

Bowling Green Kentucky
Nov 23 1861
Dear wife

it is with pleasure that I drop you a few lines to
let you know that I am well and hartly hoping that when
you get these lines that they may find you and the children
all well

I have know niews to write to you this morning
it has been 2 weeks since I wrote to you and then I did
not give you the porticulars in referance to the health
of our compty and regement
we are nearly all sick
out of a thousand men in the regement there is betwen 3
and 4 hundred affected men
in our own comptny out of 90 men there is about 30 in camps
they are at Nashvil and in bowling at the hospital
we have not lost any out of our Compty except it is
Ben Johnson
he has been in Nashvill 2 weeks
he and Bob McCan
we got a letter from Ravels who went there to wate on
them 3 dayes ago
he stated that the boyes were all doing well but Ben
and he said without a change soon he must die
that he had lost all hopes of him
this you keep from his friends untill they hear from him
our sick is all cared for very well
the ladyes at Nashvill attend the hospittal and nurse the
sick shoulders grattuetously
they are making oup Chairatable Cocietys in Bowling Green

for the same purpose
the Texas Rangers are fore one time tramped
Colonel Terrey and all the regement that could go left
hear yesterday morning
there business and destination is unknown to us
some say to lookout winter quarters
some say to he was ordered to go to attact the yankes at
a certan place where they was 7000 strong
there was several regements of infntry went on a head of
him
the balance of the boyes left hear are on duty every day
and night
they curse apply and wish the damed state and regement was
in hell
I donot beleave that there is over 10 men in our compeny
but what wishes he was back in Texas
but as for my self if I was a young man I would not be
any where els
our compeny has not got to go on a scout yet
our Capt is still unable to do duty
the scouts that went out a week ago killed 2 yankes tuck
10 head of horses and some arms
the yankes hear of them coming and broak and they chased
them so close that they left there horses and and guns
and tuck to the thickets
today is Sondag and while I am writing I feel very lownly
out of 12 in our mess there is but 4 left
Daniel Graham Freeman Bill Richards and myself
Freeman is gon to town

Richards detailed to wait on the sick and just leaves me
and Dan at home and Dan is asleep and you may guess I
am lonesome

today is the coldest day I ever saw in Kentucky
it is cloudy and cold enough to freeze lizards

Dear Ann I must acknowledge that I have the blues this
morning as we boys call it when we get low spirited
I dreamed last night that I was at home with you and the
children and the enjoyment that it was to me in my
imagination is unexpressible

but when I awoke up it was a sad disappointment
as for my self since I have got well I have now cause
really for dissatisfaction but the one thing and that is
being separated from all that feel near and dear to me
and who is the object of all care and thought on this
earth

but I yet have a faint hope that I will see you again
and I expect if I should ever get back to my beloved
family and home that it will be the happiest day that I
shall ever see on this earth

there are an hour in the day that passes over my head but
what I am thinking of you and the children

I am bearing in mind the trials and afflictions that you
will shortly have to pass through and am sympathizing with
you

let me say to you bare it with all the patience of a good
soldier and remember that every bitter has its sweet and
sweet its bitter

I have no doubt but you will feel and do feel that you are

by your self but I have confidence in home I intrusted
you with that they will render you all the assistance
that could be in my power to do if I was there
and you shall have my prayes and thympothyas all the while
if I had not left you in the hands of the best nateheral
man in the world I would sufere with inesiness
but leaveing you in the hands of friend Ned and Father I
am resting easy that they will atend to your care and see
that you will not like for attention
I am geting all most out of harte about getting a letter
from you
I havent recieved a worde from you since I left nor from
anybody I
I have writen 4 letters to you 2 to Ned 1 to Father
2 to McQuary 1 to Houston and havent got a word
I want you to write to me onst in 2 weeks all the while
and tell Ned to write the same and all who wanst to hear
from me that they must write and I will anser
yours forever

E H Ross

Oaklin Kentucky
Decem 7th 1861

Dear wife

I received you favoret dated November 8th which was a
sorce of great sadisfaction to me

it came to hand on 6 inst

I have red it over untill I have all most got it by hart

I have recieved but the one letter from you since I left
home and it is the only letter I have received from anybody

