

Hartford Jan. 5th '65.

My dear Alice.

I received your package containing Henry's letters, last evening. but was disappointed in not finding one from you, as I had received one from Henry the day before in which he expressed a wish to have another box forwarded as soon as possible. in which he wished to have his letters containing incidents relating to Henry Camp sent; & that he had written to you on the subject, and that you would write to me about, unless, you should have them with you, & that in such case you would forward them directly from N. York. In a previous letter Henry wrote for several articles which he wished sent in the - but we

did not receive it until the box was off. I will attend to it as soon as I hear from you.

We expect Annie home to day her Uncle Frank and Lucy will accompany her. I was very sorry she was gone when Tom came. He arrived home on Monday evening and staid till Sabbath evening. I think he will not return home till the first of next week. I hope you will see him but I don't know his direction. He will probably be with Mary every day, I think she will be here, next week with him.

Here comes your package & letter all right - now we will try to have the box ready soon. My dear child I am sorry to hear that your eyes are troubling you so much. do be very careful of them, and don't write nights. I presume the

children are enjoying the holidays very much. we are longing to see you all very much. Annie is out playing in the snow, she bears the cold weather very well. Fanny Berbank seems to be her only companion - except the little Galt boys.

Gordon was in N. York last week took a severe cold and brought on his rheumatism about the chest and heart, he is much better but has been confined to the house, ever since he got back. Mother & Gordon both desire their love to you & the children - please remember me to Mrs. Budd tell her I shall claim a long visit from her - in return for this from you. I am anxious to get acquainted with master Agden.

Henry's last letter, is exceedingly interesting - as indeed they all are - but he writes too much for his health altogether. a great deal of love to

you all from your
affectionate Mother
S-C - Trumbull

Jan 5. 1868 -

Jan 6. 185-

Hartford Jan. 6th '55.

My dear Son

I believe I have found all the articles named by you to be sent in the box, which be ready to go tomorrow morning. You need make no apology for sending to us as often as you please - for it is a great pleasure to us & is certainly no trouble.

The letters received since you left I did ^{think} not you would want and have only sent those that were filed.

Uncle returned home last evening - we are very glad to have him back again.

You probably know that Tom. is home - he arrived the day after Christmas - and went down to New York to spend

New Years. Mary Prime & Mrs. Mr. Clellan, were to receive at Uncle Cor Hamals & Mary was very anxious to have Tom come down. But Aunt Sally Palmer & Uncle Anna's widow, died on the 31st. Dec. and I think it must have made some difference with their plans. Tom, will be back soon for his term of absence is fast wearing away. 30 days, he suffered somewhat from Rheumatism, about his hands & shoulders, but walks better than ever before since his fall. before he had the Rheumatism, he says. "I tell you Ben. is a bully Chaplin, every one says so".

I received a note from Alice yesterday, accompanying your last letters. She complains of her eyes still & says Bern forbid

her writing much. I am sorry to
hear that her eyes are bad - no doubt
they have a good deal of hard-in
voluntary) work to perform. we are
hoping to see them home before
long. we are expecting Mary
to come up with Tom.

I have been interrupted so many
times in writing thus far - and
now have only time to say that
the box goes to the express office
this afternoon Saturday 7th. It is
so small I am disappointed. I
wanted to put in some mine
press. The sermons we post-
poned getting till to day - and
your father - undertook to get
them & has come up without
them as Hunt had none, but
was expecting to be supplied
next week. I think as every
thing else is ready - will not
wait to send else where to get them

Gurdon has an attack of his. Ehu-
matism & can not go out. The
Testaments your Father has not
been able to find - but they are
safe somewhere. Your late
letters are very interesting - my
dear son believe that we sympa-
thize you & think of you con-
stantly - May the Lord bless &
keep you & be your comfort and
stay in all trouble -

from your aff;

Mother

S. A. Turnbull

Before Richmond, Jan 24th. 1865.

