

Fort R Gamble On Fla
July 1840

My Dear Father

I can scarcely express my pleasure
at receiving your kind and affectionate letter
of the 6th inst. with good letters from Mother &
Sister On - also my shirts for which I am ever
thankful to my devoted Mother. I am delighted to
hear of the fine prospect for a crop, but regret the
fate of the Family -

Your letter contains many good advice
some of which will suit a Subaltern in an
French, or English Army, but not an Ameri-
-can, there is but few Citizens of the United
States that know the true state of our Army
at present, or the ability of the Chiefs that com-
mand us, were our Regiments full, well disci-
-plined, such allowances made as soldiers require
within Country, and Commanded by Officers of
some Military spirit, we would be able to
move in large bodies and scout with a com-
-mand sufficient to whip a large force & prevent
a small one from getting away from us, but