CIVIL WAR LETTERS OF

PVT. ELIAS BAXTER DECKER OF TIPTON, INDIANA

75TH INDIANA INFANTRY, COMPANY G, 1857-1865

[Owned in the 1960s by Mrs. Robert A. Carter and Jared Carter, 714 South B Street, Elwood, Indiana]

[Copied for the collection of the Allen County Public Library under the direction of Fred J. Reynolds in the 1960s]
25 Letters from Elias Baxter Decker; to his wife, Luvina:

1.  6 May 1857  Decatur, Alabama
2.  24 Nov 1862  Camp Scottville, Kentucky (one page missing)
3.  23 Jan 1863  Camp Murfreesboro, Tennessee (missing)
4.  10 Jun 1863  Camp Kean, Murfreesboro, Tennessee
5.  28 Sep 1863  Chattanooga, Tennessee (missing)
6.  17 Oct 1863  Chattanooga, Tennessee
7.  25 Oct 1863  Chattanooga, Tennessee
8.  6 Nov 1863  Chattanooga, Tennessee
9.  4 Dec 1863  Chattanooga, Tennessee
10.  22 Mar 1864  Ringold, Georgia
11.  28 Feb 1864  Ringold, Georgia
12.  9 Mar 1864  Ringold, Georgia
13.  20 May 1864  camp in the field, Georgia
14.  22 Jul 1864  near Atlanta, Georgia
15.  24 Jul 1864  (near Atlanta)
16.  16 Aug 1864  "  "
17.  24 Aug 1864  "  "
18.  19 Sep 1864  Atlanta, Georgia
19.  24 Oct 1864  Galesville, Alabama
20.  8 Feb 1865  Fayettville, N.C.
21.  15 Mar 1865  
22.  28 Apr 1865  Goldsboro, North Carolina
23.  28 May 1865  camp near Washington City
24.  3 Jun 1865  District of Columbia, near Washington City

2 Letters from "Lieutenant Decker" to E.B. Decker and wife:
A.  19 Oct 1861  Camp Nevin, Kentucky
B.  24 Mar 1862  Tennessee

1 Letter from Reece Jack to E.B. Decker and wife:
C.  20 Oct 1861  Camp Penon

1 Letter from S.G. Decker to "Father":
D.  10 Apr 1862  Savannah, Tennessee

Loaned for copying to Indiana Sesquicentennial Manuscript Project by Mrs. Robert A. Carter and Jared Carter, Elwood, Indiana.
Decatur, Alabama May 6, 1857

To whom it may concern: Since I have written to you and heard from you, I have been on a long trip. Just lately I did not settle to come to this place Sunday morning. I left Corinth, Miss., on last Thursday and went to Memphis, Tenn., which is 200 miles from this place. The great Jubilee was that Friday and Saturday it is there; for the first time I saw the great River, Mississippi, the State of Arkansas, and the Navy yard, the longest ropeway in the world; it is a brick house 1000 miles long. I thought of sleeping at that place but it was closed. I then went to the river to get on boat for Louisville. I arrived last day 4th mon. came Lord, till 2 o'clock that day and not much rain. I thought it was a mist to soon in the season to come to Nipton, yet I concluded to try my luck a little longer in this State but I have not got in yet, but I think my prospects pretty fair though not just in this place. Some 20 miles below here at Covington I will be in 1 or 2 days. I suppose the weather to be very cold with you yet the cotton here is just coming up. The corn is big enough to plough. There is lots of cotton here. I have been for 3 weeks, though it is very cold yet. Corn $1.00 wheat $1.50, green beef $3.00, bacon 1.00. There is but little for as there are a Ship in corn from Missouri & Ill to Nipton. They have a rail road from Charleston, S. C. to Memphis. They brought 2 loads of water out of the Atlantic to Memphis. I heard her in to show that there was a direct communication from Miss to the St. Louis.
Nov 24, 1862

Camp Sectricity

Most Esteemed Wife & Bales with Good Health & a good prospect of remaining so I drop my ASS on my Time/Sack & paper on my Arms to Let you no that I Still right to you & Ever will as long as I can Scratch with a pen I was out on Hidset last night it was pretty cold the nights is frosty & the days warm we have had but one Rain to amount to anything Since I Left home Camp Life is a hard Life for First at first we all fall in line in two files & stands one hour then breakfast then at 8 we Drill one hour then we Drill then dinner then Battalion Drill 2 hours then Dress parade at that time it is Sun down then supper then Roll call now for my house it is a camp tent round at the bottom and runs up to a Sharp point & at first we will leave hear in a day or two I have Note to you Ever week it will all the time if I can health is pretty good in camp I seem to say in the Indiana State Journal the name of Peace Decker he Died at Danville Ky Oct 30 The belonged # To the 90th Ind. Vol. Co. F has Harvest or Peace Boy left if So let me no Right soon Dear Wife & Ever Believe me your Dear Husband Good By Dear Wife & Bales 99 Peace to the Bales Ever Sall go to tenter & git all you want to have it
June the 11th 63

Camp near Monroe

My dear daughter

The news of your birth has just arrived. I have the honor to inform you that I am well.

