Family Home Page

Contact Information

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. Wheter 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 no 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 $\{//N\}$ 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.

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