

Jacksonville Ala
Dec 25th 1896

My dear father:

I have been thinking what would be nice to send Pa for Christmas, and can think of nothing you'd have that could be procured here, so I have concluded to send you a letter from home bearing to you the news of our good health, and a merry Christmas to you. I would have certainly done without a present this time if you hadn't sent me the nice cravat, accept thanks, 'twas the only thing I needed in the way of dress. The fantastics rode today. Littlebud was Captain's orderly while Den Privett lead the van. 'Twas a funny show and created a deal of mirth. No Christmas egg-noggs or holiday fightings, so far everything peaceable & quiet. Bro Nat + Sullie + Jess, Sister Em + Bro Charlie all took Xmas dinner with us today. All well -

Affectionately

Your Son
J. M. [Signature]

Thieves broke into Crawford's confectionary and took nearly half his stock

Hon: Jno. H. Caldwell.
U. S. House Reps.