SC-11848a: Colonel Marcus M. Spiegel Collection, 1861-1864.

1863 March

For more information on this collection, please see the catalog record on the American Jewish Archives website.

Head Guarders 120th ON X Millikens Bend La March 18/63 My dead dead good Wife! This & and Satisfied is the longest intertal of ony conting to you donce I am a Soldier and if you will only Jorgine and lister to my Excuse & will agreed never to do pe again In the 2 get a read a letter from you and unde Josey stating (dated the 17 th) that you forcy wonto Thank in a few days. I had their written you three long letters for the Ineceprochays and according to that letter I broken for goney in a few clays, waiting with patience and the the first & second Orders to change my Camp and afe of being Immonnded by water and when mored theted & had two of the moss severe boils coming on one that Lave had for years. One amont one in front right on the abdoman Even able to get off of my cot

they werd so seven that they throw me into a fever, there I lay ales most Inearing & Swetting with ange after my hoils ofrence and design able to go mind I receased brilers to more my Regiment to this Have called Millikens Hours 15 miles above Jonnes Point The day before we worked the Regt was paid up to the last day of October but I dot not get any pay but we are promised to get paid off to the last of December and then I will get pay for three Months you can Eary imagine that I dit sirtfeel Very gay when out they was paid and Joseph was not low Well we moved up here and Every day dit & look for go prosponed ensiting to your inasumed las I heard that from was seen in Memphin finally on the 14 the I had a Gienterant Stationed there for three days Examining

Tout that arrived the Gunterant brought find up an the frist Bio. hatak to thought had I seeming and heard Inal loving news from you and the dear Children & Months last be opened yesterday and today he had opened in the two days the took in thinteen promobed Dallans in Cash and Sold Two hamstreet Vollars for Credit as Good as Casts is a few days. Inch a with you were Dur three of my Scienten anto solo were as busy as they conto he at might they had to worth Theming and for ing up, Joseph to Similennes & find dit not get their break fast yesterday tell three welvell in the afternoon. I am in there tent all down but you know of course it wonter not do for me to sell any thing, yet I think I and doing him a little good anyhow. The sold Every Hat I every part of those he had and at a good profit if he had Known as much as he knows now what was

and brought down the goods the civile have tathen floor day for the next two weeks he is already Every body biles him Except the atter dutters He has the Frade of for Regiment in a few days he will go after a new Holl. Finterned said to me to night, when one has quella Brother as an Officed with and a reputation the Intledhip is a pleasured Foldier in the Change can be, if the Bays only Keep their boatton have no bad birekt they cant kelp making late of money and to me it is a great bumfact to have Jusey with me I will now Comerce with about after matters thuck foreig can't tell errough about the dear Children one and all of them and my little Hattie more Es: plesally, mosey more particularly Mosey now Emphatically & Hand. montprecifically. Le bring me glade ing tedings indeed

I must tell you won but you must not feel Jealous that I dad Calls from 5 very mie Seert Ladies and they were all Very moment taken with me, you may - ast had comes that, well while at youngs Joint my Regiment was the first kest to the dietat lines and all who came inside the lines were conducated to my Head go, many Jesest Lakes Came inside the lines to see about Ceri runarray chizzes among their went I who came just at drined times which of come of united and they acceptant I meether they send me nice bouqueto se When we came up here we came within form miles of one a Widdon Lady how stutt as soon as the heard it she came & fine a pressury unitation for me to come and see her , a fest days ago tools the Quarter Master with mer and went out to were princely Entertament The has 3 grand dalighters, is very anstronation of lines in a very aisto Cuatic Style June then the send me a very new but of Jansage, three large Trolls of Butter and a lot of Peaches

and better than all a rice fuel Cost and Calf all with her Complishing What do you think I now ? aint your all man popular with the Ladies. Und don't your Infrace denty my glass fresh mills am Thead first about with? ind It is now II a clust and Jat y to monon I have hostalline Drill & having been up lost night I take to help Joney demost alone, Will write how often again & I give you all the news doney entents Itasting up the Kined in a fem dougo. Don't farget the firehear. pos so wer wer yours how X within grandwish growte a liedder Girld go by tolather to Marous Whit bland Jing if find in finde fabre Carl angunning And about all for an quetelan wingson findet in June pflight in the in I found in grant thrifted Raine 5 Hombo yn flafan jak to and eng for fact until had Ju mill if ifor might auxen when it is from him he proper to the supplier of the marcen.