Dear Mother:

Yesterday morning the box of letters came safely to hand. The only trouble is that those for the last three months of my life with Henry Camp are omitted. There is nothing later than July 7th., whereas all our moves from Deep Bottom, our Petersburg experience, and our advance towards Richmond were between then and Oct. 13th. I shall have to trouble you to send another box. I am sorry to give you this annoyance, but there are other things I want also, and they may as well come now. Perhaps you do not know where my later letters are - I only want down to Oct. 13th. - so I will write to Alice to inform you. I want a few of my sermons. Indeed I might as well have them all, as you could not select those most useful just here. Calls on me to preach are more numerous than hitherto, and I want to do all I can for the soldiers about me. The sermons are I believe in my writing table drawer in Mrs.

Douglas's ^{sitting} room. The Camps will doubtless have some
Mrs. to send. I want my sword. Reviews and pa-
rades and inspections are now the order of the day,
and I need my fullest dress. I can always carry
the sword in any move we shall be likely to make.
Before the close of the war. You can send it with its
trappings in the cedar box now holding it, putting
the whole into a larger box of sufficient size to contain
all that I order. This will ensure safety in trans-
portation. My white pantalettes from Mrs. Lincoln should
also come, and my white cotton gloves, three or four
pairs at least. I need ^{thick} woolen undershirts and draw-
ers, two sets of each. Mine are now entirely worn
out. Can some of you obtain them for me at T. Brickett's?
Also from Hunt a pint bottle of Arnold's writing fluid. For
our mess I want 5 lbs of English breakfast tea, first quality.
The paper collar you can send in the box. Really, it seems
too bad to burden you all so often and greatly. My
cap I can sell if it is here. The coat, ^{sent with the valise,} I find no dif-
ficulty in disposing of at cost.

Those crullers were excellent. Maj. Goodyear
says "The one who made those, knew what crullers
were, and how to make them."

There is rejoicing just ^{now} over the destruction
of the rebel iron-clads. Bands are playing and cheers

are rinding the air. The rebels are also making an attack on the left of our line, the shells bursting in sight of our camp, but these little things dont interfere with our every day duties.

Tell Rose Terry that I see the New York papers describe the hero of Ft. Fisher as tall, slim, with blue & eyes, ^{and} light hair, and is cousin to Miss Rose Terry the distinguished writer who lives somewhere near Boston - revolves round the Boston Hub with them other Atlantic fellows.

You know how I go back to first impressions and earliest lessons of my life. I have been thinking lately of the strangeness of my course. Except a few weeks ^{the summer} at Mr. Weld's, I never went to school after I was fourteen years old, and then my wild knock-about ways prevented my reading much. I only picked up a smattering of many things I hardly yet know the beginning of. Yet I am preaching, and writing away - You know how - without really letting everyone understand how poorly informed I am and how little I ever learned. All this new course before the public - so far as writing is concerned - I put ^{date} back to my first temperance lecture in Stonington - and I could tell what suggested that. How well I remember ^{that} after I had written that, Father and James took it to correct

and gave me encouraging words as they read it over. I see them now, just at twilight before the fire in the back parlor at Stonington, walking about as they discussed a paragraph, and then returning to the Mss to give me some new suggestion about its composition. That hour was freighted with important influences for me.

Home and dear ones are much in my thoughts now. I shall be glad when Alice is back with you, and all my loved ones are near each other. With love to all, from dear Grandmother down, I am

Your affectionate son

Henry—



Wm. G. Trumbull
(for Mrs. Trumbull)
Hartford
Conn^t



Jan. 24th -

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Washington Feb. 8th '65

Dear Mother,

I'm sorry to be
so late in telling you of our
safe arrival. My heart has
been very sad. & I have felt very
lirid. One little note to Henry
is all I have written since I
came. We were much favored
in our journey - the weather
was delightful - & the children
were well & gave me no trouble.
We stopped at Thomas' as I
intended, over night - he meet
ing me at the cars. & Kate spent

