

Camp 2nd Tenn Infy
Little Rock Sept 11th 64

My Darling Capt Lambert Copts Miller
and My Hamilton have just come
in from Pine Bluff. They were thirty
four days on the road from Tyler to
that place. Company H were all
well and more of the boys had
died. Tell the people. I cant
write any more now. The mail carrier
is waiting at my door for this I am
well. I go to the City to examine
rebel deserters I love you good by
Vernonia

Camp 30th Iowa Troop
Little Rock Sept 2nd 1864

My Darling,

Our officers who came in a few days ago from Tyler are going to start home in the morning and I must write a few lines and send up by them. I wrote you the other day that all of my Company who are at Tyler were well, but I wrote too quick. The Major tells me that Daniel Pepper was quite sick when they left. He thought him dangerously sick. From what he says it is doubtful if he recovers. Will was doing quite well. So were all but Pepper they were thirty two days getting through. So the news from the Corps is not very late. The mail has just come in, and I got two good letters from my Wills

I was so glad to get them,
and what a dissertation on bus-
iness, I will "care" as the boys
say. But I don't know which
Bonds to buy, but Mr Marksen
knows, I am willing to risk his
judgement. I must for I hardly
know what ones are being offered
now I want the ones that pay
the best interest and has the shortest
time to run you understand me don't
you. Of course we want Bonds that are
transferable, If we buy we had
better put all the money we can
possibly spare in the investment
I think you had better ^{get} what is at
Centerville, I wish we could in-
vest two thousand dollars, I will
send you two hundred more as
soon as we are paid, you will
know now what to do I had almost
changed my mind before I got Mr
Marksen's idea, I am not at all afraid
of the heavy taxes, as long as we have

an inflated currency that is a
legal tender to pay with. But
Bonds it shall be, so no more slave
business for the present

There is some little excitement here
again. Some think the rebels are
going to attack this place. If they
do they must have a very
heavy force if they succeed. We have
some good fortifications, and there
appears to be quite force here,
though I have means of knowing
how many. All hands seem to
be very active for the last week.
Give my respects to Matt and
to your father and mother.
I can't finish this sheet I
must go to bed. Goodbye

Sept 5th

I didn't get to send my letter
out this morning as I expected
I will send it by mail. All is
well. Goodbye
Belle

Vermillion

Camp Boonville Ind
Little Rock Sept 11/64

My Darling,

You nearly always ask me to tell you more about myself, but I don't know how to do it, unless I commence with what I do in the morning when I first get up and end with what I do last in the evening before going to bed. As the days and the work here, and the days are nearly all alike here, one story will do.

Well here is at it. But before I commence you must promise not to get scared, won't you? If you don't I won't tell you any more. At three o'clock each morning we have reveille beat and we have each man to get and put on his rig and fall into line of battle, and stack arms. Then I let them break ranks and go their quarters, but they are not allowed to touch their rigs

or go to sleep. At sun up we fall
in, take arms and go to breakfast
At half past seven we send every
man we have on duty of some kind
To see that the boys perform their
duties is all I do in the Regiment
in the fore noon. At 8 o'clock I go
to the City to examine the "Packmen"
who claim exemption from the Militia
and what a business, and what a
people they are, there may be some
good people among ^{them} but I think them
hard to find. For instance, there was
a full size footer came in this morning
and claimed to be a deserter from the
Rebel Army, I asked him when he
deserted. He answered "Last October was
a year" I asked him where he went
to after leaving them. He answered
"To Benton where you are now" I asked
him if he was sure that ^{was} correct
and he said he was, I told him he was
not telling the truth for our Army was
not there until last Sept. His witness

was standing by, and to help the
- fellow out, he said, it was last
July. I ask them if they were
both sure of that. They said they
were, and that they were willing
to swear to it. But I told them
it would not be necessary as I was a
long when the Army came to Little
Rock, and that Benton was ^{not} occupied
until sometime later. They asked
me what they should do. My advice
was that they go to the rifle
pit. Of course they don't like
that. At 11 o'clock I come to camp
to dinner. At one I go back and remain
until 4 or 5. Then I come home and do
up the chenners. At night I write to
Dollie.

