

De Call's Bluff Ark.

Aug 6" 1865-

Mine Pet,

This is Sunday evening, and to-morrow is mail day. Perhaps I will get some good letters from my pet. If I don't, I shall have the blues, because I want to hear from you my darling. I want to learn every evening and every morning that you are well, and that you are getting on all right. I think of you the last thing of an evening before I go to sleep, and the first thing of a morning when I wake up. Last night I had a good sweet dream of you, my pet, and you don't know how much good it did me; but the waking was the worst. When that came, Dollie was gone, and I was away down here in Arkansas all alone, with no prospect of anything better for some time to come. But my darling, I will get on for another month or two, if I can only dream of you every night, and get plenty of good letters from you in the day time. I won't have the blues if I can help it, but it is hard to remain down here so long after the war is over, but we will try and endure the punishment like good and brave men.

Dr. Udell came over here from the Rock, on the day before yesterday evening. He is a Sanitary agent. His business is to look up all stragglers belonging to Iowa regiments, and have them properly attended to, and mustered out if they are entitled to it. There was nothing for him to do here, so he went on yesterday evening. He is going to New Orleans but will stop for a short time at all intermediate points on the river, to see if he can find any Iowa men needing his assistance. He brought me special news from Centerville, except that the prospect of a Union victory in that country is not very good. In fact he fears there are movements on foot in the State, that may possibly carry the State against us. I expressed myself as having no fears of that, but for all his reasoning seemed very good. In Lee County, he tells me, there is a call made by our returned Soldiers for an other Convention. It is signed by between one hundred and fifty and two hundred; and they all declare they will not support the ticket that is now in the field, simply because they ^{the candidates} are in favor of striking out the word White from the Constitution. He says such men as Judge Trimble are exerting themselves day and night to bring about such a combination of forces, as will create the force of the Union party. They expect to endorse President Johnson's Administration, and to differ from the Union party

in nothing but extending the right of Suffrage to the negro,
and to nominate men for office who have always been war
men, and who have done good service in the field.

In Appanoose County, he says the Union party is going
to condemn to the course the State Convention has taken
in the matter. If they don't he thinks we will be badly
beaten. He says the loyal Democrats are not caring so much
as the returned soldiers, and some of the old Republicans
of this Regiment were to vote to-morrow, they would go al-
most to a man, against the measure.

As for myself I acknowledge the correctness of the principle
but I think it is inexpedient at this time. It is not always
best to ^{attempt to} accomplish all that is right and just at once. The
negro can better afford to remain in his present political
status for a few years, than the loyal people can afford
to lose the control of the State of Iowa, and perhaps that
of the general Government. These are uncertain times, and I
think it best for us to travel slowly, and be sure we are
secure from all danger. We can't tell yet what President
Johnson will do. We do know this far, however, that he has
been over conservative, and that he is creating, and establishing
an influence in all the Rebel States, that will be bitterly
opposed to the party that placed him in power; and I fear
sometimes that he is trying to reestablish his old party, or a

new one on anti negro principles, in order to be the next President
elect. He is already making a wide crack in the union
party than has ever existed before. He expects, I fear, to
take a part of the Republican party, and attach it to his
Southern organization, and then get the Northern Democratic
party to endorse him and his party, and then ride down
all opposition. Watch him, my pet and tell me what
you think of it.

Aug. 8, '85

I am well to-day, my sweet pet. I hope you are.
The mail came in early this morning, and brought me your
long letter from you. I was glad to get it. I am getting
so I get hungry for a letter, about as quick as I do for
something to eat. So you will know how many to send
me

We have no stirring news yet. The weather is more
pleasant to-day. It rained hard yesterday evening.

Tell me all the good news. Give love to Jerry
Send me lots of good letters

I will dream of you to night. I love you
Goodly sweet love

Peaches

De Cade Bluff Arkansas

Aug 10th 1865

Miss P.

