Camp near, Shelbyville Tenn
June 9th 1863

My own Darling Nannie

I have just received your letter written the 5th inst and oh! Darling I felt so happy when I read it. But I feel almost like accusing you of flattery - but it is such sweet flattery that I can't consent to do it. I felt when I had finished reading it over the second time that I must set right down and commence writing to my Darling wife whom I love so well - I did not expect yesterday Darling to be here in camp this morning - Genl Cheatham's division has gone out to the front and ours was ordered out but the order was countermanded yesterday evening - It is currently reported that "Old Rosey" is advancing cautiously - I expected when I wrote my last letter that we would have been gone before this time - but "large bodies move slowly" and Old Rosey's army seems to be verifying this old adage - well when he does come I expect Genl Bragg will give him the best fight he can - I can't pretend to predict the result - I do not like the long silence from Miss and Sa - I am afraid the Yankees will burrow Pemberton out of Vicksburg and if they get that Port Hudson will go too I can't imagine what Genl Johnston is about - he ought to have from thirty-five to forty-thousand men under him and ought to be able to commence operations on Grant's rear - I think a great deal is at stake on the result

at Vicksburg - I believe I would rather give up more of Texas if that would save it - I await the result with great anxiety - Now is the time for every body to be in the field - oh! Darling - There is a Lady visiting Mrs. Fields (Henry) (the widow) named McLaughlin (pronounced McLocklin) who has a son in my company - I would be pleased if you would call on her - she must be quite an elderly Lady - Her son Duncan McLaughlin is nearly forty years old and one of the best soldiers I ever saw - He is one of my gunners and a favorite man with me - He told me about his Mother's visit to Mrs Fields and I know he would be pleased to have you call and see her - she will not be there a great while - Tell her her son is well and very much liked by his officers and that I hope he will go back to her safe for such a good soldier must be a good son - and that she may well be proud of him - And so Darling you are afraid you will never keep house for me at least not for a long time - well I hope Dearest that you will for I am very anxious to have you keep house for me I know I would be so contented and happy - I am afraid you would spoil me by making me love home so well that I would never want to leave for any thing and that would not be right would it? I was getting anxious to go to housekeeping before I went into the service - but I expect I will be more anxious than ever when I go back - I wish I was at home to watch your housekeeping now and listen to your conversations with Eddie - I wonder if the little fellow has any idea of me and what sort of an idea

he does have - I am sorry to hear that he is getting bad
You will have all the whipping to do on him I expect -
Make him a good boy Darling if you do have to whip him - I
would like to see your Young Lady acquaintances Jerom
Miss - but tell them they had better look out how they give ad=
vice to married folks to play single - and that if ever I get
near them I intend having my revenge out of them certain.
Well Darling I think my Campaigne among the Ladies is
definitely closed - Since I had to make Mrs Owens mad
I have altogether retired to private life - and do not ex=
pect to appear in public (among the Ladies) any more
while the war lasts - Richardson has returned and having
bought himself a uniform I intend keeping all the cloth
I have and having me a full suit coat pants & vest,
made in regular artillery style - I have some idea of keep=
ing them here to be made - but am not certain yet what
I will do - It is right nice cloth and will make me a
finer suit than the one McKenna made for me which
is showing the effects of the sun already - I think I
will get the trimmings here - but do not know what they
will cost - Spurlock has not returned yet - Yes Dearest I do
love you with all my heart and I feel so happy that I have
such a sweet darling wife and I am proud of you Darling
proud that you took me for your husband - and that you love
me as only a true devoted wife can love a husband - Yes
Dearest I too loved you when we married - but not with the
intense earnest deep-seated love I now feel for you - God
bless you my own Dear wife and guard and protect you
and bring us together again happily on earth and finally

in heaven - I hope I may be able to visit home before September but to be candid I fear I will not - I look if not for activity certainly for vigilance during this summer I think a great deal is at stake and I feel that I must do my part the best I am able - I wish I could get some horses for my battery - I need them very much - and in fact the battery is hardly efficient without them - You wrote to me asking "if I had not given you trouble looking up things" - you see I have quoted your letter - why Darling! Don't you know it pleases me oh so much to do any thing for you and you know it you sweet Darling you - If I had been there when you wrote that I would have scolded you and then kissed you - and I expect there would have been more kisses than scolds - I look forward anxiously to the time when I may see you again and spend a short time at least with you - I will never become accustomed to being away from you Darling and sometimes it seems strange there ever was a time when you were not as dear to me as you are now - and yet you are still my young bride - It does not seem that you are any older and were it not for our boy I could scarcely realize that you are not still a young Bride - I do not suppose you are growing older in looks very fast after the advice of the Nice Ladies I think sometimes I am - I imagine occasionally that there must be some traces of crow's feet on my face - But I so seldom get a chance to look at myself that I am not certain - write me Darling and long letters I love to read them - They are never too long and rarely ever long enough to satisfy me - not that I am complaining Darling for I am not - But I do love to get long letters from you - I hope Ma and Ada will have a pleasant visit in Columbus and I hope Ma will return benefitted by the trip - Give my love to all the family and remember me to all friends - Tell Eddie he must be a better boy and not annoy Matta so much and if he is not a better boy Papa will not love him so well - well Darling I must close let us hope for the best and that this war will soon end and that we may live together again happier than ever Surely we are in God's hands - with much love and many kisses for our boy and my own sweet Darling wife I close good by your own devoted & loving - Hubert

PAID

SHELBY

Mrs S. H. Dent

Eufaula

Alabama