

Take hold of you again,
write soon, Waters,



New Albany Sunday
Apr 5th 61

Dear Nell:-

Do not be surprised at hearing from me again, so soon, these perilous times, you have received my letter to Gallie's care this, I presume, your last arrived ten days since, with the welcome intelligence of "all well." - and I can repeat the same for Brother Marks family - myself excepted. I cannot define any particular cause for indisposition, only loss of appetite and extreme weakness, - probably "Old general debility" has taken possession of me, yet I can not think of being sick these times, when every thing is "war, war." The people here are fairly awakened, the Kentuckians, appear to apprehend

more from us, than we do from them
we have an immense flag planted
on the "Knobs" below here, which
can be seen at any part of Louisville,
which is magnified to a large
battery well manned, at the election
in Louisville yesterday, the Union
ticket was victorious, or rather they
say we are for the Union, which
is only a neutral position, which
is more contemptible than open
rebellion; if they will not show
the "stars and stripes," they are
traitors, however they will be compelled
to take a definite position, and very
soon too. if for secession, then this
place will be a point for engage^{mt.}
it indeed looks like war to see the
great ugly cannons passing through
the streets, tomorrow there is to be
a large parade. - seventeen companies
averaging one hundred each. there
are three regiments stationed

we are this place to protect us, but that will not suffice, if we are attacked. our place presents a gay appearance, flags float from most of the houses. even "little Frank" carries a miniature one.

My visit to Cincinnati has "died a natural death." I can hardly think of visiting Cincinnati at present. The excitement there is terrible. every thing is so uncertain these times, we cannot speak definitely in regard to anything. I wish to remain where Mark and Frank are, especially if the danger increases, - yet it is quite a trial to relinquish the idea of seeing you all this summer. What does Cousin George think of the present troubles, not sympathizing with the South is he? What a remarkable coincidence it is, that the first men that fall in the struggle for our "National



independance" were Massachusetts
men, and the first that fall in
maintaining that independance, were
descendants of the same - at Ballin's;
and also on the eighty sixth anniver-
sary of the "battle of Sperrington."

My birds are well and happy.
I keep them yet's indeed I
would not let anybody have
them to abuse. I have a very nice
place to hang them here - where
the sun does not trouble them,
and it is sufficiently warm,
Mollie just called me down stairs
to sing some sacred pieces, it quite
reminds me of the attempts - at sacred
music on your piano when I was with
you. How is Mary Goodwin this spring?
Does she practice much? I would like to see
her. probably I never will, for all my plans
appear like shadows, as I advance they
recede, and I never get them fairly in
my grasp, probably I would not
appreciate them if I did. Tell Aunt
I would relish her eggs and milk,
or any thing coming from, Uncle Clement
~~any~~ ^{any} ~~bar~~ ^{bar} of God's overflowing an abundance
of love to you, I want to see you all and



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