

Adams Gen Hospital  
Memphis Tenn Feb 16

Darling Wife Elizabeth

with very Great pleasure I take my pen agane to write to you my Own sweet dear and most beloved wife yours of the 18 1<sup>st</sup> came to hand this eavening .. and untill its receipt .. I had intended to go to a social Got up by the ladies belonging to the union league for the benifit and comfort of the private soldier the ladies have rented a hall and paid for Gaslight for three months and mean to give a social party every tuesday eavening .. and they cordially invite the soldiers to attend and to spend the eavening free from cost our girls wanted me to go this eavening but after receiving your letter I changed my mind and concluded I could enjoy myself better by writing to you for I can find no party or social gathering where I can be hapy while I am far separated from her that I love so well and better than all else the wether still continues warm and pleasant and thear is little or no changes in military or civil matters since I last and I must fall back on the old story .. no news refuges and deserters from rebeldom still continue to come within our lines and they look as though they had endured much hardships and privations .. the union spirit fast gaining ground in this city .. the citizens are haveing large union meetings and devising plans and discusing matters towards bringing the state back under the folds and protection of the glorious old stars and stripes Then there is a good many wedings and marrages lately among the nigars .. the other night Mrs mannon and I went to see the nigars dance as she wanted to see how they preformed and I wished Dear Wife that you could have seen them you would have laughed untill your fat sides would have ached the fidler had ondy one string and there he sit drawing his bow back and forth while another nigar kept spating (?) with his hands now you can imagine what kind the musick was while about twenty nigars wear ~~back~~ (?) dancing as though to day was the last day and tomorrow the end of the wourld while the sweet was runing in streams as they huged each other and went through with the dance .. we did not stay very long as the oder and atmosphere of the room was very strong and unpleasant .. yet we were amply repaid by satisfied curiosity for our visit .. the nigars are a hapy set when the days work is over .. and the white folks gone to bed .. I am very sorry to hear that you have all got such bad colds I hope you are all well ere this still I fear darling lizzy that you are imprudent and

careless I fear you expose yourself to much in the cold and do not put on clothing enough when you go out .. I hope I may soon be home to attend to you a little and see that you are more carefull .. you wanted to know what I would do if you my dear beloved wife and children were situated as these poor refuges are .. oh my loved one I should Get to you and releave your suffering or die in attempting to get to you .. but thank God Elizabeth you are safe yes safe and far from such miseries as for me I can suffer any hardship face any dangers endure any tortures .. let me but know that you my own beloved and much adored Wife is safe and surrounded by plenty and among friends Yes I can suffer and endure death most chearfully for you Good kind wife may heavens richest blessings rest upon and suround you and may God comfort and chear and shield you from all harm .. and I will struggle and face the dangers of war and fight manfully to obtain liberty for you and me knowing that you are hapy and contented you say when I come home you will kiss me so much that I will beg you to leave off .. now sweet one you know I never will get tired of your fondness no I like to be loved by my pure kind and gentle wife to well did I ever tire of your love yet sweet one no nor never will as long as I draw this fleeting breath .. and after death dear wife I hope to meet you and be kiss by you in heaven if I live to return to you my dear I will never want to leave you agane no I shall spend the remainder of my days in content with you loving and being beloved in return and you can go with me if I have to go anymore but dear wife when I was with you you know I was a great home man and asked for no greater pleasure than siting by the fire with my head in your lap as you sit by my side knitting but oh I must not recall theas beautifull and fond recolections of the past .. or I shall have the blues before I am done writing and be sighing and longing for the return of those hapy days when I can again behold my darling Elizabeth with her smiling face and hear your kind and gentle y voice as you are striving to chere and comfort me when I feal sad yes dear wife now when I am sad I miss ~~you~~ you and the sweet consolation wich you alone can give yet good kind mary often speaks kind words of chear to to me wich reminds me the more of you for her voice and looks so much resemble your own .. yet she is ondly my best friend while you are all my own my best and truest friend my kind and loveing wife .. whome I can clasp in my arms and express my own feelings by kissing your sweet lips . I think Milt Orten was smart to get his wife in such a fix while home on furlough .. by horned spoons dear I felt rather

skittish about what might be the result of my conduct while home .. but got over my scare now for I should have herd if anything had hapened I think though my good Elizabeth that I will not venture home on another furlough .. for fear that something might hapen and what should I do if I could not be theare . dont you think that this is a very wise conclusion to come to .. you little fat loveing wife of mine .. what should I do if I had not such a good dear wife to love me and write to me and tell how much you think of me I should be miserable without you to love and think of me .. and if I should be so unfortunate as to lose you I should indeed feel that I was alone alone with none to chere and none to mourn .. I should spend the remainder of my days in doing as much good as I could and thinking over your many acts of kindness to me and morn your loss untill death should releave me from all earthly woe then I would gladly sore away to meet you again in mansions of eternal bliss .. oh dear wife no other woman could replace your loss to my poor heart .. for I could never love another as I have loved you sweet Elizabeth .. I wish my dear you would send me the likeness I left of Sarah the first chance .. I would like yours if I could get a perfect one Mrs Mannon wanted the last one you sent so I let her have it she has it in her album and likes it very much .. I seen John Morrison of my company as he passed through on his way to the rig he called to see me and threw himself upon my neck and kissed me a dozen times and called me his best friend .. I never had such a warm and heartfelt greeting from any male friend before I sent you my 26. Dol my two months pay wich I received I wish dear wife it had been as many thousands you are so worthy of it all Feb 18 I shall now try and finish my letter wich I comenced 2 days ago but have not had time to finish before . as I have been fiting up my ward to receive Measels Cases .. I have now 9 cases of the kind and expect more every day I think my loved one that I shall know something about the various deseases that man is subject to .. I am enjoying fine health I bathe all over every day and find it is a great benifit to me .. now my dear I want you to be hapy and wait patiently trusting in God for my return I miss you very much my good wife and think of you nearly every moment of the time .. I was thinking the other day as I sat patching my pants and pricking my fingers . that if my dear Elizabeth could see me how she would laugh .. Darling I hope you may enjoy yourself dont fret to much about me wish often my love to all kiss the children and I will love and remember you for life Thos Hannah