



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES

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.

Streets }
Private }
My dear dear Wife and Children!

My dear
Head Quarters, 12th Oct
Flaquemin La Guyane 3/64
Private

Sunday Morning, Everything quite most of the boys are in Church listening to a Communion on the eve. Year & delivered by the Chaplain of the 22nd Regt and I thought I would treat myself with the pleasure of conversing with you very love, inasmuch as I have an opportunity of sending my letters 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 you and our beloved Children well, though I must confess I could see a little dolefulness, considerable of the "blues" though it and carry my love it gives me; gives 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 Almighty
God and the good efforts of your
dear 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 Ann 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 could be at home and
hear Hamlin and Fizzit dialogue
they must say it pretty and re-
member it until 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 we are
"waged" And my dear little Hattie
must not forget her Pa Pa who
loves her 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 too hard, we are able to
have a Girl and I shall feel
a great deal more satisfi'd
than to think you are overworking
yourself. If the forthcoming
child appearant be a prince
he shall be named. William
Jeemsah Sherman Spizel after
my friend Genl. Sherman
how do you like W. J. Sherman Spizel
Esq? If a lady, Caroline Francis.
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 & care & how
I am calculating should to
have things your wants & needs
ful better, I know you want
I hereby, after deliberate & calm
consideration for many days
year or more, 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 do or even
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 not
Inasmuch as this is a
strictly private letter, I will
write you another one which
you can and in fact I would
rather you would show to
Henry Herzog.

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 de-
minished since I come here

Adieu Adieu
Your true love
Marcus

Strictly Private

Head Quarters 120th 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 22nd 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 everybody and be assured my patriotism has not diminished since I came here.

Adjeu Adjeu

Your true love

Marcus

Headquarters 12th 1864
Plaquemine La Jan 3/64

My dear dear Wife!

I have written to you three days ago and undoubtedly you have in this post five letters from me. I have rec^d two from you one shortly after I left and one was written an 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, Cavalry & Artillery, we have one Fort here and are now building an other very large one, this town is 105 miles from New Orleans on the Miss River, named after Bayou Plaquemine which starts from here and connects with several Bayous until it leads into Texas on the Gulf of Mexico, the Bayou is

unpoisonable in the winter and
high water only. Most 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 Compens-
ated 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 suc-
cessful, 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 loss would be
seven. 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 ^{gas}, I
wished a thousand times Henry
had been here instead of Charley
he would have carried the Point
I went ago with such Papers as
I got for Charley. Charley is a
very good and ~~entirely~~ safe business
man 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 sett 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 an excellent
Place for business if one can
get the Permit to start on
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
can not be helped now.

Charley however is an honest
upright & worthy man

Headquarters 120th 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 gaff [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.

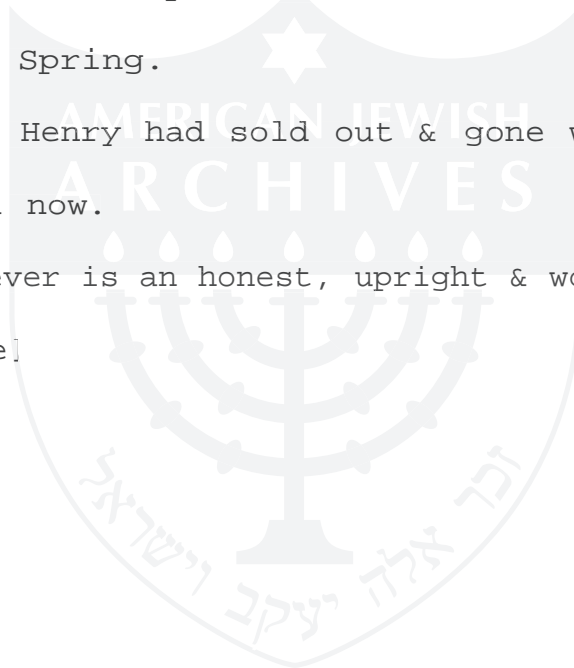
I think this is an excellent Place for business; if one can get the Permit to start, one can buy Cotton, Sugar, Molasses and Rice.

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]



Walden 120th D. D. O
Plaquemine La Jan 15/64

My dear dear Wife,

The very latest from home
is a long and very agreeable letter dated
July 18th 1863. A few 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 think
of the sufferings I find it pleasing
when intermingled with your angelic
like care and patient nursing I
read from you, then I have to
invariably ask myself, did I
use the author of so much goodness
kindness & patience with the

proper respect and loving kindness
At 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
I see whether I will be as good
as my word.

Charley has as yet not succeeded
he is again starting for a few days
to day and if he does not suc-
ceed 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 until the first of May
when I mean to resign & go
home if you can sell any more
you may if not I shall do

Some trading in Millerbury untill
Fall or move away as you
wish it. The Fittler bussines
is very slow here to.

