

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Feb. 9th 1863.tif"  
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

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Camp of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regiment of Michigan Volunteer Infantry  
Bowling Green, KY, Feb. 9<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Wife,

I am well and in good spirits with fair prospects of getting some money this week. The paymaster is here and we have just signed the payrolls. We have been on another expedition without having any fight. Day before yesterday the adjutant called on Company B for 20 men to be ready in five minutes with one day's rations and report to him. Well, 20 men and more than 20 were ready in time. We and a detail from the other company were marched to the depot to go aboard the cars. We waited there 2 hours and

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stacked arms and went back to camp and got our dinner and then back to the depot where we found they had got the train ready. The day before some bushwhackers had torn up some track below Mitchellville, Tennessee, and we were to guard the workmen while they repaired damages. So we got aboard and started for the scene of the rebels demonstration and we soon reached the place and found it already repaired and no rebels could be found. Companies I and K were left there to prevent any more mischief being done and the rest of *{us}* returned to Bowling Green and got in camp just as the dawn made the stars look pale. Today our company is at the depot on guard and I will soon join them to help the lieutenant. Yesterday I

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subscribed for a Soldiers Memorial of Company B and it will be sent to you in about twenty days. It is a beautiful thing and has the name of every member of our company as we were mustered into the service. I have not had a letter from you in over a week. I expect one today and if I get one today I will answer it tomorrow. The boys keep getting letters from home that I am dead. If you can find out who writes such yarns about us I wish you would let me know who it is and we will put a stop to it. You must not believe anything until you are sure of it or hear from me. There has been no one shot in our regiment yet except two or three that shot themselves and they are not hurt bad. Some of the

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boys got shot in the neck with bad whiskey the other night. They are all well now. I wrote to you when I got the box so you know that I got that. I will get my photograph taken as soon as I get some money and you shall have that. I can get them here for four dollars a dozen, and I will get a dozen. I wish you would

send me some newspapers to read if you can. I never have got one yet. I have got plenty of letter paper now. I drew 2 quires this morning of the quartermaster and that that Mr. Doughty sent me make me all right again for some time. I will write again in a day or two. Give my love to all of the folks and take good care of the children for me and write soon to

Your Affectionate Husband,  
D. D. Keeler

Camp of the 2<sup>d</sup> Regt of Ind. Vol. Inf.  
Bowling Green Ky Feb 9<sup>th</sup> 1863.

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Husband  
O. K. Miller