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Camp Pulaski Tennessee  
November the 8th A D 1864

it is with pleasure that I take my penn in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that I have not forgotten you. but I expect that you think that I have. I wrote you a letter long ago & have not had an answer yet & Miller told me that you wrote to him that you have written to me & I never have received it unless it was written that I received some time since that had no name to it & I did not know it was from so I could not answer it. so if that was yours you will please sign your name or some of it so that I will know how the letter is from. it seems to me that the folks are getting very industrious at home or they do not want to hear from like any more & if that is the case I would like to know it. & if you will answer this please let me know how it is. & what is the reason that they don't write any more. & I think that I know the reason that you don't care anything about writing to me since I was at home & it is a very good reason to take it as you do but I did not think anything wrong so I beg to be pardoned for the first offense & I will try & do better know & forever. so that is enough of that the weather is very bad here it has been raining for several days & is likely to be for several more we have been in camp here for about a week & I think that we will stay here for some time but it is hard to tell what General Sherman will do for a soldier is like Christ he has no where to lay his head. the health of the army is very good consider the exposure they have went through with on this Somers Campaign Miller is well & hearty & I think that he will stand soldiering very well this time & I am in great hopes that he will go & want him to get home when his time is out. we have not had any pay since I was at home & that is very my own year but I guess that we will get pay in a few days now & some of Abraham Lincoln's money will be very acceptable at this time

Well Lib if you think that this is a worth answer I would be very glad to hear from you & if you answer it give the news in general. & the drafted names that I am acquainted with. & how the election went in that county. the deaths of that settlement & whether Uncle John is dead or not for I have not heard from him since I left there. if he is on the land of the living I would like to know it & his family. We have some of the names of the drafted men & among the rest if Wm Burns & I would like to know if he is coming. or is he going to hire a substitute to go in his place. & I was in great hopes that the draft would take some of the close neighbors there for I believe that it would be a great benefit to them and their friends. if you please keep this letter to your self for there is suspicion that I would rather they would not see any letters from me for they don't want to hear from me like any how & if they see a letter they will make light of it & if you will forgive me & are willing to correspond with such a scholar as I am let me know in your next letter if you please & if you do not want to write to me let me know & I will say no more about it. so no more at this time for the wind is blowing very hard & the candle is gone excuse this scribble composed & written & spelled letter if you please

so Good Night

Miss Lib Benjamin

I L Dawson

Write soon  
if you please

L to L

January th 1 first  
1865

Pulaski tenn

it is with plesure that I take this presant time to write you a few lines to let you know that your letter Come to hand a few days a go & I was very Glad to here from you once more. well it is Just now year a go to Day that I was on the road home but I will go the other way this time for we hav orders to Go to huntsville Alabama to morrow & I do not now whare wee wil stop for the winter the weather is very Coald for this part of the land but I expect that it is Colder thare than it is here. but I would like to bee thare this Day to spend New years any how miller is well & harty & he is a Good solger. the helth of the boys is Good & they are in Good spirrirs for they think the wore wil not last long & then they will get to go home to stay with thare friends & families. the rebbels has giv up al hopes since Abe was elected for they know that he wil fight them as long as thare is a man left

well you Can tell Ant that I hav not had the Phthisic for a long while & Giv my best wishes to sims & uncle John & hamp & tom & Bill & the folks in general

well thare is nothing that I Can think of that wil interrest you to read for the presant so you wil excuse this short letter if you pleas & when I Get in Camp to stay a while then I think that I Can write a more Interesting letter than this is

so no more At presant but remain your friend

I L Dawson

write as soon as this Comes to hand

I will send you some Coten seed & you must plant them next spring

reprint letter  
page is  
upside down  
and out of place  
bottom