Don't be uneasy about us having a fight
here for there is very little prospect.
We are getting some of the best fortification
here I have nearly ever seen. We can
do full as well here as we did at Helena.
But they are so sharp to come and try us

Morning 8th

All well this morning Dollie

No indications of an Attack
Reports say the enemy is going
the other way - a falling back,
and we learned yesterday that
eleven thousand reinforcements
were at the Bluff, and that they
will be over in a few days.
The News came in yesterday, that
Sherman had taken Atlanta, and
that the Chicago Convention had
nominated McClellan. All very
probable. I must get ready
for breakfast but all the
money you can into Government
Bonds my fat. Get McMillan
to buy them for you
Sincerely my fat
Vermilion

Camp 38 Iron Inlet
Little Rock, Sept 10th 1854

My Darling,

I am all right and all well this morning. We got a large mail last night and I got three letters from Dollie. I wanted them and was glad to get them.

I have got the blues about that over my darling. I have seen so many persons ruined by letting such things run too long, and if you let yours alone it will ruin you my pet. One week is too long a time my sweet pet to wait, after such things are known to be growing. Just now it won't hurt you to have it taken out, and there will be no danger in it, but in one year from this time it will hurt you and there may be great danger attached to the operation. You know it

smokes me uneasy Dollie, and for that
reason you ought to be willing to
go to Ohio and have it taken out
If you take chloroform you will
never feel it. It will be but a small
operation, and there will be no danger
attached to it. I would rather
than several hundred dollars it
was done my sweet pet. It will
be considerably over a year before I
can get to come home, and by that
time it may grow and involve some
important blood vessels, and what
would I do - what would Dollie
do then. Doctor Carson is a friend
of mine, and a good man, and when
he learns who you are, will be glad
to do any thing he can for us
You must, ^{be} a little ^{convinced} by Dollie
if you doubt as I wish you to in-
quire to this matter. I wish I
could take it off of your shoulders
and put it on mine. If I could suffer
what little pain there will attach to the operation
^{you would}

I wrote to you a few days ago all about
about the land and R S Bonds
You will get that letter before
you will this. I concluded to be
controlled somewhat by Mr. Markens
judgement, though I had about
changed my mind in favor of the
land before I heard of his opinion I
wrote you to put all the money
you had in Bonds, and all you could
get at Centerville. That is except what
you and Jane will need. I can't advise
you as to what Bonds to buy. Mr
Marken will know that.

I am very willing for you to get
the Sheep Alice Mullins
Keep as close a watch over Moses and
maeside as you can my pet
There was a big scare here last week
but it has all passed over. An expedi-
tion started from here this morning
after the rebels that are south of
the Arkansas river. Some say Gen C J
Smith commands, but I don't know

There is no change here now what
ever, Be cheerful Dollie, and have
that men taken out to please
me next you.

Give my respect to all
I had like, have forgotten there
more of our boys came in yesterday
they left on the 19th with Dan Peppers
was very low when they left. The other
boys were all well. All of our
officers are out ~~at~~ of the
Stockade but one from
Wafela Co. It might be a snow
got there. I suppose our officers are
on the road to this place, or to our
line some where else.

How you.

Goodly

Vernon

Camp & Iowa Infy
Little Rock Sep 12 '59

My Darling
I got another letter from you this morning, which stated that Jenny had reached your father. I am glad of it, but what a wonder John's liberality didn't keep her at father. What a pity he hadn't opened his heart sooner. No doubt she is meeting many things & I must be her comfort & she. You must get her what she needs. Make her comfortable my Darling, and if she needs medicine, get it for her. Don't let her be any expense to you old father. Are you sure he is satisfied with the arrangement?

