

New York, May 9th 1860 -

Dear Brother,

Yours just received, and I dare but a few moments before the Southern mail closes to acknowledge its receipt & thank you for the assistance you have rendered in the Botany business.

I am greatly obliged to you & I have good hope that it will fetch our bawky Gov.

Without my knowledge Prime had requested James Van Alen to write the Gov., the day before you were in N.Y. - & the day after you left James wrote Prime that he had written Gov. M., asking the appt for me on "personal grounds."

I think the Gov. will have to "cave" when he finds there are so many after him with sharp sticks in their hands.

I have, this morning been attending the Annual Meeting of the Tract Soc. - You will undoubtedly read reports of

the meetings in the newspapers - so I will only say that - generally the meeting was conducted in a very quiet - orderly manner - the conservatives having it all their own way - The old officers were elected with the exception of one or two who had resigned - An abolition resolution was presented by Rev. Pur Wolcott of Worcester (?) & after he had vanted for half an hour, before a vote had been taken Judge Bronson moved an adjournment - which motion was carried by a good majority - I met The. Holmes at the door of the Church -

Mary Hurdon went to Hotel. on Monday morning - I expect Hurdon today as he only went up to escort Mary home - Annie, I heard this morning through a letter from Mary, is not well - though she is better than she was on Monday - By the way young Summet, who lives immediately opposite Mrs. Coit, shot himself on Monday night - in his own room - It is supposed that - he was crazy or drunk

I saw him in the evening about 8 o'clock
he appeared all right then - I pity his
poor parents - they having lost four chil-
dren within three years -

My love to Alice, the children & all
the Gallaudets -

Affly
Yours

H.C. Turnbull Esq.

I have been in the morning about 10 o'clock
the appearance all right - then - and his
from parents - they having left four or five
years - when writing three years - manner
My love to Alice, the children & to
the father & mother - as in the letter
who had resigned in 1841 - and
resolutions - by the committee -
of the Board of Missions - H. C. Coit
wanted for half an hour - before
had been taken - Judge Bronson made
an adjournment - which action was
approved of - a great many - I met

The Holmes at the door of the Church -
Mary Gordon went to Mass on Sun-
day morning - I expect Gordon to
as he only went up to court Mary
house - Anne, I heard this morn-
ing through a letter from Mary is no
well - though she is better than she
was on Sunday - By the way
young Bennett, who lives immediately
opposite Mrs. Coit, shot himself on
Monday night - in his own room - It
is supposed that he was crazy or drunk

Hartford May 10th.

My dear Alice

I feel grieved to think that you have been apparently so much neglected by Annie and I, since you left us - and I intend to devote a few moments by way of explanation.

I have been very busy in cleaning house, and being hopeful that Annie would be able from day to day to write I have not attempted it, but she is now sick - she has not been able to sit up (only to have her bed made) since last Saturday - her turns of headache appear to have concentrated or located in one eye since she came from N.Y. it has been growing more & more severe and since you went away she has been able to read or write very little. Dr. Hunt is visiting her, and I think

she is a little better this morning.
I don't know what to do for her. I
thought this morning I would send
for Dr. Ellsworth, but she objects. I
fear the consequence of such long
continued pain to the eye. But
although the eye is the seat of pain,
yet she is generally sick. as her
appetite is entirely gone. The Dr.
thinks her present sickness, is caused
by the prevailing cold or influence
connected with Neuralgia.

We were delighted to receive your letter
and and also Henry's, we very often
express your determination to write.

This morning Annie said Mother
will you write to Alice this morning
for me if I will indite "how did
you know said I" that I had de-
termined to devote a part of this
morning to writing to Alice?

she will Mother you write yourself
and tell Alice I will write as soon
as I can.

Mary came from N. York on Monday
accompanied by Gordon we were
much surprised by his visit - he went
back yesterday for a week only, when
he will come home to stay with us
until it is time to go out for sketching.

Sarah stays here nights while James
is gone - and generally eats here,
James comes home on Fridays &
stays till Monday.

