



Jefferson City Mo.  
Sunday, Jany. 17, 1864

My dear People

Your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> was received last night, also a letter from Aunt Clara, Clara's letter of the first was received about the middle of the week, so you see the mails are not very regular. I wonder you do not get any more letters from me, for I never let more than a week pass without writing, when I went to J'ville twas nearly two, but I wrote three times while I was there, and have written twice since I got back.

I am very sorry to hear Aunt Ellen and Aunt Lydia are so unwell, and am very much afraid it will be a long time (if ever) before Aunt Ellen gets well, for such attacks most always increase in severity. Twould be an awful affliction to Uncle W<sup>m</sup> and to us all if she should be incurably derranged. I can't think of anything worse that can happen to anyone.

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You do not need to borrow any trouble about my not being comfortable or suffering from cold, If you could look in and see how nice my tent is, you would be convinced I could keep warm enough, sometimes when the wind changes the smoke troubles some, last night we had to get up in the night and put the fire out, and this morning I topped the chimney out, a little more and it works beautifully. I should not object to some of your nice pies and cake to eat, but as far as eating is concerned I am doing well enough, for anybody, ten or a dozen of us board at Mr Gundelfingers, - Oh what a name - who is a Dutchman and makes Lager Beer, but who married an English woman, and two daughters, and the girls cook very well and a great variety, four kinds of meat every meal, and very good pies dinner & supper and most always some kind of cake, Isn't that enough for a soldier, Several of the officers board there, and more would like to, if they could get in, I think some of marrying one of the girls, but have not fully

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decided yet, that I would speak to you  
about it first, — I think there is danger of  
a soldiers life unfitting me for a life of  
quiet; for I am completely demoralized living  
so quiet a life, I don't mean by demoralized I am  
getting wild and disipated, but lazy indolent,  
and no account, I do not have anything to read  
much, but the papers, so I just mope about  
and smoke and I am sorry to say it chew  
and spit, all day long, I do not loaf any  
for there is no place, but in town, and I  
am not acquainted there, and go there  
but very seldom, unless I have business  
for its the meanest town I ever saw, I  
not made many new acquaintances, and have  
no intimate friends, nor dont want any.  
Geo Baldwin from SoAnthony the 2 M Sergt,  
is my most particular chum, he bunks with  
me, I think it likely you have heard Aunt  
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of the regt have got into nigger regts, and  
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that any decent man is ashamed to apply  
but I believe I do not want any such po-  
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Hall, and heard a very good sermon the  
Elder to show the change in public senti-  
-ment made this remark, that five years  
ago this time, their Bishop had by a vote of  
the House been expelled from the lobby of  
that house, that his own life was in  
danger in the streets of Jefferson and  
but a few rods from the State House  
he was followed by a mob and barely  
escaped, now he was invited to preach  
in that same house, quite a revolution  
and its just so nearly all over the  
State and in other States, and before  
another New Years, I believe this rebellion  
will be wiped out, and our government  
reestablished on a sure basis, but oh how  
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