it will have the effect with you I do not think it will injure the tree. We had a great deal of frost this last season except blackberries we could not get any in our neighbourhood to make wine or even to make and so it was so cold I think that was the cause of our Pears being inferior these
from no Praches in St. Albans to converse with those I had in Penobscot. Though I hope to have done if I should live long enough in this place though I am going quite tired of the place as also my poor wife. And if I live to see you I can tell you more than I can now write. If I can arrange my Planting affairs so as we can have home we have been thinking of making you all a visit in the month of May as my wife thinks she would prefer a visit to the low lands at that season of the year, to the winter, so I wish you would write me and let me know when you will be at that time of the year, if the boats will be still running to Georgetown. Do you must hold on to the farm or you can have for one until you do one another from one a gain. I thank you for your good advice in yours. Though if you know what the relation I wanted the means for you would agree with one or it though when we meet you will know as it will
taken too long to explain it all to you by writing. We still have a fine fruit set of fruit although the last month was so cold, but the full moon in April is the time our fruit is most generally killed and I am fearful it will be killed to-night for it is now quite cold and I am writing by the fire & it is now ten o'clock if things should be killed to-night it will be the second time we will have things in our garden killed for February was so pleasant we planted our garden 1st. week in February and the first of March destroyed it all & it just begins again to look something like a garden again but I fear our neighbours will be lost. Head sister Ann Andrews is still in the same house yet. My wife & other girls to be remembered to you & all as though named, but we hear from you. May every blessing attend you & yours. As ever your affectionate Brother William April 3rd. We have a very heavy frost this morning. Things I think on all killed.
Abbeville July 22nd 1837

Dear Thomas,

We have been at home something over a month & I have not written to you as yet. It is now to make apologies, da Drake begins on Monday we arrive at home the evening after we left you a little before sun set. Finding all the folks in the enjoyment of health, though finding a fine young horn child which died about an hour before we got home & I have lost three times that time I lost last March which makes five horses we have lost this year & I assure you I have been put to it too time of my crop so I cannot say I have a clean crop nor a good one though take it yourself it looks as well as any that has had as little rain as we have had no rain of any consequence
Since May 31 which was a general rain it very washing of
raised the Creek so high as to take away our low ground
since again to you but I have had any thing but a good chanc
for making a good corn this year our Corn that was hit down by the frost so many
times is shooting it takes a good deal of it not over three
feet high thong has a fine colour & if we could have rain
I hope will do very well but we must get some shortly if it does
any thing though in several part of this district they have
not suffered a day for one man told one the Courie of heard
one enough to have made on the crop our Cotton Crop is in all
for the season of the year though it is now improving fast
& growing much finer is the full should be a late one & the season
should do the cotton I think there may be an average crop the
wheat has been the best for many
years. I shall sail about being down as soon as I get it. If he asks for her to come here it will be on her place. Nine days after I get up home I was taken with a chill of fever & headache without it which was pretty severe though I have had more of it & hope having had it so early I may escape it in the fall. My wife be go to be remembered to you all. And days she has been always once since she has been up of being with you all, enjoying herself finely. We are all in tolerable health at this time except Alice Bag, who is quite unwell at this time. I did not mention that I had to buy four oxen new to supply the place of the five horses that I got last Monday that I now think I shall have a clean crop in the corn of next month. Though there is but five eyes divided among the four but they are doing
good work and they average one just forty sections of forty acres. You would be surprised to see what fine looking ones they are. Nothing else will find you all in health. I remain your affectionate Brother.

[Signature]

[Date: 18[.5]]

