



George B. Wright and Family Papers

Copyright Notice:

This material may be protected by copyright law (U.S. Code, Title 17). Researchers are liable for any infringement. For more information, visit www.mnhs.org/copyright.

Lab. Eve. Jan 3, 1863

My Love - How do you do this evening?

Oh such beautiful weather as we are having - I never saw the equal of it - To night the full moon is shining brightly down upon us at our camp among the great pines, almost as bright as daylight. The snow is getting pretty deep, but the weather is yet mild & we still make fair progress - We have moved camp 3 miles North, a pleasanter camp than before - We shall finish this Sp. in 8 or 10 days - But if the snow keeps away I'm afraid you will remain a widder all winter - If you were here I think I could give you a job of mending, patching, & darning but I don't think you would sleep comfortably in a bed with 5 men that is too many company

There now - The boys have all gone to bed
I am alone in the kitchen, all alone
with the still night & you, my blessed
Love. My Darling, My Wife, Why can I
not tell you how I love you? It is only
"My Love" - I've been thinking lately, ^{rare}
lately than ever before what a holy precious
& sacred thing is a Wifed Love, He who
possesses it is rich - nor has he a right
to be unhappy or ill-content -

Surely we love each other better with
every year, May this be a "Happy Year"

You have grown to me & I to you till we
are very near "One flesh" - - Oh dear my
eyes are near put out by this miserable
candle - I must go to bed - You are asleep
before now, In the midst of your labors, but
yet alone - Asleep though - I wish I could
step in & wake you with a kiss
I sleep with four fellows here -
Do you? Oh My Love I love you
God bless you - Love me, & be brave
& strong - be my wife - Press, kiss me
kiss you & good night - Good

Aunt Anne & I were
here to dine today - the
first time for a long while.
Lissie Jarvis went home
from a fortnight's visit
on Thursday, but Fances
Brown who came the
day before her will stay
till Monday. We have
had a nice visit from
the two - everything going
on - the Great fair open
8 days & a crush all the
time, two organ concerts
from the great new organ.
Private Theatricals under
Sir Bartlett - exhibition
of private paintings rich
& rare collection at the
Athenaeum. All for the
same cause & over 100,000
made for the Soldiers - Isn't
it glorious? Fances
hasn't stayed in Boston

for 8 years, & came to see
I hear all she could & it
was an excellent opportu-
nity.

Ned & Fanny also
arrived here. We hung
up our stockings &
father a pair of drawers
also to be sure. Ned &
came over on the eve with
a carpet bag full of fun
which were put in charge
of different people with
great secrecy. We found
them out in the morning.
Glen a boquet for Mother
from Fances - a pin cushion
(toilets) from Fanny - an
orange from me - a
bottle of cedar from Geo
of his turning & a choco-
late cigar with a funny
note purporting to be
from Ned & threatening to

get her 10,000.

Fathers - a lb of best tobacco. (I sh^d be glad to get you the same). Some Candy. an orange & per. Stockings from Fanny. An Francis - a very patriotic Goblet of glass pressed into flays Cannon Liberty Caps 90 &c. from me. a story by Theo Parker from Lizzie. Some wool wadding from Mother - a punch box of bonbons from Fanny. - we had a scarf pin from Fanny. & Lizzie & 9 collar boxes. & 9 a ps of side combs from father & curly darts - there is the whole budget. We went to Church 7 & 9 & heard J F Clarke on prospects of peace. & a collection for the freed men. Mr C. thinks the time draws near. Reason first - Blockade. Missing Finances

my friends & - what more
to say? I am
Dear William 1863
To Thomas W. Clark

I must wish you a
Merry Christmas & (by
the time this reaches you)
a Happy New Year. - I
can't let the day pass with
not writing to you. I have
been to Mrs Gaylord's this
morning & she if she
can tell me anything about
the Company! We haven't
heard since you wrote
that you had gone back
to Kentucky. I am very
anxious as a great deal
has taken place in Eden
we see in the papers. Our
only consolation is however
that the news is good
now. I hope she probably
have heard if anything
had happened to you.

than they all. "They that are with us are more than they that are against." I will send you some papers this morning containing the accounts of Burnside's battle and defeat. I have tried vainly to get Weeklies.

We are all very well, except your Frank who has not been well lately for a wound. When Elsie was sick I presume I did a little more than my strength permitted. I am not bad, and keeping quiet a few days will make me better. I believe this is the first Sunday I have staid from meeting since you went away. Do you see how nicely I have been, how much better than two years ago. Mary seems trying her best to see how good she can be - no trouble at all and perfectly well. - Just now some body came to the door and inquired if Mr. Wright lived here - said he heard he was a good God Doctor. Do you practice medicine? I never know why some of your friends called you Dr. We have some news neighbors in the next house. Quaker folk, we have seen nothing of them as yet, only the man called to see when I looked for you home. Taylor told him he might put his horses in his barn till you came but no longer, and he wanted to see if it would be worth while to get hay there. - Mrs. Austin was here to dinner the other day - they are expecting a general time with the measles up there. She said Mary Eddy was getting her work done ready to be sick, she and her children. Mrs. Austin told me I looked like a fright with my hair cut. Mary Eddy has had her hair cut off, he said he told her he would not go inside her house while it was short. He repented and went through.

I hope this week will be good and bring me news from you. Tell me if you keep well. That winter is not very long and would pass tolerably if only I could be assured of your safety, and good health. I cannot but keep you in his love and care! My love to your husband. I am your friend.

Minneapolis, Dec. 31. 1862

Jan. 4. 1863.

[George B. Wright]

How is with you this Sabbath morning? A fairer day never shone, and seldom so fair a one for January. Up to this time the weather continues warm as Indian Summer.

I have not yet heard from you - five weeks tomorrow since you went away, and I have heard once since you got to your work. I do not wonder so much at it, I think more about it now, because almost for the first time, when you have been away from me, I am troubled for you safety. Maybe I am foolish - women are apt not to be over wise, yet I congratulate myself on rather more than the usual share of common sense, for usually I leave you with perfect trust and without worry to God and your self.

But now, since we hear rumors of another war with the Indians and of an uprising of the Chippawas, I am scared. Away off there I do not know but you might all be killed before you hear of any trouble. They say letters have been found to Little Crow from Hale-in-the-day of a war like intent, and that at an early day the Chippawas meditate an attack upon Sunrise. I think your communication with the Samboermen cannot be frequent nor certain or I should hear oftener from you. I know you would not dare danger if you saw it, there is too much dependent on your life for you to needlessly give it up. Try to be reasonable, and silence fears with thinking they may be unnecessary. I hope I may hear from soon, or see you home. I do not care how soon deep snows come now. I cannot bear to think you in the least danger from those inhuman creatures. I wish it was every white man's duty to stay without

mercy every devil of them till not one was left on the earth. A general rising of them is looked for again in the Spring. Little Crow is at Fort Pierre trying to gather around him different tribes of the Sioux.

Yesterday we received the President's great Proclamation of Emancipation to the Slaves of Texas, Louisiana and Arkansas - with the exception of certain Parishes - also Mississippi, Alabama, Georgia, Florida, South Carolina and North Carolina and Virginia, excepting those Counties termed Western Virginia. The Proclamation also states that freed colored men will be received into the Army and Navy. Good times these. Wonder how our Southern brethren will feel you. What Counter Proclamation will Jeff issue. Let him raise black flag and proclaim till his last breath will avail him nothing, we hold him fast. Let England and France intervene if they so please Abraham Lincoln with God on his side is mightier

another done - I got another letter from
you a week ago. dated Dec 25 - I am
glad you were all so well - I shall see
you now in a little while I guess
Does Mary talk? Seems to me she is
going to be a great girl when I get
back. Oh Dear she'll never know
her Father - (though they say 'tis a
wise child knows that) No insinua-
-tion intended - As the road it appears
is going to diverge from Bung - I wonder
if women don't drift about at random
more than men? Through no purpose
of hers, she is taking a square turn in
life - Well I guess 'tis the best for
her - She had two or three talks with
me about it, that you knew nothing
about of. She will be happier so than
otherwise - All this is shocking
to you? Why? - Your Mother used
you know to say you would be
one of the first to try a second
marriage. For the very reason

of your exclusiveness & devotion in
your first marriage - I am inclined
to think that a man who has faithfully
& truly loved one woman, and been
faithfully & truly loved in turn, better
appreciates and loves all womanhood
& feels the necessity of love & loving
- and I guess its so with women.

Still 'tis not natural, & therefore
not perfectly right, that we should
ever marry twice. We should live
well & do our whole work here &
then in good old age together go to the
better land - hand in hand - "in death
not divided" - But we don't live so,
- and second marriages are better
than living alone - or may &
should be so, When I think that
you are my wife, my love, all and
only mine - dearest & best, I can hardly
bear to think that you should be
any other Mans wife - and Mary have
another Man for Father - and I forgo -

No I will not say that - You never would forget or cease to love me. But when I think that your welfare & happiness would be promoted by marrying a second time, and when it could do me no good for you to remain single after I was gone, why should I wish to curtail your happiness while here - I cannot feel quite so, but yet I cannot see why it is not right & proper

Jan 12th 8 P.M. The boys made so much noise that I had to stop right there - I have opportunity to send this down to - ~~right~~ ^{right} tomorrow so I must write some to - right but I am so tired & sleepy I cannot write. Oh my love I love you - you can excuse my being sleepy & dull - Oh let me go to sleep - rest in my arms. - Oh - go sleep - God bless you my love - Oh I will see you in dreams - Good bye

Your Husband
George

Jan 11. 1863

Sabbath, 3 P.M. Jan 11. 1863

My Love. How do you do? Well. I hope. What a curious winter we are having. Did you ever see the like - so quiet & pleasant here in the woods. It don't seem like winter at all.

I don't remember off ever in a winter of suffering so little with cold as thus far this winter. Two days during the past week we have had 20° below zero. But we were out as soon as we could see, & worked all day without any suffering at all from cold. To day at zero it seems as pleasant as summer. We've got our stove fixed so it don't smoke & the tent is comfortable here in the woods, as any house out on the prairie. I have no fears of -40° now. We are getting along slowly, our townships nearly done I hope to get

guide & guard - I will try be more
grateful for blessings, more cheerful always
It is constitutional bile & always
naturally overflows when I write home
But I do not think I write anything
very blue in my last letter to Norman
My Love I love you - be patient
calm & strong.

In a few days I shall hold you
in my arms - Oh last night so cold
& I dreamed I was with you - but with
only one blanket over us & ever so
close & snug as we could get, we
could not keep warm - then I woke
to find myself chilled through & 200
miles away from you - how utterly
homesick I felt, & thought I
never would desert Mrs Micawber
again - Once out of this & I
think I never will

Good Bye - God With you
Your Husband
George

In Lumber Camps Jan 16/63
Oh My Love - You can hardly imagine
how my soul goes out in
thankfulness to Our Father that He has
you and your love to me - That you
are my wife - my love - my
guard & monitor - I have just got
your two letters of Jan 1st & 4th
- such blessed words. Oh may they
not be wholly lost on me - God
bless you Oh my precious wife -
It is so strange you do not get
my letters - I have written 4 or 5
since I got here & sent them down
& I get yours regularly - We have
been very well & have had fair
success (in very hard work) now
on our way to another Township
(fractional) which I want to do
or else I shall leave by coming
& then my love, my darling heart
I see you. It has been quite ^{cold}

within the past week - But we have
worked at -20° & at -7° with heavy
wind, without discomfort - Last
night, sleeping in this Lumber camp
& I was cold (for the 1st time this
winter,) I have seen no Indians
as yet - There are but very few
hereabout - Some 20 or 30 of the
Rabbit Lake band are camped
7 miles below Near Bonforths &
John Heywoods Camps on the opposite
side of the River from where we
are now going to work, none
others about that I knew of
We shall be in our new Camp
Only about 25 miles from Knowlton
& 1 or 2 from a Camp of 25 or 30 men
I don't think there is a bit of
danger of Indians - if there is there
is no suspicion of such a thing here
among the Lumbermen -

My Love yours are right - I am needles-
sly, wrongly, wickedly, unthankful and
ungrateful to complain at my lot
in these terrible days - Am I not
live and well? Have I not strong
hands & steady head & fair prospects in
future - And have I not plenty to
keep me from suffering - Above
all have I not priceless wealth in the
love of a true and devoted wife, and in
my precious little ones - I have a
home rounded & perfect - No dark
shadow has ever fell upon it - we
live to & for each other - contrast
our case with that of the hundreds
thousand homes & the Million
desolated hearts in our own
Country - Oh my Love, my dear
true noble wife, I thank you
for your warning & God will bless
you for it - Be thus ever strong,
and good to me - ever my

Expiation. She will visit Washington and maybe New England and give them her views of their philanthropy and humanity toward these red-skinned cut-throats. Wouldn't it be fun to hear her give it to Abraham and the Quakers! She is bitter as Mrs. Swiss can be, on the Indian question, what more could be said?

Oh! my Love, I am getting heart sick. The time drag heavily, and my thoughts turn constantly on you. A little time I can bear your absence patiently, but after a little my heart faints, and one great longing fills my soul. I do believe husbands and wives were made to live together, don't you? My Love is a very bitter sweet - a constant torment as well as chiefest blessing. Dear Love, God help us to bear life whatever it may bring to us. Too much I know I give to you, but am I not hardly punished in the continued fear and dread of a last separation from haunting me?

I can only feel God help us. Now dearest Good night. I hope you are not partner to my gloomy feelings tonight - brought on I expect by a too full stomach, or a flamed soul.
Your wife Serena,

Minneapolis Sunday, Jan. 11. 1863
Love - I give you weekly greeting, but nothing do I hear from you. I dare say there is a good reason why I get no letters did I but know it, so I rest, partially content. Six weeks now - how many more? Such uncertainty is not pleasant truly. - Still our remarkable weather continues. Last Monday it was quite cold - maybe a little below zero, and every body said our warm weather had ended, and we must take it - cold as Greenland till April - but before night it moderated, and next day was as usual again, sun shining and warm. We hear reports of such weather from all over the country. I shall not look for you home till spring, unless we have a change. I do wish I could hear though how you prosper, and if you are well - eyes and all. I presume you cannot hear from me either, but my dear, we are well, as could be expected - let that comfort you.

I feel very much like an old lady, just
her prime entirely; locomotion is some
what difficult, and works not easy to per-
form, but on the whole I do nicely, I guess.

Yesterday afternoon Mrs. Babbitt sent
for Elsie and me to spend the evening -
which we did, having a pleasant time rather,
heard gossip enough you know. We do
not see many people, neither go, nor have
company, sort of hermits but not
altogether unpleasant. The other evening
Miss. Sean and Lucy called on us -
Miss. Sean had planned to come and stay
the afternoon, she and Lucy, then I -
was going to take her to the Harrisons to
spend the evening, but the Loomises had
company, which prevented the afternoon
visit. Mrs. Loomis has been suffering
a good deal lately with dyspepsia and
neuralgia, quite sick her sister said. They
had heard recently from Ade she took her
father going to war differently from what
they expected - was very brave over it.

This has been a pretty active week in the battle
line, but I fail to see that much has been
accomplished that will count. We have
taken Murfreesborough with a terrible loss
of life and limb. Good Kill and wounded -
does it pay? is a question God only can
answer - we have again gone at Vicksburg
with a very large force, had an unsuccessful
fight and are now waiting to be reinforced,
by Banks of New Orleans and some body else,
and we hear nothing from Banks, don't
know where he is. "All quiet along the Po-
tomac". The East seems to be full of rumors
and contradictions of rumors, that is all - there
is no end to the changes continually being
made in the Cabinet and Army, ^{by reshaped} but
yet they remain the same - Beaumais
is held in evil repute by many for his
great failure, and praised by some for al-
most succeeding. Indeed everything is as it
was, as far as any great object is concerned.

Mrs. Lewis has been down in town the past
week, she is just starting out on an Indian

Supper. You have not told me a word as to the kind of men you got. —

You ask me to tell you the news and local events. I hear nothing worth writing that is going on here. Gov. Ramsey is to be Senator. If he is no good, there is the satisfaction of knowing Aldrich is defeated. — We have battle news. nothing that works much good. — we have just fought and won a battle in Arkansas as to which we set off against our great failure at Vicksburg. Nothing going on East. I had a letter from Papa that other wish him to remain. Living in high style among the city folk don't agree with him, and he has forty plans immatured. He made me a very nice New Years gift. a silver butter knife, the most elegant. Grandma was planning to give me one, and had given me partly enough money, and wanted me to send to Papa to buy it. There as he could do better than we could here which thing I did. — and Papa got a much nicer one than we sent for, and gave it himself. Elsie tells me too all settled with her and the Elders. — they parted last night good friends, nothing more. The difference in Religious opinions being thought — by both sufficient ground of separation. The thought he could not have a wife so opposed as Elsie to Woman's speaking and praying in meeting and she thought she could never

Minneapolis, Jan. 16. 1863.

