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8-20-1861

## David Hurst to H. R. Miller (20 August 1861)

David Hurst

Hugh R. Miller

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Capt Miller

Ripley 20<sup>th</sup> Sept 1861

Dear Sir

My mind has been continually  
upon you ever since I left you at Winchester.  
and you must permit me to give a little vent  
to my feelings. When I remember your age  
your position at home, going from the Rank  
and Bar down almost to a private, undergoing  
all the hardships of a soldier's life, with your  
only son in Rank it presents to my mind a  
devotion to principle and country that I have  
never witnessed before, it is patriotism without  
alloy. I have never felt a deeper interest  
for the welfare of any person than I have  
for you and your son, ever since I saw you. I  
have prayed that you and these dear boys  
may live through all the dangers and trials of  
this unhappy war, and that a grateful country  
may never forget your labor and toil. you  
have no idea with what anxiety I waited and  
looked to see if you and your son were still  
safe. after the Battle of Manassas, and how  
I was gratified to find you all unharm'd.

I have had a severe spell of Pneumonia  
since I got home, am now about well but  
am still too nervous to write. I have no  
new words writing you, our County has

Seven more Companies ready to take the field  
and several others nearly completd. Old Pippals  
is looking up a little. we have fine crops  
and health.

I hope sir that you may receive this  
at some leisure moment. read and throw  
it aside. I am getting old and feeble  
and can do nothing more than offer up  
the best feelings of my heart, for you and  
those dear boy<sup>s</sup> and shall ever be your friend  
Daniel Stewart