

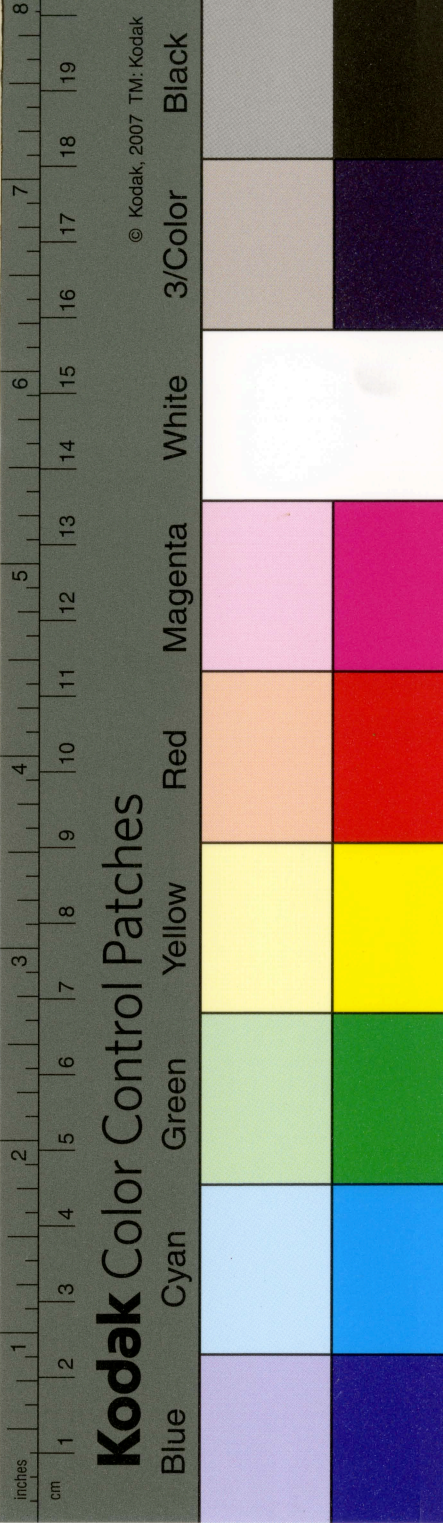


Memphis Tenn,
Apr. 10th 1865

Dear Parents:

I am here in the beautiful City of Memphis, in the far busy South. I have just got into the hotel from a walk through the city with a gentleman lawyer from Michigan who has come here to practice his profession. Being acquainted he showed many points of interest through town. But Oh! horror to think of the awful calamity that has befallen our ~~city~~ beloved country. In the assassination of Lincoln, Seward and Sumner! The cold chills would course my blood when first the sad news reached my ears.

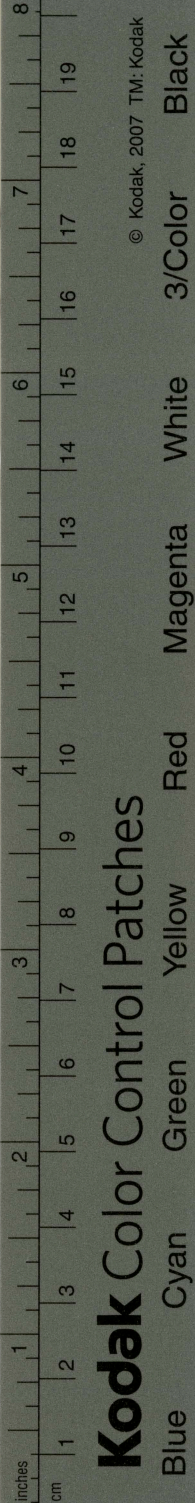
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as we had neither the name of
 the street nor its number. But
 we did see many most magnificent
 business houses, Churches and residen-
 ces. True I have not seen all
 of the place by considerable in
 my hours ride, and two hours
 walk. I have had a faint view
 of the fortifications as I can have
 now from my window. St.
 Pichering is so situated as to
 deal out destruction at a tremen-
 dous rate to any foe that might
 dare to approach from below or
 above on the river, and it could
 turn its mighty power upon the
 city to its utter demolition and
 very hasty too. I see the large
 guns standing upon the batteries
 ready at a single moments
 warning, with its garrison of
 over 4,000 soldiers within its
 walls.



