EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Oct. 11<sup>th</sup> 1863b.tif" Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

(The year is not specified, but he refers to his mother being sick. Since she died October 5, 1862, the year of the letter was probably 1862 and he probably had not yet heard of her death.)

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Camp at Frankfort, KY
23 Regt. Mich. ??? Oct. 11 {1862|

## Dear Wife,

I have just received two letters from you and one from Frank, the first that I have received since I left Saginaw. You better believe that I was glad to hear you and the children and I am sorry to hear that mother is so sick. I hope she will get well for I would like to see her again. Tell her that I am well and send my best wishes hoping she will soon be better. Since I wrote before we have seen some pretty hard marching. We are now in the middle of the rebels at the capital of Kentucky.

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We came into the city about 4 o'clock in the morning and were welcomed by the citizens who were glad to see us. We were 4 hours too late to take a part in the fight which happened here that night and resulted in the rout of the rebels with the loss of 1 killed, 4 wounded on our side and seven killed on the rebels and some wounded. They were fixing to burn the town and bridge but did not ????. They were on the hills around the town all the day before and some of the Union boys mounted some barrels on some stumps on an opposite hill and the rebels took it for a battery and dared not enter the city. Might by that means the city

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was saved. We have been here two days and are now under marching orders. The Brigade that we belong to has all left but our regiment which some are on picket. Two companies are on provost guard duy in the city and our company are now on guard at our camp. Where we will go to next I cannot tell. We will join our brigade somewhere under Col. Chafin when we are relieved. I can stand the marches first rate, better than two thirds of the regiment. The only thing I have to complain of is carrying my knapsack, which is pretty heavy. I had to throw away some of my unnecessary traps to lighten it. Some of them threw away most everything they had. We are in good spirits and feel

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pretty well. The weather has been very warm but it is cold enough today. I am now acting as 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant of our company now and shall for some time. Some of time I have full command of the company which I do to the satisfaction of the Field Officers. We have to be up early in the morning and drill all daylight. Some of our company are sick. Among them is Overton. We left him in Louisville where he now is. Our n----- that we confiscated has got dinner most ready so I must bring this to a close. Answer soon and ??? your letters as before. Take good care of George and ??? and also mother. Write how your father and mother are. Tell them tha I am well and sstand it first rate. I will write again soon. From your

Affectionate Husband

D. D. Keeler

{original file: Letter Oct. 11th 1863b.tif} Campat Grankfort A. Y.
23 Regt Mich Part Cet 11 Cear Wife of have just received two letter from you and one from Frank the first that I have received since & Left Vagenau you better believe that Pavas glad to hear you and the children and Dam sorry to hear that mother is so sick I hope the will get well for I would fire to see her again tell her that I am well and send my best wishes hopeing she will soon be better since I wola befor we have seen some pretty hard marching we are now in the midest of the Rebblo at the capital of Wentrokes

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