

c3-7-1863-

Head Quarters 7th Ind Regt
Near Murfreesboro Tenn
March 7th 1863

Dear Wife and Children

I embrace the present opportunity to address a few lines to you to let you know that I am well and hearty and hope these few lines may find you the same I have not heard from you since I last wrote to you

There is nothing of importance going here at present any more than our Regt has received their pay yesterday for four months I will send you some of it I guess but I will write again when I send it I have paid all of Jims acts here for which he promised to pay you I have not heard yet if he had got his pay in fact I have not heard from him since he left here I will send you a statement of his account

Money Borrowed of Mr.	\$ 15,00	
Paid Vutler	\$ 84,60	
" Finney	\$ 20,50	
for cooking to Geo. Beitzell	\$ 12,50	
Comisary Bill	\$ 19,39	
Moseley	\$ 3,00	
Clothing down 2 M	\$ 4,50	
Washed old Mest coat	\$ 6,71	
Silver Vet Mest coat	\$ 12,00	Total amount

\$ 187,20

The Total amount of the bill which he borrowed and that which I settled for him, is one hundred and eighty six dollars and ninety cents which he said he would pay to you. I sent \$50.00 fifty Dollars to a Lieut in the regt by the name of Mattingly untill the next pay day.

The weather has been cool and blustery here since Monday to day it is raining but thank the Lord, we have a tent over our heads and will do very well if we do not have to throw out or March. I understand that Col Gross and Phil Wiggins has gone home I hope that I may get an opportunity to go some of these days but I have no prospect at this time. Maj Blanch is at a farm house yet he has not taken the corn yet since he came here and I do not know how soon he will be here I wish he would as I probably would have some show for a leave of absence but I do not know. I think that it was an outrage that he got the appointment but so it was and probably it was for the best. The Lord only knows.

I should like very much to be there when Dick and Lizzie were there give them my love and tell Dick to write to me Give my best regards to all my

3-7-1863

Friends I received a letter from Thed: Neurn
this week tell him I will answer it soon

I was glad to hear from Beall but
I think he is very negligent I wrote two or three
letters to him and recd no answer so I stopped
writing Give my Love to Mother Mary Laura

Tip the children and keep account of them and I
will pay you interest on them when I get home

My Love to All of you

The Lord Bless you

John C. McLean

Mrs Mary Ann McLean }
Richmond Ind }
}

D I have rec some of

P S Since writing the above I have writ a letter
and sent 200 dollars the 700 hundred and ten
dollars the ten dollars is a demand Note and there
has been 70 odd cts premium on it

~~I have changed my Note~~

Duff is a going to pay Me 1000 ten dollars
he said he owes Jim that will leave the amount
one hundred and seventy six dollars and
ninety cents \$176⁹⁰/₁₀₀

23-7-1863

March 7th 1863

Camp near Murfreesboro Tenn

Dear Wife

We have just recd orders to be ready - to march but I do not know if we will go soon or not but I thought that I would start ^{my money} ~~it~~ to night to you for fear we should go and I should not get an opportunity

I send you two hundred and ten dollars
The ten dollars is a demand note

and is at a premium of 70, ^{cts} or was a few days ago but you can do the best you can with it; if you had it last week you could have got 17 dollars for it

but use your own pleasure about it either sell it or keep it as you like I will write again soon. good night

John S McBray

c 3-8-1863

Camp Near Murfreesboro Tenn
March 8th, 1863

Dear wife

I have just received your letter of March the first and second. I am very glad to hear from you. I am very sorry to hear that you are having the tooth ach. for I know how bad you have it. but I am very glad to hear the rest are all well and hearty. we have been blest with health and should feel very thankful. I think

I got my new pen all right it is a very good one and none so large it makes no difference about the holder now as I have lost the holder I appear to be very unfortunate about my pens lately they are the only thing that I have lost, I will buy a holder here some where. I guess that I can buy one in town.

I am very much pleased with it I think that it will suit me first rate when I get used to it.