Wed P.M. with me, returning home before tea - I went to Mary Prime's room but she was out - Thursday morning I took the children again to Mary's & made quite a long call - also at Mary Roberts' - Mary looked quite well - It was very glad to see her - Mr. Prime was also home - After the two calls, we went over to Brooklyn - where Kate met me again - staying the afternoon & night with me - at Wallace's - She & Wallace went to the Depot with me Friday morning - & saw us safely in the cars - We had a very comfortable day, Ned met me in Baltimore - we reached W. a little after six - It was

a sorrowful coming back,
Mother - I felt, at first,
as if I could not bear all I
had to pass through - it seems
so desolate here - so strange to
have no dear sister to welcome
me - or to talk with - I can
hardly feel reconciled -

Dear Mother & Ned are well
except colds - They are glad
I could come to them - I shall
find plenty to do - & this will
be the best thing for me - Jenny
is improving slowly - but does
not sit up yet - She has been
very sick indeed - The pupils
are all quite well, but two.
Sophy & May keep well & happy -
tho' May misses dear "Aunt Sophy."

I sobbed herself to sleep the
first night we came here.

I send some letters from
Henry lately received - as he
requests - With warmest
love to all - in haste,

Your aff. daughter
Alice -

Before Richmond, Feb. 10th / 1865.

Dear Mother:

Your precious letter of the 6th. came duly. I am sorry that express matter is again delayed, but I must bide the time of the government. I hope the sword won't be lost.

Russell Parish has indeed been afflicted. How many homes have sorrow. Our dear household has been long spared, even though some of us have suffered sadly from losses beyond the immediate home circle. May God make us ready for whatever is in store for us, and grateful for all his sparing mercy.

I hope to see Tom by and by if he is again at City Point. We are near each other yet widely separated. There is but little of jadding about here at the front. Receiving yesterday Charley Stanton's card I rode over to see him at the camp of the 21st. C. V. He is not now in service, but says he can't stay longer in the demoralized North. He longs to

to back among men. I met Court. Babcock with
him - now in Gen. Devens' staff, also Capt. Hubbell.
The latter inquired after dear Grandmother with
special interest - deeming her one of the wonders
of the age; ^{He also asked particularly after Grandmother.} By the way, I met at the Chris-
tian Commission room a delegate named
Clisby - or Clisbee, which is it? - brother to James'
friends. He inquired after James, with interest.

There is one thing recently developed to
the public which will perhaps set me right
with some of you - especially James - on the score
of patriotism or loyalty; and that is the exchange
question. I have known ever since my own
release that there was no practical barrier
to the liberty of all our suffering prisoners
in rebellion save the refusal of our adminis-
tration to negotiate for them. I made no stir
about this. I never mentioned it in print nor
in public, nor to any except a ^{very} few of those with
whom I was most intimate, and to Gov. Buck-
ingham. I would not harass the government
if I could not hope to bring about a change of policy.
Yet I was deemed unjust if not actually disloyal
for holding opinions which I could prove well
founded. Now at length the facts come out.

Gen. Butler declares he was ordered to stop exchanges - nay more that his long winded letters as was obvious to any careful reader - were only written to delay negotiations. The Independent and Tribune at length take up the cue, and now when proper pressure is brought to bear on the Administration the prison doors are opened. The truth is, the rebels have never refused - or at all events, this is the record as published - to exchange colored troops or any other, nor have they declined distinct propositions on our part for equitable exchanges. Stanton ^{has} ^{been} determined that our poor prisoners in Dixie should all perish before he would give the rebels back their soldiers - and the Govt. has not interfered with Stanton's purpose in this regard. As to the propriety of this course it is sufficient to say that it has not been deemed safe to openly avow it, nor has any paper in all the land dared advocate it. When any who were acquainted with the facts simply stated them, they were called defamers of the fair fame of a spotless administration. Those who choose may now claim that it was right to refuse exchanges, but they can no longer say it was a necessity forced by the obstinacy of rebel commissioners. At the bottom of all this lies the substitute business. That is, the

unwillingness of the stay at home to fight and the hesitancy of the administration to force them into the army, induced the latter to use the poor fellows already in to the last drop of their blood and to the utmost limit of their physical and mental endurance rather than call out enough more to offset the rebels sent back from our prisons. Perhaps it is better for 100 men like Henry Camp to die in Andersonville than for John Day to risk his carcass in behalf of his betters. Perhaps so!

