

New Orleans Oct. 26th 1890

Mrs. G. A. Bonner

My dear Wife

This is Sunday evening
and according to promise I set to
write you a long letter to begin with,
I am well. I have had a very bad
cold, but fortunately no fever, I haven't
been going all the time, in fact I don't
see how anyone can be sick here, if he
is how he can find it out, as he does
have time to think about himself they
keep him so busy. We are at work
from 1/2 past 8 until 5 Lectures until
12 and then Anatomy in the dis-
secting room, which is bad, you
can imagine the feeling that one has
on first entering a dissecting room
we have about 300 students at work
& to every corpse each man has to
pay $\frac{1.50}{1.00}$ for his part - I am on the
head and neck and you can ^{imagine} what
it is to stand over it 2 or 3 hours the
decent you can smell it - on the shirt
I didn't think that I could eat any
for a week but I think in a few
more days I can take lunch on the
table that's what the boys say we are
required to cut up at least two, some

Accidents - don't dissect - until their second
course, I want to try to cut up at least
two this session. We have to trace every muscle
vessel and nerve their position and their
different relations to each, Anatomy is
one of the very first things here, We have
free access to the hospital. We follow the
Professors around they examine the patients
in our presence describe all the symptoms
tell us ^{how} to examine and finally tell what
is the matter with the patient. They
take a sick man into the amphitheater
tell you what is the matter with him
how you can find it out - tell you
the best remedies what they are and
why they give them and how they act -
they show you ^{how} to auscult - how to
percuss the lungs the heart - the liver
and all parts of the human body
in which there is any cavity and
do it in such a way that you can't
help but understand. We don't have
much time to read we have to run
to see and hear the professors are
all nice men are very kind and
courteous, the more I see the more
pleased I am, and the greater the

Respect

I have for the profession. The ordinary
country doctor is an ignorant they
don't know anything if they do you
can't find it out, these men here
understand disease better than they under-
stand ^{the ~~old~~ paper} they keep up with the age in
which they live, and they teach us
that people can be cured without
medicine even, that there is entirely
too much given, for pneumonia in
hospital they use principally clover's powder
& quinine & ammonia, Acetate of Potash
digitalis & ^{for kidney complaints} ~~butcher~~ they talk more about
kidney diseases and their treatment
than any other to hear them talk
you would think they had a man's
kidney or heart in their hands and
it is all fact, I went to church this
^{morning} walking about I accidentally I found
myself in one, I don't see much dis-
like no uniformity, you can see any
and all kinds of hats bonnets all shapes
& colors colors and figures very low
see a woman with a calf's dress
the figures in flower are as large
as the natural ^{don't see} you, any finely
dressed people on the street, and very
few fine horses, it is clear here
windy and dusty and pretty bad

on the eyes, Tell ~~Lee~~ Lee Jackson
brandy for me and that what
ever he does will be remembered
Tell Eli that this is the place for
a boy to go to school they have
a mechanical department attached
to the university here where they learn
a boy how to make every thing from
a key up all sorts of iron and
work it is astonishing to see
what boys can turn out this
the place I shall see Rob too
if he wants to make a man
of himself, Every body seems
to work here and it seems to
be a general scruffle for a living
they think a great deal of a nickel
I hope you have received your
goods by this time let me know
what you got, for I ordered the
best. Write soon and give my
love to all
Yours as ever
J W Borman

I enclose you a few of the Compound
Podophylin Pill one at night or one
at a time is a dose

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,

Tulane University of Louisiana,

New Orleans, Nov 2nd 1890

For all Official Business
Address Prof. CHAILLÉ, M. D., Dean,
P. O. Drawer 261,
New Orleans, La.

My Dear Wife

I have not heard
one word from home as yet.
and it makes me a little uneasy
but I hope there is nothing wrong
I am well with the exception
of cold, which every body has
here. I am just in from church
heard Dr. Palmer to day he
looks like a big man. by some
how about the head but preached
a very good sermon on the marriage
relations. Plenty of churches here
one on every corner. I sent you
one # 7ea' choice gun powder
I hope you will get it. I have
seen some wonderful surgical
operations performed here obstet-
rical, Dr Lewis has Obstetrical

Surgeon says that he has removed
the wombs from 20 Women and
lost only one and says that
there is very little danger when
the proper precautions are taken.
They believe in quinine here
as they great remedy in all
fevers, in pneumonia it is
Dover's Powder & quinine with
oppeach to relieve cough. I
hear more about kidney & lung
diseases than any other. We have
all been assigned to classes and
begin to move. We will have
to work from 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ in morning
to 11 at night. - I am sorry that
I came to this place, I don't believe
that I will ever get used to it -
that is the walking I ^{am} treated all right
in every respect - but it is entirely
too far and expect I will have
to move. I feel sorry for Mrs
Corna she goes to Market -

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,

Tulane University of Louisiana,

New Orleans, 18

For all Official Business
Address Prof. CHAILLÉ, M. D., Dean,
P. O. Drawer 261,
New Orleans, La.