I have had a hard time but I am now pretty well over it. I left Indianapolis on Friday and got here on Sunday at noon. The boys were proud to see me. They all came rushing to shake hands with me. We have moved our camp one mile east. I thought it was best not to leave camp and come home as the order was very strict. They were 5 out of the same company with me. We all are all on Brigade.
I will write yesterday I will leave to go on Battalion Drill this evening Jess Stiley told that tale I suppose to keep me from coming back as he took my coat & all my clothes but my over coat & blankets Capt Smith is at home on a sick furlow Sam car has resigned now when I right I will tell you just how things is & I don't want you to believe one thing you hear from they will try to make you believe you as soon as I draw my money then I will send you some this I will depend on the fall of Richesburg may God bless you & the boys E.H. Quesin
Oct 14 1863
Chattanooga Tenn

Most Esteemed Wife & family

Paw is still well & safe though at the same place for the last 4
Days. It has been very wet & disagreeable. But this morning the Sun has
cleared away the Sky & Licensed as we will have fine weather for a while.
The River is rising very fast in a short time it will be up so
that Boats can come over the Mussels Shoals then we will have our grub
fished up the river from Bridgeton. This will relieve a good deal of labor.
That we have to do now as we have
to haul it over the Mountain & the
Road is very bad. There will be no
move. Made here soon if at all.
We will not advance in front of us our movements will be for some
Army to go round them. Harker is on
our right & Burnsides on our left.
Some of our boys was down to Steplon the other day I seen the 39 boys there Regiment is filled up with Concripts. They are guarding the road between here & there Reec is well I heard of him a few days ago. Steddy is dead he was shot through the Breast. Martin Jackson P. Monroe Miner has died of there wounds. I have got no letter from home since the fight that was. No since but I no they are on the road & will come up some of these days. Daniel has come back he is sound & I was on picket last night all quiet. Send me the returns of the State Election of Ohio. You can cut it out & send it in a letter. We do not get many different papers here. The Nashville Union & Louisville Journal is the principal ones. Right God by for this time Ed Becker
Lucina I wish you would get dock to go to frankston or it may be at Perkinsville at all events I will tell what I want him to do. Cassie Stilley when he left took my dress coat home with him which he had no right or claims to it.

Suppose he thought I would not come back & he would take it but it is mine & he had no claims what ever & I want him to get it for me the sooner the better it is as good as new the initials of my name is on the lining of the arm hole on the sholder get it & I will well pay him have it at all costs hazards
Oct 26, 1863
Chattanooga, Tennessee, In Camp

Most Esteemed Wife of Bub's Poo has the pleasure tonight
you a fine time for a Sabbath morning informing you that
I am well & as hearty as corn there is no fighting going on
now in this vicinity nor there has not been any since we have
been here only some cannonading. The Rebels shelled us one day
night but they done us no harm & I guess they found it
lost & quit they shotted one of the 20 canon a 24 pounder
I learnt yesterday that they were falling back to Atlanta
that is 134 miles South of this place one of the men threw
a shell in the fire that had been Shot I did not hear but
when he threw it in she went it killed one white man &
4 wounded 4 niggeres it was not in our regiment Some Ohio
This Army is newly Organized General Grant has command
he will bring his army here in fact he has a good many of the
boys now we will have to fight Some of the Rebels a long
the river so we can run boats as the roads is So bad
we can't half to do much good Some of the Boys is not in a very

good humor now on the account of Rations but there is no danger of
us suffering us and the kids are pretty close I can see there

tends Very plain P when we are on picket we get water
out of the Same Spring we talk together P Exchange papers
you would think Strange of this but we dont as there is
a mutual agreement not to Shoot on the pickett Line if a
man was to Shoot Hills on either side he would be tried for
Muder & Shot or hanged A pickett Line is to watch the
movements of the enemy & give the a Alarm in camp
if the army was advancing & to keep them back from our
works so they will not no how we are fixed & So on & So forth
P received your kind letter dated the so it was the first since
the Letter & was proud of it you had better believe you spoke of 3 P have
he more than a dozen but you will have them before you get this in
one of Thems give the full list of killed it wounded Morse Alliner
Harlan Jackson & John Hardie has died of their wounds since
you have all most forgotten how to tack your letters there
is no use of marking them is hand over to Blanken from
So full of provisions that they can hardly unload we will have plenty from this on Bacon has been sold here as high as a dollar a pound in good money. biscuits such as you make would sell here for 2 dollars per box but there is nothing here to sell the Rebels is in our front if we have cleaned out all that is behind us so there is nothing but what we draw the Rebels throw some shells occasionally at some of our a couple of troops but does no death harm they will be some recruiting officers leave this regiment of the 101 all so Capt Perkin will come down home you must try to see him when he comes but I will tell him logs to come so see you I am in hopes that we will be paid before he comes the 40 I can send you some money the
Nov. the 19th
Chattanooga Term
Mostest Esteemed & Loving
Wife & children now is still
far away from home and provisions is very
scarce we are 4 and have been living
on for the grub owing to the
road. We only have now to
haul it 14 miles so from this on
all the difficulty now is getting
down the river. The Rebels has been making shifts
of logs to make our pontoons
the other day that had 500
him logs in it; it needed two boats
but they were soon replaced
by the logs that has been taken down where
the boats land. Says the war is
you will see I am all the
Cafleen & Lead to you this to
Dr. A. since I have commenced

Grizas

[Signature]
December 4th 1693
Chattanooga, Tenn.