My Dearest Love,

I wish some good spirit would whisper good things to me of you. I have given up expecting to hear from you now till you come, and, with this weather, your coming looks so uncertain, that I cannot take much cheer from that. Most seven weeks away, longer than any the time, except one, since we were married. Wont we be glad when we are old, and can settle down together like "John Anderson" and his paw. I have dreamed two or three times lately of your coming home, and telling of me you were to go right-away again. — Oh how I did cry. Mr. Bryant has been here this afternoon to see Elsie, and has left her blue, with red cheeks and red eyes. Poor Chick pity her. I do not believe she will ever be a bit better off than wife than a widow.

He is well enough, but poor as poverty: and then to be a Free Will Baptists Ministers wife is anything but desirable - These things would be nothing of course if it was a marriage of anything but convenience, but if I was going to marry for a home I would look out that I might have one. Maybe I am wicked, but such things seem so cruel.

I thank God this ring is on my finger and cannot be removed, and before Him, I solemnly promise, while it remains thus never to be another mans wife.

Mary is asleep. She is good and well. I am well as I can be, which is not very. But I have got along so remarkably thus far, I can afford to feel badish a little while. If you do not get any letters you must feel anxious to hear about our welfare.

Saturday Eve. 17.

My Love Good news - To day two letters from you. I know you were well and doing well two weeks ago, that is well so far.

I think maybe your fair weather has not lasted till now - We have been having a stormy, windy, cold week - our coldest though only twelve below zero, but it seemed quite severe after such warm weather. As the whole you have had a disagreeable ugly time of it - I am glad so much is done as it will save you a good deal of trouble another season. I am sorry you have worn that dirty undershirt so long - just think day and night six or seven weeks! It would have been vastly better for you and more comfortable to have changed an outside for an inner - Never catch me to have you go away for so long a jaunt with a dirty shirt, or so far as to make it necessary to wear one so long again. Why it is awful - it is ruinous. I dont fancy you will be able to stay much longer - but I shall not look for you till you come. Bless Walter - what would you do but for him? It would put the finishing touch to the meanness of camp life to go in cold and hungry to a miserable half cooked

a stupid Drayman had carried them to H.
B. Wrights - all this time it was so warm
it scarcely froze nights. We got them up
here at last, and Horton told me he had
engaged Mr. Hodge to bury them. I supposed
it was too late to save them, but thought I
would have it ~~done~~ done. Mr. Hodge came
in in the evening, and, I supposed, until I
had occasion to go into the Cellar, he attended
to them, but I found the box there above
ground big as life - and there they are
yet. I had asked Horton as long as I could.
I supposed, by what you said, he was left in
charge of your affairs I could not see to,
but he has done nothing. I don't know ^{many}
times I have asked him to see about your tree
out two miles - and see if that man or cattle
had the liberty of the grounds, but he has
always been too busy to do, and has not been
yet that I know of. ^{Being obliged}
to get certain things I could not find at Wells,
and far away, together with certain other ex-
penditures, and paying seven dollars and a
half for Charges on trees I got out of money
some time ago. I borrowed of Elsie some ten
dollars, counting a dollar she lost of mine.
and yesterday I had to get a Cord of wood
and man to saw it - to pay for which

be an active co-worker with him in those
things. We went, three or four weeks ago, to his
meeting in the evening, whereafter preaching
in a sort of Social ending, he got very ex-
cited, and danced about in quite a Methodist
way, giving utterance to sundry opinions quite
antagonistic to the views of our Congregational
Sister; among other things he said, repeating it
several times, that a woman who would not
bear a part in Church meetings would sure-
ly die spiritually, which remarks led to an
expression of ideas on either side not
calculated to lead to a harmonious agreement
to disagree. So the sayings ended. —

Mrs. Hodge was just in and says 'tis past
ten o'clock - time little girls were asked.

I hope my Love is warm and comfortable
Above all things take care of your eyes. Don't
sit up writing to me - or any other woman
by Candle light. Your eyes are more precious
to me than letters. A Kiss, and good night -
Serena

Sunday Evening 18th.

I just happened to think of a bit of news to tell. Papa writes the Titblers are in Cincinnati, and that En. W. Austin has married a daughter of O. S. I wonder how many more young men he can ditch to his train in a similar way. You remember what Fowler said of Papa's head and character in B. He has been lecturing in Cin. and, I suppose, to make compensation for his short-sightedness thought he would puff a bit. Papa said he heard he said there was only one pulpit in Cincinnati that was what it ought to be, speaking of Mr. Conway's Successor.

I went down to meeting to-day. I thought I would try it once more. I rode back with Mr. Babbitt's folks, and got along nicely. The meetings are in the Harmon Hall room, a nice, big room; it will be by far the pleasantest Hall around here when finished. Now it is unplastered, and they

say very hard to speak in. Tuesday night the Congregationalists hold a Festival the proceeds of which are to go towards building a Church. Mr. Saulters is very zealous and is stirring up his flock to every good word and work. I have heard they have already had subscribed some fifteen hundred dollars towards their meeting house.

W. W. King is lecturing this winter I see by the Press, which speaks flatteringly of a lecture just delivered in St. Paul by him.

I am surprised to think you were surprised by these trees. After getting Phoenix letter telling me they had started, it was a long time before they got here. I sent to Horton several times to have him go and see if they had come, which he always did when I asked him to, but only then. After they finally arrived Horton went ^{down}, Thompson told him they should be sent up early next morning, and for two or three days I heard nothing more. Sent again for H. and he found

I shut

would take five dollars, Sixty Cents - which was
so much more than I had in the world.
I thought I must take a treasure of notes, which
you said I must not touch; in looking for
them I found in your large pocket-book two
five dollar bills on N. Y. Banks, out of which
I bought ^{the} wood ~~to~~ and paid the Sawyer.
I don't know but they may have been laid away
for a special purpose; and I was sorry to
touch them, but didn't see what I could do.

I have tried to be careful and spend only
when necessary. Money matters are mighty
unpleasant for me to deal with - You and
I both always seem to lose our temper, and under-
standing of each other quicker in talking face to
face of such things, than in any other way.

You know I mean to be a careful, prudent
wife in every thing, and to have you think
I am thoughtless and improvident makes
me unreasonably cross. I love you Love
don't be blue Your wife - Serena;

Dorchester Ills Jan 19/1863
Dear Clarke [To Thomas W. Clarke?]

Yours and Miss Annies
notes of Jan. 7 were received
a short time ago and I take
the earliest opportunity of writing
to you as I don't know as a
letter to her would find her
still with you.

I cannot take the contra-
band for reasons which may
be set forth in words and figures
as follows. We live just on
the borders of "Egypt" which
is really verily and truly
about as much a part of
Dixie as Mississippi. Our
enlightened Legislature has pas-
sed stringent laws against bring-
ing negroes into the state and

our enlightened and patriotic
County Grand Jury has
taken upon itself to indict
all violators of the law in-
cluding General Ellet. My
enlightened and patriotic neigh-
bors who threatened Gen. Ellet's
wife with violence during
his absence would I presume
not neglect one — so until
there is a change in either
our laws or public opinion
we must do without Con-
tributors. Just now the one
hand that I have is as
much as I have work for.
I wish you had favored
me with a few particulars
respecting yourself and your
doings.

I shall write Miss Annie
to Boston supposing that the

letter will be forwarded if she
remains with you.

Very truly Yours

W. F. Bliss

Mary has a severe cold on her lungs that make her sick. I am giving her medicine for it tonight. I hope it will help her.

This is the first bad time we have had this winter with her. She is such a precious darling Concordia baby. Can there be any other as sweet? "Nine Oh nine". I didn't see the absurdity of my Dutch night dress written, but I dare say the English of it might be true, in my case alone.

This has been a wonderful winter truly, but I think a very very healthy one. Twenty below is better here than twenty above you.

You had a letter from Whitcomb the other day. I guess I will not send it for fear I will miss you. Nothing special in it I guess. — — — Now the folk have all gone to bed. I wish you were here we would play we were boy and girl again. No we would not either. These days are better than past ones; better wife and mother than girl and sweetheart.

I must take Mary and go to bed and sleep while she sleeps. I hope you will take good care of your self and eyes, for all our sakes. dearest. God be with you — keep you safe in his loving care.

Your wife Luena.

Minneapolis. Dec 23, 1868.

My dear Husband,

Tonight I got two letters from you — the last written the 16th. Glad you are well, and doing fairly. I wish you could have told me a little more definitely when I might look for you, I like a bright spot fixed in some defined place to look forward to — but you say pretty soon, which is good so far. We have had the most snow fall to-day we have had since you left, it has snowed fast nearly all day, a very damp heavy snow. I am afraid it will be a cause of trouble to you in the woods, if it does not drive you out. I can denounce self sufficiently to wish you might pass now you are there. Am I not heroic?

Your letters sent to Mr. Chapman have been immediately delivered. I confess I have suspicions of Mr. A. honesty, as I have of any body's that cannot work openly

I have got the tooth ache tonight - I find it is a mighty gnawing ache - it seems to touch every nerve in my body.

Our neighbor Mr. Francis died this afternoon. Poor woman left alone and poor, with four little children to care for and feed. He was only confined to the house for a few weeks. This morning he seemed no worse than usual, though quite low. Mrs. Wright came from there no more than an hour before we heard he was dying, and left him sleeping peacefully. His and her folks are both well off, and she will go to them in the Spring.

God be with her, and all such.

Sabbath Evening, 28th

I wonder if this month has seemed as short to you as to me? I hardly know where the days go to. You will be home soon, won't you? Maybe this snow storm will bring you. We have had six inches here, Mr. Hodge said. Today has been very warm, several such would carry it away again our nice sleighing.

Hannah and Andrew are here. Hannah has been here for two or three days - Andrew came up this afternoon, they are going to move down to the Port to live until he is called away in the Spring. A very pleasant thing, so long as it lasts, I should say.

Oh! Am I not thankful my husband is not a Soldier. Yet I tremble as if standing on quicksands, for where is there security as long as this war lasts, and the end is yet hidden from us. I hear no news - nothing moving only the infernal hordes of New York Rebels. They are working with all their might to undermine and ruin us.

This morning I went to Mr. Francis' funeral. Mr. Cobb the Methodist preached. He is careful - yet his Church think him perfection! It ^{puts} me in a agony almost to hear him pray, yet many souls are edified thereby, showing one may not judge for another. I am most wonderfully glad none who endure him may judge for me.

{1863}

Jan. 28. - You had a letter from Phoenix yesterday. Confound the man. he has ~~been~~ ^{been} given his everlasting tease, and underlining again.

He must have you three months this Spring - Give you any price, but do come as soon as possible. I hope you never will go near him again. He is intolerable.

I hope to mercy I shall have a baby every spring, if that can keep you from wearing and taring your life out, doing the work of half a dozen men day and night for ever so long. And he has begun again to try and get ^{you} to come there and stay.

"Just the place" - What would there be left of you I would like to know, if, after this hard jaunt, when you are all worn out, you should start down there for three months to work day and night, then come home and go again to finish your hard work in the Woods. I want a husband after I am thirty years old - and for all you Papa can say, I don't believe in second husbands. No ben-

edicate of mine will ever attend you
80^{ing} to Bloomington - I know we can live with
out you ~~as~~ you being a bodily sacrifice
to Phoenix. Charlton has come
home. He came in the other day to see when
you would come.

Burnside has resigned his command
over to Hooker, "by order of the President."
A good many other changes taking place
in Army Officers. It is also rumored the
Army of the Potomac is to be disbanded -
and mostly sent West. A new base of
operations.

Well. So be it.

Good-bye
Serena.

ROLL of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates employed on extra duty as Mechanics and Laborers at Camp Parola & Exchange Prison during the month of February, 1863,
by Capt. John W. Clarke a. a., Quartermaster, U. S. Army.

NAMES.	RANK OR DESIGNATION.	COMPANY.	REGIMENT.	BY WHOSE ORDER EMPLOYED.	IN WHAT CAPACITY EMPLOYED.	TERM OF SERVICE.			RATE AND AMOUNT OF PAY.			HOW EMPLOYED.—REMARKS.	
						From—	To—	No. of days.	PER DIEM.	AMOUNT.			
									Cents.	Dollars.	Cts.		
1 Sheffield Tuesday	Private	C	4 th New Jersey	Col G DeKorponay	Clerk 2 m 8	Jan 1	Feb 28	59	25	14	75		
2 B Frank Wagner	Corporal	B	23 rd Penna	" " "	Clerk 2 m 8	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
3 Frank B Whitmore	Private	C	21 st Mass	" " "	" " "	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
4 Levi B Gaylord	"	A	29 th Mass	" " "	Forge Master	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
5 George Collins	"	B	29 th Penna	" " "	Teamster	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
6 Henry Reinhart	"	A	4 th New Jersey	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
7 George Peterson	"	C	4 th " "	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
8 John Dougherty	"	B	29 th Penna	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
9 B. F. May	"	I	6 th U. S. Co	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
10 William H Davis	"	D	42 nd New York	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
11 Miles T Bakely	"	F	4 th New Jersey	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
12 Daniel Owens	"	A	29 th Mass	" " "	"	" " "	" " "	59	25	14	75		
Total amount											177	00	

I CERTIFY that the above is a correct Roll of Non-commissioned Officers, Musicians, and Privates employed on extra duty, under my direction, during the month of February, 1863, and that the remarks opposite their names are correct and just.

EXAMINED:

Commanding.

Quartermaster.

[Feb. 1863]

No. 3.

ROLL OF ENLISTED MEN EMPLOYED
ON EXTRA DUTY,

by

Quartermaster, U. S. Army,

at

DURING THE

Month of, 186 .

ROLL of Non-commissioned Officers and Privates employed on extra duty as Mechanics and Laborers at Campa Parrot & Exchange ^{P. Alex} during the month of February, 1863,
by Capt Thos Waller ^{a a}, Quartermaster, U. S. Army.

NAMES.	RANK OR DESIGNATION.	COMPANY.	REGIMENT.	BY WHOSE ORDER EMPLOYED.	IN WHAT CAPACITY EMPLOYED.	TERM OF SERVICE.			RATE AND AMOUNT OF PAY.			HOW EMPLOYED.—REMARKS.
						From—	To—	No. of days.	PER DIEM.	AMOUNT.		
									Cents.	Dollars.	Cts.	
1 Sheffield Tuesday	Private	C	4 th New Jersey	Col. G. De Korponey	Deputy	Jan 28	Feb 28	59	25	14	75	
2 B. Frank Wagner	Corporal	B	23 rd Penna	" " " "	Clerk, Q.M.D.	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
3 Frank B. Whitmore	Private	G	21 st Mass	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
4 Levi B. Gaylord	"	A	29 th Mass	" " " "	Forge Master	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
5 George Collins	"	B	29 th Penna	" " " "	Tramster	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
6 Henry Reinhart	"	A	4 th New Jersey	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
7 Henry Peterson	"	K	4 th " "	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
8 John Dougherty	"	B	29 th Penna	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
9 C. H. May	"	I	6 th N.S. Cal	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
10 William B. Davis	"	D	42 nd New York	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
11 Miles B. Baker	"	F	4 th New Jersey	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
12 Daniel Owens	"	A	29 th Mass	" " " "	"	" " " "	" " " "	59	25	14	75	
Total amount									\$ 177 50			

I CERTIFY that the above is a correct Roll of Non-commissioned Officers, Musicians, and Privates employed on extra duty, under my direction, during the month of February, 1863, and that the remarks opposite their names are correct and just.

EXAMINED:

Commanding.

Quartermaster.

[Feb. 1863]

No. 3.

ROLL OF ENLISTED MEN EMPLOYED
ON EXTRA DUTY,

by Capt. Thos. G. Clark

A. A. Quartermaster, U. S. Army,

at Camp P. E. Alex. Va.

DURING THE

Month of February, 1863.

