EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Feb. 17th 1865.tif" Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Envelope:}
{Postmark:} WASHINGTON D.C. FEB 18 1865
Mrs. Susan M. Keeler
East Saginaw
Michigan

{Page 1:}

Quartermaster Office Supply Train, 2nd Division 23rd Army Corps Camp Stoneman, DC, *{Friday}* February 17th 1865

Dear Wife,

I am well as usual and as I have a little leisure I thought I could not improve it more to your satisfaction than by writing to you and as I have sometimes let writing go a good while I will make up lost time when I can. I am yet at Camp Stoneman with my trains and do not expect to get away until next week sometime. I am now keeping house. What do you think of that? Well, I have no woman to help me so you need not think I am rushing things. I could get a woman by sending over Washington {DC}, but they are not suitable for house keeping so I live as I always have. A man cook and I sleep alone or sometimes with my clerk. I hope you will not take offense at that.

{Page 2:}

I have been drawing clothing for my men today and I have yet to issue it. I draw it in bulk and issue to the men myself taking their receipt and charging the amount on their descriptive lists so that their company commanders can settle with them on the payrolls. I got some of my pay yesterday and I will send you a small amount by express tomorrow. I am sorry that I am unable to send a larger amount, but I cannot this time as I only drew (2) two months pay and as I had borrowed some and I also got me some clothes and I have to keep some for necessary expenses.

I do the best I can to save my money, but I find that I have used a great deal and I do not see as I could have got along any cheaper. Any expenses on this trip are as little as any officers that I know. I have a good suit of clothes and they cost my nearly two hundred dollars, overcoat, boots, and all. I have to go dressed in the best uniform and for officers and wear it every day while

{Page 3:}

I am not in the field, but when I am in the field I wear common clothes. I have to keep up my end and assume the dignity pertaining to my rank and position and I can truly say that I never got in any scrape yet since I have been in the army and

I mean to finish what little time I have to serve honorably and faithfully as I have done so far.

I hope you never will have cause to regret that I did leave you to serve my country and that the you may be glad that we have done something in this great struggle.

The news from the front is cheering and I hope that the trouble will soon be over and peace once more restored, a peace that will be honorable to the brave boys who have fought for it. Not any other will do. We can dictate the terms yet and we will have it on those terms or we will keep on and wear the traitors out, which we can do with the help of our friends in the north, and we can do it in spite of the vile traitors in the north.

{Page 4:}

You must keep up good spirits and be patient and I will do the same. I hope to be with you after the expiration of my time and I hope that we will never be disappointed. However, we will do the best we can and all will be well. Kiss Frankie for me.

I directed a letter to you for Lottie to prevent it falling into Tip's hands. I have not heard from Tip yet, nor do I expect to.

Give my best regards to all and I will soon write again.

I am as ever

Your Affectionate Husband,

D. D. Keeler

To Mrs. S. M. Keeler East Saginaw Michigan

D MOTTICE Supply Train 2000 Gio 23 GC Comp Stoneman HO Feb / 7th 8/15 Dear Hife Donnwell as usual me as to have a lettle leasure thought Obcould not im prove it more to your Satisfaction than by writing to you and as the have sometimes let writern go a good while I will make up lost time when Doan, Dam get at Camp Stoneman with my trains and do not expect to get away until next week Someline Down now Keeping house what to you think of that Thel! I have no women to help me Do you need not think ham rushing things Obcould get a homen by sending over Washington but they are not sentable for tiduse Heeping de Olive as Dallways have, a Man Cook and and Delgep alone or sometimes with my clerk, Whope you willnot take of fence at that

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