

Amacetta L. Summers from William J. Rand, about George's death, 1863

Mrs. Summers¹

Dear Madam

My wife² requested me
to copy that part of Cinthia's³ letter relating to George's⁴
death and send it over to you. She would have been
over to see you, but for the sickness of her mother.

Cinthia says

“I am not well, have been running in the wet
& cold to see George Summers, poor little fellow; as soon as I
heard he had been brought here, I went down to see him,
but to my sorrow found him very sick. The measles had
gone in on him, but he knew me, put his arms around my neck,
said, Oh, Mrs. Arnold, how glad I am to see you.
He talked about his mother - I found he was flighty, I
fixed his bed; came over on the streets, met a Dr. Farrell,⁵
asked him to get Dr. Rose⁶ & go to George immediately; which
he did. We went to work but, it was too late, poor fellow!
He wanted Toot⁷ or I to give him his tea_ said my tea
was so good_ He was a perfect child whilst sick. Will
Summers⁸ did all he could_ He is not well, but nothing
but loss of sleep_ Every time I would go in, George would

¹ Amacetta Laidley Summers

² Ellen Noyes Rand

³ Cinthia Noyes Arnold is Ellen Noyes Rand's sister.

⁴ Amacetta's son, George Laidley Summers, died of measles in Confederate army camp on February 12, 1863.

⁵ Dr. Ferrell

⁶ Dr. Rose

⁷ Toot

⁸ Will Summers

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put his arm around my neck and talk_ I know he could not live_ I said Georgy, you are very sick; he said_ yes I am awful sick Mrs. Arnold__ I said - George do you pray? He said he did all he could. I told him to pray all the time for he was very sick, & I was afraid he would be a long time getting well__ The people were very Kind to him after they found him out_ A Mrs Pitsen⁹ took him to her house but he only lived two days.

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The General¹⁰ came in & brought two Doctors, but alas it was too late__ I was with him late last night, he talked until a few minutes before he died__ Will Tompkins¹¹ and a Presbyterian Minister, Mr. Blair¹² were with him when he died. I want you to go & see Mrs. Summers, and tell her everything. Tell her that everything on Earth that could be done, I had done. The Ladies sent him everything. A Presbyterian Minister Mr. Blanton¹³ & his wife were more than kind_ Sent another bed for him__ sat with him__ I will send some of his hair, & keep some for fear it may get lost__

In another part of the letter Cinthia says

“Mrs. Pitson was more than kind to George, did every thing for him_ as if he had been her own Son, she could not have done more for him__ He is very prettily dressed; clean clothes, white shirt_ and his own pants & coat__ a pretty bouquet in his hands,,.

⁹ Mrs. Pitsen

¹⁰ The General

¹¹ Captain William Tompkins

¹² Rev. Blair

¹³ Rev Blanton & wife

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With our warmest sympathies in your sad
bereavement__ we are

Yours truly

W J Rand¹⁴

¹⁴ William J. Rand II was a local saltmaker, banker & businessman.