I had almost concluded that you and everybody else had
forsaken me

your letter fond me in good health but I am brought to
the necesity of anouncing to you the death of several of
our brave boyes that left that neighborhood with me

Richard Mumphord Ben Johnson Green Vaun

we have lost 6 out of our compeny all with meassle first
and then ketch cold and take the pnumony

all but 2 died in Nashvill at the hospital

we have had a boun(d)ance of sickness in our regement but
all geting better

so farr as I can hear there is a great many returning from
the hospittle thoe there is not ma(n)y of our own compny
come back yet

McCann Graham Ravels are still in the hospital but are
mending fast

we have had now fight yet but still expectin one

we have moved 12 miles north east of Bowling green in advance
of the mane arma

we are still scouting round taken up everybody that we find
baring arms that cant prove himself all right on the goos

and have cought some free nigers

agreat ma(n)y yankes have fled and left this part of the contry

in fact all of the real blew belied yankes

we are stationed at ones farm that the place and (s)tuff that was left on it is worth 50 thousand dollars

all of this corn wheat tobacco cows horses mules is on the place and we have full procesion of them all or at least they belong to Unkle Jef

I cant begin to give you a list of all that he left blacksmith shop thrasher and the finest gardan that you ever saw

I went in the garden yesterday and brought a bagfull of cabage white heads the finest that you ever saw

there is houses barness stables hous rooms a nugh to do the hole regement

but they are as yet all but the dwelling full of grane and tobacco and we have made a hospital of the dwelling

I donot ow harris blankenship any beef stear at all and if he still claims it tell him to wait till I com back and I will settle withe him

I am proud to hear that you have got a school so near to you for Sarah Jane and David Alen to go to school and I am also very glad to hear that you had your wheat and rye sowed and that your hogs are doing well but you said nothing about your sheep cattle or horses

I would like to hear from them all but all I want to hear from you and the children if you new how proud I was to hear from you you would write offener

I want you and Ned to write to me twist a month
write to me what they are doing with the land debt and what
they are doing with them notes that Smith and Acamond
had of mine
doubtless you will be at Fathers when you get these lines
beshured that I will not forget you in in your afflictions
that I know you will shortly have to pass throu
I have not forget you nor nether have I forgot to pray
for you nor nether will I ever forget you till the latest
breath
I have gon throu a great ma(n)y vicisitudes of life but
I am the same me
yet write to me how mutch you got for the beaves and who
got them
tell Ned I long to see him and spend some more ploursfull
hours with him for inst to bee with him all nigh take a
bee gum and take a make and chew of tobacco
and tell him to write to me onst a month shore and tell
all who wanst to hear from me to write to me and I will
write them
tell to write and I will write to him
tell Father and Mother that I have not forgot them and Jef
and wanst to be remembered by all of them
I hear inclose you five dollers and I will send you five
dollers more in a few days
I donot know whether it will pass pear or not but it will
pay store acont
it will do no more
write to me soon and let me know wether it will pass or

not

tell Sarah Jane Davy William Margret to gether a bushel
of pocans and keep them untill spring and maby I will be
there to eat them

tell them to be good boys and girls that paw has not
forgot them

tell Sara Jane and Davy to study there books well
that is way for them to get to be men and wiman soon

I have not got now letter from you paw yet

I wrote to him at grand junction as I came to this place

Dear Ann I must bring my letter to a close

may the lord bless keep you from all danger and harm is
my pray

your affectionate Edward untill death

E H Ross

Kentucky Cave City
December 25th 1861

Dear wife

it is with pleasure that I am able to drop you a few
lines to let you know that I am well at this time hoping
that when these lines come to hand that they may find you
and the children all in the like blessing

I have great reason to thank god for my well being
times is very troublesom here

my horse hasnt been unsaddled but 1 night out of 4
we have been retreating for the last 3 days till yesterday
we stoped and 100 went back in sight of the mane arma and
and found that they had not advanced only as they had
crossed the river and had strung out along the road to
get room to camp

today a body of cavalry and infantry is going back up
there to reconoitre round

I am not going on the account of not having a six shooter
what they will do to day I cant tell

we have had one very serious fight up there 2 weeks ago
the yankees occupy the ground the battle was fought on
150 or 200 of our boys run on to 600 dutch infantry
and killed 75 of them with the loss of 7 on our part
Colonel Terry was among the lost which was a great loss
to us

