

12 July 1864  
N Stockade # 6

Dear parents, brother and sister,

Same greetings as before. Health, happiness, etc.

I would have written you 3 days ago but we were waiting for the Paymaster every hour. He just came and we got paid. This time I will send you ten dollars, and ten dollars in my next letter. Week before last I received a letter from my brother Jacob which I answered right away, but I don't know if he got the letter. Not much news here. I am making a can now, but instead of putting a snake design on top I am putting a grapevine on it with leaves and grapes. It will be the prettiest one ever made in our Regiment. I have worked on it almost a week now. I will send it to Casston. There are 5 or 6 men working on cans like this. We will make a little box for mailing all of it which wouldn't cost us much. ( I had a good time the 4th of July with all the others. Our Lieutenant bought us a barrel of good beer which cost him 28 dollars. He is a real nice young man. We can tell him what we want and do what we want to. He goes swimming in the creek with all of us. We have very good well water about 300 feet away. I will close with these few lines. Greetings and wishes from your loving son.)

I have to make four or more rings for 50 cents each and I have only ten cents in silver. I will put on two hearts and a star. Whenever you get a 3 or 5 cent coin send it to me to use.



Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
16th ? 1864

Dear parents and sister,

Want to let you know that I am still in good health and wish the same for you. I expected a letter this evening but it didn't come so I thought I would write you a few lines to pass the time and send some money. Here is \$20.00 for you. We got paid today for two months because the paymaster had only enough money for that. We should have gotten four months pay. Sorry I couldn't send more but since I got captured and since I left Nashville for our regiment I had to borrow money for postage stamps, pencils, paper, and other things. This noon all of our company left for Christiana 10 miles south of here. They guard two water tanks at the railroad. Two men and I are left here, but we will probably leave for Christiana in a few days too.

Did you ever get the letter from brother Jacob. I don't know why I didn't get a letter from Canton from him. About 8 or 10 days ago I wrote to Elizabeth and got no answer from her either. As far as I'm concerned they can wait til I get home before they hear from me again. I will close now with this little bit.



July 20, 1864

Murfreesboro, Tenn

Dear Brother: Received your letter last evening and see that you are well, for which I am glad and I too can say that with God's help I am well. I don't know anything new to write this time, only that last night we caught a lot of fish with our net. Our Lieutenant bought it for us for \$2.00. We were saddened last week when we heard that our Col., 2 Captains and 4 Lieutenants of our regiment were let out because they didn't pass the exams as well as some others. It hit our second Lt. who is in command here. He is going home happy and says that he will go to the 3rd Battery where he had formerly been 9 months. Dear brother, I wish that you could be with me, we are having it good. We 40 men have hired two black women to cook for us for 7-8 dollars a month. We are divided in two messes. I am very busy making rings-I already made seven for three dollars and a half and now have four on hand to make for half dollar each. I am also making a cane again out of Cedar wood-instead of a snake design I am making a grapevine-it is almost ready. I wouldn't sell it for \$8.00. The days are going by like an hour-I have one year yet from the 18th of Sept. to serve. I think this year will pass as quickly as the others. With these few lines I will come to an end and hope this finds you well and that we will meet again at home soon, if God wills it. Your loving brother,

D. C. Miller



Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
24 July 1864

Dear Parents, Brothers, and Sisters,

I got your letter this evening and am happy to hear that you are all in good health. We had to leave our Log House because it was about 300 yards away from the railroad bridge. Now we are going to build another one about 60 yards from the bridge which is octagonal in shape. We have about 20 men here who will build the new house and we have a much better time here. We work from 5 to 7 and then eat our breakfast, then from 7:30 til 9:00 then we have a rest period and work again slowly in the evening. It should keep us busy about 5 or 6 months. We sleep the whole night and stand no guard, and I am glad of that.

I think it hurts the parents to lose three dresses at once. That is about all the news for now except that the pears are ripe now. 1000 greetings from your loving son and brother.

Here are still \$10.50 for your daughter Verena. Thanks many times for the silver. I have enough of it now. If you see Fred Smith sometime tell him to send me a letter again about his health and all the news. Greetings to him also.



Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
10 August 1864

Dearly beloved brother,

Again I was glad to hear that you are well. I too can say with God's help that I am well. News is very rare here at the moment, because we have not received a newspaper for over a week because the Generals Grant and Sherman have forbidden ~~it~~ that any news or newspapers should get out beyond the lines of Kentucky. So that when our troops make another move the Rebels will not know it as fast as our old Abraham Lincoln. Today we received the first newspaper again but without much news in it. We still have a good life and even better now because peaches and watermelons are ripe besides that we caught a Rebel pig that helped to alter our menu. To come back to your enlistment I had rather let you and our parents decide that. I believe our company is filled up now, but I will check again with our Lieutenant or orderly and will let you know in my next letter. I believe that you will be able to get into our Regiment, but I would not advise you to get into another.

(There is one other thing I want to ask you, William Akerman told some days ago to Christie in his letter that he was busy for two days carrying dead soldiers off of the battlefield, but I cannot believe it because you know he is a liar and a put-on. Let me know about it in your next letter.) Please be so kind and give this address to Mortimer Manfeld and tell him that James Kanady is in company D. 115th <sup>th</sup> Regiment and that he is well, but had been sick for several weeks.

I am closing with 1000 wishes and greetings, your loving brother.

P.S. Farewell, hope we see each other soon. Write soon again.



Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
August 17, 1864

Dear Parents and Sister,

I received your letter this morning before I got up, but I was so sad while reading it. I am so sorry that Mother is sick again, but what can be done? The Lord knows best, and I hope that this letter will meet you being as well as I am when it left me. Dear parents there is not much news this time. We heard that Sherman's army is lying still because of the great heat. Near Atlanta the temperatures are around 100 degrees, here it is also very warm, but I got used to it quite well to run around in this heat. I walk almost always barefoot, not that I don't have socks or shoes, no I have a good pair of shoes and 2 pair of socks. I have also made 6 dollard from rugs, since you have sent me the silver coins, and this week I have to make 5 more rugs, and one person wants that I shall make 10 rugs for him, so that he can use them as Christmas gifts at home. You also and Mother shall each get one; for Father I made a traveling suit, there is more work on it than on the first. I could have gotten \$5 for it before it was ready, but \$10 could not have bought it. I will soon have ready the picture frame. It is made Thurs: On top the coat of arms, underneath two cannons, on both sides is a rose with 6 leaves. It is a very beautiful frame and especially when I will be behind it.

Dear parents don't believe everything the people tell that the 100-days volunteers cannot come home when their time is over. The government



has the power to do this. After these 100 days the government has to work 1-2 months before they can be passed. I also cannot believe that Lincoln is such a blockhead that he lets his wife go across the border and betray himself. He was more than one night occupied to study how he could make an end to this war. Seven days ago I had been for 2 years in the army. I think this year will be over soon. Otherwise I don't know anymore to write. Greetings to Mama and Louise Kafer and all who ask about me, also Jacob Hirt. Many thousand greetings and wishes for better health for Mother. I hope that I can see y u all as well as I have left you.

Ameri.  
D. C. Miller  
Co B. 115 Regt. O.V.D.  
Murfreesboro, Tenn.



Nashville, Tenn.  
Sep 9th, 1864

Dear parents, brothers and sisters,

I was sorry not to get a letter from you for so long. You perhaps heard that the Rebel General Wieler destroyed and burned 30 miles of railroad track .

(This Rebel General with 6 or 8,000 men encountered us just as we had torn down  $\frac{1}{4}$  of our headquarters, because we wanted to use the wood or material for our new blockhouse. He came at night and at seven in the morning we already shot at his cavalry which destroyed and burned the road. I fired the second shot and I am sure I didn't miss. We fought til one o'clock when the Rebel General fired twelve pound cannon six times at us, but he only hit the blockhouse twice. Since we had lost all ground we had to give ourselves up. He burned down the blockhouse containing everything that he didn't want. He took us with him and let us go after forty miles. We didn't get anything to eat except twice fat bacon or bread. I had two ears of corn and an apple besides which were very good and I wouldn't have sold them for ten dollars. The corn I had stolen from a donkey at night. Now there are 31 of us in Nashville in a very big house which belonged to the Rebel General Zoligkofer.)

