

Camp near Bardstown Nelson County Kentucky
this October the 2cond 1862

20 Mrs Sarah Doss Dear wife and children i am permitted one time more through kind providence to drop you a few lines to inform that my helth is quite good at presant hoping this will find all in the injoyment of the same blessings of God --- We ar lying on our ears doing nothing but drilling a little the northern forces has mostly fell back to Louisville and ar fortyfying that place we suposed that Brags intentions was to move on that place before this time from some cause unknown to me the atakt has bin delayed and i think it now uncertain whether we move on that place or in some other direction tho i think if Louisville is to be the place of atackt every hour of time delayed will allow to the number of brave soldiers that must inevitable fall before that place is taken by us --- we have marched over at least 3 hundred miles since we left Tynesville Tenn many of our troops fell sick on the march and some of them was left behind and fell into hands of the yankee cavelry we supose that 6 or 7 of our company has been taken priseners as they was left behind sick tho they will be at home on parrole before this reaches you if they was taken and theirs but little doubt but what they ar --- we took 43 hundred priseners at Munfordville all thair arms and acoutermints we should knot have lost a man if it had knot bin for the rash conduct of Gen Chalmer he was sent in front with his brigade of Mississippi Troops to go as fare as Cave City and thair await the main body knowing the yankees was behind intrchments at Munfordville the intention was to aproach them on all sides and insure victory with but little loss but Gen Chalmer pushed madly on with one brigade of 12 or 15 hundred men and atakted the fortifications over 4000 strong and the result was he was repulsed with heavy loss without doing the enemy much damage but marched on to his asistance and planted our artilery nearly all round the works in the night and found out that amediate distruction was thair doom unless they surrendered which they did before we opened on them. if Gen Chalmer had knot bin so hot headed we would knot have lost any men of consequence but if we allways come out as well as we have on this march we will knot complain --- Dear wife it is reported that Gen Buell of the northern army has resigned his comision in consaquence of Lyncolns late proclamation and J.C. Davis Brig Gen in the yankee army killed Maj-Gen-Nelson at Louisville the other day they disagreed the affairs of thair Government and then fell out about thair work on the intrenchments Gen Nelson commanded the forces that Kirby Smith whiped out so badly he retreated to Louisville and come to his death as above stated our officers and men is in fine spirits and many of them think that this cruel war will soon close i hope it may be so tho God knows what will be the final isue of things one thing i do know that i am fare away from a tender wife and beloved children and whether i will ever be permitted to meet them again on earth or knot God only knows but my heartfelt wishes is for your welfare both now and after death --- i have never recd a line from you since the letter you sent by Hix and you need knot unless you can send the letter by some person that is coming to the army --- i hope however that the way will soon be opened so letters will pass without difaculty --- i passed in 25 miles of Burksville but never saw any of our folks --- James and John Rogers is well Lieut-Rouse is well the company is generaly in tolerable helth we ar ordered to cook 2 days rations i supose we will leave tomorow but in what direction i dont no --- Dear wife i must close this if i meet you no more in this poor world i hope to meet you all in a better world where wars is at a end and the weary is at rest yours till death

Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss and childern

Camp near Knoxville Tenn this October the 29th 1862

21 Mrs Sarrah Doss Dear wife and children i am perimted through kind provi
one time more to drop you a few lines which leaves me well and hope that thi
will reach you and find all well --- i have not seen no knews from home sinc
the letter Hix brought me i am thairfore anxious to hear from home --- i can
say that i do knot think thair has bin much made by our Kentucky trip it
seemed that our General could knot be kept from runing altho the officers
and men was anxious to fight Brag will knot fight if he can find any ground
to run on --- many of our soldiers has and will die from hard marching and
suffering we went 3 days a time or two without any provisions only what
parched corn we could git which was a small amount --- you can amagin our
suffering - we was skirmising and in line of battle for many days and nights
with nothing like half rations none of the time --- Thomas C. Hudelston of ou
company died the day after we reached hear of pneumonia feavor and many of th
boys is unwell and a few of them very sick --- Bud Fields of the 28 Regt is
dead he died some time back --- as to clothing i need two colered coten shirt
and two par of pants and 2 par of drawers and 2 par of socks if you can get
them for me by first passing send them two me allso send me my necklace i
need a par of good strong shoes if you can get them made if knot try to send
me a good par of lethers i will close this yours till death

Ambrose Doss
to Sarrah Doss and children

Camp near Murfreesborough Tenn
Dec 12th 1862

Dear Wife

I seat myself to drop you a few lines which leaves me in good heal
at present and I trust this will find you in good health also all the family
I have no news of importance to write to you we are camped in one mile of
Murfreesboro we do not expect to stay here long we have not built any winter
quarters yet I recd a letter from you by Mr Vann also the clothing you sent
me I was glad to hear from you also glad to get the clothing Mr Rouse has not
come yet we are looking for him any day and we are very ancious to see him
we have got no commissioned officer with us Hagood & Reed has gone home and t
Capt has not come yet

22 Jessie Young has got back to his Regt but I have not seen him it is repo
that they have the smallpox in that Regt and I have not been over to see him
he says he was in the neighborhood of the Speares and Abraham Spear is not
dead I want you to write to me soon write what the boys in the settlement are
doing and where they are all gone if you know

If you see any way or any chance send me some potatoes as I have not had
mess this fall & winter Joseph Couch died at Tulohuma Ten on the 20th Nov the
company is in very good health at this time we have not drawn any money since
15th Sept we will march soon again I recond I will close for the present write
soon I sent some money to you by Mr Campbell he has come back and paid on his
money to me again

I would like for you to write to me and give me all the things you have
recd from me since I got back to the Regt I will close for this time write to
me direct to Murfreesboro Ten your husband until death A. Doss to Sarah Doss

