

July 31th
1865

My Dear friend

I now seat myself to answer your ever welcome letter which I received some time ago and have neglected to answer it untill now but I think you will forgive me when I tell you what the reason is in the first place I was fixing to go west and thought I would wait untill I got ready to go and then we heard that Joseph had Reenlisted and was coming home on a furlough so I gave up my journey Joseph came home and staid two weeks he has gone this morning oh Settle it seems worse to have him go again this time then it did at first but he is gone and we have got to make the best of it I had been so in hopes he would get his

discharge and come home for good
and now to think he has got to
stay three years longer it seems most
to hard there is not much news
to write or else I dont feel inclined
to think of it Frank Hewitt has
been sick with a fever but he is
better now John Still has been
home he is looking finely he is
pleased to get home again John
Harris is home again he is well
and fat as a horse John had a
quite a large company the fourth
he had 52 members I guess he
thinks the worse he acts the more
they think of him I wish I had
been down where you were the'll
you say you had ice cream and
that is more then I had you
wanted to know what for a woman
Fred had got I dont know I
think she must be all right by

what she said about her your
mother has not heard from him
since he wrote about her I don't
know but he is married or some
thing else I think you have come
to a wise conclusion that you are
too young to marry yet I received
a letter from you with two stamps
and a leaf I am very much obliged
for them the flower I shall keep
untill I get to be an old lady
then I can see what you sent me
when you was in dixie dont you
think it will be worth looking
at when we get to be old Seth I
have had my hair cut off and your
mother says I look worse then ever
dont you think that is useless for
I looked bad enough before dont you
think so it is very warm and quite
dry here now we have not heard from
Marion in a long time Seth I hope

you will not wait as long as
I have before you write to me for
you dont know how glad I am
to hear from you and now ~~we~~ ~~are~~
we are so lonely since Joseph went
away the time is longer then ever
I should think they might let
you come home you have done
enough to be free now but if you
have to stay your time out it
wont be a very long time but
it seems long enough I can tell
you I wish you would send me
your picture I want to see how
you look since you have been
gone or do you think I am asking
a good deal I dont know but I
am oh Seth I dont want you
to wait as long as I have will
you before you write and I will
not wait so long again I guess I
have written all you will want to read
write as soon as you get this good by
from your friend Sate to Seth Still ^{one kiss} ~~one kiss~~