Lou Colonel Lubbock is at the point of death and has
been all the while

Major Harrison is sick and not able to command the regiment
also several of the Captans of diferant Comps has become
sickly and has retired and gone home

so you see that as a regiment we are in an unorganized
state
the health of our Company and regiment is improving
we have lost 10 out of our Company
a fight is now inevitable
if they do not fight us at Bowling Green where we are
trying to take them we will fight them on there one ground
there is only our regiment and a regiment of Arkansas
infantry commanded by Colonel Hineman and Tilers battalion
of Cavalry that is up here in these mountains among the
Yankees
we are 25 miles in the advance of the main army watching
and trying to take them to Bowling Green to where our
fortifications is
it is unknown how many of them there is
we think that there 8 thousand now a cross Green River in
8 miles of where we now are and a crossing every day
and are also crossing at several other places
I saw a refugee from the other side of the river yesterday
who said that he has heard that there was 90 thousand but
surfers it to say there is plenty of them
now man can tell anything about the number (of) soldiers
by just looking over them
I am satisfied that now man knows how many troops we
have at Bowling Green but General Johnson
it is a horrible state of affairs hear now
some Davis and some for Lincoln and where we find a Linkonite
we use him ruf and if he is not there we have to do with
his property

Jan 9, 1862

Sinking Creek Station 15 miles south of Bowling on the
Nashvill pike

Dear wife

we are stationed hear for 20 dayes 8 dayes of the time
expired

our elections tuck place yesterday and of this inst
Lubbock was elected Colonel

Capt Walker of Grimes Cty elected Loutenant Colonel
now doubt you have heard of the loss of our Colonel

I have writen to you and friend Ned since we had the fight
we have some 12 men now in camp sick out of about 60 that
are hear

the balance of the Compt are at Nashvill and in the coutery
that have been sick and have not returned

we expect to be ordered out a gane in a shorter time
times is still exciting but not so mutch so as they was
when I wrote to you before

I guess that you are becoming wearie with the fuss about
a fight at Bowling green but we have been held on suspence
fore over 2 months not nowing what day it will come off
or at least begin

the 2 armies the mane bodies are a 40 miles a part but
we have troops from Bowling green to Bells taveren within
12 miles of them and untill a few dayes ago we were in 9
miles of them sow you can tell nearly as mutch about
things as I can

when ever they begin to advance to wards Bowling green then
the fight begins and not till then

there may be skirmishing about in many places but there will be no general engagement untill they begin it we have news hear that the northan Congress is split up within themselves and that there will be now forward movement untill it is settled

the trouth of it I cant vouch for but I am sadisfied that the Mason and Shidell case has brought a check on them or at least has brought them to there studyes

we have had several dayes of wet wether and it is very sloppy and and wet

your letter informed me that Franklin Lafayet and Little was in this devision of the arma

I had inquired for them but had not found them untill last Monday night

I heard from them and went to town and found them all three and John Laughlin Grand Huns and heard from many more of my old acquaintances

I stayed all night with Franklin Lafayet and Little it was a sorce of great sadisfaction to me to meet the boyes in this forion land and to have a sotial convosation with them

they are going to cind you there likeness as soon as they can

they was all well and in fine spirets and was as glad to see me as I coul possiable have been to see them

they have been in diferent places in Kentucky and had just got to Bowling green about the time we come down from green river

they had got a letter from ther Paw stating that I was in

the arme here and we all had a stare on our hats in red
letters Texas Ranger and we can be tole as fore as
we can be seen

so the boyes went to town and hald every one that they
saw with a stare till they heard whear I was and cent me
word to com and see them

John Laughlin is in a cavelry compty and had not been
with the other boyes at all

