1865

Camp at the Executive Mansion
Washington D.C. Jan 30

Dear Brother

I received yours of the 23rd inst last Friday and having time to spare I thought I would pen a few lines to you to let you know that I am still kicking around and well enough for my allowance I am very glad to hear that you are all well the Weather has been very cold for the last eight or ten days, the River is frozen and there is splendid skating the ice is covered with Boys and girls skating Every day, there was a big fire here last tuesday the Smithsonian Institute was burnt the Upper Story was Entirely destroyed

Digital Image, Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College, 2002.

the two wings were not harmed but the upper story of the main Building was destroyed with about all the things there was in there there was thousands of People there to see the fire the floor was a fire proof one or the lower story would of been burnt you have lots of work on hand and I am glad to hear that you get along so well but I pity you because you have to work so hard but I hope you are able to stand it You asked about me buying a lot I cant see it I have got so much land now that I dont Know what I am to do with it, I have refference to the 160 acres I think mill-Dam sold his lot well, but the time he was offered $10,000 he would of done better if he had of took the man up then

Digital Image. Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College. 2002.

Samuel Hayson of our Com,
has been discharged on
account of disability he will start
for Home soon, I was up to
the White House last monday
night to the Reception there
is the place to go to see the
fashions, I must draw to a close
give my love to Grand Mother and
the rest of the Folks, write soon

from

Willard. A. Cutter

Digital Image. Special Collections, Pelletier Library, Allegheny College. 2002.