

April 21st 1853

about Brother

I received your letter of the 12th of March to day and was very much over joyed to hear that you and mother was a coming out this spring and in hope you will not give it up for you can do so much better here than you come there I got your letter the one you sent in the Redges letter about a week ago and you got the one that you wrote to him dated April the third the same day that I got yours and you wrote that you wanted thirty dollars to come with I can not send you any for I am very strait my self but you can see the coins for a inf to more than hundred you both out here and there is my plan you can see for something and you had better nothing but your close and bedding and the things you can see there up your house and things and you had better take your things to even send and have them take you

get there you're self and then
ship them and you're self for
Milwaukee and then you can take
care of them you're self and that
is the cheapest way you can come
and the safest way now when
you get there you must go to
Berkland city and from there to
Supton ville and when you
get there you must ask for
Benjamin Smith lives and there
you can ask for Steve and
they will tell you very quick
It will not cost you over 30 dollars
to come and when you ship your
goods you must make them give
you a receipt for them they don't
like to do it but you must stick
to them till you get one we are
all well at present wit you will
excuse me this time for writing
you so small a letter for i was
up all night last night to one of my
naborers a dancing and i am rather
sleepy and you is a going to the office
i can send it if you will be ready
Henry Truck i will be very glad for
i want some one to fill brush for me and i
will pay his fare write as soon as you get this
no more Stephen Hitters

[To Sextonville Richland Co. Wis.]

c May 17th 1854

Dear Alfred

I received yours of the 4th on the
9th inst and was a little surpris'd I must
own when I found out that I should direct
to Mrs for I was hoping to see you out
here this spring. But you have made a
very plausible excuse I accept it but I do
not want to accept another for the next
time I want to see Alfred unless if instead
of his excuse please remember. You speak
about my doubting you. I do not doubt your
truth in some things but as for love
for me I almost doubt it for seems to
me that if you did really love me
it would be hard to have you so far away
from the loved one without seeing her
and now you will not see her nor will
she see you for one long long year
but perhaps you will pardon her with

your likeness if it be not too great
a favor which she would receive with
pleasure. Remember you have promised to
write to her once in two weeks whether
she writes to you or not. You ask me
to ~~advise you of any~~ ^{advise you of any} ~~constancy~~ ^{constancy} ~~how~~
can I? You are seeking wealth and
distinction and while seeking for them
and I hope you will obtain them seek
also for a pure and holy principle and
cultivate thy mind for a high and
good purpose. About A. P. White I
had a ring here with A. P. W. upon
it and I know not what to do with
it for then it in any position possible
and I cannot make the D look like an
A. P. and to wear aring with a strangers
name upon it I cannot so I am afraid
it will have to say by You think
Caroline does you wrong not so sometimes
when she is talking me I wish a ring

go with her and then she did in best
for Alfred to own the truth I believe she
thinks a great deal of you but she
loves to bother her sister when she has
so good a chance. When said till Alfred
that she is here and would write you
a letter if he only had time but
he is an Editor for a paper in our
Lodge and he has to read our society
and now Alfred farewell I hope you
will succeed in your bright anticipa-
tions of the future and that your life
will be ~~as bright as the sun~~ ^{as bright as the sun} and
not one cloud to darken your path
- may may may glowing footsteps
come o'er your fair brow, or sorrows
piercing arrow enter your heart
and that you may have the
one you truly love but not the
one you pretend to love and may
live a life long and happy. Please write

and now Alfred one thing more
and then farewell I do not disappoint
me again if you only knew
what a sad and bitter disappoint-
ment this last was you could
~~not~~ ~~but~~ ~~I~~ ~~know~~ ~~I~~ ~~know~~
I would well to think you
would disappoint me purposely
and now farewell

Ms. A. R. Waters
M. B. Small

Forever Yours
Henry

~~Ms. A. R. Waters~~

P. S. Henry name
Alfred Eugene Rex Waters

Maple Hill Tuesday Eve ^{17th} 1866

Dear Alfred

Yours of the 15th came
to hand this evening and I having
to answer it I cannot allure you
with what pleasure your letter was
received. Pa and Ma were anxious
to hear from ~~their~~ ^{their} son John George and
from a dear brother and I from one
that I prized dearer than myself.
We shall expect to see you here the
night of the 30th of July, and you
must not not disappoint us if you
cannot get horses and baggage
come on horse back if you can
not get horse come in cuts and
we will find conveyance any
way so as to come remember that
I shall see me about sixteen which
I cannot miss at which I shall
be sure or in some way or other
I shall go this day

and have it taken I shall hope
never to see it ^{the} "Harrison" and this
opinion of one is too exalted and
the disappointment would be too
great for him to bear) but if
you did not read what he wrote
I will send it you as I would
not keep one word from my Alfred
tell him I think him for his good
opinion of me and should value
him as a friend as he is so true
a friend to the one I love
Ben Lomborg will exhibit at
Colinboro one week from to day
and if nothing serious happens
I shall (with your consent) attend
with Luke The 4th will find me
at home without I am enjoying
myself with my dearest friend
which is Alfred Remember I feel
quite every time your watch
comes into my mind for I know
how you must need and wish

it it has not been removed
from the chest on which it lay
since you were there Give my
love to our Mother and tell her
I would like to see her and put
a kiss on her cheek because she
loves my Alfred do not fail to
be here the 4th of July and
will then

Parental Secret Parental

P.S.

