

Lt. Colonel William Henry Chapman Society

Greensboro, N.C.

Stafford Co. 22nd March 1865

I am now 12 miles from Fredericksburg on the Warrinton road to meet you, your Ma & Uncle to take you to Westmoreland as I wrote by Billy Welch eight days ago that I would meet you in Falmouth to day but reached here yesterday 12 oclock & concluded to come up the road to meet you on the way but was surely disappointed. If you do not come I shall think it because you did not get my letter in time as Bro. Sam was wounded I thought Beca would want to come down & you all come together. I shall certainly be disappointed & can not possibly spare the time & go all the way to Fauquir as the Yankees may land while I am absent & there not being a full complement of officers. I should hate to be absent on Sunday a week ago they landed with 13 steamers & came ashore with about 200 infantry & 200 calv. & 14 wagons evidently prepared for a raid of several days but met by our comd. in so may places that they gave up the raid. Sam was wounded in a chase which he was leading the last which we made during the day. The rumors which you have heard are more than half false. The Yankee's cannot make a line across the neck. It would be ridiculous to attempt it. We would be doing good service if we could pick up as many rocks from the field & it would take to make a line across them string enough to keep us in. So do not make yourself so uneasy about me. I wish you were here then you could see & feel for yourself you would soon be convinced that there was not so much danger as you supposed, I read you letter by Mr. Wines (?) I am glad to read what you write even if it is a scolding for you certainly did mean that I have nothing more to say than that I do what I think is my duty. When this was ___ is even I and then do better. It was reported down here that Gen Johnston had whipped Sherman. I hope it is so, that would make our prospect much brighter & would restore confidence & courage in everybody. I would go farther up the road towards Warrenton but I am afraid that you all may have taken another road & reach Falmouth while I

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am up on this one. So I will close & go back to F & wait until night if you do not come I will have to return to Westmoreland without you which will be a bitter pill. I left Judah right-side with bilious fever but was improving when I left Sam's wound was healing rapidly & will be well in three weeks so that he can go about. Give my love to your Ma, Mother, Miss Millie, Aunt Mary, Uncle John & all of our inquiring cousins & friends. Tell Aunt Mary I wanted to see her before I left but did not expect to stay so long when I went up & your Ma that I will write to her next time. From Your Loving & Devoted Spoiled Husband

W H Chapman

