

It is his will I shd. be spared to come home to you and if it
should be otherways we yet ought to be reconciled to his will
but it is time to feel if it must be so when the cards come it
is a true saying sufficient for the day is the eavel ther off so dear wife let
us trust in god and ask for his blessings and not troubel our
selves about things that are in his hands I am say that you and fathers
folks cant get along I will quit asking them to do anything for you and
will not troubel them you know dear you and them could never get
along when I was ther to keep things smoothed over it is a bad way to
be a bad way to feel and we are all to blame I know that God is
displeased and that we can not serve god as we ought for god has
love you, neighbor as yourself and forgive all your enemies as you desire
to be forgiven for in heaven the poor and rich are brought to the same level
the meek and humble and the proud must all come to the same burnt
cave they can enter into eternal glory return good for eavel and do right
and let this be your consolation that I give no reason to any person to
misuse me and you will have nothing to answer for my dear wife
you must look out now for yourself and strive to do the best you
can for I may never never behold your sweet face again I
may never be with you to attend to the offares of the family so
dear do for the best I have got 26 dol more pay and will send it
the first chance I find to the land I had my water firs need it
much so I do the overhauls John must be porless as I am ours he
might have sent them to me for this you said you was afull humdrick den
are you not at home with your two dear Boys - my dear wife I know the
low lived set that Hedgesons folks associate with you say they sit in
your Room all day sometime now dear for the love you have for me dont
associate with them dont come down so low dont let them in to your room
keep your doors fast and they may take the hint our little ones surely will burn
to be decent if they have to stay all day on Sunday in such company my
dear dont let them run around on Sunday but teach them to keep that
day holy I had rather that the fam lay idal than have my sweet ones
in such society as the clgn that clings around Hedgeson my dear deacent
folks will not come to see you if they know that such trash are
in your room but dear wife I will not work myself into the blues
thinking about it but trusting that you will give them to another
they are not wanted in your home I will forfet it for dear you dont
harm him much I have to fight and struggle to keep down the blues
now dear never pleas to be as patient as we can trust in god &
I hope I may return to you soon and then dear I will clear
all paperheads and thrash away fur you and strive to make
you chearfull by loving you and praying my dear boys and porridy
for you all good By dear wife be patient and do the best you can
and believe me to be your loving friend Thomas Harron

Y D U D F T Adams Hospital No 3

Memphis Tenn June 28

My Dear Wife Elizabeth it is with pleasure I take my
pen to write to you to inform you that I am well and hope
you are enjoying the same blessing well my dear I have not
much news to write but last night I was awakened by a man
running past our building crying fire fire it was about 12 o'clock
at night I jump up out of bed to find my room filled with
smoke I of course thought that the Hospital was on fire and
I rushed to the wash room in my sleep and caught a fair
of water and back to my own room when I became rightly awa
and discovered that it was a large Steam Bakery across the
street and 40 feet from our house I always sleep with my
window open and door shut and the wind blowing towards
the top it filled my room full of smoke but after the smoke
cleared out I sat and watched the devonering Element as it progressed
on its way of destruction it was truly exciting to hear the wild thens
of fire cried by over 100 voices and the fire bells ringing and the
fire men and steam fire engines as they arrived at the scene
of action I sat at my window and enjoyed the thing for they were soon
and I would not assist in saving anything though many of the solders
went in on their own hooks as there was a hardware store that had
caught they supplied themselves with tin cans knives forks tea and coffee
pots revolvers and spic sweet cakes candies and all kinds of confectionery
it was grand to see them fire engines throw water and to see them
up stairs throwin' out looking glasses and earthen ware out of a three
story window and smashing them all to pieces to save them and then
to hear the crack of falling timber and the high buck walls
as they fell it pleased me and was a grand sight the fire destroy
ed a large brick Block Hardware and Bakery - to day it has rained
hard all day and it is dark and gloomy and such a day as makes
me think of home and my dear wife and children and long to
be with them you know my dear Elizabeth such days I used to be
out in the house with you either bother you or sleeping and about
the middle of the afternoon would start to turn to hear the news to day
dear wife I slept all forenoon and com bother you no way but by writing
and as I am in the city will not have to go out in the rain I will
stop writing for the present until I get something more to write

