



Transcription of student letters, 1863-1870 (Box 3, Folder 1).

This handwritten correspondence is in the collection of the American Antiquarian Society (Catalog Record 271341).

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Green Baker

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A pleasant way to learn Grammar Three Little Words

Three Little Words You Sometimes See Are Articles a an and the A noun is the Name of anything As School or Garden Hoop or swing Adjectives tell the kind of noun As Great small pretty White or Brown instead of nouns the Bro nouns stand her head his face your arm my hand Verbs tell at something to be done to Read Write Count Sing Jump or Run how things Are done the Advrbs tell As slowly quickly ill or Well Conjunctions join the words together as men and [?] wind or Weather the Preposition stands before a noun As in or through the door the interjection shows surpries as oh how pretty Ah how Wise the Whole Are called nine parts of speech Which reading Writing Speaking teach
Green Baker

David Barr

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Columbus Ga, J. 29,1868 To Miss Sarah L. Chase

My Dear Teacher.

I take the present opportunity to write to you and you all informing you that we are all well at this time present and doing well. I go to school to Miss Gayle and are learning quite fast. I study 3d Geography, 3d Reader, 2 Arithmetic Webseters Dictionary Elementary spelling Book Miss Gayle has 33 scholars I live in Bealwood two miles north of Columbus on a large farm the time has expired again for our Northerned Teacher to leave us I suppose you heard of the Death of Mr Ashburn there is one good thing the Millitary has taken that Case in hand another good thing our City is now under Millitary law. I don't think our City has ever been in such condition before. We have not forgotten 2 times 1 are 2 and 5 times 5 are 25. We are going to a Singing School and Miss Gayle our Teacher also Mr Thornton our Teacher is going to give A Concerts and I wish tha[t] you and Miss Lucy Could Attend The colord people are very anxious for you all to come back

Miss G received A letter from you and was very glad <of hearing of> you to hear from you nor have I forgot that pretty little speller that you gave me before you went Away Miss Gayle say that she will write to you soon Miss Gayle say she would like to see you so would I
yours truly David Barr

Emma Bynum

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I left. North carolina. august be fore last. and I had god by my side. and he helped me a long. I traveled 65 miles and we had 52 in our number. be fore. we crost. the river. we could whear. the pickets soods.[? for swords?] strike the stirrup and we tought. we wold. be taken eny moment. the babys. cried. and we could whear. the sound of them. on the warter. we lay all night. in the woods. and the next. day. we traveled. on and we. reached. Suffolk that night. and we. lost twenty. one. of the Number.

Emma Bynum

Dennis Colman

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Gordensville Va January the 10 1870

Miss Chase I write to yue this Even to let yue know that Father says that I learn very fast And Want to be Preacher and he talk A lot ging to the college Richmond or Whathton he want to make A Preacher of me. he think A geat Deal of me And I am his onely son He had Wan name [Miss?] & he was Sad But I am his yungest 13 years of age he 58 Miss Chase I hope that will Excuse me far My short hand weting I had A heap on my mine to till yue but my Siter call name Allen 8 years old he and mad so much [illegible] that I coluld not rite

Dennes Colman yue must

Mis Chase in Boston

Dennis Colman

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Gardensville va March the 4 1870

Miss Chase I take my pin inn Hand to wright you a Few Lines that yur Want Com Backe Agine When yue go Away I like fur yur to Come backe Agine) Dennis Colmon
too L Chase

Sunday if yue Could

to Lusy Chase

Dennis Colman

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Gardensville va pril [i.e., April] 29th 1870

Dear Miss Chase I take my pin in hand To Write your a few Lines to leat you know that I am Well and I hope that youre are well too I got thaes to letters fom you I am Doing well I am in the freedmen Book and in Long Divison in Arthmetic

I was very sorry When your Went a Way I Wish that your Was here know the [tree grows over head?] Im plesse to Writ [sing?]

Dennis Colmon To My D miss Chas

Miss Lucy Chase my Father is Well and 42 Age Mather [Mother?]