I found John in the hospital in town not mutch sic but
not able for duty

I talked with him but a fiew minets expecting to see him
a gane and did not

He stated that the old mans family was all well last herd
from

give my love to all write to me soon

I am more than anx to hear from you

know I am in fine health I way 156 lbs

daveys money it is some of the kind (of) money that we
have in this contery

I have received 2 letters from you only one from Graham,
from Carel and James

I remain your affectionat husban untill death

writen to Mary Ann Ross his wife

E H Ross

Bowlinggreen Ky
January 11 1862

Dear sister

I take the present opper of riting you a fiew lines to
lete you know that I am well and doing well

Lafayett is well

I have nothing of in terest to rite to you

I gote a letter from hime a fiew days a go
they was all well but Paw

he has bin sick but he is a getting well

I saw Mr Ross

he com an stay all knight with me

I went with him to town an tried to gete my likeness
bute ther was so many in a head of me that I couldnot
gete ite don

I will have ite takened an sent to you as soon as I can
I was glade to see him

he looks as young as he did when he left Miss

I am campt in a bout ten or twelve miles of him
when this war ends I am a coming home withe him an I
want you to have me nis girl pick out fer me a wife fer
I think I will marry therr

I cant find non in Miss that will soot me an I think I
will try som other parts of the wourld

Litel and Fate is both her an ther are both well an well
sadisfied an I am the best sadisfied boy you ever saw
in your life

I want to see you very much an all the children

I have bin oute from home now a bout 6 months an I hant
bin home yete

Father com to see me while I was ate Memphis

I am in for thre years an I dont know whether I will go home or not till the war ends which I hop will not be long sense I comensed this leter I got a leter from Pa and Ed came to see us

now Pa is not intirley well yet

Me and Ed rote a leter to Pa last night

Lafayet ses he will rite to you soon

Pa ses he has never herd from you sence Ed left home you must rite to him an also you must rite to me as sun as they comes to hand

direct to Bowlinggreen Ky in the ceare of Capt Dabrey

22eth Miss Regt Company

so I must close

I remain you afft brother

W L Elam to his sister

The State of Miss Desoto
January the 12-62

Dear daughter

I now take the present opportunity of riting you a few lines to inform you that I an not well at present I have been sick over too months I am able to set up a little but not much at a time your brothers is bothe in the army an both well I got a letter from the boys the other day they was both well then they are both well pleased an doing well they rite to me that times is peacible there now the enemy is not verry fare from them times is very hard here now money is scarce there no money here my boys rote to me that they had found Mr Ross he stayed all night with the boys about ten days ago I was glad to hare that the boys had found each other I now they was glad to meat an spend the night together at Bolangreen Mr Ross staid all night with the boys the 5th of this month I got letter from the boys dated the 8th of this month they was all well then an I hope that these few lines may find you and family well I am glad to here of you being in such fine sperits and boasting on your children and I hope that you will bee blest with you lettle children you rote to me to sent the names of my children the oldes Sarah Penelopy

the next James Daniel
the next Charles Munroe
the next John Henry is the youngest
he is three years old
your sister is in Arkansas an was well the last I heard
from her and was going to move back here
I have not heard from her in some time
tell your mother I was glad to here she was well
give her my best respects an all the conection an inquireing
friends an tell them I was glad to here that they had
not forgot me
so no more at present but I remain you father untill
death
Lafeate rote to me he woid 180 lbs
I have made several atemps to get to se you an the children
but faild an I never get to get out ther now
I wish I could see you an the children
so gooaby
I will rite to you an you must rite me as often as you
can tel all of the conection to rite

A L Elam

Mary dear daughter
I wish to drop you afew lines to inform you that I am
well at present an my litle children but your father is
not well
I have nothing to rite for you father rote all news to
you
my cildren is hard to beat
if you dont believe it come an see them

I think you would believe so too
I will not give you a full history of them now
I would be glad to see you an your litle children now
give my love to all of the conection an inqireing friends
so nothing more at present but I remain you daughter
till death

Elizabeth Elam
to Mary A Ross

Oaklin Kentucky January the

20th 1861 15 miles north of Bowling green on the Pike

Dear Ann

your favoret came to hand on the 19th inst bringing with it glad tidings of good news to me

