Sovellers Republic Va.

Sep 14th 1861

Dear Caroline,

It affords me great pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your of the 24th and I have not much news to write and but a few minutes to write we leave here at twelve o'clock for Petersburg Hardie County, where a large Yankee force is encamped. We returned yesterday evening from the front of Cheat Mountain, two miles of the enemy in plain view of their lines. The 1st Georgia Regiment was in advance and run in their picket, killing some fifteen or twenty, but unfortunately the same regiment fired into its advance guard and killed
the twenty-eighth Georgia Regiment was in front of our artillery and got frightened at one or two men coming down the mountain and ran into our battery and scared the horses and they whipped around in the road and broke every piece and came very near killing several of our men. It was with much difficulty that we got back to camp.

Several of our company have been discharged on account of their health, we have only forty-one men now fit for service and all sick. It seems as if I must have to run back to Texas and as Mr. Burchett said the fate of the Nation depends altogether on this artillery. I am sorely tired of this country and would be glad if we could be sent to New Orleans where there is better discipline in our officers.
Dear Sir,

I am all fools. Gen. Jackson is a complete old grumm, and will never do anything. I believe the sight of a garden frightens him nearly to death. I suppose that Bass and Granville are in Richmond by this time. As soon as I hear from them I will write to them.

I am sorry to say that I cannot see any probability of peace. The dark cloud of war appears to be thickening and peace will only be had at the bloody point of the bayonet. Continue to direct your letters to Hunting until all can join.

Write off to some

Give my best respects to Mrs. Wilson and all enquiring friends.

My love to all our folks, and your self.

Yours, Businessly,

Jos. R. Dickinson

P.S. Darling ask me will and send their respects.
THOMAS Howard's grove
does not have to come down
as long as she is less than
fifty thousand and is to be drafted
by the first of April nor
not over seventy-five thousand.
Suppose that will thin them,
and some be done. They get that
many out of Old Virginia. The
balance will arise. The
uses of living to look for
the draught if she was
at home, she would expect
to be drafted and would
for two years. They going
to draft for two years.
They want us to go in for
two years if she was to go in
for two years. She would get a furlough
of
thirty days. If fifty dollars
extra.
Dear Sir, I want you to get a good Katherine at Miss Belcher's place. If he cannot get them to come to your house, you must get some other place. I do not want my land rented out, if you have not got a man or woman yet, you send word to come to your house and you can give him one third of the crop if he will not take that you can give half of the Tobacco do not let Martin tend the land if he has not commenced doing nothing yet. I expect he will try to rent it along towards the spring. Do not know what else was. The reason did not let you have piles if you had made the contract for one year.
william a luster give me his furlough to come home but i cannot come until his time comes that will come about middle of may if we stay here till then you may look for me he says will go home on seven furlough our col net is a hard heart old soldier was and major keen bad tried to get a furlough for me and it done no good if lusters time comes before we leave here she better to come think there is that comes in before him washington as well it does no talk match about coming home he says he would like to see you all but he does not want to part more
Howard's grove Jan. 14 61

My dear wife & embrace the present opportunity of writing you a few lines to inform you that Sam is well hoping when these few lines reaches you they will find you enjoying the same blessing I have receive one letter from you since I left you I would like to here from you I would like to know how you are getting along in this weather S have made several applications for a fur leave to come home and get somebody to stay with you until I can come home to stay it is very uncertain whether the malitia stays at home or not they
September The 5 1862

Sound County

My dear Marys have

the opportunity of sending you a few
lines for the first time in several
years. I was at home this morning and
would stay there for some time. I have bin
very unwell have bin for several days
but's have got to travel as long as
life last's want you to move
farther and stay there

whats get home if's cock los want
you to keep you money if's should
get killed you will need it you

may be well as shared that will
come home as soon as possible I would
like to get my self together as soon
as possible can't tell how to do now

whether to do any campaign for the fall
will be on the borders of the State.

