

Civil War, May 12, 1861

Ohio/Ky.

Branch Hill May 12 1861

Dear Cousin Thebe

I received your letter just as I was leaving Munda for this place the 20 of April last. I read it while on the road & thought it I would answer it as soon as convenient after arriving at my new home, but my mind was much occupied with duties present till the freshness of your much prized letter passed out of my mind in a measure, but not to be forever gone, not long since I was looking over my unanswered letters and found this of yours ashamed of my negligence I resolved it should be the first answer of any, I found my Brothers family all I could wish, but the object of my coming was removed by death when I had been here but three months, a sweet little babe six months old was taken but never died and my lap after but 13 hours illness, which was of great loss to me. I brought my little Walter with me which I found a great comfort to me, here among strangers. but that was not to last, the 20 of March his Father came for him, I let him go as I