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W. H. Cook to Unknown (25 March 1862)

W. H. Cook

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Camp Boston

March 25th/69

Dear Aunt,

I received your letter on

yesterday evening and hasten a reply.

You may judge of that by my now being on guard, and having to write with a pencil. I regretted very much to hear the situation in which you was left. However I hope you are now in some safe and pleasant retreat.

I can imagine your feelings at being left under such circumstances.

But I do not believe you would be in any danger if you were there now. I do not think there will be an advance made by the enemy. Since I have been here, I have heard the Yankees were like ourselves, retreating. But the proof is not very good, and I put no faith in it.

I regret our being separated so far,
very much; still I hope it will be for
the best in the end, I hope when we
advance again we will be nearer, but
if that is not very soon, your time will
run out. We are now 18 or 20 miles
above Gordonsville. I think it is prob-
able; we will remain here for some
time. Our men and horses are improving
rapidly, (I think) will soon be able for
service again. I have not heard a word
from cousin Jimmie since he left
Richmond, I know he has written, but
I have not received his letters, I have
not heard from home, in nearly a month.
I suppose our letters have been stopped.
Your letter was 12 or 14 days finding me.
The Troop that were at Manassas have
all fallen back in this direction, You
are at Culpeper, There is a consider-
able portion of country left to the
Mercedes Bankers. I hate it - on

account of some good citizens that
are left out. The storm cloud that
has so long, hovered over our little
Confederacy, is darker now than it ever
has been before. Our future is darker
now, than it ever has been. Still I hope
the clouds will ^{soon} pass away, and peace
and liberty shine brighter than before.

I wish it was in my power to go to Bri-
ste and send your trunk down the road
with mine or Mrs Dennis. But there
is no chance for me to get there now.

I wonder if Mrs Lickman will not
do it? If I lose the box that was left
to them, I will lose my cloth coat.

(But if I do I reckon it will fit some
Yankee I have not heard a word
from our box that was left by Mr
McCarty. Would take a small sum
for the chance of it. I will stop, direct
your letters to Madison countenance much
love for yourself and yours - all ever
W. H. Cook



Capt. H. B. Miller
2nd Miss Regt. vol
Frederickburg
Va.