I have dreaded to hear from you and yet very anxious to hear

I was fearful that you would have a bad time of it but to hear that the babe was borned and to hear that you was well as common if not better and then to hear that it was a boy is as much as I can stand at onst

you have no ide the consolation that such news affords me

I am more over very glad to hear of the health of the rest of the children and to hear that Sarah Jane was learning very fast and would soon be able to write me a letter

that would aford me great pleasure indead to receive a letter from her

I am glad to hear that my stock is doing well

you wrote that you have not killed any hogs yet

I would advise you if thought it would get there in time to have all of the hogs killed that you have and bacon them up

if have more than will do the family it will bear a good price in bacon provided you can sell the pork as you have found some of the Elem Creek hogs I guess you will have more than will do you

But Dear Ann we are a many a mile apart know that so far that I am not able to advise you for the best about anything

you must exercise your own judgment and the judgement of
you friends to help you
it affords me great satisfaction to know that you are among
kind friends
there is one thing however that I want you to do and that
is this if it is not troublesome I know it will be a flush
of money matter
I want all my beef sold to pay my debts and then sell off
other property that you can spear best anuff to pay all that
I owe
if kind providence so smiles on me as to let me return
to my home I would like to be out of debt
money here is plenty but shoulders have now means of getting
holt of it only as they earn it by their monthly pay or
at least I have not
I cent you \$10 dollars
I rekon it never got there if it did write me
write me also how many letters you have received from me
I have written to you and friend Ned every 2 weeks sinse
I left home
If you have got them you are well posted of all my travels
and my ups and downs
I have seen franklin lafayet and little
Stayed 2 nights with them
they was well the other day all but franklin and little
they was complaining franklin has the yealow janders but
was going about
Bill Finely son is also in the same mess
I saw many more of my old acquaintances but I have not seen

all of them as some of them are caverly some infantry
I saw John Laughlin also
I wrote to you about all of them in other letter
if you get this and have not yet got the one that I sent
2 weeks ago I will give you all the particulars again
I will draw my pay in a few days if I get it acordan to
the time I intended to cend it home but I will have to
spend it for a pistole as the government has not furnished
us anything of the kind yet
I have brought me a shotgun and I have up to this time
when I go out on a scout party a pistol and I have become
tired of it
you have now ide how mutch satisfaction it was to me to
get a letter from you that you wrote by you own hands
one word written by you is worth a dozen writen by anybody
but I want to know that they wrote it
I was glad to get a few lines from Jane stated that William
had ansured both of my letters but I have not received
but one
if you see Jane and William give them my respect and tell
them that I would like to see them one more time
that I oftan think of the many pleasures that we have
seen together also lou and Nedom and wife
I have not forgot none of my old friends nor will I
the name of the boy if it suit you is E H Ross
if I never get back
if I get back safly and sound I want to call his name
Jeff Davis after brother Jeff and the President of the
Confederate States
so you may call him after me for the present by your

concent

I was very glad to get a letter from father

I have sent one to him the day before I received his
that will surprise all that I could write to him
now you wrote to me to take good care of myself

I will try to do that

I think had I of acted as some have that I would have
been in the fight now

I have found out that I have not got the constitution
that I thought I have but these lines leave me in fine
health so that when they reach you that they may find
you in the enjoyment of good health and spirits and all
the children and connection

May god preserve you and protect you and family both
spiritually and temporaly is the prayer of you affectionate
husbond

kiss all the children for me and particularly the baby
remember me in your prayer

E H Ross

Muffersbure Tennysee
February 24 1862

Dear wife and friends

I have a fiew moments a loted me to drop you a fiew lins
to let you know that I am well and harty and all my mess
Freeman McCan Graham and Sauis are all well and cends
there love to you and all there friends

no dout you have heard eare this time of our ill success
and defeat in this part of tennysee and Kentuckey
Our reverses began when Zolicoffer was whiped at Comborlan
gap

most we were defeted at forte Henry which was surrender
with out a fight

the next was forte donsonel which was the master battle
that has been faught by our people

it began on the 14 of this inst and lasted 5 dayes and
nights

we had 17 thousan all told

the yankes had 50 thousan to begin and was reinforst
everyday that the fight lasted

