

St. Charles Arkansas
April 2^d 1855

My dear Pet.

There are two or three half sheets of paper lying here on the table, and I guess I had just as well commence and write them up, or spoil them, and then they will be out of the way. You must not think, that I am in the habit of using half sheets for you, for this is the first time I recollect of ever commencing a letter for you on less than a whole sheet. Don't say that is a fib, Dolbe, for those many half sheets I have sent you, were always torn in two, after I had commenced writing, for the convenience of the thing. It won't make any difference, if I send you enough, will it pet?

It has been two days since I wrote you anything. You must not think I have forgotten you, though pet, for I have not. I couldn't forget you for a moment. You are so good, my sweet darling, and then you send me so many good letters. I got two yesterday evening. You may tell Will, that it is my opinion, he had better go slowly about those letters and socks, for postage stamps are quite scarce down here, and I remember quite well I had to put several on that bunch of letters. I am willing to settle accounts with him, however, for the

Sacks are here yet, although they ^{are} about worn out, and he can't expect me to remedy that now. There is enough of them left to make a good ball, and several of us have been discussing the propriety of having them unwaxed for that purpose. If we conclude to do dispose of them, he shall have an interest in our games, after he gets here. But I don't think he will say much about these things after he gets here, especially the letters. They are good evidence against him, you know, and I think the best thing you can do for him, as he is your brother is to advise him to either settle the matter fairly, or say nothing about it at all. The boys down here knew last summer just how the thing stood, but they have forgotten all about it, and of course won't think of the matter any more unless he reminds them of it. And in such a case as that, I shall not insure him any peace until after he is mustered out.

We are getting on finely. The weather has been very nice for three or four days, but it begins to look as though it was going to rain again. We have got our quarters done all but the kitchen, and the boys are more than fetching into them this morning. They say they want to through, and be ready to rest when the boys get here.

Gen. Reynolds and Staff passed up the river yesterday. He arrived here a little before ten o'clock in the morning, and ^{had} us out in review at eleven. It was quiet work and he didn't find us in any too good condition.

It is very well I commenced on this half sheet,
Polli, for when I came to look I found I had
not a whole sheet of letter paper in the office
The Quartermaster has not got this quarters supply
yet, and I don't want to buy of the sutler.
So you see these scraps are the only chance.
If you grumble at them my pet, I will have
to not write at all, or else use fools cop.
You don't want me to do that, do you pet,
I can't always fill a sheet of letter paper, and
I can't near promise to fill even a half sheet
of fools cop.

I want you to go over to Woodside - or get
some one to go for you - just as soon as the
river runs down so you can cross. If you
don't feel like going get Mullinix to go for
you. He will help you look after things until
I get home.

I can't help but be uneasy about your wound
and your other shoulder too my sweet pet. There
is something very wrong about the other one hurting
you. I am afraid it will gether and break
and run just like the sore one has. And you
tell me you are compelled to use it, when I know
you must not if you want it to get well. Rest is all
that will do it any good my sweet pet. You might
try the liniment too, but you must let it rest, my sweet
pet. Give all the help you need. Love

Later. The sun has come out again, and it is getting warm & nice. I hope it wont rain. If it does I am a feard I will take the blues just a little I forget whether I write to you about the death of Morehouse's son or not. He is in the hospital at Little Rock on the 23rd of March, I believe. Now's son was very bad when we heard from him last I shall not be surpris'd if I should get notice of his death one of these days. The people had no business to send such lays to me. I wrote to Merrill to not send me any recruits, but it didnt do any good. If those who are so anxious to get such lays into the service, would come themselves, or use their influence to get older men to come they would be doing the Government nearer justice. Such lays ought to remain at home. The truth is no man has any business in the army, who has not had the measles. That disease ruins more than half of the men, who have it in the army. There are but few men who ever get sufficiently over it to do the duties of a soldier without running great risks of taking diseases.