I sent you a letter yesterday and sent you your acct that he owes me it is one hundred and seventy six dollars and ninety cents \$176⁹⁰/₁₀₀. When he first wrote it it was \$186⁰⁰/₁₀₀ but I off I say that he owe him ten dollars that he will pay to me and that leave it \$176⁰⁰/₁₀₀. That he owe me he will be paid for it to you, and so see all God's in today.

and sent you by Jim two Hundred and ten
Dollar \$210⁰⁰ he is going to start home
he saigt about Tuesday he thinks, the ten
Dollar bill is one of them demand notes
and last week was worth 17 Dollars but has
gone down since as the price of gold goes
down but use it to suit yourself either sell
it or keep it as you like, I have sent
fifty Dollars to a Lieut Mattingly of our regt
untill the next pay day

I got a letter from Frank yesterday was
written on the 4th of this month he was well
he said that he was in charge of a pontoon
train these over Harpeths river, I have not
heard from Jim since he left here but I suppose
he has been up to see you before this time

I have finished up Jerry Hyatt's Discharge
to day and he talked of coming home Tuesday
I may send this by him as it will come just
in soon by him as it would by mail if he
is going right through I will see if he is going
straight through Home, I seen Ed Pickett
to day he is in Murfreesboro with some goods
he looks very well George Davidson was over
to see me to day, I saw her to the 86th
the other day Sam Coulter was over and
spoken with Mrs Hamilton if you
tell her that I been her brother Terres and

He was quite well and hearty.
I understand that Col. Gage and Phil
Wiggins have gone home. It seems that some
folks are fortunate but I am glad that some
one can get to go home and wish it was
(A) you say Tilley wishes to know if I remem-
ber her I should think I did and remem-
ber all about the trip and washing her face
and all I suppose she is not married
again I should like to be at home to see
some of the friends you speak of in your
letters and give you some of those kisses
you speak of, but the good time will
come some day the Lord willing.

When you get that money let me know
and tell me how much money you have all
together as I should like to know.

I had a good mess of oysters today I was
in town and the cars came in and they
bring fresh oysters here now I bought a car
and took out with me paid \$2.00 for it.

We had oyster soup oyster fried and oyster
and I tell you they were good eating
I do not recollect of any thing more at pre-
sent, last night we were ordered to have three
rations in our haversacks and be ready
to move at any time but I do not think
that we will make any forward movement.

might away, we may move right away and
may not move for a month yet there is no
selling Give my love to Mother and Mary
and all engineering friends and take unto
your self a large portion Kiss the children
for me and May the Lord bless and keep you
all Good Night

John S. McLean

3-12-1843

Head Dept of the War

Camp near Murrumbidgee River

11 March 1843

Dear and Beloved Wife

It is now half past

five o'clock when I sit down to

write you a few lines if received

our welcome letter of the 8th

evening and was pleased to hear

from you and that you were all

well. I have not heard from you

for several days before and when

I do not hear from you ever feel

that it seems like an age. I

am so glad to hear that

Wells has come home and

should be rejoiced to see him

from school. I trust he will

be particularly well. I am

five better days of small business

well I am surprised at you, never say

remember if we may think of the best

even think you are very well. I will give

it to you some of these days when I can

you and you say the weather is very

these I hear that you have quite a snow

then last winter has been a

quite well here for some days but your

monthly work is being done in a

if you had such a weather, I am

the papers that are in the paper has been

for more to be a long time

of my mind to have that and

for the winter I am better than

but only a couple for a year and

and it will be long

Good night

John D. ...

and I hope you will have

the same

My love, I never was so surprised from Nashville, I do not know
in my life as I was when I read where the 84 is but it is either near
your letter saying he had come Nashville get or gone out towards
Franklin, Frank was out near
Franklin week before last, I read
a letter from him he was in
Nashville, I had a nice dinner
I read and washed potatoes which
was a great rarity to me as we get
no vegetables here we got them of him
I got De Master at Memphis for about
about a dollar and a quarter per bushel
which is low to what they are
in here in town, as I received them
last week and they were only the
insignificant price of 500 per bushel
I had to pay for them
at the price of the old time but
now, I do not think any set at
that I say, you do not go into
the market that you can't manage
it better than I can.

My love, I never was so surprised
in my life as I was when I read
your letter saying he had come
Franklin, Frank was out near
Franklin week before last, I read
a letter from him he was in
Nashville, I had a nice dinner
I read and washed potatoes which
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the market that you can't manage
it better than I can.

