

He had hoped his life might be spared for months
& that it might have been his privilege to minister
to his comfort - but all is surely & well ordered -
Little Fanny & the two little ones are sick with
the measles - but are over the worst of it now & doing
well - Fanny will add a few lines to this - so with
kindest regards to Mr & Mrs. William believe me very affec-
tionately your friend Anne M. Chaplain
Care Mt. Jn. 14th 1861

My darling Mother,

If I were not to
you who loves to see my handwriting
I need not add any thing more
to what Anne has said for she has
said all that is necessary
Though the blow was so long dreaded
dear Mother, it does notadden sh
severely - we feel you know that we
have lost every thing in him. To
whom shall we look but to God - There
is our hope our fortress, our strong shield
our deliverer. I will be with thee &
I will not forsake thee "Blessed be
God that I have learned in this long
separation to bow more submissively
than I could have done before - Soon
as I can I will write you more - he
was so happy to get home - "how delight-
ful" he exclaimed & it was in his heart
all the time - But I said he was much

weaker than when
I left him - What
my courage he
showed to
undertake
that journey
& oh I can
never cease
to be thankful
to God for
sparring him
to reach me
I had hope
you should hear
from many months
but God's ways
are not our
ways & what
you knew not
how we shall
know hereafter -
Fanny wrote you
weeks since of the death of our dear
father - but her heart is too sad today
writing & the painful task devolves on me
of telling you that the hand of the Lord has
been laid upon us again and a heavier blow
dealt - Our own beloved brother, her darling
husband, your kind & affectionate son is gone
from us - I do not know that they wrote you
from Minnesota of his determination to return
home - but probably though John you have
learned it - a slight attack of pleurisy
induced him to call in Dr. Miller of St. Pauls
who advised him as soon as relieved to return
home - the winter there proving too severe for
him in his enfeebled state - They left as
soon as he was able & after a journey of inex-
pugnable hardship to one so sick & feeble as he
was, were permitted to reach home in safety

a week ago yesterday morning - He telegraphed
Fanny twice on his journey of his safe progress &
on Saturday evening she went into Rodney to
await his arrival - Waked at daylight by the
whistle of the boat she hurried to the bank &
found him seated there on his trunk weary & worn -
They came into home to breakfast - when every
thing looked, at so charming to his homesick heart -
Monday & Tuesday he had a succession of visitors
all eager to greet his return - & his genial
nature responded to their friendliness & he saw all -
Wednesday evening directly after tea he was attacked
suddenly & violently with difficulty of breathing
which only yielded at midnight to morphine
so that he could lie down - on the bed from
which he never afterwards arose - These attacks
continued to return at intervals - invariably with
every effort to change his position, or make
any exertion & with every one he rapidly grew
weaker - till on Friday evening at dusk he
breathed his last after a most distressing paroxysm
lasting about twenty minutes - His mind
was clear to the last & in a conversation with
Dr. Breckinridge the morning of the day on which he

died he testified to his "full trust in God, his
love to his Saviour & reliance on Him alone for
salvation" saying among other things "He was
to him the shadow of a rock in a weary land -
Our loss was his great gain - but oh my dear
Mrs. Britton who but ourselves can measure that
loss - the sole stay of so many desolate
homes - our protector, counsellor, guide, as
well as the delight of our eyes - Death leaves
a shining mark & this time not a star
but a sun has gone down - he was the wisest
most useful & influential man in this community
certainly & he left a wide circle of friends
outside his kindred to mourn his loss - But
with our cup of bitterness God has, as He always
does for His children mingled many mercies - He
has given us full assurance of our dear ones
preparation for the change & he has strengthened
us to endure the great expense of that journey home
that we might have the privilege of tending him in
his last hours & witnessing the great pleasure it brought
him in those hours to have loving faces around him -
it would have been bitter agony to have thought
of him as ministered to at such a time by strangers
however kind - Poor Fanny is stunned & crushed -

soon be over! It has
cost me a young beloved
nephew already I have
felt glad I had no
sons that might by
possibility fight against
Fanny's boys. Of course I
am loyal & believe those
dear precious creatures
misled & fed on false-
hood, but this does not
make it any easier
to bear. I grieve ~~so~~ that
you have been so long
without hearing a
word, it is all very sad.