April 21 1865

I am well this morning, my darling. The morning is so fine I couldn't very well be any other way. This is a poor letter but I must send, for I will not have time to write another and get it in the office against the mail boat comes along. You wont grumble at it will you?
Love, P. P.
Cordly Sweet Darling Peaches

April 4th 1856.

The very latest- I have been out and worked for two long hours, and it has done some good. I will have a good appetite for my dinner, - provided I have ~~something~~ good to eat, which I think is a little doubtful. We have not succeeded in getting as many good things to eat since we came here as we expected. The citizens don't bring anything in scarcely. But the Past Corn -

messary says he will have a good supply in
a few days, which will set us all right, you
know. We are looking for Capt. Lee, and several
other officers here to-morrow. I hope they will
come. I want to see them really
Peaches

St. Charles, Arkansas:

April 5th 1865

My Pet,

This is poor paper, and I am in a poor mood for writing, so you see I have the principal ingredients for a poor letter. There doesn't anything turn up here for one to write about, especially when the elements combine against all operations as they have since last night. There were very few indications of rain at tops last evening, but it must have clouded up soon afterwards, for when I woke up after taking my first nap, the rain was falling in perfect torrents; and judging from the amount of water that was on the ground this morning when I got up, it must have continued all night; and it seems determined to not stop until it exhausts the fountain from whence it comes, for it has continued with untiring energy the whole day. Just now it is falling as though it would smash my clabboard roof in on my head, but I guess it won't, or it ~~has~~ would have had it done before now. The river is full, very full

and still rising, and if this rain doesnt stop soon, it will be higher than it has been known for many years. It is some six or eight miles to dry land, on the east side of the river, from this place. The current of the river is very sluggish owing to the lock water from the mississippi. I think it will make sickness among the troops at this place during the summer and fall, although the Medical Director of this Department says this is one of the healthiest localities in Arkansas. But he has nothing to go by, ^{but} the reports of last season, that were sent up by the Surgeons that were in charge of the troops that came here last July and August, which I think are not very good evidence. But few of those commands remained long at a time, except a colored regiment & two, that were organized on the lower Mississippi two years ago. They were raised in malarious districts, and of course were well acclimated. But we are going to be well fixed, and we will take good care of our selves. There will be very little ^{danger} of any of the old Soldiers having any severe sickness. But the recruits may suffer severely as they nearly way do the first season. But the people at home neednt blame me with their deaths, for I didnt want them

and it seems me to think I have to be rather
ed with them just now, when we are thinking
more about going home than we are about filling
up our regiment. You remember those fellows in
Chariton Township wouldn't assist me any in ob-
taining recruits last season, but now that they be-
lieve in the draft, they seem over anxious to get
boys who are unfit for the service to come down,
not for the good of the service however, but to
save themselves. I wish I had the power to send
them home, and to select others from their town-
ships in their stead. I would like to learn
some of them how to soldier. But I must cease
talking about the matter lest you conclude I
am quite spunky, and that the boys are a great
bother to me, which is not really the ^{case}. I am only
talking because I want to say something about
those fellows of there who won't come to the
war, and because I haven't got anything else to
to talk to Dollie about, without commencing on
a new subject, and it is too late to do that
to-night, even if I felt myself competent. I have
written much more than I expected to when I com-
menced, and I don't know but I should ask you

Excuse me for not stopping sooner. It is such
a poor letter, and then my darling deserves
such good letters too; but I can't help it for, and
I guess I will just take to sending you the letters
just as I write them without any apology. You
know me, and you know just what kind of letter
I can write, and what is the use in apologising
Inspectors here in the army won't take excuses or
apologies for anything or any defect or error, and how
do I know but Dollie is the same way. If you
are tell me sweet for and I will know how to
proceed hereafter.

The rain has ceased a little, but it is thunder-
ing in the distance, and every now and then the
lightning flashes and makes all out of doors
as light as day. I think it will rain hard
again in a very short time, perhaps half an
hour; but I must go to bed so I can
sleep while it falls on the roof. I always
liked that, you know

Cooly sweet Dollie
Pooches

St Charles Arkansas

April 7th 1865-

My Darling,

I have had company all evening, until just a few minutes ago, and ^{it is} now getting quite late and I am sleepy, but I must talk to you a little while before I go to bed. The mail boat will pass down to-morrow night, and I must have a letter ready, or you will be after having me sick or captured by the rebels, and I am not quite ready to suffer either of those punishments, yet, I would rather do without sleep for a while.