Your watch key came
in your letter

Alfred Newberg

New Lyme

Ashtabula Co

Ohio

Delany Goodell

Colinboro

Ohio

I am sorry George Carter is not
at home because I would like to see
him but he promised to come
so - (time with you and Mary

No. June 25th 1866

My Dear Mother

I saw, deary'd mother
going of the 3rd since Saturday in order that I
might go to Rock Creek and see to get a horse
a fine very spotted pair, very nice and well
engaged to mother's horse as well as I have
to see it, but till I do, I am inclined
to think that I will be here so long as
at least I will be as long as I can in a very good
reason for thinking so, it would be very
impossible for me to travel such a long distance.

Do say be nice and tell me if I can
say anything which you desire to be said, and
very affectionately until the last minute even if I
do not have that to come for. - I anticipate no
serious difficulty to my Grand Mother's
the shock this morning's sickness will have to bear
on being you. Oh - - Luke Luke was not
you a happy fellow yesterday? now upon your
honour Luke would not give the use of the best
that you have got to always live in such charms
as you would. I get very much
trouble about that which I am afraid you
neglect the poor thing I should not miss it
I never called you to think of me once a day

I should be very sorry to have you stay at home
with out, not even on my account

I have a friend (Crosby) who I think would
come and bring me out there the fourth. I had
no help to bring any one but George Carter with
me but if I cannot come without I think I shall
run the risk of displeasing you and your folks
and come with him, (if he will come). Don't place
any dependance on my coming for I dare not make
a promise. I have not time to write more now
I am afraid you cant read this.

Yours forever

A. E. Water

P.S. If I come I will write next Sunday so
you will get the letter Sunday but - whatever
I am there or here my heart - will be in
the keeping of my Deary. my love to all.

Yours truly
A. E.

I long I want you to have father buy a white head
with the enclosed one dollar bill. when he
comes through Connaughtville & Mother expects
you to buy a piece of Fresh Beef me about four
Delany please get my Act book & put it in my
trunk so that you will not forget it. don't
forget my boots either. Sister Caroline comes at
here with Delany. Eliza wants you to send for
her & me all want to see you without fail

I remain as ever Dear Wife
Your Devoted Husband
A & Waters
Delany do not forget what you
promised me you would do for your
health. Please have father get a Box of "Carters"
Remedy for the Pile" in Connaughtville as you come through
I think that is the name of it you know you handed me the advertisement

Alfred
Go Father I know you told me you would not
start before two weeks from yesterday but "a bad
promise is better broken than kept." so I advise you
to ^{start now} as possible for two warm days will spoil the sleeping
& if you can't come before it is gone I think the
best way will be to put my trunks on to to I'll
put bill before the Luggy and let George come and bring
Delany & Caroline out here. Now if I visit not at all
interested and should give my advise this would
be it.

Your dutiful Son
Alfred

Delany please write by return mail if possible

Colinboro Tuesday Evening Sep^r 5th 57

Dear Husband

I now sit down baby in my arms to answer your letter I received yours of the one week ago to night the other one week ago to morrow night all the news I have to write is that Mr. White was ~~buried~~ ~~two weeks ago~~ to stay the Patterson ~~is~~ not expected to live and the horse race which came off Saturday last between Mr Wendall's and Dr. Terry's horses Mortimer Phelps drove one Mortimer Terry the other Mr George Pillsbury bet \$2.50 on the Wendall horse Mr Robinson's against him on the Terry the Wendall beat Adolphus starts for Ill Monday next I would be pretty smart if it were not for my back it is very lame I cannot lift my arms it bothers me a great deal about walking in fact it hurts me to straighten I have had a boil below the snail of my arm have one coming just below my knee which Pa says will be a large one so I am hardly able to wait on myself let alone the baby I am now trying to knit you a pair of socks but it is slow slow work Thomas & Minerva have not been here yet neither have I heard from them nor Mr Crosby there is a drove of cattle ¹²⁰ staying here to night has had gone to sleep and as it is nine o'clock and a few minutes after 4 I am so tired I will wait until morning Darling Good

Wednesday Morning Sep 2nd

Sunday I was as far as the first time to stay I am going to Mrs Sherwood on a visit tell John to write to ~~Rubens~~ immediately and tell her to she will be prepared to receive us. We received a letter from uncle Pohn's folks Saturday night in that they stated that Grandpa was dead his troubles were ended he died two weeks

last Sunday they were very anxious to have Caroline come down
there and they will meet her at the depot they say be sure and come
in time to attend the State fair which is at Buffalo Oct 6 & 7 & 8 she
is going it is now Thursday evening and George is just going
to start for Delinboro so I must bid you adieu write immediately
for I wish to hear from my heart idol I was intending to write
Daphne but she is in a hurry -

Farewell

Alamy
A. Waters

Tuesday, 1 o'clock I Mr Jan 11, 1857

My Deamy

I was disappointed yesterday. I
I'll be a letter & as I feel now I'm in a
to be sick (or vice versa) I think I will
a bit to cheer up my drooping spirits. I don't
away. Thomas was a bit offended with me when
found I had left both bags & things for
his transport. I'm sure he got Mrs Schuyler's
things & as time is passing so I presume it will
be a bit to me when I see it. The weather is very
stormy. It snowed yesterday last night. The snow
was a bit on my dress on the back this morning but
the wind blows so to day that it will be all
in a bit before night. Yesterday I traded wood
& exchange horses with S Bishop and to day I
have a severe toothache. I recollect what cured it
once and oh how I wish I could have the same
remedy again. G Carter has just been here he looks
well. Luckily Miss Anna has been here two days she must
have yesterday. Florence was quite unwell when
she went away I am afraid she will be sick.
I am studying my singing book & my lesson minutes
and I hope to have some hopes for myself yet.
but I miss your instructions very much. There are
some excellent pieces in our book if I am any judge.
Mother is almost certain she will go west. She

is quite unwell today she has gone to bed. Delany don't
forget that Medicine for her. You can't imagine
how handsome I am today & different from two weeks
ago today that I can hardly realize that I am the same
person & in the same house for all - under your
sunny smile. honey. To make my heart fat by it. But
I must have patience trust that this is the last time
I shall be left a widder. But I won't make myself
foolish any more so I will bid you good bye. I
suppose I shall get a letter from you Tuesday.
Yours in hope

A. O. Waters

P. S. Okey has had a letter from Zenas
I will write the other half sheet to Folphy &
tell him the contents & you will of course
read it.
A

Write - Immediately Write - Write

* that I shall soon see you again

8
Members Nov 5. 1860

My Dear Wife.

