

Letter
Wm Blair
25 May 1861

Exposed Henry County - Illinois
James Lawson Esq May 25th 1861

Dear Sir

I was happy to receive your letter of
29th Mar and feel thankful for your
Kindness in writing to me

I feel grateful to that good
Spirit who has been my protector from
youth until my head has become like
the almon blossoms, that I can say
we all enjoy reasonable good health
at present, my oldest son has lost
his wife about 5 weeks ago he has five
children, the rest of my children &
their families are well

Our National affairs
has taken a great change since I wrote
to you in February as you will understand
by your reading the opposition to the
Present Administration was great
and that opposition until of late threw
their influence against Mr Lincoln Government
as their views three candidates
Opposed to Mr Lincoln that is
Stephen A Douglas, a Non Intervention
Democrat & J C Breckenridge, Old line
Democrat, One

things have taken a difrent turn
In Illinois within 5 weeks I felt
much alarmess on the last of March
When I heard Our Citizens threning
of hanging those that was Opposed
to them

Friend Dawson this was the
reason that I Opt Wept When
I thought of the Awful Calamity
that was hanging Over the Country
that I had addopted as
mine for me & my Children
It is not for me to
say which party is in the wrong,
but I do think if our
Senators & Congress men had
thought more of their Country
and less of their Honours, that
is two words to compromise
a certain principals in their
Politics, but I trust that
God that over rules all things
will bring good out of this
I see no way left now
But a compromise betwien north &
the South, as for to Seperate this Union
they never could live in peace

While Slavery existed. there would
allys be a Border trouble
So I see but two ways to settle this
again to Compromise or Conquer them
We have a great Money
Crises in Illinois & Wisconsin
As the most of our Banks was secured
by Southern State Stocks & now this
kind of Stocks ~~is~~ good for nothing,
So this is the way we go some 200 Banks
in Ill. & Wisconsin Down Based on bad Stocks

I Received papers from you
I feel thankful, I sent 2 to you
last week, and 3 to the Chronicle of
Picton, I will send more in a
few days

Our Spring was some thing cold
But our Wheat looks very well now
farmers are all done planting Corn
Wheat & Corn is low on account of
the Blockade of the Mississippi river
Wheat is 72 cents Bush Corn is 15 cents Bush
there is immense quantities of Old Coin in
the Country yet

I remain Respectful
Yours

Wm. Blair

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My Savannah friends appear to be very worldly &
scarce of paper as they write but little