With a great many
affectionate recollections
of yr kindness I am
dear Mrs. Bristol

Truly & warmly y^{rs}
Anna R. Kopes

Cashley Cottage Dec. 24/61

My dear Mrs. Bristol
I know you will be
at a loss to recognise this
writing. I am Anna Kopes
who used to be Anna
Perit, your dear daughter
Fanny's friend. I had the
other day from a distant
person, the following infor-
mation given me about
the means of letters reaching
the South, & I instantly ^{thought}
you might be glad to
hear of it that you
might rejoice Fanny's
heart with a letter from
her mother. First then
write & direct yr letter
to her in full with your
the usual address then
enclose your letter to in

an envelope directed to
Gen. Huger

Commanding Forces
Norfolk Virginia
don't forget to put a 10
cent piece in this envel-
pe for postage, if your letter
is double then 20 cents.

Next enclose all to
Maj. Gen. John E. Wool
Commanding Dept of Va
Fortress Monroe
Virginia.

Your
letter
must be
unsealed
& the envelope addressed
to Gen. Huger also.

Fanny or any of them
can reply by directing
to you & then to Gen. Wool
& then to Gen. Huger, en-
closing 3 cents.

I have written to
her & Anne Chaplain

but if you shd be writing
you wd do me a great
favor by saying that I have
done so, for I feel un-
certain about their getting
my letter, as it was not
sent by this sure way.
& I cannot write now,
because I have no
strength & this very
short note even, exhausts
me. Please tell them
all the wars in the world
wd never abate one par-
ticle of my love for them
& I do hope they will pre-
serve for me the affection
I value above all treasure.
This desolating war painful
as it is to me & every body
must be doubly so to
you, dear Mrs. Bristol.
God grant it may

Dr Breckinridge
June 7th 1868.

Dr Breckinridge

St Louis June 9th

Dear Madam -

I have the pleasure
of forwarding a letter from your daughter
Mrs M. M. M. - whom I left little
more than two weeks ago - at her home
in Miss. She & the children were quite
well. - Tho. as you will judge from
the enclosed letters not very pleasant
ly situated & determined to make
a move into some other portion
of the South as soon as possible.

She finds herself - from the peculiar
circumstances surrounding her -
entirely unable to carry on busi-
ness on her plantation - which
are completely broken up & value
less to her for the present.

I prefer enlarging on these
topics - as you are fully aware
from public documents of
the state of things wherever the Fed

eral army has possession of the country
he has been living three years
at Col. Clarendon College - near neigh-
bors of your daughter. In that time
I have formed a warm friendship
for her & her lovely children. We
are sincerely attached to them all
& deeply regret leaving them so
compelled with so many troubles.

Willy was at home only for a day, not
long since. I was very well.

I send by Express some
fewing miniatures - which Mrs. M.
dock entrusted to me - to forward
to you. I am not yet at my journey
end - Ky. (Louisville) being our
present destination - but being detained
here some days by the sickness of one
of my family. I concluded to send them
from here. I trust they will reach
you safely as they are highly prized
by the family. Hoping this will find
you in usual health.

With sincere interest & respect

Yours T. L. Beechbridge

One of Mrs. M.'s servants, who
is in Sweden, came to see
me lately and said that
Willie was well when last
heard from - The boy said
he would be very glad to go
to what he still called home
and begged me to remember
him to his mother, whenever
I had an opportunity to
write - Will you also please
mention to Miss Chapman -
that her friends at Hatcher's
are well - and remember
me most kindly to them
all. In ordinary times I would
have been mortified by the
postage stamps, now I thank
you for your consideration
most respectfully,
yours Oth. St.

