EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original files: "Letter Nov. 23rd 1864 pg. 1-3.tif" & "Letter Nov. 23rd 1864 pg. 4.tif"

Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are {italicized-bracketed}.

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Quartermaster Office Supply Train, 2nd Division 23rd Army Corps Nashville, Tennessee, {Wednesday} November 23rd 1864

Dear Wife,

It is with pleasure that I now answer your kind and welcome letter that I received this morning. Glad I was to hear that you and Frankie were well, but sorry to learn that Sarah is in trouble. I wish I was there to take her part and yours. He would never kick another woman if he is my brother-in-law. If he has laid violent hand on you I will when I get home make him repent the day he done kicked her or you outdoors. If in my absence as a soldier you are abused I will make the guilty party repent or I am no man. Tell Sarah to let him go and when my time is out she shall not suffer as long as I can do anything. I will be a friend and a good one, too. I am now where I am unable to resent his bad actions, but I hope I will be able to some time.

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I am still at Nashville awaiting orders and in readiness to move to the front.

I would like to get away from here for it costs me nearly ten dollars a day to live here and I have been here nearly two weeks and consequently my funds are running low. I have only sixteen dollars left, but I can borrow some if necessary or sell one of my horses. I stop at the St. Cloud Hotel at this place as the weather has been rather cold and stormy and disagreeable in camp, so I have tried to enjoy comfortable quarters while I have had a chance as it is the first time I have stopped outside of camp since I have been in the army.

I have got me a new uniform and now I wear as good clothes as anybody. I saw Colone *{Oliver Lyman}* Spaulding this morning and he says that he has an adjutant's commission for me and wants me to accept of it if the present adjutant accepts of a captains commission. If I do I will only muster for the unexpired term of the regiment, which will not prolong my time a minute.

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At any rate you may rest assured that I will not do anything that will keep me away from you any longer than my original time. I would like to go home as well as you want me to and only for losing my present position I would have made the attempt. I know that you would rather I would retain it that to have me go home and go back to the regiment for duty which would surely be the case if I did. I know how glad you would be to see me and as my time is growing beautifully less now we must be patient and when I can I will stay. I have wrote for Frank my brother to come and clerk for me. I hope he will come. Be a good

girl and tell Sarah that to keep up good spirits and let Tip to to the devil if he wants to until I get home and I will straighten him or break his neck. He has got to behave himself and take care of her or he will hear from me and he will know me, too. Give my respects to Father & Mother and all other inquring friends.

{Page 4:}

I received a letter from O{scar} S. Davis with card of Mr. & Mrs. Davis.

I yesterday saw Lieutenant Truman Hawley of the 29th Michigan Infantry and Frank Van ??? or Banty Maynard.

Write soon and believe me. As ever

Your Affectionate Husband.

D. D. Keeler

P.S. How are Uncle Abe *{President Abraham Lincoln}* and where is little Mac *{General Geoge Brinton McClellan}*?

D. D. Keeler

Mashville Tein Soo 28 91864 Doar Wife De is with pleasure that A now onswer your kind and evel cond letter that of received this morning glad Dwas to hear that you and Frankis were well but sorry to larm that Loras is in trouble dewich I was there to take her part, and yours He would never kick another wirman if he is my Brother me law Of he has laid volent hands on you Dwill whin Ob get home make him repent the day he done hicked her or you! out Doord. Of mi my absence as a Soldier you are abused Dowill make the party repent out and ma Man Tell Sarah to let him go and whom my time is and she shall not suffer as long at Do ando any thing Hell Is a Triend and a good one to Dam mow where I ash unable to resent his bad actions Jul D hope Dwill bable to dome howe

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at any rate you may rest addured that Swill not do lang thing that, well keep me oury from you lany longer Theren my orriginal timbe I should blike to go hound admell as you Count me to and only for loosing my present posselion Dubuld have made the tothempar Ob know that you would rather Downld relain it that to have me go home and go fack to the Roy forduty which swould surely be the case of to did to know how glad you revald of to see me and as my time is growing Frantefally ledd now we what be fatient and Jutien O come Burd stay I have wrote for Franks my Berther to Come and clert forme. Drope he well come Be a good Girl and tell Farak that to Keep Jup good spirits und let Kip gito the Sivel of the wante to putel Beget home and Dwell straighten him or Break his necto he has got to behave himself and like Care of her or he will hear from me and he will know me to Sive my Respecto to Father of Mother and all other nouren freuel 5

Dre cewed of letter from O Having anth Cord of In & mo David Suman Hawley of the 29th much Hoffy and Frank Van Williams, on Hanly Taymard me Ces ever Your Offectionale Head fand 1 Magneeler 108. How are sence afe and Where is little mac Defecte 3 thed mount bare Duffly Gram and A & g/ he 3. Jet 2 2 -126.