

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter April 8th 1863b.tif"  
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

*{Envelope:}*

*{Postmark:}* East Saginaw, Michigan, April 8, 1863  
Sergeant D. D. Keeler  
23<sup>rd</sup> Michigan Volunteer Infantry  
Bowling Green, KY

*{Page 1:}*

East Saginaw {MI}, April 8, 1863

Dear Friend & Sergeant,

Your very welcome letter of the 13<sup>th</sup> of last came duly to hand and I would sooner answered it but for the great amount of engagement on my hands & also for the reason that I did not get ??? until about the last of March.

I am glad to learn that the regiment is now enjoying better health than ever before. I am glad also to learn that the bake ovens are a success & that you have soft bread of your own baking.

The weather here is rough and cold & has been since my return, save two or three days.

*{Page 2:}*

The Copperheads are just now exultant over the probable election of a Democratic judge, *{Jabez Gridley}* Sutherland over *{James Michael}* Birney. Mose Hess, Old Glover & others wear the traitor's badge, a copper headed pin on their collars. But God bless you, soldiers of the Union and of liberty, do not falter. These Copperheads shall have their reward.

Give my regards to Captain *{Henry Heber}* Woodruff & your lieutenants & to all officers & men of the regiment who may inquire of me. My health is now very good. I wish to be remembered particularly to the chaplain.

I am sorry that I have not more news of interest to write you, but I shall look for another good long letter from you.

*{Page 3:}*

Business is very lively here and everything bears a very high price: butter 30 to 35 cents a pound, potatoes 75 cents a bushel, flour 7 to 9 dollars a barrel, etc., etc., etc., etc., etc.

Tell me all about the regiment, slaves, negroes, etc., etc., when you write.

Yours very truly & sincerely,

B. F. Fisher *{Benjamin F. Fisher}*

East Saginaw April 8. 1863.

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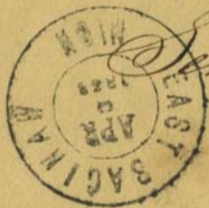
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Sergt. D. D. Keeler.

23<sup>d</sup> Mich Vol Inftry

Bowling Green Mich