I rejoice to hear such good accounts
of your health all of you. Sam. writes
that Henry is a perfect wonder -
he says "I could not realize that
he was the same puny looking
fellow that passed through N. Y.
a few weeks ago". We are all
longing to see you all - You can't tell
how much we miss you.

Tell Sophy not to forget Grandmother -
who send a kiss to her, and requests
her to give one to little May P.

Please give my love to your Mother

and Sophia Jennie & Edward
and accept dear Alice a great
share for yourself & Henry
from your affectionate

Mother

S. A. Turnbull

P.S. Henrys letter of Tuesday just received
that you are really coming home next
week - we are delighted about it -
if you see Jennie Turnbull please
give my love to her - I hope to see her
in Hartford some time. Corrie is
still better this afternoon and is down
stairs again.

May 10 - 1860

Henry C. Summell Esq.

For Mrs. Summell

Washington
D.C.



New York, March 26th 1861

Dear Brother,

Jim Rice made me promise last evening (with some difficulty) that I would write you this morning about some letters from our Congressmen.

I think it is very likely that your legs will refuse to carry you about out of doors, & if this is the case or if there is any reason why you should not move in the matter, do not give yourself a moment's trouble in regard to it. — An old political Nat. E. Delafield

Smith - who is after the
U. S. District-Attorney ship,
told Rice that I must file
all the good letters that
I could get hold of - that
nothing had more weight.
Any letter of recommen-
dation, he says will tell, &
he filed more than forty -

Can you get hold of
a letters from Spooner &
Woodruff, or any body else.

It is rather singular that
since writing the above I
have received a letter from
Med. in reference to the
same matter. He is
a regular Brick - "he can
keep a hotel" & "color his
merchandise" beautifully -
He says: "I have just
written notes to Seward,

Chase & Welles of the Cab-
-inet with whom I am ac-
quainted, recommending
you in strong terms. I
have also written to Smith
of the Interior, whom I have
not met, but with whom I
trust my note will have
some weight from the fact
that he is the Cabinet of-
ficer to whom our Insti-
tution reports. I shall
go to the Capital in a
few moments & shall use
my best endeavours in your
behalf." He afterwards
adds: "A rule has been es-
tablished to require an
applicant for office to
have the endorsement of
Mr. C. from his State. Of
course this rule has its ex-
ceptions, but if you can se-

Mar 21. 1861
cure the ail of some of your
delegation in Congress. it
would help very much -

Now, Henry, if you
can see or communicate
with any of the Com. M.
Cs. and get a note from
them, I would be very
grateful. If you do so,
send them right on to
Ned. I shall be able
I think to get one or two
from M. Cs. here -

I met Mr. Cheyney
on Broadway this morning, he
had just arrived from
Phila. I told him you
were laid up -

In haste your aff. brother
Jouth

New York, April 1st 1861-

Dear Brother,

Yours just received. Many thanks for your endeavors to obtain aid from the Com. M.Cs. Perhaps after election they will be willing to recommend me, as, hailing from N.Y. - I shall not be likely to cross the track of any Com. Man.

Your express fears as to the slimness of my prospects. just now, I am feeling a little more hopeful than ever.

I had been doing my best for two or three days last week to obtain the assistance of either Harris or King of this State - but without success, as neither of them have many acquaintances in this City - when, on Saturday evening, Jim Rice learned that they would probably be in the City this week on their return from Washington - whereupon he immediately

wrote to Gen. Dawson of the Albany Ser-
Journal, Hugh Hastings, & Isaac Edwards
all of Albany, for letters of introduction
to Sen. King & Harris. and informed
me that he should call on the Sen-
ators on their arrival, and make
it all right - at the same time he
wrote Mr. Dawson for a letter of in-
troduction to F. W. Seward. and says
he shall write him (F. W. S.) in my behalf
enclosing the letter from Dawson -

