

Petersburg June 28th

M^r Bernard.

I scarcely know what to write you this morning, not having been out enough in the last week to learn the City news, not being able to give you any real ideas of my own feeling so stupid. But I can tell you of Mrs. Willie's return from Texas. And even that you have heard before I guess. He wishes very much to pay a visit to his friends from Petersburg at Norfolk, but fears he will not be able. He is now in Richmond, to see some of the "rules in the land"; to get com-



missions for a regiment he
~~xxx~~ wishes to bring to Virginia or
to some other place which "Old
Abel" is trying to get possession of.
course he will be very busy while
in Virginia, which may be only
two weeks. Bro. Henry will be with
you all next week I guess. Bro.
James will be for going down soon
as he wishes to be with Bro. W.
Prof. Sheppard of Randolph Mason
also wishes to join a Petersburg com-
pany and will probably select
the Riflemen. Have you room
~~for~~ them all there. I shall
certainly have to pay a visit
to Norfolk when all of those
get there. Meanwhile I wish
very much you would come up
to Petersburg. I have numberless
questions to ask you. Every one



who comes up gives me
some exaggerated account
of some of my friends, and
you would tell me correctly
whether good, bad, or indifferent.
I cannot say that Petersburg is
any agreeable at present, but it
will be a little change to be
so ^{much} admired, flattered, and smited
upon as you will be by the
ladies whom you know adorn
brass buttons. You will be able
to feel in a slight degree
what it is to be distinguished
and will endeavor to do
some thing brilliant when
the fight comes off. I believe
several of your friends have
gone to Norfolk to join our reg-
iment in the last week. It
must be very pleasant to have ones



friends and brothers near in such
times of danger. What has become
of your friend the Doctor I cannot
tell you. He may have changed
his style of dress, and joined
a ladies company. But that
is scarcely so, as the ladies would
carry fire arms and, ^{that is} what the Dr
sums most afraid of. Though
your letters are always acceptable.
I can readily excuse your delay
in answering my last, know what
a "bore" it is to write, situated, as you
are. My writing to you is, in a measure,
from a sense of duty. Know that any
thing from a friend or Peter being offered
you great pleasure. And I do think
it is our duty to administer in every
way to your pleasure, as you are sub-
ject to all these hardships to protect
us. Regards to all my friends.
Miss Bradford all at this home.
I sent your messages in my last letter.
I hope you will see Miss May Cooke
and Miss Ella on every chance, as they
are my friends as well as mine. P. B. Cowles.

