

upon what. I suppose you are asking -
Indeed, as present advised I could say
nothing more than I have - I have not seen
any of the speeches that have been made. ~~But~~
some Walf's printed in the last Camb. paper.
This as printed was not so bad after all
as the resolutions which reported for a
meeting of State delegates. nor which he
did not seem to notice in that speech.
The greatest exception I had to it was his
views on hab. Cor. suspension. I think that
thing in my ought to be let alone, as much
as possible - I should like to see Bell &
Kustan. Tell John B. to send me an - Pub. as
I am present advised I am for Bell for Gov
over him or any other man.

I have noticed all along the bold & stubborn
stand Mr Senator M P Marshall has taken
I don't doubt but he is honest in it. He could
not. it seems to me from his past political
life, education & good sense have been
blinded. Conscientiously, I was a faint.
I must confess, at the beginning or rather before
the secession began. that he had heard &
been talked to by "the respectable" men of Mass
and heard, he is somewhat like myself
only more so. passionate & excitable, that
he would say something that ~~was~~ he would say

John Reflections Regret. He is a man of very
decided talent and his passionate nature is such
as to make him I think a great addition
to any cause. He called a convention for
to-morrow to send delegates to Frankfurt
2nd instant but as the State Conv. is
adjourned to 18th March. and am not in
very much. & most probably that
few will attend to-morrow an affair of
roads & bad weather we, will most
probably adjourn to March County Court.

What is thought of at Gettysburg adjourning the
Secess Conv. of 18th? I find that it
is generally approved by the Union men;
and those who do not positively do so,
laugh at it & don't seem to care, I can say
I was at first thought not for it. Thought
it a bad step, unless he had omitted
until they had put this further in it
by some resolution or speech. I have said
many yet about it. yet find it generally
as I say approved by Union men. The
Secess have dreadfully answered it.

John Cairnes, & Adams. R. to. Pass Jim Manning
Paul Lorch. particularly. We have no news
May John Rice died yesterday very hurried & day
you fairly are well, but don't tell you
will get a letter from home with this; as Sally

told me this evening she was going to send you
one. The Postman has been off in Gov.
service, for almost two weeks, & we have to
send our letters by mail which delays a
day or two. I did not get a trial at
Gump's Inn. Dean Corwin was there to
represent Jay's co. and had it cont. and
agreed to 3rd March. I was in hopes by
that time to have better roads, for they
are extremely bad. Most likely this is
the last I will write to you at Frankfurt
as you will be home shortly.

Respect
Ed A. Nelson

July 22nd/63
Ed. A. Nelson

Frankfort Ky.

Sunday Feb 23rd 1863.

My Dear Wife.

This being a day of leisure you will expect me to write you a long letter. So I commence, not promising however to meet your just expectation of a, long letter. I do not expect to be able to interest you, as I am scarcely awake, it being the sleepy hour after dinner. and I commenced now hoping that the effort may drive away drowsiness.

Your last letter does not give me ^{great} ~~any~~ encouragement to write much. You take occasion to say that - "Sarah says you can write now about nothing than any man she ever knew?" Now this if intended as a compliment, is of such doubtful character, that I do not accept it as Complimentary. It is saying in effect that I write much which has nothing in it. I must say that the remark has at least the merit of truth. Still I must protest, that whilst the criticism is just, it is much charitable because my labor in writing "about nothing" was intended to amuse if not interest. The latter I could not hope to accomplish, for want of ability, and therefore did the next best thing I could. Well now be it understood that I am not mad

about it, and will not in malice undertake
to criticize the interesting letters I have
received from home - because I hope to get
more of them, and will continue to write
"about nothing" if I can find nothing
else. Tell Sarah I excuse her, because
she was mad that I had not answered
her letters. She has my letter before
now, and I know she must not mis-
take co. It rained last night and this
morning; the day has been disagreeable, and I
have not been on the street. It has been
a lonely day - and greatly increases my
anxiety to be at home. But here I am
chained by a sense of public duty, and
must sacrifice my personal feelings for the
public good. If I could see any gleam
of light ahead, I must, if need be, make
for greater sacrifices to save my bleeding
and almost ruined Country.

