

TRANSLATION OF LETTER FROM ISAAC N. POLLARD (GREAT, GREAT, GREAT,
GRANDFATHER OF HARRY M. MILLER, JR.) TO HIS BROTHER AUSTIN

(Transcribed by Harry M. Miller, Jr., October, 1986; original is owned by
Mrs. Hazel Dawkins Cape, of Union, SC, who is a Great, Great
Granddaughter of Isaac N. Pollard).

Legend: [] = word(s) contained within are "best guess" transcription.
____ = word(s) were completely illegible.

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Cantonment [Montpelier,][A. Territory]
June 12th, 1817

Bro. Austin,

I rec'd yours of the 28th Sept. last, [while] I was stationed at Camp Scott, which stated you [wished] me to content myself until I saw you in this delightful country this spring. I have endeavour'd to render myself as comfortable & satisfied as the present circumstances will [permit], although I would be extremely happy in seeing [you] or any of my friends _____ in this country myself [& a staff] _____ Mr. H. Long & Richd. at the [Buyo] near F. Montgomery a few days past. Long is in the mercantile business at the latter place who says he will visit So. Ca. the ensuing winter. We the 4th & 7th regiment staff or a part thereof are of the opinion we will march to F. Gerney or Scott on the [Chattahoochee] in order to [subdue] the indians to [themselves]. [They have committed] several depredations on the settlers from Georgia this spring since we have left them [stay] they have become hostile. I wish to be retained at this post the time which I have to lose in the U. States Service. Not that I am afraid of being shot, but are as delightfully situated as I suspect any troops in the service. I [cannot] write you any [more-with the exception] only that John Reardin is now living & teaching an English school 2 miles from this Cantonment, who states that Joseph Pollard is now living in the midst of the Creek Nation, but not doing well - perhaps this is as scarce a time for [pioneering] as ever has been since the bloody [particulars] in this country; two men of the company to which I belong [deserted] on the 24th and was retaken & brought back the 5th [of the] present month. They was [moved] 175 miles. The comd had to subsist upon [game] (wild) which they killed. Since we have built & moved into our new quarters and Col. King has taken the com'd of this division, the duty has become very hard, comparatively fifty times, as was in the War Establishment.

It is my impression this will be a good Country in [a few years] _____. _____ carriage from Pensacola to within 20 miles of [Huntsville] in Tennessee - Myself and Richd. wishes to be recalled to your family, Mother, [Ben] Young and T. [Pamssa ____]. I had like to forgot Uncle Robert & family. Austin, I wish you to write me at this station, as I may expect some [intelligence] from a letter, by you, I rec'd a letter from Maj. [Hatter] by [Thos.] Wordlaw but did not [have] the pleasure of [seeing] him which is the only one I _____ since your [last] wrote to me at Fort Scott. It was the opinion of every officer & soldier who was at Fort Johnson at the time peace was declared that we would be discharged the service, I live an easy life, but not agreeable, - which displeases me to [think] I am [spending the] _____ [my] life in obscure from the world; but believe I am as well satisfied at this time as when I first joined the regiment at Charleston Harbor. In my leisure hours I have made [oneself] acquainted with the manners of customs of the Indians which I transcribe and forward to you. It is both amusing [and] entertaining.

With great respect yr. _____

Isaac N. Pollard