Here now we get enough to eat. Perhaps today or tomorrow we go back to our old place. The Rebels took us with them  $2\frac{1}{2}$  days til our artillery and infantry were on his heels, then he let us go. But the Rebels got beaten up pretty much. Black soldiers took from him 3 cannon and some 100 soldiers and horses. On our way back we met the ninth Ohio Cavalry and I met Casper Fox again. They were after Wieler.

Will close now and write you a longer letter next time.



Sed

Murfreesboro, Tenn.  
16th ? 1864

Dear parents and sister,

Want to let you know that I am still in good health and wish the same for you. I expected a letter this evening but it didn't come so I thought I would write you a few lines to pass the time and send some money. Here is \$20.00 for you. We got paid today for two months because the paymaster had only enough money for that. We should have gotten four months pay. Sorry I couldn't send more but since I got captured and since I left Nashville for our regiment I had to borrow money for postage stamps, pencils, paper, and other things. This noon all of our company left for Christiana 10 miles south of here. They guard two water tanks at the railroad. Two men and I are left here, but we will probably leave for Christiana in a few days too.

Did you ever get the letter from brother Jacob. I don't know why I didn't get a letter from Canton from him. About 8 or 10 days ago I wrote to Elizabeth and got no answer from her either. As far as I'm concerned they can wait til I get home before they hear from me again. I will close now with this little bit.



Hurrah for Old Abe and Old Andy  
Murfreesboro, Tenn. Sept. 18, 1864

Dear Parents and Sisters: Your letter was received ten minutes ago and was joyfully received. I see you are all well and I am thankful to God who has kept me well and kept the fiery bullets of the enemy away from me. On the 11th we again arrived safely with our regiment in Murfreesboro. They were glad to see us because they didn't know that the Rebel General Wheeler had let us go and that we had arrived in Nashville. When our Captain saw us he began to laugh and said "Hello, what does all this honor to my boys mean?" He was so happy he could hardly talk for laughing. He is a good man. We had to leave everything when the Rebs came, except what we had on. I still have my watch-I could have sold it for \$22.00 but I will not do so under \$25.00 or \$28.00. We don't have to pay for the clothes we lost and have already received new ones. I don't have the cane and frame anymore either-when the Rebs came it was broken, but I have another made just about like the other was. I haven't forgotten the rings I promised you. I don't know if we will be paid this time since we were taken prisoner-since the pay papers are sent in ahead and we were not here to sign. The next time we will get that much more. But if you need money, I can borrow some and pay it back. Write me. I am glad that Jacob is working in Canton-he is better off than in the Army. He doesn't have to kill himself and isn't free as the birds as we are. The Rebel Wheeler got licked good after he had let us go-I don't think he can bring many out of Tenn. with him. With this I will close and hope that these few lines will reach you in good health. With a thousand greetings, Your loving son, D. C. Miller. Co. B. 115th Regt. O. V. L. Murfreesboro, Tenn. (or follow the regt.)



Murfreesboro, Tenn. Nov. 18, 1864

Dear Mother, Sister Kameron and Worthy Friend:

Received your letter and was glad to hear all are well. With God's blessing and help I too, am well. As soon as I saw the letter I realized it was Casper Fox's handwriting and I wondered if he was in Cleveland, Tenn. or Ohio. I am glad that you found the opportunity to go to Cleveland. If only I could be with you we would both have a nice time. Dear Friend, I don't know if I will be here because our Co. those that were left, day before yesterday-half went to Christiansa, nine miles from here-the others to Posterville where I am going in five or six days-it is also on this railroad to Chattanooga. If you come to Christiansa, ask after me. I was glad to hear that my father went to Canton, I believe he went once before. I think this week I will send two canes and a picture frame home. The voting went off well here we thought the Rebs would bother us, but they didn't. It was about 100 miles from here, three of our boys were several miles in the country to find some U. S. horses, when they were attacked by this band-one of them got away on his horse, but the bullets flew and buzzed like bees in a basket. He made it safely to camp and reported it at once. Then 80 men from Co. K. went after the Rebs and took a Captain, a Lieutenant and four men, besides our two boys. These Rebels belong to Rebel Gen. Wheeler's Command-they were at home on furlough before they were taken prisoner-one of them I knew. I believe if this one had not received word, all three would have been hung or taken to Dixie. Our Old Abe was voted in again for the next 4 years-now the War will soon be over-the Rebs themselves say they couldn't stand it. With a thousand greetings and wishes, Daniel C. Miller



