

2013.70.32

Head Quarters 1st Div.

Reserve Army Corpse [sic],

Triune Tenn. June 14th 1863.

My Darling Wife .

How happy I am my love to be able to write you this evening this Sabbath evening. oh how I do wish I could have spent it with you my love - but as it has been I was oblided [sic] to make a sketch or survey of some country to day. I passed outside the lines about 10. o'clock & often making a circuit of several miles trough [sic] the woods & fields. perhaps traveling about 20 miles came into camp in [good] season this evening! Had quite an interesting ride too. but saw considerable distressed families of the Rebs - the head of which had been conscripted into the Reb. service.

These families (the poorer class generally) you will frequently meet in Tenn [sic] - a woman or some person who resembles one with a batch of little children huddled around her & she will say she has no one but herself to provide for them - quite different from the families of our soldiers who go to the war - they have no Soldiers Aid Society - Yes dear Sadie you have no ide [sic] how many suffer in this way - & sometimes too when they

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are really union in feelings & sentiment, but came under the cruel law of "Southern Conscription". So you see dear wife the difference of having a husband enlisted & fighting for a cause you approve of & having one enlisted in a [sic] army you despise and a cause you detest. Oh my sweet wife how much I have thought of you lately. I do so miss your sweet smiles & kind carresses [sic] - do you blame me love! how can I avoid it when my whole heart is absorbed in your love & esteeme [sic] - no I cannot and I always hope I may not. My love you see by the heading of my letter that our army here has been re-organized - Genl. Granger - has now an Army Corpse [sic] - the "Reserve" - is the title of it and a nice command is it too! this arrangement makes it better for General Baird, giving him now three Brigades, 1st Col. Atkins 2d Col- 3d Col - and black batteries - so General Baird now has for his command three Brigades of very fine & good dicaplined [sic] troops - making --- Regiments and --- batteries - you see it would not be proper for me to communicate the No of Regts & Batteries - because the letter - might get into the Reb's [sic] hands & thereby furnish them additional information.

Dear Wife how are you getting along! are you any better than you were - oh my dear Sadie how very glad would I be to come home & see you now, but low [sic] the time for it

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it appears has not yet arrived. Darling I would like to have you send me a few photographs of your self as I want to send a few to some of my friends - have you answered - Julie's letter yet! What a pleasant shower we had this evening my love - I wished you could only have been here in my tent to have heard it - how would you like to soldier with me a while. I guess not - but if the army does not advance I shall have my love here when she gets well - if I cannot get a furlough home - what does Sadie think of that! - well tis pretty late so good night hoping we all will do happy & good. I remain my sweet one your afft husb. C.D.

Monday morning June 15th / 63.

My Dear good morning. I am feeling very well this morning - how is my love? we had a nice rain last night & this morning the trees grass everything looks refreshed. I am not going out to day I am going or intend to stay in my office and finish my map or do some little towards it. what are you going to do to day. how pleased would I be to help you this morning. I suppose you are all going to be busy at something - some go to the farm some to the "Mill", & some at the house

Sadie I want you to learn to ride on horseback - you can take a kind and gentle one and bring it in town & learn cannot

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you - It would be very good for your health - Have you Franny yet, she would be good for you to ride - so when I come home I can have the pleasure of riding with you

In this country here all the ladies learn to ride & do so considerable so darling I think it quite an accomplishment - don't you - I have a little horse here I wish I had for you to ride - Sadie write me after will you - now good bye my love

Your husb. CT.D

Sadie

P.S. If you have an opportunity I would like to have about 20 lbs of butter sent me - butter here is very high & not to be had always CTD

P.S. [Schemehon] is in Freeport sick but will be here as [soon as] he gets well - you may send with him.

CTD