[Feb. 1863]

anything about Jerry Proas
dreaming about him. Some
indeed he is killed Dear Bro
let you send me what
you can and I can send
you a little always when
you wanted for the Lord
knows I wanted we had
to buy many a little thing
after the burn that we
wanted badly all the
neighbours are well &
nigger Barber shot a
white man in north
street last Thursday night
Thomas and me joins in
sending our best love to
you and richy was
crying as you did not mention
him in your letter
no more at present from
your loving sister Mary Sally

Boston February 11th 1863

1863
My Dear Brother Precious
your letter yesterday which
gave me great pleasure to
hear that you were in good
health as the departing of
this leaves the whole family
we at present thank God
for his kindness to us all
Dear Brother Hannah Curry was
with me last week she is not
married at all let me know
in your next letter is Mike
come for he had his leg broken
before he went out there
and if he is going to Australia
Hannah went to New York & Dan
Heagarty son was killed in
the last battle and he is in
the hospitals Dear Brother
the times is awful bad in
Boston every thing so dear

the flour is 11 lb for a barrel and
tea 100 lb for a pound and sugar 12 lb
per pound and as cotton cloth
it is 33 lb for a yard what we
youst get for 10 lb and every
other thing in proportion
and nothing doing in the
count of the war the night
I got your letter after lighting
the gas some one came in
and stole the drawer and
7 dollars from me and we
in the kitchen and your
letter in it Dear Brother
Thomas would like to let
him know in your next
letter if you think he
would do well by going
off to the soldiers and
working at his trade and
to sell shoes Captain

Atkinson told him he
would and he would
like you to tell him all

about it if it would be would
go off there for a while
Dear Brother I would send
you something now only
for what has spend me
and I could not send
you one dollar I was never
so bare that at present
Tierney came to see me
the day he came home
and he told us that you
had a fine time and let
horse to take you in every
place you wanted and
I treated him deusant
I am sorry that I did
not know how he acted
to you in time Dear Brother
Peggy Foley is married
to Jimmy Mcleary of Ballin
Carke in the third husband
he married Joney Murphy
let me know if you know

Gen. Ch. Martin
Alex.^a Feb. 6 1863

Dear mother,

I have been somewhat neglectful since Mr Barrett went home, because I had so much to do. I was detailed as Judge Advocate of this Court & we have been very very busy. Just imagine a long table with a colonel at one end, & me in a white shirt at ~~the~~ other (just think of it a boiled shirt on) on each side four officers stood round, a poor culprit because his Court to be found guilty at one side, a witness having every word he says taken down by the Judge Advocate and then when the Court is cleared for deliberation it is suggested that we smoke.

which with great dignity we do,
"maturely considering the evi-
dence adduced," and then finding
poor old Gilly, and sentencing
him to — days ball & chain
& (if not a married man or
having others dependent on him)
to forfeit — dollars of his pay.

Just imagine this scene & you
have an idea of a Court Martial
the greatest farce of justice in
the world. The only really
sincere instance of justice I
know was Gen. S. J. Porter.

By the way of amusement
too I run my little dry goods
store and wood & coal wharf,
just as always, and right
in the midst of the affair the
Secretaries of War orders me
to settle my accounts & go
to my Regiment. This will
take till toward the end
of the month, so my address

will for the present be here.
Please give my sincere
thanks to Papa for his very
handsome presents. It is strong
& serviceable, & is also reliable.
I like it very much, and it
was so kind in him & so like
him. Please give my love
to all and believe me though
absent & in great prep of
business

Your affectionate son

Thos Wm Barker

National Hotel
Washington D. C.
Feb 9th 1863
To Maj Genl. Hooker, U.S.A.

My Dear friend,

Permit me to
introduce to your favorable con-
sideration my friend Capt. J.W. Clark
of the 28th Regt Mass Inf -

Capt. Clark has been in the
service from April 21st 1861 and
by his many noble traits of character
gained friends, and proved himself
worthy of implicit confidence in
any position he may be placed in.

Any favor you may extend to him
will be reciprocated by his friends
in the Army of the Potomac, and the
good City of Boston, and last, though
not least, by your old friend and
admirer.

Wm. C. Cushman

guess for one thing. They're
authorizing negro regiments.
If Cuff is to keep the ad-
vantage of the war let
him fight for it.

When I go to Washⁿ again
I'll see Mrs Buck.

Don't forget Mr Rich Light
H. I would Papa like
to own Payuta. If I go
to my Regt. I don't want to
sell her to any one who'd
abuse her. She's highly
trained, very gentle, almost
full blooded & please get
him to take her if you can.
Aunt has seen her &
can tell about her. If
I go I'd rather have to
sell her or something of
that sort. She'll drive elegantly
ride delightfully to any one
that knows how, is afraid
of nothing but cars, & I've
carried her down for her
kindness. She is the finest
trained horse in Alex^a admitted
by Circus people. I've been

P&EP Pres Alex^a Feb 28
1863

My dear Lizzie

My Court Martial
is not yet over so I am not
relieved from duty in Alex^a
& can't bestill orders from
Brig Gen Blough, who order-
ed the Court. I am to
turn over all my I M
Property as soon as I can.

The only hope I have of
not joining the Regt. which
I don't want to do if I can
help it is to appoint
Governor Marshall of
Rice's District to superin-
tend the draft. If
father could write Mr
Rice a letter asking
this, I could with my
influence in Wash-
ington easily do it.
This would make me
at home for 6 months
or so. If not I go
to my Regt when my
company is over. Maj.
Chipman will resign

soon, it is my place. I have
done more than my share
of work already in this
Camp & the right to entitle
me to promotion. But
I won't ask it myself.
Col Burns won't ask it
for me because I was
detailed here. I might have
been Major or Lt Col some
time ago if papa had said
so I had strong recommen-
dations, but no one spoke
for me. I will send soon the
very same of approvals
of my conduct then, in every
capacity I've acted in.
I haven't rec'd Add's
packet, for I've not been
to Washington for 3 weeks
being so much engaged
on Court. Trial I've had
clerks detailed twice there
proved no such things; & I
can't leave my business
in their hands. To do as they
please the sign, as is usual.
There is no news here. We
hope Vicksburg is taken but

don't know. We hope that
the Conscription will
pass but don't know.

I congratulate you
on not seeing McEllan
the City John Porter & Franklin
the Strategists. One is cast
into the other two relieved,
~~to be~~ totidem de.

If you see Jo. Willard
give him my kind regards
tell him Sid & William was
the only officer I ever
saw promoted over me
with equanimity. I believe
Sid worthy of the place he
held, with Carruth were
slouches. To neither would
I yield in education expe-
rience, manners or anything.

Gov. Andrew had some
useful talk the last time
he came to Washington
about me. Mr. McEllan
after P. M. sent to him
I'd like to be P. Marshall
in his district. I'd draft
him serve, God bless Con

offered \$150 for her but
I won't the lady I don't
want her to go to any one
who won't treat her
well. If I can't let
her go to a friend who will
do the right thing by her
or send her home I'll
shoot her for I won't
have her abused by
any one. Pardon me
for saying so much
about my horse and
bid good bye to all.

Your brother

Tom Clutter

I.S. I don't forget A.M. 5th Cong
Dist. Quarters at home.

PAID
1851
FEB 27
POST OFFICE
BOSTON
Boston 27 Feby 63.

Dear Lou, [To Thomas W. Clarke]

I have nothing from you for a long time & write now at the instance of Capt Hogan concerning the recruiting for your Company on which it would seem his claim for all his recruiting chiefly hinges

What he wants is either an original roll of the Company as they left here or what perhaps would be more comprehensive a certificate that he recruited 100 men who left the state under your command. The case has been postponed from day today at the State house in hopes to receive this document from you. I have testified & have been to some trouble & Hogan says if he gets his money 100 Green back go to you. We are all well at home & I

have with me Fisks Wheelers little
boy about 8 who is a great
source of pleasure to himself.

Please reply at once +

believe me
Yrs truly,

Edw. Carby

Yronton March 3.rd 1863

Capt Clark Dear Sir, \$

wish to ask a favor of you.
Received a letter on the 24th
of February supposing to be
from my nephew Francis R
Wylie and enclosed in it six
dollars and a piece of writing
that no one in this place could
make out what it was, it had
no name signed to it, the letter
had been broken open, and I fear
that it had some more in it and
had been taken out although the
letter had been registered, I have
sent him three letters to know
what amount he had put in
this letter and have received
no answer to any of them \$

wish that you would be so kind
to ascertain what amount he sent
so as I would be satisfied about
it. if he has sent more and it has
been taken out I think it would
be very cruel for any one to try
and rob a poor orphan boy that
has went through such hardships
and suffered so much from long
maches and long imprisonment. I
am sorry to encroach so much on your
time and patience. you would
do me a great favor if you would
be so kind as to find out and
answer this. from your humble
servant. Mary Jane Wylie

P. S. please direct to
George W. Smyth No 26
Perry St.
Trenton N. J.

With much love
Yr always
L

Home March 6th
1863.

Dear W^m.

Father has had
a reply from Mr Rice
which I copy for
your edification —

Washⁿ Mar 2nd
1863.

Calvin W Black Esg

Dear Sir,

I have your note
of the 28th inst, but
I am not aware
that I have any
authority whatever
in the appointment of
Provost Marshals in
Massachusetts, I have

had one or two similar applications, but I understand the purpose is to regulate these appts entirely as military questions but in what manner the marshals will be selected I do not know, the subject being yet wholly in embryo

Very Truly Yrs
Signed Alex^r H Rice

Cope

You can of course judge better than me what yr chance is — I don't know anything about anything or anything.

I took tea at the Westburne last night & Mr Westburne inquired particularly for you —

I wonder if I wrote you that George Lindley was married — If I did not it is rather late news now.

Yesterday A & I called on Mrs Alley^r Young, ne Weston at the Cobridge House but found her out.

Annie sends you a Cook book — please circulate it —

Mother sends love & wants to know if you got yr package by mail

Alexandria Va

Mar. 23 1863

Jos. W. Harper Esq

Dear Sir,

A droll in-
stance of rival brag came un-
der my notice the other day.
An Englishman, reporter of
one of the transatlantic jour-
nals, shortly after arriving
in this Country happened
to be talking of the enormous
guns of England, to a New-
Hampshire lieutenant.

"Why my dear sah," said
he in the genuine cockney
drawl, "the Calibah of those
guns at Woolidge is weally
prodigious, absolutely I
afersah you, thirteen inches
in the bore, and rifled
at that." "The finest ordnance
in the wahlde." "What now,"
said the lieutenant "I reckon
I've seen bigger guns than
that in my birth town of
Manchester." "Indeed, faway
what was their Calibah?"
"I don't know what you

men by Calibah" said the
lieutenant "but the touch-
hole of one weighed 15 or
pounds." "Bless my soul"
said Coe Kuy. "Is that
one of your blasted shells?"

Wms letter

Minneapolis Mar. 26. 1863.

My Love,

We are all well. I wish you could let me know you are well too. This is the evening of the fourth day since you left. Everything has moved on as usual. Abeline, Walter has been to the farm yesterday and today. He said the hay he got yesterday was too heavy to sell. You have had two letters one from Phoenix telling you what he could send. One from Thornton saying he would go with you when and where you please and stay as long as you please. I will not send them I guess for fear you might miss getting them at Cross King. Our pond is rapidly disappearing, in a day or two it will be dry land around us. — Young Bear died this morning. — I must send this by Elsie and she is going this minute. Goodbye Dearest. Your wife Serena.

transportation can be obtained after the transfer of the property under his charge, and the necessary report to the Camp of distribution.

With regard to Miles Bately the same facts about detail might be stated, but I prefer that this already tedious letter should be closed with a simple statement that for the request for the detail of both Tuesday and Bately, I am responsible, and that I considered it necessary for the preservation and conservation of the public property for which I am responsible. And I had the honor to believe at the time, that the highest compliment I could pay to the discipline and instruction of the regiment under your command, which I well knew in the Peninsular Campaign of last summer, was by requesting the detail of these members of it to the important places they have held in this camp.

I have the honor to remain with sentiments of sincere regard very respectfully. Your obt. Servant.

Office L. M. Dept.
Camp Paroled & Exchd. Prisoners
Alexandria Va. March 28th 1863.

Col. Wm. Birney:

Commanding 4th New Jersey Vols.

Sir:

Yours of March 20th was duly received. And as Commanding Officer of the detachment assigned to turn over the property belonging to the government in this camp I hasten to reply.

I have been informed by Col. De Korponey late Commander of this late camp that he had authority from Maj. Genl. Banks, Commanding Defences of Washington,

(under whose orders these camps were established) to retain on extra, or daily duty such enlisted men as might be necessary for the proper

conduct of this camp. You will readily perceive (particularly when you consider that we have clothed, fed,

sheltered and forwarded to their regiments twelve thousand men from this camp alone) that a frequent change in the position of Quartermaster Sergeant, who is, as you are aware subordinationately responsible for the immen-

amount of public property necessary for the end which we have always had in view, and have accomplished to the extent I have already stated, would be highly detrimental to the proper adjustment of accounts, and would greatly interfere with the arrangement of affairs in the camp.

Under these circumstances I have requested Col. De Korpouay to have Sergt Tuesday retained, as a valuable assistant in the L. M. Dept. under the authority of Maj. Genl. Banks, to which I have referred.

I deem it my duty to state, that I do not consider that Sergt Tuesday after his regular detail in pursuance of orders from Defences of Washington, can be considered in any way a "Straggler" or a "Guard, to be obtained from the adjutant General" If this latter be the case, I have the honor to state that Col. E. D. Townsend, first asst. adjt. General, telegraphed in Nov. or Dec. last that persons on detail in this camp did not belong to the Army of the Potomac, and were not affected by the order issued for all persons absent to join their commands immediately.

Unfortunately I am not able to refer to the orders mentioned and enumerated in your communication, but I am clear in the opinion that the detail of Sergt Tuesday in pursuance of orders from Head Quarters Defences of Washington completely covers his absence from the regiment, and while I deeply regret that you should have considered it necessary not only to reduce him to the ranks, but also to master him as a deserter when it must have been well known to you that he was in this camp on duty, and could be obtained by application through the proper channel to the war Dept. at any time (that process having always been necessary since the foundation of this camp to break a detail) yet I am sure that so good a soldier as you state him to be, and so faithful a man as I know he is, will speedily resume the position which is his by former rank, in your regiment when the appeal to your justice is made both by this representation of his faithful services here (where he has saved many thousand dollars to the government) and by his speedy presence with the regiment, which will be as soon as

write again today &
scold you a little —
scolding is so effica-
cious in cases of
sickness, & it is an
dose I know well
how to administer —

I don't suppose
you care to know, but
I may as well
mention that we are
all quite well, except
Aunt who has had a
cold all winter & gets
no better — & George
who has a terrible
cold & sick headache,
& father whose eyes
fail him more & more
& mother who is troubled
with rheumatism, &
me, I am much out of
forts because you take

no interest in yr home —
I hope my home bulletin
is lucid —

Mother sends love &
says she should have
written if I had not
forfeited her —

We had a little call
from Mrs Barrett the other
day, always pleasant &
friendly — She says
Sam is still at Vicks-
burg expecting a battle
daily

Today is Palm Sunday &
the Catholics are going past
my window with Sprigs
of hawthorn, palm so called,
There has been a great
Catholic revival in Boston
& many conversions among
a higher rank of society
Four eloquent "fathers"

have been preaching many
times each day the first
meeting at 5 in the morning
& the church has been
thronged to its utmost
capacity - One of these
"fore fathers" was I formerly
one of the community at
Brook Farm - a great
change -

I hope to hear from
you very soon - Realized
we know nothing of your
plans & purposes, nor
even when you are -

With much love

Yrs always

Lizzie -

Home March 29th
1863.

Dear Wm -

Why don't you write?
Are you sick? If you
are send no word -

It is now two months
since we heard from
you / no - on reflection
I'm mistaken - it was
Dec 25th - but that's long
enough

Last night I
dreamed about you &
I sometimes do when I'm
anxious - More than you
would ever pay me the
compliment of doing any
man - and I woke
up sure you must be sick
so thought I would

1863

Minneapolis March, 29. 1868.