Christiana, Tenn.  
3 January 1865

Dear Parents and Sister,

Your two letters I received last night. For over four weeks we didn't receive any letters or newspapers because the Rebels were between our blockhouse and Murfreesboro. I am still well and hope you are too. We have only a little news but it is good news, because the Rebels were badly beaten at Nashville, Murfreesboro, and Franklin and are now on their retreat to the Tennessee River where they got beaten again. The Rebels desert by the hundreds every day and they say that the South would be better off to give up because they do not have a chance. When the battle of Franklin began which is about 27 miles from Nashville and 15 miles from Murfreesboro we received an order that our forty men were to go to the blockhouse #16 which is 41 miles from Murfreesboro to wait out the year there. On the first of January we returned to Christiana which is 11 miles from Murfreesboro. We have it nice here. Every five days I am on guard for four hours. We do not know how long we have to stay here. We were not involved in any battles, but our Captain and part of our Regiment was captured by the Rebels. 195 of our Regiment who were in the blockhouse between Murfreesboro and Nashville including some dead and some wounded ones were also captured by the Rebels. Our Captain with 70 men who were in a little fort near Leverage had to give up after a five hour battle.

Our Captain had been ill for four months and it is going to be hard on him. Caspar Fox was with me when the battle began at Franklin.



He told me all about you. But yarn is short here too. Sometimes you have to walk ten or twenty miles before you see a sheep. The pound (wool) costs over two dollars and it is hard to get. I am thinking about sending my coats home in the spring with my Glencheck and overcoat. If my Captain hadn't been captured I would have received a furlough. With these few lines I will close hoping that they find you well as they have left me. I wish all of you a happy new year and good health. Write again soon and farewell.



January 18th, 1865 Christians, Tenn.

Dear Parents: Received your letter and was pleased to note that you are all well. I also received a letter yesterday from Elizabeth and Jacob. There are a lot of news but I cannot write everything. Our Rebel General Hood is far into the State of Georgia. Our Cavalry is always on his back, he can't be still for a day's rest. It will not be long before the States of Georgia and Alabama are back in the Union because they are tired of fighting and are hungry. Today we heard that a large important Fort was taken by us-this is something big because this fort and the city of Wilmington which also will be taken in a few days, is the key to Richmond. I think I have written you that we are in a new place again-10 $\frac{1}{2}$  miles south of Murfreesboro. A real nice place. Every five days I get 4-hour watch. For that I need only a little wood to cook with. Yesterday someone named Sexeuer and I made ax handles-we get 40 to 50¢ a piece-we have already made 8. We could make 8-12 a day. We still have enough to eat. Yesterday we had two barrels of corn ground. Today five of our men were out and got four sacks of corn from a good rebel lady. We want to have enough to eat as long as we have the chance to visit the Rebels on their large farms. They don't have Negroes anymore-they are all working for Uncle Sam in the woods, cutting wood for the Railroad. With this I will close and hope the letter reaches you in good health. Your loving son,  
D. C. Miller, c/o Lt. J. Deuble



Christiana, Tenn. March 11, 1865

Dear Parents: Today I received your last letter and see that you are well, for which I am happy. Especially also to receive one from Mother-I could read it better than the one from sister, although I can read everything she wrote. I am still so grateful to God for the health which I daily enjoy. I hope that these few lines will reach you in as good health as I was when I wrote this. There isn't much in the way of news now-only a lot of troops going by on the railroad every day. We understand that 25,000 men are going to the Front. That should be a big army when they all get together. Most of them are cavalry. Yes, I would like to be with you dear parents, so that I could help with the butchering and you know, that I don't like sausages!! I am sorry that the paymaster has not come yet since I mentioned it in two previous letters. But it will come. The war will not last much longer or my time will be over. I think when I come home, I can hardly find your house. I am wondering who is in my house, if they are still there or not and if you see one of them, ask it they know where Rudolph or Rudi is-they should give you their address. I would also like to hear from them.



