

Stringtown Ind. July 2nd, 62

2 o'clock P. M.

Dear Sir,

I appropriate the present time to reply to your note which contained the unwelcome intelligence of your ill health, though hope, as you anticipated, that you have recovered long since.

I can not refer to the war subject without experiencing a painful sadness unknown till of late, and which the most refreshing news of victory can scarcely expel. Not that I have any doubt of the final issue, but the politicians have so sanguinely spoken of the termination of the war before the 4th of July, and so temptingly

argued the matter that one could
but embrace the hope, — Thereby
verifying the assertion that 'tis easy
to believe that which we wish to
believe. The 9th is almost here
— but it will not bring the cheering
presence of friends so ardently
expected. I suppose there will be
plenty of dirty balls next Friday.
Last Saturday there was a Union
barbecue at Lewisport. None of
the secesh would go — but were
so enraged, that the poor Lincolmites
considered it unsafe to have a
ball at night. Yet there is a great
fuss kept about "Union loving
Kentucky!" such an epithet may do
for those who admire the figure
of hyperbole; — but if Hancock
County can successfully withstand
a practical test, her manner of

displaying such huge sermonism
~~her~~ man is quite mysterious.

If allowing the rebels to receive
southern mail, make treasonable
speeches and hold secret meetings,
is being loyal—very delicate must
be the perception of the defender.

Saw Will Byrne last week said
they were all well at home. I am
not going to tell you that Will said
his Cousin Ely intended committing
matrimony with Mrs Anderson of
New Boston 'cause I promised not
to tell any one.

Isn't it exacting in you to want
one to prove that which is self-evident
yet I admit that your perseverance
is flattering to one of my susceptibilities
especially so as I reciprocate the
sentiments which you profess to
entertain—at least, feel somewhat guilty.

As my lamp is getting rebellious
I move to adjourn. Wishing you
pleasant dreams, I subscribe myself
As ever,
Yours sincerely,
Thos. L.

P. S. So kind of you to build
a ring. Why didst you say that
it was manufactured from the
cane of the notorions —