

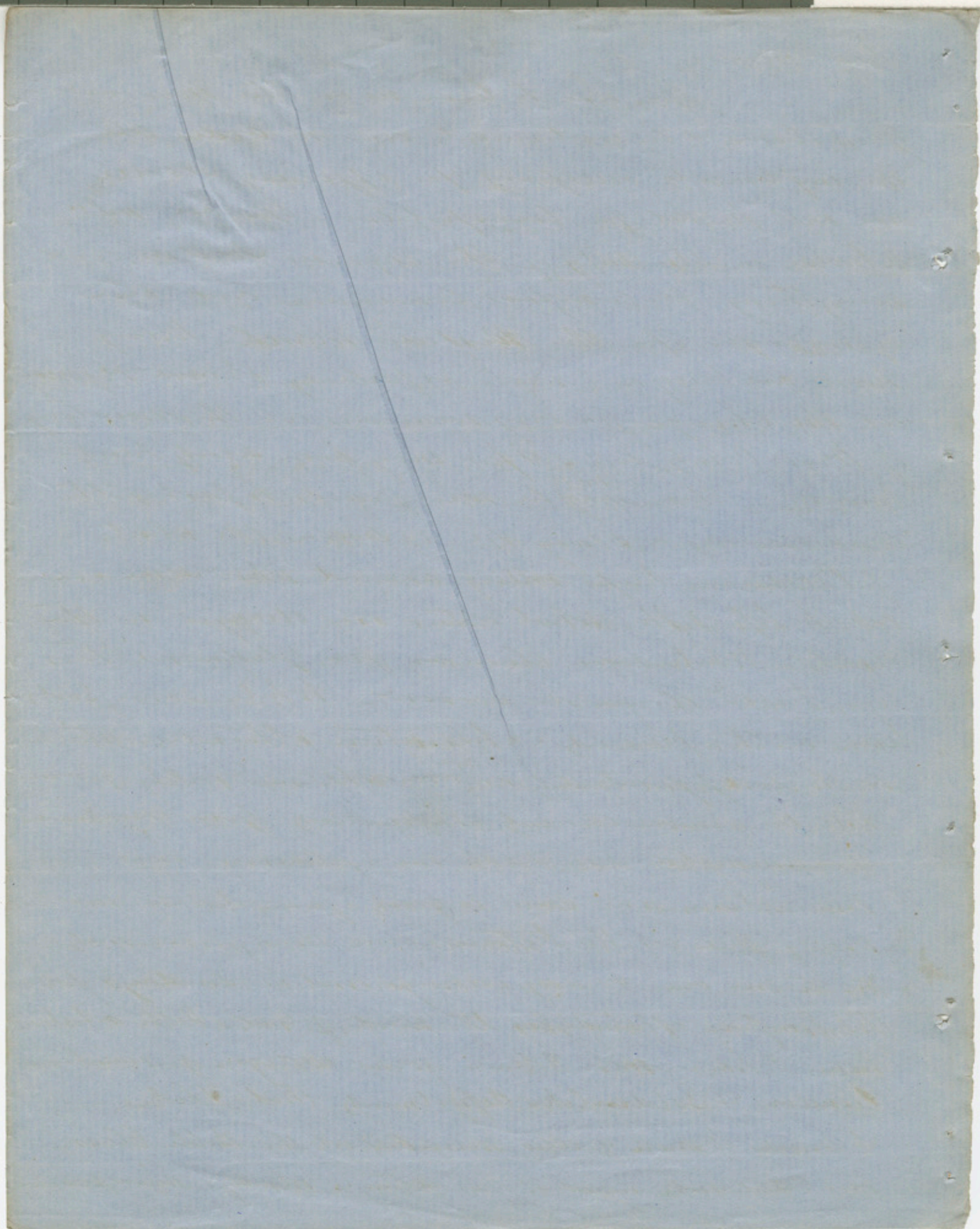
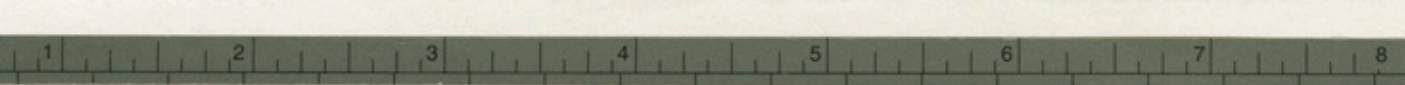
Addresses to two
Companies leaving West Point
in 1858



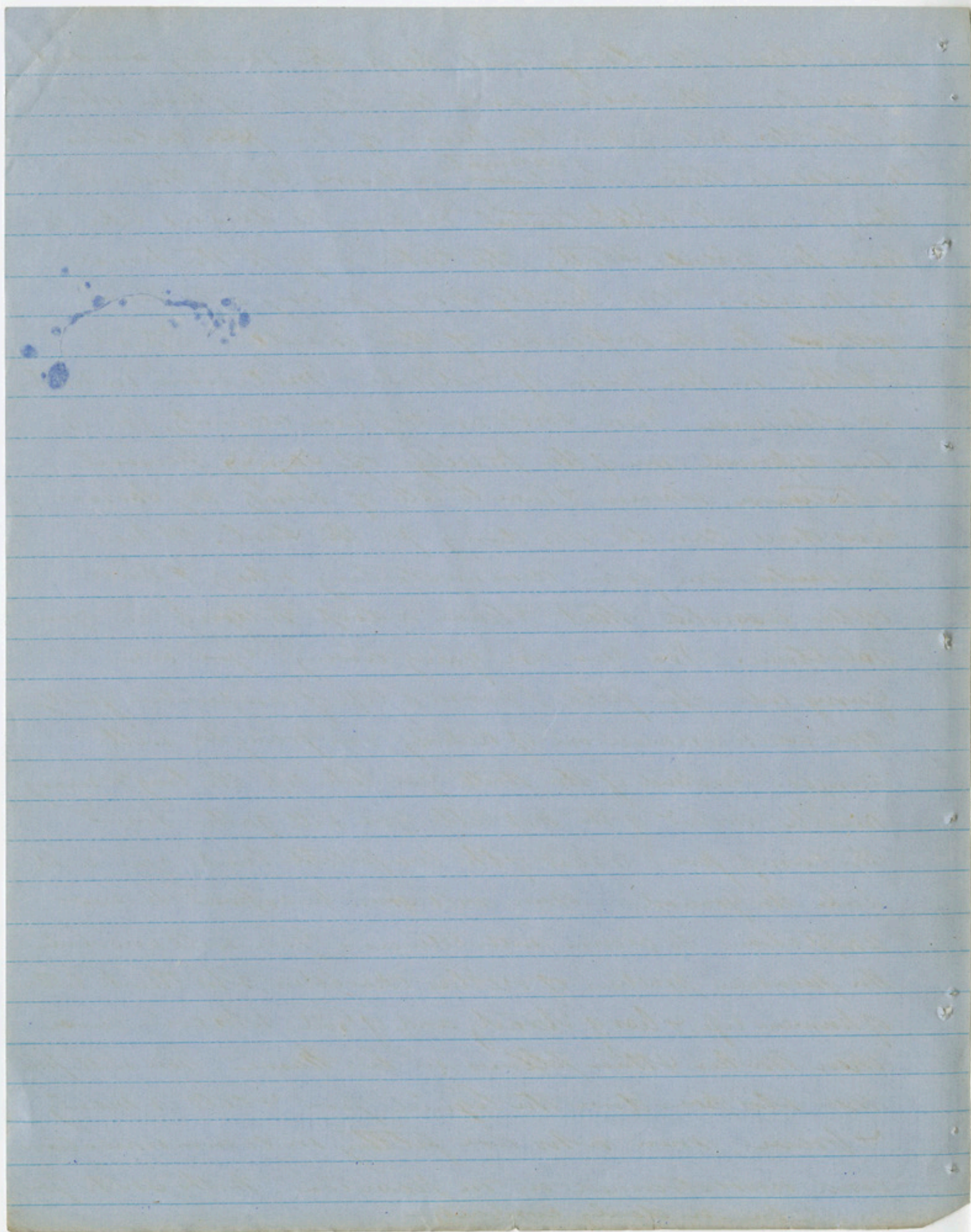
My Friends;

You are to leave us on the morrow. Your arms & accoutrements are in order, all the implements necessary for efficient service are well packed for transportation - You are well schooled in the duty of the Engineer Soldier; and everything for comfort, convenience and ease is arranged for the Westward March. Many hearts are buoyant with expectancy & some rejoicing at the change for very measures at the monotony of West Point life. A few may have secret heart-burnings. There ^{will} be sure friends to part with, and many a strong tie to sever. The wheel of Providence keeps rolling around while some are at the top of the wheel others are dragged in the dust. While some clamor for gladness, others are bowed down in sorrow. While some souls beam with a pleasant exhilaration others are stricken with disappointment or ^{are} overwhelmed with gloom. Still, the general current is sparkling. Your countenances are animated; new scenes, new pleasures, new associations are soon to greet you. I have marked many faces in the lectures - and many have met with me on Friday evenings and on Sundays for the purpose of studying the word of God. With a stern man I have met I have found a degree of amiability & soldier-like deportment that I like.

