

1865
Chattanooga Tenn.

Oct. 4th 1863

My Dear Wife;

It is the holy Sabbath and as usual I must write a few lines to my Darling, only a few for I have written to none but you and Father since the battle and I know there are some others who would rejoice to know of my safety. We are still camped in the trenches - i.e. our tents are pitched right on the edge of the ditches so that at a moment's warning we are able to throw a bristling line of bayonets behind the works or shield ourselves from any firing by lying low in the ditches. The rebs claim that they have - I know not how many - siege guns planted on the hills around us. They are within plain sight of us - i.e. the rebs see the siege guns - These guns, are, I opine - a myth. The rebel pickets say that sooner than charge on our works they would stab

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their arms and surrender. I have
been down town today looking
after Sergt - Cushing. He was there
in a hospital yesterday but I could
not find him today. I think he must
have been taken to Bridgeport this
morning. I do not know anything
of his wounds except by hearsay and
lest I may give a wrong impres-
sion will say no more of it than I
have heretofore. The boys say he appear-
ed cheerful and hopeful at least -

Dear mother - you never saw
me looking or feeling better than I
do now. I stand the fatigues of
our mountain tramp splendidly and
the night-watching and battles seem
as if to have no effect on me except
to increase my appetite. I don't
know what I shall do now that
we have to come down to half rations
as we must on account of 850 wagons
of our supply train being captured

and destroyed the other day.

But I had one or
two little commissions for you to
execute. What were they? Oh! I re-
member one at least. Could you
find a quarter of a yard or so of
nice silk-velvet, dark blue and
send it to me by mail immediately?
Such a tramp as we had was death
and more on clothes. I was not quite
naked when I got here but could show
an immense rent-roll. I bought a very
nice coat - a sort of half-blouse, half-
body nondescript which is much worn
here - of one of the band who was going
home at a bargain. It fits me like a
charm, - only the sleeves are a trifle short.
I want to have some cuffs on them
therefore - the velvet -

You cannot guess
how well suited I am with
any new company - we are just
as happy as chicks. I should

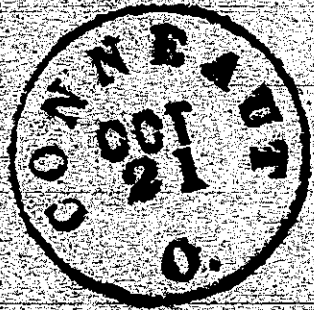
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hate very much to leave them
and hope I may not be compelled
so to do. I was sorry to hear of
the unhappy state of affairs at
home. I declare I do not see how
they are to be remedied and the old
place saved. One thing is certain.

It would be very much cheaper
to support the family outright
than to keep up the interest on
the debt as the farm is now
managed. Circumstances have
changed that — should I continue
the work I shall probably be ena-
bled to go on at once with my
professional labors, or but I shall
certainly do in that case.

But I
have been interrupted and it is
now very late — Good night and
Sweet Dreams, Darling,

(Albin)

Dec 3



Mrs A. W. Douglas

Chattanooga

~~Chattanooga~~
Ohio

Chattanooga Oct 27