This eased my mind of somewhat of a
load, but last evening I was made the
more jolly by some information received
from Mr. & Mrs. Beam. They called
on Mary, and Mr. Beam told me that
about a week ago he wrote Judge
Harris in my behalf, urging him to do
what he could to forward my appli-
cation. he added that he had known
Sen. H. intimately for a long time -

I was very much surprised at this
for I had never passed a word with him
in reference to Harris. and while sha-
king his hand to express my gratitude

he told me that - about the same time
Mrs. B. wrote Mr. Seward a strong let-
ter in my behalf, and he added that
he thought it might have considerable
influence, as she was always quite
a pal of Mr. Seward's - a "big
thing" ain't it? I have one or
two more wires to pull, and I hope
to be able to get hold of them this
week. Don't think I feel very
confident of success in this matter.
I have only given you my reasons for
feeling somewhat more hopeful -

I do hope that Com. will come up
to the scratch today; though I suppose
that we have but little reason to hope
for the election of all of our Congres-
s-men -

Love to Alice & Sophy -

Your aff. brother
Tom W.

Apr. 1. 1861

Dear Mother
I have been
thinking much
of late
of the
future
of our
country
and
wondering
how
long
it will
last
in
its
present
state
I have
been
reading
of
the
great
struggle
between
the
North
and
the
South
and
wondering
how
long
it will
last
in
its
present
state
I have
been
reading
of
the
great
struggle
between
the
North
and
the
South
and
wondering
how
long
it will
last
in
its
present
state

I have
been
reading
of
the
great
struggle
between
the
North
and
the
South
and
wondering
how
long
it will
last
in
its
present
state
I have
been
reading
of
the
great
struggle
between
the
North
and
the
South
and
wondering
how
long
it will
last
in
its
present
state
I have
been
reading
of
the
great
struggle
between
the
North
and
the
South
and
wondering
how
long
it will
last
in
its
present
state

I was very much surprised at this
for I had never passed a word with him
in reference to Harris and while shaking
his hand to express my gratitude

New York, April 8th 1861-

Dear Brother,

I think I informed you last week that Jim Rice had procured letters of introduction to Hon. Preston King, & had written him (enclosing the letters) asking for a letter to the President, in my behalf.

As Rice was a perfect stranger to Mr. King & as he ^(K) had, of course never heard of me - I had no idea that he would succeed in getting even a reply. But he has received a reply, enclosing as strong a letter as Mr. King could have written under the circumstances, for me. Unfortunately, however, Rice in his extravagant way wrote Mr. King that I was recommended by the Com. Delegation in both houses of Congress. Had I been present when he wrote I should not have allowed him to speak of the Delegation in the lower House. The

consequence is that Mr. King's letter reads
in this way: "To the President - I am
informed that the Delegation from Connecti-
cut in both Houses of Congress, recommend
Mr. S. Tumbull, formerly of Hartford, Conn.
now residing in New York, for Consul at
Tunis. Relying upon the knowledge
and authority of the Representatives of
Connecticut - respecting Mr. Tumbull, I
cheerfully concur in their recommenda-
tion - very respectfully

Prostr. King"

This letter, as you perceive is not
a very strong one, but it was all he
could say under the circumstances, and
it makes it sure that he will recommend
no one else for the same position. But
of course I shall not dare to send it
until I receive at least one or two letters
from the Conn. Congressmen -

Rice also has the promise of a good
letter in my behalf from Hon. Sim. Dra-
per to Mr. Howard. Mr. D. said he
had not written a letter for any one
this campaign - though he had signed

numerous applications - but when Rice told him of how I had served Conn. year after year, by inducing them to meet at the Brewster House to raise money to use in that state - and by working actively myself, Mr. D. said he was certainly justified in making an exception in my case, & promised to send down a good letter to Gov. Seward in my behalf. I shall probably receive it today - and shall forward ^{it} to Ned immediately.

