

**RS#12.1**

**Teacher Guide to the Resources**

**Document K: Maryland Voices of the Civil War – Excerpts from A. B. Davis Papers**

**Background Information:**

- Maryland was a divided state. Likewise, many families in the state were torn based on their allegiance to the North, to the South, or trying to stay neutral. This is best exemplified by the letters sent to Rebecca Davis from members of her family.
- To learn more about the thoughts and feelings of Marylanders during the Civil I recommend Charles Mitchell’s book, *Maryland Voices of the Civil War*. The author draws upon letters, diaries, and newspapers to convey the passions of a wide variety of people caught in the struggle.

**Guided Questions/Teaching Suggestions:**

Ask students:

- When were these letters sent to Rebecca Davis?
- Read and compare the three letters. What is the viewpoint of each author?
- Based on the letters, is Maryland more Northern, more Southern, or represents the middle ground?

Students could use a Venn diagram to compare and contrast the letters.

