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MC073: Folder 29: Catherine Palmer to Thomas Sharp Palmer 1860 May 15

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
May 15 1860

My dear Brother;

You ask why we choose August to visit Ohio. I will tell you why, the Yellow fever generally comes around about that time and should he show himself before then, why we cant go to Ohio. It may seem strange if I tell you that the Yellow fever was never in our City in an odd year, but nevertheless it is true. We have it nearly every even year, consequently we must avoid him if possible. Now Tom, do not I pray you, disappoint Mother so much by leaving Nan at home, why punish yourself and us so much. Remember it may be the last, yes the last, time that Father or Mother may see all of their now living children together on earth. Oh, think of that Tom, wont Nan tell me if there be any particular reason why she cant come, do make an exertion dear Nan, to come if possible. Well Tom, you say to wander in the grand old woods will make you a boy again, I hope it will in heart dear Brother. I guess all of the walks taken with Nan will be looked upon with feelings of almost adoration. Now Tom, dont go telling the trees all about it, I pray you. Poor John, his first love has passed from him, Will says she was a most lovable woman. I hope he will get on with his second choice as well as possible is our constant prayer. May the good God direct him. Tom, I am more feeble today than usual for I have raised more blood at once than I generally do, but I will be well again tomorrow. William is such a good kind nurse, my own mother cant be half so good a one, he is so very patient. I hope I will get well sometime. Will is quite well, he has just gone out to ride with his partner, Jackson, who is a great favorite of mine. It is very pleasant in our City now, too warm for this time of year. We were sorry that your friend Judge Douglas, did not make our cottage his home while in our City, we would have made it as pleasant as possible for him. We found him a perfect gentleman. I am astonished to hear that you do not know the proceedings of the Convention held in our City, for William sent both of you and John all of the papers. Judge Barlley and his daughter, of Ohio, stopped with us, [unclear] most agreeable. Uncle Richard Ward was with us, he was one of the delegates from Texas. He is quite well and may visit Ohio in August next. He is going to move back to South Carolina, and talks much of purchasing a residence in Charleston. He is not

as well pleased with Texas as at first. I suppose if we would all move out there he would like it much, but he says it is so lonesome away off from all of one kindred. Poor man, he is growing old and needs his life partner, I wish all things were well between them. John [unclear] lives with us, he is a quiet and good business man. How are your boys, dont you wish you had a girl, Tom? How many have you now, you said two some time ago. We have two, one boy named Clinton Ward. Oh, by the way, Clinton Ward may visit you with us, I mean Cousin Clinton may visit Ohio. Wont we have a time of it, he will take is wife if he goes. I think she is a fine woman. John fell desperately in love with her, almost came to coffee and pistols, all but the latter. Tell John if I live until August nexxt and see him I will give him a warmer hug than he once got in the old Palmetto State. I say once, Oh dear, I only seen one. Joe and Clint tell a different tale, ask him how he liked it. Give my love to him and say I cant be serious yet, though 22 years old. I guess Will would send his love to you all so I will give him credit for it. Oh Tom, aint you tired of reading such stuff. Well I will stop plaguing you with it. Hoping you can guess at what you cant read, I will close by saying write soon, kiss Nan and the children and looking glass for me. Ever you fun loving sister,

Kate