Galveston Oct 19th 1853

Dear Son, I read your letter and glad to hear that you were well, as I have been although this very severe visitation of the yellow fever, it has been very bad some whole families has died, it has not taken many of our old citizens but almost all the new comers has taken it and most of them have died, but I happy to say it is now almost over, I wrote you on the 10 of Sept and directed as you told me to congress street Cincinnati, I did not know until I got your letter that Gov. Sanderson came from Pike, he did not stay to any one here where he came from, he arrived here on the boat from New Orleans on the 14th of Sept, he was sick with the yellow fever, when he came here, him and professor Ritter, they would not admit at the Tremont house on that account, but by the intercession of Major Simons of this place Col Thayer of palmetto House took them in, Dr. Standiford attended them, Mr. Sanderson made himself known as a mason and and on the evening before he died two of our brethren attended him with the intention of sitting up with him but he said he was much better that he did not need any watching, and they placed every thing convenient as he desired and left him, some time in the night he was taken worse and fell out of bed, Col Thayer and some of his guests got him into bed again and in
morning, after he died the doctor made a great deal of
noise about it and said that he had been poisoned, and
they had a post-mortem examination. Mr. Heath examined
the contents of the stomach but could not detect any
sign of poison, and the water that was in pitcher that he
had been drinking was also examined. I tried all the tests I
could think of myself but I could not find any traces of poison.
I drank some of it. There was no taste or bad effect from it, and
many others drank of it. He was decently buried and a
number of our brethren attended his funeral. There are nine
large packages of baggage and two swords at the Palmetto House.
The keys are in Briggs yard safe. He wore a gold gold watch
which Dr. Harwood got hold of and kept it for his bill. I
think there is no doubt but he was robbed for there was no
money found in his pocket book. Col. Thayer and Mr. Moore
were taken up as you will see by his circular which I enclose,
two or 3 days after one of the Irish girls belonging to the house
went to buy something at a store and gave in payment a $1.00
bill. The man gave her change for one dollar and she said that was
right. He then took the bill to the Marshal and had her taken
and she is now in jail. A few days after they found 3 one
hundred dollar bills on the carcass of another Irish girl in the
D. House, they are both in jail to be tried next court, but if
they cannot identify the bills they will be cleared. The bills
are all of the Bank of Alabama. I wish you would ask
Mrs. Sanderson if she knows anything about what money
he had with him, as it will be well to try all means
to identify these bills if it is possible to do so. Perhaps you may
know this Col. Isaac Thayer he used to have a fine place.

in Brookline on the Brighton road, a good-looking man about 55 years old, has several sons in Boston. I hope everything will be cleared up about the robbery but by all that I can learn so far, I think it will always remain a mystery if they cannot prove anything by the bills but I hope for it as best as it may. For it has been felt both with a good many they die, I suppose they then becomes easy which was the case up to Sept., you will see by Thayer's statement (I believe) some particulars more that I do not think it will do for Stonewall. He has acted in the case, he is a man of much sense, but he had drunk 2 quarts of brandy that day the girl died, so I should rather lay blame on him for neglect than any one else [if there was any cause for blame].

I have now stated all I know in relation to the case if I can be of any service to Mrs. Sanderson I will with pleasure obey any command. Col. Thayer told me he had sent a letter from Genl. Twiggs in New Orleans to tell him that he had written to Washington for instructions and ordering him to take care of the Genl.'s things and that he should hold him responsible for them. I have no news of any kind to tell you, remember me to all Squire Taylor's folks, all other friends to Eise Jane and the little boy, adieu your father Charles Daniel.