EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original files: "Letter Feb. 11th 1863.tif" and "Letter Feb. 11<sup>th</sup> 1863 envelope.tif"

Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are {italicized-bracketed}.

{Envelope:}
{Postmark:} BOWLING GREEN KY FEB 12 1863
Mrs. Susan M. Keeler
East Saginaw
Michigan

*{Page 1:}*Camp of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Michigan Volunteer Infantry Bowling Green, KY, Feb 11<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Wife,

I received your kind letter of the 5<sup>th</sup> last night and I were glad to hear from you. I am sorry that Hatty has got the scarlet fever. I hope she will soon get over it. We were paid off yesterday up to the 31<sup>st</sup> of December and I sent you \$40.00 by express. It is in a package along with Captain Woodruff's. I gave it to him to send it to you. You can go over to his house and get the money off Mrs. Woodruff. It is marked to you in care of L. S. Keeler and I wrote a few lines on the inside of the wrapper.

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I got sixty-four dollars and 60 cents, the amount due me at \$17 a month. Next pay roll I will draw First Sergeant's pay from the 18<sup>th</sup> of December 1862, that being the date of my warrant. I owed the sutler \$3.35 and one dollar of borrowed money and some for washing and I want to get my photograph taken to send to you which will cost \$4.00 and I have signed \$3.00 for a picture called the Soldiers Memorial to send to you, so I only sent you \$40.00 this time. You must use it to the best advantage. Get you some clothes and also the children all they need. I do not want to get strapped again or I would send more for I don't know

## {Page 3:}

when pay day will come again. If I can spare any more before I get paid again I will send it. I owe Pratt some. Tell Father to settle that. You let him have the money to do it with. If Father does not know how much it is, let me know and I will tell him. Have him get Pratt's bill and I can tell whether it is right or not. You need not send me any more paper for I have a plenty now since I got the box. I received a letter from Sarah yesterday and one from Lotty the day before. I will answer them today if I have time. It is now dinnertime and I must stop. We have oysters for dinner and the fixings with them. Let me know as soon as you get the money.

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Give Mrs. Woodruff a receipt for the money when you get it. It may be there before this letter is. At any rate it is on the way now. Use it as you think best and I will soldier for more and get better wages before long if I am not mistaken. Write soon and give my best respects to all.

From Your Affectionate Husband,

D. D. Keeler

Tampe of the 23 May Lille on Wolf Super Bowling Green What Steel 1/the 863 Plear alife Drequired you Wind letter of the oth blast might and I were glad to hear from you I am sorry that Hally has got the dealet Lever a hope she will soon get over it Me were fixed of ejesterday up to the 31st of Decemper land Dent you \$40,00 by Express At is in a package along with Capt Woodness of gave it to him to Lend it to you you can go over to his House and get the money of Mars Mordruff Quet is marked to you me care of Lat Reveler and of wrote a few fines on the in side of the

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when pay day will come again Eld adn spare any more before of get payed again I will send it of our phatt some tell Hather to dette that you let him have the survey to do it with off Statter does not know how much it is let me know and Pwill . Mel him have him get forults bill and I can tell roether it is right or not you meed not send me any more paper for I have a plenty now since I got the Box Tre ceaved a letter from Garak yesterday and one from Leoty the day before of will answer them to day if I have time It is now dinner time and I must stop we have Dysters for dinner and the fixings with them Let me Know as Loon as you get the money

Give Mers Woodruff a receifet for the money when you get it it may be that before this letter is atomy rate it is on the way now this it as you think best and Awill Soldler for more and get better wages before long if I am not mestation Write Soon and live my best respects to all From your affectionate Husband OO Meeler

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