First Division, Second Brigade. Our Division is commanded by Gen. Baird, our Brigade is commanded by Vanleven, our Regiment by Capt. Robinson, our Company by Capt. Smith. Most Esteemed Wife & Children, Paws is well. I hardly you could think so if you had seen me eat this morning three tins of coffee & a pan full of stewed beef—We got all the beef we want & in fact we are now pretty well fed. There is nothing new here. We hear that Burnside's at Knoxville is in a close place & expects he is Knoxville is one hundred & ten miles a fine hour we sent one corpse of one up there last Monday. One corpse yesterday morning I must tell you what a corpse is. Four Regiments form a brigade and three brigades form a division & three divisions form a corps. So there is thirty-six Regiments in one corps which is thirty-six thousand men in one corps. When it is full the last corps that left was ordered to be at Knoxville in four days that will be marvelling about most day tonight. That will make the
years of the 23 come to hand last night I was pleased to learn you was well I all so to learn that you had met with the best luck to meet with a good friend for I no that for you to stay by your self is a hard life especially to get wood to attend to all the out door work I hope you will get a long fire and live a happy life I hope I can't be long till I will be permitted to come home to stay as for coming on business there no hope more in the least I don't even think of such you stated you had got the note I sent & that which owed you five or five dollars if he don't give up my note even for what he owes me of the Frazier note don't make him pay you the five dollars if he don't. The way I have stated get Samuel to take the note over to Quincey & have it filed on the thad administrators back that it is a shape so there will be no trouble of getting it it will be best to see Frazier as he goes over you & will let Samuel see this & he will consider it as I was writing to him I have sent you fifty dollars & I do not no when I will be able to send any more. This note I
Send you I will have to say send me next pay day I will tell you this so you will be on the look out though I am satisfied you will spend to a goo purpose the health of the camp is good I thank you for your envelope I have sent you my likeness some time a go Mrs. Rebecca my Respects to you I hope you are living more contented than you were when you had to smuggle your letters through the blockades though I am some times even then you was made happy when you would get a letter from a distance but I am happy for you now as that victory I won't you have no more trouble a bout letter writing here is my love for good luck to you if I did not me that Samuel & Lucinda would find it out I would say I would give you one good kiss when I come home but they might not like it how curious people is so I will bid you good by for this time Samuel I hope you all the success that is due you if I think that is a good big bundle So I will close I am going on the top of the school off after dinner Let me have some you often ed fresner is our best officer

Ed Becker
Dear Mrs. Flantry, New York, Dec. 22

[Handwritten letter discussing various aspects of military life and experiences.]

I am satisfied I am appreciated at least I believe it.
While I am writing the care has just come in on her first trip from Chattanooga. So now we can get the mail. I send it regular. We will soon have a big commissary here. Daniel is well he is in my bank now. We drew our money some days ago. $26. I have not sent you any this time. I will send some in debt. I paid Daniel $16 on the $36 note owed some for tobacco & some dricks of borrowed money. $26 and go every fair tell one how you are off. How much you have. How much you owe it any. So I will no how to play my cards. I am some in debt now but only fortune will smile some of these few days. This is about all. So good by for this time.

To my Sweet Joseph & Children

E.J. Braker
Ringgold, Georgia, Feb 25th 1864

Most Esteemed

I write with pleasure to let you know that I am still in good health. We left Chattanooga on the 14th of February, and reached this place the next day. We went within twenty miles of Dalton, and the same night we fell back five miles. The same night we went back near tunnel hill. We fell back the same night all the time our advance was shaking, and it was done to keep the Rebels from reinforcing other places. We succeeded in it. We are now 20 miles from Chattanooga, and I'm in good health. I hope you will hear from me. I cannot tell but for some time I guess.
Pro 21

Just as you have before till I tell my letter.
Now you will be anxious as this note will be in the Alphabet if I have a chance to write tonight as our train is going back in the morning after our tents & refreshments I got 2 letters from you that were one stating you had got my letters we are in the last position we have been since we have been out you must be sure this is as quick as I get out新鲜 up & send it all to you though you have the most off it in this yours as ever I have too others to write yet so will E B Estes
Mrs. Lubina, I have just received a letter from you dated the 15th. I had the pleasure to read it to Berei he come to see me today he is quartered some three hundred yards from me, his company is standing near to rest a while he will return to you tomorrow. I guess he looks better than I have ever seen him he is well I so am. I this is good news to you I no hands here is well so is Capt. Saul. This is all concerning them I hope you are well all go away too. Sister Dibles — Concerning the ditch let it be till I come home for One that it is worth me 25 or 30 cts so and if I don't want the same Land sharks to fleece me in that Shiget nor I don't intend for them to do it. Saw the Sod this thing can't last allways still it may out last me but I hope not it won't take 17 months long to run out no way but I don't believe we will have to stay it I will have to thank you for your prompt and kindness for answering my letters I have got 8 from you since the 22 of Jan and this is only the 8th of March bustly for a God and Kind heirs now when I am dreighting wife I feel all over my self how I would to have a good friend don't you see I would dig on it it is a rough to make me take my hair out to think and no that I have a good wife somewhere and one that wants to see me as I only believe and I am here tied down by military tyang a wise man looks before he leaps but a fool takes chances but it is likely it is all for the best any way best or worst I am in for it and I will do the best I no how I will quit till morning goodnight.
Remember

