

**Alexander R. Lawton to Charles P. Greenough, 11 September 1876, Gainesville, Georgia**

*MS 194 Sarah Alexander Cunningham Collection, Box 1, Folder 5, Item 74*

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Gainesville- Ga-

Sept 11<sup>th</sup> 1876

Charles P Greenough Esq

Boston

My dear Sir

I certainly owe you an explanation for not replying sooner to your very interesting letter of August 14<sup>th</sup> I was absent from home & engaged in the trial of an important case in the up-country of this State, when your letter reached Savannah- On my return to the City, I was preparing to reply to your enquiries when the unexpected appearance of yellow fever as an epidemic in our midst brought with it inextricable confusion, and the temporary abandonment of all business, except such as appertained to the safety of, or provision for, the inhabitants- This unhappy condition of things has caused much confusion in my plans,

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and withdrawn my thoughts in a great measure from their usual channels-I have my family, for the present, established in this quiet retreat near the mountains; and this will account for the heading of my letter-

I can now reply but briefly to your enquiries; and perhaps nothing more will be required, as the lapse of time since the date of your letter has probably served the purpose of an answer to some of them- . . .