EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Feb. 1st 1863.tif" Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

# {Page 1:} Camp of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Michigan Infantry Bowling Green, KY, Feb 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

### Dear Father,

I received yours of the 25 on Friday along with one from Susan and Sant and one from Sarah Lester and I have answered them all but this and if I am not call away for anything this will go by the next mail. Last night we got our back mail. It was more than 2 men could carry and we had to send the ambulance to the post office to bring it to camp. I got five letters in it and everyone else in proportion, some more and some less. We now get our mail regular and there is less profane language used on account of the mail

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now than when we got no mail at all. I am well and so is Lewis Delavergne. He is one of the best men that we have got in the company and if there is any good to eat he will have his share and if a secesh hog or hen happens around when we are short of meat his gun goes off and fresh pork will soon be over the fire. And if a buckskin pie peddler comes around he will have some if he can reach any of them with a bayonet. I will tell you how he got some fresh pork one day when we were out on picket close to the railroad. Some hogs came along and he fed them some hard bread and got them on the track and kept them there by feeding them hard bread and the cars came along and kill one of the best, so we

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had fresh meat for a day. I have no news of any importance to write so you must excuse me if I do not write anything interesting. The weather keeps warm and we have rain a plenty now and we are experiencing Kentucky mud now to a small degree. We were at the depot yesterday and last night on provost guard duty. Today is Sunday and we have nothing to do today and the boys are devoting it to letter writing. Captain Woodruff is well and we all like him very well. He looks out for Company B every time and every one that will try to help himself and do his duty well he will help him all he can. He is as kind and lenient as he can be and do his duty. Lieutenant Lewis is well with the exception of his

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eyes, which are a little weak. He is well liked by all and is a good and efficient officer. Lieutenant Ashly is another bully man and is well drilled and commands the good will and respect of the whole company. O{scar} S. Davis is the same honest John and is acting quartermaster yet. He has got a second lieutenant commission how and he is worthy of it. He is going to Louisville {KY} tomorrow

after money to pay off the extra duty men. He is the best quartermaster in this place and is well liked by both officers and men. If the regiment wants anything he will have it for us. As for myself, I have nothing to say only I get along all right without any trouble. Tell Sarah I will write to her soon. I am glad you sent me this paper. It is not so large as mine and don't take as long to fill it. Give my best respects to all inquiring friends and write soon to

Your Affectionate Son,

D. D. Keeler

Damp of the 23 Regt of Much Saft-Bowling Green 176 2 Eset 1 1863 Dear Father I received yours of the 25 on Friday along with one from Dusan and Sant and once from Sarak Lester and O have answered them all but this and If Jam call away for any thing this will go by the mest mail . Last enght we got our back mail it was more tham 2 men could carry and we had to Lend the Combalence to the Post Office to bring it to camp Dot five letters in it and every ones else in proportion some more and some left Me Mow get our mail regular and there is less profable language rised on acountnow than when we got no muil at all I am well and so is Lewis Delavergne he is one of the best men that we have got in the company and if there is any good to eat he hvill have his Ishare and it a secesh hos or how happens around when we are short of meat his sum goes off and fresh pork will soon be beer the fire and if a Buck skin pie pedler contes around he will have some if he can reach any of them with a Bayonett I will tell you how he gott some fresh Porke one day when we were out on ficket close to the Cail Hoad, Some Hogge come along and he fed them Some hard Bread and got them on the track and kept them there by feeding them Heard Bread and the cans came along and kille one of the best so hoe

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