

Oil Creek May the 6th 1865

(Jonathan D. Esarey to John C. Esarey)

Dear Brother: I seat myself this good morning to answer your kind and welcome letters which have come to hand lately. Have received your letter of March 31st and April the 9th. I received the one that was written on April first. The letters found us all well and this letter leaves us all well and I truly hope that it will find you enjoying the same blessing.

Clark, I have some bad news to write you, some that I was sorry to hear and I know you will be. First is the Death of our President for he was the flower of our Country and the next is the death of our colonel. Col. Fournier was buried at his own residence at Cannelton on Sunday the last of April. His horse kicked him on Friday and he died on Saturday. He was kicked in the bowels. He knew everything until his last moments. He built him a horse mill and was starting it when his horse kicked him. It was his one horse. His business was all left undone.

We are through planting corn. We would have finished at your house today but it rained all night last night. We have got that on the hill to plant yet.

Clark, I hear that some of the boys have written that they will be at home before long. I am in hopes that it is so. I would like to see you once more. For you have outgrown me, but I believe that I can throw you down for I am about one-third stouter now than I was when you

left home. I am 5 feet and 11 inches high and weight 160 lbs. and I am seeing a fine time with the girls, not with the girls but with my girl for I have quit going with all of them but one, that is Miss M.A.E. and I am going to quit going to see her before one year more but I want you to be here when I quit going to see her. I suppose that you know who she is. If you don't I do. I will quit writing for this time. I will write to you again as soon as I get time. I will not wait for an answer. I will write whenever I get time.

Only you must do the same. I came very near forgetting to tell you about our singing school that we have got on Oil Creek. We have got 26 scholars and Isaac Landman is teaching it. Commenced on the 5 Sat. one Sunday in April. I will know how to sing again you get home. Clark, I don't know where you are but I thought I would write anyhow whether it ever got to you or not and write soon and often. I still remain your Brother until Death.

Jonathan D. Esarey to John C. Esarey

Johnny E. Esarey is the prettiest boy on Oil Creek. He is as big as Jim was when you left.