3-14-1863

Camp Near Muskegeto Iowa
March 4 1863

Dear and Beloved Wife

I wrote to you two or three days ago but I always write whenever I have an opportunity and it is more pleasure to me to write to you than anything else that I can do here so whenever I have any spare time I employ it in writing to you,

The weather is beautiful here now today was like spring so pleasant that we have no fire here today and I am sitting writing to you to night with the tent open and no fire it is now past eight o'clock night Oh how I wish that I

could be with you tomorrow and spend the day would it not be nice to dandle your pet on my knee and kiss their sweet lips till they looked red again and then to take a walk on a ride and eat a nice dinner

but I am afraid there is a many a family in this world that their husbands are away in the army fighting the battles of their Country and their families are suffering for enough to eat and have not got nice dinner to eat those who at the present moment are

coming to the aid of our country in various ways but their families are suffering for enough to eat and have not got nice dinner to eat those who at the present moment are

great to hear that the farmers of Wayne County
are so generous to those families at home and
are considering for them so liberally,
it is just as if you by getting your that
out something to day that I have not can
to a long time and that was a real gift
and Indiana Dinner with the exception of
the system sent Mathewly of Co. R had a
box of nice eatables sent him by his Mother
from and he had some cake and small
cakes dinner canned blackberries peaches preserves
peaches canned honey dried peaches and apples
and cut-knives and I do not know what
else and he had a dinner and invited several
of his officers and it was a nice one I can
imagine but I suppose that it was an
accident that it got through to you
I am still in good luck of the best we
in rather than asking them every day, how
we have a fine camp, the fall one we have
we had, I think, the men had quarters
our camp and recommenced it as a matter
for other things by

Now I would be all right give my love
to all and tell them to write to me for it is
a great pleasure to us poor soldiers to know that
we have some friends who care enough for us to
write to us once and a while

I will send this by Charley Holloway, David's
son he is going to start home to Morrow on
a furlow it is the first furlow that has been
given in our Regt for a long time I do not
know how he came to get it as we have tried
several and he is the only one we have been able
to get through, I see by the Nashville paper
today there is a report they have captured 7 thousand
men and transports on the Yazoo river, but I
am in hopes it may prove true

I read the Palladium yesterday of the 6th of
this month it was a welcome sight to me

My love to all of you Good Night I send
love at times to you

Your Loving and affectionate
Husband

Jesse S. Graw

Jesse S. Graw

Indiana

Indiana

3-15-1963

March 15th 1963 Sunday Morning This is a beautiful morning warm enough to go in shirt sleeves almost and every thing look beautiful the grass is springing up the flowers are springing into bloom the birds singing and as I set here writing I can hear the brass band or goss brigade playing and discoursing sweet music

as I was writing the thought of Mrs Mount and your act of her death came into my mind poor thing she had a short career of happiness in her married life I guess she never see very much, remember me to Mrs Patterson and Etta and Mrs Jordan and Jim and all enquiring friends We'll soon and often think of
me
Your Loving Husband

John D. Graw

23-16-1863

Head Quarters Indiana Tols

Camp Near Murfreesboro Tenn

March 16th 1863

Dear and Beloved Wife

To morrow will be saint patricks
day in the Morning the weather is and has been
beautiful here for some days, spring sure enough
although the spring is not as forward as it was
last year. I do not think, as the peach trees were
in bloom here last year when I came from home
(the sweetest of all places) but they may be out this
year by that time for they will soon be out if
this weather should continue, but as to morrow
is the 17th it may change before morning,

we are laying here in camp drilling a couple
of hours a day, beautiful weather and a splendid
camp the finest we ever had and the finest
that I have ever seen and we have the credit
of having the finest camp in this army, and it
is pointed out as a model, the health of the
troops is very good better than usual a great deal

the men look well and in good spirits
they look clean and nice they look like
different men to what they did when you saw
them at Louisville they are well dressed now
and have plenty of clothing you would hardly