Desember the 15 1862 Camp near Murfresbur tennessee Dear wife an children
i avale my self this evening to inform you that i am well all to a bad cold
i do hope when these few lines comes to hand they will find you all well
i have nuthing new ner strang to rite at presant we all ar faring vary well
at this time liut Rous got in yistarday and brought all you sent me but the
brandy the shous that you sent me i can make out vary well with and was vary
proud that you sent them to me John sent me some walnuts i was vary well
pleast with the presant tho John if i could get the chanes to send you any
walnuts i could send them buy the bushel we ar sationd rite in a walnut grov
the potatoes that i got i eat of them and thought of home all the time i got
the appels that you sent all so Sary i will send the bottle back to you and
you can fill it again and send it buy the firs chanes and if you have no
chanes you can fill it an keep it till i come er till you hear that i am dea
i would like to sea you all vary mutch and will come to sea you the first
chanes i can get Sary i will state to you that i had the honor of seaing
presadent davis last saturday

Corn an meat is cheaper hear than it is thear corn can be bought hear at
100 per bushel porke is worth from 12 to 15 cts per pounds you rote to me to
get you some salt but ther is no chanes Sary for me to get a bit wee suffer
vary mutch for salt hourselves but i am going to send you 25 dollars buy
Robart dickenson and i want you to buy salt enough to do you let it cost wha
it will we havent drawd no money in near 4 monts when we draw i will send
you more this i send you now is the money that i started to you buy Cambel
he brought it back to me Sary if you hadnt bought corn enough to do you i
dont want you to delay any time and bee shore not to stop till you no that
you have got aplenty to do you if you hadnt got money enough tell frend
minter to assist you and i will send the money just as soon as i draw it
Capt Hanby and his father jest now come in and it may be possible if old
davy stays some days that wee may draw money and if so i will send it buy
him Sary i will send you a fine come so i must close A Doss

to Sary Doss

Camp near Murphreborough this December 19th 1862

Mrs Sarah Doss

Dear wife and children I drop you a few lines to inform you that I a
at this time hoping to hear from you all in good helth I wrote a let
Robert Dickerson but Mr Hanby come in and he will reach you before I
comes in i thought i would let you know by this letter that i recd a
sent but the brandy the bottle came to hand but it was empty lieut R
put the bundle on top of the boxes and clothing fearful the bottle m
git broke tho thair was several with him and tho they had plenty of
all the way and no cause for drinking mine he cannot acount for it w
a soldier took it he took half galon from Lieut Rouse tho the brandy
and I send you the bottle to fill up and try again or save it till i
we will leave to day on picket 12 miles towards Nashville we will ta
rations with us --- I read your letter by Capt-Hanby and was sorry to
of your being sick tho I hope you will recover soon and remain in go
untill we meet again --- I have clothing aplenty to do me this winter
when you can do so make me a suit of gray janes tho dont be in any hu
about it I send thirty five dollars by Mr Hanby we have knot received
draw that due us but will soon --- you will git the letter by Mr Dic
soon i will close this so my dear and afECTIONAT wife i bid you fare
for the presant --- yours till death

Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss

N. B.

tell uncle James Jacks that Abram Sphers is not dead and his sons ne
in northern army

Camp near Winchester Tenn Jan the 8 1863

Dear wife I drop you a few lines to inform you that I am well a
getting on tolerable well the Battle of muffedreesborough was harder t
Shilo was we got several wounded Wm Landrum Virt Henderson was wound
died Wash Berry was killed J B Falks W L Vann and W. J. Vann Bob Bai
Lieut Hagood and Rouse was all wounded we fell back to this place an
are ordered back to Shelbyville 25 miles we whiped them bad but they
reinforced and we had to fall back I will write again as soon as we
we have been out on picket and fighting and marching for the last 23
we have not seen our close since we started out on picket I want you
make me some close as I am afraid that I will loose them it war repo
that I was mising in camps but it warent so we started on 3 day pick
morning after the Capt and we stayed out 15 days and we havent got t
Capt sence he is with the wagon train I will write again as soon as
you must write I will try to come home when we get settled if I can
close so no more

A Doss

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25

Sah Doss

January the 18 1863

Camp near Shelbyville tennessee

Dear loving wife an children it is with pleasher i seat my self this eve
to anser your most kind an loveing letter whitch was dated 28 it give me
satisfaction to hear that you was all as well as you war i am enjoying v
good at the presant and i do hope these few lines will safeley reach you
find you enjoying the same like blesing Sarah i drapt you a few lines th
of this month whitch will give you a small sketch of the battle that i w
if you get it tho Sarah i will say that the Shilou battle was not a comp
to this one whear i was for i saw more dead men in one field than i saw
hole Shilou battle but we drove the ennimey all the time that we faut we
the line of battle from Sunday morning till 12 oclock the next Saturday
the fite on Saturday nite beetwine 8 an 9 oclock in the nite was the har
contest we had but we stud hour ground an drove the enemy back an then we
reseat orders to face back whitch durin all this time that we was out wa
worst cold an rainest time ever exspearnst all most in life

26

Sarah i pade Capt Hanby for that corn that i got from him the spring
before i left that is seteld for if it ever comes against you i want you
rite to me how you are making out for sault and all - So whether you have
bought aney corn an what is the chanes for you to get corn Sarah i was fr
the time that we left camps we was some 20 od days till we got back to wh
i could get my napsack and when i got it some one had takend my new janes
out of it and i have never sean them yet but i bought a par from Capt har
and had to pay 14 dollars for them clothing is vary hige and hard to get
i want you to make me a sleeve jacket an line it thru an dont put any but
on it i can take the butens off of my old coat an put on it i want you to
9 buttens holes up the brest Sarah i want to no whether you ever got that
dollars i sent to you from massipia give my best respects to all enquirin
rite as soon as you get this letter so nothing more at presant

