

Transcription

"Thanking God that I have a son to offer"

A VIRGINIA MOTHER.

The following letter was written by Mrs. Ann Catron, of Washington county, to her son, who promptly enrolled himself in the Mounted Rifles:

"The time has come. Will you go? Now you can decide. The next dispatch will be you must go. Your country calls; will you respond now? With trembling hand but unfaltering heart I address you this note, firmly relying upon Him who sways the destiny of nations;— He is able to defend you. With all the timidity due to my sex, I am ready to offer you up in defence of your country's rights and honor; and I now offer you, a beardless boy of 17 summers,—not with grief, but thanking God that I have a son to offer. May God be with you."

Citation: Richmond *Daily Dispatch*, April 29, 1861.