

Feb 18/6  
Winchester Jan

Dear Sister

I received your letter this morning & will reply in time for the mail to-day, though not exactly in the humor for writing as Jackson's part of the army has had a blow up. When we left Romney Jackson as I told you in my last left Loring's force then I brought his old brigade to Winchester, when Loring, without saying any thing to Jackson, sent three of his brigades to Richmond & had Jackson's order countermanded & his <sup>(Loring's)</sup> force ordered back to Winchester by order of Sec of War (Benjamin) in consequence of which Gen Jackson has resigned & his men swear that they will not serve under Loring what the consequence will be I can not tell. But if the orders of such a man as Jackson are to be disregarded by such trifling puppets as Loring & seconded by Benjamin I

think the Southern Confederacy is  
in a hard fix. But enough about  
that, I guess you will <sup>hear</sup> more in  
a day or so for I never said or saw  
an satisfied set of men from the Stone  
wall just now I hear that Lovings  
men are just as much attached  
to their Gun & me are to ours, so would  
not be surprised to hear of a bust of  
ours. I'm regard to my undobbe  
I was congratulating myself that I  
was so well off, but you seem to  
think that it is rather indeliberated  
the only thing that I ~~read~~ read is  
a coat I will have my boots patch  
and have them do very well. We will  
go into a horse battery which has  
six rounds in it so you see I will not  
be wounded. Had a great thing it is  
to be at head quarters! but how long  
we will be there I do not know, but  
Jackson still keeps us

As we are the only soldiers quartered  
in town, we get along pretty well  
among the ladies, who think that there  
is nothing equal to the I.H.'s or  
we are here called Jackson's body  
guard. I got a letter from Mr  
Patterson this morning in which I told  
letter was mislaid, I was glad I was to  
see again that handwriting!

Excuse me from writing more  
Good bye  
Gay and get me a gray coat if  
you can anything rather than brown  
blue, a light gray if possible