In my last I wrote you that we should
probably adjourn by tomorrow week - and the
House of Rep. has passed a resolution to
adjourn on that day, but it is now
certain that we shall not adjourn that
soon, and may be a week longer, though
I hope not. I have been indulging the
pleasing anticipation of meeting you at

Cincinnati Tuesday week. I still hope
to meet you there, but the day is deferred.
I will telegraph you what day to start
down - don't fail to come if well enough.

I am really at a loss about any thing
further to write. My subject of "Nothing" is
entirely exhausted. Having drawn largely on
it in this letter.

I will stop till morning;
perhaps a dream, may come to my relief,
and suggest some new idea. or, I may be
able to see my old subject from a new
stand point.

Monday 23rd Feb 1863
I am very well this morning. I
am not under the necessity of referring to
my dreams for an item. I have a reality.
News reached here last night that the
Confederates numbering from 1500 to 4000
are in possession of Richmond, Madison
County - only 20 miles from Lexington.
They are south of the Sky River, which is
too high to ford, and there is but one bridge
within reach of them, and it is thought
that the force guarding it can prevent
any crossing. We have about 1500 men
at Lexington - about 2000 here - one Regiment
of Mounted infantry left here Saturday for

Danville - they will be in good position to operate against the enemy.

Then are some troops at Mt Sterling, I do not know how many. 3000 at Louisville - some at Lebanon. I suppose we can soon collect together an army of 10,000, to 14,000 men - enough to repel the invasion unless it is far more formidable than we suppose.

Many are of opinion that it is a mere raid for something to eat. Madison is the nearest County town Southern border where anything of consequence could be obtained.

Don't quit writing until you are notified by telegraph to start for Cincinnati. Your letters afford me all the real pleasure I have. Much love to Louisa, & Sally - remember me kindly to Sarah.

Your affectionate Husband

W. C. Ireland

July 17/63
Ed: Hallam.

Greenup July 17th 1863.

Mr Ireland.

Frankfort. Ky.

Yours of the 13th was recd yesterday.
I regret to hear that you were sick -
I doubt very much whether there will
be any delegates to Frankfort and
the 27th I can't come. I have engaged
a mule for that time which prevents
me. I have been endeavoring to get John
Seaton. Bob Rabb. &c. Rap will not
go up. The delegates of the Secesh
left yesterday for Frankfort. as
Ed Manning. George Biggs - ~~John~~
Jim Bartley & Mr H. Dupuy. old mass
has put himself fully into them
under an entire misapprehension
of what they are about. I tell you
of you & Greer & H. Taylor. & others
would make a set at him you
would square him again with us -
I write this note principally to
give you information of what is
going on in Center. And it is
also for the information of Greer
& Bowling - Last Saturday evening

a band of 25 to 40 of Philo men
under the conduct of Bill Elliott
as St. Cam into Grayson arrested
several men. E. P. Davis, Horan
Mason, Kethercutt, Dep Sheriff
and threatened to take them away -
but at last I understand by the
interposition & entreaty of the
Citizens of the City, that all of them
go except the Sheriff Kethercutt. They
took him away with them and
waived their intention to try him
at Miss Camp in Morgan & hung
him by a Camp Martyr, as a traitor
to the Bogus State Bar. I understand
the cause & thus of his offence is
that as Dep Sheriff he had been
endeavoring to serve warrants on the
fellows who had been indicted last Spring.
This is a most terrible state of affairs
Civil law at defiance at hand down
to this Mob. Ruling Supreme, within about
a month of the Circuit Court.
These facts I heard related last
night by Sig Everman. A. A. Rice
is one of the crowd. They took goods
& paid it in Conf. Scrip. I give these facts
& give more that you can use them as seem best
Respect Ed A. A. Rice

Greensburg Ky.
January 26-1863

Dear Ireland,

A strong desire to hear from the Legislature of Kentucky is my apology for trespassing upon you with this letter.

After tendering you my best wishes and a hope that you are enjoying good health and having an agreeable time, I will say that your family are well as usual, and the citizens generally are well.

We saw in one of the Cincinnati papers a series of resolutions offered in your Senate by Mr Duke, which to me appeared to be of the right kind, but I have been unable to hear what disposition was made of them. What became of them?

The people seem to be anxious to know how Kentucky through her Legislature intends to act in this perilous hour of our Country's trials.

Jan 26/63,
J. H. R. C.