Since my last letter, nothing has occurred to disturb the even^{ness} of our way. Our court has been going on, but we have had no very interesting cases up since we got through with the Summers. The findings in their cases have not been published yet. So of course I can't tell you any thing about what is to be done with them. The judge advocate told me this morning, that the General has some ~~negroes~~ men now in confinement, whom he intends we shall try, as soon as the charges can be made out against them. They are accused of abusing some negroes, and perhaps of murdering some of them. Some three or four weeks ago, two or three negroes came in and complained to the Provost Marshal, that after having made a specific contract with their old master to work the old homestead on the hills, and that after they had labored hard and got the crop nearly completed, the old man returned from the rebel army, and notified them that they

should not have any part of the crop, and that they should leave the place immediately; and in order to ^{force} ~~en-~~ their order they ejected the negroes from the premises in a very rough manner, and told them - I believe - that if they returned they would kill them. The Provost Marshal sent a party of men out and arrested the guilty persons and had them brought in and confined in the military prison at this place. In a few days afterwards the negroes were brought in to testify against the accused persons at their preliminary trial before the Provost Marshal. Several white citizens came in from the same neighborhood and on the day of trial were very observant of what the proceedings and of what the negroes testified to; and in the evening late, I remember myself of seeing two young men of the party considerably under the influence of liquor. The negroes were restored to their rights on the farm, and the next night I don't know what time, some persons visited the farm where the negroes were sleeping quietly in their quarters, and as they thought, secure from all danger, and drove them all, young and old, from their houses, and shot down all who did not succeed in hiding themselves in the weeds and bushes, so they couldn't be found. The next morning early ^{we} or perhaps more succeeded in reaching this fact, and made complaint to the Provost Marshal

who sent out a lieutenant and eight or ten men as soon as it could be done, to inquire into the matter, and arrest the guilty persons if they could be found. The party returned the next day, and reported that they found and hurried one negro man, and that they saw where another had lain in the grass and bled profusely, but they were unable to obtain any clue, ^{to} the perpetrators of the crime. The next morning one of the negroes came in wounded in the leg, and reported that he was the one who had lain in the grass where the blood was found. The next day or two, ~~another~~ another lieutenant and six or eight men were sent out late in the evening, with orders to remain over night and ~~to~~ arrest certain persons if they could be found. The next day the party returned with several persons, some of them women, but I have not learned what evidence the Provost Marshal has of their guilt. If the parties are tried by our court, of course I will learn all the facts, as far as the Government is able to establish them by evidence.

Sergeant Kemper thinks he has at last obtained a very fine situation. He has command of a scouting party of nine men. They are all under the Provost Marshal, and their duty is to do all manner of things such as making all arrests that have to be made outside of town.

and to recover, if possible, Government Property when
it is stolen and carried off. He has a good horse, and
thinks he will like his duties very well.

Aug. 11th 1865-

My dear Pet,

I received one good letter from you this morn-
ing. I am afraid to trust any one else, but ourselves
do buy property for us, my feet. They might buy some-
thing we would not want at all, so I guess we had
better wait till I get home. If we can't get in one town
we can in another.

This has been a very warm day, but not quite so sweltering
as it was yesterday. I hope it will turn cool soon.

Write me lots of good letters, my darling, and then
I won't have the blues any; but I do want to go home
my sweet feet, worse I think than any one else in all
this army, but talking about it won't do us any
good. Six, or seven weeks more at furthest, will sure-
ly set us out of this. So be cheerful my precious
feet. I love you, & I can't tell you how much;
I will keep thinking of it until I get home, and
then tell you all about it.

Love
Dollie

Peaches

(No. 98)

