I have no news to say and yet I hesitate to bid you farewell. Our opportunities for sending a letter to the world from this place are so few that I must not miss this only opportunity which I may have for weeks. So write very often. God bless you

Corpus Christi Mexico
or Texas August 30th 1845

The greatest pleasure I experienced my dear Sarah on my arrival here two days since was the reception of your letter of the 8th past. Dirt worn travel-worn, it was a compensation for all I had endured a balm for all present ills, and an earnest of future joys. Our march through the Country had been so rapid that I should not have been disappointed had no letter awaited me. I wrote to you from Nacogdoches a few days after we left Jesup and am now in daily expectation of a reply. After leaving the latter place I had no opportunity to send a letter as all communications through the Country is at best precarious and besides my duties were so arduous that I felt not in the proper spirit to address you. My health for the last month has been better than it has been for ten years. Indeed I do not recollect ever to have enjoyed better health. All this has been brought about by you and whatever may betide, for effecting this much, I shall ever feel grateful. We have had a long and tiresome march, beset with difficulties and annoyances more numerous and vexatious than I could have imagined but have contrary to the expectations of all arrived at our destination without any serious calamity befalling us. When we are, two thousand strong, Camped on the bay of Corpus Christi, awaiting the arrival of a few more troops to march to Metamoras. A thousand reports are in circulation as to the probable intentions of the Mexicans. We have heard (not officially) that Arista is declared and Metamoras garisoned by at least fifteen thousand of the enemy. If this be true (there are some who entertain no doubt of it) we may daily expect an attack. Our position is the most defenceless one I ever saw occupied by Engineers

Dear Miss Cary I wrote to know what the Mexicans

troops - Our only hope is in the ignorance and timidity of the enemy
We have Several Spies employed to give us information of the approach of an Army; but we have no assurance that they who are
bribed by one party, are not the agents of another. Altogether, though
no apprehension appears to be entertained, Still Serious fears exist; and those who are not Carried away by the excitement of the
occasion, deem our Situation not without its perils. For my part
I want to have a fight, for many reasons; and would be willing
to hazard much for the probable good that may accrue - yet to
be penned up and butcher'd by Mexican Artillery I do not Compound
for - Such however will assuredly be our fate if we are attacked here
You must not be frightened at all this. I have an abiding trust
that I will live to See the end of all this, and tell you that the
mighty Stake I played for did not unfit me for the duty I had to
perform. Mr Craig is here and I was truly rejoiced to meet. Towards
myself he has ever professed the warmest friendship and in any em-
ergency it would be to him I would look for assistance. He will
know my Services are at his disposal. He told me of much that I
had not heard of my acquaintances in Athens. I think he is Sorry
he did not accompany his wife home, as it must be many more
than probably before he can See her. She Cannot Come here even
if Mexico does not declare war - the Country between the Nueces
River and the Rio Grande is in dispute, and if we do not Come
to blows on the Subject of annexation the troops will remain here
until all negotiation is finished - How long this will Continue
Heaven knows - probably for years. The destination of my Regiment
is on the frontier of Mexico and I entertain no hope of ever be-
ing Stationed nearer to Georgia than the Rio Grande - Still I
hope to be able to Come to Athens again though you are quite

as able to Specify the time as myself. Ask Mrs C when she expects her husband - You may look for me in the Same Car. I am anxious to have all difficulties Cease, after one have one fight, and to See My Company assigned to Some post that I may be if I Can make proper preparations to entertain you. You express your willingness to accompany me any where - I must in virtue of my position, if not the kindly Solicitude I entertain you, be the judge of the eligibility of this Whereabouts. I thank You heartily for the Confidence you have in me. I'll try and never give you Cause to Regret listening to so true a knight. I am glad you met my Sister and are pleased with her. I Should very much like to have been with her. She never has expressed any Opinion respecting our relative situation. She could not be otherwise than pleased with you - though her [redacted] opposition to my marriage with any one may induce her to any otherwise. In this matter She Cannot influence me in the least You Should have Seen the Dr he is the best fellow alive I hope you may yet meet as he promised to Say you if the Slightest opportunity occurred. Give my kindest Regards to Mrs Craig She well knows the Kind feelings I entertain towards her and her husband I wish you would State what you know of the Opinion of the Goodfolks of Athens respecting our engagement. I hardly know how I Should Conduct myself if I Should Suddenly pop down amongst you. Have your relations in no degree abated in the Violence of their Opposition? What Says Mrs Chisolm now? Tell me the Opinions of all - I wont be angry though Mrs C Says I purpose not the Amicable disposition of My Sister. That I Should be writing to you in this Strain thousands of miles away back by dangers and Spirits of all Sorts when I Should be Expostulating over and over again My devotion to you - forgive me - I feel not the lips that I write thus