Emma Colt

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Norfolk VA 1864

Norfolk is a Dole place three yars ago i was dassnt to say that I was free but thank God I can say so now the man I lived with is named WW hall he says that Wel belong to him in hell and he says that he wishes that yankees Was at the Devel When i came a way i Diden no my abc he had sould my brothers and sisters and would have sould me and mother and father if he coud for he had us paced upsen to richmond to sell. He sead that the yankees had horns and thay [erly?] was be hind them and thay had but one and thay usto me call me very bad they usto beat me this man was a negro byer he says before meny years he will be Doin the same bisniss he ses that the rebels will beher in may thank Lord that yankees came mond he was goin to send us to richmond the next monday that yankees came satday night he carad my brother a way he sad that you al black that youall had for legs like a hors and had one eye before and one behind and a horn on each side

Emma Colt

Georgeanne Cook

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Norfolk City Dec 27th 1866

This woman are a poor creature with 5 children and are much in need of clothen and desire the help of the mission She ware once the slave of mctoush and has never reseav eney thing from the

govenment i had to stop my children from School be cause thay had not clothing to go to School
her name are Jane Bright Sign by
Georgeanne Cook
Miss Chase Teacher Norfolk City

Celia Coonts

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Dear Miss Lucy Chase

I send Rosanna and Willis to school to obey your orders for I certainy do feel you I heard that
you had mighty bad scollars at that school I want you to please send me word Whether Willis
and Rosanna do obey you or not if they dont obey you I want you to send me word for I
promised to remember them if they dont I would please me very much if you would punish them
when they don't obey you I want to please send me them home when the trains come
Celia Coonts

Thomas Fry

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Gordonsville va 30 1870

Dear Miss Chase I write you A few lines to let you no that We All are well and I hope when
these few lines reach you I hope they will find you thay same All thay children sends Thair love
to you Emer sends her love to her receive you letters and I was very glad to hear from you Miss
Merfy Allso send their love to you Allso Maria ses that Seh would like to hear from you. I now
studding in the freadman Book Emer are coming to School now Luchius [illegible word] Sends
his his love to you Edmen rese sends his love to you Delfy Merfy sends her love to you
Thomas Fry

Joseph Green

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Alexandria Va
february 18th 1865.

Miss Lucy Chase I take the opportunity of penning you a few line to inform you of my health I am well and hope you are the same. I have been very sick but I am better at this time. We are [?] for [?] NC and I can not tell when I will be able to get to Norfolk) Dear Miss I have been looking for a letter from you ever since I left so that I would know where to direct you a letter . . . So all that going to send my love to you & wish you all my love dear lady I hope you write to me soon and let me know how

Dear Miss I am so busy that I can not write as I wish to but I am living in hope that I will soon be in your company Write to me at Ft Monroe

Dear Miss I have a great deal more to say but I have not the time give my love to your sister also to the lady that you are staying with at night now and I must send my letter so I Remain your lover)

Mr Joseph Green

Solomon D. Green

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Gordonsville Va dc 21 1864 dec 21

dear Miss Chase I beg you for not doing so My father had Sout for doing So my father Sad that he was Sorry that the thing haping So but I beg you father for so doing So my dear Miss Case Salomon Green father ask you partner to Mother is Sorry to i was work in gat the house at that time and he had call me three times Mother Say that you must for Giv me for so doing so Miss Chase you had bin Good to see you

A few mor Words I will never do So no more

dear Miss Chases Gordonsville Va I will end my Leter Solomon d Green Miss Green all so I ask farmer Miss Chase I set a heap astore to you

Matilda Hill

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Dear Mr Chase I am Well at this time and I hope this may Find you the Same I am Sorry that I Did not write to you Before Now Mother send her love I send my love to you I have no more to say to you howdy and Good By

Matilda Hill Lucy Chase

Richard Hill Send his love to you Louis Finks Send his Love to you

Moses Hume

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[in pencil] L C Contraband

Gordonsville Va April 16th 1870

Much respected Friend

I will acknowledge the Note you sent me & was much gratified to be able to hear from you and hope to be able to hear from you again before you start on your Journey