I desired to see a greater number at the Bible Class, but I did not wonder; for Satan is always misrepresenting



such places - He always will help the worldly-minded
 to question the motives and the objects of those who
 go: He often puts it into the hearts of his ~~fell~~ cotaries
 to ridicule those who ^{intimate} desire to go. And all
 this for a good & substantial reason, he doesn't like to
 have his friends study the Bible, or go to the house
 of prayer. I am heartily sorry for any who have
 yielded to the influence of this insidious spirit,
 whether in the form of ridicule, malicious untruth,
 or otherwise. I am sorry on my own account, for it
 has deprived me of the privilege of ~~staying~~ personal
 intercourse, wherein I have to tell of what my Saviour
 has done & is doing for the soul. It has
 prevented me from demonstrating what, I have
 often asserted, that I have a deep interest in your
 salvation. Now you are going away. You are
 going into the field. From a life of comparative quiet,
 you are to commence one of activity, one fraught with
 danger. Instead of the drill you take up the long & weary
 march, instead of the map table you will gather round
 the camp fire: instead of the comfortable bank you will
 take the ground. You will soon be exposed to new
 temptations to vicious inclinations - You will encounter
 the peculiar practices of reckless characters, who think little
 of human life, & less of Eternity and of God: who even curse
 their Maker & their fellows in his Name. You will find
 men who pour down the liquid fire & call it manly
 & brave, men who are filthy in communication
 and unrestrained in in passion. With such you
 will be in daily contact -



3

undoubtedly you set forth with intrepid hearts
ready to meet any danger and to overcome
any obstacle - Let me not try to dampen your
courage or lessen the pleasantly excitement due
to change - But it is ^{wise} to reconnoitre well, to
understand well the position of our enemy as well
as to observe our own ground. It is not at all
probable that, all will return with the same buoyancy
of freshness of spirit - that there will be no pain,
no sorrow, no sickness, no death among you -
Some one may drag along many a desolate mile
with nothing to eat or drink - Another may
be taken ill on the march and be consigned to
the tender mercies of the baggage wagon, another
may suffer for months with bruised or broken
limbs, and it is not impossible that many may
be engaged in a sharp conflict with the enemy,
~~and pour~~ out their life blood on the battle field -

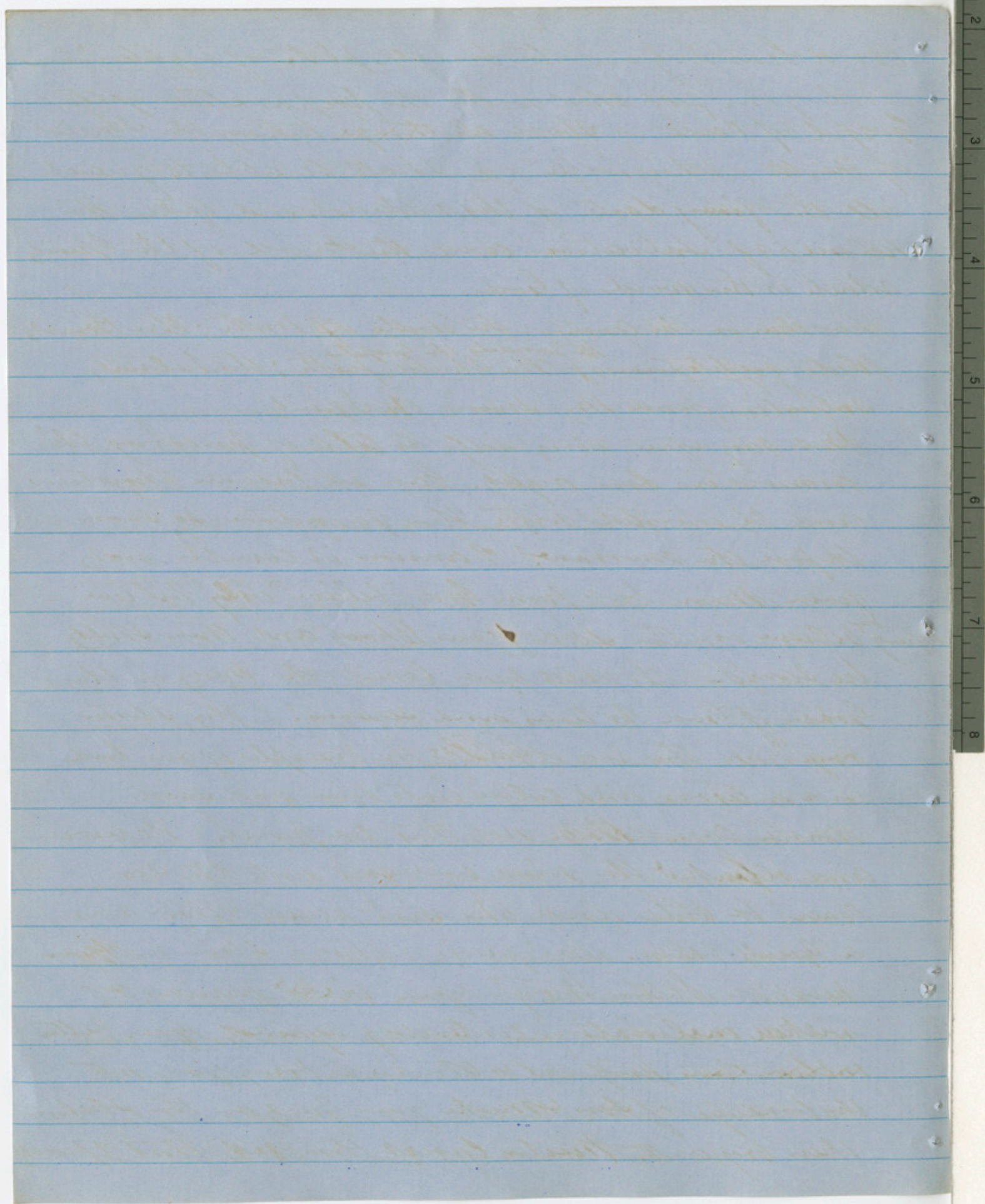
My friends are you prepared for whatever may
befall you? With your armor buckled on, health
in your cheeks & strength in your limbs - are
you wholly ready for life & for death -

"There is something you need; something that I fear
too many of you have not been careful to ^{procure} get - It is
indispensable and especially so for you - It is the
Armor of God." Therefore take unto you the whole
Armor of God, that ye may be able to withstand in the
evil day, and having done all to stand; Stand
therefore having your loins girt about with truth

and having on the breast-plate of righteousness
and your feet shod with the preparation of the
Gospel of Peace; Above all, ~~things~~ taking the Shield
of Faith, wherewith ye shall be able to quench
all the fiery darts of the wicked, and take the
helmet of Salvation and the Sword of the Spirit,
which is the word of God.

This, then, is the armor, the Girdle of Truth; the Breast-
plate ^{the Sonnets, the Gospel} righteousness; the Shield, faith; the helmet,
salvation, and the sword the Spirit.

But say you, it is idle to talk of procuring this
armor in one night. Can we become Christians
and be invested with this garniture so soon -
before the morning? I answer it cometh not
from man but from God, "believe, only believe" -
^{Repent} "believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and thou shalt
be saved." Would you limit the mercy or the
grace of God to times and seasons? - The storm
raged on the Sea of Galilee the Disciples of our Lord
were in terror and called unto him and said
Master earnestly ~~ask~~ why that we perish? He arose
and rebuked the wind and said unto the sea
Peace, be still, and the wind ceased & there was
a great calm. My friend is there a storm in ~~your~~
heart? is Satan, through your wicked passions &
wicked inclination contending against, your better
inclinations purposes & striving to bring you into
the bondage of sin & make you fast in the stocks -
then cry out, Master earnestly ~~ask~~ why that I perish,



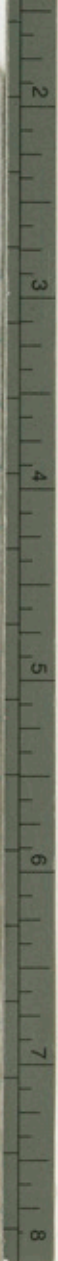
He will rebuke the storm. He will say peace, be still. O, go to Christ just as you are this night, all stripped of your armor as you are, go to him, He will gird your loins with his truth. He will protect you with his shield of faith - and crown you with salvation.

