

Jefferson Barracks, Mo.,
4/19/98.

Dr. A. S. Draper,
Champaign, Ill.

Kind Sir,

We are loading and leave in an hour for the South, and what else I know not. I had not expected to write this letter so soon tho there has not a day passed during the last year that I have not prayed that someday I might once more be able to say "I am a son of Illinois" Can I hope for your forgiveness and that of the University I wronged? I have bitterly regretted lying, how much you cannot know. And now as we are starting to a possible fight I would like to have the ban of the Uni removed, even tho I may never see her doors again. I did have Chemicals & knew of them, but as to the one who threw the Chemical in the girl's eyes; I did not do it nor do I know who did.

Hoping for a reply, I remain,
Very respectfully

A. J. Houghton, Corp'l, Troop B 3d U.S. Cav. Chickamauga, Tenn.

This is the best paper & envelope
I can get.