Samuel Wright has been quite poorly for a month or more. Some two weeks ago I tried to get him discharged, but failed in the attempt. Since then the Surgeon sent him to the General Hospital, with the understanding that he would be furloughed, but the hospital is so overcrowded, and there are

so many sick and wounded there to be
furloughed, that his name has not
been reached yet, I have had so
much to do for the last two weeks
that I have not had time to go to
the hospital to see the boys. I got
our regimental surgeon to go and
look after him. Tomorrow morning I
am going myself, to see just how he
is, and to see just what condition he
is in. It is two miles down there, but
I will take the time to go, and then
I will write, either to you, or Mr
Wright and let you know just how
he is. If I were sure he would not
be furloughed, I would like for his
father to come down and see after him
but I think he will get off before
he could get here.

Today was inspection, that feat will
come around once a month. But I don't
mind it much now. I have got
used to them. The boys were in a
very good condition, and of course
we didn't get pitched into much.

Louisburg - a post on the river be-
tween here and Ft Smith has been
captured by the enemy - by Price him-
self. Our garrison nearly all got
away though no doubt he intended
to play Vicksburg. Reports say
he had about fifteen thousand men,
and that he is on his way to
Missouri. If he is, his Army is
gone up if it doesn't disband.
We have a force sufficiently large
already after him. I am tired
my feet I must go to bed I
will finish this in the morning -
perhaps after I get back from the
hospital. I may get time to write
something to Jerry & baby & Dollie
Morning I went early this morning
to see Sammy Wright. He said he
was doing very well, but had learned
nothing about his father. He has
not gained any for some time - per-
haps he had not, but still, he is in
very good spirits, and thus it is not
worth while for his father to come down

I still think he will be surprised
if I men he wouldn't I would
be glad if his father could come
it is a long way from I would
Little Rock, and it will take
a long time to make the trip, and
it is pity to have Mr Wright to
come if there is a prospect Larry
getting to go home soon

I wish you would get some one to
see if the Treasurer has made any
arrangement about putting Revenue
Stamps on those Land Certificates
it is necessary they should be put
on, and the County should do it
tell Jimmy to keep in good spirits
I will be at home of the week, and
then we will go to horse keeping
and be all right

I must go to bed and sleep
now, tell me what you will do
about that man, I want it to be out
so badly
Dollie Sooty
Vermilion

Camp 30 Iowa Infy
Little Rock, Sep 15 64

Dollie

At last the fall of Atlanta is confirmed, and how glad we are Sherman is the General of the Season. Herkes - the author of the Infantry Tactics we have been using in our army for so long is dead. Good for that. The old raider John Morgan has gone up at last. So says the latest news. If that proves to be true, it will be worth ten thousand men to us. Don't you think so? The news seems to be good from every direction just now. The sky seems to brighten, but there is a great deal to do yet. The war has just got in earnest. There are large rebel armies to whip and disperse, and a large amount of country to be possession of before the war can close. Loveably Dollie

Later you have asked me in two or
three of your letters what I think
of the Presidential contest, and in your
last you want to know if I think there
is any danger of McClellan's being
elected if he is nominated. I know
nothing of the feeling at home, farther
than what my friends write me, and
what I get in the papers, from the
North. The news from both of those
sources seems to be good. The people
are awake to the importance of the
issue, the Union rebels may threaten,
and even resort to open resistance in
some localities, but the Government is
strong enough to check every thing of
the kind, and I think will do it
promptly. If the President doesn't he
ought not to be elected again. As to Mc-
Clellan, I hardly know what to say.
He is undoubtedly the strongest man the
Conf. have, and will get the largest vote
possible for a man of his principles,
but he surely can be elected.