George Connelly

Sept. 10 - I have just seen a paper from
Robney - who says, he heard of nothing
new no sickness nor particular
trouble in the neighborhood

New Haven Sept. 8. 63

Mrs. Bristol

Dear Madame

It is not only a pleasure
but my duty to give you all the
information calculated to re-
lieve your anxiety (which I fully
understand) particularly when
I recollect the many kindnesses
I have recd. from your daughter's
family - I hasten to answer you
letter of Aug. 16. just received
as I have a letter from Put-
tison dated Aug. 23^d from
Mrs. Chapman which tells me
all are well excepting only Mrs.
Butler who I fear is rapidly
declining - I am satisfied
Mrs. M. has recd. your last letter
as Mrs. C. mentions having recd.
one from Miss Chapman and, which
I forwarded by the same opportu-
nity - I fully inform you of the

proposal of Mr. B. and of his
having made arrangements
for her to draw money here
and of your anxiety on this
subject - but did not venture
to advise - I hope before long
as more persons are helping -
to be able to forward you some
other - in the mean time
you may be satisfied they
were on the 23rd August, all
well having all the necessaries
but perhaps none of the
luxuries of life -

I myself have lately suffered
a severe and trying affliction
having a short time since
heard of the death of my
dear friend George Henry
Chaplain, with whom I have
lived as a brother for the
last 20 years. He left me in
April 1841 - since when as far
as I learned, his health had
improved and we had
hoped the exposed life he led

would strengthen him and
this was his own idea - but
after a little while we suppose
he was very much fatigued
and took some medicine which
he sent. He died at the
house of a gentleman in
Winchester &c. carefully atten-
ded by some of our friends -
but the particulars we have
not been able to learn - It is
useless for me to speak of his
good qualities, he was a man
to be loved and respected &
I dearly loved and respected
him - I can not write this
news to his family - and if
they have not heard it, may
I beg that you or Mr. Bristol
may undertake the sad office
Will you please mention to
Mr. Bristol that I have recd.
The two letters also the one
referred to, not before acknow-
ledged.

Watches March 17th

My dear Mrs. Bristol

It is but a little while since I wrote to you congratulating you & Mary on the birth of her little daughter and little did I then think my next to you would be to express my sympathy in the death of the mother of your little babe - It is but a short time since I have been called to mourn the loss of my only Sister and I know full well how to enter into the feelings of the bereaved - It seems much more real to think of Heaven as a place than it used to be - how many precious gems we have deposited there, dear friends much do I hope we may attain the peaceful rest of their blissful abode and join them in their praises of Him who gained for us so high a blessing - I think

Mrs. Sarah Bristol

of you often - called in your advancing years to minister to others, who should now be the cared for - and poor William - he has indeed been bereaved - I know not how anything earthly, can fill the chasm in his domestic life - I trust, His Saviour and Heavenly Father - may more entirely affect that than could any other - and hope, even this may yet be viewed by him as a light affliction compared to the view he may have of Heaven and Heavenly things - He must know the word of God to be so full of rich promises to those who love Him, it would seem unnecessary to repeat one to him - Yet I will remind him "Whom the Lord loveth He chasteneth", and pray this chastening may be improved by us all - Fanny and Miss Edwards left me yesterday after staying only one day - they came for business - Altho their stay was so short I was very

glad to see them - Miss Edwards has your very tones of voice I think - I had little to interest her in the house - but I tried to show her as much of the place and the environs as I could in advice around - they came by land - she had the opportunity of seeing all the beauties of cotton fields - you have doubtless heard of the death of Mr. Stratton - her mother has gone back and left the two little children with Mr. Stratton - He has Miss Reid living with him at present - I am very glad Fanny is to be with you this summer and hope you will enjoy her visit very much - I would like to go also - but do not much expect that gratification now - If we meet no more here I hope we may when there is neither sorrow or separation - Fanny sends much love with your attached friend L. R. Sheldon