My Love - This is a beautiful Spring morning - and Sunday too. I can hardly content myself in doors. But for Peck's Kins nothing about I might imagine my ^{self} a girl in the Springtime of three years ago, it seems so like some of the days ^{in which} I used then to write to the man I loved. I wonder how to-day finds you? In the woods listening to the sermons the trees are preaching, or thinking more worldly thoughts of business and the like? I am quite as well as when you left, and intend remaining so until you come home. Yesterday a young Irish girl that had been recommended to me as good and smart, came and wanted to ~~live~~ live for a dollar and a half a week. It seemed best to take her, even if we had to a week or two before we needed help, for we

had tried vainly to hear of a girl, and the
choice seemed to lay between her and a
Nurse whom I should have to pay three or
four dollars, for Elsie could not do the
house work and take care of two children
and two sick folk. So I consider myself
fortunate. — Four days this week Walter
has been to the farm. He finds every thing
falls short there about as your farming
calculations usually do, but I guess 'tis
enough such as it is, that you get.

We have had no further trouble with water,
and the ground is all dry now. Our weather
is very Spring like. I am afraid 'twill not be
pleasant in the woods; if it is as warm there
as here the going must be bad.

I cannot write a long letter, and I dare
say after knowing we are well you will not
care for one. I love you, and God bless you!
^{which} is much more than I used to write in going
over four sheets of note paper. Dearest rest easy — I feel
secure until you come, which will not be long now. Serena

Crow Wing - Sunday Mar 29/63

My Love - How do you do? I thought surely I would get a letter from you to-night. I shall not hear from you for four days now. I've had a pretty hard trip but feel well & guess I will get back in fair condition. The trip up from St. A. was merely awful: 13 passengers & I outside "on deck" with a sharp north wind in my face - We reached Men-
=tello & crossed the river on the half-broken-up ice at 8 P.M. Out all night reached St. Cloud at 7 1/2 A.M. That day my eyes were mad out worse than at any time for 6 years - They are mad well now again. Day before yesterday I walked from here out to a lumber camp 27 miles. Hunted around there all day yesterday, & back today - I got a letter from Mr Washburn but none from you - It was pleasant because unexpected to get an old letter from you here when I got there the other day. - It was written in June & enclosed one also from your Father. I felt kind o' sick & it seemed like home again: next to seeing you to get that old forgotten letter. God bless you my Love. You seemed to think it kind o' dishonest to send letters to Mr C. secretly I think he isn't extra honest, but that was a precaution of my own. The letters

had to be cut down by a rival lumberman's hands & I was afraid the information I did wish to give him might be diverted to the benefit of the other man -

There was nothing contraband in the letters though! Not much confidence shown you may think, Oh well it was only from considerations of prudence.

I wish I knew how you do. I shall walk up to Morrison's Camps to-morrow look around there 2 days - return here Thursday Friday go down to Little Falls out to a camp 20 miles, Saturday look around there Sunday back to Little Falls & Monday start home & sit home Tuesday - I have tried all sorts of ways to arrange to make the trip 2 days shorter but I cannot, as the stage only runs 3 times a week & I have got to arrange my trips to meet it. When I get back from Morrison's camps I shall hear from you & if you wish I can then go straight home & leave a part of my work for some one else. I did not expect to have to make that last trip from Little Falls out, when I left home - My eyes ache & I must stop writing - Good bye Love - May the dear Father protect you - be good & calm & cheerful. - God bless you - My dear dear wife - Good bye - Your husband George

Evening - I have got your line
if the 29th - 4 days ago only - I wish
I knew how you did to day - Well I
hope - So you've got an Irish girl -
- What can you do with her & where
can you put her? With one more
in the house, I'm sure I don't know
where I can stay unless I sleep with
the Irish girl! Hey!! You think not!!!

Let's see - "4 of us" - & 5 beside -
only nine - mostly of feminine
persuasion - I don't see how it can
be done - By the papers I see that
the River is not open yet.

I must off to bed - be a
good girl don't fret for my coming -
I shall expect to get home on
Tuesday as I wrote you the
other day - There good bye
Love - give me a kiss -
Good night & God bless you

Your Husband
George

Thursday Apr. 2 1863

An Crow Wing min

My Love - I am back here again

I walked down from the Rabbit
Lake Reserve to-day in 7 hours
- 25 miles - The same distance we
were 2 1/2 days in making when
we came down from the Survey.
Tomorrow I go down to Little
Falls & from there 20 miles West
into the Woods - Then back
again on Sunday & Monday
start for home - When I get
home I shall have travelled
over 500 miles - I got your
letter of the 26th to-day when I
got here I lookt for another
to-night - The Indians Chiefs
have got thus far toward home
& of course are all drunk
One had all his money
stolen here last night

Utterly insignificant as this place
is it has more deviltry to
account for than ever Lodon
had - They are selling whisky
to the Rabbit Lake Indians
every day by the 5 & 10 Gallon
Keg - The Indians all drunk
& shouting & chopping each other
all the time - One was killed
day before yesterday & half a
dozen or more cut & shot
within a few days. —

— April has come again
Must 3 years since you have
been my frail - 4 years ago
I guess I liked you pretty well
then; 5 years ago I had seen you
& you know what I thought of you
then. 6 years ago I had heard
of you only - 7 years ago Apr 20th
I came to Minneapolis
You were then not yet "Sweet

litten" & I not "One & twenty"
— what a very little way
it is from boy & girl life to
where we now are - You are
yet a young woman (babies
to the ~~contrary~~ ^{contrary} notwithstanding)
but I am far from a
young man - I was thinking
of that yesterday - thinking of
the boy pranks I had been in
thinking of the faces I knew
then & thinking of myself as
one of 'em - when all at
once it flashed over me how
I had & how irrevocably past
were all such days - Well
I don't regret that I am
"Old fella" & have got a frail &
she have a — & & &
Stage in, I must go
I see if I have a letter

Head Quarters 2^d Batt P T
Camp Near Anapolis April 3^d 1863
O My Dear Friend
Capt Th^o W. Clark

Sir

How are you, yours of the 1st inst came duly
to hand and in reply I would say that the
Saddle you speak of was not a Head Lrs saddle
but on the contrary is a saddle which Capt Williams
Bought of Teller which he got in town somewhere
unknown to me Capt Williams gave me the saddle
on his own act and I had it in my possession
about 3 weeks, and I supposed you was aware of the
fact of Capt Williams purchasing the saddle of Teller
the Hand Axe & Saw I was not aware that it was
packed in either of the Boxes on the contrary I ordered
them not to be packed as they were L. M. property
the Forage Caps were in the same condition as I received
them or at least I know nothing to the contrary as
I did not personally inspect them also the Blankets
I receipted for so Blankets to Capt Williams and
took his word and the Sergt as to the condition of

same I also received some Blankets of Capt Cooley
the Condition of which I cannot say as I did not
inspect but one thing I do know that one of the
said Blankets was in the same Condition when
returned as when received from the L. M. Dept
for I tried to use the Blanket three or four times
and then laid it away there is a hole in it, the
Desk which I had marked for this place I should
like very much to have as I have packed some private
or personal property inside which would be very handy
I have a hatchet in the desk if that is the use you speak of it
here also the desk there is not a desk in camp except
is not government or L. M. property nor of that pattern which I purchased in town
at the Col. Ad Lrs which are of an inferior quality
the Box containing the Ad Lrs papers & documents it is
very necessary for me to have here it is nearly a square
box the lumber has bin planed there is also a box
containing books & Private clothing which is necessary for
me to have it is a Cracker or Hard Bread Box which
you may please send by Express if you cannot get
transportation for the whole cannot Grinnell bring
the desk, Ad Lr Box, and my small Box if no
more, hoping the explanation I have given you in
regard to the Saddle, Hand Axe & Saw, the 3
greasy Caps & the 7 Blankets worn will
be sufficient I will drop the subject and proce

eed to give you a short review of my present place
of Residence well I arrived here the next day after
leaving you in Alex Va at about 11 o'clock in the
midst of a drenching rain which was any thing
but pleasant I assure you I was immediately
placed in Command of the 2^d Battalion and entered
upon the duties at once or upon the first of the
Month I have 515 men on my morning report
this morning an increase of about 75 men since my
arrival here then came into camp yesterday a little
over three Hundred men and to day the 9th Michigan
of about 400 men have arrived having bin taken in
a body in Tennessee I have for my quarters 1 Hopt
and one wall tent I have one Capt with me &
1st Lieut both of whom are Paroled Men the Steam
or State of Maine Arrived here yesterday from
city Point with 879 more men which have
not yet Arrived in camp give my Compliments to
all Enquiring friends

I remain Very Respectfully
Your Obedt Servt
Q. L. Colvin

Capt 53^d N Y V Commanding
2^d Batt T P
Annapolis Md

Camp Banks Alexandria
Apr 3 1863

Brig Gen M C Meigs
Q M Genl
Sir

I transmit herewith
my account current for March.

I have the honor to be

Very Respectfully

Your obedient servant

Thos Wm Clarke
Capt A. A. M.

Four Enclosures

[Apr. 3, 1863]

Dr The United States in account current with
Capt. Thos Wm Clarke 29 Majs. ad Quarters
to U. S. Army, on account of the Quar-
termasters Department, at Alexandria in
the quarter ending on the 31 day of March
1863

To amount of expenditures, per abstract
13.

\$177.

Cr

By cash received from Lt Col Elias
M. Guen Chief Q M 22 Army Corps
\$177.

I certify that the above is a true account
of all the money, that have come into
my hands, on account of the Quar-
termasters Department during the quarter
ending on the 31 of March 1863
and that the disbursements have been
faithfully made.

Thos Wm Clarke

Capt 29 Inf Majs & Col

Quarters

Abstract of Expenditures on account of
the Quartermaster Department by
Capt Thomas W. Clark 24th Regt
Musp. A. A. of M. at Camp of Recruits
Alexandria Prison, Alexandria Va
in March, 1863

Date of Payment	No of vouchers	To whom paid	On what account	Dolls cents
March 27 1863	1	Extra duty men	Septen duty Jan 177.00	
			May & February	
			Gas for roll completed	
			to receipt roll	

I certify the above abstract is correct

Thomas W. Clark
Capt 24th Regt Musp
A. A. of M.

We the subscribers do hereby acknowledge to
have received of Capt. Thomas W. Clark 24th
Regt Musp A. A. Quartermaster U. S. Army
at Alexandria the sums set opposite
our names respectively being in full of our

pay for the period herein expressed having
signed duplicate hereof

Mar 28 1863	Sheffield Tuesday	blank copy	Jan 1 Feb 28	59.25.	14.75. f. l.
2	B. Frank Wagner	"	"	"	14.75 1860
3	Frank B. Whitmore	"			
4	Levi B. Gaylord	George Munster			
5	George Collins	Freemaster			
6	Henry Reinhardt	"			
7	Alonso Peterson				
8	John Dougherty				
9	B. F. Way				
10	W. H. Davis				
11	Wm. B. Kelly				
12	Daniel Owens	Labour			

Thos W. Clark but Peterson signs no X.
James H. Smith Lt A. A. witnesses each signature

I certify and honor the above
Receipt Roll is correct & just

Thos W. Clark

Capt 24th Regt Musp
A. A. Quartermaster

Head Quarters 4th N. J. Vols.
April 5th 1863.

Mrs. Wm Clarke.

Sir.

Your favor of March 28-
was duly recd. and in reply I am authorized
by Col. Binney to inform you that our Camp has
been moved, and those men who are to come and
join us will report to General Patrick, Provost
Marshal General of the Army of the Potomac. The
abilities of Sheffield Tuesday are appreciated by the
Colonel, and he wishes me to state that he will
be not be lost sight of after his return.

Respectfully Yours —

J. Evans Co.

adpr 4th N. J. Vols.

Uncome of her dear son who
had ignored her existence
for 2 months / a case much in
point you see / Her "Dear General".
read & endorsed. "Respectfully
referred to" - sending it down
to the next in command who added
his autograph & transmitted it
another peg, & so gradually the
blank side of the letter was filled
with "Respectfully referred to" till
the valuable document reached
someone who ferreted out the
afraid Patrick, & read him
his mother's appeal - Whereupon
he returned the following elegant
& gratifying reply -
"Tell her to hold her d-d tongue"

How do you like my little
tale?

With love & sorrow

You always

Lizzie

Moore April 7th '63.

Dear Wm

I wonder if you get
all my letters. Sometimes I
can't help feeling you must
be sick or you would not be
so unfeeling. Surely you
might send me word where
you are - if for no other reason
"because of our impotency"

Father has been to Dr. Deely
this morning about his eyes. Dr.
Wilkinson in a year treatment
has done him not a shade of good
has no even arrested the steady
march of the disease. This Dr.
Deely has been making quite
a stir in his profession by his
successful management of
eye diseases. He says at once
that the trouble is not very rare
here but common abroad. a
thickening of the iris of the eye.
(if mother reports correctly)

That there is no cure for it when I have written anything
no chance but sure & gradual
blindness except an operation
which there is one chance in
five of benefiting the sight
but who surely will do
it no longer - This for the
noble eye - for there other
there is no help - Poor
father - he has been so
hopeful always - telling
everybody that "it was only a
temporary thing he shld get on
it in a little while -

I thought it right to
write you about it -
not in the hope you would
care, but to see if you
have not feeling enough
to write now - It
seems so very for you to
willfully add another
burden to his load - and
anxiety about you is always
a heavy one -

If I am too harsh I am
sorry - I am always sorry

ugly because I am not sure
how this may find you -
but you know that my heart
is all right - only it is my
head for a woman to
understand such indifference
as you -

I mean to write you
now every few days, first
to Kentucky when the paper
says yr regt is - then to
Alexandria - & so on alter-
nately till I find out something
& then after awhile I'll send
my shots a little higher -

I'll tell you a little
anecdote to the point -

There was a woman / only
a woman / Bridget O'Flanagan
by name I dare say, who
wrote to Gen Burdick
when he was in command of
the Potomac Army begging him
to write her what had

you except when you are in want
of some thing. Chittabson has
been on & met Mother & I met Genl
Scholler which is all the informa-
tion we had from you since the
24th Feby, nearly two months.

Love from aft including
yrs affy. Ned.

Let us hear from you soon.

Wm. Clark

234 State Street.

Boston April 13. '63

Dear Tom, [To Thomas W. Clarke]

I have yours of 10 inst &
note contents I have not yet seen
Hogan since I wrote you but presume
if he had not heard from you he
would have seen me again. I think
you must be mistaken in thinking
you wrote to me at the time for I have
had no letter before since some four
months. I enclose \$20.00 U.S. notes
1 Ten 42 Series, 55615. C15. & Five A
Series 29, No. 94393. & 1 Five, D Series 101
No. 23524.

The balance due you on my
books, is \$3.25 which with this makes
a balance in my favor of \$6.75 I
think you might save something
out of your pay if you sent home
when you first were paid off & did
not make your pay common prop-
erty to any one who might ask

for a loan. We at home know nothing of your movements & I think it worries father very much to go day after day without hearing a word from you & God knows he has enough cause to worry in himself without any extraneous aid.

This week he is to have an operation performed on his eyes by which he may recover to some extent their use, at any rate which will prevent the entire loss of sight.

We all feel very anxious about him as it will be necessary for him to lie on his back for three or four days and be confined to his room for as many weeks in the dark.

There is no encouraging prospect that I see & if it were not for his sound constitution & good bodily health I should fear the shock might be fatal to him as it is. I know he has made all arrangements for such a contingency.

He has put his affairs in order. I hope you will write him often during his confinement in full what you are doing & what your aims & hopes for the future are. Write cheerfully that he may have no other cares than those immediately attendant on his illness. He bears up nobly and cheerfully under the expected blow and seems to make less fuss over it than the family.

It behooves us who are away from the family to do what we can to alleviate his suffering & make the dreary time pass as cheerfully as can be. You of course can do but little but that little you should do cheerfully and I know your intentions are good but your usual negligence in house matters should in no wise prevent. Both Mother and father feel very sore about your not writing & say they never hear from

(Copy)

Camp Convalescent
Alexandria Virginia
April 18th 1863.

I hereby take great pleasure on the departure of Sheffield Tuesday (formerly 1st Sergeant Co C. 4th N.Y.) from my detachment to join his Regiment, in testifying to the able and efficient manner in which he has performed his every duty here, and also to his uniform gentle manly bearing and Soldierly conduct while connected with the Department under my charge.

And in consideration of his faithful services and soldierly bearing here I could most cheerfully and earnestly recommend him to the high consideration of his commanding officer.

Plan - between you & me
we can and not say
anything about it -
I want whatever you do
to be your own doing not
mine - my only thought
is to give Father pleasure
when he has so much
to be - But perhaps
I am all wrong -

I mean to keep writing
just as if we heard from
you - I am sorry we
missed your letters - I
have written several times
 lately -

Your affectionately

Lizzie -

Keep writing.