If Lincoln were as popular as he
was when he was nominated at
Baltimore, there would be no danger what-
ever. But his strength is failing, and
our final and complete success depends
great deal on just how much of that
strength he has loose. The Republican
Convention has made two blunders. First
in meeting so soon. Secondly in nominating
Abraham Lincoln, without a thorough and
complete discussion of ^{the} policy. There
was no man there, or in the Party who
had the nerve to stand up before the
people and discuss the President's next
points. If it was not best for the
people of our Country to talk of these things publicly,
the friends of our Country should have
done it privately. But such was not
the case, and the present condition of
affairs is the result. But for all
that Abe Lincoln must be elected, as sure
as Breckinridge must be taken. The error will
not be in electing him, but in nominating
him, a thing that should never have been
done

We will do our duty though and
then strengthen him until the year
is over. That is the best that
can be done now. I won't do to
put another candidate in the field.
That would still more endanger our
cause the more, a thing that must
not be done. I wish Chase had been
nominated, but he was not, and it
will not do to stop and grumble over
the affair. Don't tell any one what
I have said my pet. I don't want
to influence any man in the wrong direc-
tion. I have talked to no one about
these things but my Dollie and I know
she won't tell it to any one else.
I love you my Darling. I will write
you a few lines yet send with this
Truly my Dollie,
Vernonia

Camp Co. Iowa Sept 20th 1864
Little Rock, Sept 20th 1864

My Darling,

Here is a sheet of fool-
cap paper, a pen (Dollie's pen) and
some ink, and here is myself, wanting
a letter from my Darling, just the
most kind. I will write and
tell her that I love her and want to
hear from her as early as I ever did in
my life, although it has been but three
or four days since I got three good letters
from her all at once, but that is
no reason why I should not have four
altogether now. There - just - I am out of
breath, and am entitled to a good long
rest after writing that long sentence. Don't
you think I am? You don't want me to
kill myself in one effort to do just
the good course, do you Dollie?

When this letter is ruined, just as
I was finishing that last word I & Scott
came in to tell me he is going home,
and of course I had to talk a while,
just long enough for my spell to pass
off I am sorry for I had intended
to write a good letter. Don't blame me
for it I have done my best

This is the 20th. The latest news we have
from the North is to the 13th. That is the
papers are dated on that date. So it is not
worth my while to tell you the news
Mr Price has converted his walking Company
into a Cavalry Company and is on a visit North
He crossed some ten days ago, with his army. About

seven thousand strong at Louis Burg -
a post between here and Ft A Smith. It
is his object to get into Missouri, no doubt
Shelby, between here and Missouri some
where with his Command, and will join
Price some where on the road. I don't
think you need be any uneasy. He will
be attended to in due time. There is no danger
in this department at present. Some ten
or twelve thousand reinforcements have
come in within the last ten days. Maj
Genl Mowery is here, and some other Maj
General, I forget his name. The object is
to capture Price and his army. I hope
the undertaking will prove successful
This is about all the news there is in
the Department

St Vermilya - of Hannibal Appa-C
came in from Tyler yesterday evening. He
made his escape on the 4th of Aug, and went
to Natches, and then came up the
Mississippi and White river. He starts
home tomorrow. Some other boys who
came a few days ago left the Stockade
after he did, and consequently bring later
news. Pepper was still living though
very low. Five of Co. 4 had made their
escape. The boys didn't recollect their names

I am a little uneasy about the boys that are
out, there are so many of them. I am afraid
the rebels will shoot the boys down rather
than be at the trouble of recapturing them
This is poor letter Dollie but I can't
help it, it is the best I can do this time
Sweet & sweet Darling
Vermillion

Camp 3 or Iowa Drift
Little Rock Sept 22nd 1864

My Darling,
The mail came in again last night and brought me two good letters from my feet. Yes! they were both good, if one did bring the news that old Mopes had run off. It is nothing more than ^{we} ought to have expected; but let him go, if Peppers don't catch him. You did perfectly right to send after the old whelp. If Peppers succeeds in getting him; that itself will be worth more than the debt. The boys here say you will not get any money. They think Mopes will buy Peppers with thirty or forty dollars, in case he overtakes him. But the whole thing is determined ere this so we will talk of something else.
There has been another flag of truce up from Camden. It came to our feet line

