

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Feb. 25th 1863.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Envelope:}

{Postmark:} BOWLING GREEN KY FEB 26 1863

Mrs. Susan M. Keeler
East Saginaw
Michigan

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Camp of the 23rd Regiment of Michigan Volunteer Infantry
Bowling Green, KY, Feb. 25th 1863

Dear Wife,

I received your kind letter of the 20th acknowledging the receipt of the money. I was glad to hear that you are well and got money to use for yourself and children. Do not feel delicate about using it for I have not suffered so much to earn it as you imagine. I earned it hard enough to be sure, but you must use it to your satisfaction for it belongs to you to use as you see fit. If you have more than you want you can pay some on the place, but do not leave yourself and children destitute. Make yourself comfortable and I shall be satisfied. We are to be mustered for pay again the last of this week and will probably be paid two month's pay in less than 2 weeks.

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I am sorry that Father is sick. I hope he will get well soon, for it seems that he has had more than his share of sickness. He has been sick a great deal since he has lived in Saginaw *{MI}*. I am glad that Hattie is getting well. I was afraid she would never get well by what you wrote before. I wrote to Sant yesterday and give him a description of our doings on Washington's Birthday, and a slight description of the military ball at the Morehead House *{Hote}* in the evening. I took no part in the affair, only to look on and see some of the rest enjoy themselves for a while. For particulars I refer you to Sant's letter that I wrote yesterday dated Feb. 24th. I thought I would give him a description of a military ball to fill up the paper with, as I had no other subject or news to write. I am now somewhat frustrated now to find enough news to fill this sheet.

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The only late news here of any importance is that a band of guerillas boarded an unarmed steamer loaded with corn and threw a thousand sacks of corn in the river only 15 miles below here. They let the boat come on after they had unloaded it, and it arrived here this evening light and reported to General *{Mahlon Dickerson}* Manson and he sent a detachment of cavalry in pursuit immediately. I hope they will catch the villains and put General Rosecrans's

order in force, that is to shoot all the rebels found in Federal uniform. You see they have got a lot of our uniforms and consequently our men are often deceived in them, taking them for friends instead of foes. Company B is on guard today at the railroad depot. I have been there most all day with the boys for the sake of getting out of camp. I have got a chance to get my photograph the next fair day. I would

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have had it taken today if it had been light enough. I preferred a standing picture and the day was too cloudy to take a good one, so I put it off until a sunshiney day thinking you would like one taken standing the best. I suppose you have got the ambrotypes by this time that I sent you. I told Captain *{Henry Heber}* Woodruff that his wife was coming down here. He said he would expect her soon. I wish I was situated to you could come or I could make you a visit, but I can't do either one at present. If we are sent to Louisville *{KY}* or Cincinnati *{OH}* to stay long I will try and have you come and see me if I cannot get a furlough. I would like to see you as bad as you do me, but circumstances will not permit, so we will have to be patient for a while, so keep up your spirits and I will. Major *{Benjamin F.}* Fisher has gone home to Saginaw. You can give him a call and give him my respects. He can tell you more than I can write and will do it willingly. He was one of my best friends while here and we were all sorry to part with him. You perhaps know where he lives and you need not be afraid to give him a call as he is a gentleman in every respect. Give my love to all of our folks and be a good girl and write soon to

Your Affectionate Husband,
D. D. Keeler, Orderley Sergeant

Camp of the 20 Regt of Mich Vol Inf
Bowling Green Ky Feb 25th 1862

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Husband J. D. Miller, Capt



2 Mrs Susan M Wheeler
East Saginaw
Michigan