

Tuesday afternoon May the thirty one /64

Dear Mary

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I mailed a letter for you this morning but I have a little spare time this afternoon & I will improve it writing to you I dont suppose I will have time to write to morow I will answer all the questions you ask me near as I can You think I did not sympathise with you I dont know about that It is not the one that makes the most fuss that feels the most You have my warmest sympathy in all the troubles you have to pass through You write as if you had heard I had been sick I told you all about my health in the letter I mailed this morning Well I suppose if I had asked to be examined at Camp Chase I would have got clear But I did not ask to be examined and the Doctor did not ask me The Doctor passed along when the men were in line & looked them in the face but he said nothing to me You need not get so jelous about me writing to anyone else but you I will try & keep from writing to the girls Anyhow if you heare tell of me writing to any of them you had better put a stop to it Charly & Wesly asked me to write to them and I told them I would & so I filled my promise But I do not allow to write any the less to you and you must not think hard if I should write a letter once & awhile But I know how to sympathise with you I received two letters on saturday one from carry & one from pa & mother & was verry glad to heare from you all Yet I was disapointed I was expecting a letter from you It seamed along time to wait till monday I intend to answer them when I get time I did not receive Charleys letter un til yesterday It does one a great deal of good to get a letter here Belford is almost sick on account of not getting letters oftner from home He says he guesses his folks are all dead Do tell them to write oftner to him The mail is bought here every day at about three oclock There is a mail boy here that carries the mail to town & brings it here There was no mail come for our company today

Well I must tell you how picket duty is done here Well they all report to headquarters in town and they are all devided into squads Perhaps 20 men one lieutenant one sergeant & two or three corporals They make there head quarters on the diferent roads that come into town They place the men about a hundred yard or two hundred yards a part in a circle around the town and camps If a person comes without a pass one of the guards or corporals has to take his or her name age complexion where they live there buisness &c to the provo marshal & get them a pass. When I was on there was two women wanted to go in to town and we sent for a pass for them & but the clerk would not give it He said one of them was blamed for caring a rebel o but that did make them mad They just reared & tared It was a mistake It was another woman of the same name that lived in town If any person comes here on the cars they can get a pass at the depo There is guards all the time there If a person has not a pass they take there description and go and get them a pass There is no dificulty in getting a pass if a person is loyal We do not have so much to do now as we did We have been relived of picket duty entirly We now do provost duty in and around the city Cap Johnson is assistent provo marshal The war news is all favorable today The one hundred & 52 Reg came here today There was a small waggon train left here on last Thursday evening 18 waggons They was captured I cant find out exactly the truth about it There is so many tailles about it

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There was part of the tenth Regiment with the train We think we will not be moved from here We herd that there was a report at home that we had been in fight and part of us captured Well if there was I did not see it Every thing is quiet here now as far as I know I am glad you are getting along so well with the work

Send me the papers as often as you can Albert Nichols & Wm Devold does the cooking now I have Bought nothing to eat but a loaf of Bred once & awhile & one half pound of shugar It is thirty cents a pound I got this paper ^{cut} sutlers (?) One cent a sheet Envelopes the same I guess the people here are a good devided some are loyal & some are not Well Etie I took that kiss of the letter You must keep a good lot for me I would like to have one now I expect you will be big enough to help to set my dinner when I come home I would like to see your pet. Cary how does youre pet do? I wonder if it is sheared yet? Well Cary I have wrote before about a six gun Battery or light artilery Company that is in camp by the side of us I will tell you some more about it I will give you a sum to do & you must send the answer to me to see if it is right The men are all dutch and are from New York Well Cary I must tell you about that old Jail that I was guarding It is large stone house There is no glass in the windows but there is iron bars fixed in thw windows so the prisnors cant get out like this It is a nasty dirty place There is a yard back of the jail as big as our garden with a stone fence around it twenty feet high They are allowed to go out there not more than two at a time to waste & do some other jobs The guards has to be there to see that they dont get out We caught one fellow trying to get out He was saucy & we had to hand cuff him That is put irons on his wrists & fatened them to gether Cary you must try and be a good boy and you will not get into sutch a place The Adjutant received a box from home this evening and he invited me to eat with him I had all the cake I could eat It was very nice After awhile if you want to send me something you may You want to know what clothes I drawed One pair of drawers One pair one paid of socks One flanel shirt two wollen & one gun blanket & knapsack haver sack & canteen Mr Boos Bender & co have just opened a sutler store here today Ever thing is verry high I think if I had a couple of check shirts after while they would be cooler I dont know that I would need anything els If I do I will let you know If you can buy a brood sow do it I dont want Jane to get with fold I have not herd from Henry since we came here The boys ~~all~~ Behave very well with a few exceptions If Roll Willson & one or two more were out of our Company we would have a well behaved Company He is one of the dirteyst blagards there is in the Regiment There is some very nice men in our Company from Jersy Township and there is two or three that is an ornery as the law calls for One is first seargeant He has no uniform & wont do anything & the Lieutenant wont do anything with him He is a big lasey ornery fellow There is no whiskey sold to soldiers here I have not seen anyone drunk since I came here