My dear dear good Wife!

This I am satisfied is the longest interval of my writing to you since I am a Soldier and if you will only forgive me and listen to my excuse, I will agree never to do so again.

On the 27th [of February] I received a letter from you and Uncle Josey stating (dated the 17th) that Josey would start in a few days. I had then written you three long letters for three successive days and according to that letter I looked for Josey in a few days, waiting with patience. On the first [of March], I received orders to change my camp on account of being surrounded by water and when moved & fixed, I had two of the most severe boils coming on me that I have had for years, one awful one in front right on the abdoman & one on my seat, and for one whole week I was laid up, not even able to get off of my cot. They were so severe that they threw me into a fever; there I lay almost swearing & swetting with anxiety & fever about Josey & just a day after my boils opened and I was able to go round, I received Orders to move my Regiment to this place called Millikens Bend, 15 miles above Youngs Point.

The day before we moved the Regt was paid up to the last day of October but I dit not get any pay but we are promised to get paid off to the last of December and then I will get pay for three months. You can easy imagine that I dit not feel very gay when our Regt was paid and Joseph was not here.

Well, we moved up here and every day dit I look for Jo & postponed writing to you inasmuch as I heard that Joseph was seen in Memphis. Finally on the 14th he arrived at Youngs Point and I had a Lieutenant stationed there for three days, examining boats that arrived. The Lieutenant brought him up on the first Dispatch & thank God I saw him and heard such loving news from you and the dear Children & Mother and all the friends. Night before last he opened; Yesterday and to day he had opened. In the two days he took in thirteen hundred Dollars in Cash and sold two hundred Dollars for Credit as good as cash in a few days. Such a rush you never saw. Three of my Lieutenants sold for him all day; the seven hands were as busy as they could be. At night they had to work opening and fixing up. Joseph & Sinsheimer & Jim dit not get their breakfast yesterday till three o'clock in the afternoon. I am in their tent all I can but you know of course it would not do for me to sell anything; yet I think I am doing him a little good anyhow. He sold every Hat & every pair of Shoes he had and at a good profit. If he had known as much as he

knows now what was and brought down the Goods, he could have taken \$1000 a day for the next two weeks.

You have no Idea how popular he is already. Everybody likes him except the other Sutlers.

He has the Trade of four Regiments. In a few days he will go after a new Stock. Sinsheimer said to me to night "when one has such a Brother as an Officer with such a reputation, the Sutlership is a pleasure."

I am as happy as any Soldier in the Army can be. If the Boys only keep their health & have no bad luck, they cant help making lots of money and to me it is a great comfort to have Josey with me. I will now commence writing about other matters. Uncle Josey cant tell enough about the dear children, one and all of them and my little Hattie more especially, Mosey more particularly, Mosey [Lizzie?] more emphatically & Hamlin more specifically. He brings me gladdening tidings indeed.

I must tell you now but you must not feel jealous that I had calls from 5 very nice Sesesh Ladies, and they were all very much taken with me. You may ask how comes that; well, while at Youngs Point my Regiment was the first Regt to the Picket lines and all who came inside the lines were conducted to my Head Qrs. Many Sesesh Ladies came inside the lines to see about their runaway Niggers; among them were 5 who came

just at dinner times which of course I invited and they accepted. Since then they send me nice bouquets &c.

When we came up here we came within four miles of one, a Widow Lady Mrs. Nutt. As soon as she heard it, she came & give a pressing invitation for me to come and see her. A few days ago I took the Quarter Master with me and went out & we were princely entertained. She has 3 grown daughters, is very aristocratic & lives in a very aristocratic Style. Since then she send me a very nice lot of Sausage, three large Rolls of Butter and a lot of Peaches and better than all a nice fresh Cow and Calf, all with her compliments. What do you think now? Aint your old man popular with the Ladies? And dont you suppose I enjoy my glass fresh milk and Bread just about right?

It is now 11 o'clock and at 7 to morrow I have battalion Drill & having been up last night late to help Josey, I must close.

Will write now often again and give you all the news.

Josey intents starting up the River in a few days. Dont forget the picture.