Mrs Esther is getting along nicely and sends her love and best wishes for you & little Emma sends lots of love and would like to see you again & we all hope for your wellfare and hope you will have a pleasant Journey and go and return safely

I did not Appreciate untill now that you was so good & I am determined to learn all I can Certinly I think you had the most Patience of any Lady I ever say & I regret very much that I couldn't have come to school more than I did I have now comenced to board at Mr Manns to have a much better chance to study than I did I think of you every dday and will not very soon forget you

you must try and write before you go on your journey please to excuse so short a letter and I will try and do better next time.

this from a faithful Friend and well wisher now good bye for now and may God bless and take care of you

this from Moses Hume

Mrs Mary Johnston

[in pencil:] Miss Fortin will have the kindness to put this with papers for the Misses Chase [?] expects to go to [?] to see the folks off but it is a little doubtful [a number of illegible words]

Charlotte Ann Jackson

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Charlotte Ann Jackson

When i was liveing Whith White People i was tide down hand and foot and they tide me to the Post and Whip me till i Could not stand up and they tide my Close over my head and whip me much as they Want and they took my Brother and sent him to Richmond to stay one year And sent my Aunt my Sister my farther away too and said if he did not go away they would kill him they Said they Was Goin to Put me in Prisens But the light has come the Rebles is Put down and Slarly is dead GOD Bless the Union Forever more and they was Putting

People in tubs and they stead me to Death and i hope Slarly Shall be no more and they said that the yankees had horns and said that the yankees Was Goin to kill us and something told me not to Believe them and something told me not to Be afraid and When they Come heare they Would not let me come out to see them and when i was out in the Street they was stead i would Go away from them and they said I Better stay with them for the yankees would kill me i would Better stay

Elias F. Jefferson

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Charleston, S. C. September 11th 1867

Highly Esteemed Ladies

I Received your kind Letter of the 7th and it Was a source of Great Joy to me & all my friends We often thought & spoke of you and intended Writing to inquire after you but we delay in so doing Miss Rutledge & myself are about to start the Literary Society All my Classmates join me in Remembrance To you and Miss Sarah I hope these may find you enjoying good health We can never forget those Pleasant Evening that was so kindly Devoted to our improvement We can, never, never forget of Which We are so much indeted I hope that We Will be able to see each other again in this Life and if not I hope we may in heaven

I hope to hear from you again Shortly No more at Present your Humble servant Elias F[?]

Jefferson

Miss. L. Chase

Jordan C. Johnson

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Columbus Ga June 19 1868

To Miss Lucy and Miss Sarah

My Dear Teacher

I will now take this pleasure to write you a few lines to let you know I am well and I hope that these few lines will find you well and in good health and now I sopose you would like to here something about Miss Gayle and her school at this Present time Miss M & G. have a very larg school at this time and all of her old scholars that went to her when you was in school with her I will tell you my studies third reader second Geography second a rithmetic Webters Dictionary and elemntry spelling Book I have been through dour copy Books I have been through 3 No 3 Copy Book 1 No 2 copy and I am also in No 5th copy Book. Miss G not attach was to the free school this year. She is teacher in Joe Caldwell dwelling room and I am going to Miss Gayle. We

are going to a singing school and Miss Gayle are also We are going to have a consirt the 6 of July the singing school and Miss Gayle School wishes that you was here with ous to day is not our writeing day tuesday and friday is our main writing day dont eny Classes say lesson only primer class say lesson those 2 days in writing.

