Family Home Page

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Aug. 2nd 1863.tif" Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

### *{Page 1:}*

Camp of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Michigan Volunteers Paris, KY, Aug 2<sup>nd</sup> 1863

#### Dear Wife,

Today is Sunday again and we are back in Kentucky again. When I wrote you last in Cincinnati *{OH}*, I supposed we were to stop there a day or two and get our pay there, but within one hour after writing we got orders to move immediately. We crossed the river into Kentucky opposite of Cincinnati to Covington *{KY}* and took the cars for this place which is called Paris and is eighty miles south of Cincinnati. We did not get here much too soon, but in good time. There was 2500 rebels marching on this place to burn the railroad bridge and there

### {*Page 2:*}

was not a hundred men here to oppose them until our regiment got here. We had one section of a battery with us and when the rebels came within range the battery opened on them, and two companies, A & H, deployed, and in two hours their whole force were on the retreat and we have not seen them since. They are on their way back to Tennessee. We did not have a man hurt, but some of the rebels got wounded by our shells; how many I cannot tell. They had four men to our one, and if we had not scared them they could give us all we would want to do. We got (15) fifteen prisoners. They told us we would be their prisoners before another day, but they were mistaken. We are safe yet. I do not know where we will go next. It

# {*Page 3:*}

will be somewhere before long. Our baggage is at Lebanon  $\{KY\}$  and perhaps we will go there. I hope we will get where it is soon, for we are without a change of clothes and no way to carry a thing. I got me some new clothes and threw away my dirty and lousy ones and I am free from lice again. Every man and officer got lousy while we were on the boat and it was impossible to help it. Since we have been here every means have taken to get rid of the greybacks and I guess they are getting scarce. We were paid off yesterday and I got \$30.55, thirty dollars and fifty-five cents. I hope I can get mustered as lieutenant by next payday so I can get more wages. I want to send you a hundred dollars next time I get paid. As I have had to buy me some clothes I am not able to

# {*Page 4:*}

to send you any this time, but if you are in need of money I will borrow some and send it to you, so you must let me know if you are in need of money. You must excuse this messed up letter for it rains and the paper got wet. I have just got under an old shed and now I will finish it. Our adjutant has gone to Cincinnati on business and I am now acting in his place until he gets back, which will be tomorrow night I expect. We are having quite a shower and as we are without tents we have to find shelter wherever we can. I have a good captain and everyone likes him. His name is Huston and Lieutenant Hamilton you have seen and heard preach in Saginaw *{MI}*. Those are my two officers and I get along first rate. I do not have as much to do as I use to and I have more time to myself. We have not had any mail yet and when we get it I will let you know. If you have wrote as often as I have I will get a heap of letters by and by. I will write again soon, so take good care of yourself and Frankey and be a good girl and I will do the same. So believe me.

Ever Your Affectionate Husband,

D. D. Keeler

Damp of the 23 Cept of Mich der Paris Ry aug 2nd 1863 Dear Mile 1.0 Day is Duriday 2gain and we are rack in Berthecky again When " wrote you east int Concinnati I supored ive were to slop that a day on two and get our pay these but within one hour after whiteing we got orders to move munediately. We crossed the river into Ky oposete of Cinconnati to Covington and took the Care for this place which is Called Paris and is eighty mules south of Concomnate Two did not get here much to soon but in good time. There was 2500 Rebby marching on this place to burn the Wail Boad Kridge and there

was not a hundred men here to oppose them until our Big got here We had one section of a Bakery with is and when the Recobeld came within range the Biller opened on them and two competing a & H deployed as thismeshers and topsed them and in two hours this whole for were on the atte and we have not seen them sines they are on their roay back to Semaser We did not have a man hart but some of the Beffelies got wounded by our shello how many I can not tell. They had for men to our one and if not had not seared them they could give us all we would want to do ave got US fiftur prisoners they told us we would be their prisones before another day but they were mistaken we are safe yet. I do not know where we will go net it

will be some where before long Our Bagage is at Lebanon and perhaps we will go there I hope we wil get where it is soon for mare without a changeof clothe and no way to carry a thing V got me Some new clothe and threw away my durty and Lowley one and I am free from lier again. Every Man and Officer got Loudey while we were on the Boat and i was imposible to help it since we have been here every means have taken to get rid of that grey backs and gluep they are getting scarce Me were payed of getterday and got \$ 30,300 Shurty Dollars land fifty five cento. I hope a can get thuslesed as Sunt by met pay day 200 can get more loages I want to send you a hundred Sollass next time. "Iget" payed, as I have had to buy me some clother I am not able to

to send you any this time but if you are in need of money I will borrow some and send it to you so consist leh in Know if you are is need of money you amust excuse this must up letter. for it rains and the paper got wet Anow pust got under an old shed and now Davill finish it Our adjutant he gone to Comennation busched and Par now acting in his place until he gets back which will be tomorrow night Dexpect, war having gut a shower and as we are without tents we have to find sheller where ever we can I have a good Captan and every one likes him his name is Huston and Leful Hamilton you have seen and heard preach in Sagmain those are my two Officers and by I having first ratel & to hot have as much to file as buse to and have more time to my silf live have must had any mail yll and when we get it Shvill let you know if you have wrote as often as I have Proil get a heap of letters by and by Durl write again soon so take bood cope of yourself and Brankey and beagood girland I will do the same Bobeleve me ever your affectionate Husband I Waler