

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Feb. 28th 1863.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

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Camp of the 23rd Regiment of Michigan Volunteer Infantry
Bowling Green, KY, Feb. 28th '63

Dear Wife,

I have just received your kind and welcome letter of the 22nd and I am glad to hear that you are well and also the children. I am well and in good spirits and I never felt better in my life as far as my health is concerned. I have wrote you three letters this week and been on inspection for pay this forenoon and I have been at work on the muster rolls and monthly returns this afternoon, so you see I have had quite a busy day today. Tomorrow is Sunday and we have got to have another inspection again to conform with the regulations.

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Enclosed I send you a photograph of the Orderly Sergeant of Company B. See if you can recognize him. I will send a better one next time. Tell me whether he looks as though he had been sick. I think he looks pretty tough and as though soldiering agrees pretty well with him. I have not much news to write, only the guerillas are cutting up around us and we are on the watch for them. A party of them surprised an unarmed steamboat loaded with corn for this place only 15 miles below here. They threw the corn in the river and let the boat go on. Yesterday Company E were detailed to go down there and ransack the country around there and take as much corn from the inhabitants as were destroyed and horses and wagons to haul it and if they caught any rebel in our uniform to show them no quarter. Six of the band were recognized by

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the men on the boat as men that lived in that neighborhood and they were dressed in the Federal uniform. The boys say that that they would search the houses and if they found any of our uniforms they would make the devils put it on and shoot them, that being the orders they received from headquarters. The next depredation that the cusses committed was burning a freight train loaded with mules on the road between here and Nashville *{TN}* and cut the engine loose from the train and sent it on its way alone with the throttle valve open to meet another train. Luckily the steam went down before any accident happened. Now every train goes guarded. This forenoon Company A went to Nashville to guard a train through and this afternoon 20 men from Company B went on the same business.

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I wanted to go with them but the captain said I must stay and go with him the next time our turn came, which will be next Wednesday. I would like a trip to Nashville very much and I will go the first opportunity. We have some very pleasant weather now and some pretty tough weather too. I like the climate and I think it agrees with me first-rate and I would be contented if you were with me to enjoy it, but that can't be at present. The war cannot last always and I can come home when it is ended to stay. We can then be contented more so than before for I think I can stay home nights without running downtown so often. I have learned to be steady now and when I go downtown now I have to ask permission first or stay in camp. Tell Father I am glad he is getting better and I hope he will soon be well. I hope that Sant will be well by the time that this reaches home. Take care of yourself and children and I will write again soon.

From Your Affectionate Husband,
D. D. Keeler, O.S.

Camp of the 23^d Regt of Mich^l Vol^s Inf^y
Bowling Green W^y Feb 28th 63

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be steady now and when I go down town
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or stay in camp. Tell Father I am
glad he is getting better and I hope he will
soon be well I hope that Aunt will be
well by the time that this reaches home
Take care of your self and children
and I will write again soon.

From your Affectionate Husband

J. D. Kahr