

Livery stable in full

Jacksonville Ala

Feb 29. 1876

Dear Son

I dislike to
write to you with pencil
but I have just got little Jennie
to sleep, and as it is late

I have concluded to drop
you a few lines with pencil

rather than go up stairs
for pen and ink. Johnnie
has gone to the Good Templars
meeting. Willie is lying on the
little bed in my room trying
to be sick, he is suffering
from cold. Have you had
any cold lately? Do be very
careful - and if you have

a cough drink freely and
rub thoroughly with "Radway".

I am sorry I did not
give you the bottle I had of
"Jayne's Expectorant". It
is splendid for colds. I
hope my dear boy that you

will not only be careful of
your health, but that you

will also guard well your
morals. When you are tempted
to walk in forbidden paths
think of the prayers and fears
of the Mother who has watched
over you from earliest infancy
and of the fond Father who
has endeavored both by precept
and example to make his
sons pure in morals and

upright in all things. You

know it would bring us both

in sorrow to the grave if our
children should choose the
broad road that leadeth unto
death, instead of, the straight

and narrow way that leadeth
unto life. I am always
anxious about you darling
and always fearing that
you might be lead astray
by wicked companions.
Thus far, you have been
a precious child - few boys

have been more dutiful
than you have always been -
and should you go astray
now it would be a terrible
blow on us. But I will

still hope better things of
you - and pray that God

who is able will still
keep you a good boy.
I believe I wrote
full particulars about
the fire which destroyed
Mrs Keys dwelling. You

have learned before
this of our last fire
which consumed Livery
Stable, Dr Arnolds, and

George Wilsons. About 2

O'clock A.M. on the 19th we were
aroused from sleep by the
cry of "fire, fire." Your
Aunt Mat sprang out

of bed, ran to the window
and found the