Friday Evening, Aug. 11, 1865

My Dearest Love,

I got two letters from you to day both dated the 30th ult. I was so glad my pet that you were still well. I always dread almost to open my letters lest I hear that you are sick. You are troubled about affairs at Woodside, dear, I know. I hope there is no danger of anything worse than a batter about the stock getting in sometimes. It is the same here and everywhere I know of. The middle fence is hauled out - nearly ^{all} of it. Collins said the fence was good enough he thought. I told him plainly that you would not be at any expense repairing the house or fence until you come home, but it is not mentioned in the article. I copied Wropes old article almost precisely only changing it to suit about the acts. You had never mentioned including anything about the fence, pet, and I never thought of it. Collins had rode around and examined the fence and said he thought it was pretty good. After Wropes left the stock got in very badly and Knapp said he hauled out the middle fence - or part of it. They got in a habit of going into the field last year and that makes the stock worse. But I will see if I can do anything right away, pet. I will go over tomorrow if it dont rain. I dread the ride this hot weather, dear. It will be pretty hard but I think I can stand it. Jim says he'll go with me. I will tell you everything when I get back. Collins understands perfectly that he was to risk the place just as it was when he took it. I dont think he looks to you for repairs, but I dont want any of the crop destroyed. I will do the best I can, dear.

Jimmy and I had a nice ride today, and it was
so warm before we got home. We went by Mullin's
but only called at the gate a minute. Allie is well.
We stopped at Mr. Ken's too, and found them all right.
Mary had just had her fortune told and it was a very
good one so she's in fine spirits. I got two good letters
then, and bought muslin to make you two new shirts.
I have plenty of time to make them now, and I will
not have time to sew after you come you know, love.
I didn't hear any news. Ezra Conkerson has been here
this afternoon. He looks pretty well. This is all I will
write this time, sweet, precious darling. You know I love
you always. Don't get sick, my pet, but be of good cheer.
Jerry is well again. Adeline Christie's little girl ran off
and got lost - to us at least, and we have all been scared.
They found her nearly down to Baldwin's at last. Goodbye.

Saturday Evening

I am all alone, my pet, and I am glad of it for I want to
talk to you, my own sweet darling. Father is moving and mother
has gone out to look at him work. Jerry and Jim have gone, with
Ed. and Lizzie and Mather down the creek plumsing. The plums
are getting ripe now. They are to have all the pears and Jim to have
the plums. I don't look for more than a bushel. I didn't get to
Woodside today, dear, because Jim couldn't get a horse till after
dinner and then it was so hot. I dared not start. We are going
Monday. Besides I feared we shouldn't find Pullin at home
Saturday evening. I was suffering some from my ride yester-
day, but I would have risked it if we could have got off early.
I have never told you, my pet, how riding affects me in hot
weather, because I hated to write about it, and I was hardly
sure I knew what the trouble was. I didn't know how to tell
you. But last month there was an article in our magazine
written by the great Dr. Jackson on Sidesaddles and Horseback

Riding for Women which described my case precisely. He says such cases are very common, and the suffering is caused by the strained and unnatural position of the body in the saddle which induces temporary inflammation of the kidneys and bladder. I knew that was the ailment, yet, but I couldn't imagine what caused it. I was afraid it was a disease that might grow worse and serious. I was relieved of this fear by the article. You can understand it now can't you, my love? I remember suffering in this way once or twice while we lived in Mt. Meriden, but I had almost forgotten it till since you went away. I had one "spell" of it the first summer you were out, and several last summer and this. I never had it but after riding no further than Geoniam but once. I had worked very hard in the forenoon, and then foolishly ran a little race with Matt after we started. It came on me directly though I only went as far as Mullinsville, and I suffered intolerably for six or eight hours. When Jerry and I rode to Woodside last spring I thought I should almost die. The acute suffering only lasted one night, but I didn't get over it for several days. I have rode no farther than the post office since, and not often there. I never have it only when I ride on horseback in hot weather. I know no remedy but perfect rest, and cold water. I tried opium, my sovereign remedy in all other ailments, but it only aggravated this. Now you know, sweet darling, why I have not looked after Woodside better, and why I don't visit some of our friends. I want to go to Julia's, but I'm afraid to start. I never was very fond of horseback riding, and I mean to quit it entirely when we get moved. Here I have to go sometimes. If I had rode two miles farther yesterday I should have been very sick I think. I don't want you to be any bit uneasy about me, love, for I have told you all now. I wanted to tell you before, but hated to do so. I wouldn't