Jesse says Caroline is smart & you are anxious to come home
Also you had better come on the stage
for Father says he shall probably come
out in the stage next week Tuesday so you
would not make much by waiting to
come with him I get along very well
but Bently has a serious time I have to
whip him hard. he dont like to get up in the
morning & go over to Grandpas. I have eat
everything in the house & tonight I eat in the other
room & shall do so until I get another
housekeeper till the old one comes back
Bently is over to Father tonight. I have very
excellent luck in the oil business & make
as high as (12) dollars per day.

Yours Truly
A. E. W.

P.S. If you cant raise money to come
home in the stage come along
& I will pay your fare

A. E. W.

Guys Corners Oct 10/60

My Dear Wife & Boy

Being compelled
to a few ^{leisure} moments I improve
this time to ease your anxious
mind in regard to my
personal safety. With the excep-
tion of feeling somewhat
bruised & lame I am perfectly
well. To explain I will first
state that Tom has kept up
a lively system of balking
ever since I started but
done no damage till
yesterday. I had on a heavy
load the road was bad &
Tom balked as usual. I
jumped off to deal with him
as usual in such cases.

as I struck the ground
he sprung with all his
might - & got away from me
and ran away they ran
about 40 rods up set the
waggon & stopped. the spokes
were all out of two wheels
& one tyre broke but no other
damage done. The cost will
be about 4. Dollars. But cheer
up dear wife I have made
5 or 10 dollars in trading horses
for Roberts & Bone so it is all
wright yet - I am now at
Guys corner about 8 miles east
of meadville waiting to have
my wheels fixed. To day is
Wednesday in the morning.
If providence nor Jorn don't
prevent I shall be at home
on Friday. I don't care

whether you show this letter
to Roberts & Bone or not - but
if you do you can tell them
I think Jorn is right for my
business & my advice is to sell
him or secure if they can the
chance of selling him when
I come in. He has hindered
me a great deal & had
indeed as it will be for me to
part with him I think
it - best for the interest of the
firm. A kiss to our precious
Boy & I close with a blessing

To My Wife

A. C. Waterbury

July 5 1860

Dear Brother and Sister

I received your sad letter
 yesterday and it was a soriful one to me
 rendered the more so by the sad and narrow
 state of mind it found me in ~~consequence of our~~
 sad misfortune I was truly sorry to hear of the
 sickness you have in your family and of your
 not having the nessary mens of sarporting
 them it is hard to be poor but more so to be
 discouraged this reminds you of your better judgement
 and profits you for any kind of business even for
 taking nessary care of your wife if she is sick
 she wants cheerfull looks and pleasant smiles
 from her companions Oh then my dear Brother for
 her sake and your own souls sake I beseech you
 to keep up good cheer dont think you cant do any
 thing to make money but think you can and will
 think how many honest ways there is of making money
 think if there is not some thing that you can make
 that will fetch the money mind and be honest
 and tharer with what ever you under take

My Dear Broothe I do not wish to pover on you or
aid in the least to your trouble but I speak for
your good the habit of putting off untill to morrow
what should be done to day is a very bad habit
if you had attended to those notes you got of
Thomas as soon as they was due they might have
bin collected so Marsena said and if you had
come out here and got the horse that Thomas
wrote to you about then to you could have got
your pay the horse ~~is better than~~ ~~old bob~~ ~~ever~~
was and can get over the ground faster but
you are to late now the seventh of this month
the horse with every thing else that the law
could take is sold at Sheariff sale to pay debts
the way it hapend wud this Thomas bought this
place and agreed to pay for it all ~~in a year~~ ~~the~~ ~~for~~
payments become due wud Thomas could not get the
mony that was owing to him so to accomidate W^m
Woodrough he goes to the bank and hiers it for him
thinking that he could raise it by the time it
become due he staid here seeing to his farming
and dreading to leave home untill the payment
become due and then went South to locate a
Slave Machine as soon as he was gon they they
went and swore he had runn away and leved
on every thing they could rake and scrape no

Alford wud do you think has got the most to
discourage them you or me gladly and joyfully
woud I help you to some mony if I could but I
cant I tould him he need not leave me any
mony because we had coase and I could make
butler enough to get all of the necessary things
things we should kneed untill he got back
now the cow is about to be sold I shall not
have any thing to help my self with and the
baby will cry for milk and I shall not ~~have~~ ~~money~~
for her and some one is calling ^{an} ~~most~~ ^{very} ~~dear~~ ^{dear} for mony
whair he is owing and I haveot it for them
yet I am not discouraged I think this will learn him
a lesson whitch will be worth more to him
then of all of the property he has lost we are young
and I guess we can get a living and pay our debts in
time if we cant we will both sturt hand in
hand for the county house and if you cant find
any buisness to get into before that time I will
speak for a place ther for you but I think you
can see if ther is not a merchant that is wanting
clerk in ere or some other place if you can not go
and look your self write to Carlines Husband
and see if he will get a place for you rent a room
and move ther be up and a doing while the day lasts
for when night cometh no man can work