My friends - You move with an air of manliness & conscious dignity, you hold up your heads amongst your fellows - Would you be truly superior; would you be a Model company? Then be a Christian company; be above all that is mean and low. Set your standard high - You, look to the Great exemplar & Guide - to Christ.

Would you manifest to the Army, ^{to the Nation} true courage - Then know that God giveth power to the faint, and to them that have no might He increaseth strength - Be strong; fear not, behold your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompense, He will come and save you - If you are the followers of Christ, He will not give you the spirit of fear, but of power and of love and of a sound mind.

But all these are not the motives with which to seek the Redeemer - Have we not immortal souls, ~~and~~ ^{we} have we not hearts like other men? Do we not need salvation & even we not understand that God so loved us as to give his only begotten Son to die that we might live? Seek him then

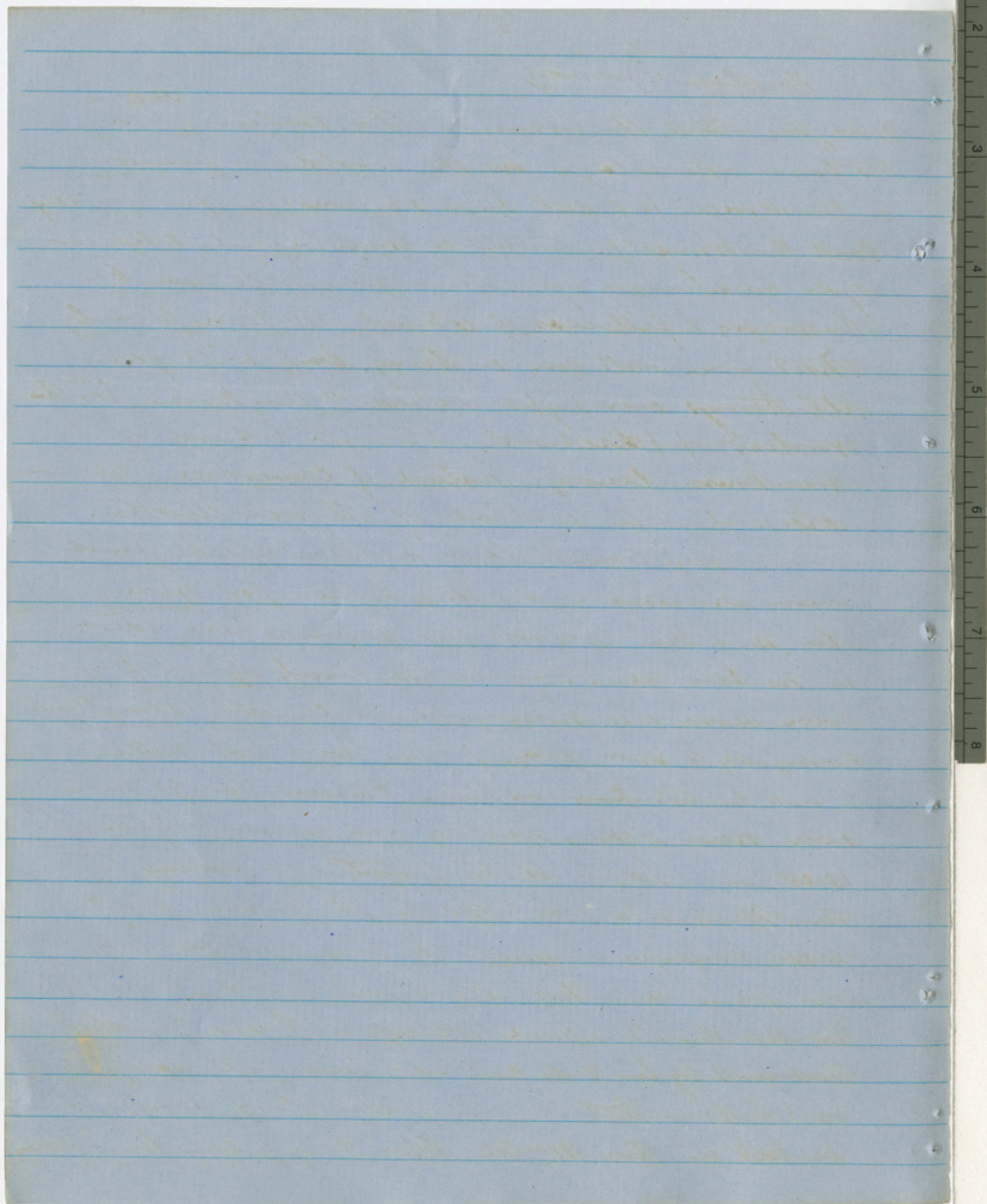
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This alone & foremost

not to please the Army or the Nation, ^{or} not
to gain advantage in the world or position
in the service, but seek Him who loves you for yourself
and for himself. Should a man beguile & deceive
you by showing you how you will lose by
becoming a follower of Christ; tell him plainly
that you will lose nothing, but will gain
all things, even light instead of darkness, truth
instead of falsehood, strength instead of
weakness, courage instead of cowardice, yes even
eternal life instead of eternal death.

You are to leave us; we shall miss
you no more in this house for many
days - but you are not going where there
is no Saviour. Even in the desert, if one of you
were alone & in misery - he would help, strengthen
comfort & save you, if you were but willing
to ask his companionship - Wherever you go he is
ever near - He is waiting and gracious & tender in
mercy - Sister to the tribute of a Soldier to
an officer who was killed in the Crimea: "When I
opened the paper it made the tears come into my
eyes, for to hear that my beloved friend had left
this world. He is gone to sleep in Jesus. I wish I
had been by his side and seen him fall asleep
but I know that he is in greater glory than is to
be had in this world, when I last saw him - among



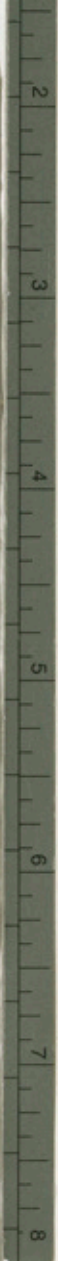
us, little did I think it was the last. But he fell in
 duty & glory — I was always living in hopes
 of seeing that beloved, respected Captain, & honored
 brother in the Lord, only there, when I got a chance
 of going out to him. Now I am disappointed.
 But I will put no trust in Princes to get me
 to Heaven, but I look on the blood of Jesus on
 the Cross. I will trust in Him and He will
 never forsake me. For Jesus says — All ye
 that thirst, approach the stream where living
 waters flow.

Our beloved friend is drinking of those living waters
 now. "

O ye, My friends who by the poor Soldier says is
 one we need not look to man, once having learn-
 -ed that there is a Saviour & that he is not far
 off, but knocking at the very portals of our hearts,
 it is sufficient for us; we can go to him directly —
 and ask for whatsoever we need.

I ~~have been~~ ^{was once} marching with a body of men in
 the heat of summer; for some time we had been
 without water. The men had drunk up all that
 their Canteens contained — and were very thirsty —
 all at once we came in sight of a green patch
 of ground and the men suspected there was
 water there — immediately they made for the place
 & were gladdened to find two or three little wells
 of fresh water — Each man eagerly helped himself
 & filled his Canteen — They did not sit down in

