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Richmond, ~~24~~ May '65

My dear Genl

I am very much obliged to you for the information contained in your letter of the 15th of yourself and Mrs. Long. I hope you will be able to put in practice one of the plans for your future mentioned in your letter. The first I think more conducive to the intent of the State as well as to yourself and therefore I favor it. The second may bring you and Mrs. Long more happiness, more peace and more quiet. I send you the paper you desired which I hope may answer your purpose. Your young soldiers must recollect that I am a very poor scribe and you must aid me by preparing your papers for my signature, when you desire them. Mrs. Long could have written something agreeable to you far better than I. You know how short-crabbed I am. I should like amazingly to see Miss Lucy. I am afraid she will become a young lady before we meet. I am looking for some little quiet house in the woods where I can procure shelter, and my daily bread, if permitted by the doctors, and wish to get Mrs. Lee out of the city as soon as practicable. Tell Col. Baldwin I am much obliged to him for his letters. I would have ans'd them, but have not yet found time. My letters increase upon me. He must come down and get some of these nice young ladies to go back with him to prepare his fish after they are caught. I fear will be unsuccessful till that is accomplished. He will put no heart in the business.

Cherishing the memory and services of you both with affection and gratitude.

I remain very truly yours

R. E. Lee

Genl A. L. Long