Three letters of Dea. Seth Perry in the Post are just like himself are they not? One of our new recruits was arrested as a deserter from the 7th. C.V. He said he was from Stonington or Mystic & Bridge. His name was Drossy. I find that Lieut. Henry Jennings of the 21st. C.V. whose death has been widely mentioned in our State papers, was the little Hen. Jennings of Stonington. Doesn't the war build men up?

My letters to Alice keep you posted as to my daily life. Love to all

Your affectionate son
A. C. Trumbull

[1865]

Washington Feb. 13th
Monday -

Dear Mother,

I wish I could see you this morning - Are you all well at home? The sick ones here are much better. Jimmy sits up now, a little every day. I am very busy & can only say how I love to you. I send to all a great deal of love. I find plenty to do. There is something to be done every moment, for these children.

Sophy & May are very well. & happy. Sophy studies every day & recites to Mary Gordon. & is learning on the Piano too. May's head is better. I think the scab will soon come off.

I send Henry's last letter -
he will soon get the box - I
hope - I should love to write
Anne ^{in a few days} - if it is possible,
she may be sure I shall - but
I don't expect to have much
time to my self - while I am
here - it's hard to get a spare
hour for writing to Henry -

With much love & a kind
remembrance to Mary & B -

Always your afft. daughter
Alice -

Are we much like the
Mother & daughter in law - Henry
wrote about?

Am. G. Trumbull
(for Mrs. Trumbull)

Hartford
Conn^t



206. 18 1/2 65

Hartford April 13th

As I wish to forward letters to Harry, I will say a few words to you - and tell of our welfare.

Annie has had a sick time of it - continued head ache or rather eye ache & had to keep her bed most of the week but she is now very much better and went out to Church yesterday. We received Harry's letter to Gordon Saturday evening and Gordon will to day attend to his request.

Then Harry was providentially detained in Washington till this dreadful calamity came upon us - which has changed joy into woe - and O what will be the result. But - God reigns - to him we must turn -

in earnest fervent prayer.

I think so much of you dear Alice - there in the midst of excitement. I hope Henry sh'd not go on Saturday as he intended - I don't see why he don't stay as long as he have allows him - he ought to rest longer.

James goes to Boston to day to spend the whole week book buying.

I hope Edward will enjoy his trip, and return in safety - but the sad news - will detract - no doubt from the pleasure.

Dear Alice - I think I feel more & more deeply our great loss - day by day - & constant am exclaiming - O why was it?

I am afraid I am unreconciled - when I have so much to be grateful for.

I intend writing to the Miss
Millers tomorrow. I received
a note from Mary yesterday enclosing
a letter from Mr. Stors (the
nurse) to Will. also one from Mrs.
Kinny.

With much love
to your Mother - Jenny - Miss Gordon,
and the dear Children I am
your affectionate
Mother

S. A. Turnbull

April 17. 1863

Hartford May 1st /55.

My dear Henry

Your letter to
Gunderson of April 14th (a day to
be remembered in American History),
was gladly received. I am very
glad your far ^{extended} journey was, for I
felt when you left, that you
must be sick from your over
exertions, & had you have proceed-
ed to join the army, you would
probably have been very sick,
we have your letters from White
up to the 20th.

Gunderson would have written in
reply to your's but has been sick
ever since - he has suffered very
much from a Carbuncle - the first
I ever saw, but he now begins to
walk out a little. Your request

was attended to, and the answer sent to Prime. It was that H. L. Johnson formerly on Gen. Ferry's Staff in the 1st Conn^t. Cavalry - was commissioned Major but declined. He is asst. adj^t. Gen. of U. S. Vols.