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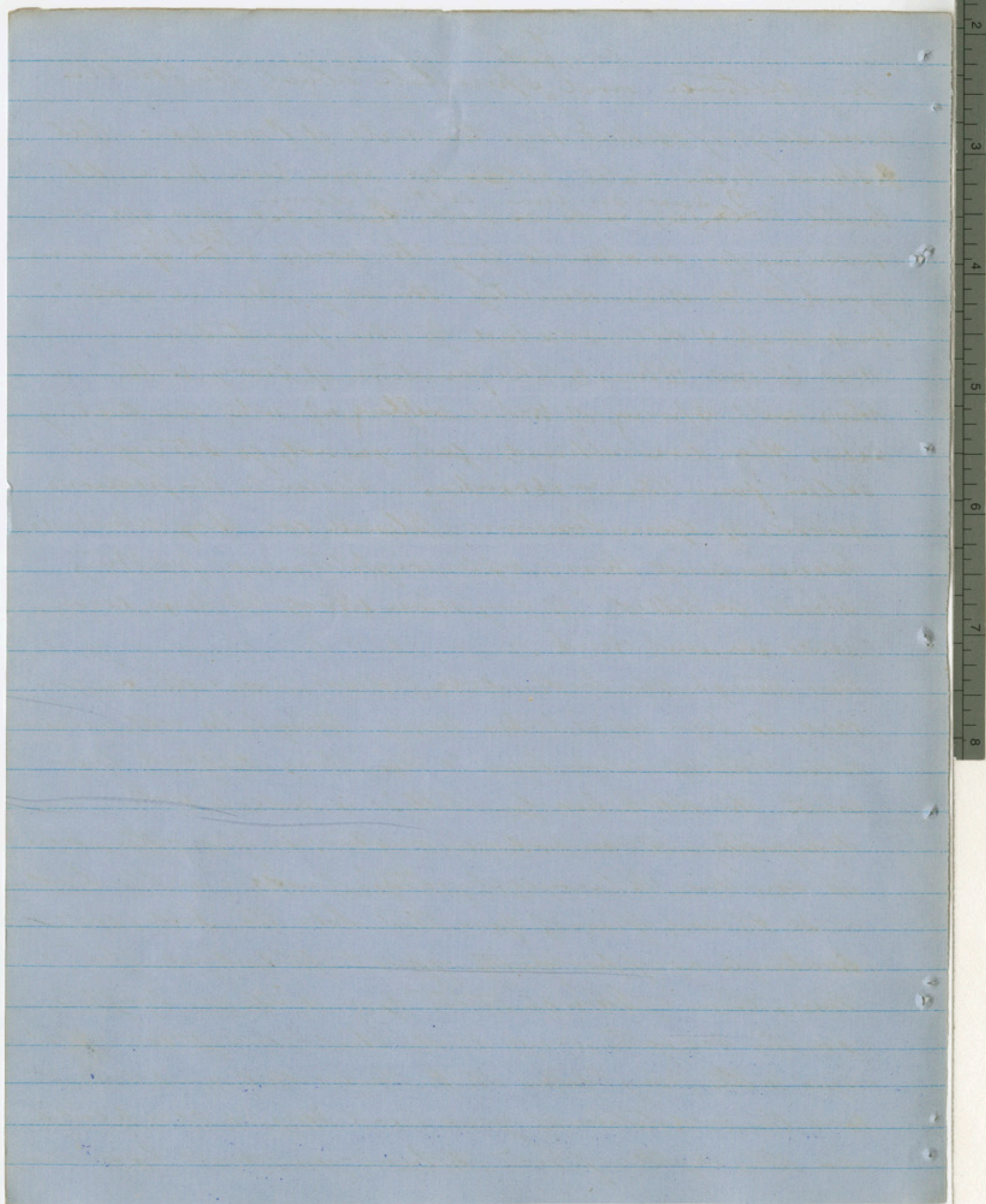
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each

the distance and ^{each} speculate about the matter.
and say; if it had been the will of Providence that
I should have water, it would have been here by
hand. I saw no man sitting down
~~Almost everyone with the thirsty~~ I saw open off &
waiting for another to try the water & ^{telling} if it was
good - No man doubted the cry, "here is water",
but each & all rushed to the fountain -

Now is not Christ the fountain of living water - a
very well spring of water welling up into everlasting
life. If ye are athirst, can ye not go straight
to the fountain & drink? Listen to the precious
words of your Saviour: "Blessed are they which do
hunger and thirst after righteousness for they
shall be filled" "If any man thirst, let him come
unto me and drink."

But though our Lord is ever present, ever with us; ever
ready to bind up a broken heart; - though he will answer
those that call upon him, & bless those that seek him
with the whole heart; still it is well to seek
sympathy - to comfort one another; to take after one
to another; to bear each others burdens in the Lord.

So I trust those of you that love the Lord, will
continue as opportunity offers to talk about the
mercies & love of Christ - that you will get together
on the Sabbath and read the Word of God; that
you will pray together that the words of your mouth
and the meditation of your heart may be acceptable
in the sight of God - Whom you will by so doing



find to be your strength & your Redeemer. I presume
the great majority of you will take with ^{you} some book
to relieve the monotony of hats on the March. Now
let it be the Bible or the Testaments. You will find that
in this Book that will answer every want & meet every
contingency. It will aid you to lift up your hearts
from the contumacious of worldly men, it will
assist you to yield up your selves to Christ. It
will tell you how abundantly & manifold are his
blessings. Now read his mercy. Now great his love,
and also how very simple is the way of
salvation. ~~As a matter of~~ It is an undoubted
truth, that, if a man chooses Satan & the
pleasures of sin for a season; rather than
Christ & his cause, it is ^{truth} that he will find
little pleasure in a Book that his Heavenly Father
has sent him. He doesn't like to see his own
deformity. He doesn't love words like these. "For
what shall it profit a man if he gains the
whole world and lose his own soul" or these.
"Whoever shall be ashamed of me & of my words,
in this adulterous & sinful generation; of him also
shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh
in the glory of his Father with the Holy Angels."

He loves to be let alone, to bury the delusive fancies
of some relief way off in the distant future. He
loves to base his hopes on his own theories. He loves
to belittle and belate goodness. Show him a Christian
and he will tell you a thousand faults in him

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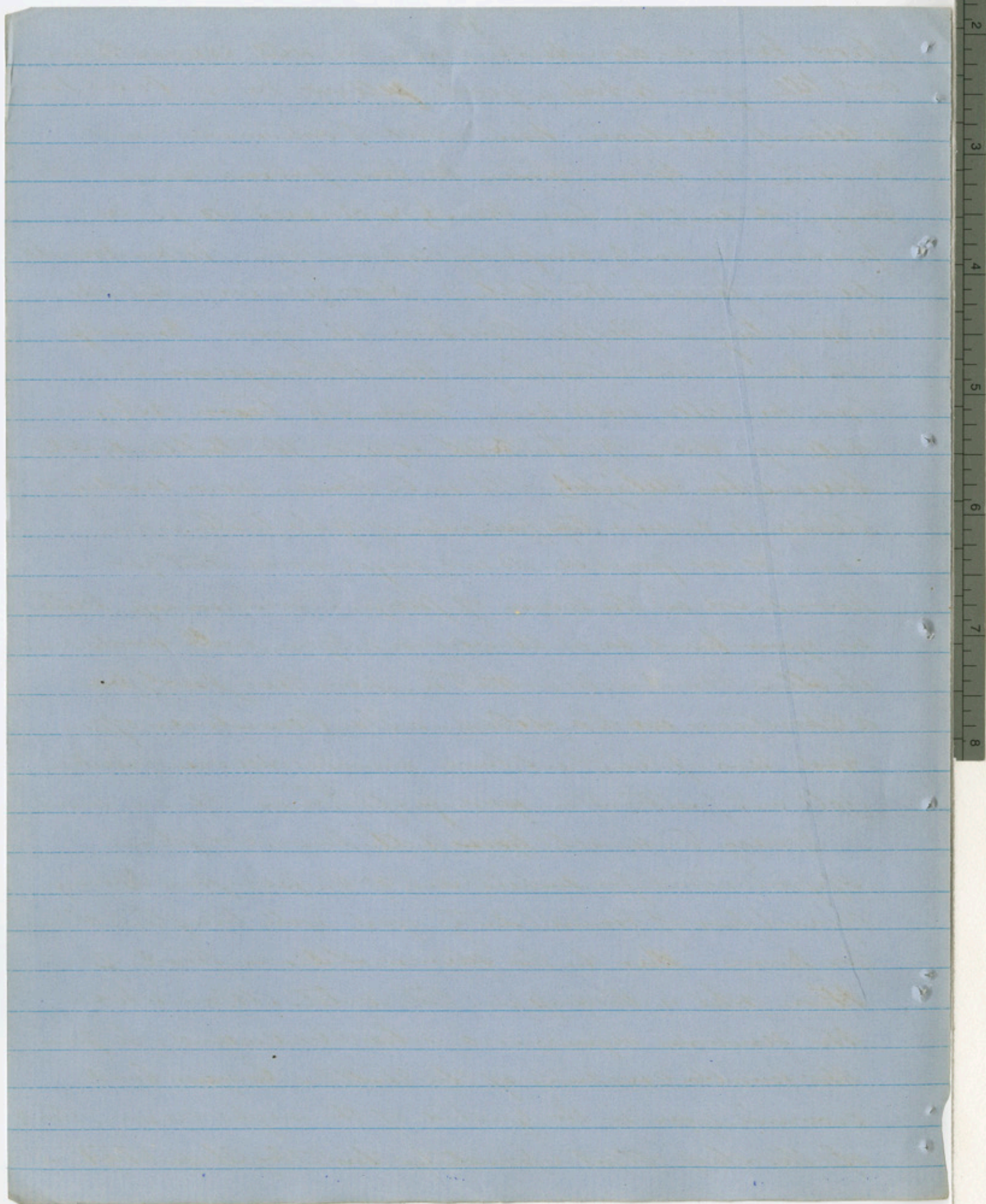


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Show him a drunkard and he will excuse him - and tell you what a good fellow he is - Point him to Christ. He denies him and is determined not to believe in him; unless he has formed some image to suit his own heart & dressed it in a fashion to suit his own depravity - Why should he care to read the Bible? And yet, even this man is not beyond hope - Our Lord has given himself for him, has atoned for his transgressions - 'Ho!' he calls unto him, "Turn Oh! Turn why wilt ye die" - If he will repent, the Bible will become his delight, He will have a new understanding - a new appreciation of its truth.