Consequently I do not more what
to say about sending me the
substitute Jackson crossed the potomac
river day before yesterday but
he had to come back he could not get
his ordnance or on account of the
rock that the boat is suppose the
object of this army is to march into
merry lands. Do not like the
plaid myself but it may have

good effect I have seen Joseph Peck
he is well and early he told me that
they lost one killed & twenty woun
The field and wounded in the battle of manassas lasted three days commenced on the 25th ended on the 30th. Three days the yankees got the worst of it on one occasion I saw one man head that was shot off the fence took fire and burnt his arms off. This is awful to see. The dead men on the field our brigade was not in the fight but they was in bomb range one day all day. The brigade was not ordered on the field until the sun was one hour high. Then we had to march 5 miles and then lie down on the field where the canister shot was whistling over our heads. The time will come home to all of us when we will not yet nothing to eat. The rebels has bin killing hogs & sheep all the way from Richmond. You can't get letters from here without you can send it some individual must close by doing the best scan so good by my dear George S. Could have bin at home now if had took your advice but's was a friend.

So fare well

your Grover W. Belcher
May 8th 1862

Fort Dillard east county

My dear Mary take pleasure in writing you a few lines to let you know that Sam Tolerabl well except rhin

sidon't expect to do any more duty until get a great deal better. Than sam's have suffered a great deal for the last two months. Stuck so much cold this winter's have had the rhumes a great part of my time you need not suffer any un easings about me as will not be imposed on's will die before's will be imposed on's have last my health stand out on yard now they may do the fighting if can have my health same as willing to do my part as any man in sal
rite to me write to me you s have not herd from you in two weeks do to here from you write every week and how if it had not bin for the smart ed minter s would have come home to brought the clothing cap lin ttle told me that is might come to bring the clothing as long as could not march then ed minter spoke up to said grand shant gone he has bin two weeks john gone he cant bin but once if grand he will stay minter says to take mons authority then marten does they say john becher and henry becher william lester is going to run for the first lieutenant second let uned they say they intend to cut wash out show him in to ranks bils doubt that s do s will be glad
do not let on's will not say in the company if I can get out of it if they do not elect some of my choice of Ed minter will run for office's reckon and he will not get my vote neither John Sa Beth her took me out and told me that he wanted me to do all I could for him he was going to run for third Lieutenant and he said was a good fellow but he could not be elected Lester would be elected first Lieutenant and Henry S Beth her second Lieutenant John S! Third Lieutenant then we will have officers sure enough I reckon will run for second Sargent
s don't none whether s will be elected or not s she run if do not get but two votes you may sure of that that is the way to crawl up now we elect our first set of officers. Then the officers are appointed by the commanding officers but that means the sargent will come in after while the best of it is they will have the choice of electing their own officers they are not capable of electing their officers they will pay one dollar for half pint of whiskey get drunk get then fallout with men that does not participate with them we had orders to all the clothing that we could not carry with us and send them home but that countermanded but they are to be sent to garyes burrough in carline the boys all set they will come home if they are where men they will do 20 and so will - glassville bollcher
My paper is very sorry so I will finish with my pensylwia must write soon as
often's love to read your letters if you would write to me it has been some time since's have written to you for the last two weeks because I have not had time
I want you to write once a week if you please the times is such that I cannot nonsense here the can be firing every day to every one etc.