Five of our officers came up yesterday evening, all looking finely. They are in fine spirits, and are ready to fight again if necessary, but they are like Will, they won't go foraging. They are having a good time generally. They are out playing evens to-night.

I got two good letters from you yesterday evening, and they make me still more uneasy about you my pet. Your wound is not going to get well, I am afraid, my darling, and if it doesn't it will soon form an open ulcer, which will not

heal, probably during your lifetime. I don't know
what to tell you to do for it, my sweet pet,
except to quit using it. It can't get well as long
as you continue irritating it at work. You must
not tell me, you can't get a long without using it
for I know you can, and you must, my sweet darling.
It will be too bad for you to have a running sore on
your shoulder all the time, which I know you
will have unless you get it cured up soon. You must
^{not} do anything that will irritate it in the least. Working
in the garden will ruin you my sweet pet. You
must not do it. You must not do anything until you
are sure the wound is entirely well. It is it that
makes the other shoulder hurt you. It may cause it
to gather and break too. General Rice was wounded
in but one leg, but the other one was the worst
when he died, and had more to do in killing him
than the one that received the shot did. You need
not tell me not to be uneasy, for I can't help it,
my darling. If I know you would take good care of
your sweet self, I would ^{not} be much troubled about it,
but I almost know you will work, and I know too
that work - such work as you will do, may ruin my
Polly. Take care of your self my darling. Get some good oint-
ment and put on it. Perhaps that will help it.

Send to Dr Gibbons and have prepare you some
so may cure it up.

Sergeant Maiken is all right, and acknowledged
to be among the best, if not the best non-Commis-
sioned officer in the Regiment. He and Sergeant
Parker have a small cabin to themselves, the
recruits coming down increased my company in
numbers until I was entitled to the 5th Sergeant. May
need not be afraid of Henry's reputation. Lovingly

Afternoon April 8th 1855

It is late my feet and we are expecting the
mail boat along in a few minutes, so I can't
write much this time. I will try and do better
the next time, which will be about to night,
after every body else goes to bed

I love you all the time my sweet feet
Lovingly

Peaches

St Charles Arkansas

April 2th 1865

My Dollie,

I have been having a suchre party at my house tonight. Captains Fee and Ledney have been in all the evening. They are as jovial as of old, and enjoy a game as well as any men can. It must be between eleven and twelve o'clock, but I am not sleepy, I would rather write to my darling than to go to bed. Sleep as much as I like it is nothing compared to talking to my feet. All the time the boys were here I kept thinking of home, and the loved ones there. You need not think I study about it so much. There is no danger of that. I always try to think of what is nearest my heart, and of course that is home and my feet.

I have not said much about the fall of Richmond, because you know more about it than I do. But I rejoice as much as you or any one else can. It is a death blow to the Rebellion, yet the war is not over, and will not be for sometime, unless Grant succeeds

in capturing a large portion of Lee's army, which I think he will do. I can't tell by looking at the map just how they are to get away. But suppose they do go to Danville, or into the country west of that point, or even into eastern Tennessee, what can they do? Their Civil Government is gone, their resources are destroyed, and they have not got sufficient power to reestablish the former or to build up the latter. Without both they can't continue the rebellion in an organized form. Grant and Sherman will not give them any time for recuperation, and without that necessary improvement, Lee I think will be unable to continue the organization of his army beyond August or Sept. at at farthest. I am going to bed now my sweet pet.