Do not forget us - do not forget words that you have heard in the house of prayer - treasure up truth in your heart as a storehouse - You will need it all - It is not true that a man may not be a Christian and a Soldier. The Providence of God has placed us here in the service, Let us fill our position in good faith.

During the march you will have ample opportunities for meditation and prayer - During your tours of guard duty you will be often alone for hours - There is the solemn stillness, think of Him who is always on the watch - Upon whom the universe reposes and who condescends to guard the humble creature of the earth - As you look around you in the quietude of the night season, think of the sleep that overtakes this - the sleep that

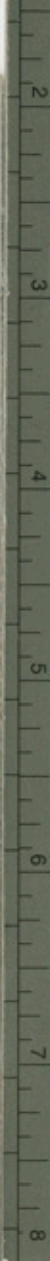


knows no waking. As you turn to the sprinkling
 firmament, let your mind expand take in
 a wider conception of the creation and then
 think of the Almighty. Now turn within to your little
 self - note your limited vision - your imperfect
 faculties, your corrupt affections, your uncontrollable
 desires & passions - Will I be always thus, a spot
 a blemish in this fair creation of God? It may
 not be, for there is blood for the cleansing - there
 from turn "good tidings" of "great joy" - and they are
 for me - Raise up the tearful eye & open the heart -
 Christ, your Redeemer is close at hand, He is ready &
 willing to pour the fulness of his Spirit upon
 you.

Let me speak unto you as unto those I may never
 see again. I wish to say what we all have heard
 from our earliest boyhood. It is this. In a few
 short years ~~but~~ the furthest, we all must die, our
 bodies be put in the silent grave: and our Spirits
 go forth into the world of ^{Spirits} Spirits. If we must
 not be here - we will meet there - we will all
 appear at the judgment seat of Christ. Now let me
 tell you how I would like to meet you; this little
 company - It is this: in joy & not in anguish - with
 hearts filled with grateful emotions; in such a condition
 that you could raise your eyes and look upon your
 Saviour, and see his face, for then his Name would
 be in your foreheads.

May the God of peace & love go with you and guard

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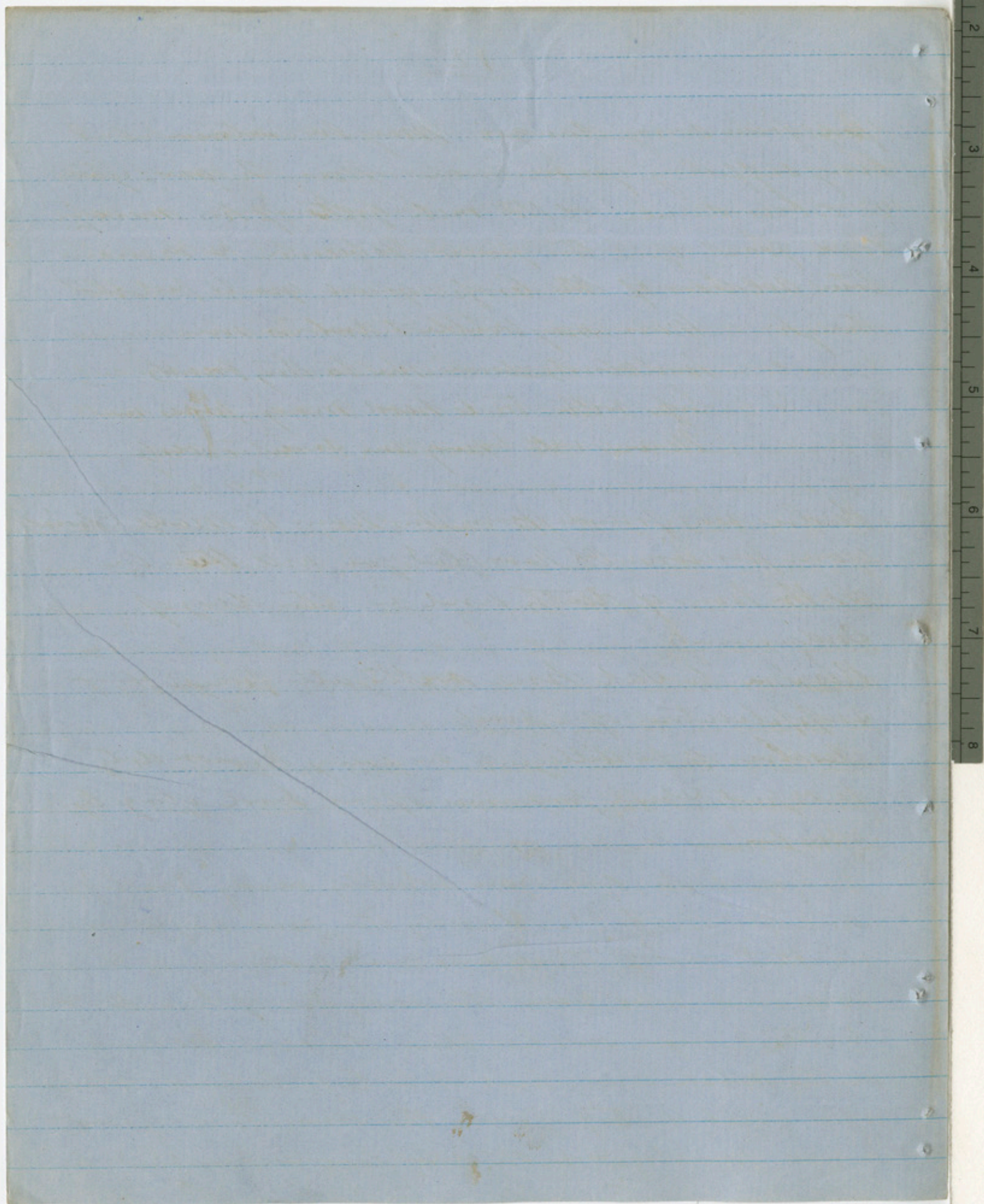


you from every danger. May he continue his
 long suffering forbearance. May he give you
 in abundance of the rich gifts of his mercy—
 and grant you the power to become & remain
 true soldiers of the cross. Grant you to feel that
 though — Man may trouble & distress me
 Will only drive me to thy breast
 Life with trials hard may press me
 Heaven will bring me sweeter rest.

Resolve my friends from this hour to make Christ
 your portion — Oh how glad you will then be
 at the hour of death and in the day of
 Judgement.

Resolve to seek him with all prayer &
 supplication of spirit.

Resolve to be diligent in every known duty
 to repent & seek forgiveness of our Lord day by
 day —



Wednesday evening
1 Delmona Sept 8th 1858

A few short months ago you will remember I addressed the Engineer Company on the eve of their departure for Utah. And on looking over my notes I find these words: "Undoubtedly you set forth with intrepid hearts ready to meet any danger and to overcome any obstacle. Let me not try to dampen your courage or lessen the pleasant excitement due to change. But it is wise to reconnoitre well: to understand well the position of our enemy as well as to observe our own ground. It is not ^{at} all probable that all will return with the same buoyancy and freshness of spirit - that there will be no pain, no sorrow, no sickness, no death among you. Some one may drag along many a desolate mile with nothing to eat. ~~or~~ ^{and} another may be taken ill on the march & be consigned to the tender mercies of ^{the} baggage wagon. &c - and now the question was asked are you prepared for life whatever may befall you? With your arms buckled on, health in your cheeks & strength in your limbs, are you wholly ready for life and for death?" Already the news has reached us that one of those who were listening to these words, and who bore the insignia of health & youthful vigor not less than the rest, sickened on the march and had to be left behind. When after great distress from the mountain fever, he was paralyzed with apoplexy & smothered his

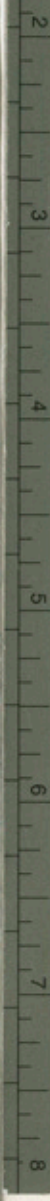
lost in the hospital of a stranger company -
 His comrades were far away, and strangers paid
 him the last tribute of respect as ~~they~~ at their
 camping ground they were obliged to consign
 him to a coffinless grave.

This young man's death has lessons for us -
 and important ones too - It turns us to the
 solemn questions that were put to him before
 his departure - "Are you prepared for whatever
 may befall you? Are you wholly ready for
 life and for death?" As I conceive the whole
 question to be embraced in a proper preparation for
death - I will make this the theme of a few reflections.

What constitutes a proper preparation for death?