Some time yesterday evening, and left the evening. I could learn nothing from any of my Company, but Lt Wright, and I didn't get any letter from him, but the Captain of the 88th Iowa who came in, with the flag says his health is not very good. That is about all he told me. I sent him several things such as: Tobacco, letters mustard, and so on. I wish he could be exchanged, but there is no chance until there is a general exchange effected. I begin to fear that is not going to be very soon.

There is no further news in the Department, or, if there is, it is suppressed, for we don't get it. I think there is quite a force of the Price and Shelby I hope they will be caught this time.

I suppose the Presidential Campaign is in full blast by this time in all the northern States by this time and I am not uneasy as to the result.

Lincoln and Johnson will be be-
lieved without much trouble; that
is so far as the rating is concerned
there may be boils in some localities
in the north, but they surely can't
amount to much. All such
efforts will be suppressed by the
loyal Governors, and in case the libel
should occur in the State of New
York or New Jersey the Government
will attend to it. So let not
yet be scared until something does come
up like was at home. I hope it
will not come that is I hope the
party called Copperheads has too much
sense to attempt such a thing. If
they do attempt it, I would much
rather fight them than these rebels
here. I am convinced they are the
meanest people, and that we have
more to dread from them than from
the rebel in arms against the Govern-
ment; if they are not closely watched
But such men as Governor Stone, Yates

and Morton will keep posted in
regard to these movements

I have just got a late paper. I
stop writing and read article about Dolli
Morning. I am well this morning, and
I love you very sweet Dolli

Love

Vernon

Centerville Iowa. Sep 23. 1864

Capt Vermillion

Forgive the privilege I take
in addressing this line to you. But bearing
them are those, who have escaped the Tyler
masson - and have reached Little Rock
and knowing your ~~kind~~ disposition
I ask for information concerning my
husband - Can you learn anything of him
by those coming in - if you can will
do me the favor to write and give
all you can learn of him - This fearful
waiting is a consuming fire. Oh! for
one word to tell me my husband lives -
dares a hope that I am to see him again
I can bear my lot then most cheerfully.

Please answer in haste
Sufferer

Elleanor M. Conway

SECOND EXPOSURE

Centerville Iowa. Sep 23. 1864

Capt. W. Miller

Forgive the privilege I take
in addressing this line to you - but hearing
there are those, who have escaped the Tyler
masson - and have reached Little Rock
and knowing your disposition
I ask for information concerning my
husband - Can you hear anything of him
be those coming in - if you can will
do me the favor to write and give
all you can learn of him - this fearful
waiting is a consuming fire. Oh! for
one word to tell me my husband lives -
kindled a hope that I am to see him again
I can bear my lot then most cheerfully.

Please answer in humble
sufferer

Eleanor M. Murray

Camp 30 June 1864
Little Rock Sept 24th / 64

My Darling

Last evening just after dark Capt Foster & I went over to the hospital to have a game of checkers with the Surgeons. We played until 9 o'clock and enjoyed ourselves finely. When we started home it was thundering and lightning almost incessantly, but the cloud seemed to be a long way off, and we thought it would not rain until late if at all, but we were badly fooled; or I was at any rate, as was easily proven a short time subsequently. I came home and raised my tent all around, so I would get what air was going, as it was very warm. Then I lighted a candle and set it on the trunk at the head of my cot, and took the Tribune and laid down and read Hookers everdence taken before the Committee on the conduct of the war, in regard to McClellens Campaigns in Virginia and Maryland. It is a good thing

