

2013.70.24

(Note: this letter is missing its first page (or more). The letter goes on for two and a half pages. Another letter begins on the bottom of the third page and ends on the fourth page.)

. . . which imbraces[sic] the forces in Illinois Indiana Ohio & I believe Iowa, thought he could find some work for us [after] a little, Don't know dear Saddle that I have much to write until [sic] hearing from you again, which I expect soon. I love to write you dear Saddle, and value your letters more than anything else that I could receive from any body, for they seem like So may [sic] pleasant hours in which you are talking to me face to face.

I say you write a splendid letter. How much my heart would have been gladdened had I received such kind and good letters whilst away in Pikes Peak. Dearest, it was for you that I came back. All my interests other wise were there.

You can emagine [sic] dearest, what my feelings must have been whilst absent eight months in the Rocky Mountains. When I tell you that then you were my only idol—that I loved you with all the fervency & earnestness of an humble heart & in that time could not hear one word from you. Although I then believed you

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would have written had you not been influenced by others to the contrary.

Yes. I say am glad [sic] that I returned. That I have your love and kind and cheering smiles—& am permitted to do something for my country in the present war, which I could not have well done had I remained in the Territories. Suppose the day will pass away as usual at near sun set comes dress parade_ then the visitors come in—the ladies of course honor us by their presence on such occasions. Some of the boys have already made some pleasant acquaintances. frequently [sic] want permits to leave camp, (have some excuse of course) but really wish to return the visits made by their lady friends. Never do they visit our camp, but what I think of you. How I should like to show you around the camp. Saddle—it is really pleasant here. That picture which you did not like so well, but gave me, looks prettier every day! Have written now more than is readable—will close by bidding you a Goodbye. This I expect to hear from you quite

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often. From your affectionate friend. C.T. Dunham

To: Sarah E. Cummings

Saddle I sende[sic] you a rough sketch of my tent which I have for drafting purposes. You see it is surrounded by long Beach. C.T. Dunham

Monday Morning, June 17th,

Dearest Saddle

I received a very kind & good letter from your mother this morning & was sorry indeed to learn that you were unwell, that you were threatened with a fever. Please Saddle do not neglect to do something immediately [sic] that will prevent you from sickness. My dear do not let anything trouble you—am afraid that you have worried too much on my account—do not, for I am well never enjoyed better health than I do now—I have everything necessary. I should feel so bad to hear that you were sick with the fever that I do sincerely [sic] hope you may get well before it has really got a footing. Am glad that you ~~have~~ are not attending school for hard study would be injurious very [sic]—

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This is a beautiful cool morning—much cooler than we have had since coming here. I wish you were well & here to enjoy it. Your mother very kindly invited me ~~to~~ when I came back on a visit to make her house my home—which I will be very happy to do. Now dearest do not worry will you. I will assure you that I will make you a visit before long. If I should ask for a pass at the present time before the organization of the Regiment, others in our Co. would claim the same right & it would tend to make uneasiness among the boys. but[sic] in a few days I think we will be sworn in for three years & then I assure you dearest, I shall be so happy to make you a visit: we are in a few minutes going out to practice shooting at a target. ~~I wrote you~~ I will write your mother today. Goodbye Saddle & hope you may very soon be well.

From your dear friend

S.E.C. C.T. Dunham