

Camp near Shellyville Tenn
March 4th 1863

My Dear Father

It has been about a week since I last wrote you and that was a short and hastily written note while out on Pickett seven miles from our Camp. I was taken sick a day or two afterwards and have not been able to write you since. I am some better this morning and came to the conclusion to try to write you a few lines. though the weather is so cold that I will not be able to write but very little. my hand soon becomes stiff and numb when taken from under the cover. I have had a very severe attack of Dysentery and Bloody Flux. For several days and nights I suffered very much. At times my bowels pained me so severely that I could not keep from screaming out. We have had such bad weather all the while that I have suffered more than I would have, had the weather been more pleasant. I have had to get up and go out so often, both night and day, through the rain or snow which I assure you was any thing but pleasant. Sometimes I would become so sick and faint that I could scarcely get back to my tent. I suffered a good deal riding back from Pickett

to Camp on Monday evening and was very sick all
that night and Tuesday. The first relief I obtained
from the pain in my Bowels, was by filling two Tin
Canteens with boiling water and applying one to my
back and the other to my Bowels. But God be
praised I am better now and I trust I shall
be able to get up in a day or two when I will write
you a long letter. I received a letter from you while
out on Picket the day after I had written to you.
It was written on the 12th Feb and sent Via Mobile
It came much sooner than any letter I have had
yet. I think it much the safest and most expeditious
way. So I had the pleasure of receiving two letters
from you and one from Bob Lytle while out on
Picket. I am glad to hear that you are
getting along so well at home. You must
not be any more about me. I think I will
be well now in a few days. We had a heavy
snow for a few minutes this morning, but the sun
is now shining out occasionally. I hope it will be
good weather now for a few days. Remember me to the
dear little Children. and may God in his Mercy
bless you very dearly one. Good Bye
Your devoted Husband
Newton

Camp Near Shelbyville, Tenn.
March 4, 1863.

My Dear Bettie:

It has been about a week since I last wrote you and that was a short and hastily written note while out on picket seven miles from our camp. I was taken sick a day or two afterwards and have not been able to write you since. I am some better this morning and came to the conclusion to try to write you a few lines, though the weather is so cold that I will not be able to write but very little, my hand soon becomes stiff and numb when taken from under the cover. I have had a very severe attack of Disentery and Bloody Flux. For several days and nights I suffered very much. At times my bowels pained me so severely that I could not keep from screaming out. We have had such bad weather all the while that I have suffered more than I would have, had the weather been more pleasant. I have had to get up and go out so often, both night and day through the rain or snow which I assure you was any thing but pleasant. Sometimes I would become so sick and faint that I could scarcely get back to my tent. I suffered a good deal riding back from Picket to camp on Monday evening and was very sick all that night and Tuesday. The first relief I obtained from the pain in my bowels, was by fitting two tin cartoons with boiling water and applying one to my back and the other to my bowels. But God be praised I am better now and I trust I shall be able to get up in a day or two when I will write you a long letter. I received a letter from you while out on picket the day after I had written to you. It was written on the 12th Feb. and sent via Mobile. It came much sooner than any letter I have had yet. I think it much the safest and most expedition way. So I had the pleasure of receiving two letters from you and one from Bro. Lyles while out on picket. I am glad to hear that you are getting along so well at home. You must not become uneasy about me. I think I will be well now in a few days. We had a heavy snow for a few minutes this morning, but the sun is now shining out occasionally. I hope it will be good weather now for a few days. Remember me to the dear little children and may God in his mercy bless you my dearest one.

Good Bye
Your Devoted Husband,
Newton.