they faught new tropes every day it is said untill they
just wore our troops out

they nether had time to eat nor drink nor sleep so on the
19 General Pucnar who was in command surrendered himself
and 10 thousan of his men out of the 17 thousan that was
in gaged in the fight

there was only 4 thousan that made there escape leaving
our ded on the groun for the yankes to bery

our wonded was all cent off to Nashvill till the day the
forte was surrendered

it was one of the greatest defeats that our arma ever
had or ever will I am in hops
there was one thing very singular whiped them
every day till the last day they reinforst to somthin like
a hundred thousan
they said that they intended to have the forte if they had
to reinforse to a hundred and twenty thousan and in the mean
we had no chance of any reinforsements
what man did escape got away by chance
they was all surrender to gether but gineral Hard who was
from Virginia brought his men out of the fort and crosed
them over on the other side of the river and told them to
make there ascape each man for him seff
the day the fight commenst our regement was at Bowling green
the troops had been retreating from there for something like
2 weeks while at that time we were at that time on green
river 40 miles above
we were ordered down to bowling green so we got there on
the 12 and stayed one day and the next morning the 13
the ralerode bridge and the bridge on the pike was to be
destroied and according it was don and the pike bridge
hadent been sot on fire more than 3 hours till the yankes
made there appearse on the other side of the river and
commenced a heavy bombard of the town without any notification
of it
they had the wimmen and children running in every direction
we had some infintry and regements of caverly
we formed for a fight but for that they was not coming
across the river and we had no canon and the river between

us and them and no bridge nor boat so we had to stand and
taket or leave so Jeneral Harde ordered one compeny to
go and burn the depoe which order we promptly obeyed and
they shot at us all the tim and there was the first time
I got to hear the whissle of a canonball but non of us
was heart

I hear that one siteras was kiled one lady was wonded
and some guns there that we were nob able to get a way
our loss in the hole lay out has been tremendes
it has been a gineral stamppead and burst up of all our
calculation

we are now retreating an advancing and I dont now which
we left Nashvile last Sunday to move a week ago to go
to Chalet a little town 40 miles this side fort Tolerson
to cover the retreat of what men that got a way from the
fort and have just got to this place after 7 dayes ride
and we have marchin orders in the morning to go south
some where in the direction of Grand Junction where we
will ~~make~~ the next stand

I cant tell probly at the junction

I have news this evening that they are fighting at
Columbus and it is very probable that they are for that
is the next place for an attact by water and that
there policy to attact by water and if they can whip us
at Columbus Memphis will be there next place

I saw Franklin and Lafayet the night before we started
we started from Nashville

they was boath well and harty

Little was unwell but able to go about and I guess the
boys are some where close to me tonight but there are

thousands of troops here and I havent had time to look
them up

give my love to all the connnection and friends

I want to be remembered by them all and I will write to
them all as soon as I get time

tell them all that I am just the same and my seal for the
caus and my patryitism just the same that it was at the
first

I am determined if the yanks get me make it cost them
just as mutch as I can

I have a good gun and pistol

I ornte to tell you that in the forte donlson fight that
we killed about 4 to one

tell Father and Mother that I want them to remember me in
there prayers and to pray four out caus

Dear Ann I feel like that if I could see you and the
children one time more that I could fight the yankes with
a better grase

if I live I will come home in the somer or fall but we
have a great many things to do betwen now and that time
Dear wife pray for me and yourself and children that may
be permitted to meat a gane on earth

tell friend Ned and family that I would like to see them
all and spend some more pleasurefull hours with them

tell Ned that I have seen the tug of ware and the destrucfulness
of it

now doubt there will be another call for troops from Texas
tell Ned not to go any where in the servis tell I come
give houston my respect

I have received a letter from your paw lately

he was still unwell

he had got a letter from you

I will write to you and all the friends as soon as I get
time and give you more of the particulars

excuse this bad written letter

fare well dear wife for a while

yours till death

E H Ross

Chattanooga June 15th 1862

Dear wife

I imbrase a nother oportunity to cend you a fiew lins to let you know that I am on the land of the living yet by the blessings of God hoping when these lins come to hand that they may find you in the like blessing

