They have become disgusted with the mode of legislation and the manner of conducting the war as strenuously urged by the Radicals at Washington both in and out of Congress, and are clamorous for peace upon any honorable terms.

They do not feel easy. I can assure you over the loss of so many brave and patriotic men who are uselessly sacrificing their lives in a vain attempt to save the Nation. I say vain attempts, for the policy inaugurated by the Radical men of Abolition sentiments has made it so beyond a doubt. To fight to restore the Old Union in fact, to preserve the entire Constitution intact, and to grant all the rights to each and every portion of our Country which we once enjoyed under the old regime, a Nation's blood and treasure would both be unshakably offered. But to wage a sectional war,
based exclusively now upon fanaticical
arguments, under the thin veils or pretenses
of saving the Union, is not only suicidal
but madness in the extreme, and an
indignant, deceived, and insulted people
will forever cry out against it.

The further continuance of the war
for the purpose of carrying into effect the
"Lincoln" proclamations (for they are not of
the people, who in truth are the Sovereigns
of the land) only adds strength to the
Rebellion, and evidences every day the breach
that now separates us. May wisdom once
more enthroned herself in the minds of
our Statesmen, and may she be strengthened
by sad experience.

How does the Legislature receive the
speech of "Ball and disagreeable"? We take it as
a faint omen of a speedy restoration of
the good old times of peace. This proposition
I take as a fair one. All that is requisite
I think to effect a speedy and permanent peace is embedded in that speech. Those who object to such a measure will most assuredly receive the anathemas of an indignant and infuriated people now, and the curses of every generation that may come after. Do make every effort you can with propriety to assist in the termination of our troubles. Your constituency will not forget you for it. Seek fanatics as Leaton and Dubin would not like such a course in you, but remember they do not constitute Greene's County, and the masses would most assuredly endorse you. What ever you may do do all for your country's good.

Don't forget to bring me a copy of the "Revised Statutes" according to promise.

An occasional number of the "Communist" containing any legislative matter of importance would be thankfully received at any time. Hoping to receive an answer very soon. Remain your friend as ever, J. H. Bates.
Frankfort, Ky.
July 13th, 1868

My dear wife,

I am very well, never felt better in my life. Your letter of the 11th was not yesterday evening. It made me happy because you are better. I felt it to be true from the love and spirit of your letter. It made me feel cheerful to read it. Well you have been dreaming of me. Oh! What a dream! I was quite natural that you should dream that I was sick; that you wanted to do something for me; that I was suffering very much. But how unnatural that part of the dream that makes a dream of my submarine meals up and satiated. "Very much out of form!"

I do not think as you seem to suppose sounds that it was, "Dream of me (you) to dream of such kind things of you." But it was a dream dreams, because it put me in the wrong, and made you cry. I am glad to hear that you intended to do better dreaming in the future. I was astonished to hear that my letter of the 11th was so long in the way. I did not write yesterday, and it is the first day I have failed for more than two weeks. I have written the Colonel a long letter in answer to one of the same characters this. Also...
a letter to Sarah, which I herewith enclose. As you will read Sarah's letter I shall consider it as partly for you, so far as applicable. And if you want my views on the political conditions of things you must call on Dr. Butler. I see what all this means, I don't intend writing much more now. I am tired and I know how you don't want to many one further, although it would afford you pleasure to read.

With regard to the potatoes I do not care about planting them, prefer getting some northern ones to plant.

It is now certain that we shall remain till set of March, and I have already written. If I remain to the close I shall have been from you longer than at any one time since I came one. I shall do so I think I am surprised with the belief that the peril of the State is near greater than now. All the rest of his details part he can put some of the measures on the paper. I will continue to write regularly till I come home. I will try this express if it works good when I read post mail direct to Nauvoo will you may get these sooner. I sent you $12 in change in letter that you get it? Almost 11 o'clock.

Good night. My very good night.
Fayetteville, Iowa, Feb. 14th

Mr. Ireland,

We are all well and hoping these few lines may find you enjoying the same.

We met a letter from you before you started to Frankfurt. I suppose we are this from Frankfurt stating how things were getting along. I am glad that the Ky. Legislature propose to have a meeting with some other Legislature to try to come on some kind of peace measures. I am glad to see something of that kind get up, but still I fear it will not amount to anything. The abolitionists is not willing for anything only the negro freed & all the southern people killed both women & children. I knocked a man down last week for saying the army ought to just kill women & children & not leave anything of them.
I made another one that his mouth
or I would brake it for saying let
the Constitution go it were no accept-
till the war were over we are
a going to have a warm time
here I expect in the North the
Abolitionist is having secret society
of arming themselves for some purpose
they blame the democrats of having
secret society they call it the golden
Circle I do not know of any such
society maybe you do, there is one
thing they can not get anymore
men from the north neither volun-
tee nor draft without they are
abolitionist and there is no danger
of them we can not fight a negro
war that proclamation will have
to be withdrawn of the negro report
before the democrats of the western
states will fight I think the war
will turn into a democratic & negro
abolition war & draw the armies
from the South it looks to me that may more than anything else now let it come the sooner the better I call the Abolitionists worse than Reeks for they do not want the Constitution as it is now the Union as it was I am for the Constitution as it was at the Union as it was & the Progress where they are is motto & not let any States secede at all if any must go let the New England States go the founder & Father of Abolitionism they are Nearer to the United States any way they have filled their pockets by Shaving the White South Now ten fold more so they are getting rich of us and we are the ones to suffer both at their paper money that flows the most only worth 40 to 45 on the dollar good times yes indeed
I will have bought out my partner & be going down again
I had to do it on acct. of a great many leaving the store & a great many if I were not in would wait
Until I would come in & if found it would not do,
Goods are very high selling
Cattle 25 Cents For cotton 45 & all other Cotton goods accordingly
It is a pretty time I look for a mose with this Currency
Business but no telling what comes next. I will could a man make a good living selling goods in Greensboro I do not know but what it can all my property & land
Goods go out here thin is a man want just such a stand and about as much land as I have I can do well here but I am getting dissapointed with the people in the north & to write soon. My Love to Auntie & Children
I do<br>Yours<br>
William C. Ireland
Greensburg
Greenspo County
Kentucky