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

1864 January

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

Streeth Sead Grantess 12 2000 Privates Plagruning La January 3/64, My dear dear Wife and Children! penday Morning, Everything quite whost of the boys are in Church listening to a Common out the eter. year I delivered by the Chaplain of the Treat impelf with the pleasure of conversing with you my love inas much as the hand an appertune by I Deciding my letter to atentileans and film there letters are more aft to go, while from hew there list very smeh complain of letters being lost it received your very kind letter of the 13 halt, gesterday and was very and and beloved Children wellfan though I must confess I could see a little delefulmen, considerable of the blues through it and Cary my love it grieves me; gueses me deeply inalumorand and aim the dole

Cause of it. My dear Caroline Keep. line pake and trust to allingthe doling husband that all will he well. On Star is brightening on desting both hopeful and Encomagning. My Hamlin worke mo a very gand little Note and I am happy to know his and is gette better I was fearful he would and get along well, thouth god for that much. Ol would be going non amon pleased of could be at home and hear Hamlin and Figgiet dialog they must say it pretty and regul Member et untill demekom Morey must be a good bay and his Papa will bing him Something Wery mice A be may go along to Nor with his Ou when warm must not forget her Pa Pa who loves der Anneh. Ol aur vory glad to lead that that boy suits you so well, if he is a good bong I will do well by him I

this trine, I wish her princh Huy you must not overda, work to hard, we are aple to have a Fire and @ shall feel a great deal more Patinguil than to thirth you are over work. per appearant be a prince he shall be marned. William Meumsah Theman Speigel after how de you like If. I. hemandhies El? If a lady bardine Francis You see dan looking a head Spel bless it whatever it he, if you health all will be right if I am calculating thank to have things your worth smely led better, I know your wants Consideration for many days year erealls, declare & promos

to you that I will made due part, never never thall your shed a leav over any thing I hereafter Day as do as Ene a Sud feeling afor any action of mine, your wishes shall be my lan and your desires my gmele for my action. Inasunch as the is a streetly private letter, I will wrote fan ather and which your can and in gast I would rather you would ohen to Herry Herrer. acreell my leg pains me and whenever the proper time come, I will come home, in the meantime be patriotic to lvery hady and be assued my patriotism has not de Ministed Ame I come here adjen adjen tom love

Head Quarters 120<sup>th</sup> O.V.I.

Plaquemine La January 3/64

(Private)

My dear dear Wife and Children!

Sunday morning, everything quiet; most of the boys are in Church listening to a Cermon on the New Year delivered by the Chaplain of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Ky and I thought I would treat myself with the pleasure of conversing with you my love, inasmuch as I have an opportunity of sending my letter to New Orleans and from there letters are more apt to go, while from here there is very much complain of letters being lost.

I received your very kind letter of the 13th ult.

yesterday and was very much delighted in hearing of your and our beloved childrens wellfare, though I must confess I could see a little dolefulness, considerable of the "blues" through it and Cary my love it grieves me, grieves me deeply inasmuch as I am the sole cause of it. My dear Caroline keep up Spirits for my sake, for my love sake, and trust to Allmighty God and the poor efforts of your doting husband that all will be well. Our Star is brightening, our destiny looks hopeful and encouraging. My Hamlin wrote me a very good little Note and I am happy to know his Arm is getting

better. I was fearful he would not get along well, thank

God for that much. I would be very very much pleased if [I]

could be at home and hear Hamlin and Lizzie's dialogue; they

must say it pretty and remember it untill I come home.

Mosey must be a good boy and his Papa will bring him something very nice & he may go along to War with his Pa when warm "weazer" [comes] and my dear little Hattie must not forget her Pa Pa who loves her very much. I am very glad to hear that that boy suits you so well; if he is a good boy I will do well by him. I expect Elizabeth is married by this time; I wish her much Joy. You must not overdo yourself; get a Girl; don't work to[o] hard. We are able to have a Girl and I shall feel a great deal more satisfied than to think you are over working yourself. If the forth coming heir appearant be a prince he shall be named William Tecumseh Sherman Spiegel after my friend General Sherman; how do you like W. T. Sherman Spiegel, Eh? If a lady, Caroline Frances. What do you think of my Choice? You see I am looking ahead. God bless it whatever it be. If you can only keep up Spirit & your health, all will be right; if you could only know how I love you & how much time I spend thinking of you & ours & how I am calculating and bound to have things, you would surely feel better; I know your wants.