April 11, '65

Sweet Dollie. The news continues of the most cheering character. We have St. Louis papers of the 9th that confirm the previous reports of the rout and demoralization of Lee's whole army. We had a report a day or two ago that Sheridan had captured Gen. Robert Lee, but as I fully expected, that turns out to be a mistake, but Fitzhugh Lee, and Curtis Lee, and three or four other Maj. and Brig. Generals have been

captured, and are now in our possession, that, with Richmond & Petersburg, and thirty or forty thousand prisoners, and the utter demoralization of the whole rebel army, that has held Grant at bay for nearly one whole year, is victory enough for one week. But it seems our successes are not to stop with one victory, as has been the case in Virginia heretofore, for I see that Sheridan sends dispatches back to Richmond, that with proper energy he thinks that Lee and the remnant of his once proud and victorious army, can be either captured or forced to surrender. In case Sheridan succeeds as he expects, the rebellion organized rebellion will cease from that day; and with the army we have in the field the enemy can't afford to resort to guerrilla warfare. Mobile - if not already in our hands - must soon fall, and with it all the present garrison, the rebels in the South west, which I see Greeley puts at fifty thousand, can't possibly stand the pressure long. The leaders in that Department will have no cause to fight for an opportunity to escape, as the way is already open. They can

Cross the Rio Grande and go to Mexico and
no one will be likely to object, especially
if they will agree to remain there during their
natural life lives

I have not been much of a prophet, you know
since this war broke out, but now that the
heart of the rebellion has been pierced, ~~and~~ I
^{can very} well afford to give my opinion, as to
when the troops will be mustered out.
But you must not have the blues, or any
thing of that sort, when I tell you, that the Regt
in the Trans-Mississippi Department, will, in
all probability, have to remain some months
longer than the troops of the same call in the
eastern army. We are simply an army of ex-
ception, and barely strong enough to hold
the lines already established, and, according to
the latest reports, we have a larger rebel force
confronting us, in proportion to our strength
than any other ^{troop} force in the field. And then
it will take these broke-whackers in this
part of rebellion two or three months to get
the men, after peace is declared. But I am
not going to talk any more about it now
I want you to take more than good care of
your wound, my sweet pet. Get some good
ointment of Dr. Gibb's. Maybe it will
do some good. Richard wrote to me sometime
ago begging me to give him a part of his mate
Did you think he was that small I shall
not give him one cent. I am not around giving such
men. I love you my sweet pet Caddy

St Charles Arkansas
April 11th 1885

My dear Pet,

The elements are threatening again to night. The pealing thunder and flashing lightning, reminds us that it is necessary to make all things ~~ness~~ ready for the coming storm. It will be sure to come before morning, and if our doors are not shut and our windows closed, we will most likely feel its force more forcibly than will be pleasant. With everything secure it will be a good night to sleep. But if I were out in a tent, as I was at a certain time last summer, I dont know but I would sit up and wait its coming; in order to be able to defend myself and promises more successful than I did on that occasion. But now I have a house, made with hands, and I think it will do nothing worse than leak a little in perhaps a dozen places, if it storms over so hard

I have got my bunk in one corner ~~it~~ where
which it doesn't leak, and Orderly Brodhar
has his in another, but I am not so sure
of his safety. He must lookout for his own
comfort however. We are having a great deal
of rain of late - too much by one half
for comfort, but I don't see just how we
can avoid it, unless Grant and Sherman can
bring about a peace, and induce Uncle Sam
to send us to God's Country. But I must
not get to talking about that for fear
I don't quit when I ought to. I didn't
sleep much last night, so I will go to
bed now and take a little nap till
breakfast in the morning. Goodly

April 12th 1865

My Darling, We have been having a good time
this evening playing cribbe, The boys are just gone
We are all feeling good to-day. The news came up
this evening that Lee had surrendered himself
and ^{my} to Grant on terms proposed by Grant.
That ends the war, Sherman will press Johnson
back right into Grant's or Sheridan's clutches
that is if he doesn't surrender before they have
time to do it

I look for a general capitulation of all the rebel forces in a very short time; but a large army will have to be held until the States are properly back in the Union. It will take some time to accomplish that. Each State will have to set up, and establish a civil government for themselves; and then if they need any assistance, the government (that should have been a Capital C.) will have to furnish it, which will keep a large army in the field for a long time.