The object of knowledge is truth. The essence of all moral
goodness is love. The spring of all spirituality. activity is faith.
The foundation of every virtue is humility. The first duty of a
sinner is repentance. The fruit of all blessing is Jesus Christ.
The source of all grace and power our happiness is the best
promoted by seeking the welfare of others. The valuable riches
is contentment. The light to guide our path of our progress
is the Bible. The rogue is the man that cheat a soldier's wife
takes all advantage of the helpless condition whilst he is in
ever danger to promote the good of his country has to peril
his life to protect the undermining coward who lyes in his
friend with his rotten heart. Studying how to cheat the
soldier's wife and children out of the little savings he earns
at forty three. So Mr. John West we unite all such widows,
though I stand a lone at night
And my hopes are buried low.
By this smile my sole is lighted
In the darkest nights of two

Though the world has all forsaken
'Tis not true as in the past
My heart's love remains unshaken
By the storm and tempest burst

And when others have defamed me
To their lies thou didst not lend
As a husband thou yet ever claimed me
Fruit in my utmost need

And worse than has brought me
Can the future have in store
And the lesson some has taught me
To place trust in hope no more

Though by all the world forsaken
I have still a friend in the
And to sweet the one unshaken
Of the closest one to me
February 3, 1864

Camped at Ringold Ga

Dear sister: as I have the opportunity of seeing with
4 I once more I will just drop you a few
lines to let you know that I have not forgot
you yet and I hope that these few lines will find you in good health. I have had the best of health
since I last heard from you and I hope that these
few lines will find you in good health, and all the of
the friends in that part of the land as we have not got
any friendly letters and Vee sister care what those come
of them. I can't say that I have not drink to weight
at this time. I have been out huntin' and for the last
16 days and 1 got out in yesterday and I hunt a lot.
But what there is some letters in camp for clear
at this time every thing was quiet in camp when I
left and 11 to day 1 got to those letters that you
spoke at Point and these look very well indeed
indeed I must glad to see them. Thank you. Well I think
that it will get better and I will see
them at home but don't look for me until
I come firm at days. Next time and 1 may hit
therefore don't look until you can see
so I will close for this time hoping to here from you soon when we meet Death

To Juena Parker

Rose LACK
No. 372
May 23rd

Camp in the field Georgia

Gentle Es'teeded wife & Children I

be you are uneasy this time for I have not

note since the 6 of May to the reason if

very good we have been on the march for

13 days we left Ringolt on the 17th

we come up with the Enemy the first day

I have been fighting ever day since we are

now camped in a very field the Rebels

have been running for several days we have

drove them from Dalton P is still driving

them we are about 20 miles South of

Dalton we have drove them from 30 miles

The last account they are going like the

devil we have been in the Center on

the Battle Wing Our Regiment has

had but one man wounded as belongs

to Co E. I don't think we have lost

many men considering the position the

Rebels was tremendously fortified at

dalton & 15 miles South but they could
not Stand our heavy guns we rained &
Canister & Shell thick & fast at one time we had one hundred cannon to
playing on them at once some of them 20 & 24 pounders we got so close to
there Breast works that they could not use there guns for at last as one would
pop up his head Some Sharp Shooter would pop a hole through it we had fit
but very little nears as yet from Grant if he is successful at
Richmond the thing is played in the
Course of 10 days we will have two
hundred thousand men we have the
ects running here to this place So we
will have plenty to eat I have got
all the Letters you have sent I guess as
all mail comes to us I got the 51
of paper & thread I got on Dated the
5 of May that is the last I have
got if since we have been out None
home Salina I will not
try to say any thing concerning
the march in this as I have nothing
to write only on my time when we
got fixed up I will tell you all this
will show you that we are all right
& I am glad if it we won't have a
chance to write Regular for a few
days till some mails come is rightly
fitted but it will be soon I think
ew strong of being home Christmas
I am as hearty as a buck &
all right & has been so
Ever Big for the time deep
weighting out 2 to
CB Borden
all our boys is in very good health. The PinIon - H. to be paid in the course of a few days. They are doing the 23 Corps now. I think our time is not far distant to have a splendid Spring. It is well to get up well so on. This is all at present. One is now. Let me see what my new Brother law is. Where is Jack? Is he here? He times for he never rides to me. Let me see when you heard from Ryes. So Good. kiss for this. Think much love to you & the Gates of friends. Yours C. B. Becker.