I hereby after deliberate & calm consideration for many

days, yea weeks, declare & promise to you that I will make due and full reparation for the past; never never shall you shed a tear over any thing I hereafter say or ever [have] a sad feeling over any action of mine. Your wishes shall be my law and your desires my guide for my actions.

Now it is out.

In as much as this is a strictly private letter, I will write another one which you can and in fact I would rather you would show to Henry Herzer.

I am well; my leg pains me and whenever the proper time comes I will come home. In the meantime be patriotic to every body and be assured my patriotism has not diminished since I came here.

Adjeu Adjeu
Your true love
Marcus

Head quarters 12000000 Plaquemin La Jan 3/64 My dear dear Wife! Of have written to you thee days ago and undenblette, you home en this peety fine letters from me. I have real two from your one shouty after & leftland and was written an monthe often I left. heros to write mannes as on little town of Plaguamine presents but very little news. We have about 2000 Noldiers hew Defantry, (avelery A artillery, or a have and. Fort here and are no building an other Very large one, this town is 105 miles from ever Ochans on the Miss Piver, manual ofter Toayou Haquemine which staits from hew and concels with I several Bayour untill et leads into Tepas or the Full Metico, the Bayon is

ravigable in the Winter and high water only. hall of no is a very pick Country, pleute of Cotton, close by here the Planter, raise nothing but fugar and molapes of which this year they hall a very Excellent Crops of course they had not as many and quality is fine. The most of the slaves here Consider Theundoes and are in reality flee and all the here was raised by the Compen Sated labor Wystern and many of the haughty and overheaving Slaveowners who one year age deglaced they would some stame then Employ a freed nego non I shall when Charley goes back Stul Some Dugan and Molepes for our use enough to do els a year at least. Olo far as Charleys Onssings is concerned I am sony to say that it has not been very sue cepful though I have him fixed

now go that I think I will pay all right. The Market in New Orleans was to levilly over Stocked when Charley Came with his Goods that had he polil it in New Orleans the loves would be I even. I therefore went to work and got him some papers to start with the Cambre, but Charley is to hashful, it talks a man here in this family when can talk and has take, & wished a thousand times Henry had been here enstead of Charley he would have careed the Pant I week ago with such Papen as & get- for Charley Charley es as very good and entire Cafe busing mair and will do all right when things are all fixed the can be behind the founter or in the Warehouse but here it takes a man that can talk & turn himself to get the Genniks. I have now a new sett of the very best Papers for him again to get a Jermit to start a Juste Store here in this Olace, he goes to New Ocleans an the first

Boat and defeel almost Patrified he will sneed in cetting the Permit and the he will be all eight, of Henry would have the Paper and leave here with them to high I am satisfied he would get through all right Of think this an Excellent Place for hupriness if one can get the Permit to start, on Can hay Collow, Augar Molaps der a few days Doan Tell you move. If Charley had to sell things in New Orleans be would love one thousand Dallary of the get his permit he can blear len thousand between this and spring I only wish Henry had sold ant & come enith she, but it Can but be helped now. Charley however is an honest whicht & everthy in an

Headquarters 120<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. Plaquemine La. Jan. 3/64

My dear dear Wife!

I have written to you three days ago and undoubtedly you have ere this rec'd five letters from me. I have recd. two from you one shortly after I left and one was written one month after I left.

I have but very little news to write inasmuch as our little town of Plaquemine presents but very little news. We have about 2000 Soldiers here, Infantry, Cavelery & Artillery; we have one Fort here and are now building another very large one. This town is 105 miles from New Orleans on the Miss[issippi] River, named after Bayou Plaque- mine which starts from here and connects with several Bayous untill it leads into Texas or the Gulf of Mexico; the Bayou is navigable in the winter on high water only. Back of us is a very rich Country, plenty of Cotton. Close by here the Planters raise nothing but Sugar and Molasses of which this year they had a very excellent crop; of course they had not as many acres as usual but the yield and quality is fine.