Know your own Pet there is such a change in
him if you were to drop down on us at dress
parade or in fact at any time through the
day and see him playing Colonel setting
back in my tent with my good clothes
on after seeing me at Louisville with my old
duds on, Yesterday in the afternoon
it being Sunday we had nothing to do I
took a fine ride Col Wood (that is commanding
our brigade temporarily as Col Wagner is commanding
the Division and Gen Wood is commanding the
21st Army Corps now in the absence of Gen Crittenden)
came up to camp and invited me to take
a ride over the battle field so at 2 o'clock
we started Col Wood, Col Harker commanding 3rd Brigade
of our division Col Barnes commanding 9th Ohio
Major Moore of same regt and their staff and
several other officers quite a party of us crossed
the river and rode off over the ground where
so many men a few short weeks ago were
engaged in deadly strife, but now everything
was quiet and calm and but for the earth
works and breast works thrown up and the
trees cut off and scared up by shot the
dead horses lying scattered over the ground
and here and there the grass of those
poor fellows who have lost their lives some

in defence of this our once glorious Republic
others in the attempt to destroy that which our
ancestors had shed so much blood to establish
you would not suppose that there had been
such a storm of Passion and frenzy as was their
Displayed, but as it is you would think that
the besom of Destruction had passed over the
place. The fences are all gone not one to be
seen nor house they are all torn down and
destroyed. The woods hundreds of trees cut down
by cannon shot and shell and as you pass
through them every tree scared up by rifle balls
some trees dozens of balls in them and every tree
almost with one or more balls in them. Trenches
dug long lines of logs and stones piled up
and every thing destroyed for miles will show
for years to come, the spot where the angel of
death had spread his wings and flapped
them with such vehemence, well after leaving
the battle field we recrossed the river and passed
through town out on the Merwin hills like
past Gen Thomas corps and Gen Perrins Head
is called at the 36th and Dec Col Cary called
at the 6th this and Lieut Col Christopher a brother
of W^m Christopher that used to be in partnership with
Ball and then passed on home (that is a soldiers
home) after riding right at nine miles.

It was a very pleasant ride and I enjoyed

3-17-1863

it very much, this fine weather causes me to think of home and those that are so dear to me there, I think if I could only get to visit them and spend some time with them we would all be so happy in one another's society we could appreciate I think I could the comforts of home, but the life that I am leading agrees with me very well and I would be very well contented I think if it were not for those I left behind me it has been a year now since I have been to our home once so happy and I pray that by the grace of God it may be so soon again.

My Love to you and Many Kisses to all,
Believe Me Your Most affectionate
Husband

John S McGraw

M^{rs} Mary Ann McGraw
Richmond,
Indiana

March 7th

This is a beautiful day very warm more so than any we have had this spring it is now 2 o'clock and I must take the car out on bat drill

Head Des 57th Regt and Col
Camp near Humphreys Tenn

March 20th / 68

Dear and Beloved Wife

Since writing to you I have recd
two letters from you of the 18 & 15th I am very glad to
hear you all keep so well health is a great
blessing I am glad to hear that your is there
and am glad to hear from him I received a
a letter from him day before yesterday which
I will answer soon Remember me to him,
we are still in our old camp yet and
would not be surprisid if we should be here
for some time yet but our Movements will
be regulated a great deal by the Movements of the
Enemy if the ^(report of the) Evacuation of Petersburg is correct
and they join the army in front of us I do
not think that we shall move soon, but
if they should come here to fight us I think
that we could whip both their armies combined
as we are well prepared for them and the army
are better clothed and in better spirits and
in better condition than they have ever before
been since we have been out, our men
look fine better than I have ever seen
them, I have not heard from Frank since
I ~~have~~ wrote to you, I seen Capt Graves
this morning he was well and looking
quiey, I am very glad to see the spirit

that prevails in the county of Wayne among
the farmer in furnishing the families of
soldiers and preventing suffering it speaks
well for old Wayne, I see Willie Payne
this morning he is well,

there is not much news stirring here
at present so I will bring this to a close
by sending Love and Many Kisses to
all
Your Loving Husband
John D. McGraw

Mrs Mary Ann McGraw }
Richmond }
Indiana }

Camp Near Murrells Bluff Tenn

March 22nd 1866

Dear and Beloved Wife

I have written two or three letters to you last week but I feel as if I must still write to you again to night I forgot to tell you in my last letter that we had a grand review by our regiments on that day of our camp it was a beautiful sight to see I wish you had been here, the people of the Northern States never get to see butch a sight as that was, the rebels are getting very bold in this neighborhood on Friday night they came up on Jeff Davis Div and he moved to town and went out the next morning and ~~and~~ them back and the same day Halls Brigade with one section of the 19th battery that Clint belongs to went out to Milton the place that we went to a short time ago and they were surrounded by about 7 or 8 thousand they say of Morgans Men, but our men drove them off before reinforcements came out of which there was a large no passed our camp, our men lost about 12 men killed and 40 wounded and the rebel loss was about 300 killed and wounded they say

