

My Dear Mary:

I left Annie & Esther safely at Mr. Morris' at 4 $\frac{1}{4}$ P. M., and returned according to expectation. But shall not be home, as soon as promised.

I wish you to write to me a few lines, by the bearer of this — to let me know if "all right." Also, write to me daily by mail, ^{through Covington P. O.} Address your letters to Rev. J. D. Shane, at his usual P. O., and I will get them from him. I will let you hear from me as often as convenient.

You know I am not "abled-bodied," but afflicted; and that I do not wish to be enlisted.

Get Howard H. to sleep at the house, if you feel too uneasy.

Your husband.
Kiss our little ones, & tell them to be good children.