Before setting forth on this expedition the Engineer
 Company made themselves ready; food, clothing
 implements for service, weapons, armor ^{etc.} were
 collected & put in order - all necessary things
 were taken and all superfluous things were
 rejected lest they should be encumbrances.

Now what food & clothing do we want for the
 journey of life; that leads so soon into the valley
 & shadows of death? What food shall we take
 with us? Let us answer the question in the
 words of our Saviour: "For my Father giveth you
 the true bread from Heaven. For the bread of God
 is He which cometh down from Heaven and



giveth life unto the world, Jesus interprets this language thus, I am the bread of life: He that cometh to me shall never hunger; Again he says I am that bread of life... This is that bread that cometh down from Heaven that a man may eat thereof and not die - I am the living bread which came down from Heaven. If any man eat of this bread he shall live forever - Afterwards he changes the figure and says. Whoso eateth my flesh and drinketh my blood hath eternal life and I will raise him up at the last day, "For my flesh is meat indeed and my blood is drink indeed."

As bread is the stuff of the natural life - so the Son of God is the stuff of the Spiritual. Here will notice that the whole Spiritual world is indicated to the mind by figures -

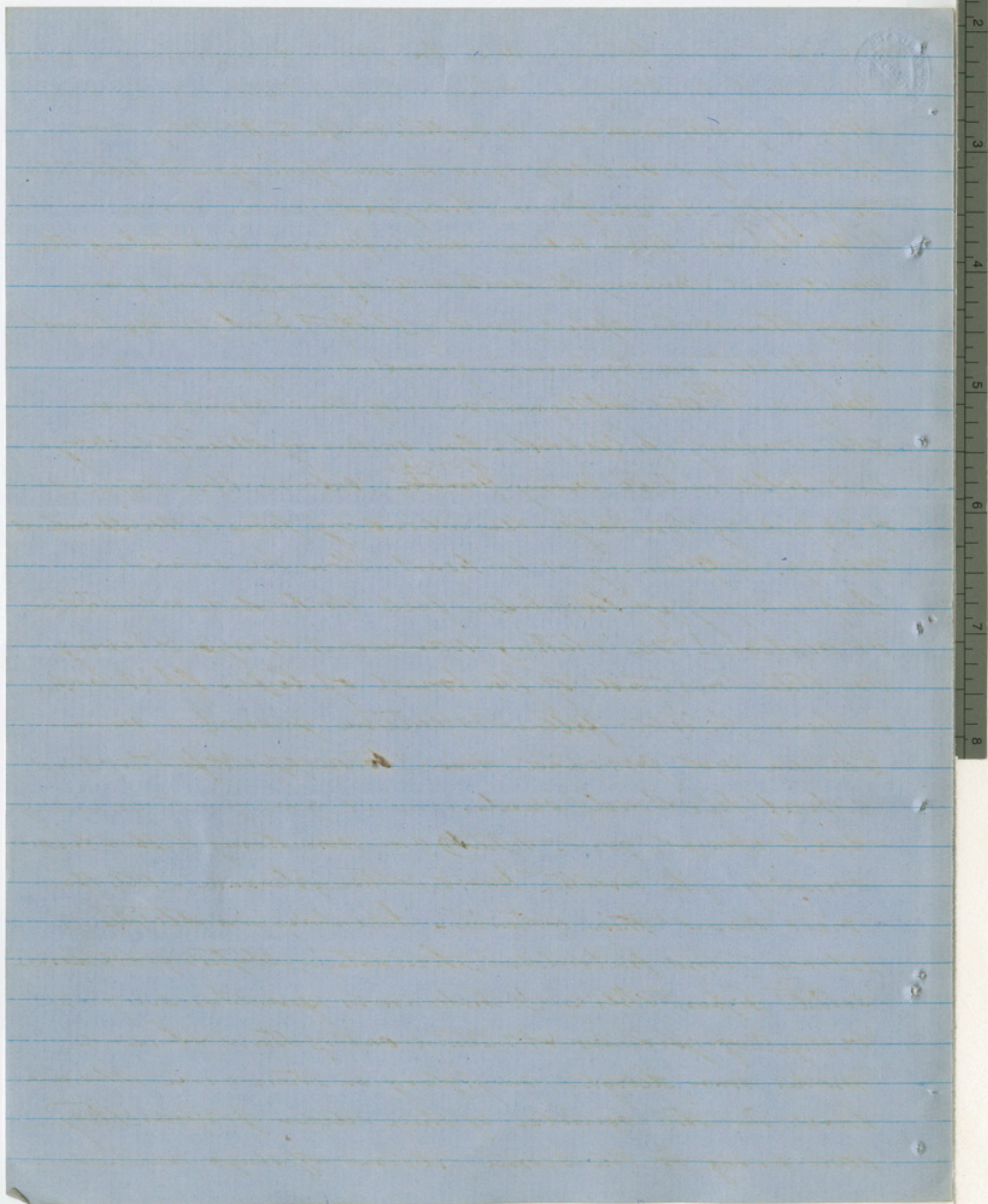
The things that are unseen are made evidently to us by those things that are seen and made - The unregenerate soul is destitute of the love of God and actually has no faith in his promises - and this state is very aptly represented by the body without food - Christ receives the penitent sinner, forgives him, and breathes himself, His Spirit, into his soul. The ~~soul~~ was hungry - craving, now ~~it~~ it is filled. * Why does your neighbor work so hard to get money ^{to spend} after he is already rich? His soul is ~~hungry~~ Why does he spend so many restless nights? Why does he grind the poor man and come so near to hate him? Why does he not look cheerful & contented and distribute sunshine all around him? We cannot. His soul is hungry - and he has been mean with it and fed it on husks.

Why is yonder wise man so restless & impatient? Why does he look at you so coldly, and answer your hearty salutation so gruffly - His soul is an hungered

Why does this ^{man} person take so much pleasure in retailing the faults and showing the dark sides of any person you may chance to speak well of? That Soul needs bread it is feeding on poisonous viands -

Why is it ^{that} that intelligent man of our acquaintance tells so many falsehoods - has so many deceitful ways and holds out so many ^{foreign} ~~enticing~~ colors - He is afraid of expressing himself; He is covering past misconduct. Hunger is gnawing at his heart. How he would leap for joy, if he could feel as he did at twelve or sixteen! He is taking senseless drugs & living on them instead of the bread of life. Oh! What a poor, pitiable fellow creature is such a man - Can we not persuade him to accept & feed on what his Soul needs.

Look around you - What are men doing? There is one running after wealth, here another pleasure - all the vices have their votaries - Licentiousness stalks abroad, and putentious characters, styled good men, smile upon her - Drunkenness quenches every vestige of goodness & kindness out of the soul, and makes men delight, nay, glory in their own shame and in the number of their dear friends they can bring to the same plain of degradation.



and yet how pleasant is he for a companion, who will drink with you, & how hospitable is he who puts the bottle to his neighbor's mouth!

Retire envy and jealousy and backbitings - which community is free from these justifying sores.

Rich & poor, high & low all are very subject to them. Can you rejoice in another's good fortune? Can you see another rise while you are lowly? Can you lose your wealth & standing & be forgiving, unsuspicious?

Can you charitably construe another's misdeeds and overlook a fault? Can you restrain the tongue from tale-bearing and leave a wholesome impression on the hearers mind of him you hear commended?

If we pass beyond the lesser vices that are like festers amongst us. How many are committing crimes - Murder, Theft, Robbery, adultery and all manner of wickedness comes to our ears from the public press -

What does all this mean? Simply that the soul is unsatisfied, unfilled - and it goes forth gnashing at & carping for everything in creation but what it needs. It wants bread & meat and it is fed on bricks, straw, gravel. Oh! My friends for the journey of life let us ask bread for our sustenance - for that life that begins here and never, never ends. Let us have that bread that cometh down from Heaven, even Jesus our Saviour.

