

Head Qrs 24th Ala Regiment
Near Dalton Friday Feb 4th 1864

My Dear Bettie

Notwithstanding I feel very tired and sleepy, I have concluded to write you a short letter before going to bed. I expect I will be too busy tomorrow if I should defer it till then, and as you supplied me with candles to write at night, I will devote one to that purpose. Last night after supper Gen Mangault sent an invitation to myself & several officers of my Regiment to come over to his Quarters and give him some music. He hunted up a Fiddle & went over and after being there perhaps an hour singing & playing a Brass Band from a Tennessee Brigade came over to serenade the General. He invited them into his cabin & we then had some splendid music. It was twelve o'clock when we broke up. To day Gen Johnson reviewed the Army of Tenn. He left camp this morning at 8 o'clock & returned at 4 this evening. It was the largest parade of troops ever had on one field in the Confederacy. It was truly a magnificent sight. The field was

about two miles long & we had three
lines across it. If Uncle Joel could
have been there, I think that he would
have come to the conclusion that the
Confederacy is not whipped yet by a good
deal. The men all seemed to be in
fine spirits & evidently appeared surprised
at their own strength. It is the first
time that the army has been all brought
together on one field since we were at
Shelbyville. I had the pleasure of
seeing Gen Johnson for the first time.
He is a very fine looking man & presents
a very fine appearance on horse back.
He looks like a true military man & I
doubt not that he will be able to maintain
his present high reputation as a military
commander & accomplish all that the
south expects of him in the approaching
campaign. There were quite a number of
ladies on the field to witness the review
but of course they were all strangers to me.
These reviews have nearly always here-
tofore been the forerunners of active opera-
tions of some kind & I should not

be much surprised if that should be the
case this time, provided the weather continues
good like it has for some time past. It
is very cloudy to night & I think it very prob-
-able that we are going to have some bad weather.
If we do that will delay operations still longer.
I have been quite homesick since I returned
but I hope that I shall get over it in a few days.
I dream every night of being at home with you
and the little ones & when I awake I find it
all a delusion. I am constantly thinking
of you all at home & wonder what you are
doing. I never was so heartbroken in my
life as I was the morning I left home. Mother
& I scarcely spoke a word to each other all the
way to Columbus. But painful as these
parting scenes are to us all, I hope & pray
that we may not be separated again so long
without the pleasure of meeting. Dear
Mother I know feels sad & lonely, but I
hope God will comfort her in her distresses
& console her in her old age & declining
years. I hope that Vic will remain
with you all as long as possible. I feel
anxious to hear from Cousin Eliza. Poor

thing, I fear that she is not much longer
for this world. How is May getting
along since Doc left. She too will
have a lonesome time of it. But
that will be the fate of us all while
this cruel War continues. Oh that
God in his mercy & goodness ^{would} bring it
to a close. I shall be all anxiety
untill I hear from home. I know
that it will be several days yet before
I receive a letter & untill then, the time
will drag along slowly. Neuk is getting
along fairly considering that he left his
heart in old Pitkin. Don't dear
little Willie & Maggie talk about Papa now
It grieved me much when at home that
my darling little Willie would have nothing
to do with me. Give them both a kiss for
Pa & tell them howdy. Remember me with
love to Mother & Vic & all. It is getting
late & I must close. May God's angels
comfort & protect you in the prayer of
Your Devoted Husband
Wentworth

Head Qrs. 24th Ala. Regiment
Near Dalton Friday Feb. 4, 1864.

My dear Bettie:

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I have been quite homesick since I returned but I hope that I shall get over it in a few days. I dream every night of being at home with you and the little ones & when I awake I find it all a delusion. I am constantly thinking of you all at home & wonder what you are doing. I never was so heartbroken in my life as I was the morning I left home. Newt & I scarcely spoke a word to each other all the way to Columbus. But painful as these parting scenes are to us all, I hope & pray that we may not be separated again so long without the pleasure of meeting. Dear Mother I know feels sad & lonely but I hope God will comfort her in her distresses & console her in her old age & declining years. I hope that Vic will remain with you all as long as possible. I feel anxious to hear from Cousin Eliza. Poor thing, I fear that she is not much longer for this world. How is Mag getting along since Doc left. She too will have a lonesome time of it. But

that will be the fate of us all while this Cruel War continues. Oh that God in his mercy & goodness would bring it to a close. I shall be all anxiety until I hear from home. I know that it will be several days yet before I receive a letter & until then, the time will drag along slowly.

Newt is getting along finely considering that he left his heart in old Pickens. Does dear little Willie & Maggie talk about Papa now. It grieved me much when at home that my darling little Willie would have nothing to do with me. Give them both a kiss for Pa & tell them howdy. Remember me with love to Mother & Vic & all. It is getting late & I must close. May Good Angels comfort & protect you is the prayer of.

Your devoted Husband,
Newton.