L. 53.

Will send you a ring. Though new. It is made of quartz. After
August 18th

Mrs. Decker, P. Miller's farm is well off as far as I have been for a long time. I had a blanket and mess of provisions for supper after breakfast. There is a good deal of corn getting too hard to be used. It would not take so much if we got them regular. We are at jumping in the same place we were when I last wrote. We are doing a better business now than we have been for some time. We have no shooting on our picket line and the Yankees is coming in very fast. I can only speak for our own Brigade. Though I suppose it is the case all along the whole line might before last 27 came in yesterday morning. Last night 36 and so it goes. Say the most of them would come over if they could get the chance. If we stay here I think we can take a great many of them in 3 or 4 days go. Seven hundred came in the Rebels first on Thursday. Now they are tired of it. They say they have nothing to fight for but them.
Now for the President or any other Man I could cut your Inquiry short by simply saying I will not vote for any one as this is the case as the Legislature of Indiana does not recognize us as citizens of our State. Though I believe all States under the Constitution have thePrivilege of Acting in the field all does not stop it & I think New Jersey but I will say the same as if I had a vote though at the present time it would be impossible for me to say as the Democrat has not nominated any one as yet unless they name Freemen & Point out how they can claim him consistently as he ran once on the Abolition Platform I read the first hear for Emancipation in the Missouri & as to the one that will be put forth the 29 of this month I can say nothing for him as I do not see him he may suit me Or may not as to father Abraham I will lay him on the shelf if Andrew Jackson was for President I would be my choice I have voted for him and I think he is a Sound man & has all one's been a true Democrat but as he is at the helm I will pass and will not
we have some very long grape vines now a few ones and a while it is talked a great deal about us coming home to vote some times it is all the Indiana soldiers then there is that come out under the call I come under others that the 97th 107th will be called home to see the draft is rightly enforced this is the talk but I have seen no sider as yet I only hope it may be so if I am satisfied that there will be some called home and we may be the lucky ones but time will tell may waiting and waiting won't prolong our time no way I don't think we will do much now here for a while it appears that both armies is resting thus there we are doing more good then if we was fighting as they will report to a great extent - we Beare the blue color is the stuff the lady is intended to wear on the hat as the lady of the 11 Corps for inst if you see a man with it you no what corps he is in the 20 corps has a star all corps has different badges ours is to be like a rein on a bunch of a coins I am looking for yours in the next. So I can tell you whether it is right or not
Your watch mark of the 16th of last month. I have not. I am so much fatigued by the heat and my head is very feverish. I feel very bad and am very unwell: I cannot write any more.
Mrs. Dodge with pleasure I write you a few lines this pleasant morning though it has been raining off & on for several days I think it is now stopped for a while I am in as good health as could be expected we are at the same place where we were when I last left the army seems to be in a Stand Still though our friends & Cavalry is cutting the cavalry now  Than the armies seems to be resting Atlanta is Still held by the Genys through Gen. Sherman says he can take it in 3 or 4 days & you know he always does not it would cost too many good men & he is bound to plant them out with a good portion of them I heard from home to other day he is well & so is George hands here he is not hurt they are all in our height & in very good form we are gone on a hunt to cut the bacon wood & seem it is cut
I went to see my little one or 2 days a go & the 2 that came to collect me I think was my only boy I don't see any other of my boys & men I have just received 2 letters from one of the old men one with the 2 letters they are very nice which makes the last one send the most color of me over here that is in.

The letter that Mr. David Beken 10 years in Camp Sound Pix he says he would of sent as to politics but don't bother me in the least as I do have no vote & if at present give up the cause of getting home until next August I have heard it 25 months & I think I can say out & then more then the rules that will soon can't be made in a town like this no worse my answer I trust in a letter form that
Since writing, I learn that Grant
has got two lines of the Richmond
defence up to their works if. So Richmond is
got to stand certain for he has been
fighting the town for a long time
now. This is a hard art. So give me
to a good one, my men above
me. Give me

This is a hard art. So give me
to a good one, my men above
me. Give me

This is a hard art. So give me
to a good one, my men above
me. Give me

Yours,

Edward

By the way, I sent a letter from

By the way, I sent a letter from

By the way, I sent a letter from
tired of the he had just come
I am glad to hear you of the
lakes is on fire & well & I
never leave home Dick. I
suppose he has gone to the
army & heard from there
yesterday The 25th is coming
now Sandtown 12 miles off isn't
level was here yesterday Rice
is well George Land Show is well
of all I no in the company
is well & lovely & we are
yet I suppose they will
hold it back till we start
& I till we get to Skafold
so it right the Lell off
it up we should not get
just tell Frank it would be
not augst. This is all.
So good by love from home
much love to you & the kids
Direvt Atlanta Ga
canada (E.B. Hidy)
The U. S. Christian Commission

sends this sheet as a messenger between the soldier and his
home. Let it hasten to those who wait for tidings.

Albany, N. Y., Capt. J. S. 17

Dear Wife & Family:

How is the health of your son? He is well & lively. He is at home & seems to be all right. I am now at the Election & will be quite a bit. But on the other hand if we are defeated there will be more down hearted men than ever.

I will not have 6 or 8 days to tell how the old will vote or how the twelve months of your love turn.