We all feel too good to do anything but holla and keep hollaring. What is the use of doing anything else. But then we must not get too much excited. It is not good for ones health, and then we are not ready to go home yet. When that day comes I am going to get on my stilts for good. I am going to stop this scribbling every day. There is enough of it - rest thou. I know you will think so whether you acknowledge or not. The weather is cool. We have quite a fire in the fireplace. Remember me to Conny, and all the friends. Sit down and have a good long talk with one sweet Dollie for me, does you? Truly Peaches

St Charles Arkansas

April 16th 1865

My Darling,

I see by your letters, that you are going to work in the garden and every place else, regardless of the condition of your poor shoulder. That is not right my sweet pet. If you dont nurse it now, there will be no use in doing it after awhile. It must be cured up immediately or the time will soon come when there will be no cure for it. You may think I am too anxious about it, but I know the danger Dollie. It will be an awful thing for you to have an open ulcer on your shoulder to annoy you for years to come, and that will be sure to be the result if you dont stop working, and try to cure it up. Let the gardening and sowing go my sweet pet, until another time. Your health is worth more to me than all the work a dozen women can do during a life time. If you love me you must take care of your self, and when the wound gets healed up you must consider it only half cured, for just as sure as you go to using it, it will break and run again. Wont you remember, and mind what I tell you to do my sweet pet? If you dont I will be after giving you a powerful scolding, as soon as I learn of your disobedience of orders: and I will quit writing about anything else until until you do learn to mind me

I took twelve men and went eight miles into
The Country yesterday, after beef and pork; and I
had a very pleasant time. The woods and prairie are
green and nice, though the prairie are not so nice
as our Iowa prairie are when the grass first puts
up in the Spring. We didn't see many citizens
and what we did see were quite shy. We got
plenty of good beef, and eight or ten hogs.
If Sherman captures Johnson, and father Abraham
issues a proclamation, declaring the Rebellion put
down, we will have to cease foraging, and
depend entirely on the Commissary for all we eat. That
will be little rough, unless he will furnish us
good beef. I have been eating green beef for so
long that I don't believe I can get on down here in
this wooded country without. It is the healthiest
diet I can get. But if I can only get on until
August or October, I will be all right, and ready
for that nice pork you have put up for us next
fall. I am sleepy and will go to bed. Sincerely
April 17"

My dear Pet. We have all got the blues to-day. We
got the news yesterday of the Assassination of
Lincoln and Seward. We can't help having the
blues any yet. I am afraid of Johnson;
still I hope he is all right. I can't
write any more to-day. It is nearly dark for all
time. We all well.

I love you with all my heart. Sincerely
Peaches

April 21st / 65

St Charles Arkansas

Dear Sister

Here we are, all tumbled
off together, soldiers, blankets, household
furniture—such as carpets, Socks, Duff
boxes &c. all out in the rain and
mud together. We arrived here
yesterday at about 2.30 P.M.

I found the boys in the best of
health and spirits. This is quite
a city, consisting of one house, and
some soldiers quarters.

The house is occupied by Gen Trayer
I believe. We found things a little
different from what we expected
from what we heard as we
came down the river. We heard
that Gen Drake was commanding
the post of Little Rock. Col Hamil-
ton was at Washington City.

1st Col Vermilion commanding
36th Iowa and Maj Peasey having

having a good time generally.
Instead of that, we found Drake
still wearing the silver leaf, and
commanding 36th Iowa, Maj Hammit
Inspector Gen of the post of St Charles
Capt's Vermilion and Sedney
commanding their respective companies.
It rained nearly all day yesterday
and was as muddy where we landed
as it knows how to get in Arkansas.
which is saying a good deal,
the consequence was that we thought
it a dreary looking place. Today the
sun is shining brightly, and the
wind blowing just as Iowa winds
blow, and everything looks considerably
better. I guess it will be a pretty
good place when we get our
barracks finished, and everything
in good working order. But then
I know you are impatient, and
getting a little out of humor
too I expect, to hear something

about your "Peaches". You wanted to know how he looked, what he said, how he liked his presents &c. &c. Well, he looks first rate. he always did, that you know - he looks just as he did the last time I saw him, eighteen months ago.