Corpus Christi Mexico or Texas August 30th 1845

The greatest pleasure I experienced my dear Sarah on my arrival here two days since was the reception of your letter of the 8th inst. travel-wornk it was a compensation for all I had endured salace for all present ills and an earnest of future joys. Our march through the country had been so rapid that I should not have been disappointed had no letter awaited me. I wrote to you from Nacagdoches a few days after we left Jesup and am now in daily expectation of a reply. After passing the latter place I had no opportunity to send a letter as all communications through the country is at best precarious and besides my duties were so arduous that I felt not in the proper spirit to address you. My health for the last month has been better than it has been for ten years, indeed I do not recollect ever to have enjoyed better health. All this has been grought about by you and whatever may betide, for effecting this much, I shall ever feel grateful. We have had a long and tiresome march, beset with difficulties and annoyances more numerous and vexatious than I could have imagined. We have contrary to the expectations of all arrived at our destination without any serious calamity befalling us. Here we are two thousand strong, camped on the bay of Corpus Christi, awaiting the arrival of a few more troops to march to Matamoras. A thousand reports are in circulation as to the probable intentions of the Mexicans. We have heard (not officially) that war is declared and Matamoras garrisoned by at least fifteen thousand of the enemy. If this be true (there are some who no doubt of it) we may daily expect an attack. Our position is the most defenceless one I ever saw occupied by regular troops. Our only hope is in the ignorance and timidity of the enemy. We have several spied employed to give us information of the approach of an Army, but we have no assurance that they who are bribed by one party, are not the agents of another. Altogether, though no apprehension appears to be entertained, still serious fears exist; and those who are not carried away by the excitement of the occasion , deem our situation not without its perils. For my own part I want to have a fight, for many reasons, and would be willing to hazzard much for the probable good that may accrue- yet to be penned up and butchered by mexican artillery I do not con pound for. Such however will assuredly be our fate if we are attacked here. You must not be frightened at all this. I have an abiding trust that I will live to see the end of all this, and tell you that the mighty stake I played for dit not unfit me for the duty I had to perform.

…Mr.Craig…my acquaintances in Athens. I think he is sorry he did not accompnay his wife home, as it must be many months probably before he can see her. She cannot come hereeven if Mexico does not declare war. The country betwee the Nacus River and the Rio Grande is in dispute, and if we do not come to blows on the subject of annexation the troops will remain here until all negotiation is finished. How long this will continue Heaven knows, possibly for years. The destination of my regiment is on the frontier of Mexico and I entertain no hope of ever being stationed nearer to Georgia than the Rio Grande. Still I hope to be able to come to Athens again though you are quite as able to specify the time as myself. Ask Mrs. C when she expects her husband. You may look for me in the same car. I am anxious to have all difficulties after we have one fight and to see my company assigned to some post that I may see if I can make proper preparations to entertain you. You express your willingness to accompany me any where. I must in of my position, if not the kindly solicitude I entertain you, be the judge of the eligibility of this whereabouts…personal …I hardly know how I should conduct myself if I should suddenly pop down amongst you. Have your relatives in no abated in the violence of their opposition? What says Mrs. Church now? Tell me the opinions of all. I wont be angry though Mrs. C says I possess not the amiacable disposition of my sister. That I should be writing to you in this strain thousands of miles away beset by dangers and perils of all sorts when I

should be expecting and over again my devotion to you. Forgive me I feel not the less that I write thus. I have no more to say and yet I hesitate to bid you farewell. Our opportunities for sending a letter to the world from this place are so seldom that I must not miss this only opportunity which I may have for weeks. Do write very often. God bless you.
Tell mrs. C I want to know what she thinks of my sister.

Cover Miss Sarah R. Golding Athens Georgia