Tangipahoa. Decem 17th 1862

Dear Mother,

Taking advantage of the kindness of Mrs. Casey who offers to take any letter to you which I may feel like sending I now sit down to write you a few lines thinking that you will be as glad to hear from me as I would be to hear from you. but that can hardly be. for I would give any thing to hear but a dog word from you or any of the dear ones at home. George is well and well contented with spring hill and I know if he only knew that I was writing to you he would have half a thousand messages to send you. as it is I will send his love to you all myself. I am now staying at Mr. Gilmore but will as soon as spring and warm weather comes reenlist. I am at present making ninety dollars a month by writing in the custom house for Mr Hatch. but do not know how soon my employment will cease which depends all upon the import trade And Mother. knowing that you owed for Georges school bill I gave a Mr McFadden a draft for three hundred dollars, for which in exchange he gave me six hundred dollars in Confederate money which I forwarded to Mr. Chamberlain, so Mother you need not trouble yourself upon Georges account for two years to come. & and by that time I hope I will

have made a situation by which I can make enough to keep him to school as long as he wishes to go. for I am bound that he shall be an educated man in our family. and as Percy is the only one left it must be the one. and Walter if I could be of any use to you or Brother Ned. just let me know and I will come in. for I can go to the City without taking the oath for that you may be sure I would never take. and if necessary I can come out again for I know I could. whenever I wanted to. Mrs Gilman sends lots of love to all and has been expecting you out every day. I know she would be very glad to have you come. She has also been expecting Sue and Sally but did not think Sue would come on account of Sister Emily above. She knew could not come. Mr Mulford came out a week or so ago and told us that Brother David had gone to Europe with Sally. Annie and the Children. he also told us of the death of the Baby.

I suppose you have long before this heard from Nelly and the farm I hope they are all well there. and as happy as times will admit of. but it does seem to me that I can now see land ahead though I have never thought so before but we have now repulsed Burnside in Va.

and I cannot but believe but that the People in the North are getting tired of this unjust war. I for one am for fighting them till the last man falls. and then let them take the country and our Corpses with it.

You must write to Sister Nelly for me and send her lots and lots of love also in your letters to Europe remember me to Dear Sally. Jennie and Annie. not forgetting the rest of them there. and you can tell My Annie that I have been head over heels in love half a dozen times since I last saw her but never so much as to forget her. I still have a lock of her hair in my pocket which I have carried through three battles and will carry through three more if necessary. and then I will not be afraid to pass "Bedsby" for I my wife in eleven (11) befor he fell. and then had to be shot twice befor he would leave the field.

And now Dear Mother wishing to be remembered with lots and lots of love to Sue, Eva, Brother Ned and all the Children I remain your ever affectionate and devoted

Son

Willy

Love to all Friends in the City and lots of it to Annie.

K ▽

Dec 14th