Christiana, Tenn.  
24 March 1865

Dear Parents and Sister,

Received your letter and am well. Dear sister I received the gold paper in good order and thank you very much for it. Everything is still the same in that every day our troops are still victorious. It probably won't be but 14 more days until we occupy the Rebel camp at Richmond. In a few days Generals Sherman and Grant will really give it to the Rebels and when they do I pity those Rebels. A lot of soldiers pass by here every day. The South has just about had it. And instead of staying in the Army, they desert.

Bravo. As I read in the Messenger last night, within the last 30 days 2,000 Rebels deserted among them 40 officers. Dear parents as soon as I get paid, I will send most of my clothes home so that I won't have much to carry or lose it as I come home. I was glad to get the address from R. Meyers. I was also glad to hear that my brother Jacob is well in Canton. I am already looking forward to going to work there myself.

Greetings to all who ask about me.



Christiana, Tenn.  
17 April 1865

Dear Parents and Sister,

I would have answered your letters earlier but there was no way to get the letters out of here. Last Wednesday and Thursday it rained here as much water as could come down from the sky. It knocked down or flooded some railroad bridges and the trains can't run. Last week I read in the Canton newspaper that my brother Jacob Miller broke his arm or perhaps got it torn off by a horse. That would be very hard for him and us. I am very concerned about it and am still wondering whether to believe it or not because you can't trust the newspaper. We also heard that our President Lincoln was shot in a theatre in Washington last Friday night and died at 7:20 Saturday morning. At the same time Secretary Seward, his son, and another man were supposedly stabbed in the back too, but neither of the 3 is dead yet. If all this is true, it will be very hard on us. We are not quite sure of all this, but you perhaps heard all the news. And also that the Rebel General Lee with his Army has surrendered, including the Generals Rodes and the bloodhound Forrest. I now believe that the War is over or very close to it. We have beautiful weather now. The peach trees have already bloomed and the trees are green in their splendor. Yesterday was Easter Sunday but we didn't have any eggs like we do at home. They cost 30 cents a dozen here and are very rare. I wish I could be with you and see everything I haven't seen for 3 years.

Hoping this letter finds you as safe as when it left me.



May 4, 1865 Christiane, Tenn.

Dear Parents: I have received your letter and am glad to hear that everyone is well. I am well also. Nothing new except we read in the paper that 400,000 men are to be discharged and 11 men that are in hospitals, who can help themselves will be released. Sherman's troops are to be on the way home. I can't say yet how it will be with us because the railroad doesn't have to be watched anymore and from the 15th of this month, the government is turning the railroad back over to the State of Tennessee. Also all quartermasters have been ordered to draw more rations to last until the first of June. We think we can come home in a few weeks. I would be delighted to get home before my time is over, if not 3½ months more isn't so long. It has been a long time since I received a letter from E. Fox. I have received three letters from Chas. Rudolph and Rudolph thinks they are still in Chattanooga in 20th C.S. (?) Battery. He complains that he doesn't get enough to eat. The 4th Army Corps came by here last week on the way to Nashville, and where they go from there is not known, but we think the most of them are going home. The war is not entirely over and Jeff Davis will not get very far through S. Carolina before he will be caught with his money. Our Cavalry General Stoneman (?) with 15,000 men on horses has almost caught up with him. Davis with six wagons full of Gold and Silver and 2,000 Cavalry is only one days ride ahead of him. I would like to be there when they catch him. Until we see each other soon, I am your loving son, D. C. Miller



Christians, Tenn.  
20 May 1865

Dear parents and Sister,

I received your last letter this evening, and was very happy that you are all well. May our Lord keep you all I come home to you, thank God for his guidance so far, I hope he will take care of me and keep me as well as I was when I left you to fight for our fatherland...Amen.

Nothing much is new except that we see a lot of Rebels on their way home. You should see them, they are as filthy as pigs and full of (drawing of bugs or lice here). There is talk that we may not remain in Tenn. any longer than 15 days. I believe it too. I do not know the exact time but I wish it was tomorrow. Dear father I wanted to make you a tobacco box but it is too hot, but I will try it anyway.