I know it must be a great bore to you to have anything to do with this matter, but if you can I hope you will get me a word from some of the Conn. Congressmen, for I do not know how else to approach them. Rice has been "pitching in to me" again this morning to persuade me to get letters from every prominent Republican friend or acquaintance I have. he says "letters, letters, letters will settle the matter, & nothing else." I shall of course do all I can to procure ~~the~~ backers.

I am waiting impatiently for the return
of one or two of my friends to N.Y. - who
are out of town -

It looks mightily like a "mass"
down south, don't-it? Well, let it come.
Hurrah for Abn, this backbone! Just
now, there are no success at our "Jack-
son" Love to all hands

Your aff. brother
Forst.

H.C. Tomblin Esq

P.S. If you can conveniently do
so I would like you to show this
letter to Mother. that she may know
how I come on. I have no time to
write a word -
T.

Apr 8. 1861

New York, April 12th 1861.

Dear Brother,

Yours of yesterday's date just received. Rest assured I shall do, & am doing all I can to secure backers. I thought I am obliged to you for "stimming me up" in regard to it. I have so much on hand, & so many letters to write that I do not always inform you of my attempts to get letters, or indeed of my success in getting them. In regard to Senator Harris I have approached him in two ways, and if he could be persuaded to do any thing for me, I have no doubt he has already done it. My idea is that he wrote or spoke a word for me before he left Washington. In regard to Weed, I hope I may receive a letter from him, as Rice wrote a friend in Albany two or three days since, asking

him to get one if he could. You speak of my friends who were out of town a few weeks since. I will assure you I have watched closely for their return. Mr. Humphrey M.C. is one of them and he had not returned last evening at five o'clock, though expected daily. He is in Pittsfield, with his father who is dying or dead. Wm. Wells another one of the absentees returned night before last, and a few minutes afterward, I had sent him a request to call at my office the next morning if convenient. He came, and I told him what I wanted. He said he should be very glad to write me such a letter. That he had some faith in his influence. He had been Dickinson's fellow boarder for two or three years, and his intimate friend for twenty. Having been out of town he had not been called upon a great deal for assistance. and he had asked but two favors of the Pres. in this line,

and both each of the friends he had
recommended had received their
appointment. His letter just

came in with your letter. He says:

"My friend Thos. S. Turnbull Esq. has made
application for the Consulship at Tunis.

Mr. T. is a lawyer of this City, well
acquainted with mercantile affairs &
every way qualified to fill the office
with benefit to all who may have
business relations with him.

Having known Mr. T. a long time I
take pleasure in recommending him
to you as a gentleman of ability and
strict-integrity, and hope he may re-
ceive the appointment."

Return ourselves this is my
strong wish, that I am hoping will
bring Lincoln down. When Lin-
coln made his Cooper Institute speech
before his nomination Mr. Wells was
present. and as S. finished speaking
Mr. W. walked down toward the stage.
Mr. Lincoln saw him, & jumping forward
he put an arm over W's shoulder &

Apr 12. 1861

turning to the audience he said "Here is the oldest friend I have in this City"

However he is not much of a politician, and perhaps his letter would not be all powerful in this instance -

G. W. Blunt-Locky, one of our most prominent-Republican lawyers, promised to send a letter around, today, in my behalf - and Sam. Dwyer told Rice that he wrote to Seward last-Monday, forwarding the letter himself -

There are probably other things I have done, in this matter, but I am in a sort of flurry, and cannot remember anything more just now -

I have written this very rapidly, & doubt if you can make much out of it -

I am obliged for your advice & suggestions, anything more of the same sort will be gratefully received - Love to Alice & the children - affly,

Tom.

New York, April 18th 1861.

Dear Brother,

Your kind letter enclosing Mr. Lewis' strong letter of recommendation, was received on Saturday morning.

I will assure you I feel very grateful to you for having done so much for me in relation to this matter. I have already a pretty strong force - in the letter line, at least - to back me, and I do not think I shall do any more at present. My principal reason for letting this thing rest is, that I have very serious doubts as to whether I should accept the appointment - under present circumstances, if it should be tendered me. I fully believe it to be my duty to do what I can in support of our Government, in the terrible trial that it is about to undergo. I say terrible trial, for we can not shut our eyes to the fact that we have not only an organized, efficient army in the South to contend with, but more or less

full-blooded, black hearted traitors at the North, in the very midst of us, who will seize every opportunity to play into the hands of their Southern allies.