The most of the slaves here consider themselves and are in reality free and all the sugar raised right around here was raised by the Compensated labor System and many of the haughty and overbearing Slaveowners who one year

ago declared they would sooner starve then employ a freed negro now are mighty glad to get them. I shall when Charley goes back send some Sugar and Molasses for our use; enough to do us a year at least.

As far as Charley's Business is concerned, I am sorry to say that it has not been very successful, though I have him fixed now so that I think it will pay all right. The Market in New Orleans was so terribly over stocked when Charley came with his Goods that had he sold it in New Orleans the losses would be severe. I therefore went to work and got him some papers to start into the Country, but Charley is too bashful; it takes a man here in this Country who can talk and has gaf [gaff= glib words]. I wished a thousand times Henry [Herzer] had been here instead of Charley; he would have carried the Paint 3 weeks ago with such Papers as I got for Charley. Charley is a very good and safe businessman and will do all right when things are all fixed & he can be behind the Counter or in the Warehouse but here it takes a man that can talk & turn himself to get the Permits.

I have now a new set of the very best Papers for him again to get a permit to start a Trade Store here in this Place, He goes to New Orleans on the first Boat and I feel almost satisfied he will succeed in getting the Permit and then he will be all right. If Henry would have the Papers and

leave here with them to night, I am satisfied he would get through all right.

I think this is an excellent Place for business; if one can get the Permit to start, one can buy Cotton, Sugar, Molasses and Rice.

In a few days I can tell you more. If Charley had to sell things in New Orleans he would lose one thousand Dollars; if he gets his permit he can clear ten thousand between this and Spring.

I only wish Henry had sold out & gone with me, but it cannot be helped now.

Charley however is an honest, upright & worthy man [End of page]

Plaquemine La Jan 15/4 My dear dear Olife The very latest from home is a long and very agreable letter dated July 18th 1863. Join days after of was wounded before Jackson which came to me yesterday, it was a good lovely and agreable letter I have read it over twice an find it more pleasant than Ene I! that was written when your Expecter on Such a return, get if this of the Antiques of the Antiques of gind it planing when interminated with your angula like can and patient musing nead from you, then I have to insulmiteelile ask myself, det We the author of so much goodses Kindnessy patience with the

proper respect and loving Kudness Oh my love of and affait when everift in the Deale of may be found wanting, but never mind it will all be right yet, offel I know all will and and bound to home it night Now my love you keep there letters I see wether & will he as good as my word Charley has at yet not succeeded he is again starting for a her bleams ceed the will go home ofter buying a lot of Justant Molapes. I have given your my apinion about it he is a good man both is to Eary in this Country, Of thought I wonked stay here untill the first of may when I mean the resign to gener home of you can dell and home you may if not what do

Some teading in effetterstones untill Gall as more away as you wish it. The Sittle bussiness is very ston here to. I am happy to learn of my dear Hermlin & Lizzie doning to very fine at the Ephihitian I am gatisfiel they are good Children, they allways mere. May Morry's a good boy I he may per to War enich da when wan to talk. When we get pay which will be down, I will And you gill or 1200 Dollars To Afranghten Enery thing I The Cahr is not any may home he can pay for the work house and stable if he does not down go me built Alund of

Haw not doing much non the hays are generally very mele sort much sickness of any again we had fine could blays for this Combing little. Dann glad yan fin that bay do enseful Oloseph is well & 20 is Sinher they send then love. Christ Eskhan charged by a court free from all Charges . In Stantan adde It womenfelder & myslef mesoton gether. Il send your a few Thother will send your more thankly is Complhing is so montonous here as it possibly could be a much. Om mails an very is regular. Ever four time storing

Plaquemine, La. Jan 15/64

My dear dear Wife!

The very latest from home is a long and very agreeable letter dated July 15th 1863, four days after I was wounded before Jackson, which came to me yesterday; it was a good lovely and agreeable letter. I have read it over twice and find it more pleasant than ever; that was written when you expected me home after the fall of Vicksburg. Oh such a return; yet if [I] think of the sufferings, I find it pleasing when intermingled with your angelic like care and patient nursing I received from you. Then I have to involunteerily ask myself, dit I use the author of so much goodness, kindness & patience with the proper respect and loving kindness.

