Watervliet Arsenal
Jan. 20th 1855.

My dear Mother

I have taken up my pen to write you a few lines this morning in the hopes of getting a reply from some one of the family, for I am no little anxious to hear from home. I wrote to Rowland some time ago, but have received no answer. I hope his cold did not grow upon him. I have not heard from Lizzie for some time and cannot tell how she is getting on. I have applied to Washington for a leave of 20 days commencing on the 8th of February, but have not yet got a reply. Maj Symington who is now President of the Board of Ordnance has gone to Washington, went yesterday. He says he will hasten my leave, so that I may know certainly beforehand that it is granted. I have been into society very much since my return. The parties

which are now quite frequent, will be over before Lizzie comes. Since our few people in this part of the Country Stare parties clearing Lent. I am very anxious to hear from Lizzie: it has so much to contend with of which I never dreamed till I was home last Ba

Her mother cannot bear the idea of being separated from her, and I fear does not enter into our arrangements with a very heartily good will. I shall be glad when the wedding is over, and we fairly settled here (at Waterville) I am best yesterday I visited Mrs General Wool, of whose husband the Secretary of War is so disposed to com

She is one of the most interesting and sens ladies I have met. She got upon the subject of her husband's treatment, & could hardly an I intended to stay ten minutes & was obliged to remain upwards of an hour. Many of the have splendid advocates in their wives.

I wish you would write me if publishment is now in vogue in Maine. It is in New Yo

Give my love to all –

Your affectionate Sam – C

pressive both in his speaking and in his
ger. I have not smoked today but have been
to sleepy headed all day."

My journal gives you no idea of my
ordinary experience. I don't make it a point to
of everything bright & joyous. I generally write
ate, after I get tired & give a brief outline of the
ay. My conversations here in the office are very
easant & sometimes very instructive to me.
have talked with quite a number of young
en, who are inquiring. The text most
ways comes as we go on gradually to talk
a Saviour's love & mercy, and of practical
hristianity, that a soldier may possess as
ell as any body else. I don't just down all
think I say & pray for. Many a prayer goes
p for you & the little ones. After prayer meeting
went home with Colonel Francis. We
prayed together before parting, as we generally
o. He prayed earnestly for you & yours. Do you
ve often mentioned away down in Tennessee. I
pray God bless you all. My love, to Father
Mother, Dellie & all. Kiss the little children.
Tell them papa loves them. Pray for your
husband often that he be kept humble in spirit
unspotted from the world. My dear Saviour
who has cleansed you with his blood will take care
of you & yours

Good night & loving husband
Otis