

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter April 24th 1864.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Page 1:}

Camp of the 23rd Michigan Volunteer Infantry
Mossy Creek, East Tennessee, {Sunday} April 24th 1864

Dear Wife,

Yesterday I received yours and I was glad to hear from you and that you were better and that you received the draft. I am sorry that Frankie has the ague and I hope that you and her will both soon be well. I am well as usual and I can't remember when that I have been sick enough to be excused from a half of a days drill and I think that I am able to stand any part of the service. We came in yesterday from our scout without finding any rebels. It is not quite time for me to hear from my application so I am unable to tell what will be the result, but I hope I shall be fortunate and get leave to go home. I do not want you to put too much hope in my getting leave as it is uncertain and I cannot say that I have any great confidence in getting it, and if I do not I hope that you will not be disappointed. If I do not succeed I shall try again as soon as I can see any prospects of getting leave. I thought that I would wait until after I heard from my application before I send the other draft and if I cannot take it home myself I will immediately send it by mail and you can make the best use of it you see fit. I received a letter from Frank yesterday and he is well. I am glad that you got those pictures and as they were taken in the field it could not be expected that they would

{Page 2:}

be as well taken as if that it had been done where everything was made on purpose. However, they will show you that I am about the same that I was when I went away. I would be very glad to receive your ambrotype and Frankie's, too, and you may send them as soon as you hear that my application is disapproved, which I will inform you as soon as it comes back from Department Headquarters. Susan, it is raining and as it time for the mail boy to come round for the mail, I shall have to close this. The rain has already spattered and wet my paper. Give my respects to all inquiring friends and you will soon hear from me again. Take good care of Frankie and I hope I shall be able to visit soon. I am as ever,

Your Affectionate Husband,
D. D. Keeler

Camp of the 23rd Mich Infy Vols

Mossy Creek E Tenn April 24th 1864

Dear Wife

Yesterday I received yours and I was glad to hear from you and that you were better ^{and} that you received the draft I am sorry that Frank's has the ague and I hope that you and her will both soon be well I am well as usual and I can't remember when that I have been sick enough to be excused from a half of a day drill. and I think that I am able to stand any part of the service. We came in yesterday from our scout without finding any rebels It is not quite time for me to hear from my application so I am unable to tell what will be the result but I hope I shall be fortunate and get leave to go home. I do not want you to put too much hope in my getting leave as it is uncertain and I can not say that I have any great confidence in getting it ^{and} if I do not I hope that you will not be disappointed. If I do not succeed I shall try again as soon as I can see any prospects of getting leave. I thought that I would wait until after I heard from my application before I send the other draft ^{and} if I can not take it home myself I will immediately send it by mail. and you can make the best use of it you see fit. I received a letter from Frank yesterday and he is well. I am glad that you got those pictures and as they were taken in the field it could not be expected that they would

be as well taken as if that it had been done where
every thing was made on purpose However they will
show you that I am about the same that I was
when I went away I would be very glad to
receive your Am prototype and Trunkets too. ^{and}
you may send them as soon as you hear that
my application is disapproved which I will
inform you as soon as it comes back from Dept
Head Dr. Swain it is raining and as it time for the mail
boy to come round for the mail I shall have to close
this the rain has already spattered and wet my Paper
Give my respects to all inquiring friends and you
will soon hear from me again Take good care of
Frankie and I hope I shall be able to visit soon
I am as ever your

Affectionate Husband
D. D. Weller