

Camp 49th Ind. Inf.
Indianola Texas Feb 28. 64

My dearest friend.

Imagine my surprise and pleasure after three long months death like silence on your part. when this morning I received your interesting and welcome epistle of the 11th Inst. My conduct was similar to the juvenile when he received the new book. I've did not send it to my friends. Really I had concluded that you had entirely forgotten "Yon Henry". Almost got Jealous of "Purdy" Most mustache has more fearfull that you were ill or had been lost or frozen to death in a snow storm. Your nice letter came just in time to prevent a fearfull "tragedy" and probable death by the blues. under which fearfull disease I had been laboring for two months past. You were the good Samaritans. The very best Sanitary Community in all Kosciuszko. Am bound to love you all the days of my life. for your kindness. Am man at the river for freezing over. and preventing your letters from reaching me. Feel as though I have passed through some fiery ordeal. and was now basking in the sun

Dear mother

shine with the sea breeze fanning my brow. It is useless
to say that I have read since epistle an innumerable
amount of times. And ever finding something new that
forcible reminds me. That it is the pure poetry of
sentiment peculiar only to Mother. which endears, and
revives many sweet memories of the past. Though our ac-
quaintance and association has not been by any means
intimate. Yet quite enough to for ever endear you to
me. Some times I think how strange that my propo-
sal met with your favor. I feel highly flattered
and elated, at the idea. And think that in that I
achieved a much greater victory than you did when you
"whipped Napoleon Bonapart on Christmas day" poor
Uckin. Hope that I did it honorably. Do you think
so? Thought (to use the old phrase) when his letter
came for so very long that my "cable was done". Guess
you have by this time you have received letters which
showed as much. Doubtless you will think me rather
soft. But that's all now in the past and you excuse
for not writing you perfectly candidly.

Am so very sorry that you can't send me your photo-
graph for I am so very anxious to possess said dear
property but one thing could be prized higher in my
possession. That would be original. The dearest object of

the world. You had to refer to my deserting to him that
would. Couldnt get one to do that. So you did not
want me to do that. Poor excuse to get out of communica-
ting with wonderful. Guess I wont forget my
promise concerning coming to see you in the Spring
but fear that to execute said promise will be a difficult
matter. And may cost a resignation. What do you
think of that at this time when to be in the Army is
to be honored. To resign is to be censured. Cant but
say to see you would be a pleasure that would counterbal-
ance. That which others may say. O. Am so anxious
to see you. Seems that it has already been a year since
we parted. And that it will be an age be for we meet.
Remember Mollie if I do come home on furlough this
Spring tis purposely to see you and with the understand-
ing that an anxious heart must be set at liberty
and that then I can claim Mollie as the better part.
If you would not prefer that, and would rather
that we remain as we are while I am in the army.
Yours will now as ever, is my pleasure. Do think
that if such should be your choice. (That we marry)
and opportunity be afforded. Though I should be
compelled to spend some time in the Army. The
time with me would pass off as much more pleasant

to speak plainly of the matter which I think quite
proper. I am discontented and it seems that the an-
-ity in that respect is increased by ~~absence~~ and the
the old ~~age~~ proves untrue. It is not surprising to me
that my feelings are what they are for one so amiable
and lovely, and intelligent as you have proved to be.
Don't you think when your letter came to hand. I had
almost concluded to enter the veterans service for three
years longer. As the majority of the Regt are going. but
now don't think I shall go. Have almost concluded
that when three years have been served, that my part
will have been done. And some one may take my place
in the ranks for a while at least. Mother you
may think after reading so many pretty letters from
the army, and seeing so many pretty pictures of big
fights and lots of blood. That the army is the
very life for pleasure. Believe that my lot has been
as pleasant as any, and have usually been as just
as good spirits. You know that's my fault, if
it may be considered one. But for any that if the rebels
will return I will agree to come home and stay there
and not go any place to hunt a fight

Believe that the war will terminate in this year. And
all will be peace. What a blessed thing it would be.
I am tired even sick of war. Though not willing
to quit until every traitor receives his just deserts.
This quarter every thing is quiet. And not much
appearance of a fight. Though some very important an-
cements are transpiring. We are fortifying our camp
as possible. And I think we will remain here some
time. All are quite well pleased. As the place is very
pleasant one. The weather very fine and climate
healthy. have fish and oyster in abundance. And
can amuse our selves very much. As there are quite a
number of ladies in the town. Golly but they are ugly
and ignorant. Some of the boys are cutting a high
sprung and playing the gallant to perfection.
Can't see the charp of it for my part. By the way the
most successfull are some who have. forty wives
at home. Hollie I have almost lost confidence
in man. It do I think of the many false hearted
and noble ladies that are shamefully deceived in
those they have place such confidence But now
this I must stop or you may concluded that
I might be one of those forty boys. You write I
trust never have any such been well founded

Think now the sentence quoted from Bible is
now verified. And am quite certain that you
are quite out of patience receiving this uninteresting
letter. Hope that you will be kind enough to
write me very soon. And a good long letter yes
and you will write often. Doubt you affect to
forget to say what is your wishes in the mat-
ter referred to in this letter. I want to know
just as soon as possible. As my mind will
then be made up instantaneously. Just say
what you desire me to do. And if possible your wish
will be immediately granted. Then my lot will
be a happy one, especially if with you.

Write to me at the Rect.

It is now very late. Sweet dreams
be with you.

Believe me yours
Henry



Miss Hollie Emmick
Grand View
Indiana