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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, Jan 30<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Wife,

I received your kind letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> and glad I was to hear from you. I also got one from Father by the same mail of the same date with some postage stamps and I got one by yesterday's mail from Sant of the same date. I have answered his and now I am going to answer yours so it can go tomorrow. Our mail has got to running regular now and we get news from home in five and six days, which is not quite as bad as it was a while ago. I am well yet and not dead nor hurt nor has any man in our regiment. Whoever sent any such news as that to Michigan had ought to been shot and if I can find out who it is he will get trapped if I can do it. Whoever he

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is will have to keep quiet for the whole company is enraged at such cowardly acts. No one but a coward and a liar would write any such thing. You must not believe any such rumors or stories for there is more lies wrote home than a few and if anyone is caught at the trick he will get punished. There is no danger of getting shot here now than there is at home and we are as far from the rebel army as we were when we were at the Ohio River. There is no probability of our ever having a fight. We will be kept for something else as we have been. We thought we would have had a chance some time ago, but were destined to be disappointed as usual, and I have give up ever seeing a fight and so has the rest of us. If we ever should get after the rebels they would run and we would have to go

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back to camp with a bloodless flag. That has been the way with us every time we tried to find them. You must not get alarmed at every little rumor that you hear, but keep up good courage and lend a deaf ear to all gossip of that kind. We expect our pay before long now and if I can get my picture taken here I will send you one, then you can see how fat I am. I do not sleep with any one. I have a bully good bed by myself and I sleep first rate. Our tent is warm and comfortable and everyone that has visited our camp says that our camp is the most comfortable that they have seen. Everything is kept in good order and the streets are swept most every day and all of the dirt is drawn away and the tents have floors in them and a fireplace so

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we cannot complain. Every man's things are inspected every Sunday and he must have a change of clean clothes, also keep himself clean, and upon no consideration are they allowed to let their arms get rusty. The men have an idea that it is a disgrace to have a dirty gun and they keep them as bright as a new gold dollar. I did not go to Louisville *{KY}* as I wrote before nor did anyone of our company go. The car that they were put in was the rear car of the train and someone pulled the pin and the train went off without any escort much to the delight of the boys who were glad that they were left, for it was no desirable job. Tell Sarah that I have wrote to her and take good care of my little ones. Give my best respects to all inquiring friends. And write soon to

Your Affectionate Husband,  
D. D. Keeler

Camp of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Regt of Mich Vol Inf  
Bowling Green Wyo Jan 31<sup>st</sup> 1863

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and write soon to your affectionate Husband

Wm. Miller