

Ekora 10th July 1860.

Dear Dan;

Thank you for your letter which came to hand today with much pleasure. I adopt your suggestion of replying to it. From 9 'til dusk I am busy in the "stripping-room" - stopping only long enough to swallow my dinner. But ~~one~~ of the most pleasant occupations for these long winter evenings is, ⁱⁿ an occasional letter to absent friends; And if ideas come as freely as my ink flows, I could send you any number of sheets!

I hope there may be nothing to prevent your getting back before the next meeting of the "True Soldier Boy". I am now ~~the~~ left convinced of the value and importance of our undertaking, by more than when I first proposed it - Reflection only strengthens me in the belief that every consideration of independence and independence demands that the Southern People should place themselves on the best possible footing as to military efficiency.

The next meeting will determine whether we can get up a Volunteer Company in this neighbourhood, or whether the project must be abandoned for the want of the requisite number of signatures to our Constitution - Col Wilson will be there to superintend the election of Officers.

Will you get besides the samples of Pa cloth, some of

red & some of blue flannel - also, if you can, a pattern
of a hunting shirt - find out quantity of material needed
for it - Kind of buttons, ^{whether} suitable - ^{whether} whether the
Military button would suit -

My Plan for a Uniform is this -
Pants - grey - with stripe of black cloth an inch
or more wide - hunting shirt or jacket of
red flannel or cloth trimmed with black -

Cap - of blue cloth - similar to the Army or Navy Cap.
There seems little hope of our being furnished with
rifles - they being too costly. One of our countrymen
told me the other day that Gov Wise had told
the Lieut of the Co House Com^{rs}, that the "Star of
Russia" couldn't furnish rifles to all the Vol: Co's!

I was in Cantonville New Year - preaching
around on the Volunteer question! I procured a
few additional names to our roll - and a list
of 8 or 10 names of 20 or 25 \$^h the fund.

I have ^{not} been through Smith Hill since that day.
Mr Purish told me he had several on the
sick list - so came over, according to appoint-
ment to help me get ice on Tuesday, but the
ice being very thick, and owing to my not stopping
to break it up, I had managed to get my ice ^{tray} ^{tray}
most full - But my obligations to you are as
great as if he had paid in every penny. So I told
him, I didn't like to disregard the ~~rule~~ ^{rule} given
by Hercules to all men who have a wheel
to get out of the mine.

There is nothing stirring in our vicinity - have not been to see any of our friends since you left. The Cliftonians are staying all night at Woodburne - and are coming to see us tomorrow. The ground was so slippery on Sunday that I did not venture to Church. We did not hear of Pal's affliction till after we saw you - Please give our love and Christian sympathy to Ben & herself.

Present us most affectionately to Mrs. Will and Cousin Ethel; the boys also, for I suppose they are at home.

Will you let me trouble you to call on my friend Bobbins on your return thro' Richmond - for my watch at it? (E. A. Skinner & Co - Leany Pt. - below Pearl.)

Alicia sends you much love.

Good bye & believe me yr Affectionate friend
& Cousin E. A. S.

P.S. Ask Elliott & Wisciger what they will furnish those caps at!