A Doss to Sarah Doss

January the 26th 1863

Camps near Shelbyville

27 Dear wife & children I seat my self to let you know that I am well & hoping when these lines comes to hand they may find you all well & doing well I recieved a letter from you roat December the 28th I have roat two sence the battle & has got no answer yet the Capt is going to start home in the morning & I will send this letter by him I give him thirty dollars to bring to you I rote to John Brake to day to let you hav corn if he had any to spair if you get hit from him pay him for hit get him to hall hit for you if you get hit from him I think that the men that is liable to the conscript had better volinteer if they will volinteer they will get their bounty & they will be alloud to join any company that they choose to join hit is raining & I will come to a close so nothing moore at present onley remains your husband untill deth rite soon & oftin & give me all of the news

A Doss

Camp near Shelbyville

Febuary the 14th 1863

28 Dear wife & children I seat my self to inform you that I am well at this time Hopin when these lines comes to hand they may find you well & doing well I hav nothin of intrest to write moore than the boys is better helth than they hav bin since the battle we have got ten conscripts in our company they hav bin grumling around the doctor for a discharge Morgan Isacks is in our company he is well and hardy he has not bin trying to get a discharge I sent fifty dollars to you the other day by William Hanby I hav not recieve no letter from you sence the 28 of December I wood like the best in the world to hear from you I will send you a few pins in this letter if you get them I will send you some moore I will send Maryann a finger ring one of our make & a brass pen point the pins and pen point is sent to Sary Doss this is the forth letter that I have roat since the battle and hav got no answer I want to know whether you hav got the things that I hav sent I sent a belt and gun cock by Mr Landrum we air expectin orders to leave hear every day but I dont know wher we will go Some of the bois saw Brown Davinport the other day & he was well I will close this letter by saying rite soon & give me all the news So give my best respects to all in quiring friends nothing moore onley remains your ever and affectionate husband un till deth

A Doss to Sary Doss

Camp Near Shelbyville Tenn
April 17th 1863

Dear Wife

I will write you a few lines to inform you that I am in good health at this time and hoping these few lines may find you and family in the same condition I want you to write to me as soon as you can for I havent got narry letter from you since the twenty seckond of february there is nothing of intrest up here times is verry still at this time every thing is very hy up heare they gess at a mans price and take it Nothing never gits so hy but what some body will buy it I seen John Milton Douglas the other day we have been close to one another evry since we were at Corrinth and I never seen him till the other day Logan aint dead or wasnt last february I am agoing to apply for a furlough to come home to cut yore wheat and if I cant git it I want you to come to see me if we still stay in Tenn I want you to write to me what has become of the boys in the settlement that was runaway and them that hadent went out what have they done with them I wrote to you and tried to put aring in it and I forgot it tho I will put it in this one for pollyan I sent you one by Captain Hanby write soon and give me all the news so no more at this time

29

A Doss

Camp near Shelbyville Tenn
this April the 21st 1863

Mrs Sarah Doss

Dear wife and childern I with pleasure take this opportunity of dropping you a few lines which leaves me only in common helth I feel somewhat like takeing the jaudans again tho I hope it will wear off in a few days -- I recd your very kind letter by Lieut Rouse and was glad to hear all was well and doing the best you can I was glad to hear that your wheat looked fine but want to be thair to learn them deer how to be eating my wheat I hope you will be lucky enough to kill some of them I hope that it will be a good crop year if so I think that thair will be a considerable chance of corn made -- Well Sarah I do knot know anything about whether I shall be able to get to come home anytime soon ar knot tho if I live I shall try for furlough after awhile but the prospects is good for a powerful battle in this vacinity between the two armys in a short time the yanks is concentrating heavy forces in front of us and the prospects is good for a avance of the yankey in short time General Johnson is in command of this army I hope we will be victorious Dear wife I aim to do my duty what time I live and I hope to be spared to meet you again but it may be that fate will decide different if so I shall try to submit with the right kind of fortitude tho I hope I will pass through all those killer scenes and be aloud to come to the imbraces of loved ones at home -- Do the best you can and try to make all the corn that you can for next year will no doubt be the hardest year that has ever bin wittnessed in this continent -- Capt Hanby said that he left that bottle of brandy at home and told Jess Hanby to take it back I supose if you will inquire thair you will get the bottle I have writen three letters since I sent that letter by Capt Hanby I recd a letter today from James Rogers he wanted to know where John Rogers was he is in Rome Georgia in the hospittle he has bin quite sick but was mending at last acounts the boys is in only tolerable helth thair is more sickness than thair was sometime back they suffer greatly for greens and vegetables of all kinds John Henderson and Benjamin Skiner has joined our company they came last week John is tolerable sick and Jackson Eaton is un well Well boys I want you to be good boys and obey your mother in all respects let me never hear bad reports of you which I never have heard and have a better opinion of you than to think you will be guilty of any powerful bad thing so be good boys and let me allways retain such confidence in you as young just verging into manhood now is the time to shape your course for life act upright with all with which you have any dealings in every respect act like good honest gentlemen and by so doing you will command the high esteem and respect of all good men take this advice from a father whos whole thoughts is for your welfare -- Sarah if you cannot get paper write and I will send you some by the first opportunity I will send you a few stamps by this letter I will close yours till death

Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss and childern

Camps near Shelbyville Tennessee April the 24th 1863

Dear wife and children

31 I take this opportunity of writing you a few lines which leave me rather unwell at this time I was vasinated again and my arm made me sick it was a great deal worse than it was when I was vasinated before when I was at home we ar faring very well here about something to eat we get plenty of meat and bread I want you to write to me write where all the boys are I want to know where Joel and all the boys in there have gone to We are expecting a battle here every day I have missed duty 2 days which is the first time I have missed duty since I was at home I got Lieutenant Rouse to write me a letter since he come back but I did not know whether you would get it or not as what made me write again so quick I thought you might get one of them I have written 5 letters to you since Capt Hanby left here the last time If you make me my shirts make them larger these that I got the collars and ristbands are too little I cannot button them I received your letter dated the 12th of this month and I was glad to here that you were all well I want you to take good care of my gun If I live to get home I expect to need it I want to kill some of them deer with it I want you to write to me how much money you have received from me since I left home You wrote to me you wanted me to send you some envelops I will send you some as soon as I possibly can I send you an envelop in every letter I can get one in I want you to make all the onions and shalots you can If I can not get to come home to take care of your wheat for you I want you to come to see me and bring me some onions shalots and such things Give my best respects to all my neighbor Tell John Deavenport to write to me I want to see you all very bad I will now come to a close by askin you to write soon Nothing more at present but remain your affectionate companion until death