in a good flow and in good time, I
had read, carefully over, and was
looking over it again (I always read
the Tribune over several times you know)
when the wind commenced blowing so
I couldn't keep my light burning
I put it out, and let my tent
down but didn't fasten it, and turned over
and was, making great efforts to
go to sleep, when the storm burst
upon us in such a manner as to convince
us that there is no safety in a cloth
house except in sunshine. I had no
time to dress, but jumped up and
caught hold of the tent pole and
held like my life depended on
my exertions for a few moments. The
wind raised the tent all around
and let the rain in a perfect torrent
But I couldn't help myself for the
tent had already blown half down
I knew if I let go it would go
clear over, and then I would be in no
better condition so far as clothing was
concerned so I held on by my Articles

boss was sitting in the corner, and I had neglected to shut it up when I laid down, and to make my condition more pleasant the wind blowed it over, and pitched nearly every paper in it out upon the floor, where many of them got quite wet, and some blowed clear out into the camp. At last the wind ceased a little and I called to Sergeant Brosha to come to my relief, which he did promptly. He soon staked my tent down and I was all right except my wet clothes and papers. The latter we picked up and took care of the best we could and to ^{day} the Sergeant worked at them until he has got them dried and is in a pretty good condition again. Several tent blowed down among the rest was Susan our cook's. She got the tent washed she has had for a long time. There is money for this time isn't it yet I am sitting up waiting for the mail. Good by

Later the mail has not come up yet
and I don't know that it will
get here before morning, it is getting
so late. I will sit up till I
hear. Perhaps I will learn what
success you met with in pursuing
Meepes. I don't expect much if
anything however, I have not had
the blues over it, and I am not
going to have, if you don't get
anything. Let Mr. Maister look
after the Government Bonds for us, and
get some one to see about getting
Revenue Stamps put on those land
certificates. The County has to pay
the expenses.

Don't be uneasy about Woodside, It
will be just about as well off with
no one on it, as to have a man like Teater
or Meepes. It doesn't give me any trouble
I assure you.

Tell Perry to keep in good spirits
and to write me some good letters.

I don't think the mail will be here to night. I
will go to bed and think of Jollie, and love her
very
Vermillion

Camp 36 Iowa Infy
Little Rock Sept 30/04

My Darling

This is one of the wet spells
It has been raining for three days and
nights, almost constantly, and there is
no show yet for its clearing up. Our
tents are old - or those the boys are
in I should have said. The water runs
through and wets their blankets, clo-
thing and guns. They are clamoring
for winter quarters, but we have no
opportunity to build as long as we have
so much duty to do. I have been trying
to get our commander to assign us to
some quarters that are already built
but I have not succeeded yet, and
the prospect seems very slim. Tomorrow
I am going to try to get the privilege
of moving some cabins that are unoccu-
pied near by

If we cant get them we will have
to go to the timber, about four miles
off, and cut logs, and haul them
in. That will take more work than
we can very well do, but we must
have quarters.

We have had no mail from civil-
ization for nearly two weeks, and
you may be sure I am getting very
anxious to hear from my Dollie and
Jenny, and then I want to know
what is going on up in your country
politically; that I am in the
least afraid of McClellens beating
Lincoln, but I want to know what
is being done, that is a great battle
and if it is rightly fought and won it
will do a great deal toward closing
the war, there must be other battles
fought, and hard ones too, but I ^{think} there is
but little if any danger going wrong
of them
It is raining again, and I am going to bed to
sleep. Good by sweet Dollie (kiss me for me)

Oct 8th 1864

Col Drake has returned, looking as finely as I ever saw him, though he is unable to walk without his crutch. He is stopping in the city. I am going to send the ambulance after him in the morning. He will most be able to take command of the regiment. I wish he was. With three field officers belonging to the regiment, I think one at least should be here to command. I have been commanding the regiment and three Companies since the 3rd of June. Perhaps something will turn up for a change soon.

We got late papers to day but no mail. What a spite that is here. I have been without any word from Dollie since the 7th of Sept. Why there is scarcely no use in having a Postal system. I love you my Darling & ever
Your mother