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Blue

Cyan

Green

Yellow

Red

Magenta

White

3/Color

Black

2

The news first reached here this morning on the boat from Cairo. The news flew like magic throughout the place and the flags of the city were hung at half mast, and draped in mourning. What horror to think our nation's loss, to see our Star Spangled banner draped in mourning! Whom God will destroy he first maketh mad," and these ^{of secession} demons, are surely sufficiently mad for destruction. If possible I will drive these thoughts away for the present and write something else. I got a carriage this morning for Mrs. Billings of Keokuk who came down on the same boat to visit her husband. We rode for one hour but did not succeed in finding

inches
cm

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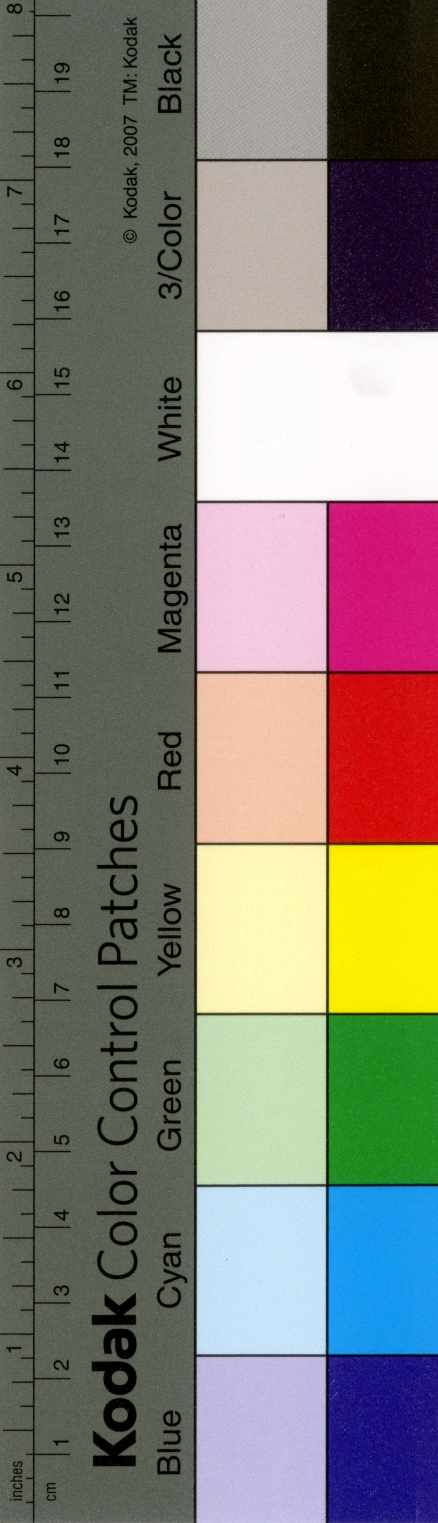
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Then how different the atmosphere here; the sun is almost at its meridian, brightly shining forth its ^{genial} rays of warmth and gladness. It is as warm here as in June there, yet it is neither sultry nor hot, but as Benuale the atmosphere it seems cool and embracing, much like we sometimes have North, just after a shower in a sultry hot August day, or the fured are while the dew is rising in our summer's morning.

Then again, how different vegetation here; when I left there were scarcely any of the trees were putting forth their leaves or buds, but here we reached this point the peach and apple trees had put forth their blossoms and had fallen off. And to-day the leaves on the oak and other trees are almost full grown and the gardens and yards are green with grass and vegetables.



But with all this I can't tell
how I shall like the place.
I may not like the climate, the
the city, the practice to be had,
the people, nor the manner
of living. I do not know that
I have any occasion to be
discouraged unless it may be
from the high price of living.
It is Sunday and the most of
business is closed of course and
I am doing nothing in the way
of business. It will probably
be one or two or perhaps three
weeks before I shall know
what to do. In the mean time
I shall enquire and remain
as contented as possible.
I guess it is dinner time.
I will write again when I
get more settled in business.
Your affectionate son
D. M. Chure,