Home April 14th 1863.

Tuesday morning,
Dear Wm

We have just got your
letter & are very glad to
hear from you. I am
in a good way but
must snatch a minute
to tell you some about
father -

Dr. Turk has just been
here to see the rooms
& decide wh is the best
light for the operation I
told you about in my
last. He chooses mine -

He says it will not be
so very painful after all
that the eye is not so
very sensitive. But for
24 hrs he must no more

now for 3 days open his
eyes. They will be fastened
together & bandaged.

It almost kills me to
think of all this & even
father seemed a little
troubled today indomitable
as he is - It is to be
Thursday at 11^{1/2}

And Oyster will the
result is so doubtful -

Now ^{Mr} I am a little up.
Plan - When you go to
Ky to just or just couldn't
you go through Boston -

To just see father a little
while - I think it would

do him good & give him
pleasure - oh nothing else

would. I want you there
all to ourselves so that

you could devote yourself
to father all the time.

talk to him & read to
him as we do. The kindly
humor how different

our life is since you
went away. I think if

you could give father
two or three days all

to him & if it will do him
a world of good - By that

time I suppose he would
be well enough to sit

up. I wonder sometimes
if he is not dreadfully tired

of Ann & Mother & me
It would be like change

of scene & air to an invalid
to have a day or two's talk

with you - or even less
even a flying visit -

Oh dear! if you could
only feel as I do for me

him -!
Now this is all my own

Convalescent Camp Virginia
April 22nd 1863

My Dear Little Child

Your letter of the 22nd of March announcing Mrs Williams departure for Washington reached me day before yesterday. There is something very unaccountable about the mails. the first time I go to Washington I'll certainly call at Williams Hotel though it is so long now that I don't much think I'll see Mrs W. It strikes me Washington is a funny place to come to for health especially at this unpleasant season of the year. I do not know what the weather may be in Massachusetts but in Virginia we had thunder and lightning in March and a snow storm in April however just now the Apple and peach trees are blossoming finely and there is quite a show of a kind of red chrysanthemum. I believe the name of it is covering whole fields. In my afternoon ride around the

Fortifications to day, I saw a lot of
this and also some hopeful plants
of my favorite Stramonium Annie
has probably told you the utter desolation
that pervades this part of the Country,
how there are no fences, and almost
no cultivation and really I know of
no place better calculated to give you
an idea of this locality than the
Rocking Stone in Cohasset with a
Fort or two near the top of Walnut hill.
If the horses legs were not good there
would be a great many broken necks
here, and nobody pretends to ride in
any wheel carriage except an Ambulance.
There is no cart path in Massachusetts
that wouldn't be ashamed to be called a
country road in Virginia.

I shall try when I go to the Regiment
to get permission to run home, but
doubtful things as you are aware are
apt to be uncertain, I haven't yet got
all my receipts and every time it
rains Jupiter pluvius puts one back
awile.

I am living now in a hospital tent
with two wall tents behind it, and
the big tent fly spread over some poles
alongside for a stable.
How did Father stand his operation
and was it a success? If he hadn't
the best courage in the world I shouldn't
hardly think, at his age there was much
chance; but the dear old man has the
pluck of half a dozen Generals of Divisions
and with half his confidence McClellan
would have gone right through into
Richmond. What a very melancholy
thing the Corcoran & Kimball affair is.
Do you know that Col Kimball was one
of the oldest and best military friends I
ever had, and that I honestly believe
he was killed in the discharge of his
duty? and I think this the more since
reading General Corcoran's own version of
the matter. What is Aunt Ann's letter? I never got it.
Please give my love to every body at home, and believe
me affectionately

Thos W. Clarke

Lenox Wing - Apr 28/63

My Love - Three years this night - three blessed
years - blessings all thick along the way -
-surely we have cause for depest thanksgiving
Three years swiftly & happily passed. My
little girl wife is grown to be three instead
of one. It is 10 P.M. I must go to bed &
away tomorrow early for Rabbit River
to Monism's camp - write me here
& I will write if I get chance

Get well be a good girl - Take care
of yourself & get well, God bless you
and our precious little ones keep you all
safe. Good Night - Kiss me - then - good by

Your husband
George

Head Quarters
Convalescent Camp Va
April 29th 1863.

Circular-

To-morrow (April 30th) having been appointed by the President of the United States as a day of general fasting and prayer, will be observed as such in this Command, by a cessation from all business except that which is absolutely necessary.

By Order of

(Signed) Sam^l McKelvey
Lieut. Col. Comdg

J. R. P. Crawford
Lieut. A.D.C. to the Genl.

Y.

Capt. J. W. Clarke.

wild beasts den I have put it
in the densest part of a jungle
& for the same reason - so as not
to be molested - It rained last
night but I did not get wet
though damp enough to feel cold

Today it has been very cloudy all day
with occasional sprinkles of
rain - I have been treading thru
the deep dark swamps & jungles all
day - Now it is about dusk & I
have returned to my Cair. I
did not know but I would
find it occupied my provision
gone for I found a fresh bear track
on the brook a little way below -
Oh the utter homesickness of
coming back to this den, two
hundred miles from all I love.

Are you well - I presume
you are no worse but all the
time I keep thinking you are
dying - & I away here, Oh but
It won't last forever I hope - & when
I get back for once at least I shall
be Oh so glad - so glad
Come to me - kiss me
your Husband George

Saturday night

Oh My Love

May 2^d 1863

Are you better? Well?

Oh if I could only say one word to
you - see your face for one moment
it would be worth a year of life
almost - If you could only know
I am safe & well & I know you
are not sicker than you should
be it would be inexpressible relief

I never will go off on such a
foolish foolhardy jaunt again -

It is 2 1/2 days since I've seen a
living being - I was never alone
so long a time before in my life
& hope never to again. What must
solitary confinement is a dungeon
be - I'm sure I should go crazy
- even here with my mind constantly
occupied I am almost mad.

I have 2 or 3 days yet to endure
this - The nearest white man is
10 or 12 miles distant. Indians

I don't know how far away they are - safe distance I hope. for they are killing each other awfully - The Chief "Cross-in-the-sky" & 4 others have been killed & I think they are meditating trouble with the whites.

Thursday I left one of the camps on the Reserve with a pack of 30 pounds - That night I camped on a high bluff overlooking the Mississippi - I had caught some fish where I crossed Rabbit River & roasted one for supper - It tasted fishy as also did another next morning - With the sun went down my heart, & the dark sullen river sweeping past at my feet sounded ominously among the logs & sticks which lay along the shore - I had got to build a raft & cross over in the morning - The Indians were not more than a mile or two away

& as I ^{ten}coated myself with a very small fire - but it was a warm night & I slept pretty well

Yesterday I explored some up & down the river & finally built a raft & got across the river (half a mile below where I started) at 9 1/2 A.M. It was a relief to put the river between me & the Indians & I walked up here quite gayly - But by the time I got here, it was noon & began to rain - A house I must have - I stripped the Birch trees & in an hour I had a roof big enough to keep me & my things dry. The sides of my house I covered over with green boughs to keep some of the wind out, still it is well ventilated. I have built it near a brook so as to get water & also to find it for like a

Minneapolis May 3, 1863

My Love.

I got your line of the 25th
last evening, few words but precious
coming as they did when I felt sick and
wanted my husband more than you can
guess. I feel better to-day, and have been
sitting up a little while. I don't ^{get} well so fast
as Mrs. Higgins but I hope to be quite well
when you come home. Baby keeps well.
Take care of yourself. God keep you safe.
Your wife
Serena

Monday May 4 - 1862

My Love - I am in a safe harbor again

Yesterday I tramped all day in the
roaring wilderness and at night
camped by a river some 10 miles
from where I was the day before - It
was cloudy all day but I thought it
was not going to storm & so I built
a bough house to keep off the wind & went
to sleep - About 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ P.M. It commenced
raining & snowing, and continued storming
till noon next day - about 11 o'clock
I got to this camp (Parukhamo) - Your
step-father is cook - only 4 men
altogether - my soaked clothes are drying
& I taking life easy -

Sunday May 10th -

Two weeks tomorrow morning since I
left you I not ^{or} said one word from you ^{to} you
- Are you well? If you are not
tired of this I am, I must bid
you good however - In a few days

I have not been alone since
I got to this camp - Two days I was

out exploring with a young fellow
from the camp - we camped out
over night - Two days more I had
2 men surveying for me - making
cometions in the work I found wrong last
winter & One day with 2 men surveying
up north in the Riverpland regions -

I have got to explore there 3 or 4
days - I hardly know yet how I shall do
it - I do not like to have one of these men
go with me & then when I go down
with them in a boat to St. Anthony but
I'm afraid I cannot do it for I fear
they will be wanting to go down before I
can get ready - If not I shall send
this by them with also enclosed a letter
or two for other persons which you can
mail - I have no envelopes -

I do like to get them to help me
survey a part of a Townships which
I did not complete last winter - 6 or 7
days work - I don't think I can do it
though, - I shall be home at all events
I think by 20 to 25th May & by 20th I
think unless they stop & help me survey
Day after tomorrow every will be
2 years old - If I only knew you all
were well I should be happy -

To Day is Sunday - camp Sunday
As near Sabbath as such things ever come
in the woods - so I have washed my
shirt - mended an hour or two, been
fishing - worked up my surveys & now sit
down to write you a word more -

Terrible fires have raged all through
the woods & everything is coal-black.

To day I have scrubbed & got part of it off
There good bye - God bless & care for
protect you & our darling babies -
Good by - Kiss me - my love - Good bye
Your Husband George

carry week-day into Sunday, but con-
sidering the Sabbath set apart
from money-making days, you would
live longer if no happier. Take it
more deliberately. Don't crowd
every moment for my sake, and the
babies. We can live better if you ^{would}
less now, than we can to ~~your~~ have
you kill yourself. Your pictures
have come, a dozen colored Pho-
tographs; Contraband pictures. They
would be so perfect if they were not so
dark. I am very sorry. The man
invites you to come again for an-
other half dozen. I hope you will
try him till he succeeds.

Baby begins to squall. ~~Dear~~
I will write again as soon as I can.
I shall of course hear from you. I
shall think the Indians have got
you if you don't. Let me know better.
Good bye. I would kiss you tonight.
Your Wife.
Serena.

Minneapolis May, 7, 1863.

My dear husband,

Baby two weeks old
this morning and I am up and
dressed, feeling pretty nicely: down
stairs too. I came down yesterday.
I felt fussy and mean up stairs;
fancied if I could only be down where
other folks were I should get well, so I
shall. We weighed the baby this morn-
ing, weighed nine pounds. He is good to
eat if nothing else; eats and sleeps
most all the time. Things about
house go on much as usual. I have
not seen Walter yet, shall to-day. He
has been saying there was work to do
every day for four men. Last evening
Chase brought up from St. P. two boxes
of trees and things. I got a note by mail
that one had come. Walter is busy to-day
unpacking. — After Dinner. Walter

says all your things have not come yet, orders not all full. Europeans, a part of them come, Cherries too. Some other things he told me I might tell you had come, but I have forgotten what. Guess it don't matter. Willows not come. Clarke came the other day when Dr. was gone to get his five hundred note got stuck in the bottom of the letter box and remained there two or three weeks he said, reason for not coming before.

Big battles going on. ~~before~~ The fate of the Nation being decided. The two grand Armies are in actual conflict. Thus far we have the best of it. To-day's paper tells of some reverses, nothing considered serious I guess. You will be where you can see a daily when you get this, so I won't write War.

We have changed our Indians for Negroes, nearly a hundred at the fort, came up from St. Louis. Some think they would as some

have the Indians. Poor creatures no room for them under heaven, I doubt not there is in heaven as much room as for the people who cry out so against them.

Chapman has been enquiring for you; if we have heard, when you got there, how long it took you, &c. I will be glad when you don't work for him any more. It seems very like being in old Nick's employ.

Walter will send you a list of things received, I will send along two letters, one from Mummy, one from Calvin M. Have it heard from Papa yet. Fine weather here. A little rain the other day, not half enough. Our Cistern is entirely empty; enough came into to wash this week, but it took every spoonful.

When shall I hear from you? Don't work at such a terrible rate, Love. If you will only allow yourself long nights to sleep and get rested in, and never

in all colored shirts, blue
coats sky colored trousers. with
a horse pond near full of
batters. I frogs the railway
striking behind us, Mrs
James Thayer a visitor to
Ripley close by in a linen
dress, Ripley & Taylor reclin-
ing with him a bright sun
shining, pigs running round
to eating the crust away ~~the~~
food, an ambulance on the
left at the end of the line and
the thick, betaginous smoke
of Cincinnati just obscuring the
heavens across the river.

Goodbye

W. W. Clarke
//

Livingston Ky. May 9
1863

Dear Annie,

We are now on the
move for the Mississippi
I wrote last from Livingston.
The next day set out with
a train of 897 horses went
to Somerset. The next day after
arrival, we set out Sunday
and on Thursday arrived, - we had
orders to move. I reported to Gen
Carter commanding Division with
Gen Wolcott's instructions that
I could be relied on as a
Quartermaster. I was re-
commended to the Gen for Post
Quartermaster of Somerset.
But I request to be sent
with my regiment some
marched up in 3 days to
Nicholasville & today are,
here, en route for Cincinnati

totally the Ohio & Miss. R.R.
for Reins I suppose. The
troops in Indiana & Mo.
are I suppose sent to
Grant & we go to take
their places. Perhaps we
go to Memphis. Perhaps
to Indianapolis. I didn't
see much of Ky. I saw
tumpkins, Browns Knob
near Hickmans Bridge
over the Ky. river (a pre-
cipitous wall of water worn
limestone several hundred feet
high. Though so steep & rugged,
it is said a cannon was
successfully planted on top. The
pike roads here, are of lime-
stone frequently cut through
hills & ledges of rocks, smooth
as a billiard table, hard
very dusty, & the dust

very burning & parching.

The trees are all hard
wood, oak, hickory, ash,
chestnut, the fences are either
the snake fence or the stone
wall. The regiment is in
fine condition but few-
fully small. Col Tiers
command at Paris Bomb
Co. & Lt Col commands the
Regt. I've lost nearly all my
baggage again, left it at Mur-
phreesboro Ky for lack of trans-
portation. Camp life is very pic-
turesque & pleasant now a days.

If we go to Memphis I'll
write & let you know about
the city of the — (you know
what the town was noted for)
Osiris wasn't it?

I write this on my sabretache
in a field sitting on the ground
my back resting on a knapsack
my face away from the sun,
with artistic groups of men

Minneapolis, May 11. 1868.

My Love,

Why dont I hear from you?

I do hear the Indians are fighting and killing each other. I only hope they will confine their bloodshed among themselves.

I guess tomorrow when the Stage comes in I will hear. I must. Walter says Cross-

in-the-Sky has been killed, and that the

Indians who did not sign the Treaty at

Washington have threatened to kill all who

do. Do keep out of the way of the

Devils. We have not heard from

Papa yet. Grandma is quite sure

he is sick or dead. It is odd, but nothing

wrong I guess. War news stirring.

The Latest news — no paper this morning

you know — Richmond taken, and

Hooker recrossing the Rappahannock

after having been driven back by a rise in

the River; preparing to fight again.

Anxious looking for of papers. It has

looked very much like another flat-out

We will see in a day or two. I am doing nicely. Better even than could be expected. Baby going on three weeks, and I able to go around, and take care of myself and of him. Maria had to leave us Saturday night, so we are alone. I hardly know what we can do. If there was only two or three weeks later we could do very well. We shall have to get along as it is, with tiring the washings done, I guess. Mary is well.

Our neighbors children have got the whooping cough, I am afraid Mary will catch it. I try to keep her away, but she fusses so to go out door I can hardly keep her in all the time.

Walter is going well, I think. He is better natured than he was awhile ago, which I take to be a good sign. Maybe because he is done ploughing.

Tuesday Afternoon May 12 - Molly's birth-day you see. Two years ago to-day our first wee baby God gave us, and now another pair of blue eyes are looking vaguely around upon a new world, and two little hands are fighting the air, as I write.

We are rich, Love. Are you not content?

News arrived this morning. Richmond not taken, but pretty near it - a mile as good as a mile from it. Hooker's Army going to fight again, which is good for us. But you see the papers when you do my letters, don't you?

No rain, and we need it - so badly. Walter says the grafts might as well stay in the land dust. He draws water from the River to water the plants here. We are all setting a crust of lime over us from using hard water. No town news that I know of. Come home things again! Oh dear. Dearest, bless you.
Terence.