Miss Gayle says that She will write to you soon her self I would like to here from you soon please write to me soon Miss G says she want to see you very bad
yours sincerely Jordan Johnson

Jordan C. Johnson

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Columbus Georgia, May 11th, 1869

to my Dear teacher

Miss Lucy Chase

I take this opportunity to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and doing well and wish to here the same from you it has been along tim since I have heard from you and I injoy a great pleasure in written to you hopen these few lines will Reach you and find you well I would have Ritten to you before now I did not know how to direct my letter to you I went to the teachers dwelling house a few days sense Miss Kimble give me a card how to direct my letters to you Remember me the one who went to school at the Baptist Church to school and kept door their the one you call red neck tier and there was one morning I came with out a neck tier and you ask me where it was I told you it was at home and you ask me what was the reason I did not ware itt I told you the reason at I didn't ware it because you call me red neck tier you told me to I put it one the nexday and you would not call me red neck tier any more

Miss Gales is in Mobile Aleb

If you wish to write to her Direct your letter to Mary A Gayle Stone Street church Mobile Alb

My name is Jordan Johson the red neck tier I will bring my letter to a close

Your truly carler J. C. Johnson

P.S. Remember me I will you do you Remember David Barr he is ded he went to Mobile last sept with his teacher Miss Mary A. Gayle to mobile with her and came Back on the on the 28th ist of december and was taking with fits a few days after and died January 1 1869 and was berried on the 2 of january David Barr is dead Death

You truly friend Jordan Johnson J C Johnson When you write to me Direct your Letter to Jordan Johnson in the care of S. H. Hill Columbus Geargia May 11 1869

James M. Quash

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Charleston Sept 18th / 67

Most Adored Ladies & Teachers,

With a heart of Joy & Gratitude I take up my Pen to address you with these few Lines, hoping when Received, that they may find you enjoying good health as they have Left us, quite well at Present, in Compliance with the Letter you done us the honour of Writing. I must really say that it was a moment of Glad Tiding when I heard that there was a Letter Received from you, in as much as it was Joy and Gladness when I open these Pages and found that you all were sick since you arrived. it was minute of deep regret, though I contented myself By saying that the Lords will must be done, though I hope through his infinite mercies he may enable you to regain your health and strength again. I must really say that I regret very much that I could not call to see you before you left the city, on the evening which we were to call, I was Detained By some of my friends whom I call to pay a small visit, but Notwithstanding you were in my thoughts ever since, your absence from me. I am happy to state that I and my friend Mr. Jefferson have become Teachers in the Congregational Church Sabbath School and also members of the same. Rev. Mr. Merritt Pastor and am also happy to say that we have organized a Temperance Society, to which we have some Twenty two Names enrolled at Present and are getting more at every Meeting. all of my Classmate Join me in Love to you, and wish you best heartfelt wishes I learned from my friend Mr. Jeffersons that he omitted that I wishes the studies of Ministry also if it can be Procured I hope that you may be able to renew your health again so that you can use your best effort in behalf of us. I would have written before, but I have just arrived home from the country and was very happy to hear from you. Remember me to Miss Lucy tell her she must really excuse me for not Writing to her separately but I hope she will Receive this as to her also. I miss you all very much but I hope to see you all again if not on earth may we never to Part again in heaven Nothing more of importance to communicate at Present you must really excuse my bad Writing as I am much fatigue having just arrived home yesterday morning I must Close with wishing you Peace Prosperity and Happiness write as soon as possible I will be happy to hear from you as often as Possible. All letters can be Directed to E.F. Jefferson for any one of us and it will be safe

I am Very Respectfully Your humble Schollar

James M. Quash

S.L. Rafe

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[Note in pencil] The Com. can see this – about the murders

Catharine Harts James married [sic] one of Caroline Paynes daughters Mrs. Spencer has moved home + sends her love She was so very sorry that you did not return this Winter Mrs Martin, Hart, & Clark & many others send love to you The People generally are well & quiet here but there is much suffering among the Coloured people in the Counties of Madison, Hamilton & Jefferson.