At daylight - every morning comes
back and gets breakfast about
seven has her old mother to take
care ^{of} who can ^{not} walk without -
assistance and ~~most of all~~
has a crazy woman to take
care of she is ~~not~~ exactly crazy
acts more like a grandson
whining child she is very weak
minded all ways wants to go out -
she feels like she is in prison
and dont realize her condition
besides there are two great big
girls who dont seem to do any-
thing, they may fix the table.
My room has no fire place
and I dont like its location.
We have dinner at about 4

Your letter of 2nd Oct has just
been handed in and you can
imagine how glad I am, specially
to hear that you are getting along
so well and I am sorry to hear
that you have not succeed to
your goods for I was in
hopes that you would get them
with your expenses as they
should have ~~been~~ shipped, the
same boat - and you have had
some cold weather at least it
has been ~~very~~

whenever the wind blows it
seems like it came from a
funnel and always from
the North, I find out that there
are a great many fools in the
world and that I am among
the number that is if these
proper
people know anything, the
the country know nothing

I am sorry to hear that - Lily has
chills, if he is still with you
give him Calomel 4 or 6 grs
about two doses of quinine 4
grs each commencing 6 hours
before chill time give last
dose 3 hours before chill
Then give 3 doses of solution
of arsenic 3 times a day for
10 days or a month in 3
drop doses it will do him
no harm and will keep
off chills. At least they are
the specifics here We had a
lecture on the subject this
morning by Dr. Elliot in which
he said that when quinine
and arsenic wouldn't cure
an intermittent fever he always
advised the patient to seek
a better climate. Sometimes
you have to purchase the
arsenic treatment for months

MEDICAL DEPARTMENT,

Tulane University of Louisiana,

New Orleans, 18

For all Official Business
Address Prof. CHAILLÉ, M. D., Dean,
P. O. Drawer 261,
New Orleans, La.

The country doctor is as far behind in his knowledge of the treatment of disease and the new remedies as a woman in the country is of the plow. I can see how we can help learning here they talk about everything and then show you an man learn both with his eyes and ears. Mrs Jones life might have been saved if she had been sent here, No one need have any apprehensions in coming to the hospital to be treated as they are treated with every consideration and care, I don't believe there is any danger from

infection in the hospital, there
are two or three cases of Leprosy
I am told I have not seen
them yet, - The Professors
are very careful and will
give full waiting in time.
Be certain to let me know
immediately if you have not
heard from your goats so
that I can hunt them up
in case they are lost, - You
will find the bill enclosed
in the package, Give the
children all a kiss and remember
me to your friends.

Yours affectionately

W M Bomer

P 8

Address 480 1/2 St-Charles St -

New Orleans

Dec 31st 1840

My dear WIFE

Yours of the 26th came to hand this evening, I was immensely relieved upon receipt of it - I believe it is the first I have received since the 20th I was afraid that you were sick, you must certainly write twice a week it is a relief to get a letter to read, I am alright still but I believe everything about the house is complaining of bad colds, which are very lasting. You ask me about the gripe, I have had three lectures upon the subject as 3 of the professors have had it - so each one gave his experience

Professor Miles says it begins something like Measles (in Coryza that is running at the nose & eyes) closely allied to dengue fever (headache & backache) affects the entire alimentary canal and respiratory organs fever is light - running from 24 hours to 4 days with cough which is spasmodic & dry in early stage, treatments Antipyretic which is the word they use here for febrifuge Medicines which will lower the temperature which are Antifebrin, Antipyren,

would have rather Meredith covered about
your costing more than profit - I would
prefer negroes if they were to be had by all means
they are good people like Mr Jo Bryan but
might be expensive, if you cant do any
better, and they want to come let them
have any land they want, do you save me
about 10 acres, for corn cotton & potatoes, I am
happy to hear that you all have had such a pleasant
Christmas, we had a very bad day here, the City
overflowed by rain, rained all day, tomorrow
is holiday here & I may go out to the Metairie
Cemetery, it is the last but one holiday we
have, I do not like holidays & Sundays I
imagine any are twice as long as other days
I cant read to do any good, too infernal
much noise, you needn't be jealous of
Miss Emma she is I am sorry to say not
very good looking, her picture flatters her very
much, but I do believe that she is the most
patient creature I ever saw, she I believe
does about all the work, has her old mother
and carry a hysterical sister to wait on
the old lady is very patient and resigned
her mind seems to be as bright as ever she is
a very intelligent and really a lady.
I have not seen her for a month, she carry
one requiring a great deal of attention she acts
more like a hysterical person and I believe