I received a letter from you dated Ap 6 which was red with great interest it being the only one that I have got since I left bowling green

you have now idie how proud I am to hear from and the children

I have had some fiew chills this spring caused from expozure I am enjoying myself finely but 2 things that marr my peas one is being seperated from you and my bleeding contery the yankees are playing the waite in Tennysee they have possession of all the coutery north of the Tennysee river

we hold one side and they the other

they take any thing that they find in the coutery that they want in the way of provisions nigors muls horses cattle and they have all of the Miss river ecept Vixburg and they will have that as soon as they are desposed to go and take it

Thomas Peter arrived hear 2 weeks a go from Texas who was fowlowed home

he lived in string poruri

he was in our neighborhood the 10 of Apr at Elm grove

he said the man that lives there told him that you were well and doing well

he intended to call and see you but was disaponted and had to go a nother rout

he travled all the way by land

he made it in 20 dayes and caused him 20 or 25 dollars

he gave me a great deal of sadisfaction thoe he did not get to see you

we have just got of a heavy cont of 4 weeks

we started from Canisbery on Tennysee river 30 miles below decatur to logan 2 days and was gon 4 weeks and landed at this place . .

in Georga tha yanks run a force in behind us and two large fore us to whip

our only allternative was to come thew a distance of 100 miles and all the way thew yankdom

we had several little brushes with them but not mutch harm don

during this hole trip we had one tin cup to the man in the way of cooking utensials

they are fighting at Virginia and at Corith with heavy loss on boathe sids

the fate of these 2 great battles will speak great things ether for or aganst us

we are all in good spirits yet and beleave that victory is ours

I have cent you a letter by Capt King

if it ever gets there or a lest I gave it to a man by the name of Crenal

he gave out going and gave it to King and it was delayed som 4 weeks

I wrote to friend Ned in that letter that if he felt like trying Uncle Jef a while to come out and take my plas I want to come home if I can this somer but if he dos not come I dont know how it will bee he will have to come by land a hors back it will not cost him a great deal I wrote to him thinking it get there about the time he layed by his crop the only means that we have now of cending a letter is by hand and we have to write whenever any body is going I want you to watch every oportuny of cending me letters by every chance that you have I have just returned from meeting had a find cermont preeching at 4 this eveing I wore the white shirt that I tuck from home with and the little souldier coat that you made for me and a yanke pear of pants that I got at Shilon I have plenty of cloaths to last me all year if I can keep them thoe we have to scatter about so that dont how it will be the health of the regiment is very good well then I want you to excuse this sqiub of a letter paper is scarce and high we have just been paid off money plenty and nothing to by Pray for me may the blessings of heaven rest upon you take good cear of the babe

tell will and Margrit to hug and kiss it for me till I come
tell Sarah Jane Davy to be good boyes and girls and that
I havent forgot them

give my love to Ned and family and all the connection
porticular to Father and Mother and retain a double potion
for your self

I reman your affectionat husban until death shall seperate
us to M A Ross by E H Ross

Chattanooga Tennysee
June 28th 1862

Dear Ann

I agan seat my self down to drop you a fiew lines to let you know that I am well and in good spirits and hoping when these lines come to hand that they my find you in the same condition

the health of the regement is good

the health of all the troops as farr as I know is good

we doning well now in the way of ink

we have had non for som time but now we can go out and gether black bearies a nugh in tenn minets to make a quarte of ine ink

the only thing that troubles us is paper

it is very scears thoe makeout as yet to get a nuffe to write letters on

I have now niews that will interest you

we are still at Chattanooga on the east side of the Tennysee river and the yankes on the other

they are still trying to take it

they canonade one a nother every day or to hitting one ocasionly

I have been very mutch amused with this monatous contery

as you will rememver that Chattanooga is situated in the bouy of the comoolan moutan and we have a good chance to

explore them scoutting all over the hole contery

there is a plase near cauled mout lookout

is some half mile high that over looks all the surrounding contery

one of the most butifully lands scape said to be in all the contery

the roads here are all either on a rock or made of rock
piled up

if a horse loses a shoe he wears out his foot in going 2
miles so that he can't travel

we have plenty to eat and wear and plenty of money
occasionally we go in to the country and buy chickens eggs butter
onions Irish potatoes and then we live fine while it lasts
we have it hauled by the commissary

bacon peas dry plums + fresh beef now coffee though
not rice

I got weaned off from coffee at last and it was the easiest
thing done that you ever saw

when I got to where I couldn't get it at all and I noticed
I was weaned at once

apples are getting ripe and there is a very heavy crop of
them

heavy fruit crop of all description
cherries are all gone

I often think of you and the children when I am feasting
on these luxuries and wish that you were with me and then I
look around and see the distress of the woman in the country
and I have to be separated from you at all