First introduction of any magnitude is traveling. I am from home through the city next evening seemingly who it hit on where it went. This day one year a go

where I been the first man I ever saw killed there was while. Any corndollies will

think of me to home in the three
we got but being little news in Virginia I suppose they are Tying Still that is I had not 1 will be a hard place but Grant the Giant will make it fall but it is W has I will cost too much from there not a head under you to any sight of brave men fell in the army I do the a perfect bugary to think at home as I never in the front but since he could not succeed in taking the City but the hard cold war to I said with Small Ford he would have had it Long since if Ridgway not changed Generals Johnson we would have gone Long since I tell took all with him but lost lost the in the St Louis by being so he left the then power and lying General happened to almost demoralized a last quarter
October 24, 1861

Camp Salettesville, Alabama

My dear Sir: For you will long A. S. T. I now return the power of attorney heretofore given me, to the bearer of this, to convey the land that I have in the possession of this land that is in my name.

I am in the best of health and have been at no expense to make a good deal for me. The climate is fine and the people are friendly.

Your obedient servant,

C. H. Cochran

1st Army Corps
1st Division

E. D. Coates

Company K

29th U.S. Infantry
Oct. 24, 1865

Most Esteemed Wife & Children with
the kindness of Providence I am led to
write you a few lines. I am well & hearty
but are now at Tuskegee, Alabama in
the care of Dr. Board who are not moving
very fast we have been over 2 days but
Tulip here is pretty well's have. Here
are running about the best all the Colonel
Stuart's Irish soldiers fresh beef meat
and of chickens we have 20 to 30 all
the melasses our Company got a barrel
yesterday I receive yours. Stating that
you will or could sell the 24 acres of
land I will give J. M. for the purpose of
the land is very cheap at $10 per
but it appears that we will never be
paid for it will go in a few
months much love to you all. The
Two Titter looks fine. E. J. 1865.
February 17th 1805

My esteemed wife & sisters,

I have the pleasure to acquaint you that I am well & in good health. I received your letters last night! I have just arrived from you and since I have not to you I would have told you sooner but I got out in a severe fire last night. I just got in last night & will tell you some of the facts. The first we went some 200 miles for nothing occurred but the loss of many. We strayed off & were taken prisoners the 2nd day all night till noon when we advanced as near as we could. I commenced shooting we soon made them take my dearest wife. There was but a thousand of them & went to
just that night we met 20 of we boys got five good homes of meat I lived well also a first shot for 3 days all right come that night we layed in camp I good slept well 4 days all right toward that evening we layed in be rear you more bad homes I heard would summin last by the fifth day it was all right came home at 10 that night got in the trip three I well hundred horses & mucks & a fine lot of bees. There is a miles prospect for us to get our money. Shortly but cant it was till till it comes I dont need all any money keep all you have for our you & the last I am out of debts I got home it has 19 or 20 gay we Colliers coming to me besides here my wishes I will live certain ly while I am here & no mistake
If you have not sent your book of tales by means yet send them when you can. I will send you mine when I can. Get the Chance. Read is too little. Tostikes I will send to the Caleb. I am they will play with them till the Caleb to the good children. They will come home some of these days. I am little. I am not here. My picture will be sent to them for one if I tell them. Have told you to. Be of good cheer. I get well. Preserve yourself. Write as well. I. is Close. Fear where I am. I am not. I have not seen him since. I have come back but will see him to say. I lack. I have been good by the time.
Least. I know this time you will think gone up he is but we all come on in without one more I am well as I could be I have been some time here but the longest campaign of the least we ever had. It has claimed intolerable since we have come some 500 000 miles we have crossed the
La Marque near the Chilean the Empire the Brazil near the Perista and 3 others now we are on the Esperanto river it has been to or 50 days since we left Savannah we have but no fighting to do since we left for here there are a large body at all the time our regiment was the first to come in. This place for Company G, H, K, F, I come in on the 1st of March 1863.
This was written in a hand that is not clearly visible. The handwriting appears to be cursive, and the text is fragmented, making it difficult to transcribe accurately. The content seems to be a personal note, possibly discussing a visit to a person's home and mentioning a recent event or trip. The handwriting is not legible enough to provide a coherent or complete transcription.
Huius demum no amiici mei sed tamen no maioria amicorum meorum sunt. Et ita invenio etiam in hac sua manu sensum. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est. Quaenam est hujus amicitiae vasta et quanto magis adhuc longa est.
I note this at Fayetteville
but had no chance now
I ob't it come
D. M. Parker
at distance of five hundred miles it is there you will find a heap of them a
among the thousands of others that has fallen by disease o' cold balls but since we
left Kingsold, Georgia last may we have lost but one man he was shot before
Atlantic (Eliphaz Fowke) The regiment has
lost but very little & killing any near
Regiment that has to come out for at
least one half of them will die the first
year. This is a big calculation but it is too
too true after that time they are
generally healthy. I have to go on
Inspection now in a short time we
have inspection two to three times a week
but this dont a meant to much. The
drums is beating now the bands
are playing. The men collecting so
I will have too to a moving
in order to be kept away Soldiers.
This is a fine sunny Day.
Goldstone, N.C. April 5th

Sunday Morning at last Sir. Mr.

