

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: “Letter Feb. 7th 1863.tif”
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Probably written to Dexter Dwight Keeler by his 1st cousin Edwin C. Moody.}

{Envelope, probably not the one for this letter.}

Mrs. Susan M. Keeler
East Saginaw
Michigan

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Union, Broome Co., NY
February 7th 1863

My Dear Cousin,

I received your kind letter of the 18th ??? in due time. I should have answered it before but my time has been so engrossed with other business that I have not found time. I was somewhat surprised by receiving a letter from you, yet it nevertheless met with a most hearty welcome. I should imagine that soldier life would cause the memory to revert to bygone days and even the associations of youth would again be revisited. Again in imagination

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he would live over those days which you and I have passed together those skating frolics and rafts of ??? of the ??? and the many other ??? and pleasures which I might recount but will defer. The Nanticoke *{Creek}* still meanders along its old path but other things are somewhat changed. The old neighbors have built new houses and the farms gone into new hands. The town here remains about the same. I think you would recognize it if you did not the people that are in it.

You wished to know what I am doing here. I am teaching school this winter and doing some pettifogging. I went to New York and remained there about three years and returned an attorney at law; and

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one of the lawyers here has gone to war and I have taken his place. Law business is rather dull here just now.

You spoke of my being married. That is so. I was married Thanksgiving to Helen Wheeler a daughter of that Wheeler who bought the old farm, one of the twins. I am keeping house as cozy as can be.

I am glad to see you so patriotic. I have had the same feeling. You western fellows seem to be better fighters than the eastern boys. I should judge from their stories that patriotism had about played out with them. It seems that

they are destined to be unsuccessful. The Union cause seems to look very dark now, but

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it seems to me that rebellion has about reached its ??? and must commence to decline; at least I hope so, as it does not seem possible that this great ??? constructed by our forefathers could be so easily torn down.

I suppose you had hear that our folks had sold their farm up the creek. They are now living out at Spencer, working a farm belonging Ebb Merse. Serena lives here. Grandma is at home. There is no news of any importance. I should be happy to hear from you often and I will try and answer. Where is Frank? I haven't heard from him in a long time.

From Your Cousin
E. C. Moody

Union Broome Co^y N.Y.
February 7th 1863.

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Mrs Susan M. Keller
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