Trip to E. Tenn. I am well satisfied with the work accomplished and the able men we have met. There are numerous and excellent. I went up to Knoxville to confer with prominent men in the city, ministers, judges, physicians, lawyers, officers, and for interesting them in Gen. Howard's plan and thus indirectly but most effectively in our general enterprise. I met many good men and returned on the midnight train to Knoxville and the next day came to Philadelphia. The next day I gathered up five scholars from the N.C.I. in the city, the story of these loyal men as obtained incidentally from them and confirmed by others was a most touching and thrilling one although long to be reproduced here. The privations and sufferings which these brave, hardy Mountain men endured are beyond belief. This man sent his son to enlist in the Federal army with a band of others. The rebels roused vengeance upon the parents making the penalty death. For a long time he had to lie out in the N.C.I. while some were killed and others imprisoned they stood it manfully till finally, serving as a NEW YORK GIRL UNION GIRL, America, until 300 N. C. rebel came in to conquer them. They 60 or 70 were surrounded by the guerrilla band, but managed to escape. He knew then that his family would be
killed and selling his 200 acres of land at midnight for open and cast he started away with wife and 10 or 11 children. When he reached Tenn he met his brothers family just fleeing from N. Ga. and found his nephew had been murdered by the rebels and he saw his body being eaten by the hogs.
The corn and whatever property he had, was robbed at once. And he barely escaped death. Another son was sent through the lines to the Rebelate. The latter, being stationed near by, soon after got furlough to come home. While there the rebels surrounded the house, and demanded the boy. Meantime he had been hid in a closet, and the girls claimed that he was there. The8 Rebels were sure that they would kill them all if he was not found, or, if any one of them should attempt to defend themselves. Twice with a club he did one of the gang look into the closet but the boy was not seen. The latter had his pistol a "six-shooter" cocked, and would have fired but for his mother standing close by. She disappointed his hopes, and left, robbing the family of all they had.

This same boy, with a brother and two sisters were admitted here. Cannot express the gratitude of this humble family in their miserable cabin as they were offered this opportunity. The father was an intelligent, the educated man, and a Christian. The boy was to sell some corn he had raised, taking them some clothes, and would be ready to come when the transportation papers arrive. Those I sent to Nashville for. Such youth, as these, that unceiled and uncultivated, are just the ones whom God Howard desires to aid, and believe just the ones of whom something can be made. We expect there's further from another point in Monroe Co. this week.
[Handwritten text not legible]
Rebels from Price's army of Missoury formed a large element here in 1864-5. Many are now in office, serve in the Legislature. I hear confidentially of their expectations that Sevier is to be inaugurated by force—that he will appoint officers—that officers of territories will be ousted by force—and that the seizure of their arms will form part of the plan. Though no such crisis is probable, it is better to have the temptation removed, I wish them safe in Capt. Collins' agency, so that I can, if necessary, resort to them there with men to use them. It might be well for Maj. Collins to have authority to receive temporarily command an additional force of volunteers.
Princess

Dear Son,

I hope this letter finds you well. Little has changed since I last wrote, and I truly miss your presence here.

I must admit that the days are long and often lonely without the familiar sounds of your laughter and chatter. But, I am grateful for this time to reflect and appreciate the simple moments in life.

How is your work? Are you happy? Do you miss me? I think of you often and wonder about your happiness.

I have been trying to write more letters, but sometimes it feels too difficult to put into words what I feel inside. Please, don't forget to write back soon.

I wish you all the best,

Your loving mother,

[Signature]