Ever ever your true & loving husband

Marcus

[On side]: Give my love to all and tell them to [illegible] this time



do me hound where out they for myld gro 12000 0:0.1 Willettens Benden 18 18 18 he was down of Mel 18 63 Day I could not have seen him Ing dear Wife ... I have written to you last Evening and hand unthing new to day, only that the es a Very hot day, the eventher here Dill the morning the Bryo hi gind to feel young against Emphermed deans care not stand the fast work as well as forey, he was nearly word and last might I left him theep in my Bed, he I is very lame the arrange of think that he will probe the Start Both to more for new fords instead of Doney. When the morning Capt. Eason't Capt. Emmerich when have resigned out afe of ill trealth they are both vin warm friends of nine and I am datesfeed that they will

do me honor where our they go, bonger is dead before this, he was and a proprital Boat and last Escing I heard he was dying I am very Dony I could not have seen him he wanted to see me very bad, pour man have I fritty pri good wife and 5 handsome our good children I wanted him to resign a good while ago but he would entele This morning I send recommend ations for 16 Legepants to be come informed officers in my Ry meats Jamong them I weam mended my prende dery " Major Sherman and Ber Jones as frist Junten. ants. If I get them all com missional I with hound as good field I recommend the Major to be Sunt Cal & the Adjed the be Major and that Lientersant Thylat that was to clever to your at Curille as adjutant, som you see I remember your friends

as soon as I get my Committee as Col Devill Inform you Though get all my 0.13 from the the different Hel gro adressed to me at Cal Guiegel grad hyrd Everynens Marcus

Hd qrs 120^{th} O.V.I.

Millikens Bend La

M[ar]ch 18/63

My dear Wife

I have written to you last evening and have nothing new to say, only that this is a very hot day; the weather here is awful hot of late.

I had a very good Battalion Drill this morning; the Boys begin to feel young again.

Sinsheimer [it] seems can not stand the hart work as well as Josey; he was nearly worn out last night. I left him sleep in my bed; he is very lame this morning. I think that he will probably start North to morrow for new Goods instead of Josey.

I have nothing new this morning. Capt Eason & Capt Emmerich who have resigned on a/c of ill health, they are both very warm friends of mine and I am satisfied that they will do me honor wherever they go.

I am fearful my friend Capt Conyer is dead before this.

He was on a hospital Boat and last Evening I heard he was dying. I am very sorry I could not have seen him; he wanted to see me very bad. Poor man, how I pity his good Wife and 5 handsome and good children. I wanted him to resign a good while ago but he would not do it.

This morning I send recommendations for 16 Sergeants to be commissioned Officers in my Regiment. Among them I recommended my friends Sergt Major Sherman and Ben Jones as first Lieutenants. If I get them all commissioned, I will have as good a set of Line Officers as are in the field. I recommend the Major to be Lieut Col & the Adjutand to be Major and that Lieutenant Taylor that was so clever to you at Orrville as Adjutand, so you see I remember your friends. As soon as I get my Commission as Colonel I will inform you, though I get all my O.B. [Official Business] from the different Hd. qrs addressed to me as Col Spiegel.

The men are leaving.

Good bye
ever your
Marcus

A Voice from the Grave

Simon Wolf Submits Letter Written by Colonel Spiegel Patriotism of the Jew

WASHINGTON, D. C., August 10th, 1908. To the Editor B'nat B'rith News.

In looking over my papers I found among others, a letter from Marcus M. Spiegel, who at the time of the writing of the letter was colonel of the 120th Ohio Volunteers, and who in the campaign about which he speaks to be at hand, lost his life, a martyr to the Union cause. The letter speaks for itself, full of that enthusiasm and fearlessness which characterize the man and the soldier; and when he says, "The next time, we will fake Vicksburg," he prophesied accurately, for three months after, the Stars and Stripes did float over the battlements of Vicksburg."

I deem it a great legacy to transmit to future generations the feelings that actuated an American citizen of Jewish faith, who left his dear ones at the call of his country, and died in defense of it. Many of the relatives of Col. Spiegel, notably (of them) his brother Joseph, resides in Chicago, and will no doubt be pleased to hear this voice from the grave.

The Order of B'nai B'rith, which stands for all that means patriotism, can do no better work than to endorse the lofty and loyal sentiments of the writer. And the young men in American Israel ought to be stimulated to the highest degree by knowing that one of their own coreligionists is inscribed on the deathless roll of fame, in aid of the preservation and perpetuation of American institutions.