It is astonishing how many arguments, pretensions, forms, isms, and other falsehoods are palmed off

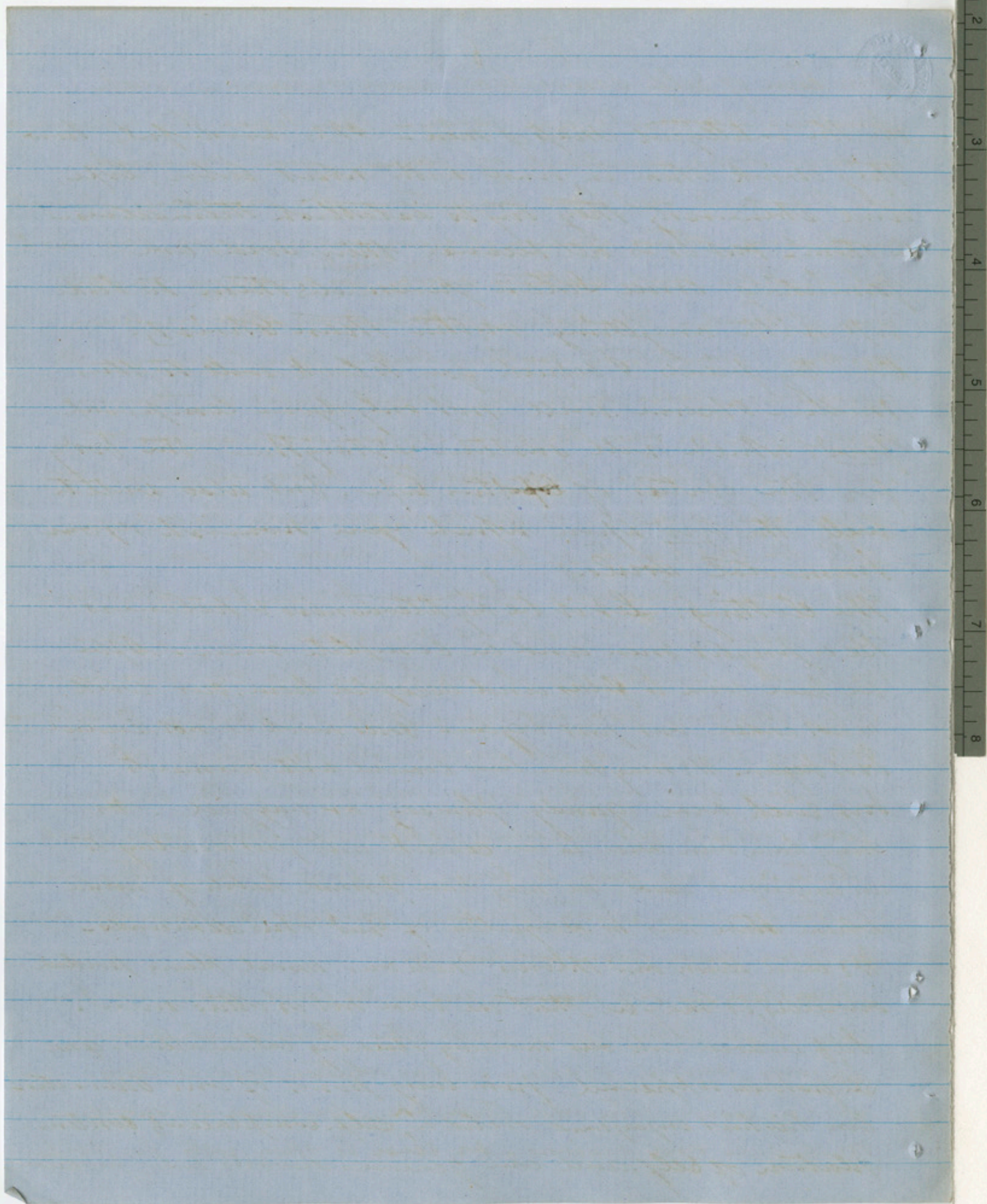
on the intelligent maps of men - It is wonderful how they drink them in; and with what labor, life, and strenuousness they try to establish themselves in them - but it is all because their souls are famishing and Satan persuades them to take up with anything rather than Christ.

Oh! my friends, I beseech you to look well to this matter - observe well not only your temporal food which will sustain & strengthen the body for the duties of ~~life~~ this life. But also with well the food upon which you nourish your immortal souls.

The clothing: Let it be righteousness & holiness. Be upright men and complete men. After we have come to Jesus and accepted him, our work is not ended, but just begun - God's work is not ended but begun. We may have been covered with garments, but such were gaudy, flimsy or ragged. We may have been wise in our concepts - and just according to an imperfect law; we may have formed habits of mind when there was no recognition of God & his demands -

We laid down our theories, made our moral plans, prided ourselves, it may be, that we were not as other men.

Self entered into our morning & evening calculations - and selfishness appeared from every point of our character - Our highest enjoyment rested in ^a self-complacent contentment of self, and our generous words ever, proceeded



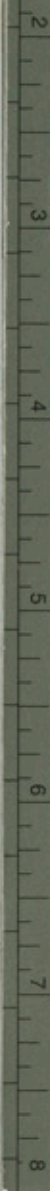
from some of self somewhat more refined - Such
 Spiritual garments are gaudy - They have the appearance
 at first sight sometimes of genuine, good material -
 but they will not bear inspection. We ourselves, though
 we deceive others seldom deceive ourselves so far as to
 feel that we need nothing more ^{than these things} for covering in the
 time of need. The habits of falsehood that we have
 generated constitute nothing but a tinseled array - We
 have been false with the tongue, false in bearing
 and false in our thoughts; untrue to ourselves &
 untrue to others. How deceitful about all things, &
 desperately wicked is the unregenerate heart.

All the old habits of cursing, using the name of
 our dear & precious Saviour profanely - Speaking
 the Name of God without reverence or Godly fear -
 without hallowing it with our lips & in our hearts.

All idolatry, men-worshiping - Gold-worshiping, position-
craving idolatry, all inordinate affections, all -
 absorbing love of offspring, outlasting the supreme
 love which God demands to himself - these and such
 a taste as leads men to love the low & the filthy jest,
 or the impure story, all these compose the miserable rags
 that we have been clothed in.

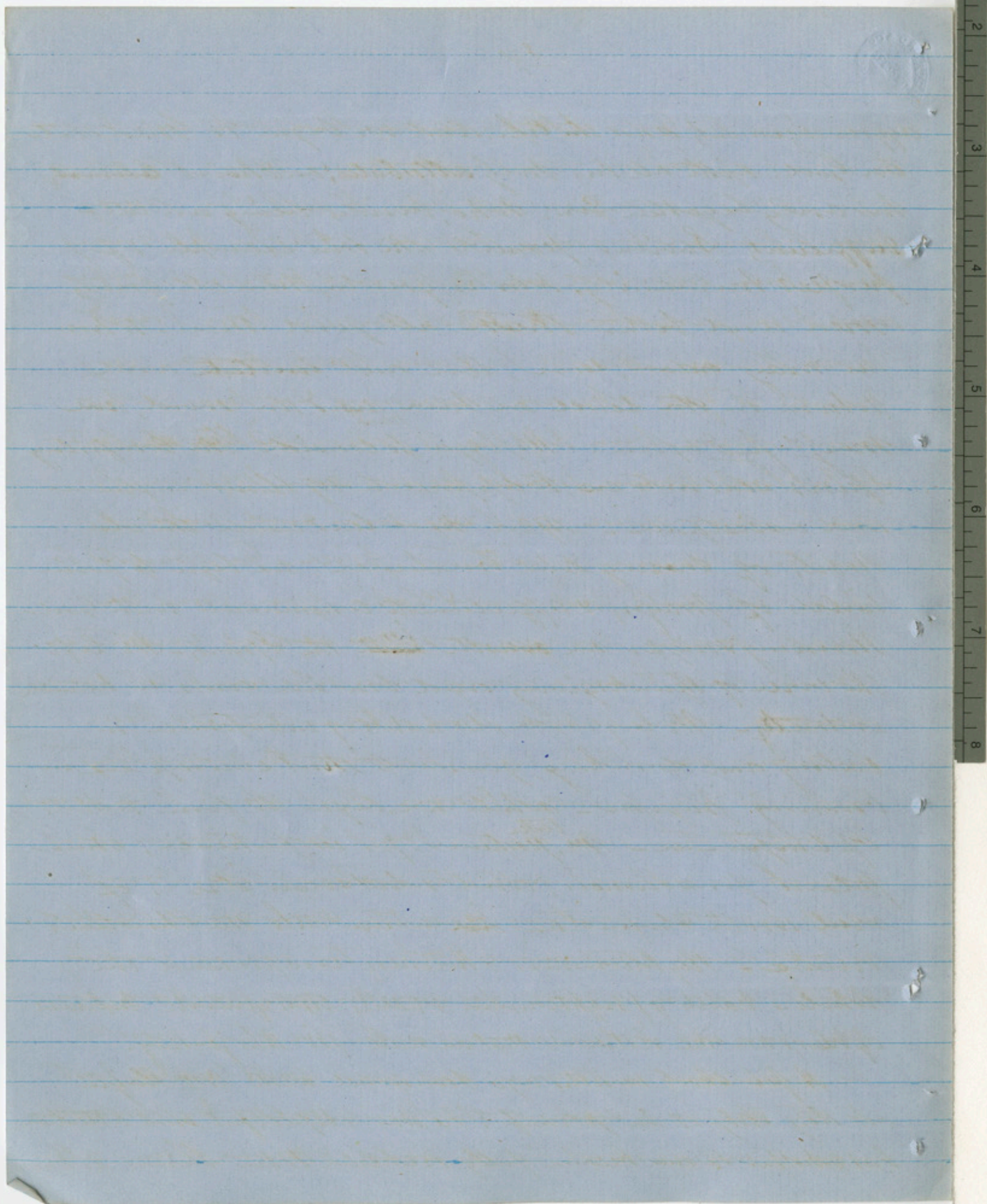
Now then as we begin to feed on the bread of life, we have
 need to be clothed upon with other than such gaudy
 flimsy, ragged vestment. Our intellects need clothing -
 we lay aside the old thoughts, we cease to dwell
 on the vile and vicious - we cease to spin webs for self

