

I would be glad to
Postive stands, etc.

Camp near Newpetersboro Tenn.

Feb. 19th 1863.

My dear beloved ones

I had been out yesterday with the regiment to
work on the fortifications. through the mud and rain, got to the river and
could not get over except on a new and very high bridge. I left my horse
when we were well on and set the boys to work and not
feeling very well, had a stitch in my back between the shoulders, and

hardly knew myself, so I crossed over and returned to camp, intending
to lie down on my bed of huckle and take it easy for the rest of the day.

When the mail has come I believe some one and there's a whole pile
of letters for you. I just got out after them, finding my stiff back

almost, and here was two nice white backs, real fat little fellows I knew
where they were from of course. I had been waiting anxious for some
days and now here come and was beginning to feel quite disappointed.

As I tell you when I saw them it made me fairly bounce with delight -
I commenced on Sat. Sabbath my Feb. 8th and literally enjoyed it, then

on the 2^d, likewise, got my dinner, took a walk, and
happily went to sleep and woke up this morning nearly well, it was

a Sciatic pain, and is about gone, suppose it was in consequence of the
much wet weather, which we have been having while you have been

having snow - I have been a little tardy in writing for a few weeks past
partly because I have been repeating the P.M. around every day and this

thought I would defer writing until I could write that that distinguished per-
soner had made his grand supper among us, now although he has
not been as yet I have to record the gratifying fact that he is supposed

to be arriving us and on one occasion was actually visible to the naked eye,
and it is reported that on tomorrow he will be here with the great fleet,
to pay us for the term of two months out! and perhaps before I send this I
will be able to write as one having a little money, the first for a long time,
but two months pay will not put me out of debt. I am sorry for this, if I could
get from six months pay it would set me all right and have some left. I will
soon have six months pay and one just think of it! here about from my
lord was almost six months! What changes have been wrought in that time
and what we have all been obliged to pass through have been in two battles
without falling a small as a slight wound, and nearly a thousand
miles, whereas our road travel! would that the next six months time, and the
next three and miles travel would bring me home, even up to our own little
green gate, and to the embrace of darling wife and baby and Randal Washer.
I shall now I will try to answer your letter
lay them away in the trunk and when I go to write, have to trust to memory and
their accounts for my not answering before this night any which you may
have noticed, I like your talk to your own Hall's very much indeed, it sounds
like the little folks we use to hear when we are alone and I was at Boston
reading the Commercial I was much interested in your account
of the war & the big war did really put you. I am so sorry you had
had to worry yourself so in the snow, and our neighbors like we do
gallant but never mind darling I will try to make it easier for you
when I get home to day, you shall have him help all the time to do
these things for you, I believe I told you in my last about getting the
lites and perhaps you sent y' Mal, and about liking the shirt - do we
are also about Father's coming over since and stay in all night with

... and apologizing for not coming with me before I believe Gen. Gasford
has not been assigned to any command yet, they have come up
in town yet. I would like very well if he were assigned to the command
of our Regt. or Division, our Corps & Division are both
are both Kentucky men, and Col. Wagner is an Indianan
and all the other regiments in the Regt. are Indianan
I am getting very tired of them, would like to have somebody else
with us here & his, if there is any favor going in the Regt. it is
I dare to put on Indianan. I could not help telling the Chaplain what
you said about Sirs. Bristol, it tickled him very much indeed.
It only happened that he was at the house just a day or two. He has been
with us in the field all the time, and during the 2 year campaign, and it
labored hard, suffered more and saved himself less than he. All
through Kentucky while we were on that terrible march he had us horse
and marched with the men, frequently carrying them guns for them when
they would give out, and he was not once seen to mind to do, but was
sums preaching since we have been out, besides he has been
as a regimental post master, which is very laborious all to accommodate
the men, and without being required to do it, but from choice, he is very
ambitious, and I can testify that he neither swears, nor plays
cards, like other soldiers!!!! and I know of no Chaplain in this army
who does. Please say to my friend Terrence for his information and
believe me. P.S. we have not had a man for Chaplain as Mr. McQueen would
make, I think if I am could out be with us a short time and see how
a being, it would teach him some regard, I think I could command
him that all soldiers do not drink, swear and play cards, there is
a good deal of swearing in the army and occasional vice drinking but the

morality of the army I think will compare favorably with that at home, in fact the temptations to wickedness here is nothing compared to what it is at home where you pass a dreadful halcyon winter you go to you office or workshop, I appreciate your kind words of warning and advice, I know it comes from a pure source, pure a pure, loving and true heart, and I hope to profit by it, come pray that ~~it may be even as you desire it~~

I know I am not what I ought to be, but I know that I have not a single friend here, I shall be happy to have you speak of me, I know it comes from a pure source, pure a pure, loving and true heart, and I hope to profit by it, come pray that ~~it may be even as you desire it~~

I think the most proper and elegant, I see by the paper that your boy got home safe, and he sees this time, what do you think of her? I like the boy, I have not anything to say as a rule, my excitement may lead me to write about his boy just what I felt, I liked the boy, but had no idea he would publish the letter, very much distressed when I saw it in the paper, which I see inserted in your kindess for me, need an address read to the regiment, on the request of my sympathies and will be sent in it, I sent it to the paper, it was written to lead the eyes of the 17th Regt, the boys adopted it without a dissenting voice, all the other regts have voted on it I believe, I am afraid the balladry, however, the legislature won't vote for the bill, allow us to vote after the fact, but I feel some of them are advocating the bill, for effect, I suppose, not such with the view of getting their votes, for I don't think they will get any more, or I am very much mistaken, however there are some who I suppose would vote anything if it was only labelled a Democratic measure, is a stubborn disease when it gets in the blood,

I should like to see you in person, I have not a chance of meeting you in the city, but I have not anything to say as a rule, my excitement may lead me to write about his boy just what I felt, I liked the boy, but had no idea he would publish the letter, very much distressed when I saw it in the paper, which I see inserted in your kindess for me, need an address read to the regiment, on the request of my sympathies and will be sent in it, I sent it to the paper, it was written to lead the eyes of the 17th Regt, the boys adopted it without a dissenting voice, all the other regts have voted on it I believe, I am afraid the balladry, however, the legislature won't vote for the bill, allow us to vote after the fact, but I feel some of them are advocating the bill, for effect, I suppose, not such with the view of getting their votes, for I don't think they will get any more, or I am very much mistaken, however there are some who I suppose would vote anything if it was only labelled a Democratic measure, is a stubborn disease when it gets in the blood,

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