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MC073: Folder 28: William Joseph Palmer to Thomas Sharp Palmer 1860 May 8

This transcription from the original letter contains language contemporaneous of the time and is being presented as part of a historical record. Please note that this transcription has not been reviewed for final editing. Please contact us with any questions.

Charleston, South Carolina
Omnibus Office May 8, 1860

Dear Tom;

It is some time since I wrote you, I now have a few minutes leisure and will improve it. If I do not write often you and John must not think hard for I have my hands full.

I met one of your friends, (Judge Douglass,) bearing a letter of introduction from you. I was very glad to meet him but sorry he did not stop at my house as I wished him to do, but he appeared loth to leave his colleague. I could of taken care of Douglass but no more as my house was already full or I would of invited his comrad too. I was very sorry I did not get to see more of the Judge for what little I saw of him I was pleased with him. I called at his rooms but he was out. He dined with me one day. The only fault I had to him he was a little the strongest Douglass man I have seen in a long time, but I have not doubt he entertains his opinions honestly and of course, was entitled to my respect. I would have been very glad if he could think s I do for I think he would be a wheel horse in our cause. I will meet him again.

Kate read a letter from John a short time since, he says he dont think both of you can go to Ohio this summer if we go. Now Tom, I dont want to hear any such talk. I am going, if I can get away and if I do, you and John must both come if you dont stay more than two weeks. If we dont meet this summer to gladden the hearts of our aged parents I fear we never will again. It is getting late in life with them. Life is also uncertain with us, it is now near sixteen years since you and I have seen each other and God only knows if we ever will again. These are perilous times in which we live.

Kate has not been well for a few days but hope she will be about in a day or two. The children are both well and the worst scamps you ever saw.

Before this reaches you, you will have heard all about the bust up of the Convention. God only knows how it will end, badly I fear. I am sorry the Northwest was so stubborn.

It is now quite warm, therometer ranging 90 and upwards. I tell you it brought the fat out of your friend Douglass when he was here. Now recollect what I tell you about you and John and your families meeting us this summer for we have set our hearts upon it. We may crowd the old

people up a little but we can all make out very well. If we cant do any better we will put up some tents and go into camp. I received a letter from John oldest son a short time since, I wrote him today.

Kate joins me in much love to you, Nancy and the children, John and family and accept of the warmest love of your affectionate brother

W J Palmer