

Block 3 (Co 6) Room 18 U.S.M. P.  
Johnson's Island O. April 14<sup>th</sup> 1865

My Dear Cousin:

I am in no mood for writing an interesting letter tonight, but it is a great pleasure to me to communicate with those whom I love. Your very kind & interesting letter has been received & it gave me very great pleasure. I hope that it may be my good luck to be often cheered by your kind words while I am in this gloomy state. I thought when I wrote to your Mamma last that I would have been gone from here before this, but now I think it very probable that I will be here some time yet to come. It is impossible to make any calculations of the future; the most unexpected events are those which seem to take place. The news from Washington City is the most unexpected thing that could have taken place. Every one in the Prison was perfectly astounded at the news. I thought that the day of assassinations had passed. I am indeed sorry that such a thing should occur in this country. Your Mamma's letter has been received. Present her with my love & also all the family. Please write again soon.

P.S. Write only 28 lines & send no  
paper only what you write upon as it costs 6 cts extra.

Your Affectionate Cousin G. W. Melvin