Very sincerely, Simon Wolf.

Mendquarters 120th O. V. S., Camp McClemand, Millikens Bend.

March 20, 1863.

My Dear Cousin Simon:

I have just returned from a very pleasant batallion drill in which I put my regiment through the different evolutions of the field and having opened my tent in order to give the wind an opportunity to cool my little, home and make the oppressive heat more congenial, I conclude to do what I should have done long ago, write to one of my best friends.

A week ago I received a letter from our mutual friend, Moses, with your address. Since that time I have been wanting to write daily.

You see I am still a soldier and I must say I like my profession. If it were not for my dear little family I should not ask for a nicer or more agreeable situation; and why not? My colonel has resigned a month, and for more than two months prior to his resignation he was unable, from sickness, the manand the regiment,

which placed me in the command of nearly 900, as good a set of men as ever lived, whose very life and cares: are freely given to please and obey me. This may seem like boasting, but you know me and I can talk plain to you.

Having the confidence and love of my officers and men and the respect and good will of my superior officers, and being engaged in the noble cause of saving the glorious land of my adoption from the vile aspirations of traitors and worse than that; and bolding an honofalds position, what more my dear friend, could I cesire? Is there a prouder legacy that I might leave my children, than having been a faithful soldier in the army of the Union. Yet I wish this war were over, and, a could retire to my beloved family and quiet home, but at the same time much as I desire this, I do not want the war to close until the supremacy of our good government is fully established, the Union preserved. and the rebels made to acknowledge that we have a noble and magnificent government to live under in peace, but too powerful to rebel against; neither do I want to hear of peace until those who have so maliciously attacked the Stars and Stripes, first declare their willingness to retrace their steps, lay down their arms, acknowledge the supremacy of the government

You know undoubtedly that my regiment was both in the battle of Vicksburg, and at Arkansas Post, and acquitted itself with honor in either, in the latter we are highly complimented by Gen. McClemand by making the charge on the Fort, and first planting the State and Stripes on the rebel battlement.

The officers of the regiment have forwarded a petition to the Governor of Ohio, to have me promoted Colonel, which was endorsed in the most complimentary terms by Brig. Gen. Van Dever and Osterhouse, and by Maj. Gen. McClemand, which, if you ever come to Columbus, I want you to see. I know it will do you good, it is not every day officers get such recommendations. We expect active operations soon, we are now ordered to keep ourselves in readiness to march at a moments notice, I think it means up to Yazoo. The health and spirit of the troops are daily improving, they begin to show signs of eagerness for another chance at old Vicksburg, the next time we will take it.

Very sincerely,
M. M. SPIEGEL,
Lt. Col. 120th Ohio.
9th Div. 18th Army Corps, Dept. of Tenn.,
before Vicksburg.

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 9^{th} Div. 18^{th} Army Corps, Dept. of Tenn., before Vicksburg.



Molders 120th O.V. S Willettens Bench March 22/13 My dear dear good Wife! One year ago to day about this time and (4 9 Mb) as we were fitting for Dress Parade and furt when the boys brot a good soup, wa of Winchester to Gen! Thields on the field, well do I remember how much I deploved when eve had go an double quick through the mind kneed deep, the loss of gray soup well do & remember the first shell that whigged through my Ladyboy Corporal Letter Oshorer well do I remember the consternation defricted on his countenance, as Though et were but an hour age. The antiety I gelt in deploying my company as Shrimishers for the first tune under fine, is shall Ovordly and levely before me that night; the getting apartmorning; the commencement of the de

per remading in the morning by the heavy artillery is all placed to me and the events of the day. it seems to me as though it were but shortly and that I Could get hear the whigh of that Shell that toold of the head of the Convince to my right, but the time from noon tell night instell to me as it allways was a terrible dream, Every part of which I know after Darrolle. The lass I sustained of my noble Company, the gallant-bay that fell by my dide one still as their warmly lamented & Ever will be chemisted of green in my menny mitill life seaces Time that time my love, I have Deen and learned much, I have by the weapon of death, I have Just them wounded toeen their wanted being dressed, limbs amputa and bulletts Extrastect. I house feen and Efferienced hunger, haw. This and privations, & have