it is nothing in the world but hysteria
caused by the brain tumor of woman allowed
to run on until her mind is affected, I
think sometimes that a right good Hickory
would do her good she does nothing wrong
but takes fits occasionally and wants to
be going all the time, imagines she doesn't
sleep any and that she is going to
choke to death never laughs nor
smiles allways talking about her self
and never forgets any thing they are very
kind and I only have to hint I have found
out and they would fix any thing for me
although I believe that I would do
better close to the hospital

now that it would be wise for me to
make a change at this place next fall
I shall not come here, I am glad to hear
that the baby is doing so well and has a little
at last - all I ask is that they will all stay
well & be good children until I come home
you must be very careful of your own health
do not do any thing that is in the least
in the way of exposing yourself for as I believe
I have already remarked in a previous letter
everything depends upon you, I have some
hope for myself, I have no great hopes, but want
I will make a very good doctor, for I am
going to say that there is no more to be learned out
side of anatomy physiology & the like

New Orleans La
Feb 14th 1891

My dear Wife

Gonorrhea of the 9th came to hand yesterday, I am glad to hear that all are improving, Primi I am in hopes will soon get over her troubles, as to her ear it might perhaps have been stopped up a secretion of wax causing inflammation as it is discharging it will soon get well, wash it out with warm water occasionally which will keep it clean and keep it open, if painful warm applications are the best things that you can do for it, I judge from what you say about her & Hubbs looks that they are anaemic that is want blood the Right kind, they have a great deal to say here about Cachexia which is a depraved or vitiated condition of the system and the first thing for a doctor to look into is the cause of that condition there are several Cachexias but the main

one with us is malarial. a vitiated
condition brought about by malarial
poison, and which can only be gotten
rid of in some cases by long continued
treatment and in some a change of
climate will only effect a complete
restoration to health, Malaria is at
the bottom of a great many diseases, and
~~is a very common cause of~~ ^{is to be} treated and
looked upon as a specific and with
iron & arsenic to help it out effects
wonders. they are all tonic increase
blood supply, influence nutrition
and strength, I wrote to you sometime
ago that if I had my way I would
put everything in French's Powder on it
I mean what I said, and I think
I told you to give it to Bessie & Robbie
and now I repeat it, Give them one
drop each twice a time a day
at meals, at breakfast and supper

if dinner & breakfast
together give Iron allso Day 5 drops
2 times a day. The Arsenic in this
small doses will do no harm
you may keep it up until you
see that it puffs up under the
eye which is its effect. Much larger
doses are given but small doses are
attended and have better effect, if it
disagrees which sometimes but rarely
happens you will have slight pains
in abdomen and ~~slight diarrhoea~~ these
are the constitutional effects, you can
give it in small doses a long time
without having these, ^{when} this fullness
under the eye appears and then
you stop it, give it to Bessie & Bessie
has an immunity from Malaria in this
^{Country} Area when we get a full dose of it
we have Swamp Fever, Give a good
dose of Rhuibar before commencing
with Iron as the Iron would be
absorbed into the system otherwise
If Bessie's cough is trouble some

a little Dover's Powder at bed time
a little Turpentine, If you can do
anything with it, - or it is had I will
send you up something for her, I
expect - Dr Guin could do as well
& I advise you to send out to him
he will do all that he can, "as for
Dr Paindexter as a man I take him
truly but as a physician between us
and the gate post he won't do, In
some thing he may be good but he has
~~not got the material to make a doctor~~
No Ambition & too Careless And if he
ever know anything about diagnosis
he has forgotten it, I sent Deserri
by mail the illustrations of the Pro-
cessions, Is my fever the same
any account, if not, I will have to
get a new one, I thought that the
Column of Mercury would not stand
long enough to get the degree, the normal
temperature is $98\frac{1}{2}$ if no higher than
one hundred fever may not exist -
if it goes below $98\frac{1}{2}$ Stimulants
are required