Ottawa, 22nd, July.
Alberville, April 12th, 1858

Dear Thomas,

It has been some time since I have dropped you a line, and there has been many changes taking place in the time in the last weeks. Paper I saw the death of Mr. Miller, how true the saying in the midst of life we are in death, and it shows how we should live, that we may be ready, watching the time when we should be called to leave the things of earth. The I think will be much misfortune in the community of Georgetown both as a Phician doctor there is a good deal of sickness going about through this section of country as I hear not now. Mistletoe is violent today. In good many cases has proved fatal, but so far we have been blest as we have had nothing more than the cold which I believe has been prevalent everywhere. How has Aunt Jenny. Aunt Jenny does it look like it would do to the Indians so near the salt water. Our Wheat at this time looks fine & our early Wheat is now in boat ready to shoot out the car & if we do not now have a frost to kill it I hope we shall make a good Crop & it will come in quite early. We have had quite a wet winter with
us and farmers are not generally as far advanced as they were the last year & in fact our spring was not as forward as the last year for last year our peach trees were in full bloom on the 23 of February & this year they were not in full bloom until the 23 of March so they were a month behind what they were the last year and if we have no frost now to kill them a long with other fruit we shall have a most abundant fruit crop though as I wrote before fruit safe until after the full moon in this month which will be towards the last of this month. I expected to commence planting cotton to day but the rain last night & this morning has made the land too wet so I shall be put back a few days before I get my land in the ground & I suppose the planters in the low country have all finished planting ere this. Now Thomas I told you when I was down that I wished to buy out the interest of the estate of Cannon which his legators had offered one for 15000 dollars & I had but the two & I could not get the other two so I took up some of the debt that was pressing & buy them assigned over to a trustee as a lawyer informed me I should be compelled to do towards my self as the heirs of Cannon would not admit that if I took them up myself without we could buy out there interest in the estate & at the time I was down I think I told you that the principal part of
debts that the owe or the Estate owed was to two of
Mr. Cannon Siphnios which my wife was acting as
Guardian for and one of them became of age last
December the youngest and last fall, and his heirs
are now wanting her to settle up with them, and the
now request of me to write you if you could not assist
her in procuring a sufficient to pay of them and
buy out the interest of the Estate which will amount
to about twelve thousand dollars or the whole or
but the one debt for which the would mortgage
five hundred shires of Land at twenty Nine an acre
as likely a lot as can be found in the U. County
It is not all the Land that the owns there are two other tracts
the owns in this District but not adjoining that I think
the Estate is worth something in the neighborhood
of Twenty Six thousand at the present value of the
property and if we could borrow the amount
with a little time we may if we live be able to
pay it up without selling any Property and if
you are not able to let her have it you may know
of some one who may have Means to let out in
that way by borrowing mortgage, and the further
say's that if you cannot let her have that
amount that any part of it we will be obliging
her to the would a Mortgage a sufficiency to cover
it and says that you will accommodate her to the
last mention amount as the wishes to settle with one
of them the last of this Month & the we'll be extremely
obliged to you for at this time we cannot borrow that
amount else here and what is coming out is going at two high a rate of interest. My wife’s health has never been good since her sickness last year, she has been complaining of pain in the chest and since I enjoy a good portion of health I heard from most of my children the last week & they were all well, I received a letter from Brother Archer lately I am glad to hear him say that he was safe & enjoying a good portion of health again. May hope this will find you & your family enjoying the like good health. Remembering my love to all let me hear from you soon. May every blessing attend you & all in the prayer of your affectionate brother.

William

W. E. Smith
Neffville, 12th April, 1865.
Frazierville, May 28th, 1861

Dear Thomas,

It has been some time since I last wrote you. Since that time I have been quite unwell. I had a violent cold which made me full of very mucus. About the last of March a considerable shortness of breath and I took medicine thinking it should soon be relieved, but it continued to increase so much so that in April my breath was so short that I could not lie down at night to sleep. Thinking it might be the Asthma I went for the Doctor who informed me that I had a little symptoms of that disease, but mine was the heart that was affected. So he gave me some medicine which has relieved me of the shortness of breath that still advises me to keep quiet until my system is more removed as I felt of it rapidly for the last week I have improved very much and hope in a few days more, I shall be able to go out to attend to business. I do not get a back bit. I suppose you are over the City since they have got possession of the
Fort Sumter has become more quiet.

The Dr told me to say that he knew yesterday that the Federal Troops had taken possession of Alexandria without opposition, so I suppose we may expect a long time of a battle in Virginia. There is but one of my sons that has been called of as yet & that is the youngest Benjamin, is in Capt. James Whitmore's Company. The last I heard of him they were to go to other to be in Camp there. The Company that lain beside belongs too, has not been called out as yet. We have had quite a cold spring till crops look quite backward, though the Wheat crop they tell me is fine, though I have not seen it since the first of April. I see from the house that my neighbour's corn field is looking his yesterday. Well Thomas we have at last got our Gold mill in operation. Since I have been taken sick they have struck another vein & they sent me over some of the ore which the gold they are fing. I found my man that attends to it, was only to see me yesterday as I could not get anything at the Billy. That was close enough to trying the quick. Though, he went to town to town thinking he could get something there but they had none of it to offer, and that it could only be got
help it as I know of no one I could call upon better in this my need of the article, so I hope you will excuse me for doing so. Hoping this will find you again in the enjoyment of health, &c. health is not good. The writer with my remembrance to you all as ever I remain your affectionate Brother,

[Signature]