June 29 Dear wife I will pen a few more lines to you as I am still
very lonesome and melancholy it is still raining and was when
when I commenced writing this a few days ago and I quit writing and
thought I would wait until fare weather but as there is no sign of
fine weather I will proceed with my long letter so as to have it ready
to send as soon as I receive one from your well dear wife I have
got one of them awfull spels of the blues that you have seen me in
when I am cross and nothing goes right I have been thinking of
you and longing to see you and thinking about the cursed
Copperheads in the north and one played them and another that
I have the horrors pretty bad dear wife we keep hearing of the doings
of the copperheads in various parts of the northern states and ashamed
to say the southern part of Ill leads the van they have murdered poor
sick soldiers that have gone home to recruit their healths in hospitals
and in parts of Iowa they hold public meetings and are breaking up
union meetings and are driving our soldiers out of the country that
have gone home in forums dear dear wife wear it not for you and little
ones I should never want to return to Ill but I thank god Boone county
I hope is all right all this news I have got from soldiers that have been
home is it any wonder then dear that I have the blues the nurses are all
asking me what is the matter and the lady nurses said she would give me a
kiss if I would only let the frown die on my face and not look so cross but
dear wife I can't always control my feelings you know I try to make myself
appealable and look as pleasant as I can and I took a dose of salts this morn
ing and mean to try and ~~fit~~^{this} physic the blues off if it succeeds
I will let you know dear wife if you have got the likeness of yourself
and face that Horning took for me before I left I would like for you
to send it to me if you have a chance I don't like the picture I have I
will send it home and you can send it to your wife or I will send
it if you give me her name and address dear wife we have got ripe
spels here but they were raised last year dear wife you have not
told me whether you went strawberrying this year or not = recall every
thing in my mind in its season and dear I often have thought of the many
happy moments of my life since your dear Elizabeth became my wife and linking
your fortunes with mine I got a letter from Mr Ogilvie yesterday and enquired
the same Brother is all right although he had some close calls his cloths was shot through
several times and his horses stuck spoiled and he was struck by a spent ball on
the skin which would have lacerated him far back into the fight the rest of the
but god bless his brave heart they would not keep him out of the
fight nor he was fighting for principal and right he said he expected to
fight and had been marching all winter and chasing the rebels to

get a chance to fight and now he had got a chance and went to
improve it my dear wife I love him better than a brother for
his Bravery and courage for Benicia when they found him he was
alive with insects and so decimated that none dare lay hands on him
but dug a hole and rolled him in like an animal Flakes would not take
anything out of his pockets so they buried him money and all what a sad thing
this is dear wife what awfull news to his poor wife but such is war I would not
say anything about it my dear unless the news is already there for it will make
his folks feel bad well dear the salts I have taken free me to quit writing for
the present I will finish this soon = oh but I would like to kiss you just
now first rate June 30 Dear wife your of 22 came to hand I am
happy to hear that you wear well and enjoying yourself but I must say dear
that you are a strange wife you will let troubles and cares come over you
to make you feel bad when there is no need of it now I thought those
things I sent you would please you and that they might be preachers ^{to} ~~against~~
you and as they wear no use to me at present I thought I would send
them to you I have got a rubber blanket that dont weigh half so much
and is far better but you say they made you feel bad and that you
put them out of sight for it made you ^{think} I was dead now my
dear this is very foolish I thought you had more courage than that ^{but} ~~caring~~
dear wife I will not send you any more of my old traps but will
throw them away I hope you will find those tracts interesting and may
be profited by reading them I have written some news concerning Brothers
which you probably have heard as I got a letter from Sarah yesterday
and she has received one from Bob she wrote me a proflate letter
and I snatched while reading it she said she had sent ^{one} ~~three~~ ^{two} letters
three letters that week and that you wear not at home neither time
and she said she was not to blame for not seeing you I wish you had
been to home but I suppose you wear enjoying yourself better and
I am well enough pleased = I am sorry to hear of your mothers good
for health am sorry she cant come to see you this summer = I have not
received any letter from her since I enlisted now you are afraid that
she cant bear many men that soft will live to get home there you are free
again of course you will see nothing but cripples for a sound soldier
has no need of a discharge at least they havent no right to one till the ^{season}
devel is whipped out of the secess you must remember that we are
all in the hands of God and if he is with us who can be against
us or unless he sees fit the balls of the enemy cannot harm us and if