with delight and hower exclormed the despening was of the Commby Land and water as a Dignal of the comment of hostilities. I have evit neped hortile Curies araigned again Each alter, the andige of Infairtry at the death charge alid repett, Careley Lauren mon down little beaute, gertefall and towns refuse. The processing of Souto ats and the Strike sericken log Thorts I have learned to see Juli of it cooly and with really quesence of mind and get there fall the mand architeall-of the Universe has preserved me, the good father and God of Grack has favored me with his gracious thinkness of being a lovely husband to a good wife and a hind father to my beloved children and a trusty Son & Brothey to the hest mathe and Kindest of Sisters How their und an apreciative recepient by my host of timest of friends

Have we my dear not all receives to be ever Chankfull to that allwire and kind providence. While Jerry all this & have been Theadily grinning in friends, in fluence and Thoston thank God a can leave my Chrildren a legacy which will inspire thein to hotel up their heads 95 walk uprightly through the world and that is a refundation as a Soldier and Patriat. I have always done my duty and if Gad fraces my health & allways will and I know my love you will feel satisfied with me! It is only without the last day of two that I have an op, fileline by to get any chances to tack to Josey about you and of must confess the news he brings front all of your is such as will I only inspire the heart of a dolly to good, he tells me you book as well and hearty as you det 10 years age and Sough that you for that, I was afcard you wont

trouble yourself about me so much as to leave symptoms on your countenance or your lovely features but he asures me that your indeed look well and hearty and justy. Harnlin my dear Don, Unde Josey tells me that you are a fine and good bay that you behave your of like a young Gentleman, my dear Don you would only Know how good it makes me feel to hear such good news from your, you would be the best boy in the world, now & will tell your dome good news, this afternoon o got a nice little bay pany more for you, she is a very smart little fromy man, she has a wice little white Shot on her forehead and very nice little Legs, I think she will have a lettle wea bolly in the Spring if so you must give the little Colly to your bittle Brother Mosey, I am not sure wether she will have a boot but the looks very much like it, and everybody sorgs so, dand French brought the from from the bount for your and Then Our good me a nice little Saddle for you, one that he captimed at arkan no Sant, I send out shouting frantas

hoise before, to bring in a Pary for you but they failed, now got it, but you must give it en name, when I come home in May I will bring it, what shall I call it? elow my dead Lizzy unde forcy also tells me very good news of you, he says that you are a regular little Lady and behave very well, that you are givening fine and doing well, that is right my dear of come you know that dwill bonny you something hand some when I come home, he a good child and nound your mor and all will be right - My dear Morey, Unale Josey days that you are a very for boy and that your look so well and little a little mand in your fearity o, you must be par good sony so that por can fruit your on the lettle from and this you, you are fra good Jonny . Mry dear little Hatter I would very much little to see her indeed she must be a sweet one from the prature forey gives of her , oh how much I long to De therw all

I think now I have treated on all the subjects as to the fairly and new I must talk about buss inches. In the first place I would like to have you return to Millershing after Perach by way of Tima and Uniontown tryay yourself and see your friends with the whole Mish ? fracha, I will dend you morney as soon as we get out fray which I think will be shortly, I do not Efactly Know when Perach is but Effect to find out, I have send for stamping marble stab for a nine little Stand which some of the boys gave me, the Shotgmin I send to Coher and the Marble in Care of Bet of Wooder, the marble is not of to much intrinsic Value as it is for a whice I will have a little stand made for it. I intend to go home in May and stay 30 days providing then an no active operations going I think I can for I have a great many friends above

but to day I last one of my hest friends It Cel Schwan Justestor General and Chief account of his wounds, they were healed up but com and finterfaction on the home and he had to go home and have it ofwered again, he was a warm friend of mine and of great In flucince, but still I still got General Osterhours and he is a warm friend of mine ended I was sindited to dinner at his place yesterday and I lett you we had a fine German Dinned induct. Us to other bussing I can only say to you that if God spaces my health Sinter to stay in the army untill the Rebs are brought to terms, dan as good a democrat as ever I was but no peace Democrat like is I sei you in May, Iwin "might, God bless and preserve your Marcus

My dear dear good Wife!