Some of our men captured a Rebel who was fishing at the River here and we sent some of our men to look for another one, perhaps his brother, and if they capture him they will get 100 dollars. If they do I will let you know in my next letter. With these few lines I will close hoping it will arrive there finding you in good health as it left me. Farewell, hoping soon to be with you in person to talk to you.  
1000 greetings and wishes.



June 8, 1865 Christiana, Tenn.

Dear Parents: I will write to you again and it may be the last time from here since end of this week or beginning of next, we'll be on our way home. I thank God for my health and wish you the same. Yesterday I received a letter from Rudolph and he said my mother was sick and that Verona had written to Jacob and Elizabeth to come home. I am so sorry to hear this and hope that she soon will be well. I wouldn't have written yet but yesterday I sent a little box to Cleveland on the Adams (?) Express. If Jacob is still with you, he can get it. I addressed it to H. Miller, Cleveland, Ohio. Lymen St. # 92. It weights 34 lbs., only a little box. The tobacco box however, isn't in it because I want to bring it myself and it isn't quite finished. I paid \$3.80 to send the box home-it will not cost you anything. Today we learned what regiment is to replace us. It is the 188th Ohio, one year regiment. There are about 55 men here who belong to new regiments. They have always thought to get home before us but now they have cooled off and don't say so much. Now I will close and hope these few words will find all of you in good health and hope we can talk to each other soon. Your loving son, Daniel C. Miller.



Stockade # 10 Tenn. on N. & C. R.R.

Dear Parents: Received your last letter and am glad to hear that you are all well. I too am well. Nothing new except that the Rebel General Forrest was around here and where he is now we can't say-for ten days the railroad has not been running. Our fifty men went on the first train to Tullahoma. The night before when we were already in Murfreesboro by the depot, we received notification that the railroad had been torn up and the telegraph had been cut 27 mi. from Murfreesboro. The next morning at half past five we went on the train as guards and the Rebels had gotten to the place an hour before where it had been torn up. The Negroes were just at it and trying to fix it up so we could pass. Now 15 of our company are 23 miles from M'boro at Stockade # 10. How long we will be here I can't tell you. We have it real good here. Tuesday we butchered a one year old calf which came too near us-it was nice and fat. Today we eat the last of it. Dear Sister, I want to make you some rings when I get the time and send them home with the cane. Our Lieutenant says we probably will be mustered out in Cleveland and that will be a little over ten months. Dear Father, if you love freedom, vote again for our old Abraham Lincoln. He is the man for our land. Hurrah for Old Abe. With that I will close. Lots of greetings until we see each other soon. Your loving son, D. C. Miller. P. S. We haven't been paid yet-but it shouldn't be long.



Stockade near Murfreesboro  
25 ? 1864

Dear brother

Glad to have received your letter and am glad to know that we are both well. Also happy to hear that you are in Covington where life is much easier than at Camp Chase. We too had to do a lot of training when I was there, but now we live like gentlemen from Cincinnati. Almost three weeks now have passed since we left Murfreesboro to guard the railroad and bridges between Nashville and Murfreesboro. We are staying in a big log house or stockade as they call it here. This building is made out of big tree trunks which are about 20 to 25 inches thick and 15 feet high with an 8 ft. deep cistern in the center of the building. There are many holes in the walls through which to shoot and room enough for about 200 men. In my next letter to our parents, I will send them a drawing of this stockade. I don't believe that you have ever seen anything like this. I only have to stand guard every 3 or 4 days, but it is not so bad because I can sit rather than stand. There are 30 of us and we have a good 2/Lt. in command. I was wondering whether you guard the forts on the hill or the city of Covington. If you have the time why don't you go to Newport and ask where the Cligsandern Pike is. That is where we were. There was a drawing in one of the magazines here about it. It is about 2 miles from the bridge which crosses the Licking River between Covington and Newport. You say that it is warmer in Kentucky but I believe that it is warmer here. Because the apples, plums, cherries, potatoes, are all ripe, but the strawberries have been gone for 4 or 5 weeks. We have a net here and catch fish every other morning for a breakfast for 30 men. I wish you were here. You would have a better time with us. Closing now with the hope that these few lines reach you in good health, and hoping also that I can talk to you in person pretty soon. Nothing new this time. May God bring us home ~~XXXX~~ safely together again. 1000 wishes and greetings from you loving brother.