



"STAND BY THE FLAG!"

Charlton June 3^d 1861

Dear Cousin:

Yours of May 12th came to hand about two weeks ago. You have probably heard ere this of the death of brother Edward which took place May 28^d. it was sudden but far from being unexpected to us as he had been growing weaker very fast for the last few weeks but as his physical strength diminished his mental seemed to increase and for the last few days he seemed to be perfectly sane and rational

and continued so up to the
last. Probably few of us realize
how much he has suffered the
past four or five years and
still he complained none
but his last moments were
apparently easy and life seemed
to leave its earthly habitation with
scarcely a struggle. We are all
in comfortable health. Aunt
Matilda seems to be, as it were
a child of misfortune, she
had another fall a few days ago
and lamed her knee so badly
that she could not walk a step
for several days but she is
now gaining quite fast.

Cousin Harriet is improving
in health and will doubtless
entirely recover. The weather
to day is rather sunny and
vegetation seems to be somewhat

enlivened but is backward
for the time of year. I am
working for Mr Morris now
for a few days helping repair his
barn, business is very dull here
as well as in all other parts
of the country but I have
had all the work I could do
thus far. I was very much
pleased with the programme
of your exhibition. Should
judge it was a very interest-
ing and instructive one.
Should liked to have been
~~there~~ present and heard
some of papers and essays
read. War matters seem
to engross the attention of
public at the present time
daily papers or takes here
by almost every one and nearly
all are ready fight if

needed for that glorious
 old flag which our fore
 fathers bled for. All
 the people in this State
 want is to have government,
 give the word and they will
 rally to a man to preserve
 the honor and integrity of a
~~the~~ government which for free,
 moral and liberal institutions
 stands unrivaled in the
 histories of world. What
 a cowardly mean underhanded
 low lived trick was the assassina-
 tion of the gallant Ellsworth
 at Alexandria; it is almost
 impossible for me to conceive
 of a term that would express
 the baseness of such a deed. But
 the perpetrator received his reward
 on the spot and there is reason to believe
 that others engaged in the same treacherous
 scheme will be rewarded in like manner.
 Give my love to all and accept a portion for
 yourself
 Yours & Wm. A. King