Good! father is going to the office. Goodbye mine
I am concerned of risk making. Please forgive me for it.
Don't you think the farm better in any way, my good darling?
Tell you now only I'm afraid you think me irresponsibly
careless about seeing after Woodside. It has not been carelessness,
my good darling. I would like for you to tell me what
you think of what I have told you, deary, — but I can wait till
you come home if you don't want to write it. Only be sure
and don't let it cause you any uneasiness. I am not uneasy
about it now, when I am well of it, and don't want to go some
where. I would try to get father to go to Woodside now, but he
is crowded with his haying. So is Mullinnix with his oats
harvest. And I want to see for myself, deary. It may not
hurt me at all. I don't always get sick when I ride. It may
be that my general health has something to do with it. I have
not been as strong, since you were home, as I used to be.
You know what long rides we used to take, pet. I only get
tired then. Don't you remember how I used to abuse the saddle
and tell you I wanted one "made to order." I don't want any more.
I do think I have written long enough. She wants a little attention
herself. Well, I guess I have. I shall make this letter too long I fear
I sent mail, before Tuesday. I must save some room for tomorrow
and to tell you how many plans I get. Jim is a good fellow, but his legs.

Sunday Evening, Aug. 13, 1863

Mine Pet: — This has been a very pleasant day, cool and clear.
We have all been home just sitting around reading and talking.
Now Jimmy has gone out, and Jane is reading an old Magazine.
It begins to look some like rain. I fear tomorrow will not be
a nice day. I sent for our mail this morning, but Anderson
didn't come in last night. They expect him this evening. I'm
afraid nobody will go down to day. I do want another letter so
bad, sweet pet. I think I will get one by this mail surely.
If any one goes to the office I will send out this letter. I am not
quite well to day. I was sick last evening after I quit writing, but
I took some salts and doctored myself up. I shall be all right by
morning, deary. There is no news. I do love you, mine darling. Goodbye
Dollie

Dealls Bluff Ark.

Aug. 13th 1886

Mine Pet.

This is Sunday, and it is very warm. I tried to sleep a while ago, but there was not air enough stirring to keep me cool, so I have been reading about the wise man Solomon. Sometime I cure myself of the Blues by reading the bible, but I cant make much progress studying the teachings of that sacred book. Perhaps I can do better when I get home with Dollie. Dont you think I can my pet? We still have ^{no} news about our muster out; so of course I cant tell when I will get there; but this is the 13 of August, and it is not much longer till the 4 of of October, and then we will make orders for ourselves there is consolation in that idea, Dollie.

Shermans hunters are being mustered out as rapidly as it can be done. Several regiment's have already passed by here, on their way home. They seem very well pleased with their luck; and act very well so far as any demonstrations towards the white troops at this place are concerned; but they all get drunk, when they can get the liquor. A few days ago an Ohio regiment passed by here

and it was told - after they left: that when they left the Rock, the officers were all drunk and that they left their baggage and all of the officials belonging to the command. When the regiment arrived here they were still too much inebriated to telegraph back, and have them sent up on the next train.

Orders have been received in the Department, I understand, that will relieve all General Officers on duty here, but General Reynolds, and those commanding negro troops. We are rather glad of the change, although it will not be apt to work any good to us - our time is so near out.

Still the old report of Kittredges return, is in circulation. His friends expect him sometime during the present week. I dont know whether he will be here or not, and to be candid, I dont care much. His coat and sword came on the boat yesterday I understand, and Capt Godney says they ^{are} both 'drunk'. If he does come, he shall not command me much. I am too old a soldier to suffer him to rule over me as he used to do. Still I am going to remain in the regiment and Company, until we are mustered out. I dont expect to speak to him unless it is really necessary in order to enable me to transact ^{business} connected with the command. I imagine he will feel about as unpleasant as he will

Aug. 14th. 65

I have just received a good letter from you my darling. I am sorry you are having the blues because you don't get more letters. I send you two every week just as sure as the mail boats go out, that is the best I can do, my precious darling, unless I send you two together - or in the same mail. Tell me what it is Olive Mellin has to say about me, or what it is she is going to tell me, that you don't believe is true. My curiosity is as easily excited as a woman's, and you ought to have told me all about it, my sweet pet. Tell me what it is in ^{your} ~~my~~ next letter, Dollie.

