

Head Quarters Judicial Dept Key West,
Key West, March 30. 1862,

Dear friends,

We received two mails yesterday and by them I received Eeds letter of the 28th Jan. directed to Annapolis, and the letters from some of the 4th and 19th inst. The news was welcome. I was pleased to hear that Lafayette got home safe. Tell him I received his letter this morning and will see the Colonel, as I cannot understand his matter at all. I am inclined to think something is wrong. I was sorry to see him go home as there was no more danger for him than others I have. But the Surgeon thought differently.

I sent another box of shells by a friend on board the Magnolia, or rather some of the boys packed one up and I sent it off for them. I have quite a number more of shells, and will send some to Annie G next time. Tell Uncle Sam I have some splendid specimens of Scorpions, preserved in Alcohol that I will send him on first opportunity.

Also some articles for Uncle T. M.

If
Grandmother needs any money, give it to her, but
why will she not live with you. Tell her I
want her to take my place until I get home,
and then I will get married, (if I can find
a girl to love me) and she must live with me
or perhaps to make the matter sure I will
bring one along from Key West with me.
There are some nice ones here, sure as you live,
and I have found out where they live.

Why I am
inclined to think Master Ed. is pushing Harriet
in the lady line. Gone to Lewisburg to see his
girl etc! Rather immense that. The young man
must be improving. Well Ed when you go there
again, give my kind regards to Maggie, G.
and tell her nothing I know of but a fight with
the Rebels would give me more pleasure than
to have another flirtation in that direction. But
I begin to think that day is over. The fact
is I am getting old, at least I feel so. Twenty
five years, and still single. In boon company,
Capt Woodruff, aged about 57, made some ladies the other
night, believe I was as old as he

Why did you not find out the name of the Cousins we have at Key West. I would hunt them up. The Miss Campbell that attended school at Burlington is married and living in the North somewhere.

We are as you will perceive, still on the Island. How much more time will elapse before we start I cannot say. Everything indicates a speedy departure however. The inhabitants of Florida are becoming frightened, and are endeavoring to get back into the Union. This is along the eastern coast, but along the west they are very rabid. Here is where I think we will strike, and a good stroke it will be. I have no doubt of our success.

We live pretty well here. We get fresh beef twice a week. Ham is abundant at 18 cents a pound. Eggs are 75 cents a dozen, or six bits as they style it. They sell a mixture of lard and salt, and oil that they call butter, at 30 cents a pound. The only cheap articles here are fish and oranges. These can either be caught or bought, one is about as cheap as the other. Turtles too are

abundant, and large ones too. You can buy
them weighing from 50 to 500 pounds. Just the
steaks are very nice I assure you. I bought
one for the Company and it made 2 meals
for the entire party.

Henry W. Wolf has been very
sick, but is almost well again. He had the
Typhoid fever. The fever is broke but he is weak
yet. He will go on duty in a day or two. There
Kestle is the only sick man I have now. That is
at all bad, and he is not dangerous. Sam Miller
was in the Hospital but he came back this
morning. The weather is very warm. The quar-
antine commences on Tuesday after which all
vessels will be searched before allowed to come
in. By this means we will keep off the Yellow fever
which is the only thing dangerous. One of my men
(Whistler) was bit by a Scorpion yesterday but taking
precautionary measures instantly no danger
is apprehended. But my sheet is full
Remember me to all friends. Write soon
God bless you all

Yours
J. S. Smith

They are asking in this cafe etc. Bible school but this journal from the establishment
Poco has been commencing at 1st Streetment on San spots at 2nd St
at 2nd St