Ambrose Doss

I did not get the bottle of brandy that Captain Hanby started He said he could not get it in his sachel and he left it at his fathers

A Doss

April 30 1863

The State of Tennessee Bedford Co. Murfresboro

Dear wife and children

32 I have a bad arme from vascination and I taken (Erisiplis ?) from the vascination I binn of duty nine dayes and they talk of sending mee to the hospitel and if they do I will try to git a furlou to come home nex month I wil send you fifty dollars by lieutenant Hagood I sent Elizabeth a rin and five sence pees to lieusenda tell all of the nabors howdy for mee tell Mr minter that I think that he has forgotin mee and if I dont git a furlow I wont you to git a too horse wigin and come to see mee and bring as manny of the children as you can if I stay in Tennessee I hope thes few lines may find you all well and doing well So I will close this leter by saing I remain your affection husban untill deth

A Doss
to Sarhr Doss

Picket Camp Shelbyville Tenn May 7th 1863

My Dear wife

Yours of the 27th Apr was recd with much pleasure this morning and I hasten to answer I have no war news of importance to write everything is moderately quiet here though all is ready or being made so for another fight should the Federals choose to advance

33 I saw J. M. Douglas I did not know him until he spoke he asked if I knew Douglas then I recognized him he favors his father and is about such a size man as Wesley Belcher My arm has been very bad for three weeks past but is much better now So much so that I am able for duty My general health is good I will make application for a furlough but it is altogether uncertain whether it will be granted me I will write to you more definitely as soon as I can find out Enclosed you will find some millit seed which I want you to sow as soon as you can Sow in some good place as you would turnips

I wish you to write on reception of this State how much money you have recd from me since I was at home Hoping that this may find you & children in good health and wishing you every success

I remain your affectionate husband
Ambrose Doss

Picket camp above Shelbyville Tenn
May 23rd 1863

Dear wife

I embrace the present opportunity of writing you a few lines to let you know that I am well My health is better than it has been for six weeks My arm has got about well I made an application for a furlough a few days ago & it has returned disapproved I dont know now when I will get a chance to come home probably not until my time is out I want you to come just as soon as you get your work off of your hands so that you can leave it & if you will go and see Mrs Sanders I think she will come with you & you & her can get a two horse wagon & a yoke of oxen & come together & I want you to bring me all the eggs & butter that you can get if you can buy any in the settlement any where do so for eggs are worth two dollars a dozen & butter two dollars a pound here & as many onions as you can spare provided they are ripe enough to pull up when you come if we should make any moves before you git to come I will write & let you know

34 Edly Kirby joined our company & is dead he died at Chatanooga Tenn John Rogers has returned from the hospital but is not very stout yet & F. B. Warren has gone to the hospital but was mending when he left here Ben Skinner joined our company & started to the hospital & he was examined by the doctors at Shelbyville & they turned back & told him to come back to his company & he deserted he is the first man that has ever deserted from company C yet I sent you some soda by Robert Green & he was to leave it at T. M. Masseys You can inquire for it & if you get it let me know if you have got any clothes for me when you come bring me a pr of pants a pair of drawers & a shirt the first Ala Cavalry had a fight up above here yesterday there was some kille some wounded & about 80 of our men taken prisoners our men caught the man that piloted the yanks through & hung him this morning at 8oclock I cant believe I know of anything else to write you must write soon no more at present farewell your affectionate husband

Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss

Camp near Shelbyville this June the 11th 1863

Mrs Sarah Doss

Dear wife and children i am permitted one time more in life through kind providence to drop you a few lines which leaves me in fine helth at present and hope that this will reach you and find all in good helth -- it has been reported that the yanks was advancing and i suppose they did start and come part of the way but all is quiet at presant But i do not know how long they will remain so it is thought by some that we will have to fight in a short time while others think that it will be some time before a battle here but all seem to think that thair will be a heavy engagement some where in this section of country sooner or later i can only say i am as ready for it one time as nother i can only hope and feel like the hand that has protected me through so many dangers and trials and troubles is still able to perserve and protect me through all dangers to come -- i will say to you that the aplication i made for a furlough was disaproved and i want you to write what time you think you will be up to see me and i want to hear from home badly anyhow for the last letter i got from you bore date of the 17th of May -- i shall make aplication again in August for furlough and if you come out try to come the last of July and it may be that i can get to go home with you if you do not come then you had better put it off untill the 1st of September -- i can say to you that John C. Henderson and Edly Kirby is dead and also that Willis Young is dead Kirby died at Chatanooga Henderson died at Atlanta G.A. Young died at Shelbyville Tenn -- Well dear wife thair is tolerable helth in the army at present but thair has been 4 deaths in our company since the 1st of May -- Lafayette Parham and Jesse Burns has deserted and the allwise Ben Skinner left first thair is a good deal of desserting from this army at presant -- i remain your husband till death
Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss and children