What did he say. He said How are you, how are all the folks at home, how is Mary, what have you brought for me. He asked a few more such questions, too tedious to mention now, perhaps I will tell you at some future time.

You want to know how he liked the things you sent him. From the way he pitched into the cigars and hickory nuts I think he liked them pretty well. He made no comment on the shirts except that he was needing them pretty badly. today he was complaining that you had sent him neither buttons nor studs. I am writing on the kitchen table

Mr Sheeks and John Tenton
are the cooks, Dinner is about
ready and John is pouring the
tea, So I will have to evacuate.
If this letter is not long enough
such as it is, just let me know
and I will get some large paper
Very love to Father and Mother
And my best respects to all enquiring
friends, if there should happen
to be any such,

Write soon and long and oblige
your brother
Will

• Sergt Waikers has gone up the river
a few miles with a party of men. to
tear up a town, and bring the lumber
down to finish our barracks, He is expected
this evening, The mail came in last night
but brought nothing for me, I hope I
will fare better next time.
How are Peppo and Ida getting along

St. Charles Arkansas

April 21st 1865

My dear Pet,

The boys are all here except a few who are detained in consequence of sickness. My Company are all here but four, I think they will all have to stop at the hospital. The present you sent me came all right - even the cigars. Thank you Dollie. Not many women would have sent their "Peaches" so fine a present as those cigars are. But I have had so many friends to-day they are nearly all gone. One was an old acquaintance belonging to the 128th Ills Inftry. His name is Bridges, and he is Surgeon of the Regiment. He read medicine in Marshall at the same time I was reading in Martinsville, I had a good time talking with him. The shirts are all right except the buttons on the Co-son - where there aint any, and I havnt got any studs to go where the buttons ought to be. It seems to me like you got them of me

at Mr Pratt's last winter and put them in
your trunk, to take care of them till I
would get home. If you didn't I have
lost them, but you must not charge them to me
Polly, for they didn't cost anything. I am
making buttons answer first rate. If you
have got them, keep them until I get home
I can use the socks very well, but I couldn't
help thinking of D Conley, my darling. The send-
ing of socks home has played out thought.
Will is looking finely, and he is as cheerful
as I ever saw him. So are all of the boys.
We will get our pay to-morrow morning.
Mine will be one thousand dollars, but it
will take a good share of that to pay
what debts I owe here in Dixie. I will
send you all I can use here, which will
be six or seven hundred dollars. Will that
satisfy you yet? If it don't I will have
to let you buy bonds with it, and give you
the interest. I am going to keep plenty
this time, to do me until winter out day
and as I don't know exactly when that day
will come, I guess I will make it an excuse to keep
a good deal.

I am going to bed my feet I will finish this to-morrow, and have it ready for the mail to-morrow night. I don't know anything else to talk about to-night. Perhaps I will have something to say to-morrow Soeally later. It is cold this morning. I had four blankets and an over coat over me last night and then I thought I would freeze. Will say he dreamt during the night, that he had a hard ague, and when he woke up he was nearly frozen, sure enough. The sun is shining brightly now and I think it will soon be warm.

We are going to be paid this morning. This p.m. all the troops at this "Pass" are to be formed, and marched in procession, with reversed arms and muffled drums, in honor of the late President Lincoln. I have not learned yet who is to deliver the address. Perhaps it will be some chaplain. Our regiment marches in front.

