

Webster March the 26, 1864

Dear James

We received you letter of the 19<sup>th</sup> by last mail. It always give us great pleasure to receive a letter from our children if it is only to here you are all well. We have had some very cold weather and this last week it has been cloudy and snowing and today looks like rain. I hope this spell will be the braking up of the winter it always makes me feel so sad when I think of you all exposed to so much cold weather. You all must take good care of your health. You must advise Dallas he is young and thoughtless he had a very bad cough when he left tell him he must read his bible and you must make him write every chance he has until he can write a letter he must not let other bad boys cause him to forget his religion but let his religious conversations be a patron to others. The conscrip officers have been around and taken off all the men except the deserters in the mountains. There has been no Torie raids lately but the coverly has eaten up the country and it looks like the people will starve this summer. We have not got a chuck a bit of hay or a blade of fodder and but little corn and every on is in almost the same condition. There is plenty of corn at Walhallow and the people are hauling. It will be a hard year with us people, but I hope we will not starve. I will drop this gloomy subject by asking you if you have read the Gov of Louisina speech it is so full of patriotism that it has compleately cured me of the blues and I feel like him if the people will only be true to themselves we can never be subjected. Tell William his wife is well and all the family gives there best love to you all hoping we all may meet again is prayer of you affectionate.

Mother Margaret E. Love