in consequence of the outrages perpetrated by the Kue Klucks there has ben no less than one hundred & twenty Blacks men, women & Children killed in the last three months, one poor man living on his own land procured by hard labour since the War sold this year eight hundred dollars worth of Cotton. Week before last a band of White ruffiens came to his house took him to the Woods and hung his Wife & daughter to the rafters a woman was shot down in her feild merely because she asked a man not to destroy her Watermelons. A party of people goin to a Picnick in a wagon passing through a thick Wood was fired into by person conceeled in the brush one poor man was killed while trying to save his Child a ball passing through his body & through the Child also killing them both you ask for the particulars but my Heart grows sick my brain swims I must cease I can only exclaim My God how long? Aunt manerva is not dead it was a son of hers, he was shot by a little White boy on the place where he lived they buryed him without leting his Mother or ayn any one know of his death But I am making my letter too long I am sorry that I cannot say anything encouraging for the Temperance cause some I believe are carefully observing there Pledge but there is know society formed some ar
The Library is progressing rather better I have added about a dozen books We loan perhaps three or four in a week since writing the above I have seen Mr Erwin he promises me that he will call a meeting, & try to form a Temperance Society next week
About the Land I think the peice you wanted is sold but ther is a forty first back of Mr Freeze Mill opisite our hous that belongs to the State.
Mr Rafe is well & joins me in love to you hopeig this may find you as well as it lives us I remain
your Obliged Friend
S.L. Rafe

Day the Republicans are having stormy times the K K Ku Klucks are killing up the colored people sadly Judge Days life is threntend Mr. Erwin has been obliged to leave the town to save his life + so the school is closed – I had almost forgot to tell you John that owed you a dollar has moved away I don't know where he is Plese write soon S. L. Rafe

Abraham Rose

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Gordensville April 19 1870

Deas Miss Chase I am glad to here that you am well I am getting on Very Well in School but I hope that you was here to teach us now and My Grandmother sends her best love to you for the Stockings that you gave her While you was here And Mother sends her best love to you the trees and flowers is blooming out very pretty I heard about the falling of the Capitol in Richmond Wednesday please send My love to George Robinson if you sees him and the last time that i heard from him <he was not well> his mother was well, and most of the School Children went to fishing last Saturday down Mr Coulders and there was So many Children that We could not

catch no fish you must sure and write to me I have no More to say at this time you must excuse me for Such a Short note.

your respectley

Abraham Rose

Abraham Rose To Miss Chase

Julia A. Rutledge

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Charleston December 2nd 1867

Dear Miss. Sarah

You must wonder why I have not written it is not through neglect sickness is the cause of it my sister was extremely ill for the last thre months wich kept us very busy and distress. I did not write but my thoughts so always with you and Miss L. I went to Mr Cardoza and explain maters to him he do not Speak much for the hampton College. and the Oberlin College we must have money he advise me to write to Miss Thayer New York my teacher. She taught here thre winter ago he thinks She will be able to get us at the Oberlin College

I have written Some time ago but have not recieve any answer. having been kept so unkone I was unable to see any further in to it. Mr Cardoza think It best for one only my sister thinks if I can Succeed it is best for Sarah to remain. it is so trouble some If we could have a teacher here every winter I think it best still I am very anxious to go away it would be more to my advantige but I do not like giving so much trouble about it I dont hear yet of any afternoons school. all the girls is much pleas with your Letter. tha all sends love to you & Miss Lucy the times is very hard with it all we are geting on fine the voteing came of fine I shall enclose a Jareanum leaf a leaf for each these are the names that sent you the [Pres?]

Mary . Alston

Cathrene . Provost

P. Jackson

Edwards

Julia . Johnston

[“?” S. Beckman

Susan . Scott

D. Levy

Anna . Brown

Julia Rutledge

these are the names as far as I can remember my sisters goin with me in love hope this will find you and all well Sarah say she will write soon

Good night

from your loveing Schollar Julia A. Rutledge

Julia A. Rutledge
(no image available)

Normal School Va. Oct 4th 1868.