Later - It is actually too hot for any living being to stir. Our cabins are as hot as they can be made it seems to me. I hope it will turn cooler before long.

Well is getting on all right. He and some of his boys were twelve or fifteen miles in the country yesterday, after fruit. They bring in all they want. We buy from farmers enough to do us very well.

The latest date I have from you, my darling is the 28th ult. That is seventeen days ago - a long time, much longer than I want to have to wait for a letter, my pet. I love you my sweet Dollie as no other man loves his wife. Do you believe me pet. Goodly, Peaches

DeBalls Bluff Ark.

Aug. 14. 85

Misses Pet.

I have just returned from General Drake's, where I have been playing a game of euchre and it is quite late, but I must tell you the news before I go to bed. The order has just reached the regiment, restoring Colonel Pittredge, and ordering him to take command immediately; and what is the worst of it all, it has been done through the influence of Governor Stone. It has pleased his honor to thrust back upon this regiment a drunken Colonel, that his predecessor forced upon us in the first place. It cost us a great deal of trouble to correct the error Governor Kirkwood, ^{made} in giving him his appointment, and I consider it an outrage, never to be forgotten, that any demagogue, who happens to be occupying a high place at home, should thrust him back upon us. I can't see what we have ever done, that makes us deserving of such punishment. The Governor didn't intend we should ever know any thing about it, but we have it in black and white from the War Department, and we are determined he shall know it.

He has never done any thing for us, as he should have done. He has made no effort to get us mustered out, which he could have effected, had he made the proper effort. Other Governors succeeded in getting all of their sixty-two troops mustered out. I am, and have been rather sorry, that he is the nominee of the Union party for reelection, but that can't be helped now. The Republicans of Appanach County had their Convention on the 12th inst. and it may they nominate me for Representative, but I will not run and be required to make of a full indorsement of Governor Stone.

I don't intend the Col. I shall have much to do with me. I am on detached service now, and shall remain so, until the expiration of our term of service. We are all going to fight it through.

Don't be uneasy about me my pet. I will get on all right.

Aug. 15th 1865

Miss Sweet Dollie,

I am well this morning, and thinking of you all the time. I don't want to think of anything else. I love you so much, my darling
Goodbye
Peaches

(No. 1, 3^d Series)

Thursday Night, Aug. 17, 1865

My dear Love:

I am tired and feel like going to bed, but I should not sleep good if I did, without saying a word to my "Peaches." We have had company all day - just the neighbor women, first one, then another. Allie Mullins came over this morning and brought home my new carpet. It is nicer than I expected, quite good enough for a bedroom or sitting room. But I made it for my kitchen in winter. Allie was in fine spirits, only a little sprunkty at John because he wouldn't let her stay all day. She was working in his hay and said she must come home to get dinner. I believe he can hardly bear for her to be gone half a day at a time. It's too mean of him, isn't it? I'd teach him a lesson if I were Allie. No I am Dollie though, and not Allie, if my "Peaches" were selfish in that way I expect I should humor him and spoil him just as she does that ugly John. Women like to think they are oppressed so if a man wants any amount of self-sacrifice he has only to flatter us a little, and behold, we are martyrs. Ellen Davis came to day and borrowed my red again. I guess they are in a good humor now they have it back, and so am I. I think I was very silly to get so mad. I have nothing of interest to write, sweet love, so you want scold if I only fill this page will you? I hear all the time that you are coming home; that you are at Doverport; that you are at St. Louis, and Keokuk. I don't believe any of it. We got to counting up this evening how many men have died in Co. "K." The list is fearful day. I can count thirty, and I don't suppose I can think of all. I was astonished, darling. Jimmie's Company lost only nine in all, by death. I do love you sweet precious darling. You know that. Good night

Friday Evening Aug. 18, 1861
Also made my love. I have no
time to write so I can give you just the minute
I know or guess precisely during. Goodbye. Dear