Why almost the first man was
Sam Williams. He commands the
Carver's Cent Camp. His wife is an
Suey Bates that was. She was very glad
to see me, or at least said so. I had no
idea she cared to see me at all.
Yours no idea what an elegant
country this is. Pretty houses, farms
& lots of pretty women, all of them
with acres, coal - mines, riggers & so on.
If I could only stay tomorrow at least
\$247350.22 with a good looking partner.
Just what I need. She in luck. But

assumed would not be at all. After all Cincinnati is the place, it had heaps of instructions of friends and if I'll only stay but duty prevents.
 I've quite forgot the Hoosierman my
 washing too flame, and now am looking
 almost for a farm, well stocked with
 mules, horses, Embellments, wagons,
 a fine house, and plenty of ~~enough~~ in
 bank. Don't you wish I might get
 it?

Lexington Ky May 28/63

Dear Annie,

Forvaliscent Camp is at last played out. I left there May 20. Went to Alexandria took charge of 100 men for the 9th Army Corps sent out from Washington May 21 (an anniversary) went over the Baltimore & Ohio road, through Maryland to Harpers Ferry. Saw the rocks & hills there, went Shire King along there over the mountains, through the gorges & ravines along the edge of precipices, over rivers & brooks, past crag and water-fall, through places seldom trod by man's foot and only disturbed by the rattle of the railway train the scream of the steam-whistle & the chance shot of the guerrilla, and while looking at the magnificent moun-

and Wednesday till noon, looking up transportation, orders and dividing the men separating 8th & 9th Army Corps sending the sick to Hospital, the misbehaving to the Guard House and giving showers bathe to the drunken. Then to Covington where we stopped all night & then to this place where I put my men in Camp, got receipts for them and then came here. I have orders to report to Gen. Wilcox for duty tomorrow. This town is a thriving place of about 9000 people, intelligent considerable & enterprising (this means slightly) It is the headquarters of Brig. Gen. Wilcox Commanding of the Corps, is very closely packed along the streets, lots of fine houses & very pretty women. Who do you suppose I met here?

tain scenery, often the engine would give a wild despairing shriek & plunge into the horrid darkness of a tunnel dug through solid rock. At 5 P.M. just two years from the time I left Mass. I stood on the north bank of the Ohio, once more in America. Then we staid in Bellain overnight and went on through the lovely farms of Ohio to Columbus. Then we put the men in Camp & reported to Gen. Mansour. All day Sunday we staid there occupied in arranging receipts & disposition of the men & Monday at 3 P.M. marched four miles in the hot sun & set out by rail for Cincinnati through ninety more miles of lovely New Englandish farms & neat comfortable houses, cheered always by the welcomes & homely gifts of the common people. In Cincinnati, all day Tuesday

If I happen on any such thing I'll let you know before the fatal moment. I think I'll have the property made over first & see about the lady afterwards. Don't you think that would be a good plan.

I am in hopes of a staff position out here, but as usual am doubtful about it. "There's many a slip 'o' the thigh" for my morning's coffee my hand is pretty steady. I hadn't time to see Mrs. Bruck before I went away, only got in Washington at 11, had to see to baggage, transportation, Edille & only 1/2 an hour to spare at that. Please remember me to her when you next write. After you went away I had hardly an opportunity to leave Alexandria except on business when I came right back again. You came in the right time

Exactly.

Give my love to all at home, & remember that this is the first time for a long while that I've had a thing to write except "I am well & this come hoping to find you the same" which can't be very interesting.

I asked to be let go home before coming here but they wanted the men, brought out & it was "no go" I am sorry but duty is duty I must be done. See my results from Columbus

17 Recd Men 91

In guard house 4

Sick in hospital 5

3rd Army Corps transferred 8

Delivered to officers 72

Left by mistake 1

Left by his own carelessness in separating from his knapsack 1

91

Isn't that a nice balance sheet
Good bye affly
H.C.

Minneapolis May 31. 1863

My Love, How do you? The babies
aware that I have taken a pen and
intend doing something both begin to
stir in their sleep preparing to wake
up - there is Mary now, so I end where
I began.

It is Sunday Afternoon - a
bright, windy day, quite cool. You are
in Camp I suppose, keeping Sunday
in a doubtful way. It hurts me rather,
and when I pray "keep my Love from
harm, and help him be good" it will
come up in a way that chokes me.
I believe you are pretty good though in
spite. You went away Friday.

That day Elsie was very sick, the Dr.
was fearful of a fever, but yesterday
she was much better and now con-
tinues to improve. Her throat is so
she can eat tolerably well today.

Ellen went away last night but
promised to come again this evening
to stay as long as I wanted her. She may
have changed her mind again by this
time. I hardly know how I could get
along alone just now.

I believe I forgot to tell you that Mrs.
Loomis had just got a letter from Croft
fat announcing the birth of their
eldest boy - "William Marshall". "Never
such a wife, never such a baby as mine".
So Mrs. L. said. Nothing to say about
the wife, but there are two babies a
little better than Croffuts can be.

What do you suppose has got into
Papa? A wonderfully new streak
has possessed him of late.

June 14th
Monday Morning

Good morning Love. The Children
wouldn't let me write yesterday. Elsie
is in a hurry to get an answer to her
letter so I must send this out a
venture to Big Lake. We are all

pretty well. E. is getting better fast.

Do you want me to send you
papers? Will you have any chance
of getting news otherwise? Good-bye
now - Keep well. Imagine your wife
put her arms round your neck and
kisses you. Love Bless You.

Serena.

The other
 I will I shall
 send for by ship
 The blue saddle
 belongs to her
 mounted saddle
 is a 2^d best
 mounted saddle
 The black
 blanket is
 very good
 On board the
 (stem wheeler) below
 Island No 10 Mississippi
 River, between Missouri
 & Tennessee, June 11. 1863
 bound down,
 Dear Lizzie
 Since I wrote Annie
 from ~~Springton~~ ^{Covington} the 8th we went
 to Cincinnati thence took cars
 to Cairo when we arrived yes-
 terday noon & in the afternoon
 embarked on board this boat
 for down the river, we have
 seen prairie, hill, wood rock
 the twenty foot alluvial soil
 of the Mississippi, the scene
 of the encounter between gun
 boats and iron batteries at the
 10. The junction of the 3 states
 of Ohio, Ky & Missouri, & been
 in all three at once, the junc-
 tion of the 3 states of Ky, Tenn, &
 Mo at No 10. & now are going
 down steadily down. There is very

the other
 I will I shall
 send for by ship
 The blue saddle
 belongs to her
 mounted saddle
 is a 2^d best
 mounted saddle
 The black
 blanket is
 very good
 On board the
 (stem wheeler) below
 Island No 10 Mississippi
 River, between Missouri
 & Tennessee, June 11. 1863
 bound down,
 Dear Lizzie
 Since I wrote Annie
 from ~~Springton~~ ^{Covington} the 8th we went
 to Cincinnati thence took cars
 to Cairo when we arrived yes-
 terday noon & in the afternoon
 embarked on board this boat
 for down the river, we have
 seen prairie, hill, wood rock
 the twenty foot alluvial soil
 of the Mississippi, the scene
 of the encounter between gun
 boats and iron batteries at the
 10. The junction of the 3 states
 of Ohio, Ky & Missouri, & been
 in all three at once, the junc-
 tion of the 3 states of Ky, Tenn, &
 Mo at No 10. & now are going
 down steadily down. There is very

little to enliven the journey here, & I
don't wonder that they play even
him so much. Through a level plain
scarcely diversified by house of wood
or hill, with an occasional very
occasional bluff, winds the muddy
current of the father of waters, and
cypress swamps & braks and sedges
the great artery of the Northwest
& the property of the dwellers of the
banks of the upper tributaries
far more than ~~of the~~ riparian
proprietors below, as Watt deserves
the honor of inventing the Steam
Engine more than the Atlantic
Works of New York. To Memphis?
Toicksburg? To New Orleans? I
don't know. Memphis I think, to
supply the place of troops called
to conquer the pendery of the
"maiden City of the Bluffs". We are
the best of the Corps, the ~~best~~ ^{very} end of the
best hair on the tip of the tail of the best
cat in the rear division of the latest
profession. I am well & happy.

Goodbye N.C.C.

I send Key of Chest & Gilt desk, Keep my
white saddle & fine bridle for parade use in future

just going to be taken, the same as when
you went away. Grant is reported es-
caping ground. He is standing them out, I be-
lieve. I will not send papers by this man
as he may think himself burdened with
much. Walker will probably get a cell the
news at St. Cloud. Elsie will send
along a letter from Ma'am (which she
would like you to read, and then give your
opinion on what she had better do about
her timber. She wrote you, when I first
wrote, but fears you will not get that soon.
Ought she to go to law, or settle as best
Ma'am may? It is a pity and a shame.

I must see about supper now. I
would give a penny in money, and a great
deal more in something else, if you were
here to eat it.

You will let me hear
you do as often as you can I know. I
always write often enough. Be careful
not weather be careful of the sun, and
don't work too hard. Be sure I love
and pray for you always. My Love,
aren't you? I am your wife -
Serena.

My Love,

Very happily an opportunity offers
to send a letter. I hope you will get it sooner
than you would by mail. I have sent two
to Big Lake where they will stay awhile I
guess from your letter received last evening.

I was glad to hear you were well and doing
well up to Sunday - only four days ago.

We too are doing well. I wrote you Sunday
Baby was sick, he has been quite sick until
yesterday when he began to get better at the
same time he came out very thickly with
rash of some kind. Today he is quite nicely.

We weighed him a week ago, when he was
six weeks old, and he weighed a little over twelve
pounds. Stone Keeper Black has a baby who
at eight weeks old weighed twenty two pounds!
My baby is little ever since I heard of that.
I am afraid your dream of his manhood

Received by
mail the other
day a letter
again in
writing in
the 6. It was
sent from
St. Cloud to
Washington
because not
called for, then
sent back
here to you.
June. 11. 1863.

will prove only a dream. ~~Instead~~ Instead of
a man dark, and of the strong, impassioned
sort, who will be carried through the world
in a Chair and fan, going on from good to better,
he promises to be like his Father, ~~the~~ light
of skin and nervous temperament, with a
soul too sensitive and finely turned to walk
through life without many jars. We will
see which is nearest right Papa or Mama.

Mary is bright and well - 'no' is the extent
of her talking. Elsie is quite well again.

I am very glad Norton so well fills Matt's
place in Camp. Do you get any game? Do
you find good water most of the time? You must
keep well if you can. I had Dr. H. - come
in to see Baby, when he happened accidentally
to speak of the peculiar excellence of some -
well, I don't know what, at any rate happening
to have a supply I will send along some to
you, so if you or any of the men get a cut,
or bruise of any kind that breaks the skin, just

wet this and cover with it. It may save
trouble and soreness. Yes - I forgot
to speak of getting two more copies of your face.

They are the best - I think, clearly defined,
and natural, only the expressions pains me.
You look as I have often seen you, when you
were vexed, and greatly perplexed.

I have received only one or two letters. I will
send them along, as Norton offers to take
them.

I read Walter about the oxen,
also about going to the farm. Chester
Couns was here the other day, and told me
the oxen were for sale.

I am glad you like your Jacket. I will
send for your pants when I have a chance.

Oh we do want rain. Not a drop yet.
Walter says there is a big Shower making
up in the West. I am afraid it will become
thing like other promises of rain we have
had. — Do you hear any war news?
I shall send you Papers. Vicksburg is

goadup never permits a man to be
tempted beyond his power of resist-
tance. Temptation is sometimes pushed
to the utmost tottering verge of refusal
and if we yield, it is not because we
can't resist but because our power of
resistance & of ^{the} temptation being balanced
our own will topples down the scale
on the losing side. So also in physical
or mental labor, pluck, courage &
continuity will prevent one being over-
lashed. Well this rather tedious
& metaphysical letter closes with
~~a~~ ^{the} usual statement I take my
pen in hand to tell you that I am
well & this comes hopping to inform
you the same.

Adieu,

N.W. Clarke

Address

29 Inf map

Cris's Brigade

9th Army Corps
near Cincinnati.

Memphis Tenn. June 12. 1863

Dear Annie,

We lie here on the banks of
muddy Mississippi, in the Maime,
a craft that draws 4 feet of water
& has a superstructure of 25 or 30 feet.
I have been studying the river since we
came from Paris. Its principal
productions are muddy water, hou-
ses looking as if they were spontane-
ous growths, tobacco-chewing men
with fever & ague, riggers, steam-
boats, evens, cotton, murders, cor-
pses, dead horses, delays, hot weather
gambling, whiskey & - Memphis.
which includes all the rest, & mur-
ders a day & "corpses come ashore
mangled with daggers."

We are going to - some place.
perhaps Pickensburg, perhaps Ky.
perhaps we stop here. The monotony
of the country with its level banks
covered with cyprus & black jack

chaparral, swampy & snaky, with occasional islands and bewildering bays & shoals, the boats like wheelbarrows swung end foremost & getting their propulsion from behind two men from before, the songs of the men heard over & over again, the bugle playing either the artillery stable calls or the general service calls or once in a while that pretty waltz from the Bohemian girl, (buy a broom) till we are so tired of the same faces, sounds & scenes, that we feel almost like striking some one, - all this is terrible. To consider that I must be deprived of work such as I have had in plenty all winter & do only this duty, troubles me. I went out yesterday & bought a prayer book & some stationery. There is one copy of "Les Misérables" on board some of Mrs. Fairmont's story of the Guard. I have succeeded in interesting the Lt Col & Adjutant in these & they read them persistently, but I doubt me if Victor

Hugo is appreciated. I read Waterloo to the officers the other night, the first book of Mosette. They half liked, but there was little enthusiasm. The routine life of the field dwarfs a man unless he constantly labors to increase his stature & then he can hardly hold his own. You can readily see that in a short time you travel over people's minds, & when you have got a vacuum you must wait some time before the receiver leaks full again. Had I waited at Somerset I might have been Post Gen. What will come now, I can't say but I hope something worth doing.

Wherever you are put, then you must cheerfully remain, doing your duty to the best of your ability. Let us hope with ^{personal} satisfaction with your conduct & labor. Too little to do, God defend me from. Too much he will assist me in. Do you know, years ago Jos Worcester said to me about temptation what I think is true about other things. God in his

arrived - Frank Hopkinson
Mr Ware & me then are the
only deaths I believe & John
Parkinson was left behind
sick - I went to a Mother
Thanksgiving meeting for
its safe return - This afternoon
& heard Mrs Lyman who
spoke well - & pray. She
was evidently used to public
life - in black picnic suits.
Mr Chas Barnard spoke very
well - told of an interesting visit
to the regiment.

Mrs W & I went to Oshawa
yesterday & back all night, &
the grass very high. Mr Peckin
has bought the Hunt house &
attached it to a stylish country
house. Mr Hunt has bought
the Sherman house across the
road - The caterpillars are
devastating every tree there.

Sometimes not leaving one
leaf & I hardly think there
will be any fruit but grapes
which are very abundant -
We are all pretty well -
but I do not think father's
eyes are at all better - He never
goes out alone, & at home can
do nothing all day long - but
is very cheerful - Lizzie is
going to West Point Ratskill
& perhaps Newton next week.
With Mr & Mrs Alden Willard
& Fanny Ware - I am very
glad for she has been very
much disappointed in the winter.
Aunt Anne has been quite sick
with Neuralgia, & came in yesterday
took ether & had a tooth
pulled.

I am going out to Auburn
dale on Monday. I v. to see
Carrie, who is here for the

came a rumor that the
daylight. ~~by the way~~ ~~the~~
was hung. ~~and~~ ~~the~~
blown up by the reds &
most of the officers killed.
It ended thus. This rumor
is not corroborated but
is generally believed at
Beaufort. Of course today
was a terrible day & when
Katy cried herself sick
& Mr R looked ten years
older. Foster Hedges but
was also on board & Col
H. told Mr R himself
that he should keep the
clock at the news room all
day, & not send him
word at once if any news
came. At twelve he
came up & told Mr R
that a private dispatch
had come contradicting
the rumor & asserting

that the daylight was
some where else. Coating
of course they were
much relieved but as
nothing came from H.
all the week they began
to be anxious again, but
today it seems to be
meant that they should
have a merry Christmas
for four letters from him
arrived written since the
last report. In which
there was no foundation
at all. I feel so rejoice
for them.