Ah my love, I am afraid when weight in the scale I may be found wanting, but never mind; it will all be right yet, I feel; I know I will, and am bound to have it right. Now my love, you keep these letters & see whether I will be as good as my word.

Charley has as yet not succeeded; he is again starting for New Orleans to day and if he does not succeed he will go home after buying a lot of Sugar & Molasses. I have given you my opinion about it; he is a good man but he is too

easy in this Country.

I thought I would stay here untill the first of May when I mean to resign & go home. If you can sell our house you may; if not I have some trading in Millersburg untill Fall or move away as you wish it. The Sutler business is very slow here to[o].

I am happy to learn of my dear Hamlin & Lizzie doing so very fine at the Exhibition I am satisfied they are good children, they allways were. My Mosey is a good boy & he may go to War with Pa when warm weather, Hattie must learn to talk. When we get pay which will be soon, I will send you \$11 or \$1200 Dollars to straighten everything. I hope Cohn is not any ways "uneasy". If Charley comes home he can pay for the Warehouse and stable; if he does not soon go we will send it.

I am not doing much now. The boys are generally very well, not much sickness of any kind. The weather is very nice again. We had five cold days for this Country; one day it snowed a little. I am glad you find that boy so useful. Joseph is well & so is Sinsheimer they send their love. Christ Eshbach is my servant boy he was discharged by a court free from all charges. Dr. Stanton Adjt. Froweinfelder & myself mess together. I send you a few Photographs will send you more shortly.

Everything is so monotonous here as it possibly could be in Millersburg. I write twice a week. Our mails are very irregular.

Ever you true & loving

Marcus



Haguennine La Jan 22/64 My dead the my sweet-Can! letter from you since I were the letteds to you, get I heard this Ere the moil was leaving to monon Evening to no better frompose their writing to your my beloved one. You must not expect any news in asmuch as this as monotonous a place as ever Moillershing can be. We are living here right and the Mis-Third and with Exception of three as four Steamboats landing here Every day which are called Coast Packets and travel geon Baton Bonge to New Orleans and back use have no news. When I guist came her we had 4 legements of dispanting 3 Batteries of artillery and one Company of Careley, Omee heer two Regiments of Infanting, the 20m

and yet by and two toalleries have held moved to Below Tonge where They got up a hig scare the other day. This leaves es the 42 ml Ohio and the 120th Ohir I battery and compa of Cardery, Infficient to hold the place against all marviding forces they can bring, we are building a very large and formidable Fort here. The weather here is heavy ful furt like on fine, it is very wand and the aid is mild wholesome and refreshing, I wish to Godgen Could be shee for I we command the Shelden the for the Hand of you remember white of think of sind, the commanded one Origade last year at Chrickason & arkansas Past, get he is a very clean man and Ethernely Kind to me, he has his Wife here the is from Jorain to a regular build Western Kesend Yanker Girl Of do not see her often though very much pressed to call of De Stanton, adjutand, Unele Josey , Imskermer and myself Spend most of our time legether

There was a report yesterday that there were a lot of Rebels twelve miles from here so & Started out with a Company of Careling, Much Josey and Dactor Stanfon Amy freed Frentenant Milled (whom your San at home I acted as volunteer Will, but we found nan Rele after a hand rule Of managed to get four doyend Eggo and we came home. We are living en a House all together (ic feeled and Staff) ven boy does the cooking for an Mus. Unele Josey Bussiness dues not go very well just now, there are so Very gent troops here and they have no money and the lines are closed. Of have at present 12 December In this on the recruiting devoiced do not sund how well, or welker at all they Inceed, Of takes to long Somehow to hear from this and the with generally that we do mit-know what is going on, Old And Celeans they have news once a weeth ar learn but here it is very irregular. Oalland Moffit Send en In reny nation Japers about three months ago and a few days ago they came

back accepted dan very sony for them inkeed. Since I am here I have learned and seen more of what the honors of Maney was then I ever knew before and dan glad indeed that the signs of the times show towards closing and the accurred institution you know it takes me long to say any thing that sounds antidemvoratio and it goes hard, but wether I stay in the army or come home, I am form of doing away with the institution of Slavery Jain willing for the Planters to hire them and in favor of masting the negro walk at all events inaxumehas he is notwolly legy and undelent, but more Releaster will of either speak or vote in favor of Manery, this is no darty conclusion but a deep con-Violend. get Onever mean here after to be a politician, but quites as a good Citizen down duty to my Ged my family, my Country and my self.

