

University of Mississippi

eGrove

---

Correspondence

Civil War Collection

---

7-13-1861

## H. A. Stephens to Elizabeth C. Lofton (13 July 1861)

H. A. Stephens

Follow this and additional works at: [https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar\\_corresp](https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar_corresp)

 Part of the [United States History Commons](#)

---

### Recommended Citation

Stephens, H. A., "H. A. Stephens to Elizabeth C. Lofton (13 July 1861)" (1861). *Correspondence*. 555.  
[https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar\\_corresp/555](https://egrove.olemiss.edu/ciwar_corresp/555)

This Book is brought to you for free and open access by the Civil War Collection at eGrove. It has been accepted for inclusion in Correspondence by an authorized administrator of eGrove. For more information, please contact [egrove@olemiss.edu](mailto:egrove@olemiss.edu).

Winchester, N. a. July the 12<sup>th</sup> 1860

Dear

friend it is with great pleasure that I try to write to you this morning. I am very well at present & hope that these lines may find you & your two little darlings enjoying good health & happiness. I have very little news to write that will interest you but I have been thinking that I should write to you ever since I heard one letter read that you wrote to Guy & that was in respect to one getting back home. but in a former letter I wrote that you had better watch or you would lose your old man & since that Guy got a letter stating that you feared I would not get back home & you were afraid that Ostern would cut me out of my sweet heart. I am happy to inform you that I have a captain who has a wife at home & he will be sure to go back & I can follow him back. I as for Ostern cutting me out I do not fear any dainges & if he can I do not want the one who you intended. let her be unto she may. I would like for you to let me know who she is I think she has a nice choise to take betwix a looking fellow & one who



will not fight for his country or has  
not shown any disposition as yet to do so. I  
merely wrote to you so you could caution  
your Guy to think of you & of your little  
Babies. & not so much for that as for ~~merely~~  
mischieif & merely to let you know that  
the lads of war were taking on about him  
more than any of the rest of the boys I do not  
know what they could have seen in his appear-  
ance that was so striking, it was not his  
good looks surely, but it may be that they  
knew he was a married man & that he left  
home to defend you & his children that they  
took on so. let that be as it may he got more  
Prouceys than any of us. & more peases for  
his good looks than any of us. to make up with  
you & tell you the truth. I do not think  
that you need to be uneasy about Guy if  
he has been complimented more than he  
deserves. he has got sense enough to know  
it. & he lies ~~low~~ low & keeps dark. he stays  
at his post all the time when he is not on  
Guard he is at his tent & he keeps state & also  
keeps all the Boys state. he is all ways in a  
good humor & in high spirits. he has not been  
sick but very little since he left home. & when  
he was he took it very easy. he speaks of you very  
often & of his two little children no doubt that  
he would like to see you a gun in peace & harmony



but not untill then or untill 12 months were round  
unless peace is made. but I dont think it will  
be very long before you will see Guy at home  
in peace & happiness. & if he does this trip will  
be an honor to him you & your rising generation  
so the best way ~~is~~ to do is to kill time the best  
way that you can untill all of your friends  
get back. & if they never get home & die in these  
countries cause you must think that they  
died in a god cause & take there deaths as easy as  
possible. it is hard that mankind have no more  
government & control of them selves. than ~~to~~  
to be taking up arms against one another &  
rushing to meet each other in the Battel field  
But as war is the onely thing that regulates <sup>the</sup> ~~the~~  
& keeps nations from getting ahead of their incomes  
& as god made Earth for trials & troubles & not  
for Heavens. we must conclude that it is all  
right. This is the view we have taken of the matter  
& we are very well satisfied & take all of our  
hard ships in good part. camp life is not very  
agreeable. for sometimes we are ordered to strike  
tents when we are not thinking of such a thing  
& have to march off without any thing to eat &  
then have every thing torn all to pieces besides  
our laborious marching. but at the same time we  
have some enjoyment among our selves &  
the ladys of winchester come out <sup>every</sup> ~~every~~ evening  
to see us parade they compliment us very



often for ones good looks & seeming  
appearance. Mrs Gorton you must ought  
to be here a while to see us cook & wash  
our Boys have got to be very good cooks &  
washers & nice house keepers we keep our  
Tents clean & our yards swept clean. & you  
must speak a good word for me for I think  
I will make the Best housekeeper in  
the world. & I want you to send me word  
who Muston is about to take away from  
me I would be glad to know who she is  
you must give my best respects to all  
my relations & friends & tell them to write  
to me for receiving letters from friends is  
part of ones enjoyment & you must be  
sure to write to me as soon as you get  
this & give me all the news & tell me of  
all the marriages that have taken place  
if any. I will close you must excuse  
all bad writing spelling. I am in a hurry I  
remain your true friend until death

H. A. Stephens