With Affection Your

Devoted Sister

Mary M. Nelson

Sunday Even Nov 3rd 61

My Dear Husband

At last, at 7 O'clock in the evening, I sit down to write to you. I received yours of the 1st last evening; & right glad was I to get it; if I had not received a letter from you last evening, I should have been very homesick, & homesome, but hearing from you, my dearest, cheered me up wonderfully. Out doors, it is rain. rain rain rain a constant, incessant, pour; & has been, ever since Wednesday; it commenced well in day at about 4 O'clock, and it has continued a ceaseless pouring ever since. Oh Alfred, I am so glad that you are out of that mud-hole; I am so sorry that you feel so bad. Alfred, but you must cheer up; every thing will come out right in the end. Bayton B, talks of you all; he wants to see Grandpa; Grandma; & Uncle George; & wants to go out to the shop. His Aunt Fanny, trobled him to sleep, to night, & after

his little eyes began to close, he raised up
& turned around to her & said, My Grandpa
told me to sleep last night, & took off my
spurs, & kissed me; he then laid down again
in her arms, & went to sleep. He tells us often
as once on hearing of your getting a buggy,
coming and taking him to Grandmas; & he
says that Grandmas will make him a little cake

As for going to Ohio, I will postpone the
subject until I see you; & as for coming out
there, I will come any time, you come after
me; for I like to be with you if I can crop
Caroline was down street last Friday, & got 4.0 lbs

of butter, at 10^{cts} per pound. Stephens letter
is just what all his letters are, full of good
words, generous, brotherly, advice, & affection.
Come after me any time, the road will admit

Your ever loving wife,

To My Husband

M. D. Waters

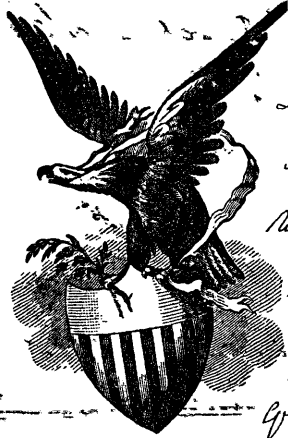
Alfred O Waters

Monday Morn Apr 14. 1862

Dear Wife

I write in haste a line
to let you know that I have made
arrangements with C Wright for you
to come home if you are ready. I have
not heard from you since you left.

If there is any need for you to
stay, stay of course, but if you
are ready to come, then come.
I was calculating to come to you
today, but have concluded to wait on
Kathy till Friday. all well write
Yours
A C G



LIBERTY AND UNION

February 23/62

Dear Brothers & Sisters
I received your letter
Wednesday I did
not answer it then
for Charley was
quite sick and so

was. Ever since thought

Co. was going to have the measles
but it is a hard cold and now
Mrs. Ever has the Mumps on both
sides and since Wednesday she
has been almost crazy with the
ear ache. So she could neither
sleep eat or drink to day she
feels better (much better) but
she has got the worst swelled
head and neck I ever saw.
I expect Charley down next to the Mumps

This day after noon I was making
all preparations to come and
see you I thought it would
do the children good as they
were not very well then Charly
I was going to leave with mother
Ever with Beatty and my self
with Sister DeLay

but here I am and here I am
likely to stay for the present
traveling the mumps

I want you to write as soon
as you get this and tell me
how you are all getting along

Robert went to the office every
afternoon last week but got but one
letter from you that was wednesday Mrs and
Mrs Hunter was here thursday and night
and bell & me have had company every day
for some time past

we or I should say Martin had a
letter from Cousin Jerry he and
his friends are well

You must both excuse your

Dear Brother Martin from
from not writing as he is at
the shop and I want to send

this now so you will get it
Monday Mrs Glen is home and
done with the war Mrs Glen Mrs
Driggs and Mr Shaw of Buffalo
Spent an evening with us the last
week, I sent your straw tick by
James Campbell have you got
it and has Father got his 5-
dollar bill and what has he done
with it write as soon as you
get this and much obliging yours
Sister

[From Caroline]

Erie March 11th 1862

Dear Husband



Knowing

that you would all be
anxious to hear from us
again this week I sit
down to write Caroline

is no better you know what that
implies she is losing strength all
the time the day I came she sat up
some but yesterday & its day she has
not been up to have her bed made
she has had to lie on the lounge
while I was making it the Dr (Clyman)
said that she would have to stay
there three or four weeks or longer &
if she was any other woman he
would think she would never get
up she is very anxious that I should
remain with her until she gets up

if she ever does her stomach bothers
her very much she can keep nothing
down that she takes into her stomach
she will not hear one word of my
going home now what shall I do
about the matter come home or shut

I stay here & if I come home will Mother
come out here Caroline is crazy to have
me stay with her & I will do just as
you all think best about it. Martin
has searched Erie over & cannot find
a girl which he could hire write Sunday
& tell me what to do & how you are
getting on in the refinery Benjy
enjoys himself grandly

this in haste

Your true & loving wife
A.C. Waters Esq Refinery Man M.D. Waters

now Alfred I must say a little
more about refinery do work night
& day till you get Mr Vanduske paid for
there is such a fine or tax on ^{imp} Domestic
on refinings that you cant but loose
some of your gallon which you sell for 15 cts

Refined oil is coming up here (so I heard to
day) to 40 & 50 cts per gallon on account
of the tax which is being put on Refinings
I presume you have heard of it before this
pay the what you have borrowed first
dont loose a day untill he is all paid
up if you can possibly prevent it if
you want to take out a judgement
on that man send your paper here
& Martin or I will tend to it how are
you doing with the Refinery how many days
have you worked & how much oil have you
refined & have you heard from Minerva

This is from your homesick wife
A.C. Waters Esq M.D. Waters Esq

Miller farm Dec 24. 1863
My Precious Wife.