This has been a very Pleasant day here in the sunny South it is beautiful day weather Now the Peach Trees have been in bloom for two or three days and look very pretty I send you a blossom that I got Saturday to send to you I also send you some flowers that I got but

of a very pretty Lot in Maryland
to day, I would have sent you some of these
yellow flowers but they are too common now but I
saw a number of very pretty flowers to day that I
could not get to send to you without appearing
inde, but by the way I want to tell you of my
nice ride I had to day, and it is a very nice
position to command a regt as one has so many
more privileges, well this morning was a fine day
so I took the Col's fine horse and went to
brigade Head Des Col Wood said he would
go take a ride with me so we went to Dir Head
Des to see Gen Wagner he was very glad to
see me Gen Wood ~~was~~ there and he was very
sociable from there we went to the 17th and
73rd Ind and then to General Hambricht's Head
Des to see Capt Wickersham of the 79th Penn
regt who is big & M I have wrote to you of
him before he is a cousin of the pyles that used
to live at Richmond, from there we called to see
Capt Robinson of the 73rd Ind who had his wife in
town and a drink of some good Whiskey that
his wife brought him from ~~Suffolk~~, from there we went
to town and eat a half-can of fresh Oysters and
then went about two miles south of the palace
to the place where the 6th Ind was but they had
moved and we did not see Sam Finney or
Mollie and I do not know if Mollie is still here
or not, we came back through town and

Head Quarters of the 1st Ind. Vol.

March 24th 1866

Dear and Beloved Wife

I with pleasure
 addressed a few lines to you in hopes of finding
 you in good health as this leaves me
 Finney has through my intercession leave
 of absence for 20 days and will start for home
 this afternoon for which I am heartily glad
 I sent a letter by mail yesterday that I
 had written to send by Charlie Green but
 we moved camp yesterday and I did not
 get to see him before he left but I thought
 that I would send a few lines by Finney to
 day there is nothing of importance going on
 here except that Mr. Blanch has taken the
 command today of the regt. I suppose that
 it is all right My love to all and may the
 Lord preserve you all and take care of you
 for my sake

John S. McLean

27-27-1863

Camp Near Murfreesboro Tenn
March 27 1863

Dear and Beloved Wife

I take the present opportunity
of sending a few lines to you. I have recd a
leave of absence for 20 days and I suppose
by this time is at home. Oh how I wish
that I could be so fortunate as to come
home and see you all it would be a great
pleasure to see to be with you, but I
am afraid that I cannot get to come.
I look so well to pass an examination
by the Surgeon, it is hard that a person
cannot get to come home once and a
while, there is numbers of poor fellows
in the army who have families that I would
like to see go home and see their friends
but they are like me cannot get of.

There is not very much news here at
the present time the boys are in good
health and look well, Dr. Hochstetler has been
home on leave of absence and has just returned
to the regt to day he looks well and hearty,
ever one that goes home sends me news
in the notion of going but there is no use
of thinking about it. While I look so well
as I do now. Give my love to all Mother
and Mary and Jeremy if he is there
I have been looking for a letter to day but
the mail has not get in yet but
if I get one before this goes out I will
send you word, the weather here is

Very fine the sun is shining beautifully
best to day and the trees are coming out
in leaf and things look beautiful
but I do not enjoy those things like
if I had my Sweet ones with me to
enjoy them also for they are all that
I have to hold me in this world if
it were not for them I would not feel
any interest in this world for I have
no pleasures except in thier Love

Write soon and I think that sig
aria I da might find time to write
to me once and a while it is very seldom
that I ever hear from them kiss thier sweet
little lips for me and believe me your
Loving Husband

John W. Dean

If since writing the above the mail has come
in but no letters from home for me John
Commons has returned to the regt he has been
home for some time and promised me that
he would call and see you but he tells
me that he is not do it I wish he had
for it does me so much good to see any
one that has seen you