One year ago to day about this time (4 P.M.) as we were fixing for Dress Parade and just when the boys brot a good Soup, we were ordered to report South of Winchester to Genl. Shields on the field. Well do I remember how much I deplored, when we had [to] go on double quick through the mud knee deep, the loss of my soup; well do I remember the first shell that whizzed through my company in the Rear of that little Ladyboy Corporal LeRoy Osborn; well do I remember the consternation depicted on his countenance, as though it were but an hour ago. The anxiety I felt in deploying my company as skirmishers for the first time under fire, is still vividly and lively before me.

That night, the getting up next morning, the commencement of the serenading in the morning by the heavy artillery is all plain to me and the events of the day; it seems to me as though it were but shortly and that I could yet hear the whizz of that Shell that took off the head of the Cannonier to my right, but the time from noon till night is still to me as it allways was a terrible dream, every part of which I knew after I awoke.

The loss I sustained of my noble Company, the gallant boys that fell by my side are still as then warmly lamented & ever will be cherished green in my memory untill life ceases.

Since that time my love, I have seen and learned much. I have seen men dying of disease & mangled by the weapons of death; I have seen them wounded & seen their wounds being dressed, limbs amputated and bullets extracted. I have seen and experienced hunger, hardships and privations; I have with delight and honor welcomed the deafening roar of the Cannons by Land and Water as a signal of the commencement of hostilities. I have witnessed hostile Armies arraigned again each other, the charge of Infantry at the death-outpouring Artillery, the Bayonet charge and repel, Cavelery hunting men down like beasts, forts fall and towns refuse. The ferociousness of Gunboats and the sturdy resistance of Forts I have learned to see all of it cooly and with ready presence of mind and yet through all this the Grand Architeckt of the Universe has preserved me, the good father and God of Israel has favored me with his gracious kindness of being a loving husband to a good wife and a kind father to my beloved children and a trusty Son & Brother to the best mother

and kindest of Sisters & Brothers and an appreciative recipient of the many acts of kindness by my host of truest of friends. Have we, my dear, not all reasons to be ever thankful to that allwise and kind providence.

While seeing all this I have been steadily gaining in friends, influence and position. Thank God I can leave my children a legacy which will inspire them to hold up their heads & walk uprightly through the world and that is "a reputation as a Soldier and Patriot". I have always done my duty and if God spares my health I allways will and I know my love you will feel satisfied with me. It is only within the last day or two that I have an opportunity to get any chances to talk to Josey about you and I must confess the news he brings from all of you is such as will only inspire the heart of a Soldier to good. He tells me you look as well and hearty as you dit 10 years ago and says that you are in good Spirits, thank God for that. I was afeard you would trouble yourself about me so much as to leave symptoms on your countenance or your lovely features but he assures me that you indeed look well and hearty and pretty. Hamlin, my dear Son, Uncle Josey tells me that you are a fine and good boy, that you behave yourself like a young Gentleman. My dear Son, if you would only know how good it makes me feel to hear such good news from you, you would be the best boy in the world.

Now I will tell you some good news; this afternoon I got a nice little bay pony mare for you. She is a very smart little pony mare; she has a nice little white spot on her forehead and very nice little legs. I think she will have a little new Colty in the Spring; if so you must give the little Colty to your little Brother Mosey. I am not sure whether she will have a Colt but she looks very much like it, and everybody says so. Sam [?] French brought the pony from the Country for you and Tom Orr gave me a nice little Saddle for you, one that he captured at Arkansas Post. I send out Skouting Parties twice before, to bring in a Pony for you but they failed; now I got it, but you must give it a name. When I come home in May I will bring it; what shall I call it?

Now my dear Lizzy, Uncle Josey also tells me very good news of you. He says that you are a regular little Lady and behave very well, that you are growing fine and doing well; that is right my dear. Of course you know that I will bring you something handsome when I come home; be a good child and mind your ma and all will be right. - My dear Mosey, Uncle Josey says that you are a very good boy and that you look so well and like a little man in your pantys; you must be pa's good sonny so that pa can put you on the little pony and kiss you; you are pa's good sonny. My dear little Hattie, I would very much like to see her indeed; she must be a sweet one

from the picture Josey gives of her. Oh how much I long to see them all.