Under rather unfavorable
circumstances I propose to indulge
myself with a short communication
to my beloved wife & home
made doubly dear from absence
I have been some homesick
since I left you but am
getting accustomed to my own
acquaintance & rapidly gaining
in the confidence & trust of
my employer so that I think
my chance of a good job is good
here as well as in Erie. I am
at present soldering the cane that
I have been filling & my advice &
council are sought for & taken on
all occasions. it will take at least
2 or 3 weeks longer to finish this
job. Dr. Moore's Brother Emmet was
here yesterday & asked me a

great many questions about Refining
& said he thought he should want
me to join his refinery. but I shall
go to Erie if I get the chance

I like the D. Ensmores will
what I have seen of them.

they are rough & ready. there is
no P.O. nearer than Titusville
but a man carries the mail
down the creek every morning & back
every night for 3 cts. No letter when
you write direct to Titusville
& on the left write Miller farm
Box 25 & I shall get it the next
morning after it leaves Edgewater.

There will be a P.O. here shortly
I have a clean place to board
but no fruit. I will come home
in 4 weeks from the time I left
if you are at home let me
hear from you all the Particulars
As ever
forever

A. E. Waters

Cory, Pa Oct. 23, 1863

Dear Wife,

Evngs of Sunday last was
duly rec'd last-Evning and I
~~think I have given it the~~
necessary consideration.

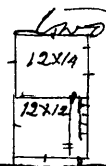
If my busyness was well
founded & safe that is if I
was sure of steady wages & labor
that would pay them it might
be advisable to build a
house or shantee but as it is
I dont know how long I shall
~~stay in the place & I might~~
put 50 or 75 dollars into a house
& then not stay in it a week
Lumber is 15 dollars per 1000 &
Shingles 4 dollars & labor 3,00
Per day so that the least that would

Shelter us. would cost 50. Dollars
& then it would stand on some
one else's land. So taking all
things into consideration I
think we had better rent a
house or Board. I have a chance

~~to rent a small house with~~
rooms like this ~~at~~ I try again
There is some room up stairs
But not finished the lower

Part is to be lathed & Plastered
& the House can be had for 3
or 6 Dollars. To see it is some
distance from the Refinery & I
don't think we want it. I think
that over head Butter Board for the

Present as we lathed & if we should
stay here till spring we could then
rent or build. Lumber will be cheap
then & one may think it best to
buy here. Tomorrow we commence



Putting up a more stables & then
I shall know whether I stay here
any length of time or not.

I will come home Saturday
if I can be spared without hard
feelings. but don't look for me
~~to stay for it costs me about~~
4 Dollars every time come. I saw
Doake tonight & the lumber is not
sawed for him to build a Hall
up stairs yet but he expects it
tomorrow. I will come any way
if the room is ready for us.

It is 10 o'clock P.M. & I commence
work this evening at 12. so with
~~word of caution about our boy~~
I will close. I pray don't let him
go one minute with wet or cold
feet. if his Boots are not done
yet - buy a pair of shoes at Phelps
what is a pair of shoes or even

all we are worth compared
with our Precious Boy.

Read this to him: Pently tells
Ma that Pa says to get you a Pair
of Shoes. & you must be sure and
not get your feet wet. because
Pa is afraid his little Boy will
catch cold & be sick. & Pa could
~~not be there to take care of you.~~

so you must be a good Boy &
keep your feet warm. & Pa will
bring you something when he comes
home. ~~Bye~~

With love

A. C. Watson



Edenborough May 21/63

Dear Martin

I reached Tatters today
about half past ten I was the only passenger
in the stage found Tatters folks all well
John is here we shall expect you here
Saturday with out fail

Martin I want you to bring Debeney
make out time

Thursday May 28th 63

Dear Wife.

I have seen John Sherwin & he
will give me 5 dollars for one for
my house & lot - till the first of Apr
I am inclined to let it go, but will
do as you like. I can't let this one
& Father's shares, I had better let that
& sell the cow & hog, be sure & write your
opinion by tomorrow's mail.

A. E. N. etc.

Edinboro Nov 27 1864

My Dear Dear Husband

again Sunday has rolled
around & again I have the pleasure of writing
you for indeed it is a great pleasure yours
of the 17 & 21 lie before me & judging from
your full size potatoe store I am sure you
have done it done I should. & I tried several
times & to tell you as for your doing it I
would never have dug 40 bushells of potatoe
than to be done without the Melodian &
that puts me in mind of what Fanny
said about it she was in one evening
with Betty & played a number of pieces she
said it was far the sweetest & richest toned
instrument she ever heard & as you know I
was to be perfectly satisfied if I could get
one at good value & I am L. Reader was in
Friday & she said the same & she played
several pieces with the tumbler and one
piece in particular she said she had played
Melodians & pianos in every manner.

but she could never get the expression
out till she pinched it - on this she said
it was sad & sweet at hair made the dear
come to her eyes & so it did & now I must
get ready for church but don't worry
any more about wood or potatoes for
there are no more potatoes to dig nor

~~any more wood to split - at for what purpose~~
you could not come at a better time &
if you had worn a thinking cap you
with you could not have jumped for anything
anything more relaxing than a pair of skates
he will be half wild with delight - I know
for he talks of having his Grandpa & then
wants him to buy him a pair - I think it is
~~disappointing~~

make sense of the proceed - you will do better
than I can I merely want to convey the idea
that he would be "teakettle" with a pair
of skates I hope those gentlemen & if prove
are improvement to you or an advantage
I am not particular which I have been
troubled with a bad pain in my left

shoulder for a week past which pain
says & it undoubtedly does proceed from
my liver & can be cured but not now but
I take my medicine regularly for one
generally twice a day

