

Chesnut Hill. Bedford Tex.
Wednesday 9. A. M. May 6th 1863 -

My dear cousin Will,

I was very glad, last Friday's mail brought me a letter from you. I had wondered several times what was the reason you didn't write to me, but supposed you did not get my letter. I heard from you once through Cousin Kitt, I suppose his letter was written about the same time yours was, but I received it more than two weeks ago. I left old Flat about the middle of April & haven't heard one word from there since except a letter from Helen, & she had not given any of the neighborhood news. I feel so impatient to hear something from the Battle at Fort Dick King, I can scarcely contain myself. I don't know whether or not to write to you this week for you may be fifty miles from Kingston by this time, but if you are five hundred, the letter can be forwarded I suppose. So I will send you one of my scribbled scrolls. No doubt you want to hear something from Helen, & I will try to please you one time. I have seen her several times. She is looking very well. Said I must give her love to you, good wishes & every thing of the kind now don't that do you good! I wish my sweetheart would tell me that much, it would do me good a month. She had her mail to see. her not long since. so you see your sweetheart has more than one bean. Mr Dooley has gone back to the army, so you have a fair chance with the rest of her beans. A Regiment of North Carolinians have been stationed out of from here for some time. They were sent out to recruit themselves & horses. The young ladies made a great fuss over the Officers, I never noticed the Privates any more than if they had been dogs. They were always carrying some nice things for them to eat, & wouldn't give the Privates one bit of it. Not long ago they found out all the Officers were married men & some of them had ten children. went funny, when some of the girls thought they had such nice beans. They went riding about with

Long about books and these things, I can't say you or not
I am very fond of company too, I am
them. I receiving their attention as heavy in every way. I would have
gone to see them if I could have gotten a horse, but couldn't succeed
in doing so, I told some of the girls, if I carried any thing for them
to eat, I would tell them it was for them.

Just let me tell you some news. Sue Crawford is married,
She married a Mr Meredith from Lynchburg, just before the ceremony
commenced, a carriage drove up with a lady in it, Mrs Mitchell
went out to carry her in the house, she told him she did not
want to go in, she only went to tell them she was the wife of
Mr Meredith, & had been for seven years, she didn't want to
marry him then but all the company persuaded her that it was
not so, & the man positively denied it, so she consented at last, &
they were married, now isn't that more like some stories you have
read than any thing in the world? Mollie received a letter from

Mike not long ago, he is the most dissatisfied creature in the world, he
says he would be willing to live alone & never see any one at all. ^{if} ~~they~~
^{he could get out of} the service, for there's nothing there he can enjoy, & actually
detests every thing connected with camp life, I am certain, if I
felt that way, I would get out of the army if it took every thing
I had to procure a substitute, but he thinks that would look so
strange, when he is a young man & nothing at home that makes it
very necessary for him to be there, Mike seems to feel a considerable
interest in you, inquires frequently where you are, & how you like the
service. The Capt was at Little Rock the last we heard from
him, (not exactly there either, but that was his Post Office) He does
not like the places he had been to at all. Mollie, John & the Chil
dren are well, send their love to you, Oh I haven't told you about
our new home, Bob has bought a 8000 plantation for us, it is
ten or twelve miles from Campbell C, E, Mollie has not decided
whether or not she will go, some how or other, I feel as if I will hate
to leave old Bedford, but I had rather live in some other part of the
county than in this neighborhood. You will get home this Fall
if there is not an other call, won't you? Write to me as soon as you
can, I love to write, & to get letters too, I would write at this time