Dear Miss Chase

I will venture to send you another letter hoping you may get it I have not heard a word from you for the last year which keeps me in a anxious state dear Miss Chase I cannot tell you how very anxious I am to hear from you – if you get this letter I will send my picture as I prommise it and would like you to have one pleas if we are fortunate enough to take up our corresponds again for I would like much to have a picture of you and Miss Lucy – I will give you an account of my self. I am here in virginneia at school the school you wrote to tell me about paying my way by working the girls work in doors and the boys on the farm the girls all have all the domestic affairs wash for the boys sow all the scrubbing to do there are about 14 girls and 22 boys five from Charleston Mr Jefferson are one of the number I like it very much indeed wee are very comfortably fix our chambers are neatly furnish with cottage setts and every conviientary wee have water pipes in the house a bathing room –

I will tell you the rules the bell ring at half pass five allowing us half our to dress then it ring at six for breakfast tha allow five minuts if you are not there in time you are mark the bell ring at eleven for the boys to stop work and fix for dinner and school we dine at 12 clear up our ineing room and get in school by one we have school from one to five and then we recite [?] about a half our and the bell ring for evening prayers after prayers wee go in to supper at half pass seven the bell ring for us to study wee study untill half pass 8 the bell ring for us to get ready for bed at nine it ring for us to out the lights – and the best of it wee have such a very kind Miss [?] Matron She tries in every way to make us happy each schollers love her and y would not be happy without her She is a Miss Brfeck from Massachusetts – I hear from home pretty often Sarah did not come She is at home my sisters did ot think wise for both of us to leave home the rebs have taken Mr Sumners school building at the corner of Morris and Jaspser Court where we spent those delightful ours in the afternoons trying to gain knowledge thea have ift for the colord children The picture you gave I had it neatly frame in a guild frame & have sent to have it here with me Louissia Elliott expect to come on very soom Louissia are one of your schollars – dear Miss Chase I am very anxious to see you I often wish you were here to teach I trust I will have the pleasure of seeing you once more. Should we not meet on earth may we meet in heaven where partins is no more give my best love to Miss Lucy tell her I will write her next – Good bye with a double portion of love.

Yours truly

Julia A. Rutledge

[Notes in pencil at bottom]

xcuse my anxiety

Hampton churchletter

Aunt Nancy & Susan

[Note in pencil on side] Attend!

Hannah Standing

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Mr Willis Briggs has been hear and wanted me to have him and I dont wants to have any thing to do with him and I don't him to come here whare I am Mr. Jeremiah Standing has ben hear and has been hear ever since last Christas in the place and I wsant to take him as my Husband and he has ben my husband ever since he has been hear. I want to keep him as my husband Mr. Briggs has been hear and has threatened to kill my husband I want you to keep him a way from hear and he does not belong to the far at tall.

Hannah Standing--

May the 27 1863

Joseph M. Stewart

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Columbus ga June the 29[?] 1868

Miss lucy Chase i take this opportunity to rite you a few line to let you know that i am well and doing well i hope that you are well and doing well Miss chase when you rite to me sine my name Joseph m. Stewart and then i will get it mother tole me to tell you Lydia give her best respects to you bouth and tell you that she has not forgoting you she has spoking of riteing a god while we dednot stay up the country mor than too munts we is liveing in Columbus yet we have not any new in our city mirdrer mr ashmon [George W. Ashburn] take on Color people [illegible words] about it they were goint to burn down the city if it hadn to bind for trup them that kill the gentlmon is bold k.k.k. ku cuk klan tha hav cot them and tha tryal com of Juli

Alik Sample started to liberty and and tha herd that he had sumthing to with it and thay tried to kitch him but he lef som [illegible word] behine and put out tha coden kitch him got of before tha cod kitch him

James Barber Chippir Bobewood the city morshil and one of the trup they wer 27 in all John wells but he got our by telling the names of all that had a hand in it the ones hoe had a hand in suting thay are to be hung ones hoe watch thay are to go to pentenyry for life time Joseph m. Stewart

Louis Wales

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Gordonsville Virginia April 29th 1870

Dear Miss Chase I feel it my duty to write to you I am well at this time I hope you well on your
jurny I hope This leter will find you well mother and Father send his love to you

I reseave you note I was very well pleasat you sayinf brother and sister send there love.

Louis Wales

Miss Lucy Chase.