June the 20 1863

Camp near Shelbyville Tennessee

Dear loving wife and children i with all pleasher seate myself to let yo
 no that i am well and doing well and i hope this few lines will soon cor
 hand and find you and the children enjoying the same blesing of God Dea
 wife i have nothing new ner strange to rite to you at presant everything
 still along hour lines at this time and has bin nearly ever sence the
 Murfresborow fite but we hear of powerful fiteing at other points and
 agreeable to the reports we have bin vary sucksesfull so far but we cant
 no news that is reliable from Vicksburg and i fear that is gone and all
 hour hale army Sarah i want you to come if you can come atall in July fo
 want to try to come home in the month of August if ther is no fiteing goi
 on at that time Sarah you requested to no of me whether i new anything c
 Jake or not i heard that the Brigade that he was in came to Tulihoma but
 did not stay thare but a day an nite they went from thare to Massipia
 Sarah if you can get 2 er 3 gallons of liquor and fetch with you i will m
 you 50 dol out of it while you stay Sarah i want you to bring me all the
 and eggs an butter that you can spare but i dont you to disfurnish you an
 children buy no means and bring me some honey to if you can by it cheap
 enough honey is worth one dollar per pound hear butter \$1.00 an 50cts eg
 2.00 dollars per dozan i reread the last letter from you was dated may th
 31 i had started you a letter a few days before i got yours witch will s
 to you conserning the deth of the boys that you are aquainted with John
 Henderson Edly Curley Willis Young Ely Myreck joined hour co an dide Jess
 Burns has deserted and gon from the army Silas Glover is still under gard
 Wesley Beshar has serd his time of imprisonment out and has come to the co
 gon to duty Dan Doget was brought in the other day and was put under gard
 and i dont no what they will do with him i fear it will go vary tite with
 him he was furlowed from enterprise in July last and he would not come bac
 and the cavarly brought him in i will send you a fine come in this letter a
 i want you to state to me whether you git it er not i want you to fetch
 lusinda if you cant fetch but 2 make your one stay with the other one i wi
 have to quit for lack of paper

36

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ttanooga Tennessee

Camp of the 19th Ala near Chatanooga Tenn
this the 8th of July 1863

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m shot off & several
advancing and I think
e while and I hope we
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gave them a warm rec
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main your affectionat

Doss

amauga Tenn
363

that I am well and co
eyes killed and wound
ve John Foster Fra
n wounded Ben A
raves J. P. Holling
s was slightly wound
and they fell back to
eter Warren was at th
ne throu safe I saw
l Saturday evening
led in the head but r
gerously I saw Mart
Jessy Young come th
ettters to Tyner Stat

A Doss

37

Mrs Sarah Doss

Dear wife and children it is one time more in life that I
to your kind letter of the 28th of June --- and it was wi
larned that your helth was bad on acount of the rising un
wife I must confess that it is the first time since the wa
have saw a line from you that seemed to carry any sentenc
least disheartened about living -- dear wife be of good ch
dark at this time the darkest hour is just before day i h
hear that Vicksburg has falen the army bears it with great
army is victorious and moving on Baltimore removing all ob
like this war would last a long time yet tho i hope forthe
prospects is good for the war to last untill Lyncolns 4 ye
I can not come home without dishonor and that shall never
intentional i hope that i will see you and the childern a
at home one time more tho Sarah i am still the same determ
certain that we will prosper in the end --- i take the libe
to a report that is in circulation in that country that Co
or nearly so and that Lieut Rouse started to march his comp
been with the com urging them to do thair duty all the tir
Company C has done its duty all the time the perticulars of
given in a letter before a great while --- C. W. Belcher an
the priseners is all pardoned F. Parham is hear and i thin
will be light -- i sent you a fine tooth comb in a letter
you received it or not if i do not come home in August i w
to come and see me if you can write soon to Chatanooga Tenn

Yours till death Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss
and childern

Camps near Chatanoga Tennessee July 13th

Dear wife

I avail myself of this opportunity of writing you a few lin
you that I am in tolerable health hoping these lines may co
find you all enjoying good health I have nothing of inters
had a very hard time on the march from Shelbyville I recei
sent by James Rogers and was glad to here that you are gett
as what you was also I received the shirte and onions whic
I am going to send you a little budget and a belt for little
going to send too rings one for you and the other for Marya
of the wrings I have a pare of socks that I am going to se
ware socks in warm weather and you can bring them backe if
I still aim to come home if i can git off if I see that I
will write and let you no I cant tell how long we will sta
stay here some time I cant tell some thinks we will go to
close for the presant write occasionly and let me here how
along So I remain your true husband

A Doss to Sarah D

38

August 22nd 1863
Camp 4 miles south Chattanooga Tennessee

Dear wife I write you a few lines which will inform you
the 20th safe and sound hoping these lines may come safe
enjoying good health they have not done anything with me
time now I dont suppose they will I am on garde to day
is writing for me I havent anything strange to write moon
bin shelling Chattanooga they shelled the town all day
woman cilled & one little girl got here arm shot off & se
wounded It is reported that the enemy is advancing and I
good for a fite or a retreat before a grate while and I h
contend with them and drive them away from this plase I
will evacuate this plase without giving them a fite we a
plase strongly I think we will be able to gave them a wa
choose to advance on us So I will close for the present
envelops by Mr Rogers write soon so I remain your affec
death

Ambrose Doss

Camped Near Chicamauga Tenn
Sept 23 1863

Dear wife
I will drop you a few lines to inform you that I am well a
battle safe tho there was several of the boyes killed and
there was fore killed James Robins Tom Love John Foster
thought to be dead by this time John Hudson was wounded
Baird Henry Williard W J Harris Marion Graves J. P. Ho
Lige Martin George Reese and several others was slightly
no news to write only we whiped them badly and they fell be
John and Jim Rogers both come throu safe Peter Warren was
before the fight and is there yet Champ come throu safe
yesterday he come throu safe I saw Bob Nail Saturday ever
on the nose and he said Marsh Gill was wounded in the head
Martin Rogers said he didnt think he was dangerously I sav
morning Andrew Robins was mortatly wounded Jessy Young cc
will write soon again you can direct yore letters to Tyner
from yore affectionate husband till death

A Doss

at I write these
is quite good
write We are
since we whiped
of battle in
the main yanky
distance of them
all former
blood safe and
to the imbraces
I wil admit
e to be favored
protector in
xistence of all
may be blasted
ince this
way is to
gest boys
basket I
er for sister
to send it
ou certain
them hear