Fainers wishes you
merry Christmas with
her regards. & Lissie
I say. The Min I meant
he came home the other
night. & have felt as
if he were coming all
the week. I wish you

and will grow old too fast.

Monday. — Elsie is going down town and I must send along this and some papers. I will send a letter from Phoenix.

Walter has made arrangements with our neighbor Bond to go on to the farm plant and raise what he can, cut the hay.

Mr. Bond wants to take the place for three years, but Walter did not feel at liberty to rent it on the conditions he would take it.

He wants to repair the house this fall and Mr. Bacon didn't know whether you would be willing to furnish materials.

My Step-Father was here yesterday to see about the hay; he said he spoke to you about taking it to cut. But of course Mr. Bond will want the hay now.

The children are both funny, I guess neither of them feel very well. I hope you are well. Wonder when I shall hear again. Are you coming home before the water is done? You said you thought you would. Your wife - Ellen.

Minneapolis June 20. 1868

My Love,

For a wonder the children both sleep at once the first of the evening, and I cannot resist the temptation to write to you.

It is a very, cloudy evening - misty and strongly inclined to rain; just the kind of an evening to make home seem so cosy and peaceful when there are none absent, but Oh! so heartsick and homesome when there is one out in the rain and darkness. Come home Love!

Poor tired, wet, hungry man away off from his Frau, who would give him rest, dry clothes, food, then love and kisses.

Elsie and Walter are singing a Conscript Song, telling me I shall sing it one of these days. The Enrolling Officer was here to-day and took my husband's name.

And the man was round too taking assessment of property. He put down one yoke

of oxen, and an old wagon worth \$20, and one silver ^{watch} median price I believe, and our household furniture worth \$30! He put his own estimate on things; reasonable enough I fancy.

Stirring news. If Walter will give them we will send you two or three papers.

Nothing going at Vicksburg that we know about. The last news was of Pemberton being reinforced by Johnston, nothing since.

God will conquer, but surely his ways seem not to be our ways.

It is time my babies and I were in bed. I hope you have been in bed, or rather asleep, two or three hours. Poor man! no bed, no pillow, no wife and babies, no nothing but a blanket and the cold wet ground.

Dearest, I love you, God Our Father keep you safe and warm, give you rest from to-day till and strength for tomorrow. Goodnight.

Sunday Evening June 21
Good evening Love. Twenty-eight years ago tonight a woman had forgotten her pain in joy that a man-child was born, and my husband was a wee, wee thing, smaller than his own boy baby is now. Four years ago

I wrote to you wishing you all good things for your portion here and hereafter. That was your first birth-day after I knew you well enough to warrant the expression of good wishes.

To-night good wishes expressed ^{would} seem almost superfluous coming from your wife, whose daily prayer is for ~~more~~ ^{farther} good in all things spiritual and temporal that a Kind Father can kindly bestow. I can wish no special good to-night that I know of, but somehow I feel a special longing to have you near me, where I can put my arms round you, tell you I love you, and hear you say, 'My Love'. I love you. Twenty-eight! A young man yet ^{but} I am afraid you are working too hard

Minneapolis June 28. 1863.

My Love,

This letter came from Cyrus last night. I am going over the River and will send it to you before I go. I am going to see Lavinia a day or two.

Ellen leaves this evening and I avail myself of her going that, for she can dress the baby; It will be the babies first public appearance. I hope he will acquit himself creditably, and not declaim unpleasantly loud. It makes me homesick to think of going. If 'twas not that I thought I ought I would give it up now. Lavinia does not go out, so will expect visits. We are all ready and must go to get there before dark. We are well, of course, or I should not be leaving home. I hope I shall soon hear from you. Maybe to-night. Good-bye Dearest,
Serena,

~~stayed off my~~ ~~half-witted~~ I guess by his
looks, ~~and~~ ~~going~~ ~~into~~ ~~the~~ ~~dark~~ ~~and~~ ~~with~~
~~but~~ ~~he~~ ~~is~~ ~~not~~ ~~at~~ ~~all~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
~~like~~ ~~Mr. T. H. B.~~ ~~who~~ ~~has~~ ~~been~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~one~~ ~~is~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
~~with~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~stick~~ ~~but~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~one~~ ~~is~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~ ~~as~~ ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~one~~ ~~is~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
What is a Contra Tan View? ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
Take a bath in the river. ~~the~~ ~~same~~ ~~way~~
Note. Remember if that is Southern manners?

I had a letter from Papa last night too. A reply to my note after receiving a letter which I sent you at Watab. He sent Fannie Baker's picture this time. Tomorrow morning they are married. Someway it almost choked me. Without being conscious of any regret in the matter it nevertheless seems like burying a friend - and I am not sure but tis in some measure Papa's death to me. The picture looks well enough. Though just my age I think she looks older. The face as a picture is not striking, but one can hardly judge truthfully from such a shadow.

Mac means not so bad now I sent four or five papers to you a day or two ago. Be no good though when you get them. I am sorry my letter carried with it an absent air. But it is hard to write when a man stands waiting to see your letter off and you are writing just for the sake of sending something. How can I want to see you so much? I read on Love - from wife to me.

St. Anthony
Minneapolis June 4. 1868.

My dear husband,

On my way over to Sister Lavinia's last night I got your little letter of June 16th written at South Rapids. I am so sorry you got no letter from me. You must have forgotten you told me to send my letters to Watab, in your first letter. I have sent three or four of my own and have enclosed several. Yesterday I sent one from Cyrus to Watab. If letters are as good for you as for a little woman I know of such a mistake would be quite a little grief. How will you get my letters from St. Cloud? You will not be there so soon again? Are you coming home? I wish you would - and stay. Oh! I am homesick, and tired of this way of living. But then, I would not change my absent Love for all the rest of the world, if it would promise to stay at home! Over here there has

just been an elopement, Mrs. Strand - a woman with a husband and one child, has run away with Amos Stiles, brother of John, who leaves a wife and two children.

Mr. Strand says he and his wife never had any trouble; have lived together happily five years, and he thought her a perfect woman almost. It is a cruel blow to him, most cruel of all that she could so go and leave their child. It is easier to think of a woman leaving her husband for another man than it is to conceive of a mother leaving her children. What stuff are some hearts made of? My dear, I never will forsake Mr. Micawber, for the horns.

Never a bit of rain yet. I fear your little trees will die. Walter says those that started nicely this Spring, are dead as can be now, for want of rain. It is too bad. They say a week or two more of this weather and the crops will fail entirely almost. It rained desperately hard to rain last

week - for several days the clouds hung very low, and an occasional deep fell, but it is now as clear and bright as ever it was.

I came over fully determined, if it was possible to have Mary's picture taken, but alas for hopes and plans; my eye are utterly failed this morning by a bed-bug. We were ~~extremely~~ ^{very} ~~restless~~ ^{restless} last night, children and I. We left our bed and camped on the sitting room floor from midnight till morning.

For two or three hours Mary tossed and tumbled much as she would on a bed of coals, after trying every means of getting her, for I thought she was crying for her crib, I lit a candle and beheld the cause of our troubles. Poor child was a sight to see. She was dreadfully pained, and one eye this morning is all swollen and red so it would spoil a picture.

We have just had a scene, ~~whether of the~~ ^{whether of the} traffic or comic ~~then had for the spectators to~~ ^{then had for the spectators to} declare. One of the ~~imp of~~ ^{imp of} ~~blackness~~ ^{blackness}, a little

late Kill W Point & Odger Kenton -
She will be at home next Tuesday -
We go to Cohasset. The Monday
after the 4th Geo has Jarry here
for a week or two & rides twice a
day - He tried your saddle today,
but it did not fit - We have
had yr blankets washed, & put
away. What did you have left &
take with you? How many letters
of mine have you got lately? I have
written often - Where is Sam -
I sent a letter to you by Hayman?
What you might be sure & get it -
For we did not know exactly
how to direct. Tell yr last. Now
we shall send according to that
till we hear -

till we hear -
I met Mr Davis twice lately in Solden
(private I think) clothes - Mother wishes
me ask if you have had two letters
from her lately - Wd it be any use to
send newspapers to you? I wd like to
do some thing to make such a life as that
tolerable - Alex Gann was here the other night

Dear William [To Thomas William Clarke]
 26th June 63-

I believe I always begin my letters with the same old story - "It is very late but I have been trying so long to write &c." which is applicable to the present occasion. Mrs Rogers & Katy have been here this eve'g telling us about their delightful journey - a month away from home - at Baltimore with Henry - a week at Washington where they stayed with Mr Thom - opposite the Provost Marshal's - & the rest of the time in Phila & N.Y. Mrs R. brought over a letter from Henry who came home for Christmas but was ordered back in haste to be at his post, in fortifying Baltimore - There is great panic there barricades through the streets the reservoir armed - every boy who can be found, impressed to work on

the trenches &c. Police receive 80
cts a head for every one brought in.
It will be pretty sure not to be
attacked after such preparation.
Our excitement is the reb. Tacoma.
but the matter is being taken ves-
tely in hand & she will without
doubt be either caught or frightened
away. Where that sensitive nerve
of the community is touched, the
whole body is alive. - How glad I
am that I have no authority &
so little influence. - It is frightful
to think of the responsibility when
there is so much doubt in good
men's minds & each one in power
serving his own ends before the
country's. - The most sickening &
discouraging part of all the war
however is the union of intemper-
ance which comes to us so often.
The awful crime it is to hold
men's lives in one's hand, &
deliberately deprive oneself of
the power of control. - To my

mind it is murder in the worst
shape. - I can't bear to dwell
upon it.

Today is father's birth day - "67" -
He is enjoying family gifts - all
have contributed I believe - Ned's
was a dish of little trout. - He felt
within the last few days that his
eyes are no better, as he hoped they
would be. & we are a little afraid
we will lose those good spirits which
have so wonderfully carried him
so far. - I hope not! for I don't know
what will become of him if they go.
They are all the comfort he can take
to himself now, & his whole live long
day is spent literally doing nothing.
I have been out to Ellen's today -
Mr W is failing fast, & the Dr. says
he may die at any moment. -
is lovely, I think, so cheerful &
attentive to him.

Lissie has gone a delightful
journey with Mr & Mrs Adams, William

Walter is having one of his periodic fits of moodiness today. He is easily upset.

Fortunate there is no wife to be upset by his upsets. — Mrs. Wright just tells me that Mrs. Harris has a little boy.

And ~~too~~ that Mrs. David Bell was last week thrown from a carriage, which brought on premature confinement, and yesterday her baby died.

No rain yet. What shall we do. Clouds come, and go again every day, but give us nothing. Our garden is doing much better than one could expect.

We had green peas for supper, and have had them once before. Walter talks as if the Nursery was about finished, but he looks at the blackest as much as you do, I dare say to not so very bad, though it must be bad enough.

Bonds talks went yesterday up to the farm. Today a new family have moved in here. A young married couple. He is a or has been a soldier boy, from his pants and hat. She is a young, bright-faced woman. Oh! I wish you were here. Kiss me Love. Before you go to sleep. — Good night. — Main down with the children.

Minneapolis June 25. 1863.

My dear George,

How do you? Elsie and Walter are imagining how you are situated,

Walter says about this time you are around the Camp-fire - Precious little fire do you need, though. You are tired, I know, and homesick for a fear, I guess.

I wish you had a wife, and a husband. When will you come home? I do not think you mean to come home before your work is done, do you? Four weeks more, then will you come? I am beginning to feel less patient, indeed my heart sings the song of "I wish George was here", every other minute.

I wrote you a little letter over to Sister yesterday. I came home last evening. My step-father drew the children, both in Mally's Wagon. I got homesick. Today it seems as if I had been away a week.

Walter thinks 'twas a wonder I got outside of the gate. Mr. Mas has his photograph taken, we call it good, but he thinks it is dreadful that he is going to burn them if he can get them. Mrs. Wright took them and hid them. I am so sorry I have not got Mary's.

Grandma has been feeling awfully to-day. I suppose Papa was married this morning. God bless them. Elsie and Laverne over to Mrs. Hiddens this afternoon. She told us Dr. Keith was about to be married to Etta Lewett. His wife died not a year ago. Soon after she died Sister Keith was telling me about her, and spoke of her morbid fear of her husband having a second wife - she had even tried to make him promise not to marry again. It must make him feel so unpleasantly it seems to me. I know it is a great comfort to me to know Mamma never thought of such a thing as I do, and it must be to Papa. I should

not want my husband to not marry, simply because I felt, during my life time, such horror at the thought of it, as I confessed feeling.

But I do not think need worry my head thinking of his being a martyr to my whims. I know my Father comes loved his wife as well as I am loved, and in less than two years he is married to another wife.

Friday Evening 26.

Good evening Love. Our babies are both asleep again. Bless their precious hearts! I wonder how much thin Papa would give to see them? Mary to-day has showed more signs of speech than ever before. She has said several words, with out making any effort at all. I hope she will talk nicely when you get home. Vernon grows as usual, is steady ^{on} of his half pound a week. When he was eight weeks he weighed little more than thirteen pounds. He is beginning to laugh and likes to be talked to.

was upish about our getting water there occasionally when Walter was gone, so I have not felt inclined to go there - but I shall forget that and make due neighborly advances I guess.

Young Speary has been in this afternoon to see Walter about enlisting to go against the Indians in the new Company of Mounted Riflemen they are getting up. My letter must go this minute, to start tomorrow.

God keep you dearest.

Your own
Serena

Sunday Eve. June 28. 1863.

My Love.

Walter says he has just seen Mr. Chapman, who told him he staid with you in St. Cloud Wednesday night and that you were there for mail and got none. I did not get your letter telling me to send there until Tuesday night. I am really very sorry. I feel as if I had been disappointed myself. I do not know as I can blame myself, but I certainly have been remarkably unfortunate in sending letters to you. You must have forgotten your only direction to me about the matter, and that was to send to Watab.

It can't be helped now. I think you must have put in a letter for me at St. Cloud. I have got none yet. Mr. Chapman said you were on this side of the River; coming down, are you? You did not go up, then, so far as you expected to.

Monday morning, they have come from the P. O. bringing me nothing. You couldn't write, or didn't want to, either of which reasons is good enough.

Mr. C. - said you were getting along finely with your work, glad to hear it. I shall expect to see you before many more weeks.

It is fortunate this kind of weather brings some kind of good to somebody, I can hardly think however 'tis sent on purpose for you, 'twould be almost too partial. We have watched the sky until hope has failed us, and we have now settled down into a calm, bordering on despair, as far as hopes of rain go. It is really dreadful.

Mrs. Wright had a letter from home this morning. One of her sisters just had a letter from Mary Coon, who said Ellen was very sick. She had just met with, what I should call, a terrible misfortune, but what they said she counted good luck. She had lost a boy baby at four months.

Thine child Rolla had been very sick with long fever, but was getting better. Poor Norman, I wish I could ever think of him as fortunate in any thing.

Phillis has married a wealthy man so they say. Isn't she glad she is not in my place now, I wonder, and I wonder if I am not glad too.

Happiness to her! They expect Calvin Coon home soon with wife and two babies.

Afternoon June 29 - Mrs. Hodge and I have been out calling this afternoon for a wonder. I have not called before on any body but our neighbors, and none of them but the Mrs. Hildew & Helen, since baby was born, nor for a long while before. We called at Dr. Snell's - on Mrs.

Lauter - Mrs. Stone and Mrs. Hill. We have none of us been into Graham's or Brackett's yet. Must be bad, as we are so near; but I got sort of vexed with Mrs. Graham about because I fancied she

4 miles from St Cleod

My Love

Sabbath-June 28/63

How do you do? Thursday last I went to Watab & got 2 letters from you with inclosures of several others - Dear precious words they were too, I hardly ever get a letter from you but I find it in it some little thing sometimes a mere word or expression which makes my heart glad till I hear from you again, something to think of during long & lonesome hours. We are fast coming back to be lovers as of olden time, beside being husband & wife. This makes 5 Sundays away from you - I am lonesome though busy - Nobody kisses me & I feel neglected -

Today I have washed 2 shirts & my coat, socks I don't intend to fix, it is no use. They are soaked with mud all the time, also I have put a good patch on my boot & done lots other chores & lots more to do. It would be eminently

satisfactory to me to see my Wife this evening
Instead of ralling myself up in a dirty blanket
here - To take her in my arms & to meet
her ready loving kiss, to read the gladness
in her heart through the light of her eyes
& to feel the welcome pressure of her
little hand once more, Oh my love, It
makes me homesick to think of it - In a
little, but only for a day or two - Cannot
you go out with me this fall? If the mountain
will not come, Mahomet must go -

I much fear unless you adopt the rule
"Whither thou goest I will go" we shall
never have the happiness of living together
as a reasonable man & wife, Won't you?

