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Civil War letters, 1863-1865. Wis Mss 59S [unpublished]

McCann, John W.

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MAR 22 1951
Mrs. Walter S. Woods

Prms

Memphis Tenn
April the 22nd / 1951

Dear Mother

Your letter
of the 10th came to hand
yesterday I am glad that
provision is cheaper
but I am sure that
there has been no percept-
ible change in the price
of any thing here but
cotton. and that has
fallen 75. or 80 cents
on the pound. but
flower is ten dollars a
barrel and potatoes are
six, bacon is worth
30 cents per pound and
eggs are fifty cents
per dozen and every
thing else in proportion

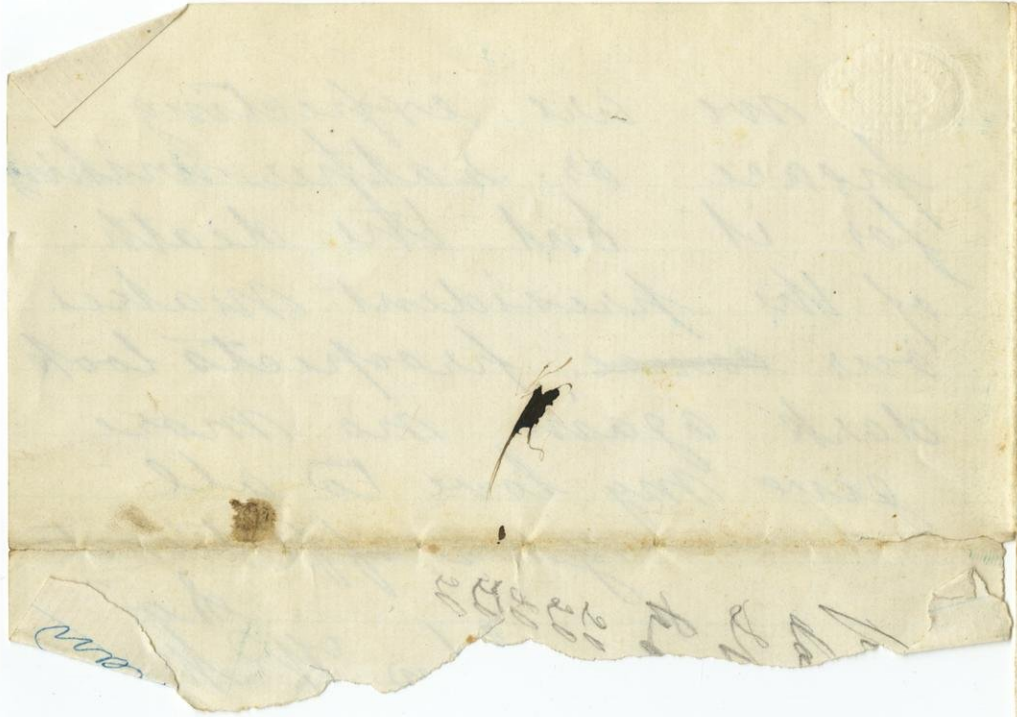
we have been having
funeral processions and
every building in the city
has been draped for the last
week. on account of the
death of president
Lincoln - business has
been generally suspended
for the last week.

You may tell Mr Beard
for me that I hope
his wife may be a great
acquisition to his
happiness and that
live happy and have
fat babies he is the last
man that I thought
would get married.

I got a letter from
Frank the same time
I got yours he was
well when he wrote
he thinks that expedition
he so spoke of is not going ^{out}

we are expecting
peace or rather wishing
for it - but the death
of the president - makes
our ~~cause~~ prospects look
dark again no more
give my love to all
your affectionate

Don
W. McC



Attitude

MAR 22 1951

Mrs Walter S. Woods

Vicksburg Miss
November the 10th 1863

Dear Mother

I take this opportunity of writing you a few lines I have been idle all forenoon and I thought the best way I could employ the after noon would be to write some letters I have written to you so often though lately that you will get had of reading the same thing over so often we are having splendid times lately but there is no telling how long it they will last for our officers are never satisfied more than two

and not that longness
they can get their regular
whisky. I was reading
an account of their
punishing soldiers for
gambling in the army
of the Potomac if they
went to doing that
down here there would
be more officers punished
than privates for the
officers all play cards
from Generals down to
2d. Lieutenants the higher
they rank the bigger
game they play and
the more money they
bet it is a common
thing to see four officers
setting around an old
greasy board with a
deck of cards and three
or four hundred dollars

on the board, one will
say I bet ten dollars
another bets twenty more
and they keep the game
a going all day and all
night, when one gets
tired there is always more
to take his place
some of them are borrowing
money the next day after
they get their pay,
and some of them would
sell their birthright for
the smiles of these scorch
girls and are laughed at
behind their back the
female inhabitants of this
ill begotten region have
perfect command over
the officers of this Reg they
can have a guard to make
their niggers work for them
and all the officers

do is to gamble drink whisky
and visit maybe the privates
would do so too if they had
a chance but I dont think
they would no more

your son
John W. McCaw