

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Oct. 27th 1864.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

{Envelope:}

Mrs. Susan M. Keeler
East Saginaw
Michigan

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Quartermasters Office Supply Train, 2nd Division 23rd Army Corps
Cedar Bluff, Alabama, *{Thursday}* October 27th 1864

Dear Wife,

I suppose that you think something has happened to me or I had forgot you for not writing oftener. Well, dear Susan, I am yet well and safe and the reason for my not writing is because there has been no mail go out lately for one thing, and we have been on the march every day but one during this month of October and I have consequently delayed writing and I hope you will excuse me for it. The date movement of the army came rather unexpectedly to me and the rebels got one day the start of us and they have kept ahead. We have followed them into Alabama and I cannot tell ??? how much further we will chase them. There has been but little fighting yet. I have been well and tough all of the time. My side is well again and I am as well as ever. We have lived first rate on this march. We have sweet potatoes in abundance and other things the country affords.

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I just received a letter from you of October 9th and a Saginaw Enterprise. I received the address of O~~{scar}~~ S. Davis and I see by the paper that he was married October 3rd to Miss Sophia Hunt. I expected to had a leave of absence by this time but this move prohibited the possibility of such a thing. The general commanding the 2nd Division that no leaves of absence were granted at present and I can't tell how soon there will be. If I should get a leave now I should lose my place and I had rather not lose it now. However, I am on the downhill side of my time and if I am as fortunate the next 10 months as I have been for the two last years I will go home to stay in less than a year. A new order has be issued issued that all officers accepting promotions will not be held for any longer time than the regiments to which they belong, so if I accept another commission it will not prolong my term of service any longer. I received several letters that I have not yet answered and I do not know how soon I can get time to. I will write as often to you as possible and if you fail to receive letters from me regular you must not get alarmed about me. I hope you have received the money or the draft of \$300 dollars that I sent you.

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I have bought me a fine horse worth one hundred and fifty dollars. I got him cheap and I can easily get more than I gave, so if I get short of money I will sell him. You say that the 31st Regiment has gone from there. Where has it gone to? To Virginia, or has it gone west farther? You say that a great many deserted. Well, they would not desert much if they were down here. I have seen some northern Democrat papers and all that they contain is abuse to the President and insult to the administration and I hope that the people will not submit to such rebel doctrine but vote for Uncle Abe again and save our country from dishonor. Has Frank got home yet? I hope he has. I will try to get there as soon as I can and I hope you will keep up your spirits and be patient a while longer. Old *{General John Bell}* Hood dare not stop and fight and I cannot tell how far we will have to chase. He has not accomplished much yet by his flank move, only destroying a short piece of railroad, and got whipped at Allatoona *{GA}* most beautifully. Seven of our regiments whipped thirty-six rebel regiments and saved the place and all of the stores and also captured a great many prisoners.

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Take good care of our little one and yourself and I will do the same. I will write again soon if I have a chance. We have had the finest kind of weather this month and it still continues so. Write soon and give my respects to all inquiring friends. I am as ever,

Your Affectionate Husband

D. D. Keeler

Lieutenant & Acting Assistant Quartermaster

D^{no} Office Supply Train ^{and} Div 23rd A^o
Grand Bluffs Alabama Oct 27th 1864

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D. H. Miller
G. & A. G. M.

Mrs Susan M. Keller
East Saginaw
Michigan

Mrs. Sarah Crate
Hackensack
N. J.

Mrs Sarah Crate