

Hardys Bluff, Signal Station, Isle of Wight County, Va.

August 16th 1863.

Dear Sister, I will now proceed to answer your kind letter that came to hand last evening. I was very glad indeed to hear from you, as I had not heard from you in so long. I am up but not very well I have had a couple of chills and does not feel well. Sister I have no news of importance to write you at present. We can see the Yankee boats every day. Their fleet came up the river the other day and threw us a few but fortunately no person was hurt. I received a letter from Brother Irvin last week stating he was well then but did not know exactly where Bro Thomas was. Sister tell Cousin Wm P. that I am very well satisfied indeed with the sales that he made of the property he sold for me. I am much obliged to him and will pay him for his trouble for he done better than I could have done myself. I am glad that you have got the steer home, you can keep him I give him to you he is gentle and the children can drive him to mill. I am sorry sorry that Cousin Wm has got to leave home again and come in the service. I am sorry for all the men to leave home, though I expected it when the President called for the last man. I wish Cousin Wm could hire a substitute in his place and stay at home I would assist him in paying one if he could hire one. I know several men in Southampton that is not in the service. I suppose they have substitute Cousin Wm had as well stay at home as they. I am sorry but I can't help it I wish I could. You must all do the best you can. You asked if the Cedar Store house did not belong to the Lawrence track. It was formerly attached to it but after Father bought the Lawrence place he cut it off. Run the line in the rear of the house from the County road to the rail road below the Cedar. I don't calculate