Friday Evening Aug. 18,

My Dearest:— I got a good long letter from "somebody" this
morning, that did me good. Do you know whom it was
from? Send me lots of such letters, my sweet pet, and I
will try to not have the blues any. But there was no
word about an early muster out. I look for a new
order that will apply to your case, but it don't come yet.
I don't think your application to the War Department
will do us any good, deary. At least I'm afraid not.
They will be apt to leave the matter with Gen. Reynolds
I should think. They - the boys - are willing here that it
is all Gen. Probe's fault that you are held so long. They
think he wants to stay, and that he made a false report
to Gen. Reynolds, which induced him to retain the regiment.
I don't suppose it is true at all. I should think Gen.
Probe would want to come home as badly as anybody.
But I guess the boys must talk about something.
If you can only keep well, my love, the 4th of October
will come. Don't be sad, pet, or despondent, will you?
There is no news up here to day. I have been busy
all day. For one thing I gathered my onions. I have
over a bushel of very fine ones. Are you not glad, pet?
They are all mine, and I mean to move them with us.
Jimmy is talking of going to Albion to morrow to the soldiers
dinner. If he does I will send this poor letter by him.
And then you will be satisfied with only a half sheet worth
you darling? If he don't go I will write more to morrow.
I have already sent you three letters this week. That
is plenty isn't it? The weather is very warm again.
Mother is quite poorly to day. She hasn't sat up much.
I must set the table for supper now, deary. Oh how
I wish you were here. Be a good Peaches, my darling, and
don't have the blues, and don't forget your own Dolly

De Colls Bluff Ark.

Aug 18th 1855

My Dearest Pet;

The good news has come at last. We are making our muster out rolls, as rapidly as we can. The order came late in the evening, on day before yesterday, and what a time we had over it. Every body hollered and throwed their hats, and chairs, and everything else. Captains Sedney and Fee came near tearing my house down. They did break out all the windows. We have a great deal to do yet before we can leave here. We can't get away before Saturday week - which will be a week from to-morrow. The mail boat goes out on that day. General Drake thinks he will start on next Tuesday. I wish we could get off then, but we can't - we have too much to do.

I will write you on every mail day, between this and the time we start, but you had better get ready to march immediately, for the final order may reach you soon after this. I may wait till I get to Cairo, and then telegraph you, as to what time you had better start. If it were not for allery allarthen, I would have you start

in time to leave me there, but she would have to board at
a hotel where it would cost her two or three dollars a
day, which she would have to do, till the Sergeant would
get there. You will have to stop at a first class hotel
my pet, and take a room to yourself, so I will have
some place to stop when I get there. But I will tell
you more about it in my next letter. The Public house I
think is the best place. Stop there, unless I instruct you
differently. I am almost sure we will go to Davenport

The mosquitoes are about to eat me up. I will quit
till morning my darling. Goodly sweet pet,

Aug 19th / 65

My Darling,

I am well this morning, but I have a
big days work to do. I must not write much or
I will not have anything to tell you when I get home
Col Kittredge is not here yet his command will
be shot if he does come now. Some one report-
ed here yesterday that the last boat left him in
Memphis drunk. Very likely the report is
correct.

You must not have the blues any more my
sweet pet. I love you and will think of you all
the time till I see, and then I will look at you all the time
Beaches

All well this morning. I found this by mail. We expect
to start on day after tomorrow
Friday 29th / 75
Peoria

Dealls Bluff Ark.

Aug 20th / 86

My dear Pet,

Gen. Drake is going to start for home to-
morrow, and he has promised to take a letter for me if
I will have it ready. I will be very busy in the mor-
ning, and I am afraid if I don't write to night, that
I will not have time to-morrow before he starts.