week ago I chink howeved he is yet in cher deleans. You must write me a long, long letter and many of their and and and me ten Thomand questions in every and and el will take their up one by one and aumer their this is the triest place I ever evas at-duis my Soldier life, but the boys are so com fortable and feel so very well that I am not at all anseres to leave here. We had Josey Charley and Sunkerined messed with us, but it is to far for their and they legs In and we discharged and Cook & have any and boy. One of my meer who deserted in Covington and was hought up by the Surat markal was wed by a Court Marshal and Sentenced to forefeet all his pay and con denned for six months haid labor and Fort Espararof Jefas with a Ball and Chand on his right-leg, a very very hand sentence undeed , I would rather they would have shot thing, for death is not do hard to degratention. I am well and hearty and of Ind my dear, dear little jamely here I would not with

but as it is my heart is oner Yearning for home, home, evillall to blessing, It hope you are com. fortable during this 4 home anful cold weather, such as & see by the Ripers you must have that, it mother me tremble to think you had to be then without me, had grant all was Hamled must continue to his a good and obedient boy, he is a, bont getting to be a youth and he must endeavour to learn well and malle a man to he can aid and assist his facter and matter when they get old, I hope soon to be at dome when & can track him and Relp him along My Lizzie who will soon he a Miss, must beaut real smark I know she can learn and Of Know the will. Mosey must be a very goad bay, he is Pappas bay and lunch mind an ma. So she can tell Pape something not farget Oa

Uncle Josey lakes a great deal of Interest in your letters, he gets as uneary allmost to I when we do not get any letters, he loolothe Very Good, though of thought the heirs of probable mamage of his H. I A unnerved him a little I fend you the Thothograph of Care Heldon & my friend Patterson, Pay master in the clary he is from Bellefountoin Lagar Ca Ohin also my Bosom freud De Stanton also Capt Stenham & Mysekm I hope you will be pleased coult then of the perhaps I may have the Region taken allogether if de O think it would make a very mice Parlor Freture. There is an allet here and pretue taking is all the rage My leg Still hunts me most all the time and & come to the conclusion it allways will get not aways to hunt me in the Common avocation of life

Of officet the Paymanter Here every day and when lover he comes I want to Undyan whomt \$ 1200 an of you can sell the House after the stable is up, your may do so jef not I will try it awhile in Mullershing neft Olumnu. Driect your le then bereagte 12 1th Coops change of the Gulf Jak Dlove you as Ever your time My love to Cohwoftenily, Henry Hamily, Elizabeth Shee

My dear Wife, my sweet Cary!

Though I have had no letter from you since I wrote three letters to you, yet I heard this Eve the mail was leaving to morrow and I thought I could spend my evening to no better purpose than writing to you my beloved one.

You must not expect any news inasmuch as this [is] as monotonous a place as ever Millersburg can be. We are living here right on the Mis[sissippi] River and with exception of three or four Steamboats landing here every day which are called Coast Packets and travel from Baton Rouge to New Orleans and back, we have no news. When I first came here we had 4 Regiments of Infantry, 3 Batteries of Artillery and one Company of Cavelery. Since then two Regiments of Infantry, the 22nd and 7th Ky and two Batteries have been moved to Baton Rouge where they got up a big scare the other day.

This leaves us the 42<sup>nd</sup> Ohio and the 120<sup>th</sup> Ohio, 1

Battery and 1 Company of Cavelery, sufficient to hold this place against all marauding forces they can bring; we are building a very large and formidable Fort here. The weather here is beautiful, just like our June; it is very warm and the air is mild, wholesome and refreshing. I wish to God you could be here. Col L. A. Sheldon of the 42nd Ohio is in command here; you know if you remember what I think of him;

he commanded our Brigade last year at Chickasaw & Arkansas

Post. Yet he is a very clever man and extremely kind to me.

He has his wife here; she is from Lorain Co; a regular build

Western Reserve Yankee Girl. I do not see her often, though

very much pressed to call. I saw her twice in four weeks.

Dr. Stanton, Adjutand, Uncle Josey, Sinsheimer and myself spend most of our time together.