I think now I have treated on all the subjects as to the family and now I must talk about business. In the first place I would like to have you return to Millersburg after Pesach Passover] by way of Lima[ville] and Uniontown, enjoy yourself and see your friends with the whole Mishpacha [clan]. I will send you money as soon as we get our pay which I think will be shortly. I do not exactly know when Pesach is but expect to find out. I have sent home a double Barrel Shot Gun for Hamlin and a marble slab for a nice little stand which some of the boys gave me; the Shotgun I sent to Cohn and the Marble in Care of Rex of Wooster. The marble is not of so much intrinsic value as it is for a relic; I will have a little stand made for it.

I intend to go home in May and stay 30 days, providing there are no active operations going on here and I can get away. I think I can for I have a great many friends above but to day I lost one of my best friends. Lt Col Schwarz, Inspector General and Chief of Staff, had to go home on account of his wounds; they were healed up but commenced putrification on the bone and he had to go home and have it opened again. He was a warm friend of mine and of great Influence, but still I still got General

Osterhaus and he is a warm friend of mine indeed. I was invited to dinner at his place yesterday and I tell you we had a fine German Dinner indeed. As to other business I can only say to you that if God spares my health I intend to stay in the Army until the Rebs are brought to terms; I am as good a democrat as ever I was, but no peace Democrat.

When I see you in May, I will [translated from German]: "open up my heart" to you. Good night, God bless and preserve you. ICAN JEWISH

Ever your true & loving
Marcus

Med Go 120th ON Mellikens Burd In March 24/83 Hear haird the Enclosed to gutting Imy dear good wife Chareonly Yesterday morted a great big long letter for your, Mischaeland one in remand for mother get as some of the boys who are discharged and gring home I thought would ferred a short letter to you therhaps of they would mail it at Cano it might reach you in barrad -Vance of the and send yesterday by mail Yesterday I received your very kind letter of the 14th in which you in consequence of A Ruhman but coming to see you Id could see a little of the blues "shielling ant, but what of that I am sortingied to receive one or two letters from your Every amonths in which you home a little the blues and linge one to resign, that is quite notural and then it shomes one that your hound not changed any that you are the same plains to honest woman to you feel to you say " Then a know that and the atter hand that when you thrill that I am hale and hearty and just in the ask coming home justhant and Easthly Exeme for forwalling my frust in the face of the Enemy court he disgrace, I them the the the the the conclusion, I want him whole, I want him hoursable I want prose

do that his children, I, and him can readily say answered when asther how long dit your father a husband Alay in the Clury, " Untill his Country hold no further use for his pervices" or Untill he had performed his whole duty. What could I say now? Nothing that would clear me from a stand! Should you Tail freque to commission from any atter former and should by health demand it, or the condition of my family imperatively deman lit then I would leave the service at once. Int while I am honored to fairly used from Every bady, in the best of health thank you, my dear little ones in chang of the best womand in the world and would you have me resign. ago as soon as we get paid will dend the balance it more be that I will get 5 months pay in a feel doing the pay of GL Col is 167 Dullars for month the pay of bullars for months the face for months my species and is not over truenty Dallaro for annothe, while in the field Upinse and finall, while in a lity they are large

for need have no Jean at to the Government, foring Bankkrupt, the will pay and her pay will pay debto, How would you like to long the lot next to and Home where at Kins mas lived This Odia has been Or prominent en my mind wither the last there mouth that I could Dearcely get it away for an hom. I think it Would made us a mous infreent home What do you think? I will try and bome for thirty days and if we are hos in active engagements I think I will have no trouble in getting it, Osterham will help me and their evant you be glad with we because I have to ge again ? I think you will a little Josey is doing a very michan though for two days it samula honny things yet he fill tables in from 150 to 200 Dollars Carl In day, he is looking for Finisherine the will be in threagon before your Everything . I have no frantienten to line for your my love and the you happy tand be a good hay gracines to us

On abraham Mohman dum disaffirmtel I thought him one of a man, but you Know I never feel twombled over people Ingratitude, I got him discharged, with ant Etamination ar any thing, he never knew anything of it untill & handed him his Papeer, he is very empating, The lette drimmed hay is still ender my care & doing well, his father came here to take him home but he wanted here after the badies of the deceased bolders and working after the sick they bring plents of first & Everything the Grand with the city bring plents of first & Everything the Grand of all knick of first a last of apple hatter, Peacher dried Crisions any thing Else Whenever the bays god any thing from home they being me in grad share. We have now a Chatten crap right by my tent with 20 chiefens in in day time I let them aut, they lay Eggs Errough for Custand fromphlin pres which am Could hatter twith and two Milch Come we live as good as any family in This. I never hood as well and half as cheaping Camp, they bays never district the Chillens now Cows since they belong to are My love to the Children Worth Moch Sanot Elizabeth Onche ymmpel Vall: Ever gary time Horne Marcus V

Please hand the enclosed to Guttman in his house not in his office

Every your

M

Hd Qrs 120th O.V.I. Millikens Bend La.