I rather you were in Texas than any other state in the south
there is more woman in these mountains and more ignorance
than any place that I ever saw

a great many can't tell what county they live in
in a great many places in the country there is from 3 to 6
women at one house + it is nothing strange to see them
plowing hoeing tending wheat oats and other labors bare footed

fine prospect hear for corn

wheat injered from rust

it has been dry near for some time till in the last few
dayes

we have hau som refreshing showers

I have now warr news orthentic

I learned yesterday that Stone wall Jackson had got in the
seas of Mc Clanon arma at Richmon with 50 thousand men
Johnson and Lee in frount + that the fight would commence
the next day

that was yesterday

if so they will whip the fight + our arma will look out and
the man brout the news come from Jackson arma

Our troops has evacuated Corinth and all now down in Miss
40 are 50 miles below Corinth

what move they will make from there it is known

it is gineraly thought that the yankes will not folow them
the yankes have got Memphis + report that they have Holow
Spring and I guess Hielena

if so they are close in round you paw but I dont recon
they will be apt to bouthen him as they cant go to every
mans house and he live in a sort of a out of way place

I have not seen nor heard from the boys since I left Corinth
there is a talk of our regement starting in a few days up
in tenysee in the direction of Nashville and from the
manuvers I guess it is so and I guess that if we do go
we will have a lively time with the yankes for that parte
of tenysee has its thousands

the country is covered up with them

there has just come in a large amont of letters fore our

regiment

I looked with all the eyes that I had but none for me
I have all most dispared of getting any more letters from
home but I want you to continue to write every constant
I guess by this time there is a male rout opened threw by
Vicburge but the safest way is to cend it by hand

I want you to write me a letter your self and a long won
tell me all about every thing

about all of your ups and downs and about the children and
the new shoes and about the stock and crop + tell friend
Ned to write and all of the connection to write to me
a letter from home is quite a treat to me

tell Father and Mother not to forget me

tell them with and tell them and all the good people of
Texas to pray for me and the Southeran Arma and to pray in
earnest + in faith beleaving that they will receave what
every they ask for or els I believe we will get whiped
after all I have written several letters to you and Ned
lately but dont now whether they will reach you or not
in them I wrote to friend Ned to come and take my place if
he felt like trying this life awhile

if he is not gone when this letter comes to hand tell him
that if he feels like coming that all he needs is 25 or 50
dollers an to bring his gun and a change of cloths and he
can keep my six shooters if he hasent got one and he can
stay as long as he wanst to and I will take his place a gane
if we boath live

I dont think it would be right for us boath to leave home
at onset

I would be right glad to see home a gane any way that I
donot feel like quitting

I feel as patryotic as ever I did and am willing to fight
the Yankes till the last as any man

Bob McCan + Graham are well and hartly

I heard from Rawls 2 weeks ago

he was up where I left him dodging about from the Yankes
able to write about

Will is hear well and hearty

this letter I cend by one M E Ingram who is going home
back to Richmon Texas

he is a friend of mine and will curet it safe ashe goes
he will be some 15 or 20 dayes on the rode

I forgot to say any thing about friend tom freeman
the last acont he was getting well fast but did not think
he would be able for the survis any more and likely he
would come home

if so he will come to see you

the yankes has doubtless routed him from Hernando before
this time

I left my Yanke over coat with him or at the house where
he was staying

I am in hope he will save it for me

may the lorde bless and preserve you and guide in all the
way of trouth and holiness and give you grase and fortitude
to witstand all the tryall and temptation that you may have
to incounter with is my pray

take good care of the children and yourself

I want Sarah Jane to write me a letter

E H Ross