There was a report yesterday that there were a lot of Rebels twelve miles from here, so I started out with a Company of Cavelery. Uncle Josey and Doctor Stanton & my friend Lieutenant Miller (whom you saw at home) acted as volunteer Aids, but we found "nary Reb" after a hard ride. I managed to get four dozend Eggs and we came home. We are living in a House all together (i.e. field and Staff); our boy does the cooking for our Mess. Uncle Josey's business does not go very well just now; there are so very few troops here and they have no money and the lines are closed.

I have at present 12 Sergeants in Ohio on the recruiting Service; I do not know how well or whether at all, they succeed. It takes so long somehow to hear from Ohio and the North generally that we do not know what is going on. In New Orleans they have news once a week at least but here it is very irregular.

Captain Moffit sent in his resignation Papers about

three months ago and a few days ago they came back accepted. I am very sorry for them indeed. Since I am here I have learned and seen more of what the horrors of Slavery was than I ever knew before and I am glad indeed that the signs of the times show, towards closing out the accursed institution. You know it takes me long to say anything that sounds antidemocratic and it goes hard, but whether I stay in the Army or come home, I am [in] favor of doing away with the institution of Slavery. I am willing for the Planters to hire them and in favor of making the negro work at all events, inasmuch as he is naturally lazy and indolent, but never hereafter will I either speak or vote in favor of Slavery; this is no hasty conclusion but a deep conviction. Yet I never mean hereafter to be a politician, but quietly as a good citizen doing duty to my God, my family, my Country and myself.

Charley has left here about a week ago; I think however he is yet in New Orleans. You must write me a long, long letter and many of them and ask me ten thousand questions in every one and I will take them up one by one and answer them. This is the tirest place I ever was at, during my Soldier life, but the boys are so comfortable and feel so very well that I am not at all anxious to leave here. We had a negro woman cooking for us when Uncle Josey, Charley and Sinsheimer messed

with us, but it is so far for them and they left us and we discharged our Cook & have only our boy. One of my men who deserted in Covington and was brought up by the Provost Marshal was tried by a Court Marshal and sentenced to forfeit all his pay and condemned for six months hard labor on Fort Espararox [Esperanza], Texas, with a Ball and Chain on his right leg, a very very hard sentence indeed; I would rather they would have shot him, for death is not so hard as degradation.

I am well and hearty and if I had my dear, dear little family here I would not wish anything better, but as it is my heart is ever yearning for home, home with all its blessings. I hope you are comfortable during this extreme awful cold weather, such as I see by the Papers you must have had; it makes me tremble to think you had to be there without me; God grant all was right.

Hamlin must continue to be a good and obedient boy. He is about getting to be a youth and he must endeavor to learn well and make a man so he can aid and assist his father and mother when they get old. I hope soon to be at home when I can teach him and help him along.

My Lizzie who will soon be a Miss must learn real smart I know she can learn and I know she will.

Mosey must be a very good boy, he is Pappas boy and must mind his Ma.

Hattie must learn to talk so she can tell Papa something when he comes home, she must not forget Pa.

Uncle Josey takes a great deal of Interest in your letters, he get as uneasy allmost as I when we do not get any letters, he took the news of the marriage of Miss C very cool, though I thought the news of probably Marriage of Miss H.L.A. unnerved him a little.

I sent you the Photograph of Col. Sheldon & my friend,
Patterson, Paymaster in the Navy he is from Bellefountain
Logan Co. Ohio also my Bosom friend Dr. Stanton also Capt.
Benbain & Mr. Jackson I hope you will be pleased with them. I
expect to send you some more herpahs I may have the Regt.
taken alltogether if so I think it would make a very nice
Parlor Picture. There is an Artist here and picture taking is
all the rage.

My leg still hurts me most all the time and I come to the conclusion it allways will, yet not enough to hurt me in the common avocation of life.

I expect the Paymaster here every day and whenever he comes I want to send about \$1200.00 If you can sell the House after the stable is up, you may do so; if not I will try it awhile in Millersburg next Summer.

Direct your letters hereafter

120<sup>th</sup> O.V.I.

 $1^{\rm st}$  Div.  $12^{\rm th}$  A. Corps

Dept. of the Gulf

Via New York

I love you as ever

Your true

Marcus

My love to Cohn & family, Henry & family Elizabeth & all.



