

Will A.  
Feb 9/70



Mr Samuel Paul  
Alma Walcott  
Scott County  
Iowa

February 28<sup>th</sup> 1870

Fort Sill Indian Territory

Dear friend it is with great pleasure that i now take my pen in hand to answer your kind and welcome letter for i was thinking long to hear from you for i thought you had forgotten me for i know that Soldiers are always slighted only in the time of war but i was glad to hear that you were well and in good health as this now leaves me at present hopping it will find you in the same well you want to know <sup>how</sup> things is here well it is very <sup>nice</sup> weather here This morning puts me in mind of days in June when i used to be plowing corn and there has been no frost here this winter as yet not enough to



and i expect to be able to find  
form ice the Soil is black  
and about 12 inches deep and there  
is plenty of timber here and the  
have found a coal bank here  
there is no settlement near this  
post and there is no farmers here  
nor no farming <sup>done</sup> only what the  
Soldiers do and that is not  
much but i believe it is a  
place <sup>that is good</sup> for farming and land  
I could be bought here very  
cheap but i guess ~~this~~ would  
be danger here for farmers  
but there is some talk of  
making a Railroad here only  
the indians is against it and  
the road is from Chicago to  
California and i do expect  
wee will have to fight the  
indians about it before the  
give up and wee got orders  
to be ready for action on or  
before the 1<sup>th</sup> of April to send

and to you  
I now  
is what  
20 dollars  
every month  
to spend

and i expect that it is  
~~either~~ for the indians or the  
Mormons that is at Salt Lake City  
and you want to know whether  
the indians or the Mormons  
looks best for my part i do  
prefer the indians for often wee  
see some of them as white as lots  
of the whites but for my self  
i can say that i do not fancy <sup>either</sup>  
of them and i will be worse off  
than i am yet if ever i do for  
i <sup>do</sup> intend to keep my maiden head  
untill i be free and for a church  
The nearest that i do know is about  
900 Miles from here and i do not  
know of any school any nearer  
that is  
When the indians comes to see us often  
and brings with them plenty of  
deer for to sell and lots of the  
boys with them to their camp  
and stays all night and the  
only charge 5 dollars for sleeping



all night with you that  
is the square when you write  
let me know how Robert  
John and family is and what  
he is doing and who the young  
lady was that Skonover don  
do with for i have my own  
opinion of prayer meetings  
after that and i am sorry  
about John Ervin that he  
was so foolish for i would  
rather have the name of  
being a souldier than <sup>doing</sup> that  
So I will say no more  
at present but Remains  
your friend H. & Gordon please  
excuse bad writing and write  
don i send you this money  
to keep for me and when you  
<sup>write</sup> let me know if you recued it  
and if ther ever was any letters  
<sup>come</sup> to Walcott for me since i left  
direct as i <sup>said</sup> sent in <sup>the</sup> last  
ever

I now send you 20 dollars <sup>and I expect</sup> to be able to send  
every month and have plenty to spend

pleas let me know how <sup>miss</sup> Jane Manally  
and what she is doing



February th(e) 8th 1870  
Fort Sill Indian Territory

Dear friend it is with great pleasure that i now take my pen in hand to answer your kind and welcome letter for i was thinking long to here (sic) from you for i thought you had forgotton (sic) me for i know that soldiers are always slighted only in the time of war but i was glad to hear that you were well and in good health as this now leaves me at present hop(p)ing it will find you in the Same well you want to know how things is here well it is ver(r)y nice weather here this morning puts me in mind of days in June when i used to be plowing \_arn (?) and their (sic) has been no frost here this winter as yet not enough to form ice the Saile is black and about 12 inches deep and their (sic) is plenty of timber here and they have found a coal bank here their (sic) is no other settlement near (?) this post and their (sic) is no farmers her (sic) nor no farmining (sic) done only wat (sic) the soldiers does and that is not much but I believe it is a place that is good for fainining (sic) and land I could bee (sic) bought here very cheap but i guse (sic) their (sic) would be dangor (sic) her (sic) for farmers but their (sic) is some talk of making a Railroad here only the indians is against it and the road is from Chicago to Calafornia (sic) and i do expect wee (sic) will have to fight the indians about it bfore (sic) the (sic) give up and wee (sic) got orders to be ready for action on or bfore (sic) the 1th of Aprile (sic) and i expect that it is either for the indians or the Mormins (sic) that is at Salt lake city and you want to know wheter (sic) the indians maidens or the Negors looks best for my part i do prefere (sic) the Indians for often wee (sic) see some of them as white as lots of the whites but for my self i can only say that i do not fancy either of them and i will be worse off than i am yet if i ever do for I do intend to keep my maidenhead until i be free and for a Church the nearest that i do know is about 100 miles from here and i do not know of any school that is any nearder (sic) all the indians comes to see us often and bings (sic) with them plenty of deer for to sell and lots of the boys goes with them to their camp and stays all night and the (sic) only charge 5 dollars for sleeping all night with you that is the square when you write let me know how Robert John and family is and what he is doing and who the young lady was that SEonover (sic) don (sic) so with for i have my own oppinion (sic) of prayer meetings after that and i am sorry about John Ervin that he was so foolish for i would rather have the name of being a Soldier than doing that So I will say no more at present but Remain your friend H (?) Gordon please excuse bad writing and write soon i send you this money to keep for me and when you write let me know if you recived (sic) it and if their (sic) ever was any letters come to Walcott for me since i left direct as i said sent in the last letter and i expect to be able to send (?) every month and have plenty to spend every month 20 dollars is what I now send to you

I now send you 20 dollars and i expect to be able to Send every month and have plenty to spend

please let me know how miss Jane Mcanalley (sic) and what She is doing (sic)