James brought in the letter which I enclose. Your Father went to Mr. Morris to inquire if you left any directions with him. But he knew nothing about it - we think it best to send it to you, that you may understand it.

I was surprised by a visit from Edward and Fanny last week. Edward left for New York Saturday evening, and is probably in Washington this morning. Fanny remains in Hartford a few days when she will go to Washington with her father, who is to bring Mrs. Jessenden home.

I had a lovely letter from

Alice a few days since. I wish
she was here, or rather it would
be very pleasant to have her with
us, but no doubt it is her present
duty to be there, and the time is
I trust not distant when you
will both return to Hartford
not to be separated by war again.

James spent the whole of last
week in Boston attending book
auctions - he bought I think he said
eighteen hundred dollars worth
of books, he has been quite
unwell since we came home
from Washington - but is now
well. Dear Henry you are
all dearer to me than ever before.
I have been a sadly unfaithful
mother to you. I know it now.
May God forgive me for Jesus
sake. I feel that I am but
now beginning to realise Dear Tom's
death - I am praying for resignation

to Gods will in all things - pray for
dear. It is time for my letter to go
to the Office - we are all well
and Grandma Annie & Gustav
join me in much love to
you -

Your affectionate

Mother

S. C. Turnbull

May 1 - 1865 -

Hartford May 16th. 1865-

Dear Alice

I have been thinking of you most of the day - and just now, Charley Camp called to bring a letter which they had received from Henry - of the 16th May. You have no doubt had as late news - it is a letter of sympathy on the occasion of the death of Mr. Camps Mother.

I was shocked by hearing from Charley that his Mother was very sick, - it seems she had been in her usual health, and walked down the Church on Sunday - while in Church felt sick and went out during the service & walked home - and yesterday the Dr. thought her case hopeless - to day she seems a little better -

but is unable to speak or to
recognise the family. this is
Charlie's account & seem very
alarming.

We have been expect-
ing Mary Prime all last week,
but she has not been quite
well & has waited to get rested
from moving, dressmaking &c.
a telegram to day promises her
coming tomorrow. We have just
got through cleaning house. I feel
very glad, for I felt it to be more
of a task than almost ever before.

I long to hear from you - & to
see you. how is Mary's head getting
on - Dr. Palmer was here last week
and is coming again a week or
two hence. I wish he could see
her. I was sorry very not to have
seen more of Jennie while she was
here. I hope she is better for taking
the trip.

— Thus you had I written dear
Alice when James came in & told me
that he had just received a letter from
Edward Gallaudet and spoke of your
having gone to Richmond with
Mr. & Mrs. Tappan - so I said
by my letter - and to day came your
welcome letter from Richmond - surely
you have paid Henry for his surpris-
es - and I have no doubt you enjoyed
it highly - and I think he will not
lay it up against you. I do feel
very glad that you had such
an opportunity to go. What does
Henry say about coming home? I hope
he will not remain South through
the hot weather.

The boxes by Express arrived
safely - with renewed thanks to
brother - for forwarding them - I am
afraid it was a troublesome job
for him. I sent by Express a
set of books to the Misses Miller

I hope they received them. I wrote by mail (I recollect now the books went by mail) but I scarcely thought they would write.

Mary came yesterday - she is not well, looks very thin - has slight chills in the morning and flushed turns in the afternoon. This morning she raised blood - evidently from the lungs - it seemed to alarm her - she looked very pale - but after resting for awhile on the bed, she got up & seems about as well as usual.

Mrs. Sergeant Julia & little Lucy spent part of the day with us - Sarah & Annie were here too. The children played tea and wished Sophy & May were here. Grandma Noyes sends love & tells May she wants her to come home & feed the little bird that comes to ^{the} door every morning for crumbs. Mary Annie & Gurdien join me in love to you all -

affectionately your Mother

- 1831 - 91

L. A. Turnbull