more sad feeling on me go at present
Monroe County, Va

April the 18, 1863

My dear Mary,

I take this opportunity to write you a few lines to tell you that I am well at this time except some attacks of rheumatism. I never expect to get well of that disease, it seems to be a part of my system of getting better or shall lay down and rest till I get better. I have no news to write that would interest you. The fighting has been great deal of heavy fighting and shells have not been on the battles yet, but the officers has to go out to
The yankees has got a heavy force at Suffolk. They have got the place well fortified. I do not know whether our generals intends to take the place or not. Hood has got his battle to shell the town but the yankees will not let the women and children move out. For that reason the yankees will not save the town before. So then we must not let them come out of there. And must close my letter off no good by J W Beecher.
July the 16 63
Bunkers Hill Va
My dear Caroline
I take the greatest interest in answering your kind letter it was June 63 but it was mailed July 12 that is the way the post masters neglect their business we are in old Virginia once more but we left a great many of our poor fellows on the battle field. Some dead some wounded we did bury our wounded both sides was whipped the yanks commence fowling back fifty hours before. See did that is this the news is here I don't state that here says is what I have to write you may believe we want to see fighting as that
was at getting bury the cannonading commenced at twelve o'clock P. M. ceased at six there was no intermission between the reports of cannon for the whole six hours we had eighty pieces artillery playing the men at once I do not more how many they had at work on us but fully as many. They fired so fast I could not count them at all it was one miles from the battle field & wanted to get further but could not as I was to desert the army I could not stay at home because we have no home on this land if I should get thrown this way I never expect to work the stone land in Henry county any more if work the white land I want to work land will something
[July 16, 1863]
you say you want me to write you word if the fifty seven was under gard or not bare from that they fight so well they would not put them under gard the yankees has got the most of the fifty seven under gard Mr. Bengemen gravely has taken you toba to work it for me if the last crop is as sorry an was you will the highest prices for it you must do as you have about you father is a good judge of tobacco can sell it for you or have it put up for you it makes no difference with me you can do the best you can with all you have got you had better sell you horse if you can that is my advice to you or can't get on Trans for nor swap my self off to the lastest
The time has come for one to get work. The flower has come around a hoo is drawing the flower at this time you can guess that's will jump in to it pretty soon will write to you every chance I get you you must do the same give my love to all the folk tell John's see Henry every day or two he is well and gaily more at present you say you got the money but do not say anything about the powder that's sent to you father's sent it by some man that's sent the money buy none at this time you must write you Granville W Belcher
Kinston December 23, 63

My Dear Caroline

I sent myself this morning to write you a few lines to inform you that I am well with the exception of a sore foot. It is something better than it was. The regiment left me here. The Doctor of the 14th regiment was sick in his charge. Seemed to tend to my regiment in a few days. My foot is not well but the Doctor says that it will have to be cut. I will get well and not now whether to let him cut it or not. Lippel is the Doctor to do that. I hope you will excuse bad spelling and writing. My mind is so scattered I have not got half a sentence do believe it. I have just received a letter from the 14th. Foot were it is enough to drive any man that cares anything his family. My happiness is all gone until I get out of this sin. Thank you for your letter.
Write back to me this side as soon as you get this tomorrow at present, but depute me your affectionate, Greeneville W. Belcher, good. I have sent you one time, the other day in a letter by the Leatherwood Store. Write to me soon and say I will furnish you paper a penny. So good by.
October the 2...1864
York County, Pennsylvania

My Dear Wife,

Sitting myself this morning to write you a few lines to inform you of my long spell of sickness, have broken about three months. I am not well yet, have almost come to the conclusion that I never will get over this headspell. It is not like being sick at home. I want you and George to come to see me if you can. That is if the authorities will let you. I reckon there will be no difficulty about that. I want you to come to Richmond. I do not know whether they will let you and my little come to see me or not. They would accommodate me very much if they would let you come here in three days from to go to Monroe. I have been in several short illnesses here in sickness but one. I hope sight of you would do me more good than all medicine. I have taken if you come as soon as possible you will first come to Baltimore then to little York, that is the name of this town, it is in a York County sitting right here by the first of November if you can. There is three little debts that am morning want them payed. Give James Morrow ten dollars say which business is the sum of twenty dollars. Dr. Baylors is about the same then Thomas Pinkett. That is six. Perhaps they can call on us when the mine can he had get one of your brothers to and settle with them. Thomas Jesse Mr. Ghee may have the Pinkett Bond. So far as I know could not think of till when saw you. If you can come to see me you had better call for direction to Mr. Enfried Small. He lives near the court house. In this little town Small can tell you where the court is. Give my best respects to surprising friends. Mr. More for this time that remain as ever by the Ultimate God resides in the Father, To his wife, Affectionately, W. H. U. Betchel.
The Authorities of the U.S. will please let this letter go through the lines to my wife; you will oblige me very much from Granville Belcher
To Mary J. Belcher his wife
Sunday evening our guest 15th
my dear merry take my pen hand
finish my letter this makes
the third time I sit down to write
This letter but someone said would come and
commence talking me up so can
not write when they are stood to me
that you are well aware of it both
me for any to be talking to one
clsess to me you must write to
me soon and as often you can
if live’s intend to come home or at
least is intend to come to see you I
George let you be where you will
at your fathers or any where else
want you to get wash on or Joe rather
or you farther will be the men for
you to get to settle my debts for
me you must pay them for this
trouble if I have not got money eno
ough to write me word son Do
will try to make it’s want you
keep a enough to live on until
come if have the good fortune to get there
s must close so good by my Mary George
your effects ordered by great ville to Pitcher
Conestoga 22 Orange County, N.C.

