

of my writings, have passed on, I am sorry to hear they are in your hands. They were given to your father & I hope they will be given to you. I have a few papers I have written & I hope you will be glad to receive them. I have a few papers I have written & I hope you will be glad to receive them. I have a few papers I have written & I hope you will be glad to receive them.

I am waiting patiently for an answer to my last letter. I am waiting patiently for an answer to my last letter. I am waiting patiently for an answer to my last letter. I am waiting patiently for an answer to my last letter. I am waiting patiently for an answer to my last letter.



**Broun, Bettie. Bettie Broun to Harriet Broun, Petersburg VA, April 5, 1863.**

**FileName:** ua24-19\_cw1\_18630405 Handwritten letter from Bettie Broun to her mother Harriet Broun. Southern Female College, Petersburg, Virginia [Inferred], April 5th 1863. 2 page[s]. **Subjects:** Personal correspondence; American Civil War (1861-1865); Virginia--Petersburg; Women's Colleges; Women College Students; Clothing and dress--Prices; Virginia--Heathsville;

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Southern Female College April 5th 1863

My Dearest Ma,

I wrote you a long letter a few days ago by John Branham and have nothing of importance to write now. Nevertheless I cannot let an opportunity pass without writing a few lines to you and it's very seldom I ever have an opportunity. I hope I may receive a letter from you this morning. I dreamed last night I received so many letters from home and surely trust it may come to pass. The Yankees also trouble me very much in my dreams. They take me prisoner frequently and I am very much afraid they will take Pa or some...

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... of my friends. I hope they the Yankees have paid you their last visit. I was very sorry to hear they [grieved?] you so much they were to see you but I trust long ere this you have recovered. Cousin Joe was quite [spunky?] talking to them and I think she did perfectly right. I suppose you and Cousin Bettie were a little shy of them. [Mr. R.W. Dunaway?] was to see Sophie Mitchell on Saturday last 4th Apr and he says the people of Lancaster are as happy and well considered as many people in Confederacy, he, Mr. Dunaway brought Sophie three dresses, two calico's and a [barage?]. They are really beautiful. Mr. [Tom] Dunaway sent them to her I heard there was a large [service?] at Heathsville a week or two since and things sold very reasonable calico's for 13 cents per yard. I hope you...

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... see her again tell her I have heard something splendid about, and a certain dark eyed gentleman but I am very much afraid I shall forget ere I see her. Mr. Davis & his lady have gone to N. Carolina, they will remain until Thursday evening and then return. We **have only two days holiday**. I had rather not have any - for it generally takes me a week to get straight in my studying.

Ma please send one yours **white cambric [opener?]**, if you do not need it. I want to wear it with my **low neck dresses** and I cannot get it here for less than six dollars per yard. You can send it by Mr. Tom Dunaway, as he wrote [me?] Mrs. Doll, he would be over here sometime in April. I have concluded to have a [tarltain bonnet?] made instead of having the straw bonnet trimmed, as I can have it done cheap. ...

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[--CROSS WRITING--]

Flowers are selling very high. I wanted to get two [spray's?] for my bonnet and they \$18.00. I laid them aside in disgust as I thought I would never wear a flower at that

price. I know you think I done perfectly right. I don't suppose you could get any flowers, or, ribbon either. I intend having straw bonnet enlarged for you. I have sold my silk hat, old dresses bringing such good prices. I am almost tempted to some of mine. They bring from ten to twelve dollars. I hope you have received the letter I sent by John Branham again wrote for one of Brother's books. I hope you will send it as we are to commence reading it this week. Today reminds me of home, it is indeed charming out of doors. I begin to feel like it was Spring. I miss your flowers so much. I would that I could be with you to help you cultivate them. I expected Mr. Dunaway to take this down and I you may receive this. I heard Emma [Fillipo?] and Mr. Edmonds...

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[--CROSS WRITING--]

...were married. Strange time to marry and be given when we hear of nothing but wars and rumors. Don't you think so? I guess Ma will be provoked when she finds I have crossed my letters, but this is such splendid paper I cannot refrain from crossing it, and [besides?] paper is very secure and I wanted to write you a long letter. Tell cousin Joe this paper would [suit?] her. She is so fond of writing long letters. I don't suppose you have been able to get me a summer dress. I hope you have. Does [Pink?] write to cousin Joe as often as ever? I would like so much to Cousin Joe want to hear her laugh and talk. I was really surprised to hear Brother was Capt. I think he is most too young for that office. Still I hope he may prove a good one and I know he will. I guess I better close. I have written quite enough to worry you. Give my very best love to all and tell Papa I am waiting patiently for an answer to my last letter.

Is cousin Sallie [Garling?] [bored at home?]? If so [say?] love to her. Also to Aunt Bettie, when you see her. And never fail to do it if I don't mention her name. Tell cousin Bettie I am sorry I haven't time to answer her letter, but I wrote her a long long letter sometime ago. Eight pages long and really think might reply to it. You must write soon and write me a long letter in reply. Again my love to all. The servants also. Let no one see this and excuse imperfections. Mr. Dunaway is waiting for my letter. Good bye.

Your devoted child, Bettie

[pg.02b]

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## Notes:

- [Words in Brackets = unclear transcription]
- Bolded words underlined in original.

1. "Two sprays for bonnet": Flower Sprays.