

Head Quarters 3rd Brigade
5th Division U. S. A.
Murfreesboro Apr. 30th 1863

My Dear Sister

Your kind favor of the 12th Inst. had been lying in the desk for some days and now that my hurry is over & will respond. During the past two weeks I have made out 96 papers about the size of a decent table & you may think I am greatly relieved as I have just put the last scratch to the 96th one.

Our Divn. under Maj Genl. Reynolds have been out as far as Mc Minnville during the past fortnight. You may have seen an account of their doings in the Cleveland paper. Johnny Morgan escaped on a fleet horse, our boys pursued but their animals were jaded & the arch horse-thief got off safe - His better half was taken & I think brought to this Divn - The federals burnt a large train of cars & the R.R. bridge which was now the only cars that had passed over it being those burned - 3000 lbs whiskey an immense

lot of pork + some wheat were given to the famed
Our boys will be in to day at noon + then I shall
learn the particulars - the instances of individual
adventure - hair-breadth escapes + c.

We did not lose any mules, about 4000 horses
were brought in last evening as spoils of war -

For several days + nights a detail have been
removing ammunition from the Court house to the
magazine so that in case of an attack they
(the rebels) will not catch us napping -

Indications are that Bragg contemplates an
attack on this place - Mcgleg's Division stood
on line of battle out on the Front all
day yesterday -

James McKenzie left day before
yesterday with Seth Parker's body - Seth was
sick but a very short time and was delirious
all the while -

We are having fine weather -
Corn - where there is any - is 4 or five inches
high - Apples have shed their blossoms + it
looks like summer here except there is no
grass (nor any green thing) to be seen where a
foot could be placed. All the vegetable life
visible is on the trees - the ground is hard brown
+ hard - Many years cannot repair the damage
of the war should they proceed no further. no fences
+ nothing to make them of - the stock killed or

driven off - fences burned or otherwise destroyed
and all the usual effects of the war are to be
seen here -

The papers you speak of having sent me
I have remained in blissful ignorance of me
of them having reached me - the "New Republic
North + South" but I have paid only a small
portion, but quite enough to stick my foot
from the floor - the boys here are kind in their
narration -

I hope Albert will soon be here - I
think he'll go home if exchanged, before coming here
I hope he will, for I know how much some friends
will rejoice to see him - I should say something
to Siggie Everett for me, which is as definite as can
be, as you say she wishes you to say something to me
'I want an proposal for marriage over it?'

If I don't accede now for there is a rebel young
lady out in Rhea Co. Tenn. who has a claim
on me, but dead and her land is in the hands
of the Philistines, + how can I hope to get
them unless I turn rebel - she is immensely
wealthy, but says + paper says, want me
now to run the risk of getting a husband
or none - You see I'm not romantic + may be
cruelty - this is the county of Chicaly
I do something heroic + that on the right
side I can't expect the annals of history

changed if I know her other name. - I think I'll find her.

Evening. I wait till the boys come in but the events of the scrub are essentially as I have stated. The only additional items that interest me at all are the capture of a good cow & a large gobble. To a fellow that hasn't seen a drop of milk for 3 months you may guess how important an acquisition "old Brindle" is. Ten dozens Egg too! I cracked the shells of two & they were out of sight in an incredibly short period. I expect to dream of custards all night.

Excuse this very large blot. I made it in my haste to get the eggs away.

I shall always be pleased to hear from you. Remember me kindly to your people & believe me
Your Affectionate Brother

J. B. Warner