

Adams Gen Hospital

Memphis Tenn April 10

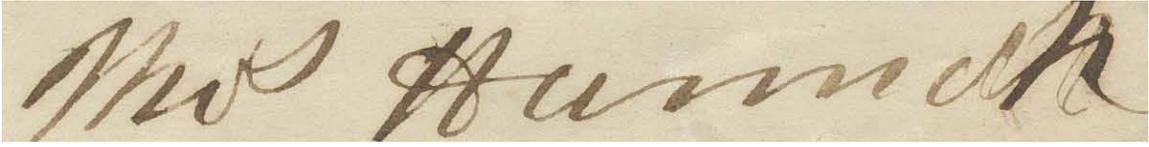
My Darling and sweet Boosom Friend and Wife

Oh how my heart does warm up and beat with love towards the when I think of the my most Beloved Wife it is sunday to day and this morning as soone as I got up I thought of you and the children and longed to be with you I put on a clean shirt and clean white collar and went into the kitchen and Mary asked me why I was puting on such unusual style I told her I was doing it in fond remembrance of you I told her that every sundy morning you fixed me up and combed my hair and she said you were kinder to me than what I deserved = well dear wife I have felt very lonely today and I have been thinking mostly of the I have sat at my window nearly all day and looked out into the streats it is a Beautifull day and I here the church go[?]ing bells and see so many on there ways to there respective churches = then I see many with there shops thrown open and they are transacting buiseness the same as if this was not gods holy sabath day yes I can look out into a shoemakers and taylers shop and I see them stiching and peging away then I can look into the saloons those curse holes of infamy and vice and see our soldiers enter and come out and go staggering along the sidewalk cursing and swareing or singing some drunken and how sory and I think oh if his poor wife mother or sister could see him in such a state what tears of bitterness they would weep then I can often see these abandoned and bad women pass along drunk and oh the Horrible speaches they will make if they find anyone low enough to stop and fool with them this town is full of such women and it is hard to tell when you meet a true virtuous woman well my dear after looking upon such scenes as these untill I became disgusted and allmost ashamed that I belonged to the human race I thought of the truly and virtuous and upright ought to be Honoured and respected then I thought of you my dear and Got your likeness and looked upon it a long time and after gazeing upon every feature wich to me looked so kind and loving so honest and inocent and pure oh how my heart leaped with joy and pride to think that I had a beloved and dear wife that I Beleave was pure and I knew was so good and kind perhaps I love you to well Lizey for my own hapines for I realy feel proud of you and dote upon you ~~as a mother does upon~~ with all the sincerity that a mother does upon her child and I feel that you are worthy of all my love and that my confidence is not

misplaced = after looking upon your picture I felt so lonely that in order to pass the time more cheerfully I took my pen to write to you and comence one of these long letters though I shall not finish it untill I hear from you for it is ondy two or three scince I answered your last letter Dear wife scince I have been in the army I have seen how fallen and low and Degrading the human race can be brought and when I have seen those harlots of women so many of them in the streats and see how bace and low they were my heart has been paned and has ondy found releaf when I thought of my pure and good wife that was so far away from such scienes in a peacfull and quiet home I do realy beleave that those kind good women from the north who are taking care of our sick and wounded soldiers are the ondy virteuous women in memphis and not withstanding they are sacrificing so much for the good of the sick and wounded they are often insulted and looked down upon by those shoulder straped Gentry who are about the worst characters in the army for they are a privelaged character and instead of good examples they often set the lowest and meanest there are aceptions you know my dear I am now the oldest employe in this hospital they keep sending away one attendant after another some for drunkenness some for stealing some for neglect of duty and [?] other misdemeaners and I thank who has kept me thus far from comiting any wrong act and I have adopted a roole to consult my own concience and do my duty as near right as I can and by the help of god I hope to put in the balance of my time and acquit myself like a man if if I ever return to you my dear I will have the satisfaction of knowing I done my duty as near right as I knew how I have made many warm and true friends hear for wich I feel a strong tenderness and strong attachment for and I shall be very loth to part with them my dear you know not how valuable a true and warm hearted friend is hear among strangers and how much more you prize them than if you had found there acquaintance at home ~~What~~ I have I would like if you could or were acquainted with some of my friends hear I know you would like them Robert and Mrs Messeroll and Mary all have promised most faithfully to come and make us a visit as soon as I get home for I have told them so much about you they all want to see you now dear wife I will lay this aside untill I hear from you and in the meantime I will pray for heavens richist blessings to rest upon you and may you be hapy and contented in the love of God my Darling Lizey Good night God Bless and protect you from harm

April 16 My Own Sweet Wife this is saturday and I was in hopes of geting a letter from you my most beloved but was doomed to disapointment I hope one will come tomorrow everything Darling has went wrong this week and I have felt the blues rather more than usual Mrs Messeroll was taken sick and went into the country for to spend 4 days in order to enjoy the quiet and pure are of the country and I missed her very much and then before she got Back Robert my old friend Robert took a notion to go to his rigt with his brother who came along and left and then John a young man belonging to my rigt had to leave as there was an order came after him so all my old hands are gone and I have to break in some new ones to fill there places and that is no agreable task you will be sure and get Roberts likeness from sarah and keep it for I dont want to loose it I shall not wonder if an order comes after me soone not from my company officers but from crps commanders ordering them to send all belonging to the 17 army crps to there respective comands and I shall not be sory for I long for a change for dear wife it keeps me mealoncoly and sad to see so much sickness and death and then my best and kindest friends are going to leave the first of may and there places filled with strangers and I care not about staying and forming new acquaintances Mrs Messeroll and Mary and Mrs Miller and staffer (?) Mrs Davis and Powell are all going home I am expecting Robert along every day and wonder why he dont come Mrs Powell has just fetched me in a pie wich I will stop to eat you will excuse me my dear wife if I have to postpone this untill tomorrow I wish I could send you a peace of my pie for it is Good Dear Elizabeth I have waited another day and still no letter from you my own beloved and much adored wife so I have not received any this week but I guess one will soone come Oh Darling how dear you are to me and oh how much I love you and how I long to see your dear sweet image once agane and hear you calling me your dear tomy boy my Dear I seen a woman to day in charge of the poleace who was well dressed and good looking about your age and darling she was drunk and utered the most profane Oaths and disgusting language I ever herd come from human lips she was one of those bad characters and she acted so bad pulled up her cloths ~~to sh~~ ? in the sight of about 100 persons that they put her on a drug and held her and kept her from exposing her person you cannot imagine how bad I felt Dear wife I thought of you Oh love me as you used to do and put your trust in god write to me often Give my love and respects to all and beleave you will ever be beloved and fondly remembered by your

Husband Thos Hannah

A horizontal strip of aged, yellowish paper containing a handwritten signature in dark ink. The signature is written in a cursive style and reads "Thos Hannah". The letters are connected, with a large initial 'T' and 'H'. The paper shows signs of age, including slight discoloration and a textured surface.