

## Captain Hedges 23rd Kentucky

Stone [sic] River Tenn, Nov, 20th 1862

My Dearest

I am in modrate [sic] helth [sic] to day. I am better some than I have bin [sic] we come to this place to day this River is a vary [sic] pritty [sic] stream near the rise of Licking we are ten miles from Nashville it dose [sic] not look as tho [sic] we will have a engagment [sic] soon The rebs [sic] are some distance off I received 2 sweete [sic] letter dates Nov. 10are four days since it is the four I have got since I left Louisville I got one that was written in Aug. now if I knew wheather [sic] any resignation would be excepted [sic] are [sic] not I could give you a direct answer in regard to going North but I do nont [sic] feel satisfied for you to travel alone so I will sa [sic] for you to stay whare [sic] you are til [sic] you hear again I can not contrive what you will do with the horses unles [sic] you can sell them the grey mare I sent to Mr [sic] Sterling I know you will want to keepe [sic] her she is a fine rider tho [sic] she is not vary [sic] exculant [sic] fine she is are [sic] aught be at Lamer Anderson tho [sic] I have not bin [sic] informed of her getting thare [sic] when I heare [sic] that she is thare [sic] I will let you know I may get him to ceap [sic] her til [sic] I get hom [sic] my officers are not going to let me out if they can help it Col. is commanding the Regt. Col. Grigsby is commanding a Brigade Hurt said he would endorce [sic] my resignaion [sic] in a few days but he would rather wait as he was trying to get us back to Ky. agan [sic] and if our resignations went up it would foile [sic] his plane [sic] but I know they will not let him go for thare [sic] has bin [sic] something of the sort ever since we was at corinth [sic] the fact is the Regt. has gone down to a mere Co. and he knows if we resign the Regt. will be throwen [sic] to anothe [sic] and he will go out of command the [sic] he said if they did not do something he would [end of letter

Camp Near Nashville

Feb. 18th, 1862

[image on paper of a man manning a cannon with the caption: OUR GUNBOAT BOYS]

My Darling

I was Blessed with the presance [sic] of a sweete [sic] little mesinger [sic] stating you was safe home again it was a soothing mesinger [sic] to me I had become wary waiting to hear from you your letter had bin [sic] sent to head quarters and la [sic] thare [sic] severel [sic] days before I got it now this is a beautiful suney [sic] day it looks like spring with its glorious beaty [sic] had come again to bless the earth it agitates a lively spark in my gloomy spirits for to some extent I feel gloomy to see my [illegible] great country in its fallen condition to think the land of my birth and those I love above all else earthly in the power of sick desprados [sic] as range the licking valley I hear of their savage conduct then I hear of them being captured and treated as men of first principle I feel that they ought to be hanged to the first limb and made to feel the strenth [sic] of sutch

[sic] war fair [sic] but anuff [sic] I feel like I do not know what to do the Regt that was the 24th is no more I have no prospect of getting out as the Col. will not agree to let us out as he is looking for a Brigader [sic] ship if he lets us out of course it will have afect [sic] on his asperations [sic]

I got a letter from Will he is well at Galliton [sic] Tennasee [sic] John I got a letter from EJ Mavity his letter was well composed but vary [sic] profane he described the the [sic] fight at stone [sic] river with the most desperate language he said the northern troops run like a pack of cowards with but few exceptions he said he had seen the long paper accounts of vallor [sic] attached to Regtments [sic] that he seen run with his own eyes on the 31st Jan. the Remsaws [sic] Division ran with the exception of the 3rd Ky. the ohio [sic] troops running thru the 23rd Ky. whitch [sic] formed the 2nd line on that day the buckeys [sic] dispersed without firing he said that if the 3rd Ky. 58<sup>th</sup> Ind and 23rd Ky. had not bin [sic] thare [sic] the rebels would have driven our forces across the cumberland [sic] as I have seen fighting dun [sic] up before now I feel the force of the statement after the fight the Col. of the 69th Ohio rode up and asked what Regt they told him 23rd Ky. he said he wished he was 23rd Ky. and he gives Maj. Hambrick great prais [sic] as a cool brave and daring man Hambrick was in comand [sic] at that battle

we will go south in a day are [sic] too [sic] most likely to Franklin it is likely we will have a warm time of it about Chadanooga [sic] if not before I have written anuff [sic] without it was more edifying ever yours T.T. Hedges