With we have been to church
& heard Mr. Graves of course & have had our
~~dinner~~ ~~what you like to know what~~
made for dinner? well then there you had
Potatoes Flour Gravy bread & butter pickles
Buns & p. n. cakes butter & Syrup &c &c
I only received yours of the 20 yesterday
& you had better believe I was very very
glad to get it please write twice every week
I was going to write you last Wednesday
but Charinda laughed at me for writing
so often & thought once a week too often
so I give it up that time but will not
again I practice at church as I can not
what time I can get but as much as my
shoulder will let me I will be as moved
in over their store & have gone to house
keeping About moving down there soon

not- at all particular do just- as you like
& think best- & I shall be perfectly satisfied
for this winter- but- when spring comes one
of us had better move & think you up here
or Bot down there- You speak about my
letting Elorinda have some money
I had already let her have \$28 al^t probably

~~she will want to use some of it for some time~~
if not she knows how vertic^l welcome it
is to her & she is not afraid to ask Bent-
had not yet got his & he says I'll pe
right off that these books are done p^{er}ching
& don't bother me a bit- now I think the
mending made them all right- as that
was the only one that bothered him You had
~~now told me about that business. I'll~~

did you make it all right-? Are you
going to send that burrell of oil or
didn't you get it-? Have you found
out the price of sacks I am asked every
day well I have filled the sheet & did
not know it- & have writtin nothing
I will send you those verses please sing
them
Your loving wife M. G. Waters

Halter Jan 21 June 2/1864

My Dear Wife

Henry's of last-Sunday
came to ~~land~~ yesterday and
as I am engaged next-Sunday
to go & see Mr Slack I will
be to and not to night. I hope
you dont want me at home any
more than I want to believe
seriously & thus I think of
the hard earned an dollar
it will cost me & try to think
I will stay till the 1. of July & I
you & I will. I was writing to you
last-Sunday at the same time we
were to me & if you will the
of your letter you will see that
our thoughts were on the same
subject. I enclose a letter from
Carpent. in reply to one I wrote

him some time ago so that
you will see that your advice
in that line was anticipated.
I stated to him the circumstances
in which I was placed by Siskup
& told him I would like to return
the instrument & pay \$5.00 for
the use of it & if he did not want
to so that I should have
to ask for an extension of time
in my future work.

during Siskup must first be liquidated
but you can see his reply rather
to show is he not? I think I will
claim another 3 months & see what
will turn up in the meantime.

In regard to my wage I think
I am doing about as well as
while or any other laborer I
have earned \$5 this week so
for extra & will earn another
dollar so that my wage will

amount to \$14.00 this week
rather better than \$22.50 a year
is it not? I don't think I can
stand it with Sherwood much
longer he is getting worse every day
he wanted me to pay for my board
while I was working on extra time
loading a boat the other day.

I told him he owed me several
meals for extra house I had worked
for him.

Last week I made \$2.50 extra
but the ups will soon be moved
to the next farm below & then
there will be no more chance to
get 40 ct an hour. I fell off the
gunwale of a boat backwards
the other day when the pond fresh
was at its highest & the water rushing
past with great fury. I went all under
but caught the hind end of the boat
as I was passing & saved your man

are you not much of a friend?
I saw that McKean that used
to be so sweet on March Phillips
he knew me & I did not think till
he told me that he was here
this all-assister

I shipped to my address
at Cambridge a Carboy of oil
today & it will be at Cambridge
this week send for it by some
one who is going after goods

calls for it. Mr Henry from
a large oil dealer was here the
other day he said I kept the
refining on the best order of any over
the week say one Periss my oil
dearest wife & say I will
give you a big & bedigan please
Goodnight

A. E. Graves

Franklin Aug 7/1864

My Darling

I write as much
for force of habit as anything
- at present George was here
yesterday & I told him all
the important parts of this
letter you will naturally
look for a letter & if you should
not get the letter of my
- absence would be the worst
as for me I am getting rather
poor in flesh but if I could
have good victuals a few
weeks I should be all right
again I told George to tell you
to be sure & write to Cambridge
after me on Saturday next
& if Mr. W. wants that Miss
- you will let him have
it otherwise bring it to the

Sept - I will send it to
so that I can attend to it
when I come back I shall
be in Cambridge at 9.30

A.M. + I shall wait for you
at the depot (when you get
through the bridge bear to the
right + cross the track +

come up on the backside
of the depot - the road is plain)

I don't think it best to
move down here at present -
but more on that subject -
when we meet. We have to

meet me or I shall have
some one as I shall have
to walk 10 miles in the
morning to get the cars

it is getting dark again
for a week

Yours truly
A. E. Water

what hour you & get it in Cambridge
Saturday the 24th inst & perhaps I can get
it to come to Cambridge after you
Our pork is cut up & salted & that cost
1.00 now depends if there is any thing you
want fixed made or satched up before
you come be sure & write in your next so
~~I will have dinner to take to it~~

son's me to tell his papa it at his
new tools are on the feet & a good pair
we are I think if you get anything
or kind besides the skate it had better
be a book & I will get him a little candy
or a few raisins or nuts but you be careful
of the money for I cannot I have only \$5
now & when you get home will probably

not have a 5 cent scrip let Wiley have
that scrip when you come home if he
will give you a \$ for it sell the shirt
from your back if you can make any
thing by it ha ha so you think me
generous & well I'll not give you any
more advice