39

40

In Lines of Battle near Chatanooga Tenn
this Oct the 5th 1863

Mrs Sarah Doss

41 Dear wife and childern it is with the greatest of pleasure that I write these few lines and can say with thanks to the Almighty that my helth is quite good and hope that this will find all well I have nothing strang to write We are shelling Chatanooga at present time for the most of the time since we whiped the yanks thair has been shelling more or less we are in line of battle in plain view of the federal army we ar some 2 or 3 miles from the main yanky force but we will be in picket tomorrow and will be in a short distance of them I hope however that I will come out all right as I have done on all former ocasions Dear wife I hope to pass through all coming fields of blood safe and that the south will finaly succeed and I be permitted to return to the imbraces of loved ones at home But of this there is no certainty for all wil admit that no man can tell the day of his death We only look and hope to be favored with the protection of the Allwise Being that has been our kind protector in all past dangers and that very thought and hope is almost the existence of all men that has a loving wife and childern at home tho these hopes may be blasted at a single stroke as has been the case in thousands of cases since this bloody war commenced if that is or was to be the case the best way is to submit calmly to the fate that waits us---I will send the 2 youngest boys a belt a piece and I will send 2 little bunches of powder and a basket I wont Sarah Elizabeth to have it I will put a ring in this letter for sister Martha If you can get my coat ready and can have a good chance to send it try to send it by the 1st of November But dont send it unless you ar certain it will come through If you cant get buttons I can posable get them hear
Yours till death

Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss

October 8th 1863

Line of battle in site of Chattanooga

42

Dear wife Since I have written I have taken an notion that I would write you a few lines more which will inform you that I am well and still here I will send you some buttons to put on my coat the men has not started home yet they thought of startin before now but will not go until tomorrow and I will send Mr. Minter some caps in the bunch with the buttons that () tellagraph I send to you as a show that we tuck of old Rosey (Rosecrans ?) that he had () over the cuntry wher we had that battle on Sunday of the 20th of Sept I have nothing more of intres to write so I will close for the present write soon to your affectionate husban til deth

Ambrose Doss

To Sarah Doss

Line of battlefront Chattanooga Oct 25th 1863

My Dear wife

43

I again seat my self to write you a few lines which will inform you that I am well at this time hoping these lines may soon come to hand & find you all enjoying the same blessing of health the regiment is generly well Rogers boys is all well I have nothing strange to write at presant only we are still lying in line of battle awaiting the advance of the enemy though I dont hardely think they will chose to come as we have stronge fortyfication to defend us I want you to write to me as I have wrote four times since the battle & this is the fifth one since the battle Jackson Eaton landed in camps to day well Salley we are hiking very harde we are bareley gitting half rashins we have had our cooking done 3 or 4 miles from the Regt ever since the fite & it is managed very badly though our cooking vessels is ordered into us to day & I think we will fare better when we git to doing our own cooking I would like very mutch for you to send me a few potatoes & some dried fruit Also a few onions if you have any chance & have them to spare I want you to tell Brother Joel if he has any notion of joining the army I want him to come here if he will come & join this company I will git a furlough & recompence him bisids Old Bragg will gave any man a furlough that will git a recruit in his plase I want you to be shure and write I have to write with a pensil as I got my ink bottle broke & cante borrow noink their is no ink in the company Green Sullivan was here to day he said R. H. Nail was well I want you to number your letters so I can tell how many you have wrote since I have I will gave you the number that I have wrote since I have recd since I have recd ary one this is 5 so I will close for the preasant yours as ever

Ambrose Doss

to Sarah Doss

November the 13th 1863
Camps near Chattanooga

44

Dear wife I seat my self to answer your most kind letters which came to hand yisterday & today the one marked date of November the 4th came to hand yisterday & the one under date of Oct the 11th I recived to day I was truly glad to hear that you was all well these lines leaves me in the best of helth & I hope when they reach your hand they will find you all enjoying good helth the helth of our company is vary good at the present time but I dont know how long hit will remain so we have a grate deal of duty to do we hav to drill three hours a day & hav to stand picket every five dayes we stand with in three hundred yards of the yankeys their is a grate many men disertin & going to the yankeys their was 32 men went out of one brigaid yisterday & last night to the yankeys their has several left our Regt since the battle of Chicamauga they has bin several left Capt Hewits company there was 4 left the other night I will give you their names Jessy Young and Alfor Fields Lishew Glover and Miller the reason that they air diserting so is for the want of something to eat we get but vary little meet these times we hav got only 7 pound for the last 4 dayes past I will try to stay with them untill my time is out I want you to send mee a half bushel of white pees if you hav got them or can git them without putting yourself to two much trubble the first chance I heard that the old man Brake had departed this life I want you to write & let me know whether the report is true or not I wood like for you to send mee one shirt the first chance if you can without disfurnishing yourself or the childre two much I got one sleeve of one of my shirts burnt off or I wood of had close plenty to of dun mee this winter if confederate money will do you any good I will send you all that I can spair when I draw I think that I will draw it about the last of this month the eavning is groing late & I will come to a close Rite soon & let mee hear from you nothing moore at present onley I still remain your loving husban untill deth

A Doss to Sarah Doss

tell Mr Rogers that John & James is both well

Camp Near Dalton Ga December 2nd 1863

My Dear Wife

45 I seat my self to write you a few lines which will inform you that I am still in the land of the living & I am well with the exception of colde I came threw the fite safe or sker which ever it is called we did not fite mutch though we run manfully I recd the things you sent mee by Mr Davenporte I recd a letter & some beef & 2 apples John & James Rogers come threw safe we had one man wounded in our company & three that was taken prisoners Champ Langford was the man that was wounded he was shot in the leg I donte think as a general thing we had many men killed though the yanks captured a grate many of our men I am faring very well consdering every thing I have bin trying to draw a blanket for some time though have failed I want you to send me a blanket if you can conveniently & I got one of my shirts burnt & if you can I want you to send me a shirte also a pair of socks I want you to send T A Hewit word to make me a number one pare of shoes I want them to be no 11 we are building winter quarters though I donte no how long we will stay here Direct your letters to Dalton Ga I will write again in a few days so I will close as I am writing by fire lite & it is very dim I am in hops these lines will soon come to hand & find you all well & doing well So I remain yours as ever
Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss

