

B. I have not yet been
paid but expect that
the paymaster will soon be
arrived here now to pay the
whole Army
39th

Quarter Master Office Supply Train
20th Div 23rd N.C. Atlanta Ga Sept 6th 1864

Dear Susan

I now for the first time in
two weeks have a chance to write and mail a
letter and as I have received two from you since
I sent one I will answer them both at once
One of them contained Frankies Photographs which
I am glad to get she looks better than I expected

The reason of my not writing is that our Army
cut loose from our communication north and
started on one of those flanking expeditions
that we are so noted for.. which has been accom-
plished with great results that is the capture of
Atlanta and several thousand prisoners.

The Movement commenced on the 25th of Aug
The 20 Army Corps was left to protect our Baggage
Trains and Surplus means of Transportation at the
Chattahoochee River and Rail Road Bridge & the
balance of the Army swung round to the right
moving on all the roads and where there was

no roads at all going round to the south of
Atlanta to cut the Macon and Atlanta Rail Road
We reached the Rail Road near Jonesborough and
destroyed the Rail Road by burning the ties
and heating the iron and bending it around trees
and stumps rendering it useless for use as Rail
Road iron. The Rebels were taken by surprise by our
movements. They supposed that our Army had
fallen back and had sent only a small force in
that direction on purpose to direct their attention
and cover our retreat so that only one corps of
rebels was sent to oppose we came very near
getting them before they discovered their mistake
the force at Atlanta then had to leave and
destroyed all of their stores blowing up 28 car loads
of ammunition. They evacuated the place on Friday
the 20th Army Corps immediately moved up and took
possession of the city and capturing a great many
prisoners. I unloaded my train the next day and
came back to Atlanta on Sunday driving 25 miles
from Jonesboro. I left the troops about 8 miles
south of there with ten days rations. So the results
of this movement was the taking of Atlanta
and forcing the Rebels 30 miles south of Atlanta

and destroying thirty miles of Rail Road
and ending the campaign. The 23rd Army Corps
is to be Stationed at Decatur six miles east of
Atlanta and on the Augusta & Atlanta Rail Road
Our trains are now laying here awaiting the return
of the troops they go to Decatur we are then to refit
and reorganise and get ready for another campaign
this fall. If I am relieved I will try and get leave
of absence to go home. I do not know what the
prospects are for leaves of absence yet. If we are to go
on another campaign I want to keep my position and
to do so I have got to stay with it. I think I have been
very fortunate in getting it this Summer. I think I stand
a good chance of keeping it. You spoke of my promotion
well. Susan according to orders received at W^{ash} from
Washington I have two years yet to serve, if not sooner
discharged. but I think if I am not very much
mistaken another year will discharge me, at any
rate I will not accept of another commission of
any rank to muster for three years more. So do not
worry about that, for I mustered in to the 23rd Mich and no
other and their time expires one year from the 12th of this
month and unless I am transferred to some other Regt
I shall be mustered out with them

now all I know about Lute Delavergn is that
he was detailed with his Company for Guard
to a train and in the night stole a officers valise
broke it open and destroyed a lot of papers of consider-
able value to the owner and Government and hid the
valise he was caught at it and arrested and put with
other prisoners in the bull pen. And when the Regt was
moving in the night he evaded the guard and
hid in the woods until they passed And nothing
has been heard of him since. This is as I heard it and
I am sorry that it has happened for his parents sake
for I do believe them to be good and honest people
and would do and have done all that they could
to make a better man of Lute. It is the first trick
of the kind I have heard of his doing and I do not
believe he knew the value of the papers he destroyed I
would not loose my papers for ten thousand dollars
if I did they would make me work out the value of
what property I have in my possession before I could
get a cent of pay. ^{And I am for this present time responsi-}
ble for at least ~~\$3,000~~ ^{thirty} ~~thousand~~ ^{thousand} Dollars worth of
property. belonging to U.S. ~~Army~~ before yesterday I had two
thousand Dollars worth of mules die on the road. however that
is easy settled. This stock is now most full and I must begin to wind
up from well and I hope you and Abraham are both well too I will
write again as soon as I get settled at Greater and perhaps before
my respects to all inquiring friends and believe me as ever your own
Affectionate Husband

J. S. W. Caber