Med no 120th 0.00 Plaguemine La Jan 30/04 My dear dear good Wife! In the midst of plenty of feel want, Incommoded by lively scenes and activity I feel dull in perfect hearth of feel field and lanegome coul why? The last negos @ read from your was dated Dec 23, 5 weeks ago furt Think of it and what makes it It would the worse we have pens of worthern dates as late as Jan 1/8 26 days later than from my dear family and Worke than all is the news & heard this day; mannely: Charley Herger left pere about two weeks again and promised me if he could find a letter for me in elen deleans he would send it here the first oppertunity and to day I heard, he took a letter and if the office for me and list

by a thell of could not - han blew thousand more and worse, it made me mad and worried, & can search tall to anyone and tall Scarcely, look at anyone at would certainly not he very pleasant for charles to como under my mildel observation fust non. Of do not know what to lay the weather is delightfull andy at soon or abant noton it is to warm to go out, you never sun a mue pleasanter or wanner as is garmany here. 18 have Many little to do her Joanely but read, I am non reading Chailes Levers John Buill of ours a very Measant Work Dam pomesialo and tired. Mon must write often and write direct to the Hest

While the Every thing no matter how tufling it affects, all about the Children and all, all, Every lette Thing about your dear self. to day, one is Lient Miller whom you Mura, the other is Fred Miffet my little Clark at that my Head quarters a fine young bay. Captain Maffit, Captain Mecch Guarter Marter Dean and Sienterrant Case have resigned and their Usiquation accepted. Moffit, he resigned nearly 4 mobuths ago and, his perignation never came back from Depart = ment Head Quarters untill in Jew days age. Ol understand he wants to co in again. I should not be Infinised to see Herry Sherman come hack to the But, I wish he would it would be a benefit to the Me and the Regiment, besides he is a fine bay

My Haudin must write to me how is his Clum? Ols he a from by & It seems to me as though it was time for Ligarie to comercie to wite My Morey as independent as Ever Daes my Hattee sen member me yet to thow and weather as had as I want your Had bless your four Ener loving I time horobound Marcus

Plaquemine La Jan. 30/64

My dear dear good Wife!

In the midst of plenty I feel want; surrounded by lively scenes and activity I feel dull; in perfect health I feel sick and lonesome and why?

The last news I received from you was dated December 23, 5 weeks ago, just think of it, and what makes it so much the worse we have news of northern dates as late as January 18, 26 days later than from my dear family, and worse than all is the news I heard this day; namely: Charley Herzer left here about two weeks ago and promised me if he could find a letter for me in New Orleans he would send it here the first opportunity and to day I heard, he took a letter out of the office for me and lost it. If I had recd a stun by a shell I could not have been shocked more and worse; it made me mad and worried; I can scarcely talk to anyone and scarcely look at anyone.

It would certainly not be very pleasant for Charley to come under my mild observation just now.

I do not know what to say. The weather is delightful, only at noon or about noon it is too warm to go out; you never saw a June pleasanter or warmer as January is here.

We have very little to do here; it is awful dull. I do nothing scarcely but read; I am now reading Charles Levers

Tom Burk of ours, a very pleasant work. I am homesick and tired.

You must write often and write direct to the Regt.

Write me everything no matter how trifling it appears, all about the children and all, all, every little thing about your dear self.

I send you a few Pictures again to day, one is Lieut Miller whom you know, the other is Fred Moffit my little clerk at my Head quarters a fine young boy.

Captain Moffit, Captain Meech Quarter Master Dean and Lieutenant Case have resigned and their resignation accepted.

I am sorry for Captain Moffit, he resigned nearly 4 months ago and his resignation never came back from Department Head Quarters untill a few days ago. I understand he wants to go in again. I should not be surprised to see Henry Sherman come back to the Regt, I wish he would be a benefit to me and the Regiment, besides he is a fine boy.

My Hamlin must write to me how is his Arm? Is he a good boy? It seems to me as though it was time for Lizzie to commence to write. How is she? And how is my Mosey? As independent as ever? Does my Hattie remember me yet? & how do you stand the cold weather?

Are you well? Do you want me as bad as I want you?

God bless you. Your ever loving & true husband