

West Point N.Y.

Jan 18th 1860

I must excuse myself dear John for neglecting so long your kind letters. For the last three or four weeks. I have been studying pretty hard for the examination & consequently have had but little time to write. Blunt & myself received your speech some weeks since it is useless to say that we were both much pleased with it. I think you did full justice to the occasion. The January examination is just over, all the Georgia boys came through all wright. It is colder than blue hell up here at the present time. The Hudson has been froze over for a month with two foot ies, snow in abundance. My sister & uncle were up here one day during the Christmast. Now John for your self are briefs numerous & pay good or are times dry & worse coming. When do you intend to marry, s'pose you've got her picked out at least I heard from some [unclear] or other that you were devoted to a miss - - - young lady in Marietta, come now make a clean breast of it like a good boy & don't go shirking into a church some cloudy Sunday morning & get tied as if you were ashamed of it. I am [unclear] when you do get married make them have a hell of a big wedding for you & let every honest man, woman, & child get drink A fellow justly supposes that his wedding day will hardly recur more than 3 or 4 times during his life time & probably but one Then it is meet to have a jolifraction with one's friends. But Giles is married, I got an invitation to the vow but I didn't go & Mina God bless her big lusty life of a gal, how is she getting on? living on love & mashed taters yet I see Ken Ana like the Dals in Charles Omally is every repeating to herself. There are hearts that live & love alone. Has the law school broken up Frank Myers is by this time a lawyer & I hope In the full blast of popular prosperity Base has never written to me. Duncan Friggs I Suppose is not in your town now if he would Only study he would one day be a celebrity I would like much to hear from him & would write if I knew where to direct. John our country

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is in somewhat of a distracted confliction are the
people much excited upon the subject in
& about Marietta. The time is not far distant
when southern citizens must stand up
with a bolder front than they now do, to
crush the despoiling hand of a northern
oppressor, when the storm which would seem
worse but to be the gentle breeze which mildly
fans our sails will lash the waves of fanat=
icism into Thundering billows which perhaps
shall wreck our vessel & our natural happiness.

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