

1 Pine Bluff Ark Feb 27th 1873
2 Dear Mrs A. W. Torrey
3 Troyville Mo.
4 You dear Husband informed
5 me some weeks ago that you
6 had managed the collection
7 of the very nice box of clothing
8 collected in your City for
9 the flood sufferers and the
10 poor people in our destitute
11 district of Country. Let me
12 acknowledge the receipt
13 of the goods and to say that
14 they were the best lot of clothing
15 sent to me from any where
16 I have seen in clothing that
17 is not North paying the freight
18 on, but this still gives me all
19 confidence for I am not a man
20 of complaint. Nearly all of the
21 people get the Eastern and West
22 River roads to dead head the goods
23 to their southern terminus and
24 then the Southern roads will not
25 d. b. and they bring them on
26 and I hope the freight to pay
27 But I will do so for it is all
28 for the Lord and His man
29 need of doing things and he
30 will repay me in some
31 way when I least expect it.
32 I do wish you could have

1 been with me and my wife
2 on last Saturday. It was a
3 brown day - and we gave
4 out the news secretly to the
5 more distressed ones widows
6 orphans old men and cripples
7 that they might come and get
8 some comfort. During the day
9 we helped them forays &
10 Counties. At least 300 families
11 so happy were many of them
12 they would ask me who
13 is Judge Torger? We went
14 to see him, tell him thank
15 God bless him. Well said I,
16 Mrs. Judge Torger sent you
17 me these things, well tell her
18 God bless her too. We want
19 to see her. My Mrs. Madam
20 she took is a big one but I
21 am a big strong man
22 I weigh 280 lbs. am 38 years
23 of age and can do a good
24 deal of fatigue work.
25 Already I have relieved over
26 1000 families and persons in a
27 great many ways, and so many
28 of the red mouth bourbon
29 have asked me where I
30 get so much for the poor
31 I invariably answer and
32 say from the Lord and his
agents

1 Till the Judge he cannot look
 2 for much from me now
 3 I will report all my Stevedore
 4 Ship to him in the future
 5 I am and will be a very
 6 busy man for some
 7 weeks yet to come
 8 I want you if you can and
 9 please to send me a small
 10 Photo of your self and the
 11 Judge as I may show it
 12 to many of our loyal friends
 13 I gave a suit of clothes to
 14 an old Superannuated Methodist
 15 Minister this morning. He is
 16 a Union Man and finds
 17 very little comfort in the M.D.
 18 Chock South and he put the
 19 idea in to my mind to get your
 20 Photos. I send you mine
 21 you can form some idea
 22 as to my ability to work
 23 from the Photos. The Judge
 24 said you and others of the fam-
 25 ily had been ill from La Grippe
 26 I do hope all are well by this
 27 time. Judge is our Moses and
 28 no man can or will ever
 29 fill his place to us as he is and
 30 has been doing. Yours for the
 31 Cause of Humanity & Christ

M. MIDDLEBROOKS,
 PINE BLUFF, ARK.