

Dec., the, 19, 1863

Dear Wife with—

pleasure I take my pen
in hand. This morning ⁱⁿ answer
to your kind epistle which I
received a few days ago with pleas
I have bin in ^{the} city on gar
for 2 days Sam Mc Kin got here
last night he expects to start
back in the morning the 20
I will send my box with him
I give him five dollars to by
you sum orings, every thing
is hier here than in charlot
Scoot came down here with
his finger in his mouth he
wite fetch our boxes well a
nuf onley he didnt want
to be troubled with them, the
Soldiers intends to hang
all such men, Tha say cant
super and fight an he tiger
~~for~~ sick men will see hard
times when the soldier gets home

Will Mac as I have
Told you before and as I
tel you a gain I dont
know when I will get home
a bit more than you do
I dont think it will be
soon my chance is as good
as any. But The Lords will
be dur not mind I will
hope for beter thing whethr
it come or not but things
looks verry dark to me
now I was a post to the
war at the outset and
I am yet I dont like to
see so many folks at home
and me in the field that
has more to file for than
I have. our confedrecy is
lost lost before long
without a change soon
I think a change will take
place before harvest

Well I hope this day is cold
a clear I was on picket¹¹ Thursday
night in town at the
theater I never saw it rain
harder in my life I had to
take it just like a cow but
it didnt hurt me I don
think the best I could I think
I can stand as much as
any man it is killing lots
of our men I hope those
bulletins may find you
and family all well
write soon and often
tell me all the news
I cant write you much
news news that would do
you any good you can
hear the news of the war
I received a letter from
Mother yesterday I heard
I told nothing more of I
I remain³⁰⁰⁰ your⁹ husband til death

Well Mag I Received
your Box with Thanks to
you it was all right and
good it found me redy for
it,, but we have a good mes
we have a set of nice men
we all git Boxes every 2 or 3
weeks so we always have
something from home on hand
if we didnt we wold, in
hard Times we sell flour
meat we draw and pay for
our washing,, Well Mag M.C.
is well and fat. onley I have
got a sore han I got it
cut yesterday with the ax
write a cross the root of my
Thum I think it will be
well in a few days if I dont
get cold in it,, you said
Mary Sam was looking
for Sam home Crismu
Sam dont know when he will
git home I can tel you it wont
be soon.