

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter July 15th 1863.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Page 1:}

Cincinnati, Ohio

??????

On Board the Steamer Caroline

July 15th 1863

Dear Wife,

~~found another~~

I have

found another sheet of paper and I ??? want you to know where I am. We are after *{General John Hunt}* Morgan and we will keep after him until he is caught or until he is ???. Today makes twenty-four days that we have been after him. When I wrote you last we were about 40 miles above Louisville *{KY}*. Well, we have been going up the river ever since, We arrived at Cincinnati, Ohio, right before ??? and we landed there early in the morning, marched through the city to a park where we stacked arms and awaited refreshments which we got ??? in the afternoon. We then embarked aboard of

{Page 2:}

of the boats again. I wrote you that we left part of our force below, which was a mistake of mine. They all came along 16 large steam boats all loaded with soldiers and three gunboats. Each transport has one gun aboard besides, so we are well provided with artillery. Last night we left Cincinnati and our whole fleet proceeded up the river about midnight last night we discovered a flat boat put out from shore, and supposing it to be Morgan trying to cross we opened on the shore with our artillery and shelled the banks and woods for a while but got no response from anyone so we kept on our way up the river and arrived at Ripley *{OH}* on the Ohio shore where we made a short

{Page 3:}

halt and started on again and halted again at Maysville *{KY}*, a place on the Kentucky shore 5 miles above Ripley and sixty-five miles above Cincinnati. Whether we will go up the river any farther I cannot tell. It probably depends on Morgan. If he keeps on up the river we will keep abreast of him to prevent his crossing. I do not care how far we have to march on a steamboat for it is as easy as being in camp and much more pleasant. Our boat is taking on more coal and waiting orders and I would not be surprised if we went on up. We have been cheered by most every woman and girl on the north side of the river from New Albany *{IN}* to this place, waving of handkerchiefs and flags greets us at every house on the north side of the river and some on

{Page 4:}

Kentucky side and we had the best of things to eat wherever we go as ashore. The boys are in the best of spirits and enjoy this march amazingly. You must excuse bad writing for I am writing in a crowd with noise enough to drown a saw mill. When I get a chance I will write again so keep a good lookout for more letters and do not feel alarmed about me. Write often and I will. Give my best regards to all inquiring friends and believe me.

Your Most Affectionate Husband,
D. D. Keeler

P.S. July 17th. We are now up the river at Portsmouth *{OH}* and will probably go up 200 miles further before we stop. We are now 265 miles above Cincinnati, Ohio, and will probably go up as far as Wheeling, *{West}* Virginia.

D.D.K.

On the 15th of July 1863
On board the Steamer "Cass" in
July 15th 1863

Dear Sir
~~found as follows~~
I have
just received your letter of the 10th inst and
am glad to hear you know what time
we are after Morgan. I am sure we
will keep after him until we
capture or kill him. We are today
making twenty four days but we
have been after him. When I wrote
you last we were about 40 miles above
Louisville well we have been going up
the river ever since we arrived at
Cincinnati Ohio night before last
and we landed here early in
the morning, marched through
the city to a park where we stacked
arms and awaited refreshments
which we got about in the afternoon
we then embarked aboard of

of the boats again. I write you
that we left part of our force
below, which was a mistake of
mine they all came along 16 large
Steam Boats all loaded with Soldier
and three Gun Boats each trans-
port has one gun aboard besides
so we are well provided with
Artillery. Last night we left Cincinnati
and our whole fleet pro-
ceeded up the river about mid-
night. Last night we discovered
a flat boat put out from
shore and supposing it to be
Morgan trying to cross we opened
on the shore with our artillery
and shelled the banks and
woods for a while but got no
response from any side so we
kept on our way up the river
and arrived at Ripley on the Ohio
shore where we make a short

halt and started on a gain
and halted a gain at Marysville
a place on the Ky shore 5 miles
above Ripley and sixty five
miles above Cincinnati, whether
we will go up the river any further
I can not tell it probably depends
on Morgan if he keeps on up the
river we will keep a boat to
prevent his crossing I do not care
how far we have to march on a
Steam Boat for it is as easy as
being in camp and much more
pleasant Our Boat is taking on
more Coal and awaiting orders
and I would not be surprised if we
went on up, we have been cheered
by most every woman an girl
on the north side of the river
from New Albany to this place
waving of hand or shiff and flags
greet us at every house on the
north side of the river and some on

Kentucky river, and we have
the best of things to eat wherever
we go ashore. The B. are in
the best of spirits and enjoy
this march amazingly. You must
excuse bad writing for I am writing
in a crowd with noise enough to
drown a saw mill, when I get
a chance I will write again
so keep a good look out for more
news and do not get alarmed
about me write often and I will
give my best regards to all inquiring
friends and believe me your
most affectionate husband

J. D. Hull

P.S. July 14th we are now up the river
at Portsmouth and will probably
go up 200 miles further before we
stop we are now 265 miles above
Cincinnati Ohio and will probably
go up as far as Wheeling Virginia