On Picket Eagleville Pike
7 miles from Shelbyville Tenn
April 15th 1863

My own Darling

Although I wrote you yesterday I feel like writing again to-night - The Company came out on picket this morning I remained behind to examine a man who had been elected a 2nd Lt in a battery and came out in the middle of the day - The sun was hot and when I got into camp I had a severe headache - It has all passed off now and I feel as well as ever. I wrote you in pencil in my last that I had received yours of the 1st and 6th - Both I expect had the one of the 1st and he came near wearing it out in his pocket. It reached me however at last - I will write to Mr Young some day this week and to Mollie also if I can - Now I have commenced writing I hardly know what to write - The army here is a good deal excited over the news that the Yankees are evacuating the Neck - and the impression prevails that Grant will unite with Rosecrans and try and drive Genl Bragg from Tenn - we may be reenforced by Pemberton but I am afraid the proposition will not hold out - what

I mean by that is this - That Buckner's army away from his Forts and breast-works will not be as much of a reenforcement for Genl Bragg as Grant's army will be for Rosecrans - Well it is our fortune to contend with superior numbers and we must do our best and trust in God for the rest - Genls Bragg and Johnston (I beg Johnston's pardon I should have named him first) were expected in Shelbyville this evening and a "big review" was expected to come off on Wednesday - We are digging ditches and building batteries somewhere in this country and the impression prevails that we must fight here or near here - I think the idea of our falling back as far as Tullahoma without a fight has been abandoned unless "Old Rosy" endeavors to get on our flank and cut off our communications with Chattanooga - I am getting like George who says he is tired of doing nothing and if they are going to fight it out he wants them to commence - Poor boy - he gets to feeling right badly sometimes and when he talks of home you can see his countenance change - He is a great Mother's child and loves his Sisters and little brother very much and it is right sad to hear him talk of them - He writes regularly but as the enemy has the whole of the Potomac picketed in Southern Maryland I doubt whether many of his letters reach home ~~or~~ - I have not

delivered him your message yet - I ought to have done it before but I will call him up and tele him now - well I have just told him and he promises to visite this week if he can he sends his love to you and Eddie - Speaking of Eddie I hope he has got well - I can't imagine what can be the matter with him - I can't help feeling some uneasiness about him - visite me Darling regularly how he is getting on - The little fellow has wound himself into my heart and I often find myself speculating upon how much happiness he is to bring us both - I know he must be great company to you at times - How I would enjoy watching his growth and improvement and seeing his little intellect expand - I hope the dear little fellow has entirely recovered - Oh! Darling about your purchasing the girls - You know I have wished you to have one for sometime and from what you say of her I think she would suit you and I would be glad for you to purchase her - So if you have money enough buy her - I have not drawn any pay ~~for~~ since january - The pay-masters have no money - as soon as I can draw some I will send you some - But it makes a big hole in a hundred dollars to feed myself and have my horse taken care of - My horse has not got well yet - or rather his foot has not - If his foot was well I could

sell him for about Four hundred dollars but I do not care to part from him even at that price - Horses are very high - I am riding another now and I may get him - If I do I will sell him as soon as "Charley" (my horse) gets well - I wish Robertson would make haste and get his commission - I want to begin to draw one hundred and forty dollars a month It will help me out - I have found out that Fern Wood has been reinstated as Quarter Master of the 39th Ala - he had resigned but fearing the enrolling officer would conscript him he asked to withdraw it - But his letter did not reach Richmond in time so after his resignation was accepted he got himself reinstated - Clayton is not very well pleased at his course - I saw Baker (Henry) for a few minutes but he did not give me any news - I understand that McTyeh has resigned - I am sorry for him - Bill is a good fellow - I have just heard a musket fire and I must find out what it is about - we may have an alarm to night - so Darling good by Till morning - Love to all - yours own devoted - Hubert -

well Darling - It is now Tuesday morning - nothing occurred during the night - except that it commenced to rain and is raining some this morning - The wind is blowing very hard and it is quite cold - winter seems loth to depart - Henry's obituary is indeed very good and as you say Darling true I will return it in a letter soon for fear I might lose it - I am afraid you will find some difficulty in reading this letter as I wrote the most of it last night on my lap by the light of a very inferior tallow candle - Give my love to all and write me about Eddie - I hope he is well my love to Maria and a kiss for her babies - I have taken some cold and have a slight cough but it will soon be better - again my love to all and much love and many kisses for you Darling and our boy - good by - Your own devoted Hubert

29

Mrs S. H. Deck

Eufaula

Alabama