

4-23-1865

## Letter, 1865 April 23, James Overholser to Aunt and Uncle [Mary and Crib Burns]

James F. Overholser

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Camp five miles from Raleigh N.C.

April 23<sup>rd</sup> 1865

Dear Aunt and Uncle — again I will give you a few lines to inform you I am well; so is all the boys.

We got here eight days ago the rebels left without fighting. I suppose you have heard all the news about both Armies, that is Grant Johnson & of the surrender of all of all Rebels from the Potomac River to the Rio Grande.

Yet with all the good news we have cause to mourn for the loss of a President, assassinated by a friend in human form. If the matter was left to me to meet out justice to such a Devil incarnate I would have to study a long time to determine what kind of a death to put an end to his miserable existence. There is a just God presiding over all we will leave ~~him~~ such wretches in his hands. In the mean time we will hope that the Guilty parties may be brought a speedy justice. I think President Johnson will show all traitors but little mercy.

Great excitement prevails in Uncle Billy's Army some or about all think we will be in our States by the first of June. I think we'll be at home before our time is out. Every <sup>thing</sup> goes to show that the roar of Artillery & the Rattle of musketry is hushed to silence. We will no more have to face Rebel exploding gun powder. The weather is very

fine the trees are all green The wheat is looks  
very well what there is left for there is no fences  
around any of their fields Raleigh is a tolerable  
nice city the buildings are all old ones Some  
of the public buildings is grand the Capitol is  
one among the finest I have seen in the South

The Deaf & Dumb asylum is one among the  
best. So is the Lunatic asylum I saw some  
yards in town that beats any thing I have  
yet seen. Both for beauty & variety of shrubs &  
plants so I think we will be at home before  
a great while I will not write much I hope you  
write soon for I have not heard from you for  
for a long time so write soon and oblige your  
ever true nephew  
James J. Overhiser

Uncle and Aunt

Mary and Carl Barons

Pioneer Corps  
4<sup>th</sup> Division 15<sup>th</sup> A. C.  
Raleigh N. C.