Do the queen of the west

The champion of the South can inform the

Queen that he is well. Charity 15th the

Lilly of the west is blooming and the

Smaller flowers is doing fine

It is impossible for me to foresee the

Change that will take place here in a

Short time which here will be no doubt

The news reached here last night that

Grant had demoralized Toy's army and

sent it off in the Line. Thursd

we all see this relation is played out

Last night was one of the happiest

nights that has ever been seen in the army

ever man was a Statesman & nearly

all was Shooting in thousing Skyrocket.

It was light up till a late hour the

Cross roads Indians could not be met
In a few days I think our destination will be visible as we may go to Newbern if we may turn our course to Newbern it—so I will be in Indianapolis in 30 days but all this you can see if you heard the letters at I dont think our movement will be kept a secret as it has been here before I dont think we will be cut off from communication any more I dont think we will have to go any more to the field I dont think if some was made on us was to stare home that the soldiers would be permitted to do it in fact it would not do. They would become ungovernable there is a great many that has all gone as against others that they would have no head or brain and their friends they would not cause
There will be a teach of sore headed soldiers when we are let loose. There is a teach of them that deserves it and we doubt they will receive just rewards if we go to New York you may set it down that we have started home but we may not get there till our time is up. In fact I don't expect to be there until my time is up. The health of all the soldiers has gone home there isn't being out I see my cousin since I was here he has been very glad his time was out. He could get home once more to his mother happy boy in his success to all such the Regiment was in Africa. The day we came in here it was not much longer than our Company and when we started out we felt like a mass of boys. Men we here 32 now all told where over are we. We'll try to bust it away but go to the rear yard and watch from Louisville to Atlanta.
May 5, D.C.

Sunday Morning camp near Washington City. Mrs. Doctor, I am still here 10 a long ways from home 850 miles but we can soon come when we start but as to when that will be I cannot say I do not expect to be mustered out for 10 or 15 days maybe sooner maybe longer can't tell this is a big thing to go settle our places time but I think the officers is all doing their best now being the case of course will resign my fate of going & take up the best I can find in the city yesterday I was in the capital white house & the Patent office they are the finest houses I have ever seen her is a heap curiosities in them.
It has been raining for 2 days & nights but this morning it is clear & nice. They have commenced paying off the troops & will continue I guess until done. If I get my pay I will Express Indianapolis of or日后 even if I start on the same train as I no there is no more pay to receive. I have enough to pay all I owe and a few items left after my wages I mean there is a ought owing one by the boys here in the camp. I do not forget the last I heard of you but The as I think I am looking for one now I hope I will not be disappointed. We have nothing to do but the time is very lonesome I am
all are so anxious to come home we are pressed contrary.

I have nothing of interest to write. I will close by saying soon to see you there is no certainty as to when I will be at home it may be in 2 or 3 days can't say yours with much Love.

Eliza
July 22, 1864
Near Atlanta, Ga.

Mrs. Decor, Phildrid, Jane, is as well as I could be wished, at least I eat a least two pounds of bacon a day. Yesterday morning we are now within 2 or 3 miles of the city, our course is 3 miles off. Gen. McPherson has gone round and took possession of the railroad and strongly fortified, the Rebels have been trying to rout him for five days but he shoot them off with great slaughter. Gen. Hooker killed in one charge nine hundred and wounded and captured and took prisoners six thousand. They charged him he was in his works we have good works all along our lines. It would scare a Yankee to pass all along where we were coming to stop them come in 40 or 50 minutes afterwards and see how we had fell the timber & ditched we can build in 30 minutes breast works that a cannon can't shake. They are doing all they can to get their machinery and machinery a way to but we don't want them to nor them neither. We have been in no engagement yet much love to you and the two little ones. God be with you. I got the Thread don't know how much either.
My Dearest Girl, Morning two goes by this time well I am glad to hear it. Oh I am as well as
Ernest I. Thank you. The children is well I guess. Glad
to hear it things here this morning is very favorable
according to my military views. The cannon is still loosing
The Eleven Indiana Battery is I had been throwing shell
in Atlanta for 10 hours there is fore 20 Round Parrots
and 2 24 pound Howitzers Gen. McSaw has been
gone round on the right wing with 13 thousand
Cavalry. Gen. Smith is to connect with him near

Some Place I forget. They are going Americas one
hundred & so miles from here to release our prisoners.
The Rebels has: Here is 14 thousand of them there if the
Gen. cans accomplish this it will be one off the master
feats of the war. There is all confidence he will the
Rebs I think is leaving Atlanta as fast as they can. Gen.
Thomas says we have killed & wounded 10 thousand
since we have been here. Our Brigade has been in
no regular engagement hope it won't. Gen. McPherson
was shot the other day he COMMANDS the 15-16 PIY
Corps & he was a splendid General his loss will be felt
I will ask a piece of property, providing you can
make it at the head of our course is a acorn or a corn
Can you make one if so I would receive it very cheerfully and
I would estimate it more highly than if it cost 5 dollars
I will try to show you the plan but I see you no more than
I can tell you, and now this is not it but it is but to help you
Get a bunch of acorns where the stem and hull blue if the
color I have just heard from the 39 or 87 they are with
Can imagine I see that there is a call for a million men
In the 30 of Sept this will hurt some no doubt. We will
put this thing down. I am not sure if they come out once the job
will give up before they all get to the Ohio River. As it is the
things we will have them whipped before this time.