[Faint, illegible handwriting on lined paper, likely bleed-through from the reverse side. The text is arranged in approximately 20 horizontal lines.]



appreciations, and the like; and we begin to meditate on God, with all his holy attributes; on Christ, his only begotten Son, who, besides being an all-sufficient Saviour, presents the true example of perfect humanity, who is greater than all great men and better than all good men. Whom we may adore, serve, love and imitate and whom in the sense we have used the word, we may follow. We begin to consider the Comforting Spirit sent unto us, to appreciate its blessed influence and assistance. As we have laid aside the old habits of cursing and swearing, we begin to form habits of prayer & affectionate communion with God. Morning & night we ~~commune~~ ⁱⁿ with the Spirit. We lift the voice of thanksgiving and bow our souls in humble entreaty. We lay aside old habits of intemperance in eating and drinking, garments that envelop us in burning prison - while we begin to form habits of temperance - We ^{take} patience for impatience, cheerfulness for sourness; and whatever else is of real worth & soundness ~~is~~ ^{is} woven into the Christian's vestment. Righteousness & holiness comprehend the whole - habits of righteousness & habits that generate holiness of heart are the vestments that we need for this journey.

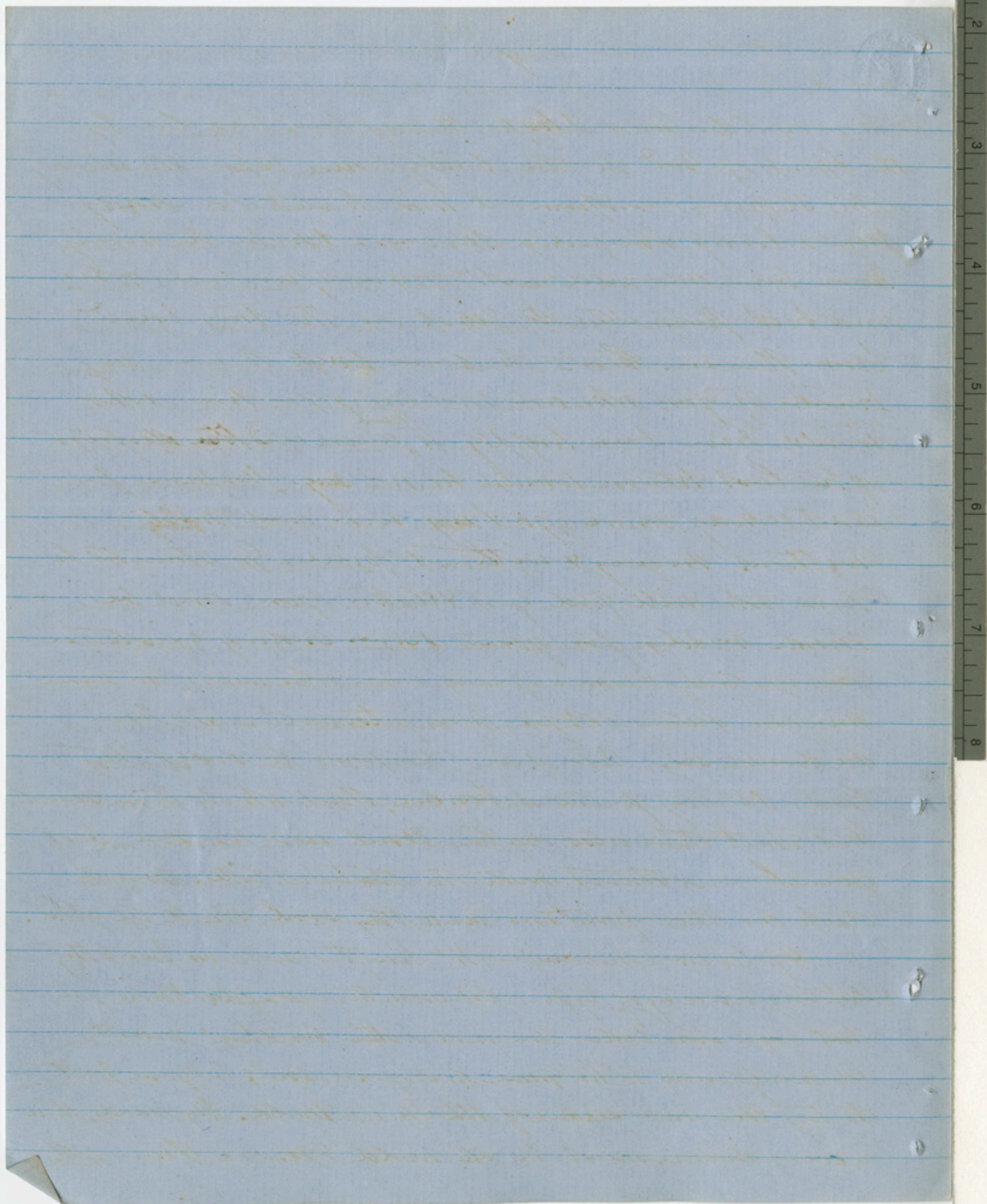
A few short months ago I conversed with Mr. Hayler on this subject in private. He was respectful and attentive but whether he ever became fully reconciled to his Saviour is known



to him and his God. I hope he may have been led by the Spirit of God in those lonely hours, before the intensity of his sufferings overpowered him to seek for mercy from a loving & forgiving Saviour. I hope he may have been adorned with pure spiritual robes and been permitted to feast on the true bread from Heaven. Could he come back to you my friends, to you who are mourning for him, who would have been happy to ^{have} alleviated the distress of his last hours. Would he not say - Prepare for death, my mine; go & buy wine and milk without money & without price. Go straight to him who will feed you & clothe you - and be made ready for your never ending existence.

But yesterday I saw a young man who wears the same uniform relating to & from given intoxication. To him he would say, Thou fool! prepare to meet thy God. Oh! my friend, beware, that which thou saarest that shall thou also reap. Drink not poison, but quench your thirst with the water of life. Drink deep at this fountain and thy soul shall be glad.

If your companion Mr. Slinger was as healthy & strong as any of you six months ago - now know you that your own bodies may not within six short months lie mouldering in the grave and your souls be gone forth to try the new scenes of the Spirit world. My friends, there is every inducement in the world & more than all



all the world to enter upon a ¹⁹Christian life; but men will not do it. They love sin and the pleasures of sin, and they enfold and creole themselves in them - They do not love God, for he is holy, just, and good - They cannot be saved for salvation is love & they cannot love; are they not blind, that they cannot see and deaf that they cannot hear?

The Destroyer puts forth his hand and plucks one after another - We see it, we hear of it, we understand it - but an insidious Spirit whispers to us ^{where we left} as to our first parent, "Thou shalt not surely die" and with as little wisdom we believe him; we mock; we will heed no warning, till ~~at~~ one by one, ^{we} begin to struggle in the grasp of death ourselves -

My friends will it be in the next world as it is here? Can we be base & God-hating and be indifferent?

Can we commit sin upon sin and smother conscience? Can we put on cloaks of supposition & falsehood, and remain at rest? For my part I would rather believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, & would rather be cleansed by his blood and sanctified by his Spirit, and embraced within his blessed fold -

Yes; the powerful motion of an everlasting presence from corruption, and the prospect of a never ending life of pure joy ought to be enough for me, to make me willing to throw myself into the arms of my Saviour. Be persuaded my friends to seek salvation while there is life, while there is health & strength. While God is willing

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To pardon, cleanse, relieve - O! Come to Christ &
say. Just as I am without one plea

But that thy blood was shed for me

O! Saviour of God's & mine.

And now as we ~~both~~ bid adieu to the young
Soldier, who still far away ~~will~~ lie wrapped
in his soldier's blanket, taking the rest that
knows no waking - Let us pray that this
Providence of God may be blessed to the
eternal Good of his family and friends - and
that his brethren in arms ^{as they say} ~~may~~ ^{will} ~~promise to~~
never follow! When they pass the slab that
marks his name: may each pause and
consider that ~~etc~~ "I too must come to this end."
Before long my soul ^{like his} will have taken its everlasting
flight to the unsearchable ~~regions~~ regions of
Eternity.

