

29 May 1862

Camp Cumberland ford May 29.62

Mollie

a few days since I wrote stating
that we expected to have big fight in a few
days and as soon as the fight was over I
would write - few days has passed but did
not have no big fight Write to let you know
that - I ~~would~~ think you are so anxious to
hear from your humble servant - But that I
may have the pleasure of hearing from you
more frequently - You know the good Book
says - do unto others as you would wish to be
done by. Therefore I write once a week if a
possible to your feelings - Don't believe
in editing in weekly - or monthly papers -
Especially during war times - While I am sur-
rounded by every thing calculated to make one
feel lonely and down hearted - how one of those
interesting queries from your still life pen would
run over - And cause the darkest hour of
camp life to be pleasure and sunshine
I am as I am -

Temperature is very high this morning
what a delightful place to enjoy Spring fever
as our camp is on the side of the great Cumberland
-land mountain - Over looking the narrow
valley of the rapid rolling Cumberland -
and a delightful breeze whispering through
the trees - bearing the delightful fragrance
from the sweet mountain flowers -

The scenery is magnificent - the majority of
the mountains robed in green - though some
of them not a tree is to be seen - excepting
an occasional pine or cypress - but their old
grey peaks looming up to the sky - the tops of
which are covered with beautiful pebbles and shells
as are ever found on the sea shores - you won't
~~right~~ - Believe this is a deception from our eyes
that the beauties of nature are indescribable - and
one attempting it cannot expect to ~~fail~~ -

And at last imagination must picture the scene

Well do I know like wise - There are
many things that render this Mountain country
very interesting for instance persons 25 years
old who have never seen a wagon or steam engine
And the young ladies plough over on horses - Good

Speaking to Mr Allen yesterday he expressed
himself very much surprised that Miss Ann
would treat a poor soldier so badly - ~~Saying~~
he had written twice to her but received ~~no~~ ~~reply~~
he thought the letters surely did not reach her
for he thought her much too kind hearted to
treat one so cruel who is out-battling for his country
he frequently speaks of the pleasure - of the canoe excu-
sion - how many times refers to that my last pleas-
ure upon the hills of old Haver - And as one of the most pleas-
ure of my life - How could one be other wise than enjoying
self - when surrounded by those that are beautiful and pleasant

Why am I looking back at the pleasures of civil society - when
I have for a time debased self of all - It is all for the Union -
I.R. friend kind have gone in for ever. Think so at present
How is Mr Byam - and family - presume he is yet interested
in the welfare of Miss Mallie - Have you seen Friend Hays
recently - - Have you ever received a letter of inquiry from
your humble servant - Think reluctantly - would explain
the mystery of the punctual correspondence - Well I must
close for fear of tiring patience - Hoping to hear
soon - Believe me to be yours
T. J. (Will you not say)
[Recd 3]