Your ever loving wife

M. D. Waters

Sunday morning Dec 1, 1867

My Dear Dear Husband

I again sit
down to it you a few lines hoping; the
will find you in good health & I will
I received yours of the 25th Sunday & received
a receipt from the R. R. Co. for that block
& oil at the same time Father will keep
watch & send it in the first opportunity

Yesterday I received a letter from
Thomas which I enclose to you. Can't that
gone to keep in house & has taken 4 gentlemen
boarded and so has become fatted & so will
I if I can get them earn yet 450 per week
& I believe it will pay I shall try if I get
the chance for I have got to be on my feet
with this shoulder & I may as well get my
lay for it if I am up about the house
I am free from pain but if I sit down
to sew it is sure to come on & it is too
hard for me to bear so my sewing is laid
one side for the present & I have no reading
so busy myself with shall I take the se

Mr. coming year at 2.50? rather steep is
it not? Elmer is all right & as the paper
at a lark Bently the name the first words
I said when I told him the other day
that he was six years old was "O I am
so glad I'll go to school to morrow. I'll go
to school to morrow" accompanied by jump-
ing up & down & clapping his hands

I am going to have a pig of David
Stocum that will weigh he is about 250.
at 12 1/2 cts per pound that will take the
money I reckon you have. I told me
how your soil prospers probably well
by this time Sarah will be married this
if this is so & start right off for her
wedding ~~with Edward Lewis for a wedding trip~~

Clay is still asleep he will wonder
how long he has lain alone something
he does not like to go over as he wants
me to get the abnormal & come it up how
many weeks it will be before you come
home & now I at I have to count the
number of days he gets very impatient

sometimes & wishes he'd go & see would
come now so he could have him & wife
in I hope those Gentlemen will
build a refinery for I should like to
be with you if it will only pay I think
it very doubtful about Thomas & Minors
coming down here for our roads are
horrible now & their roads don't do
good until long after ours do of course
if they come they will bring the children
for I would listen to nothing else I do
hope they will come for I should enjoy
the visit largely & Bently more the less
he thinks a great deal of Elsie well.
well I have written as much as I can as
~~I intended to when I commenced &~~
have written so far I'm afraid you
can't read it - excuse mistakes & poor
writing

Yours in love

M. D. Waters

Morgan, Ohio
Nov 27th 1864
A. E. Waters Esq.

Dear Sir & Bro

Your kind
invitation was duly received
and appreciated. if the weather
and roads will permit you
may expect us on the
appointed time providence
not interfering.

Minerva has been
sick for some time with
a fever but is getting so
that with the help of a girl
about the size of Florence and
what Florence can do night and
morning she is doing her work.
I am in hopes she will be
able to come out to your
house Christmas if the weather
is good Yours Respectfully
Thos. Perison Jr

Brownsville, 1/4 Apr. 1862

Dear Brother & Sister

Your letter of Monday came to hand
one week ago to-day. I should have been more than ready to
ing but there has been no mail since, & I don't know when
this will go out, but am in hopes that we will get a mail this
evening or to-morrow. I have nothing very important to write this
time though there is much more activity here now than there was
a month ago. in fact it looks as though we were going to
have as much fighting to do as we can get along with and
the enemy are in such numbers that we can not be reinforced
to do any good. I can no longer say "all quiet on the

Rio Grande" for activity prevails in all quarters & more especially
in the quarters of soldiers. This division if alive when the war is
over can truly say they have fought & bled for their Country for
it bids fair now for every man to bleed before we get out of this.
Our enemies are not the regular Secesh but the blacks are
against us. They are sly fellows. That come in through our lines
at night & in the morning all we can see of them is the affect of
their midnight marauding. They make their appearance in the
form of pleas & let me tell you they bite wickedly. and take notice the
pleas are what has gotten up the activity here, we have nothing else to fight and
I guess would have this year,

Deserters come into our lines daily. Some of them don't
blue cloth. Others are waiting an opportunity to get to them.
of course they all take the oath. Some come in naked
but shirk to hide their real address & report others in as bad
a condition. They report a force of rebels about 1500 strong under
the command of a Colonel - an independent command gotten
up after the rebels commenced a rigid conscription in this State. The
Colonel's name is now here trying to get Gen. Aerron to intercede in his
(the Col) behalf. When he will bring in & give up his whole force. I meddle
Amnesty proclamation should have included Colonel's full below
his rank. In my opinion it would have been far more successful.

Well I have now had my dinner, dispensed some
medicine, took a good smoke, played two games of chess & will now
catch my breath (perhaps I scratch a few more words) & try to scratch
out an item or two to finish up with. By the way I can play a pretty good
game of chess if I ever get to keeping house again with my little wife
a chess board & set of men will be a portion of the furniture. I would
advise you to buy it. Don't suppose I spend all my spare time playing
chess for I do not. I read more or less every day, some days it is less,
but I read all I can & do justice to my eyes. I have in my possession quite
a Medical Library. I have two works on Anatomy, one on Anatomy of the
Arteries, three on Surgery, one on Hygiene, one Stewards manual
one surgeon's manual besides the dispensatory. I have very sub-
stantial reading matter & intend to make good use of it.

We have some ~~times~~ a game of ball & swim
in the Rio Grande. Sometimes fun with the Mexicans
who come to our camp. Sometimes we have a view
of the "Bonita Senoritas" as they bath in the river. They are
of excellent swimmers. Can swim as well as any man. They also
will always dress for bathing in the most approved fashion. Some
times they have bathing dresses but after they appear perfectly nude
I believe the latter method of bathing is the one generally approved
by soldiers. Sometimes our boys attend these parties. They
say the Senoritas are really so beautiful as well as our northern
ladies, and I think those who have nothing but the pure Castilian
iron blood in them are very good looking.

