

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Sept. 16th 1864.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

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Quartermasters Office Supply Train, 2nd Division 23rd Army Corps
Decatur, Georgia, *{Friday}* September 16th 1864

Dear Sister,

I received your kind and welcome letter day before yesterday and glad I was to hear from you. It has been a long time since you wrote to me and I will answer yours without delay. Our army corps, the 23rd, is now stationed (6) six miles east of Atlanta *{GA}* on the Atlanta and Augusta Railroad where we are now resting from our hard summers campaign, one of the most successful and hard fought campaigns of the war. From the commencement from first of May to the first of September, the taking of Atlanta, there was fighting every day on some part of the line.

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When the campaign ended our army had drove the Johnnies thirty-five miles south of Atlanta. Our army then withdrew to Atlanta to rest and prepare for another campaign and if we go as far next time as we have this, the Confederacy will be in one heap then. We will not have much marching to do next time. I received a letter from Frank the other day. He expects to be home soon. I hope he will, and I will try for a leave of absence to make a visit home myself. It has been three years since I saw Frank and I would like to see him very much as well as the rest of the folks. I am glad to hear that you are going to school and I hope you will improve the time now you have a chance. I wish that I had went to school more when I had a chance. I can now see the benefit it would have been to me. However, I have learned a

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great deal since I have been in the army. It is a school that I never shall forget. If I get home safe I shall feel that I have accomplished more in my three years soldiering than a whole lifetime in Saginaw *{MI}*. I would like to give you a description of Atlanta if I could, but I cannot much for I have not seen enough of it yet. The part that I have visited is near the depot and where our batteries shelled it. I never saw such destruction of buildings as there is there. Our shells have completely riddled the depot buildings and houses in that vicinity. Some buildings have more shot holes through them than a man can count in a week & some parts of the city is in better condition. There is some very fine buildings, but most of them have been hit by canon balls. The city is large enough to contain about 24,000 inhabitants when in prosperous condition.

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This little place, Decatur, is only a little country town without much to boast of, but its jail which is a very substantial building and now used by our men for the same purpose. I have my train parked one fourth of a mile from town in a large field and my headquarters are in a beautiful pine grove joining the field. I have plenty to eat and a good bed made of pine boughs in a good wall tent. On the whole I think myself very comfortably situated. I wish I could see Susan and Frankie and I will try to get home this fall. Tell Father that I am well and will answer his letter soon. Remember me to all inquiring friends and write soon to

Your Affectionate Brother,

D. D. Keeler

Lieutenant & Acting Assistant Quartermaster

??? Supply Train

2nd Division 23rd Army Corps

Nashville, Tennessee



DM Office Supply Train 2nd Div 23rd A.C.
Decatur Ga Sept 16th 1864

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A. Q. R. Supply Train

2nd Division B. A. C.

Nashville

June