Atterhill, May 28th, 61

[Handwritten numbers and symbols]
W. C. Smith
Fraziersville, November 13th, 1862

Dear Thomas,

I received your letter this morning, and now take time to answer its contents. We have a pound of wool rolls carded to see how many cloths it would make of such size as we use for filling for our Regiment, and it made but eleven cloths a half, and your average 10th after being carded it will make a lot, 25 three cloths and this it will fill from 25 to 30 yards of cloth. The spinning that will cost a bout 50 or 40 cents a Doz. cloths and 3 cloths will fill about a quart sack, and if you wish the warp done black, which is very little trouble to do, and then you do it, and if you would send it to her the will have it attended to and done as they as you can get it done anywhere, your three bunches of threads with the wool will make a near fifty yards of cloth. And the days I must suggest to you that you will be obliged to get summer clothing for your regiments that as you live near the forges that if you would furnish the factory, and for work that the would go...
halfs with you the furnishing with filling &
you praying for your part of the weaving
as the has three girls that she has learnt
to weave and as I told Brother Mann on
Sabbath last to tell you that you must
accompany him down on the Thursday
in next month you & her may
make an arrangement for that purpose &
yes the war continues you will be able to
get your cloth cheaper in that way than
any other. I could not now think of. Though
if you bring what you now have get more
& send it as early as you can it may
have it out by that time for you to
take home with you. I have enclosed
a receipt for the Dropping Which I have
done perform a Cure after the complaint
stated from the dwelling, we had another
but at present we can't not find if
your Woman is over forty, year of age
she will hardly be Curing I think &
Which of Brother Archers sons was we-
men do's. Hoping this may find you
all in health remember us to all
as ever your affectionate Brother
William
Huntsville, March 7th 63

Dear Bro. Thomas

Expecting to be at Chur-

ich on the morrow in anticipation

of either hearing Brother Manly or Bro-

cas I thought I would drop you a few

lines, and enclose a few scraps of

cloth which I think Elizabeth would

fancy more than the sample sent in

you’re. If she says if Eliz. should get any

gain for her self I wishes her to have

it wore for her not to get any thing finer

than 12 or 14 as the has no hat that will

wear any thing finer than those num-

ber, and her best weaver expects to get to

be & some time this month I as it is now

working time in the farm. The other two

is now just in the farm to work, until

the Crop is husked by long, she would have

to wait until the one who is expecting

to go to bed in a week or two gets up, as

she has nothing to do, with the farm

works when she would be able to do is

for her and if she would like any of the

samples sent better than the one you
enclosed you can send it back and the only difficulty now in dying blue is that you cannot get indigo & madder to dye with, therefore we have to depend upon the leaves of our forest & their roots to do our dying process. You want some direction about gardening, it is now time that you had your peas up & all the other kinds of seed in the ground excepting your beans & squashes & such tender vegetables as is very easy to be killed & the last of the month will be early enough for them to grow with this air then killed, but we have to run the risk of that, if your fowl house manure I think one of the best for a garden of a little of it goes a good way in making vegetables, you must notice your neighbours in regarding the time to plant as you are a stranger to the climate & you will soon find the proper time to put your seeds in. They did not make you pay for right for your cloth did they? I am glad to learn that you have succeeded in getting corn corn will be cheaper in the summer than it is now. Write and let me know in return my affection to your & yours. Brother William.
Stratfordville July 30th 1863

Dear Thomas,

I am surprised to find that I have had your letter so long un
answered until taking it up this morn-
ing and find that it was written in June.
We have had a great deal of rain throu-
g\ngh this month and has ruined our low-
ground corn for it will not make half
what it would have made if it was not
over flowed so often as it has been the past
month. The up land is doing tolerable
well. Our wheat crop has not turned
out well and a vast deal of smart in it.
I suppose your Crop now looks well if
you have had seasons as we have had
the last month. It was my intention
to have written you some time ago, and
to say to you it will not be an unusual
thing for you to see me. Our store has
brothers and sisters of the same name
who now live here for us, and if it suited you to have
come down this week you would of had
the pleasure of being at our first start
next month. Which commences tomorrow but
I have put off writing you too late for this
afternoon. You told to us for spinning having
had but one sp of Carder that was only run
out but she has now been enable to get two
now for which will enable us to do a little
better than what she has been doing.
She says that she would like to do some
of your thinking. So if it do not suit
her you please. It would be best for you to
Come down & see about it as soon as you possibly can & do as to arrange it and see what you may want, and if it is so you cannot come down to send here a bundle of your things in a letter the country is perfectly healthy. I hear of no sickness anywhere. We live from the produce that we have permitted the Yankees to get a foot hold on Long Island where there has been so much land from the U.S. country working so long and long peace is now as they have got a foot hold there they will soon have the City & then we will have there paid all through the state, at this time are upon to be in a Critical situation, though the providence is, the darkest time is just before day, and I hope i Hope proof to in this inst-
tance when the City has been invested I went up to the Village to get some salt and they would not sell me any as there idea was it would now get up to Thrill when it is now tolling at which I think nothing enough before the 4th of June, so we are left without salt. You inquired as you were what was the best time to get things for Agey.
This is a bout as good a season for such a pur-
pose as we have. If you can come down any let us know what time we should meet you at the Village we would send up for you with pleasure. I know of nothing new I hear I can say rather since Tuesdays to know how things are going on. Let us make a date to talk & even your address at Boston. William

P.S. I have just found out what stockings could be got at it is from 2 to 3, 1/2 a pair.