

12-30-1863

Letter from Thomas Huston (Cowan, Miss.) to his aunt, Betsey (Lobdell) Thew, December 30, 1863

Thomas Huston

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Den Jones is at Prekety
the last I heard from
him he had the ague,
my health has never

been better, ~~that~~ since
I have been in the service
than this winter. it has
just commenced to rain
and seems like we were
going to have a storm
give my love to all of my
friends, except my best
~~as~~ wishes for goodness
write soon and oblige
your affectionate
nephew

Thomas C. Houston
6/1/1
2/2/16

Camp Cowan, Miss.
Dec. 30th 1863

Dear Aunt

it is with
pleasure that I take this
opportunity of answering your
very welcome letter which I
received last night. was very
glad to hear from you, to hear
that you are all in such good
health. well Aunt I suppose
you would like to know what
we find to busy ourselves about
this winter in this land of
Rebels and of war

we are camped about eight
miles north east - from Vicksburg
have been here about four weeks
when we first came here it was
a perfect wilderness. but we
have cleared it up and built log
houses for winter quarters and
now it looks like a young City
we have a splendid camp only
the water is not very handy that
is good water. but we do not mind
as long as we can get any thing
wet. my term of service would
have been out next spring. but
I have recruited in the Veteran
Volunteers and was mustered in on
Christmas day so you see I am
for the war. well I do not care
how soon it ends although I am
bound to see it through if I am
not buried before that time.
I am going to have a furlow
some time this winter. and if

it was not so far I would
like to make a visit to old Peru
but I do not suppose I can get time
to go so far. I had a letter from
home a few days ago. all were well
Bettie is in Indiana at Lewis
Darling. her health is not very good
she is troubled a great deal with
her throat, and I am afraid she
will never get over it. it has trou-
bled her so long. aunt Eunices
health is fading gradually and
they do not think she will live
a great while. our folks have
not written any ^{thing} about Samantha
for some time. I do not think I
would have re-enlisted if it had
not been for her. but I could not
bear the idea of being near her
I had rather fight the Rebels any
time than to be around an ugly
woman and as for living with
one I would rather die first

well aunt I would like to give
you a slight description of my
wife but the truth is I really have
not picked her out yet. so if you
know any pretty young lady of
acquaintance you can just speak
a good word for me, and when I
get out of this I will come out
there and then who knows what
may happen. I think your County
has been very liberal and if
the men will not volunteer for
that they ought to be drafted
our County has never given us
a cent. they gave those who went
when Gen. Aid sixty Dollars apiece
they say when our our Regiment was
raised those who went could just
as well go as not and that we were
the roughscuffs of the country. but
I say that it is no such thing. I say
if there is any Patriots in the army
they are those who went at the first call

61.1
2/2/6

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Mrs. Betsey Thew.
Perse.
Clinton Co.
N. Y.