March 24/63

My dear good wife!

I have only yesterday mailed a great big long letter for you, Michael and one in German for mother; yet as some of the boys who are discharged are going home, I thought [I] would send a short letter to you & perhaps if they would mail it at Cairo it might reach you in advance of the one sent yesterday by mail.

Yesterday I received your very kind letter of the 14th in which you in consequence of A. Ruhman's not coming to see you, I could see a little of the "blues" sticking out, but what of that? I am satisfied to receive one or two letters from you every month in which you have a little the blues and urge me to "resign"; that is quite natural and then it shows me that you have not changed any, that you are the same plain & honest woman, "as you feel so you say."

Then I know that on the other hand that when you think that I am hale and hearty and just in the act of rising by staying in the Army, while coming home without an earthly

excuse for forsaking my post in the face of the enemy would be disgrace, I know then by thinking over it you come to the conclusion, I want him whole, I want him honorable, I want him so that his children, I, or him can readily answer when asked, how long dit your father or husband stay in the Army "Untill his country had no further use for his services," or Untill he had performed his whole duty.

What could I say now? Nothing that would clear me from a stain!

Should Governor Tod refuse to commission me or should I receive any indignity from any other source or should my health demand it, or the condition of my family imperatively demand it, then I would leave the service at once. But while I am honored & fairly used from everybody, in the best of health thank God, my dear little ones in charge of the best woman in the world, and in face of an enemy, I can not nor would you have me resign.

I sent you \$50 a few days ago; as soon as we get paid will send the balance. It may be that I will get 5 months pay in a few days. The pay of a Lt Col is 167 Dollars per month, the pay of Col is 193 Dollars per month and forage for three horses. My expense now is not over twenty Dollars per month; while in the field expenses are small, while in a City they are large. You need have no fears as to the Government going

Bankrupt; she will pay and her pay will pay debts.

How would you like to buy the lot next to our House where Atkins now lives. This Idea has been so prominent in my mind within the last three months that I could scarcely get it away for an hour. I think it would make us a magnificent home. What do you think? I will try and get a leave of Absence in May to come home for thirty days and if we are not in active engagements, I think I will have no trouble in getting it; Osterhaus will help me and then wont you be glad with me because I have to go again? I think you will a little.

Josey is doing very nice trade, though for two days it rained incessantly and he is out of a great many things, yet he still takes in from 150 to 200 Dollars Cash per day. He is looking for Sinsheimer. He will be in Chicago before you go home and then he will tell you everything. I have no particular plan for the future, anymore than to live for you, my love and the children only, to live so as to make you happy and be a good boy.

God will not, I feel it, forsake us, for He has ever been kind and gracious to us.

In Abraham Ruhman I am disappointed. I thought him more of a man, but you know I never feel troubled over people's ingratitude. I got him discharged, without examination or anything; he never knew anything of it untill I handed him his

Papers; he is very ungratified.

The little drummer boy is still under my care & doing well; his father came here to take him home but he would not go. Many of the Ohio folks come here after bodies of the deceased Soldiers and looking after the sick; they bring plenty of fruit & every thing else. Yesterday I was presented with 16 cans of all kind of fruit, a lot of Apple butter, Peaches dried, onions & everything else. Whenever the boys get anything from home they bring me in a good share. We have now a Chicken coop right by my tent with 20 chickens in; in day time I let them out. They lay eggs enough for Custard and pumpkin pies which our Cook backes & with our two Milch Cows we live as good as any family in Ohio. I never lived as well and half as cheap in camp; they (boys) never disturb the Chickens or Cows since they belong to me. My love to the children, Mother, Mich, Sarah, Elizabeth, oncle Gumpel & all.

Ever your true & loving

Marcus