

Oct 6th 1863

I take ^{the} present
opportunity of dropping you
a few lines to let you see
I am well and I hope
those ~~few~~ few lines may find
you enjoying the same
blessing of good health I have
been on duty at the time since
I have been here I have not
had time to write to you
I have been on duty day and
night on guard four miles from
camp so I have not had
time to write to you May
I have a great deal of sick
here some dying and some
dying I want you to
write me all the news
tell me all the news and how
you are getting along I receive
your letter on the 3 [20]

Maag I was glad
to here from you

i dont expect to get home
soon there is no furlow
givin here there is two or three
deserters every night we have
dread nothing yet only meat
and meal I'm out at that

they is a hard place
soldiers all sick almost
write soon tel M.C.C

all the more i want get
no more to write to you

of importance our crowd
is all well sum of them

broke down i am sick
and heaty i am thank you

for so kind a blessing
bestode on me nothing

^{now}
at present only remain

Your affectioned friend
M.C.C, M. J. Caldwell