I am happy to hear of
my dear Hamilton & Lizzie
doing so very fine at the
Exhibition I am satisfied
they are good Children, they
always were. My Mosey is
a good boy & he may go
to War with Pa when warm
weather, Fattie must learn
to talk. When we get pay
which will be soon, I will
send you \$11 or 1200 Dollars
to straighten every thing I
hope Cohn is not any way
"uneasy" If Charley comes
home he can pay for the ware
house 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 Surlin
they send their love. Christ Esbach
is my servant boy he was dis-
charged by a Court free from
all charges. Dr Stanton Adph
Fromenfelder & myself were to-
gether. I send you a few Photographs
will send you more shortly.

Everything is so monotonous
here as it possibly could be
in Millerbury. I write twice
a week. Our mails are very ir-
regular. Ever your true serving
Man

Hd qrs 120th O.V.I.

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 involuntarily 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 Adj. 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



St. Louis Jan 22/64

My dear Wife, my sweet Care!

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 as monotonous a place as ever Millersburg can be.

We are living here right on the Mississippi 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 Cavalry, since then two Regiments of Infantry, the 22nd

and 7th Ky and two Batteries have
been moved to Baton Rouge when
they got up a big scare the other day.
This leaves us the 42nd Ohio and
the 120th Ohio 1 Battery and Company
of Cavalry, sufficient to hold this
place against all manning forces
they can bring, we are building a
very large and formidable Fort
here. The weather here is beautiful
just like our home, 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, the commander our
Brigade last year at Chickasaw &
Arkansas Post, yet he is a very kind
man and extremely kind to me, he
has his wife here she is from Lorain
Co a regular build Western Reared
Yankee Girl I do not see her often
though very much pressed to call I
saw her twice in four weeks.

Dr Stanton, Adjutant, Uncle
Jasey, Skinskin 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 Cavalry, Uncle
Josey, and Doctor Stanton & my
friend Lieutenant Miller (whom you
saw at home) acted as volunteer
Aids, but we found many Rebs^r after
a hard ride I managed to get
four dozen Eggs and we came
home. We are living in a House all
together (C. C. 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 resigna-
tion. 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
then 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 antide-mocratic 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 con-
sideration. Yet I never mean here-
after to be a politician, but quite
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 cross 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 truest place I ever was at, during my soldier's 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 Jossey Charley and I returned messed with us, but it is so far for them and they left us and we discharged our Cook & have only one 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 14 months hard labor at Fort Esperant 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 com-
fortable 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 a-
bout getting to be a youth and he
must endeavour 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 Papp something
when he comes home, she must
not forget Pa

Uncle Josey takes a great deal
of Interest in your letters, he gets as
uneasy almost 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 probable marriage of Miss
H. L. & unnerved him a little

I send you the Photograph of Capt
Sheldon & my friend Patterson, Jay
master in the cargo he is from
Bellevue Mountain Logan Co Ohio
also my Boston friend Dr Stanton
also Capt Benham & Mr Jackson
I hope you will be pleased with them
I expect to send you some more
perhaps I may have the Reg-
taken altogether 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 always
will, yet not enough to hurt
me in the common avocations
of life

I expect the Paymaster
here every day and when
ever he comes I want to
send you about \$1200 or
if you can sell the House
after the stable is up, you
may do so, if not I will
try it awhile in Nollemburg
next Summer.

Direct your letters hereafter

120th A. I. }
1st Div. 13th A. Corps } via
Dept. of the Gulf } New York

I love you as ever
Your true
Marcus

My love to Cohu of family, Henry
family, Elizabeth & all

Plaquemine La Jan 22/64

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 42nd Ohio and the 120th 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, Adjutant, 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 Cavalery. 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 tirst 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

120th O.V.I.

1st Div. 12th 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.



Ms A 90 120th 500
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 rec^d from you
was dated Dec 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 Jan
18 26 days later than from my
dear family and worse than
all is the news I heard this
day; namely: Chailey 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 rec^d a stum

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~~
scarcely look at anyone.
It would certainly not
be very pleasant for Charles
to come under my mild
observations 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
more pleasant or warmer
day as in January here.

We have very little to do here
it is awful dull, I do nothing
scarcely but read, I am
now reading Charles Doer's
Tom's Book 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 ~~the~~ my Head
quarters a fine young boy.

Captain Moffit, Captain Meach
Quarter Master Dean and
Lieutenant Case have resigned
and their resignations accepted.

I am sorry for Captain
Moffit, he resigned nearly 4
months ago and his resignation
never came back from Depart-
ment 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 it would
be a benefit to the Me and
the Regiment, besides he is a
fine boy

My Klauin must write to me
how is his Aunt? 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 Klattie re-
member me yet? & how do
you stand the ~~hot~~ ^{cool} weather

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

God bless you. Your ever loving
& true friend

Marcus

Hd. qrs 120th O.V.I.

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

Marcus