

Ltd

Benjamin

Nashville Tenn Feb 29th (64)

(1864)

this evening finds me well
 the regt is here --- we have been for one day and night we arrived here
 Sunday about 2 oclock last night we pitched our tents for the night and
 during the night it rained very hard the water run under the tent and routed
 me out and I evacuated it has rained all day but we are in a femail Colege
 to night So we fair very well for soldiers this has been a very extencive
 Colege but it has been through the war so it doant look very nice at presant
 well we will remain here till to morrow ^{morro}wean(?) there we will leave for
 Chatanoga then I expect we will go from there to Notville where there is
 some fighting to be done that is the place for the ninth there is a great
 many Solders here laying here garding this town that is prety near gon back
 We see three negros to one white man. Everything is very high here we
 have to pay 60 cents for a meal and then be launced (?) at last if you have
 more than one cup of coffee they charge you.10 cents extry Ike is all
 right I expect that we will get to see Alf prety Soon for we are going through
 where they were the boys keeps so mutch nois that I cant write I got
 back to Indianapolis in good time the regt was just redy to march down to
 the depot to take the train but those that went to prices didant get back nor
 haint got up yet I wish that we had of went to prises that night We would of
 had a good time for the boys was there I expect waiting for us to come
 well I will Close this letter for the candle is a bout out I will write to all of
 you when I get time give my love to all

Phillip M. Benjamin

To all my friends that may have the pleasure of reading this
Good by

Gallipolis March the 9

1864

L to L

Camp Harker Tenn

Aprile the 23, 64
and Welcome

Dear Sister

I received your long look for letter a few days since I was sorrow to learn that your health had been so poor Well Lib it is the same thing over and over the camp is full of rumors of being payed and being discharged of going to Texas We have some prety good times for all its so lonesome in camp One night last week the boys of the 1st Division formed a torchlight procession and marched to Gen. Stanleys Head qrt and he made is a speech and several others spoke I will discribe the procession as well as I can we had candles lit and used our bayonets for to hold them up with at the head of every Regt they had diferent representations painted on pup tents or paper with the light inside to make them show plain one that I noticed had a big Eagle and under one wing having Jeff. Davis the other Waid Heanpton and a thousand other paintings that I woant mention they was all drawn by the best of painters Now for that visit you spoke of I will go and you must be ready when I come home when ever that is I want to go in a bout a week after I get home then I expect to go west on a long visit and more than likely make that my home in some wild country there will be a huge a mount of soldier go west as soon as they get out of the service Ike is well I have wrote all that I can think of this time when you write give all the news I have lost track of every thing most give my compliments to all the folks the mail hasent come in for the last three days on the account of some bridges being washed a way between here and Louisville I cant say when this will reach you I should have wrote ear this if that obsticle hadant of been in the way

yours
truly
P. M.
Benjamin

L to L

12/12/64

Nashville, Tenn

December the 12 th, 1964

Dear Sister

This cold morning I will answer your letter which I received a few days since the morning before I received yours I mailed one to you so I wasn't in any hurry about writing to you I must write to Alf and Hamp or I am a letter due them Well it is very cold for this part of the world but I guess the rebs can stand it We can they are in our front There is some fighting at intervals along the line with little damage to either party

Well you spoke of those things which I thought of sending for the reason why I did not send for them is this We have got to this place where we can get any thing that we need by paying a big price I will give a few of the prices butter \$1. Apples 3 for a quarter bread 20 cts loaf about the size of a biscuit other things in proportion fresh pork 25 cts a pound but after all we have lived pretty part since we have been here in Nashville Well I havent any thing of importance to writ at the preasant Ike got your letter he is well

I doant know if I
wrote or not he is
driving the Regiment
Headquarters wagon I see

him every day. Give my compliments to all the folks I hope you all will have a pleasant Holidays I Should like to be at home long enough to help eat some turkey I have wrote all that I can think of You will have to excuse this Short letter

I am as ever your Brother
P hillip M Benjamin

(at the top of this letter and apparently unrelated)

G. S. Kendall,,Co,,D,,12,
Indiana
Voleteers

L-10

Camp blue Springs
Tenn

April the 11th 1864

Well Lizzie I have the pleasure of answering your letter that I received a few minutes ~~Since~~ I am well and have being every since we have been here We have been out to drill this fore-noon We was shooting at target that was fun for me Ike and Alf was here and herd the leter red with mutch anxiety for the mail has ben very small for us I got 3 to day Alf thought that he orto have a leter to day but it didnt come. tell Jance that she woant have any excuses ~~this time for I have writ to her~~ you said that you herd that Chatanuga was is the rebs hands that is a mistake for when they take that place our Corespondence will be plaid out for that is all the route that we have any communication with the north and all of our provisions and munitions of war have to come through that place we are about 30 miles from Chatanuga. The rebs is in force at dalton about 20 miles from her they have made ther appearance close to this place but they was in small parties they have ~~intension~~ ^{intention} to attack this place old grant will change the program the army of the potomac will have to do some fighting before long he will take the starch out of them I think Well I will send you his and Rosecrance potographs the leading men of the day you must try and write more the next time I want to know if Sant was to see the folks at White or not and tell uncle that Ike wants to know if that sertificate was all right or not and how the bounty is progressing then I will send for to have him to draw mine if it is to be had Nancy writes that ~~she~~ ^{she} tok a visit to the battle ground and she had a bad spell of sickness there She writes to her cosins ~~the~~ ^{the} 15th will be home soon they are at Chatanuge there is some talk of this Regt going to the army of the potomac I cant tell whether we will or not tell hamp that I will write him a leter before long I have writ all that will be pendent this time give my kind regards to all enquiring friends I will bring this to a close

Fix ?

