Stafford Court House Virginia
February 4th 1863

My dear son,

feeling no anxiety for the promotion of your welfare and happiness I sat myself this morning to congratulate you on your safe arrival at home to your friends and associates our folks have been glad to see you and I wish I could have been there to have enjoyed it with them but could not so I must content myself a few months longer then if I live I shall be with you at my old Auburn home my son it is useless for me to undertake to tell you of the sleepless nights I have had about you since I left you at Culpeper I have worried myself sick a number of times but it was of no use but I could not help it but you do not know how much better I feel since I knew you had got home safe but it makes my heart ache when I think of your misfortune but I must try and reconcile myself to it but it is hard

now my son I want to give you some advice which I hope you will take as a father's love and friendship I want you to go and visit your friends all around that you want to see and get through as
soon as you can so as to go to school as soon as you can I want you to go to the town school where it keeps and when it does not I want you to go to the academy and be a good boy and obey your teachers in every respect so as to gain their love and admiration consult your mother for your duties and she will not advise you wrong knowingly my wish is that you may treat every body with respect so that you may be respected by ever one you associate with do not learn Charly and Kitty to be savvy your morther said you wanted me to box the old dog and send him home to you but we cannot spare him but he will come with us as for a Major General's birth there is more in the service now than is so benefit to the government my health not very good at present but I am in hopes that it will be better soon the boys are generally pretty well and all send their respects to you and want to see you very much Capt Emerson is at Washington yet and do not know when he will be back to us again do you know any thing about where Joe Herridion is if you do write to me where he is I had a letter from Mr Garretson they send you there love and respects and greatly sympathise with you in your misfortune there was a letter come here
Last night from Mr. Mc Harris of Auburn to Capt.
Emerson in regard to a pension for Logman Wright
but the Capt is gone so we shall send it to him so I
would not be in to much of a hurry about getting a
pension not to give a great price for getting it for
there is no need of it there is nothing of importance here
that will interest you we are 60 miles from anywhere
and 90 miles from nobody the boys have built log houses
to live in and are quite comfortable at present if we
are allowed to stay here long to enjoy them but I am
getting tired and am tiring you with this long
epistle so I will close by bidding you good by for the
present give my love to all of the children and to aunt
and aunts tell them I want to see them very much
write as soon as you get this and write all of
the news you can find if you cannot write with
well with your left hand mother or aunt or bing
will write for you you tell them what to write
give my respects to Mr and Mrs Whitman tell bing
to write as often as she can remember and be a good
boy and stay at home nights with mother and Charly
tell Charly I have got a nice little ax for him to
chop wood with when I get home write me if you
keep that bargain you made with me last year
at the Relay House so good by for the present yours in haste from your affectionate and loving father

Horace F. Wright

Horace Wright