

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Feb. 3rd 1863.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Envelope:}

\$40.00

Mrs. Susan M. Keeler
In Care of L. S. Keeler
East Saginaw
Michigan

{Page 1:}

Camp of the 23 Regiment of Michigan Volunteer Infantry
Bowling Green, KY, Feb 3rd 1863

Dear Wife,

I now write to acknowledge the receipt of that box you sent me. I got it this morning. It came last night with two wagon loads of express freight for our regiment. It was so long coming that the fried cakes and head cheese were all spoiled and moldy and I had to throw them in the slop hole. The sausage is good and I had some for dinner with cake and cheese and it made a bully dinner for a soldier, a luxury not very often met with in camp. Tell Mrs. Eastman that I am thankful for the dried fruit and I knowed

{Page 2:}

that my friends we still alive. Tell Tip that he could not done me a better favor than sending that tobacco, for I was chewing old stems for the last week, the remnants of our expedition to Keysburg *{KY}* and I acknowledge him to be a friend indeed for he was a friend when I was in need. Tell Lotty that her cakes were all right and I shall try and send her something when I get payed if I can find anything to send. The army mittens come good this morning for it was the coldest morning we have had yet and as for the stockings they saved me from drawing which I should have done soon. Tell Mother that the little pail will come handy and I am thankful for it. It can be made useful in a good many ways

{Page 3:}

and the stationary was just in time. This morning I was reduced to one half sheet without a cent to buy any with and the quartermaster had none so I could not draw any there and only for Mrs. Doughty's favor I would had to stop writing. I had saved the half sheet to write to you. Now I am all right again and ready to continue my correspondence. You wrote on the cover of the box that you wished you could boxed yourself up and come down here. Well, I would liked to see you bad enough, but I am not situated so that you could come and I have no money to pay for anything. I could not have you come in camp to stay and I could not go out of camp to stay and I should be in a pretty fix. We expect our pay

{Page 4.}

this week and if I get it I will send you some money to get clothes with for yourself and children. I will get my photograph taken and send it to you. I was downtown this morning and I went into a gallery to see if I could get any taken. I found I could for four dollars a dozen and as soon as I get the money I will have a dozen taken to send home. Tell sister Sarah I will send her one. I got a letter from Frank last Sunday. He is well. I answered it the same night. If you get a Courier of January 20 you will see a long letter in it from O*{scar}* S. Davis about our regiment. Tell George I have not shot any n----- yet. I am glad he is a good boy. Keep up good courage and I shall for the war will be ended before another year or I am greatly mistaken. General Rosecrans is a brick and he will soon have it ended here in this end. Write soon to

Your Affectionate Husband,
D. D. Keeler

23
Feb 3

Camp of the 23 Regt of Mich. Vol. Inf.
Boonville Green Co. Feb 3 1863

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to acknowledge the receipt of that
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Mother that the little sail
will come handy and I am
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And the Stationary was just in
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here on this end write soon to your
Affectionate Husband
D. C. Miller

\$4000

Mrs Susan M. Heeler

In Care of S. S. Heeler

East Saginaw

Michigan