June the first I have been lucky to day in getting a good situation I am guarding a stable in town There is ten horses in it Belonging toothe officers that has comand of the post here Three men & my self we have nothing to do but stay here There is a man that has charge of

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them & no person els is allowed to take a horse out but him Good horses has to be guarded here day and night I am verry sorry to heare of George Being sick I hope he is better by this time You will have to get some help to atend the corn besides Will if you can I have no dout but corn will be a high price and everythng els it looks so here If there is another double shovel needed to tend the corn get one Ross makes the best How does the horses look Can Bet see any better I am glad the witches has got out of the milk Now for the sum There is six waggons & one cannon on each waggon & six horses to each wagon & one man rides every horse Then there is six cartridge waggons They carry the powder & balls There is six horses & six men to each one of them They ride of the horses & there is six men to each cannon to load them & eight officers that rides on horses I have seen them out on drill, now how many men horses saddles & waggons will that make A saddle on every horse You can get Catherine to help you make it out Carley Barrack you asked me in your letter what was the matter with him, I felt sorry for him because he had to stand out in the field a dark night two hours at a time with no one in a hundred yards of him The drafted men here have not received any offical notice They dont know whether they will get clear or not Emmet throed up his hat when he herd Stuman was drafted

I have just received a letter from Wesley He says he is about to retire to private life He said they had elected another super tendant but did not say who it was

Now my dear Mary I have spent all the time I had to rest writing to you & it seems to me I have wrote nothing interesting after all If I have not you must forgive me If I have not answered your questions you must send them again for I do not know all I have wrote Wm Evans the fixer has the ague All the boys from our neighborhood is well My health is good I wonder if you everr herd any thing more of them sheep You might have some one to examine the stray book in town Now I must close & I commit you and the children to him wo said a sparrow doth not fall without his notice He will do all things well I know

JF Montgomery

June the first I have seen to day in the gardens in town corn & potatoes knee high, onions salad & peas bigenougf for use. Saturday the 4et This morning there is a train of two hundred & two waggons starting up the valley Two thousand Infantry & one hundred & fifty Cavalry, going to Hunter. There is allso a large train starting to Grant's army Sunday the 5th I have been guarding mules yesterday & to day Will be relieved by ten oclock, the 15th Reg are taking up stakes & going to start to washington to day We had preaching in camp this afternoon by an agent of the Christian commission Royce is our chaplain name Monday John was here to day & Brought me a chicken & some cakes We will have it for super It has been warm and dry here for several days We are having a fine rain this afternoon Mrs Thomas was here this afternoon I was verry sorry that I did not get to see her The Major is gaining health fast John is well. I have just received a letter from you & one from Charly I was expecting a letter from you to day and I was not disapointed Of corce I was commence & answer as soon as I can Of corce I was glad to hearefrom you

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If you send any thing I want another bottle of medicine as the one I got is most gone I have to give some to some others I left what I had when I left home at Collins drug store It was too heavy for me to cary about town & I forgot it when we left No more preasent

I will soon J