Phillip. M . Benjamin
your brother

Ike and Alf sends their love to you all

Thomas you must write

Pulaski , Tenn

L to L
re sister letter
date 11/11/64

November the 11th 64

I Dear Sister this mornings Sun has rare bright and beautiful after a long rain. I received you leter the other day but havent been in mutch of a hurry to write as there is a bridge washed away in the railroad between here and Nashville So that the mail cant go nor come it is thought that to day the cars will run through.

Well we are a long way from where I wrote the last letter Since that time we have been on the march over mount through valley where we got no mail nor rations Though we had plenty to eat for our regt was alone in a ritch contry where there had not been any army through and we had orders to live of the citizens which we did so we lived well We had chickens potatoes apples and honey sorgum fresh beef and pork Well everything that a good contry could aford. We arrived here about the 3 of this month then we got a bug file of letters for the regt at this place the Regt joined the Corps it is thought that old Hood is coming to pay us a visint I hope he will for I am tired of running after him I think the 4th Corps will remain here for some time if it does after while I will send for a box of things that I cant get here very well they are makeing preparatioons to pay us off. There is a part of the 9 cavelry her but they cant tell me any thing of Wess Louey do you ever hear from him I am glad to hear from the draft there is two hundred on the way to join the 9 that will swell the ranks considerable.

I have Some beans on cooking for diner they bother me some to keep fire under them you and jen had beter come over and help me eat the beans if she is not dead I would like to hear from her any how if you cant come I have wrote to her ask her if She got my letter Well I should like to have a drink of cider and a big apple they are scarce here. Ike is well he said that he would write some of these days Well I have wrote all that I can think of this time Cay wail I doant hardley know him so I cant say what he is

give my love and respect s to all my friends. I remain your brother

Phillip Miller Benjamin
PMB

Ltd.

(This letter is badly torn and much is missing. It seems to have been written sometime in Dec 1864 since it mentions Nashville Tenn and the battle for Nashville was Dec 15-16 64)

D -----

Dea-----

finds ----

with pen----

purpose----

you well-----

bloody co-----

once was lucky enough-----

not git in very l-----

Suppose you have th-----

the fight this -----

no loss as we was b-----

and the rebs give s-----

volley but on ----

us they was -----

with a heavy los-----

Our wounded fell in th-----

hands so fell back here in the night and are in position

a round Nashville and the reble army is in our front the pickets Keep firing at intervals

a long the line and some artilery friring with--little damage. Well lib I have wrote to

you

all fast but havent received a letter since the 1st of Nov the day we arrived there

then I wrote to all that I thought to be my friends but I suppose the mail has been captured or els I should have got the answer to some of them before this

-----in George la-----

-----is well his cap-----

-----franklin the re-----

-----r got through al-----

-----sh---lke is well -----

Give my respects to all my friends tell them to write as I have wrote last and they have the best chance to write at the present

(Laoll?) by P.M.Benjamin

brake the lines b. ---

Not a corrected

italics

L to L

OTI

Camp of the 9th Ind

March the 29th 1865

Dear Sister

At length I have the pleasure of answering your kind letter of the 15th which I received on the march to this place that I havent learned any name for we are camped in the woods on the Bristol and Knoxville R.R. 65 miles east of the latter we have stopped for the purpose of repairing the railroad which rebles have burned we have had some prety hard marching since we left Huntsville this is nearly three hundred miles from Huntsville We are in Tenn at the presant

I saw James Hughs a fiew days before I left and louis Glacier the later was in the hospital but wasant bad sick they belong to the G. Co. 35th Regt of Ind Pontoonery the Regt did belong to this division but they all signed to the pontoon train.

Well the peach trees is in full blume and every thing looks nice and like pleasure more than like war though we can see the horrors of war on every hand the women and children coming from every State to our lines for protection and food to keep them from starving they travel through the contry and camp out where the night over takes them and when they are near wher there is any camp of our solders then they wait till they move camp then they can pick up old clothing and meat crackers that is left scattered over the camp Lib I had thought of not having to write any more for it seemed to me that I was never going to get a letter any more yours was the first since I left Huntsville it seemed like a year well I have another poto to send you it is one of the boys ilf (Alf) will know it well I have wrote everything that I can think of this time as ever your Brother P.M. B

Ltol

Camp of the 9th Ind
April the 5th 65

Dear Sister

I take this pleasant morning to write a few lines for I am at leasuer to day well but some what lonesome wel as I write I hear the boys hollowing maile probably I will git a letter the last brought me three the first for a long time I had become weaned So that I could do very well with out any I think that I will come home this summer for the news is very good now

Well I will try to tell you where I am this is a long way from where we was when I last wrote We are 65 miles east of Knoxville Tenn near tthe North Carlinia line Well the mail has been distributed but I was not ~~represented~~ in this mail *represented*

Lib as to your marring I havent a word to say you have to make your own choice and if you git a bad bargain that is your look out you didant Say when probbely if you put it off till fall I can be at home this war is going to close soon for Sherman and Grant is the men that will do the work

I havent any thing to write of any importants there isant any enemy in this part of country worth mention

I will bring this scribling to a close probably I will have more to write to you the next time lke is well

I am as ever your brother and well Wishes

Phillip (large tear)

Good By

Phillip M Benjamin

*reprint
709 upside down*