

2013.70.40

Camp near Pond Spring P.O. Ga. Sept 16th 1863

My Darling Wife.

As I am not able for duty yet, I thought I could write you a more lengthy letter than the previous ones -

Well my sweet wife I find myself badly afflicted this morning with two of Jobe comforters - So I can fully sympathise [sic] with you now in regard to your similar affliction whilst I was at home - these commenced coming about one week ago - they are on the left thigh & leg & about 6 inches apart! So you see my limb is rendered useless - they are very painful indeed The Doctor says they are caused by constant riding in the saddle - I did duty with them several days after the [sic] commenced paining me so much - besides these boils I have that poison ivy of which I spoke whilst at home and the very warm weather here & constant riding & skirmishing kept my blood in such a state of heat that day before yesterday the Doc. said it was absolutely necessary to save my life for me to cease doing duty & lay up & be quiet. So I have done and the poison is much better - but will take a week to get well no doubt - This morning the Regiment moves to the front about 6 miles the Rebs are pretty stong there - I feel very bad to think I cannot accompany - them - as I have so far been with my Co. in every skirmish - but knowing I am not able I can be satisfied [sic] to remain

Was I not fortunate in starting from Freeport the time I did - by doing so - myself & Co. was

Page 2

the first to occupy Chattanooga - that was a point I would not take any thing for -

The Col. was just in to see me he goes now with the Regt out -Sadie you have no [idea] how our boys have rode in marching for the last 25 days - I am going to remain in this little hous untill [sic] I get well unless the Rebs [sic] disturb me - hav [sic] my horse & boy so I can mount at a moments warning - Those nice things, which [you] perhaps for me ~~came~~ are very nice now as I [an invalid]. [It] paid me for bringing him down - The county here is mountainous - and is the soil with small oak trees - tis rather a poor soil & scare [sic] of water - The inhabitants are mostly of a poor class - & now the army makes them poor indeed - Suppose the farther South we go the [better] people we will find - Many are [loyal] to [our] government - some are enlisting on the 92 Ill - There has been no rain here for a period of 8 weeks so you can imagine how dusty the roads are Where so many thousand troops are passing If you want to keep posted in regard to the 92 - you keep a look out for the Freeport Journal as a member of the Regt corresponds for it - I just recd a letter from Mother - She was well and said she hoped my dear wife was too - I do not think there will be a general Battle this side of Rome Ga - this morning I could distinctly hear skirmishing in the front - but we may have quite a fight - but the Rebs will not make a big fight North of Rome Ga

Page 3

now Sis you must look on the map & see where these places are - How are you getting along my dear - I cannot send that colored girl until we come North or until some one does from the Regt [sic] - I hope you are all prospering - finely - that your ma will arrange it so that she need not work so much I will wait a little longer & then finish the letter - If this army is successful in fighting or capturing many of his forces I think the war will close the coming winter - but a great battle in my opinion must be fought at Rome or near there before the contest closes or this campaign ends - My dear you must try and keep good health - be careful of you [sic] self on my account if on no one else's will you? - Give yourself no uneasiness concerning me for you know I always take good care of myself I am certain [sic] that I will come home home again to be with my sweet wife My Bro is well - he went out this morning in charge of the company - my men are most all well - tell Mrs Bigger - Company is well

Dear wife how frequently I've thought of you since returning - well good bye many kisses - your affct
Husband C.T. Dunham

Mrs Sadie D.