

July 27th 1862

I take the pleasure in writing these few lines to you hoping they will find you and Ellie and the little Bell in proper health as leaves me at present thanks be to God for all his kindness and tender mercies over us all over old Chaplain Preacher that was with us at Camp Orr at Kettanning is Dead web Warner is at the Hospital Philadelphia and he don't hear as soon as he will get well and if he gets a chance to go home if you will be at Kettanning when he comes you may have a chance to see him but it ant much ^{near} what time now you mean to leave wherever i would like to know but mind i don't want to hurry you by no means take your time and please your self i mean to be home between now and the latter end of September if possible can and i think i can although i am very contented i am well treated and well respected with my Naid Captain and men my health is remarkable well i would feel a little better if i had a little Whisky every day and had you to sleep with me my bed is made about two feet of the ground four forks of wood in the ground and round poles of wood a cross the forks that's the bottom of my bed a few handfull of leaves on the poles and then a blanket on the leaves and a blanket over me David Nierm and me sleep to geather and eat to geather we live very agreeable David Nierm gives his best respects to you and the children I would if you please send me the picture of my little baby get caught on ten or twelve Russia Iron dont

have no flames on it
you must send me Ellis
picture a longe i can keep



them in my pocket Book dont send
them with out they are well drawn or
made i want to know if you had receive all my letters
only the one i send you by the time you will have this you
will get them i send them to you i should hope to
take a notion to send you a few Dollars that you should
be shure to get them but i am afraid of that post office since
i lost that five dollars i will send some of my letters
and direct them to Rachael it is very fearable hear at
present but we dont know when a storm will arise and
shake the very ground that we live on there are many
troops coming up the river by Harbels Manor towards
Richmond they dont come hear we lay about a mile
from James River but there are two miles from hear
to the landing there are a fort made hear of earth and
wood work a bast five miles in length and we can stand
behind this earth work in a safe and light sawer Enemies
there are Cannons planted all round this fort and the
Cannons through their shells and Grage shot over this wall
of dirt and wood but the rebels are a good piece off i seen
in the papers the other day they are going to raise 21 Regt
in Pennsylvania and fill all the regiments full they are
going to raise two Companies in Mercer County
three in Butler County and one Company in

that is the wise
or a little bigger
i seen two pictures
Came hear last
week in a letter

Send strong Company all the New Regt they lost for nine

Months and there they list to fill the old
Regt are listed for one year and give them 28 Dollars
Bounty if i will get discharge i shall lose the hundred
Dollars bounty but if i know i can have plenty work
the devil must take the bounty for what i care let me
know a little of the news of Mercer how is Sam
Griffith and that Sam spread wife of his and if
Joseph Sheriff is on a place of J Griffith
and longe leged Brakenridge and who lives at
the Water Cove Spring down hand where Sam Burns
lives i think i must stop to write for fear you will get tired
reading my letter i did send for a check shirt i wish had
it hear it Rained very hear i hear last night it is going
to be very hot and Give the day my love to Rachael
and family and all my enquiring friends
And My best love to you and Ellie and the children
From your affectionate Thomas H. H.

Ellie and the Baby for me