Much love to you of the Rebel Hall Friends

I have got no money as yet we will be
paid off when we get to Atlantic I think. The reason
we cant pay is we are working so much more
This time

EB Brandon

To Mr. and Mrs. Lucina, Jack and Daughters

Good health is come or is well so
I do not see why I can't write any thing that would interest you as you are looking for one to tell it to you with out some one else. If I get off a vessel I will come home with the same clothes on I have wore for 6 months. They are dirty now but I won't take any more but if I get tired before I come I may by me a suit I all do will come without any money as I am now on
June 3rd

Did travel to

To Washington city, the 1st of June,

I have thought about it, and since that I had

To my last, but believe it is now unlikely

To stay for some days, yet the weeks now to

Are passing, they have been cool and quiet.

There is no news of us can select the books and cleaning them,

And the 10th who comes to us. They go out

Of our sight. I can see them each morning.

Every day I wish it to be. I will not

Do it, and let it all stay as it is done but

This is what I do want to do, but it will

Not seem done out. I cannot tell what

Read I will come I am certain if I come

By the way of Anderson, I will get off. I

Come by home eleven. If I have to go to

The city the next day it will have rest for

You to stay. Till I come home at last. I

Will have to go to stay to the city, any way.
There is 124,000 troops
here or near being all the
Time Reinforced our destination
is Nashville Tenn we will
soon have 15,000 the troops, in
our division 89 Regiment
the first in the division
to cross creek. Blood
a Party 40 of our troops
Encountered their cavalry
& killed 1 wounded 2
our troops were not harmed.

89 Regiment Supt 1st
toy of Captain Alterman
Molinville Post
Fg
Camp Stevin, Ky.
Oct 1790
M. G. B. C. 1790

Sir,

Believe me, Sir, I believe me when I tell you how much I am to hear from you & sister Eliza.

It was glad to you and to me to have had such a regular in writing to me — My health has been satisfactory since I have sent the letter of all good wishes. My health is now so small and at present I am rapidly improving in flesh and have been performing duty for the past week. I am glad to have of your success in business especially.
my heart. I hope you will set as high as the first Sir. inks gisell A. Before I come home, I want to get home in the Spring. So that I can play around your mansion at least 8 times a day at your sumptuous table. I spent my life in interesting your visit an interesting conversation. We always allowed to sit at the head of the table, allow the privilege of using a knife fork & eat. What I want more is that wish is not good enough for you, you must get some one else to wish for you.
State of Tennessee

Sumner County

March 24, 1842

Mr. P. H. Decker,

Sir,

with much pleasure I seek, as
my pen to inform you, that my
health is getting good, hoping that
few lines will find you and family
enjoying good health.

As an earnest for God only knows
when it may be some time on the
Tennessee River, supposed to be
healthy, I will be determined what
my health is, perhaps a week building a
brief over the Tennes River.
The army is 800 feet long.
This is nothing of interest
going on, except what you
are posted in. I know
now you are reading this
letter, and are posted in
all our movements. I asked
in our victory, that claim
the march of our troops.
Victory is here, on our chan
—ners last day on. We make
it suffer it to say that we
are making no enemies, but
a host of friends at the
advance on the interior of
the South. The people all
are finding out that Mr.
Davis' claims is all a humbug
and that is what I think
I tell it full of such men.
I have written several letters home in the last few days merely to let you know something of my health.

Yours, [Name]

Columbia, Tennessee

Mr. [Name] and his wife

I hope the babies of yours are as well as you can get them.

Tell my kind love will be writing to see them soon if the court will per

Dear [Name],

[Signature]

February 3rd
To the Lieut. Gen.

To the Camp

To the 39th Regiment

I have the honor to tell that

in pursuance of your

orders, I have

ordered all the

men to report to

the 39th Regiment.

I am, etc.

[Signature]
COLUMBUS

The seal of Georgia

that is like this, to show you how
that I am well at this time, and
I hope that there are some lines
writing you to glad date. I write to
Jan. 10th that you are well, etc.

I am in the town that I hope to
talk with you near everything in the way that you all
like. I am sure that the eyes of you all
are there to gather and there. I think
to one and think that you are kind,
and that is pleasant. I am not.
I hear it's so much that, there
not got much to weight in her
not got to weight in as finest alligator and
not got to weight in alligator and catch rebels and a
rest all that is no in Bad Bizen
and catch them that is stealing that
is uby! Bill you can get at
the rest when not got all rich
to weight 1 think that we will
have hear some there is some go
of us hear at this time there is
some of the rebels out some 12 or
officer from hear but there others
some thing like from 100 to 1200 and
left her last right to attack them
and 1 her not been him they
attack was out there is some battle
was at this time 1d is all that
there got to weight at this
time write soon if you please
To: J. D. Decker
And remain True
From Leo Jack