I have no news to tell you yet, and I must put this in the office, for I will not have time to write any this p.m.
Be sure and take better care of that soe shouldie my feet
I love you Soeally
Soeally

St Charles, Kansas

April 24th 1865

My Darling,

The mail boat goes down to-
morrow night, and I must write you a letter
before I go to bed this evening, or else you
will get none some mail day, when perhaps
you will want one as bad as I do just now.
The orderly and Will have just turned in for
the night. They are both staying in here with
me. Will is getting on finely. We had a
long talk night before last after Orderly
Brook had gone to bed. We didn't think we
were sitting up late, but when we got ready
to lie down it was long after midnight, and be-
fore we quit talking it was after two o'clock.
Last ~~night~~ night I slept to make it up. Today
I have been to the timber with the boys. We
went out after boards to cover my house with. It
is a good deal like the Arkansas traveler's was. It does
finely when the weather is dry, but it is very
inconvenient when it rains, which is pretty often.

When I am in a hurry it comes so handy
I can't help tearing the sheets in two, and going
right straight a head. Will you laugh at me,
or complain of me my sweet pet? But you
won't care so I don't send you blank paper, I
know. Tell me if you do my darling.

We have no news in this Department, except
that General Reynolds has sent a flag of
truce down to the rebel lines to see what
they propose to do; they were looking for it
back at the Rock several days ago. Perhaps
it has returned before now. We will learn
to-morrow evening when the boat comes down
I am so glad Stuart is getting well. Lincoln
is gone, which is a terrible loss to the American
people.

Morning - We have been business to-day. Lt
Miller is going to Helena to express money
home for the regiment. I am sending you
\$500.00, and some packages to be paid out to
the boys' friends. You can tell them by their
mark and directions. I want you to write
down or send down to Dave Stuart and have
hers paid to her individually. Those merchants keep it all
I love you
Truett Peaches

St Charles Arkansas

April 28th 1865

My Darling,

The mail boat will go down sometime to-morrow night, and if I dont commence writing this evening I am afraid it will carry Dolie no letter. The boys have kept me talking so much since they came back that I have not written as many letters as I should have done; but if you will forgive me this time I will reform, and promise you that I will do better in the future - Col Drake has just sent for me, I have no idea what he wants, but I will have to go and ascertain I will write more when I get back that is if he dont keep me until it is too late. Later. The Col kept me playing too long for me to write much to-night, but I beat him and that is some satisfaction. He dont like to be headed at anything he goes at, not even at card playing for fun.

I think I shall be proud of this letter, especially if I can finish it up with as nice Sentiments as I commenced it with. Examine The first page my darling and see if you dont think it is extremely fine. There is no news here whatever. That is pertaining to this Department. Some day Gen Reynolds has sent down to Kirby Smith, asking him to Surrender on The same terms Gen Grant received Lee and his army. At The latest accounts The flag of truce had not returned, though they had been looking for it for eight or ten days. Another report says Smiths Adjut Gen has been in The Rock for sometime, waiting for The matter to be settled. If There is any thing in any of The reports we will learn it in a few days. Sherman's Star has taken a tumble at last, and what a pity. I am sorry, but it will not injure him as a fighter. His military fame is too well established. But it only proves The more, that a man is not necessarily a Statesman because he is a fighter. My eyes are getting so heavy, I can barely keep them open.

Morning I dont feel very well this morning my
feet. I took cold last night, but it will soon
wear off I think. The morning is so fine one can't
help but get well of all such little ailments

To-morrow is muster day, and we will be busy
all the forenoon. Col Drake is going to inspect
the regiment, and from what he says he will
give us a pretty close looking at. The boys are
all hard at work cleaning up their guns,
clothing &c. so as to be able to get through without
being complained at. There are not many more
muster days now till the last one, even if
we have to stay till the 4th of Oct. which I
suppose we will have to do. The Major wrote
to the Adj't Gen. at Washington sometime ago,
and got a reply after days ago, stating
that all the Companies of our regiment were
mustered to date from enlistment, except "C", "D"
and "H"; but as the regiment was less than two
months organizing it would be held until the
3rd of Oct. the time at which the last Co.
term would expire if it were not for those three
Co. my Co. would go out on the 9th of Aug

we are going to try to the records corrected
If we succeed I will get out by the middle of
Aug.

I don't know what else to write about my
sweet Dollie. You must excuse if I send you
some blank paper this time, will get?
Tell Genny I remember her.

I love you.

Goodly

Peaches