Thomas Graham died in a few days after he got to the army he died with a conjestive chill Thomas James was captured in the fite

Camp near Dalton Ga December 13th 1863

46 Dear Wife I again seat myself to drop you a few lines which will inform you that my health is very good at the present hoping these lines man soon come to hand & find you all enjoying the same blessing I have no late newse to write the health of our army is uncomon good we havent had a man on the sick reporte in 10 days in our company it is thought we will stay at this plase during the winter we have got us all very nise little shanties built since we came to this plase the Rogers boys & myself stays together We have lived tolerble well since we came to this plase we draw bread rashins tolerble plentyfully though our meet is very scanty we only draw three quarters of a pound of beef & it is very pore they have got to ishuing the awfulest of all the beevs we draw the head & feet & tounge & harslets which we are glad to get Well Sarah I seen a site day before yesterday that I never saw before I seen 4 men shot to death for disertion they was all setting on ther coffins when they was shot It was a awful site though I have seen so mutch it did not excite mee a gradeal I received a letter from you that you sent by hand of Brown Davenport & has not herde from you since I answerd it soon afterwards though have got no answer I also recd the things you sent by him Thomas Graham was sent to the 28 Ala Regt & died soon after he got here Thomas James was captured in the fite & about half the regiment was captured at the same time I wrote in my other letter about wanting some clothing & shoes You need not to troble your self about getting me a shirte as I have drew one since I wrote before though I woulde like to have one pair of socks Also I woulde like for you to get F. A. Hewit to make me a good pair of shoes I want them to be high quartered & No. 11 I want you to write me all the late news I herde your father was dead though you never wrote anything about it so as I have wrote all the newse that I can think of I will close for the preasant yours as ever a true husband until deth

Ambrose Doss
to Sarah Doss

Camp near Dalton Ga December 16th 1863

Dear wife

47 I again seat my self to drop you a few lines which will inform you that I am well hoping these lines may find you all enjoying the same blessing I have nothing strange to write as I have written 2 letters to you since I had any answer Mr Hanby has called by to see us & I thought I would write a few lines & send it by him he is coming rite by our house John and James Rogers is all healthy and well and says tell ther folks to write to them I have a little hat that I am going to send by Mr Hanby to little James he has a bad way of carying it though I think he will bring it threw safe I have written to you in boath letters concerning my clothing & shoes I will state in this letter what I want as this letter will be shure to come threw safe I want 1 pair of socks & my coat & a blanket & if you can get T A Hewit to make me a good pair of shoes No 11 I woulde like for you to send them to me the first good chance yours as ever a true husband till death A Doss

Camp Near Dalton Ga Jan 27th 1864

Dear wife

48 I seat myself to drop you a few lines which will inform you that my health is reasonably good hoping these lines may soon come to hand & find you all enjoying the same blessing I received your cind letter writ January 12th which I was glad to here that you was all well & doing as well as what you was though I was sorry to here of William Bibbs defeat I hope he may recover soon I have nothing strange or of intrest to write at this time the health of my companions is good I had bad luck with my clöthing I washed all my clothing but what I had on & hung them out to dry & neglected to take them in at nite next morning when I got up and looked for them they was gone some rogu stolen them in the nite I lost the shirte you made me while I was at home & I lost the cotton pants & one pair of drawers I recd the socks you sent me Samuel Doget was court marshaled & shot last friday he belong to our company he is the first man that has bin put to death in that way that belongs to our regiment though their is several moore of our company that if they was brought back here their is no doubt but they would get the same punishment we are faring tolerble well at this time we get plenty of bread rations & 2 quarters of a pound of beef & several other little nourishments sutch as rise & sugar sometime & once & a while we get a little hog meet though it is seldom their is a considerble excitement among the soldiers a bout reinlisting their has bin some few reinlisted though they are but few as yet I think their will be a grate many that will reinlist for the war So it is gitting late & I have nothing worthy of your attintion I will close for the preasant write & give all the newse so nothing more at preasant only I remain your affectionate husband until death Ambrose Doss to
Sarah Doss

this letter was written in a hurry though I hope you can reed it

Camp of 19th Ala Regt near Dalton Ga Feb 22nd 1864

49 Dear wife I seat myself to write you a few lines which will inform you that I am weill & doing well hoping these few lines may come safe to hand and find you all enjoying the same blessing I have nothing of intrest to write I received a letter from you since I have written the last letter I recd from you was written Jan 6th Dr Hays is here he is going to starte home in the morning I am going to send you some cloth to make you a meat sack also I will send a hand ax and a powder horn for the boys to put to ther shot gun I will send a canteen to little Ambrose I want you to make the boys be very saving with ther powder donte let them use it in waist I believe I will send the shoes home that you sent me as I had just drew a pair a few days before I got the ones you sent mee they are about one half a inch too shorte for mee I want you to let frank Hewit have them back if he will make mee another good pair I want them to be at lest one half a inch longer if he will not promise to make them you can ceep the ones that I send back the shoes that I have got will do untill my time is out & then I will come home if I live if I have to come in the nite I wrote you a letter and sent it by James Freasurs write to mee whether you recd it or not so I will close for the preasant nothing more at preasant only I remain your affectionate husband til death

A. Doss

John Rogers is going to send a powder horne in the same budget
I am going to send little Lucinda a button for her breast pin