We have nearly all of our papers completed. If
nothing happens the Regiments will be mustered out
Wednesday the 28th, and will start for home on Sat-
urday. I can't tell how long it will take us to go
to Davenport. It may take ten days, and it may
take two weeks. I want you to be ready to start
as soon as you receive word from me. I will telegraph
you when we reach Cairo, and you had better start
immediately on the receipt of the telegram. That will
be word enough for you; won't it pet? The telegram
will go to Ottumwa, and then out by mail. That will
be slow, but it is the quickest way I can get your
word. Shall you may beat me there. If you do
you can wait for me can't you pet. I would rather

you would have to wait, than to be there three
or four days myself without you. my sweet feet
I still think you had better stop at the Burke
house, especially till I get there. If we stay there
(in Davenport I mean) long, perhaps we will board
at some other house. All the other officers of the
Regiment, who are going to have their wives meet
them there, expect to stop at that house. Sergeant
Walker, of course won't stop there long; and I
think it will be a good thing for us. I don't want
to be bothered. They are clever, but we will want to
be alone what time I will have to spare from
business.

There isn't any news here my feet. I don't care
any thing about the affairs in this Department any
more. All I care for is to get out from here.
Several other Regiments are being mustered out. They
are mostly veteran organization. Ours, I believe is
the only Sixty-two Regiment in the Department.

It is getting quite late, my sweet feet, and every
body else is gone to bed. I guess I will turn in
for the night, and dream of my sweet feet. Oh!
how I do wish I were at home, my darling. The time
does seem so long, but it will come. Goodly Peaches

De calls Bluff Rock

Aug. 24th 1865

Wine Pet,

The mail brought me two good letters from you this morning. One was mailed on the 24, and the other on the 25th of last month. You had the blues a little when you wrote them, my pet. You must not be troubled about our not getting home. All things end at sometime, you know, and of course our three years will; and then there will be none to hinder us from going home; and what is better, from remaining there. The summer will be gone, I know, but the long winter evenings will be coming on, and it will be pleasant to sit by a good warm fire, and talk over the events of the last three years. If General Reynolds would only agree to let us leave here in time to get home again the first of October, I think I would be perfectly well satisfied; but he won't give us any such promise, in fact he

Says, under existing orders, he will hold us here until our time is up. Before he will make an order for our muster out. We have forwarded an application to the War Department, asking that the regiment be mustered out immediately. It will take it about five weeks to go to Washington and come back. If that doesn't do us any good, we are elected until the last day in the evening. We are not going to borrow trouble, however, about the matter, now that the time is so short.

The weather is very warm, too warm by half for comfort. I have been to the court room and back this morning. There was but one witness present to testify in the case we had up for trial. So we adjourned until eight o'clock tomorrow morning. There are a great many cases to be tried yet, more, I think, than we can try before the expiration of our term. I understand, from 'madam rumor', that there are between fifteen and twenty of Company 'H' of our Regiment to be court martialed, as soon as it can be done, for robbing some widow woman's house of various articles to the value of about sixteen hundred

dollars. They were stationed at the mouth of White river at the time they committed the robbery. The Company has some very bad men in it; and I suppose some of them are more or less guilty; but the amount is too large for any ordinary farmer to lose at one time, and that in the day time, and all in household goods.

I am glad you are thinking about what you want to go in our house when we "go to living," but we can't be governed in our purchases yet, by the kind of a house we are to live in, my feet. Because it isn't bought, and we don't know what kind of residences are for sale, and about the ^{City of} Centerville, in which we propose to live. But we will purchase what articles are common to all nice comfortable little homes in Iowa, and wait for the rest until we know what will suit our house. We may be unable to buy such a house as we will wish for our permanent home. If such is the case when we want to move, we will have to rent until we can suit ourselves. I hardly know whether we will want to remain in Appanoose County

are not. Sometimes I think I will sell
Woodside, if I can, and move farther north, or
east of the Des Moines river. Our country is a
fine section of country, but the crops are
not so sure as they are farther east and
north. There will be plenty of time to talk
of these matters after I get home, though.

I am still unable to determine what I
will do for a living. I don't know what I
can do what I am fit to do, but I will deter-
mine during the winter. I am going to rest a
while you know, after I get home, until Spring
any how.

I am anxious to learn how things are going at
Woodside. Tell me just as soon as you can. I
believe it will be better to move the outside
pasture fence, but I am not very particular.

This letter is long enough, my sweet pet, unless
it were better. I love you darling

Goodly.

Peaches.