February 1993

Dear Ann,

Thanks for your interesting letters. Mail means so much to me now since I am unable to do much going on account of my arthritus. I am so glad you are enjoying an active life while you can. I was glad to get the material you sent me from the Winnsboro museum. The picture of James Raines, Grandpapa's brother, that was killed at the battle of Petersburg. I remember hearing Grandpapa tell about it many times. He said he saw his brother when he fell and knew he had been hit. The two armies fought until night and then went into camp near by. They received strict orders not to leave camp that night. Grandpapa went to his Captain and asked for permission to go out on the battle field and find his brother's body. A friend, (Mr. Taylor), went with Grandpapa. The two got down on their hands and knees and crawled about. When they found a body, they turned face up and waited for a flash of lightning. They found his brother's body and took it back to camp. Next morning, they got some boards from a little country school and made a

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coffin and buried Uncle James near their camp. After the war was over, his body was moved to a Confederate Cemetry. I remember Papa taking Grandpapa to a Reunion in Virginia and they visited the cemetry. The graves were marked "UNKNOWN".

It sounds like you and Joanne like to stay busy making things look pretty. I always enjoyed staying busy. I was a fair carpenter, an excellent painter, and considered to have a green thumb. Growing flowers was my chief hobby, and I liked to travel. I have covered the U.S. pretty well and have been to Canada and Mexico. My children and grand children have toured Europe, been to South America, Thialand, Russia and China, etc. Well, I am thankful I can still go to church but my going days are about over. I still visit my children and visit in the McDonald family homes. They all call me Aunt Cora and invite me to their family gatherings. Lavenia and a Weir Aunt married McDonald's.

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I am sorry that I know so little about the PICKETT Family. I knew and visited Cousin Jim (James) Pickett and knew his wife Cousin Menia. I was in college with one of their daughters and Fae was in college with Ellie Pickett, another daughter. I think Cousin Jim's father was John Pickett who married a Cason (one of Great Grandmama, Mary Cason's sister). That family is the only Pickett family that is related to us. Cousin Jim Pickett had a large family. One son, Harry Pickett, was in the U.S. marines and was a Brig. General when he died.

PAGE#___Letter Continued

A couple from Germany has been visiting in the U.S. Harriet and Rinne met them when they were in Germany and were entertained in their home, a man and wife. Both are High School teachers. Rinne invited them to stay in her home and did lots of nice things to entertain them. Harriet brought them to Chester and they spent a day with us.

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We enjoyed them so much. Lavenia gave them a delicious dinner and they enjoyed all. They were all over the house and yards. They loved our camper. Elliott took them to the pasture to see his cows and to a nearby forest where they were cutting pulp wood. They were interested in everything. They said they loved the U.S. and its people and hope to come back. They had two weeks vacation for Christmas and spent all the time in the U.S.

Yes, my jonquils and daffodils are up and will soon be in full bloom. Our winter jessamine and camellias and breath of spring are beautiful now and many azaleas will bloom soon.

Don't work too hard.

Love to you, Jim, & Joanne

P.S. Pardon writing, my eye sight is bad and my mind is also bad,

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