

Dear Sir  
Pitts Ferry  
to the bank  
again  
near Dalton Sunday March 30th 1844

again I sit me down to write you another letter  
but not without feeling much regret & disappointment at  
not having received a letter from you. It is just seventy  
days since the date of the last letter I had from you  
I felt certain this morning when the mail arrived that  
that I would get one, but when the Post Master told me  
you & informed me that there was nothing for me I  
was disappointed & went away. So owing to the delay &  
irregularity in the mails, I am  
to find your letters have reached me very irregularly but  
I am glad to get them here somewhere in the machine  
occasionally I don't wish you  
unintentionally dull & barren of news that it will be  
with difficulty I shall be able to write any thing that  
will be interesting or entertaining either to yourself or any  
one else. We have just gotten through with our usual  
Sunday Morning inspection & review. The weather today  
is clear & cool & the wind blowing strong from the north  
Yesterday it was cloudy all day & late in the forenoon it  
rained & there is a little snow had some indication of bad  
& disagreeable weather approaching. I was agreeably sur-  
prised this morning when I got up & found that the  
snow had disappeared & we had the assurance of

pleasant weather again, for a few days at least. To-  
-today we heard distant cannonading at the front  
all day. We have heard no particulars yet as regards  
the cause. This serves the purpose to remind us, that  
notwithstanding the beautiful quiet which now reigns throu-  
-ghout the camp, there is a storm brewing not very far  
away towards the north, which we long may move down  
upon us & regardless of tempest or wrath should we be  
not fully prepared to snub it. Our gallant Genl Joe Johnston  
keeps his eye open, is fully awake to any emergency & stands  
ready to meet the swarming hordes whenever they dare  
attempt a forward movement. I hear every day various  
speculations & opinions in regard to the nature & extent  
of the approaching campaign. Some even venture the  
opinion that the war will end without another general  
engagement between either of the great armies, would  
that I had facts to believe it. Such may be the result & God  
in his wisdom may so order it. But I cannot get believe  
it. The Federal government will spare no expense either of blood  
or treasure in its efforts to subjugate the South during the present  
year. Old Abe is well aware that his salvation politically &  
perhaps temporal & eternal, depends upon the success of his arms  
upon the next presidential election. The ruthless & barbarous  
manner in which he is now conducting the war, discloses  
the negation of all mercy. I trust to conform us in the  
belief that it is impossible to realize the probable outcome

Hd. Qrs. 24th Ala. Regiment.  
Near Dalton, Sunday March 20, 1864.

My dear Bettie:

Again I sit me down to write you, another letter but not without feeling much regret & disappointment at not having received a letter from you. It is just twenty days since the date of the last letter I had from you. I felt certain this morning when the mail arrived that I would get one, but when the Post Master looked it over & informed me that there was nothing for me, I was disappointed & went away sorrowing. The delay I suppose is owing to some irregularity in the mails. Here-to-fore your letters have reached me very regular, but a screw has gotten loose somewhere in the machine & consequently it don't work well.

Everything is so remarkable dull & barrer of news that it will be with difficulty I shall be able to write any thing that will be interesting or entertaining either to yourself or any one else. We have just gotten through with our usual Sunday morning inspection & review. The weather to day is clear & cool & the wind blowing strong from the north. Yesterday it was cloudy all day & late in the evening it rained & sleeted a little & we had every indication of bad & disagreeable weather approaching. I was agreeably surprised this morning when I got up & found that the clouds had disappeared & we had the assurance of pleasant weather again, for a few days at least. Yesterday we heard distant cannonading at the front all day. We have heard no particulars yet as regards the cause. This serves the purpose to remind us, that notwithstanding the peaceful quiet which now reigns throughout the camp, there is a storm brewing not very far away towards the North, which we long may move down upon us & ingulph us beneath its wrath should we be not fully prepared to meet it. Our gallant Genl. Joe Johnston keeps his eyes open is fully awake to any emergency & stands ready to meet the invading hordes whenever they dare attempt a forward movement. I hear every day various speculations & opinions in regard to the native & extent of the approaching campaign. Some even venture the assertion that the war will end without another general engagement between either of the great armies. Would that I had faith to believe it. Such may be the result & God in his wisdom may so order it, but I cannot yet believe it. The Federal Government will spare no expense either of blood or treasure in its efforts to subjugate the South during the present year.

Old Abe is well aware that his salvation politically & perhaps temporal & eternal, depends upon the success of his arms before the next presidential election. The ruthless & barbarous manner in which he is now conducting the war, desirous the execration of all men & but tends to confirm us in the belief that he is beginning to realize the probable failure of his attempt at subjugation & the consequent hopelessness of his condition. This cruel & uncivilized mode of warfare has but conformed & strengthened to oppose to the last extremity every attempt at subjugation. Relying upon the ability & skill of our Military leaders, the bravery of our Soldiers, the patriotism of our men & above all upon the justice of our cause & invoking the blessing Almighty God upon our efforts, we confidently abide the result.

2.

Newt will be due here on the 24th & I suppose is now about getting ready to leave. I know you all will regret to see him start off to the War again. Mose has been sick for the last two or three days, but was better this morning. He had a chill two days ago & had a pretty high fever, afterwards. I was fearful that he was taking the measles, as there has been several cases in the Regiment recently, but I suppose that it was nothing more than some disarrangement of the stomach which produced a chill. I have gotten nearly well of my cold & I hope that I will not have another such a one soon. Remember me with love to Mother, Vic, & all the family. Kiss the dear children & tell them howdy for Pa. May God bless & preserve you is the prayer of your,

Devoted Husband,  
Newton.