fever is a blood poison acting upon
the nerves of nutrition destroying life
by increase of heat a temperature
above 105 degrees is a dangerous one
if the temperature rises to 107 and stays
there three days a man is very apt to die
get it down to 103 and there is no
^{much danger}
We have had two very able lectures on
as simple a thing as the thermometer
it is the index to everything a great instru-
ment it is you might say the physicians
eye. They tell you that the most important
point is to find out what is the matter
and that present experience leads them
to believe that more people have been ^{killed} ~~and~~
than cured and another thing they say
that a great many people are starved
to death for a sick person there is nothing
better than Alcohol & Milk as they contain
all the elements of nutrition and are easily
absorbed, besides alcohol lowers the tem-
perature of course care must be taken
not to take too much at a time small quan-
tities, but often, We are regularly at work
now We are either in the lecture rooms
or in hospital from 8 1/2 to 5 1/2 dissecting from

from 7 to 10 at night. We have to pay
9 dollars for a sugar.

Tell Jack he can
have all the sugar he wants but not too
much as a time sugar is one of the necessities
I imagine I can see him shipping into
the sugar barrel, Tell old mother go on
to keep on trying and she will be good
after a while. Tell Aunt the amount
forget papa she and old Bob will all
ways get along anywhere Tell Bessie I
haven't had any good coffee since the last
cup she made for me. Tell Bob he must
soon write and tell me all about the pigs
and the cows, I hope you havnt been
annoyed by flies any more. I am glad
to hear that Mr Meredith is going to move
back to the prairie, Poor Society I am
afraid that she has thrown herself away
again. Give my regards to Mr Garrison
and Eli. I have had ^{no} letters yet from
any body but you. The City is still very
nasty. We have had little rain to lay the
dust and it is now very warm. I will
now close. Kiss off the little ones.

I have been none here that can beat me
for good looks. I will write to George in
a day or two.

Yrs affectionately

W. M. Brown

New Orleans La
Feb 20th 1891

My dear wife

Yours of the 15th at hand
and contents noted, I am very much
surprised to hear that you are not
receiving letters from me regularly as
I write twice a week, I think you have
enough to annoy you without my adding
anything there is no use in this world for
you to be anxious about me, - If I should
get sick I shall certainly come home, as
I can't afford to lie up here, and I
only have to take the cars and in a few
hours I am at home, I am happy to hear
that the children are improving, I thought
of worms in Bessie's case when you spoke
of the dark circles under eyes, they also
cause a cough I should have mentioned
it but as I had sent you Santalium
I supposed you had used it, - I answered
Bessie's last letter, and had mailed to her
pictures of the New Mardi Gras Processions

And hope that she has received them
My last letter to you was a long one
about the general treatment of the children
advising you to put Bassin & Robbin on
Asernic 1 drop 3 times a day at each
meal also iron 5 or 6 drops 2 times a day
describing the effects of the Asernic and
its beneficial influence, take it yourself
2 or 3 drops a day you can tell its effects
as it purges under the eyes after a while
and if dose is too large will produce
colicky pains & some looseness of bowels
it eradicates Malaria from the system
in case of chronic Malarial Poisoning
increases the appetite and strength

As for the water, I wrote to you sometime
ago that it was always possible and
to be expected, and I expect for this place
to be drowned out some of the days
and it always will be so as long as we
have a government controlled by political
parties and administered by ecclesiastics
If it is absolutely necessary for me to
come home I can do so, but it won't

be on account of the water as I am
of the opinion that it would ^{be} a good
send to future generations if not to
the present, for entire Mississippi
Swamp to be covered with water about
10 ft deep I don't believe that the
Lord ever intended it for the human
race & the sooner they are forced out
of it the better, the human mind
can't develop in such places any
more than the body, and people who
live in it can't expect anything, here
I must mind not only from all parts
of this State but from all other States
and from what they tell, the death
rate from La Grippe has amounted to
nothing in comparison with that in
the Swamp, so it is with other diseases
It has been unfortunate for me, for I
have been on needles & pins all the time
filled with anxiety so much that
I could not concentrate my mind
on anything, you promised me not
to disguise anything from me and

I have relied upon you and your
last letter almost determined me to
come home, but as things have
taken a turn for the better, I will
remain as long as I can, we have
now arrived at the most interesting
part of the course at least it seems
so to me, but if you feel that it
is necessary for me to come, all you
have to do is to say the word,

How may cows have lost milk
and how shall we like milking

I will do my best that he will
like books and that I will live
long enough to see that he will be
able to make something out of himself
and in order to do that I will have
to get him out of French Parish
before he can have any ambition
I am well and see no reason for
not continuing so, Give my regards
to all, and tell Sarah it won't be
long before I am at home only 20 days
Give my regards to all the kids the child
and all the family as ever