

Our Home, Christmas
& 8 o'clock P.M.

My very dear husband
My last letter written
Wednesday night I addressed to the
Hospital - & unless you have been receiv-
ing one about the condition of your wound
& fear you will have gone to the front as
Lizzy says) before it reaches you - but I hope
it may be forwarded - I write such a long
one I wanted you should get it my dear -
I feel so glad that you got a nest &
shelter from cold & pun-bullets - & a tolerably
comfortable place to smoke & read - Still it
wasn't like being at home, was it "poor thing?"
but I won't tempt you with saying any-
thing about home - The thought would keep
stealing into my mind today that maybe
you'd drop in home tomorrow - just the day

after Christmas, one since I heard you were hurt - as you
did last Summer, but 'pose I'll be disappointed, per-
haps it is better so - Oh I hope your opinion as to the
fighting being over for the winter may prove correct.
Some of our very wise people here are prophesying
bad luck to you if you are again struck - I
presume upon the strength of that old saying
"The third time is the charm". If I was superstitious
these things would make me very unhappy - but
I try to entrust those who are dearest to me into the
Care of One who does not in our day reveal
his designs to us by such signs & symbols -
That God whom we have reason to believe has been
with thee in six troubles in the seventh
will not forsake thee - Let us hope and trust &
pray - my husband - God surely will have
mercy & spare - Your nice long interesting
letter written last Sabbath - is by me - 'tis so
good in you to write so often - Your dispatch
is of still later date - & you say "Send small box"
as usual my dear when you ask for anything
of the kind, I never can get what I want
done at the time I want it - always some thing

dear must be done first, we was so very cold &
fire was coughing around so I couldn't get any
thing done out of the house - when I look into
I thought surely we might have had a small
box ready by Monday, but no indeed - Mother
thought it was better to wait until things were
more settled & you were with your Regiment as
you would need it more then - & account
of the trouble at Thomsons we had to be back
& forward so often - but I think just while
you were in Nashville would be the best time for
you will not likely be as convenient to express
perhaps not this winter - I'm so vexed about it
I don't know what to do - poor "sing" hardly ever
asks for anything of the kind, it might be grat-
ified - I know it is very troublesome & expensive but
don't mind that - Mother is very willing, but can't
get her in a hurry - & I am such a nit -

Will Thomsons funeral was yesterday - I think
this is the saddest Christmas ever they spent -
Dr Wellens who is at the Hospital - had him em-
balsmed - he looked so natural, it was such a
comfort to them - still they were much distressed

And Thomson is so anxious that Benny should
get discharged - or even a full length. Could Mar
not do something towards getting him a leave
or a detail - Will you mention what you
think about it in your next letter, she is so
anxious for Woman - Benny has been out as long -
Willin my dear I am so sorry if I hurt your
feelings about that Franklin affair - you did
not suppose that I thought you would run or
hide - I have begged of you not to be reckless -
but I've never said don't shirk duty - nor did
I think there was any need for me to say so -
I have confidence in you my soldier husband -
I've never had reason to blush for you as such -
Don't be troubled about it, for I am not
he happened to tell at Thomson's what you said
about the Chaplain being a fighting parson &
it seemed to please Mr Crockett's as much as if
he had been their own son (maybe he is to be) -
so Alex came up last evening to hear it read he
said he wanted to make one more attempt to get
Sanfey to publish a good word for a decent man
I could not give him the letter you know - so I cop-
ied those few sentences of it & gave him, so if you
see it in the 'Times' you need not think it was
me had it done - do you care any love - a pri-
vate puff of that kind, I would value much more
than a public one - but still he hardly deserves
such from you - maybe it may have a good in-
fluence - Charlie spreads himself considerably
lodges at Bushfields - is very dignified - Holko's
understand about Wagner but I keep my own
council - Farrar talks of resigning, guess it don't pay
him ask me about money - I have been pretty scarce - but
had to borrow some from the bank to get some flour
and meat & apples - but hoped the interest that
will be due again Spring, would cover it - I feel
mean to borrow & meaner to go in debt - but will try
to be as economical as possible - even then money flies
at the present prices, flour 10, 80 per barrel - &c &c -
you must try and keep yourself as comfortable as
you can my dear, (I wish I could see you)