

Snatobia Miss May 2^d 1861
Miss Callie J. Anthony
Dear Cousin Callie
Your last favor is to hand and
I was truly glad to hear from your
portion of the moral world -
Although we get daily news papers tidings
from your Country, still these lines
are not the embodiment of home
friends, those we love & to whom we
are attached by all the ties of social
life - You say that long and your's had
reached me, the glad tidings of Va's
secession & Union with the S. C. would
be all news to us - Yes we had long
looked for this joyful tidings, but it
was only "wakened" from the slumbering
inactivity which a love for Nationality
had produced, when the booming of
Sumpters Guns betokened the devices of
an ignorant, impious, & diabolical
faction was attempting to practise
upon the free & independent nation
known as the S. C. and those of the
border States who were seen then
trusting to the perfidy of a class
who would sanction a John Brown raid

and the Representative men who headed
their party and desecrating the name
of President of the U.S.A. - Cousin
I could not believe until Lincoln was
en route for Washington that such a
mass of the American People could
ever be induced to the fanatical point
of elevating such a man to this high
post of honor - I was almost convinced
that your violence in general had done
him injustice - but it was only necessary
for him to make his Springfield debate
in order to satisfy any sensible man who
had the least ideas of Constitutional Law
the Power of State Government & the
the Relations which individual Commu-
nities bore to the Sovereign State, to see
at once that he was not even needed
in history much less the difficulties
of manning a ship a State in the
capacity of a Chief Executive.
I once feared you had too many
unthinking men who did not inform
themselves upon the questions of the day
sufficiently to march to the sound of duty
in the hour of peril which over-
hung us as a nation and I was
almost ashamed to say I was a ~~Vander~~
and you may truly imagine the joy

which persuaded my system when the
Telegraph reported that she had broken
off the shackles of Lincolnism and
had retained the privilege of state sover-
eignty - Yes I looked to the top of my voice
& you ought to have heard the booming
of our great Cannon as they sounded
the eight reports designating our state
S.C. The last echoed & resounded upon
the wings of time & me thought its
column sound was borne off as a
warning to those other states who had
been so late worn in a cause which
we had been first to proclaim and
willing to protect & which, equally inter-
ested every state south of Mason
& Dixon's line & the Ohio - I am proud to see
so much unanimity of action in all our States
at this time; the game is now becoming fast
blocked & soon the Pitifoggish Administration
North will learn that we are not the
"Combination" rebels or traitors who will
"disband" in 20 days or even 20 years
if our Independence depends upon it -
When I last wrote you, persuaded by the
honeying words of the Northern press
& Presidency, I was of opinion that
soon every thing like the sounding
of arms & the cry of war would cease

and our Independence would be ack-
nowledged by the Old Man as it soon
will be by the out world - but we
are a too trusting people & have been
led blindly almost into the gutter
but it was not too late - we needed
only the action of Ft Sumpter to fill
our Army with such men as know
nothing but bravery & Independence
You are now in the midst of such
excitement as we passed through
more than 2 months ago - but that
fire still burns as brightly though you
seldom see the auto brake of joy which
was manifest at the time of our first
call for Soldiers to fight the battles of
our Country - our county furnished some
2 months ago 400 men to go to Pickens
we have now 3 or 4 regularly organized
Companies ready for any field. our
little Town with 45 males furnished
25 men for the Sanatobia Invincibles
The Company numbered 107 all it could
by law & I think we could have had
250 if it had been necessary. We are
now organizing an Artillery Company
for the field which I think can be
complete as soon as we can get the
Equipments & then we start



I joined a Cavalry Company last fall
but the Gov would not receive us and
we after words disbanded & a portion
of the Company with the Captain has
gone to Leesylvania & will soon take
the promissory allegiance to our Gov
as state soldiers - I now belong to
the Flying Artillery Company - I would
have joined one of the Companies now
in Pensacola but was so strongly
solicited by the members of the Incumbent
to stay and take care of their families
during sickness, that I gave over
the battle field for a duty I know
better than the storming of forts or the
raising of batteries - But I have
determined not to stay longer inactive
in this cause although I know it as
much to the Country's interests to see
to home care as to add to the numbers
in a file or rank in camp

There is perfect unanimity here, no
Lincoln man could survive the weight
of matter & crush of worlds which would
come over him here - Even mild Union
sentiments are dotted with traitors
& the Yankee will not get the
coat you prefer minus the feathers &
use cotton

but they always get to the "Oak" first
and when they leave it tar & cotton sticks
will - not a few have met this and
fate along the line of our Rail Road
& very frequent you can see them shipped
by Express to Grady & Co. Counted marked
on the Back so as to obviate mistakes
It is quite diverting to see these scoundrels
more to the bidding of an Express Agent
but they learn that obedience is often
the best law in nature

These scoundrels have nigh matured
two Insurrections in our County one
in our midst the other at Cock run
& roads - The one at Saratoga was discov-
ered only 2 days before it was to begin
one of the negroes was shot & the mob
would have hanged him but for the
weather - It has been an advantage
Vigilant Committee scour the Country
night & day & I assure you never
was martial law more effective
in arming a people to duty than this
little bad step in a friend who made
good his escape before the affairs
had been matured - You have no idea
what discipline with negroes amounts
to - none is allowed to quit home except
by special permission written, time pass

slaving - but this is not punishment in
many instances, as there are so many
families on which from 30 to 200 live
that they are happier at home than
if suffered to stroll the Country over
They would be in a bad fix here now
in case of a general insurrection -
From Cold water to Gallahatchie River
nearly every mile square would hold
20 negroes & hardly carry 3 mile a white
man - but they have no means of defence
& many of them are willing "to go to the war"
if Master does - We are preparing for
the future in this Country - Every man
has a wheat patch & several spans acres
of corn & Pigs innumerable - I think
with present prospects DeSoto County will
grow more wheat this year than has
been raised in Northrup in 5 and it is
now all headed out & pore blossom our
crop will be harvested by the 20th & if
our corn was then out we could sustain
until it would mature oats & Rye look
well - Corn looks very well for the season
& should we have any thing like a season
our County could spare 5 or 10,000,000 bushels
Every man has planted for the army - If my
crop turns out well I will make enough
for 3 years every & this will make our

Section, able to ship meat if necessary
A great change has been wrought here
during a few months, prodigality has
ceased to fill the minds of any
and the fields of home industry has
choked the "tributs" of the North from
our doors - Could this thing but
last a score of years & peace prevail
with it, we would have the richest
country in the world & so it will
be Cincinnati, Philadelphia, & like York
Tales will not cherish the kinder feeling
which has been our want to bestow upon
them & we will seek another home for
our favours & - We have but little
news here outside of Intermine war
& forming - good health & flattering future
prospects - Times are hard money scarce
& every bad learning to do without every
thing possible & to prepare for the worse
My store Bill last year was about
\$250 & now it is not exceeding \$100. It is
with every body - I think \$100 will surpass
my expense individually - I have made \$1000
this year & when times get good it will come
in finely - I have not been from home
since the 4th of July - Haven't seen any Popper
family except mine - I promised to take mother
to Va this month but can't spare the time
& money - I did not collect over \$600 out of
over \$7000 I had due me & most and had