My dear man,

I take the present opportunity to write you a few lines to inform you that's hoping where those few you & George may be in order. The same's have no mean to write worthy of your attention. The army is encamped very fast the Yankees are falling back so they say & think if I was in your places would pay out what money's have got on hand & had rather pay my debts with the Confederate money than run the risk of keeping it on hand as have lost all hope of our Confederacy. The general opinion is that the Yankees will whip us back into the line if they do. This Confederate money will not be worth anything to me of our soldiers, how some of the Yankees money & they have offered three in Confederate money for one.Keck
sold Yankee dollars at one dollar of their money, worth three or four Confederate. What is that but one in principal. They're half the same belief there's must close so good buy.

July 11th, Belcher.

August 22, 63 Orange County.

My dear Caroline,

I meant to write to you and send the letter by Lieutenant Clark, but we had company at our house and could not get the chance to see him this morning before he left. So I will send it by mail. You reason that I wanted to send it by hand. I don't think half the letters that's start to you ever gets to the postmasters today, as careless they don't care whether the letters ever get to you or not, I have written to you several times concerning my dear Caroline's want you.
to pay every cent. of money that is owing pay Mr B Woodruff. Mr John S. Juddiger you send fed Brown sowe him for the hire of old patience pay for hire to the Miller shecke of the estate then pay Mr Samuel Cook pay all my contract that is just you know for dept that is owing then they can't come on us for some other sort of money if they do they will not get it that is all that confederate is worth if you please write to me every week if my debts was all paid if I were with your's would be a help man's must close this letter we will talk all the particulars when we meet again if the Lord is willing also good bye my good you G W Belcher
Tell George he must send me word how much he weighs is weighed the other dogs weighed 1005
York County, D.A. February 25, 1865

My dear wife,

I seated myself this evening to write you a few lines to inform you of my long illness. I feel all of the sickness that I can tell what is right at this time; one hundred and twenty pounds, the doctor having that I am now. Caroline's have written to you several times, concerning my sickness. I can't here from you cannot tell for my life what anyone wants them to be. I need fire, want you to come to see me as soon as this comes to hand. Come to Richmond first, then to Petersburg, then to Baltimore from there to little York. Then you must inquire for Mr. David Small. He will give you some in formation, but me whether you will writing come to little York. That is the name of the little township. Some men's want you. If please let those few lines. To go to family in Henry County, or if it be the will of God to take me, you can get here. I will get ready to write to you. The letter forth with.

Your affectionate,

Husband

Granville W. Bethea
I will finish letter with it now near midnight from it snowed last night's have thought of you seven though scan not come yet written jesse granty word concerning the here of them negro's so he got John Belcher was bound for one half of that money if please to ask for it before he got trusted my property that one thing has pestered very much John Brown & Baldwin Brown has bin here since's herd from you John told me that John had the business in hand's must come to a close of my spelling writing
So good by you must write soon and often once a week any how you express yourself George former
Granville M Beekes and tell him will come The iron wheel wagon horse come