

Camp at the White House
Washington, D.C.
March 2, 1863

Dear Mother

I received your letter today and was glad to hear from you I am well at present and hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same great bleysing the weather is warm here at present but no telling how long it will remain so the dreys you speak about was not for Mrs. Lincoln it was for Aunt Mary Williams a colored lady Mrs. L. cook I just come from the Navy Yard me and Bill Clover was down to see it we seen them making an cannons and shells and bullets at the landing was a rebble boat that was captured and brought there last night the sailors were riging the sails and taring the ropes they had a board like a swing board the rope three feet long with one arm over the rope and they would start from the top and set on the board of the mask a 150 ft from deck which was very slow and come down taring as he come while there they fired a little brays cannon out in the river at some stakes a mile so off I could see the shell agoing I seen Gen. McDowell thismorning he was the best looking officer I have seen here yet at 8 oclock tonight is the last reception to come at 8 if you would like to see the President there is a going to be another draft from twenty to 35 I think I sent a patent office report It was give me while I was on guard by one of the men at the House tell Bill to read it and he can learn how to farm and rase hogs that is all presenet so good by from your son, Willard A. Cutter.

Dear Brother

I received your letter I was at the Navy Yard today and seen a big ten inch gun fired with thrible charge in at a target not a hundred ft of the shot made a dinge as big as your cap and pieces of shell flowed in all directions. it was the first time it was ever fired. I was glad when I learned you had a pup if you cant pay the tax I can. When the Regiment went our the first Lieu. Getz was down to the river to see them start Col. Wister said to him I want you to put a guard over them tents the tents they left said Lieu I have got nothing to do with your tents you and Bill are crowing the worth work rite a long that is the way to do it so good by how is your pigs before did you get 80 cts there is 50 in now. write soon from bold soger Hans Vanderbunn