Camp of 19th Ala Regt Near Dalton Ga March 3rd 1864

My Dear Companion

50 I again seat myself to write you a few lines which will inform you that I am well hoping these lines may come to hand and find you all enjoying the same Gods blessing I hav nothing strange to write I recieved the meet that you sent by Mr Vann hit came in a good time We were just out for the first time since we came to this place we hav spent nearley \$100 dollars for meet since we hav bein at this place the yankeys maid an advance on us to try to scar us but we showed fight at them & they went back after having a little fight with Clatons Brigaid they killed 5 of Clatons men and wounded fifty one March Gill got his rite arm broke in the fight you stated in your letter that you had not got no letter from mee since Mr Vann was up hear before I dont know what is the reason I know hit is not my fault for I have not roat less than a half dosin since that time I hav recieved all the things that your letters has stated anything a bout I sent some things by Dr Hays I sent some cloth to make some meal sacks their was 2 peases of the cloth their was one pease with my name on it the small pease only had one weadth the other pease I think had three weadth John and James Rogers was partely conserved in it & if you get them all I want you to gave Mrs Rogers a nuff to make her 2 sacks if you get it all I no their will be a plenty to make four large meal sacks I sent a hand ax & powder horn also you stated in your letter you did not want mee to reinlist I can inform you that I have not as yet reinlisted nor I donte have any idie I will be the next time you hear from mee I will close for the preasant O yes I had like to a forgot I intend to gave you a kiss the first time I see you for sending mee them sausages so I remain your affectionate husband till death

Ambrose Doss to Sarah Doss

Camp near Dalton Ga

Dear loving wife an childring as i have the opertunity at presant i chear-
fully drop you a few lines to inform you that i am well at presant and i trully
hope this will reach you in dieu time and find you all enjoying the same
blessing dear wife i have nuthing strang to rite to you this time we have
some cold bad wether and it looks like continuation for some time yet
i resead your kind letter that you sent buy Mr Vann i all so resead the cloth-
ing that the letter stated that you sent me and my coat fits finely and i
most thankfuley received them for i war neading them vary mutch i must state
to you that this is the onley letter that i have resead sins the one that
Mr Devenport broat i have bin anxiousley looking every male for a letter but
war disapointed every time till i had all most become dishartend Buy Mr Vann
i send you one hundred an 30 dollars and 1 pound of Sody 1 paper of neadels
1 pare of drawers 1 small han vise an some lead in balls i send you this
small powder horn with fine powder in it and i want you to take good care of
it till i come home if i ever do and if i dont give it two the boyes

At Chattahooche River West Bank
At fortifications July the 6th 1864

Mrs Sarah Doss
Much respected friend

It is with sad heart that I this morning take up my pen to announce to you the most painful intelligence that could possibly be penned to you - Your husband is no more on earth forever. Ambrose is gone to the spirit world he was killed yesterday about 1 o'clock by a cannon shot it struck him in the right side nearly even with the right breast and passed entirely through his body and through his left arm killing him instantly We had been ordered to the left to support that wing of the army. We had to pass some distance along the lines under a terrific cannonade and hence the above named casualty he has been Sargt of the Inf Corps ever since the commencement of this move and was at the time of his death marching in rear of the Regt at post as usual I was in front but when I learned that he was killed I got leave from the Col and myself and James G and John F Rogers and George Eaton and R.C. Hix went back and got the body of our fallen brother and interred it with a much decency as the nature of the case would admit it was not done in as nice a manner as we would have preferred but far better than is common with us soldiers he is buried in 700 yards of the Chattahooche River on the west side in or near the edge of the river bottom A pine sapling grows at both head and foot of his grave On the bark of the 1 growing at the head of the grave his rank name Co and Regt is cut the plantation where his remains rest is owned by a man by name of Turner it is about 4 miles below the railroad bridge leading from Marietta to Atlanta Ga in Fulton County

52 Well dear Madam I would in this letter which is penned under the loud roar of artillery and bursting shells nearly in all directions offer you words of consolation knowing that consoling words is of seldom of but little comfort to the deeply wounded heart yet I do so from my heart sympathize with you in this your greatest and most heart rending trial of life While I can not feel the irreparable loss in all its painful and heart rending powers yet I feel my loss in my departed brother in arms But while I mourn a noble and dear friend I am free to acknowledge that you mourn the loss of a devoted and dear husband Ambrose has been my constant friend for the years but 3 years in the face of the enemies of our country and in hand in hand combat battling for the right of posterity has doubly endeared him to me I have looked on that calm soldiers face in battle my last time he has done his duty nobly and the thread of life has never been cut off a braver man Brave and yet cool and composed in the hottest conflict that it has ever yet been his lot to engage in which conflict has been common in 3 years of war life his conduct as a soldier is unimpeachable in his life he had the confidence and esteem of both officers and men of his entire acquaintance which was very extensive for such soldiers as Ambrose Doss is not common in our army hence his acquaintanceship was sought by all good men Dear Neighbor in conclusion of this already lengthy letter I will speak of your husband in regard to his morality and Christian Deportment While the heart sickens and grieves sad at the loss of loved ones and the cruelty of war and bloodshed we look far away beyond this veil of tears and sorrows and then consider the Christian conduct that marked the life of our galant brother in arms We are bound to exclaim with joy after all our grief that our loss is his Eternal gain he is gone

from this world - mortality has put on immortality but rejoice with his
commrades in battle for his last hard battle has been fought and he is more
the victor, the battle cry will no more reach his ear - no more will the
hoarse sound of mortal music salute him - the clash of arms to him has ceased
his spirit has took its flight from this world of troubles and sorrows - his
bosom has heaved its last sigh concerning loved ones at home his spirit
rests beyond this world of strife with God who gave it - where his happiness
is complete - living and reining with holy angles and spirits of just ones
made perfect - being heir of God and joint heir of Jesus Christ then grieve
not dear neighbor Altho the cross is heavy indeed - yet your husband has only
gone before and a few more tears and sighs - a few more fleeting months or
years and you go home to meet him where parting is at end - so press back
the tears and stop the upheaving bosom as much as nature will admit and
rejoice in God who orders all things James and John Rogers is trying to
keep all of his things they can send to you when they have a opportunity
if thair is anything that I have not wrote that you wish to know write to me
and your letter will be promptly answered - let my folks know I am well
first chance you get

Your friend
J. W. Rouse