I know there are but few of them, and that many who fought us hard with votes swords, are ready to back us to the death on the new issue that is presented, involving the preservation of this Union - but there are a few at least, who would glory in the entire defeat of the Government, & who will do their best to bring it about.

I do not think that my opinion as to my own duty, is the result of temporary excitement, only (though I will acknowledge that I am excited just now) for I have thought a great deal over it of late, feeling confident that the South would force a fight upon us. If it is any man's duty to stand up for the right at this time, with his head, heart, and hand ready to serve his Country, it seems to me that it is my duty.

In the first place I am a strong, young man, in perfect health - with no wife or family dependant upon me in any way - and then looking upon it in merely a mere

may fight - I have no business even, that
could suffer by my absence - I certainly
do not think that there are many per-
sons who could be better spared than
me. Could the path of duty be
more plainly open to a man?

There is a Regiment of volunteers just
forming in this City that will be offi-
cered, probably, by officers from the 12th
& 7th Regiments. My friend Butter-
field, Col. of the 12th Reg. will have
command. He is undoubtedly one
of the best officers of militia, in the
Country - Many friends of mine are
already "counted in" - I have already
been called upon twice in relation to
it - and the Regiment will be full very
shortly. It will be mostly composed
of gentlemen. I had some idea
of going to H^{op}l. today, to talk with
father in regard to it - but I think after
all it could do no good. For if the
war is to go on, I do not see how I could
with any propriety or honor keep out
of it - and I should not like to have
him say he did not wish me to go -
I shall await the results of the next

of the next - two or three days, probably, before
I decide in regard to it. I think

I never suffered more mentally, in two
days, than I have during the last forty-
eight hours -

Write me a word, giving me your
opinion. If you wish, you can show
this letter to the family. I leave it,
for you to decide, - ^{as to whether to speak the family about it} for I have not - shall
not - write them, at present - about it - & you
can undoubtedly think more clearly on the
subject - than I can at present -

Love to Alice -

Affly

Thou^t,

Apr 13-1861

New York, April 16th 1861

Dear Brother,

I can hardly hold my pen in my hand from excitement. My hand is trembling as if I had the "shakes" - the effect of those days performances & experience.

Your letter dated yesterday just came to hand. You may know somewhat of excitement, patriotism &c, in Hefel, but I think we could astonish you a little in this City. I have been told over & over again by prominent Democrats during the past two or three months, of the terrible mob & riots we should have in N.Y., when war commenced. There is a great deal of mob feeling here now, but the danger lies in a different direction, than supposed it would. There are no Democrats here now, to be found. No man is permitted to utter treasonable sentiments on the street, now. All hands are coming "right up to the scratch" on this question of a Government or Anarchy. The "Federal" of yesterday morning had one or

two of its worst articles. It was thought best not to permit it to go on in the same strain, in such a time as this. I was called upon twice yesterday in reference to it. A plan was formed to change its tone or wipe it out. Those who were engaged in it, were a different class, from those who generally make up mobs.

This is a very dangerous matter to talk or write about, I know - and I had no serious hand in it. I was anxious to have them postpone hostilities until after this morning's paper had been published, so as to give them a chance to reform. The editors became scared a little, perhaps a good deal. They put no bulletin up yesterday fearing a crowd would gather about the office. They called on the police for protection & a large body of policemen remained in the office all day. The Am. flag was hoisted over the office. Nothing was done. With a great deal of anxiety this morning I arose early & drove for the Herald. Oh, Hen! Mad today's Herald if you have never seen it. I laughed for ten minutes without cessation - everybody laughed. Such a sumersault - in one day. The whole tone of the paper is like this sentence, with which one of its editorials opens:

Apr. 14, 1861

"In the course which Mr. Lincoln is pursuing just now, he is precisely following the advice which ~~we~~ gave in these columns to Mr. Buchanan three months before Mr. Lincoln's inauguration." But it is useless to quote

everything in the paper is of the same sort. There is no danger of mobs, now, I think - for everybody is on the same side - Young men & old men are preparing for the fight - longing for it - fearing it - may be prevented -

Let a man in this city say a word even deprecating the present course of the Administration, & "down goes his house" - men spring up from the ground or drop down from above to resent a word of reproach of the Administration, or of sympathy with the traitors -

Your despatch I have just received. I shall write, but hope you will write today - I want to get in early, for I will assure you this matter will not be long postponed. There will be warm fighting within a week or two - It is possible that I can get a good position as an officer - one or two friends being very willing to help me - I heard last evening that Capt. McClellan (Nellie Marcy's husband) was to leave his position when he gets \$12,000.

a year, to enter the army again. You know
he was one of the bravest-officers in the U.
S. A. "Bully for him!" I can write
no more at present. Love to Alice & the
folks at-home, if you see them. I am too
much engaged to write them a word.

Your aff. brother
Tom T.

P.S. Too busy to look this over. Excuse the errors.
They are probably numerous.

Apr 16-1861

Camp Abner
Hagerstown Md. Aug 9. 1867

Dear Brother,

I believe I have not addressed a letter to you personally since I left home. though my letters are intended for the family generally, no matter to which one they may be directed. And I write so hurriedly as a general thing that I can hardly remember at any time to whom I addressed my last.

I wrote home yesterday from this place, saying that our left wing was to march sometime during last night to Frederick. and a few minutes after sealing the letter I left Hagerstown, not expecting to see it again soon, if ever. but circumstances render it necessary that I should be here a day or two more. Last night I hardly slept a wink, and at half past two I ordered the roll beat, prepara-

try to striking tents - I had every thing
to attend to - Mr. Bentley (Surgeon
of our wing) was away on a two days
furlough & I had to see to the trans-
portation of the sick, hospital stores
&c. in addition to my other days -

To make it worse Lt. Col. White was
with us and in command, and he
was continually pestering me with ques-
tions as to his proper position on the
march, & the orders that it would
be necessary to give. I told him
briefly what to say, but after all he
could not start the men after I formed
the line. After getting them under
way I found it was necessary that
I should remain behind for an hour
or two to settle up accounts for rent
of guard houses &c. We were told
that the best road all things con-
sidered was by the way of Hagerstown
(though six miles further) and I
promised to overtake the column be-
fore they had marched ten miles. I
arranged matters in Williams port &

reached Hagerstown by 9 o'clock soon
after our left wing had passed by -
I stopped at this Camp & found an
order from Genl. Banks for a General
Court-martial to be held at this place,
& detailing me by name to act as Judge
Advocate. I felt I was in a fix -
all my baggage had gone on to Fred-
erick with our wagons, so that I had
not even a coat, wearing my trav-
elling shirt. Still, there was no
avoiding it, so I borrowed a uniform
coat to and went to Court. Dur-
ing the day we have been trying a
member of the 9th Reg. U.S. M., for
abstracting money from letters ad-
dressed to other persons. We shall
finish his case tomorrow morning
probably, & I have been expecting to
go on to Frederick tomorrow noon -
but tonight one of our men was brought
in by the guard, charged with trying
to shoot his Capt. and as by the order
we were to try such cases as might be
brought before us - we shall be obliged to

take up his case tomorrow, and this will probably keep me here another day.

I sent out a man tonight to procure witnesses I expect him to return in the morning. The offence is a very serious one & punishable with death. I almost dread the idea of trying the case, but of course I cannot avoid it.

I shall send this letter by our Dr. Master who goes to Hartford tomorrow. Much love to Alice & the children - & to all hands in both houses.

Faithfully yours
Touss.

H. Toussaint Esq.

Aug 9. 1861