Your letter brought most unexpected news
& for the time gloomy news to me. It seemed
that Mrs. Anna L. had left us now wholly,
& she a stranger to us too. If there are
whom we have known & loved before -

But it is well I guess - We will take
all care that she shall love us too. -

I have written both, the letter is enclosed
I send it to you not knowing the address
myself - Also a line to Elsie - so I
must write no more in this - May be I have
got more than 3^d worth already - You say nothing about
the trees at the nursery - I am anxious to hear they are
all dead - I wd like to hear all about the farming
- we have had one or two light showers & more coming
I hope they reach to Union Falls - There Love - Good
by, I will write again in a few days - Oh dear, letters are
no good & if I were with my love I wouldn't need letters - Darling
good by - George

Minneapolis July 3 1863.

My Love.

I am in my room ready to go to bed, but I must first tell you how foolish I am. I have ^{been} just silly enough all day to think you would come home, and I have thought about it till it seems to me you must come. Oh! I hope you do not want me as much as I do ^{you} I feel babyish, and not over well; just as if the best place in the world would be in your arms.

It will be no good for me to write much tonight. It might not be interesting reading, and I should probably be ashamed of it tomorrow. When you write next time

please tell me as near as you can guess when you will come. My dear, tired, homesick Love! I hope he won't forget I know his is the hardest of it. Now I will

fancy I kiss you Goodnight. Sleep sweet, and dream - if you are not on the ground alone, but in a room with wise and little ones. Goodnight.

Saturday July 4-1863.

This has been a dreadfully warm day. The
mercury has stood at 71 below 110 in the shade.

How can you stand it to work such weather?
You must suffer very much, and if you
happen to be plagued for water, it must be
terrible. To-morrow is Sunday - at any rate

Your legs will have a little rest, if your hands
keep busy. If you could be at home for one
little day 'twould be better than nothing. For
the last day or two I am unutterably home-
sick for my husband. It seems to me some
times as if I cannot bear it five or six weeks
longer, or even half that time. But I shall get
over this spasm, and bide the time more patiently.

Echos of a very diminutive Fourth reach
me as I write. Since morning, when the bells
were rung and a few guns fired there has been
no stir at all, till now they are having 'fire
works' in front of the 'Nicholet', and guns are
being fired. Jim folks and Mr. Hodges have
gone to see the rockets.

The best of
to-day is that we had news this morning
that were rather encouraging than otherwise.

There are Indians this side Sibley -
Small parties scattered all about, for in
several places they have begun their work.

I will send you two or three of the last
traps. We have had no rain here
yet, & saw a little sprinkling the first
day of this month, just enough to catch
a pail or two in our Cistern. Although I
had kept you informed of the farming.
Walter says it will not amount to any
thing - every thing dying for water. I saw
little trees all killed about. Even in our
yard where we have taken pains to water
very little has blossomed after budding
they blight, and the leaves droop sadly.

Vernon is kicking and stretching
you paratony to ~~say~~ ~~squalling~~ or call for dinner.
He is a big boy - most ready for his leather
and iron-clads Walter says. But I do not
mean he shall go that way. I will look
out that his wife don't have to live alone
all her days, thereby earning her everlasting
gratitude. Wouldn't it be policy to make and
be mutually disagreeable, so that their separations
will go easier? They won't try, will we?
Good night Love - I kiss you - Serena.

from the battle now going on. The two Grand Armies have again met, and up to night before last Meade reports good to us.

Are you not astonished that Hooker was relieved, and that too just at the moment our ~~forces~~ troops were going into battle? I saw no hint of such a thing until it was officially announced. Grant still hammers away at Vicksburg, confident of success, ~~as~~ if he lives long enough.

Indian difficulties do not seem to lessen. Down in Carver two or three days ago, a moving family were attacked two or three killed, and for a day or two it has been rumored that they are not far from us. Walter says there are reliable reports of their being seen up on Crow River. The people here have united together to protect themselves and have sent to Col. Miller and if they do not receive help they are going from the State en masse. It is probable

Minneapolis July 7, 1868.

My Love.

You must come home. Please do. Let you work go. Walter say you will be in the big woods all the way down right where the Indians are prowling around. And where the Scout-just-going will be sent. I can't bear to be thinking every day you may be surprised at any moment out alone - or even in Camp, so far off you. Do come. I have not heard for a week from you.

Serena.

July 8. The paper this morning tell of a man being killed in the woods where you work is - a few miles from Fair Haven. It is not safe any where around there. Was you will not stay there will you. I think it must be you will ^{be} out to here you will hear of these things.

Don't venture where they may be danger. Your life is too precious to me and the babies to have it risked. Now my Love. do come.

Oh! it is too horrible. I think all the time
of you, and imagin you in all sorts of danger.

And it is not all imaginary, for you are
in real danger. When the Stage come in
this evening I shall go down to the Office
and see if I cannot hear something from
you.

Your wife
Lerena.

his absence. I think sometimes we cannot bear
much longer, then, with a hopeless sort of
resignation, I supposed we can and shall.

I shall be happy for a time at any rate, if you can
come back to me alive from this trip.

I have received no money from Washburn.
I have not mentioned it, because I supposed the money
was safe enough, and I thought it unnecessary
for you to trouble about it, as I was doing very well.
Walter gave me thirty dollars. I thought if
Washburn had heard from Washington, I should
have heard from him.

I am very sorry Mr. Norton is sick
for his sake, and yours too. What will you do if
he give out before you get down? To-day is a little
cooler, and I hope it may come cooler yet, then
your work will not be so hard for any of you.
How does your St. Paul man get along? Does
he grow any fatter? Is Mr. Becker with you?

I hardly believe you can induce Walter to go
out this fall. I have said nothing to him of what
you said about it - but he is getting restless as an
Arab, and must soon start for the Rocky Moun-
tains, or Africa. He gets mad and blue every little
while of his present fix edness. - Now my Love
I must go. The babies are well I have kissed them for you
and Mary has just kissed them. I have kissed them for you
for 7 times. Take care Love - and God bless you both for ever.

Minneapolis July 9. 1860.

My dear husband.

Last evening after the stage
came in I walked down to the Office in the
intolerable heat, and was repaid in finding your
letter there. I was a good deal relieved, but not
wholly. I cannot help being very much
alarmed for your safety in the wood, where
Indian have been so lately seen. Only last
week they killed a man between Anoka and
Fair Haven. I have too much confidence in
your good sense to suppose you will knowingly
risk your life, but I am afraid you will be
surprised while doubting the danger. You
will not go on with your work if you think
there is danger, will you? But whether you
think it or not I know there is danger, and
if these three weeks pass and find us all in safe-
ty at home, I shall thank our Father more
devoutly than ever before for your return to me.

I never before realized in any degree the anxiety of a Soldier's wife. God pity the poor tortured, breaking hearts to-day. We have dearly paid for our great Victory. Out of our Minnesota First less than one hundred left - and of one Brigade that went into battle ^{thousand} 6000 only ^{hundred} 400 answer to the Call now. Meade is pushing on after Lee and news of another terrific fight is daily expected. It looks this morning rather more as if Lee might escape us, and pass over the Potomac before Meade can catch him.

Are you having a tremendous fire in the Woods? We are having a tremendous smoke here, at all event. We hear that the Indians have burned over all the prairie west of ^{us} in which case Libbey and his Grand Company of men and mules will be coming back where the Indians are.

I told Walter you hoped he would not enlist. He said he surely should if you were here.

Haven't I told you about the Nursery affairs, what Walter is doing &c? I thought I had

He has worked out there all the time, killing weeds, haying, and the like. He is must through now though. He says the hay will be ready for cutting on the farm as soon as the twentieth of this month. But he says it will not be possible for him to get it all cut before you leave again - he said fifty men could hardly do it in that time. We have no rain here yet, and Oh! so hot. My heart aches sorely for you working and walking all day under such a burning Sun. I do not wonder you are thin and sore and spunkless. It is too cruel.

Last night when I read your letter coming home from the office and you said in three weeks you should come home to stay two weeks life seemed for a little while of very small worth, and my heart went down very low. My husband was only a man to fix off for the Woods and worry about while he was there, or how else be impatient for his return, which ^{would be} ~~was~~ only a day absorbed with cares, and his wife - she was surely not the woman he lived with, only somebody to keep his house and care for his children

Boston July 11th 1863

Dear Sir I beg of you to write

A few lines to me and let me
now what become of my brother
Daniel Owens I did not hear
from him for the last three months
and for god sake when you get
this write to me and let me
know all particulars and I will
be very thankful to you Mr.
Clark and you will have my
blessing and the blessing of god

Direct to Thomas Daly No 64

Border Street East Boston
Mass

Mary Daly

Boston July 11th 1863

Dear Sir I beg of you to write

A few lines to me and let me
now what become of my brother
Daniel Owens I did not hear
from him for the last three months
and for god sake when you get
this write to me and let me
know all particulars and I will
be very thankful to you Mr.
Clark and you will have my
blessing and the blessing of god

Direct to Thomas Daly No 64

Border Street East Boston
Mass

Mary Daly

their homes. Penn. is invaded and her
Principal Cities in danger. Vicksburg
is as usual - Grant making steady progress,
and gaining, nobody knows what. Labretton
is reported as reinforced from the East.

I shall send this to Wartab, and hope
you will get it soon. There are clouds
gathering. Oh if it would only rain! I forgot
to send last, what I will send now.

If you could come home tonight, wash,
and go to bed like a Christian, how glad
a little woman would be, even if she had
to send you away again in the morning.

Nearly three weeks now, twice that number
and you will come. Be stout of heart,
and of body too if you can. Don't expose
yourself needlessly. My own Love, dearer
to me than all the world! Our Father in
Heaven be with you, and keep you from
all harm, giving you strength for each
days work. Goodby Love.

Your wife Serena.

Minneapolis June
July, 16, 1863

My dear husband:

I thought I should
hear from you last night. and so I did.
You seldom disappoint me in any thing.
I am glad I had a chance to send a letter by
Mr. Wyman. I think of you too often
lately, oftener than I should if it were not
such burning hot weather, and so fearfully
dry. I am afraid you must suffer for
decent water to drink - and how dreadful
to swelter in the woods, and be eaten up
with Mosquitoes. Oh I wish you were
safe at home. But you would not stay
here if you were! My Love is no shelter for
my Love, but he makes himself a homeless
wanderer that he may shelter his Love.
I wish we could change places once in a while;
how would you like to take care of babies
and let me be the man to go abroad!

Not a blessed bit of rain yet. We shall spend a little fortune buying water, and finally choke to death, for the wells are all drying up. Our turf ~~looks~~ doesn't look very green nothing else has turned yellow in the front yard. Our pine stands it, and the Mountain Ash has blossomed. Walter has gone today up to the farm - he took Mr. Bond along to help him. He thought they could do in three days all that was necessary. Our straw berries have done better than our neighbors, we have had several quarts - five or six, I guess. We have some now that I wish I could send into Camp for your supper. We have had a letter from Papa which I must send along. I have nothing to say only Heaven bless them! I hope she is worthy of him. Did I tell you that he had carried Charley to Cincinnati?

You have had a letter from Mr. Townsend. I will send it - if I can get it in. What a dear

old man he is. So cheerful and trusting under afflictions that do not serve a righteous purpose with us all. I hope our boy may be worthy his name.

The children thrive on heat, going all day about as they came to us. Mary is active as a spirit, and eats about as much as they are supposed to.

Mrs. Higgins came up and brought her baby a week or two ago. It is rather a pretty little girl - not so pretty as my baby. Mr. Higgins daughter has come out to live. They will take his house, and Judson is building another for himself. Maybe you knew it all.

I would send you this morning paper if Walter had read it. Lee's Army is ^{moving} North, nobody knows where, and Hood is also moving. This week is expected to bring forth something - the taking of Washington perhaps. The President has called for one hundred thousand men from Ohio, Penn., and West Virginia to defend

Juice 99 lb (1861)
water 13 do Made 6
Gallons 97 lb 2 c

Put it in a cask &
~~into~~ allow it with
bung loose so as
to allow it to fer-
ment, when the
sourd from fermenta-
tion ceases
make the cask tight
& leave it six months
when it will be fit
for bottling

One of your friends
1 do told me that
a lb of French
~~beeswax~~ a perfect
X put in a cask &
with bung out so as
to allow it to fer-
ment, when the sourd
from fermentation
has ceased make
the cork tight &
leave it six months
& the bottle it
closes the bung hole
with your hand
keep out the dirt

[To Thomas W. Clarke?]

Boston July 22 1863 = 2^d Chapter of Matthew
Friend Clark, I write this with pencil
because it will give you a more faint
impression of my feelings towards you
Since my last I have been thinking how
jolly good I was to send you a bottle of
my wine. It was like unto the man that
sent warming pans to the West Indies
as in both cases it turned out well, never
minded, it was my first attempt at making
wine and I find there is room for improvement
As Mrs Dimmy is getting ready to make
13 Galls of Currant wine at Dorchester
I wish to get a receipt from which yours
was made. The Dimmy family profess
to be good judges of wine and they all pro-
nounce yours the best they ever tasted
and on the strength of it I have a proposi-
tion to make which I know you will not
object to provided you are allowed to
become a Special or Silent partner in
the concern. I wish to form a kind of
Co. partnership with your wife in making
wine. She to make the wine, you to find the
funds and myself to find the customers
and dispose of it, all of us to share
equally in the profits. I hope my proposition
will be accepted as I have had some

experience in my part of the business
and will give you the best of references
and require none from either of you
which certainly will be liberal on
my part and now in closing I wish
to say, that your reply to my last gave
me pain when I found it to be in your
own hand writing Now I positively
forbid your doing so imprudent a
thing again in the present state of
your vision This does not require it
and if you should do so after so
strong a remonstrance it may lead
to you not receiving ever the 3^d
Chapter of Matthew

curly and in color that
of an enraged orange
Tawny. while your humble
sports a pair of side whiskers
and a waxed ended moustache
most beautiful to behold.

You know of course the
failing of the family is conceit
so you will pardon personalities
as regards business Time was
when I looked forward to a
profit of 5 or 10. ~~th~~ \$ p ann. but
modesty has since asserted its
supremacy and I am now content
with a much less amount.

Waiting yr favors. I am,

Yrs truly,
C. H. Clarke

Boston July 28. 1863

Dear Tom,

Your letter of 5th 13th ins
to mother. Came to hand on Friday
and it surprised me to see you
state that you had written me
from Columbus acknowledging
receipt of monies from me as
I received no such document
neither have I received any
remittance for your ~~of~~ from
Capt Bleper but shall write to
him today concerning it. We
are anxious to hear of your wel-
fare since the battle at Jackson
but the mail seems to be rather
an irregular than a regular mode
of conveyance. Norton is on here
again making arrangements for
future profit at the South.

I dun him up pretty sharply
for the balance due on
the Aguin Creek arrangement
of a year ago but he does not
respond as I could wish.

Yesterday we had a salute
of one hundred guns in honor
of the Mass. Regt in the D. W.
Large thing. You ask father
to see Gov. Andrew about the
Colonelcy of a Negro Regiment
you can't have an idea, from that
of father's situation he goes no
where alone and merely pokes
around the house and garden
with a cane so full his way or
with some one on his side to
guide him. Poor man looking
downward he doesn't see at all
but can see somewhat by
looking up ward. You should
write often for he enjoys your

letters so much Has them
read over to him several
times. I will see about the
Negro Regt myself and do all I
can to procure it. The conscripts
are going into camp on Long island
and being drafted from there into
the old regiments in the field
The first ninth Eleventh Thirty
second and others have officers
on here to convey them away.

Fanny & I went down to Co-
hasset to spend Sunday and
had a very fine time Lotty Pope
was down and the bathing and
sea breeze after the heat of the
city was very refreshing George
you would hardly know for in
the two years & more that you
have been away he has developed
into a first class man of work
with a long curly moustache

Boston July 30th 1866

Kind Sir Would you be
so Kind to Inform me of a
young man by the name of James
Lyman is under your Command
29 Mass V. I have not heard from
him since last February which
Compels me to write to you I leave
it to your own Gentlemeny heart
to Answer this and you will
have the prayers of a poor
mother

I remain your humble
Servant Mary Lyman

Please direct to
37 High St Boston Mass