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Letter from Mary Durang to Thomas White, January 6, 1865

Mary Durang

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Sister Ellen

Jan^{ry} 6th 1865

My dear brother

I was truly rejoiced to hear that yours and Kate's health had improved, the mind is almost every thing, and as yours was in such a state of anxiety you suffered. I do hope Rich^d and Harry will leave the army. From what I have heard Richard is not suited for it in one way and that way concerns his interests. he acts from his own sense of justice and right. the Army. require strict discipline and only that. - It governs courage, justice and feeling. - hence has been worried and those who cared for him by acting according to the impulses of a good heart and a good judgment, it is a gratification to him to know that, that is appreciated by those whom he had under him, and those who felt interest in his welfare. - Truly, red tape does much injustice. I should have liked to have seen Harry, not that I suppose all I could say would have any effect. But if he had seen you, as I saw you I think he would not hesitate as to the course to pursue. The night that you had the interview with the person who was on here from the south. I could not sleep - you were before me. I did not write to Indiana fearing to fighten Kate. so I wrote to Mary to Baltimore to see if they had heard from you. - If Harry had seen you then! and what Kate

has suffered I am sure none can tell but those
who have gone through such trials. — I did not
know Jane wrote you... I have been very ill indeed —
when Dr Lewis was called in there was scarcely any
pulse left I was so debilitated. the organs of digestion
had almost ceased to work — he ordered ~~stimulant~~ such
things — I am much better but very weak yet when
the weather clears so that I can get out I hope to get
more strength — I am sorry to hear Richards' wife's
health is bad — I suppose the distressing bereavement
that has befallen her has effected her. I feel
for her. — I suppose you have heard of Mrs Struthers
death. Dear little Nettie Savage broke her arm
the week before last it is mending fast — Jane
was in several times lately. — I have no news
yine. Our loves to ~~the~~ yourself and all
the family and believe me your
ever affectionate sister
Mary