There is a Rail Road being constructed from Brown Island
to White's Cache. The iron & ties are already on the ground. I suppose it will
be, sometime, continued on to San Antonio. Two merchantmen
laden with goods for this place arrived off the bar several
days ago. Yankee Nation follow the Yankee soldiers.
They cannot get along without them. You can tell your
friends that the friends have not yet conquered Mexico
& by what we can learn will have to do some fighting
before they get through. I suppose after they conquer Mexico
they will acknowledge the Confederacy. If they do we can
rally a large Army of Mexicans to whip them for us.

...don't blow it is so sandy & dusty it is
...blow it is so sandy & dusty it is
... Still we have very pleasant days when
... little nor to much wind & it is very seldom after
... the forenoon that there is to small a quantity of air stirring
... have been in blossom all winter & for the last (or nearly) three
... months there has been all kinds of garden stuff for sale in the
... Market. The health of our Reg is very good but I fear the
... will tell on our men before next fall

Madam has as yet failed to reply to the letter I wrote him
I suppose they wish to break off all such Correspondence. If so
All right? I was wearied sometime ago, I think I can
stand on my own bottom. George I suppose before
~~the time has gone and I hope to wish a well but I shall not~~
have him leave father & mother. I thought he would stay at
home. I think I will close. Tell Bently he must be
a good boy while I am off to the war,

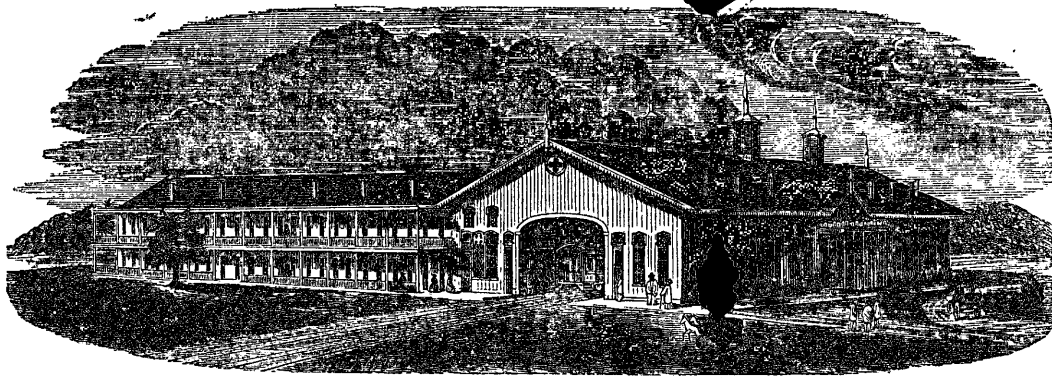
My best wishes to all

Your Brother

J. M. Goodell
9. 2^d Ills, Prob, Indfy,
Brown's Hill,
Texas.

Direct -

Via New Orleans



McClellan House,

R. M. N. TAYLOR, SUP'T.

Meadville, Pa. July 17th 1868

My dear wife
Please find enclosed
checks for J. A. Dantz & company
which you will please give to
James Striff & he will get the
trunks out Saturday. I cannot find
the address you want - show me
the list is now & good I will find
the name & address before I see
you if possible.

I missed the train at
Waterford & went to Millville
& with the mail on this road
met J. A. at 2 o'clock & all right -
Goodbye

Love in haste

A. E. Dantz

Milley Farm Jan. 22/65

My Dear Silent Wife

Almost two long
long weeks from home
& no word or line from
those I love so much to
hear from I have written
twice before & watched
the P.O. Every time there
has been a mail (which
~~was seldom) but no letter~~

I have not seen of A
but once since I came
down & that was the next
day I was down there last
Wednesday & learned that
he had taken a job on
Cherry run of setting an engine
& c. at 5 dollars per day.

Wiley was all over the
oil country after work

but - found none & I suppose
he is at home. I am
quite well & I need not
tell you that Sherwood
is a good place I have
made one batch of my
new oil. But - Sherwood
says he will not rain
again till warmer weather
& today looks as if we
were bound to have it -
but I am in daily
expectation of his discharge
but - a few encouraging
words from home would
go far to keep off the blues
& I shall get this soon
soon I hope to get my
mittens for Marchant -
James Oling is waiting for
this letter & I must
close A E Graham

Miller farm
Vermont



Frankville Mich. 1/18/63

My only loved ones

I recd. yours of the 26. all this evening & right glad was I to hear that you recd. this. I think the coarse clothes will do for a poor man if they are only clean & perhaps we may indulge in more costly clothing some time.

~~You need not worry any more~~
- about my working so hard for, if nothing happens I shall finish my hard work next week & shall not labor any more till I try to live without for a while. J. A. & I intend to the 3 or 4 wells to drill & if we do we shall only do the

head work & with ordinary
succes. this will leave us
good profit & plenty of time
to look about & get packed
and indulge in long sweet
visits to our dear home
J. A. is looking for the job
now, he has staid with me
5 nights. since last Saturday
week. I have to work so
hard now days that I dont
get any time to try to sell the
farm but I expect now
that the snow is going so
fast that Skinner will be
out through there in search
of one & if he takes a fancy to
it he has plenty of money
to buy with. I will also
send a full description of it
to a man in N. D. he will
perhaps want it.

But - Dear wife dont place
to much hopes on my selling
it - for I may fail & I expect
to fail at least for the present -
but I can sell for 10,000 just -
a quick as I can for life &
it is cheap enough.

I am not feeling very well
I have a bad cold coming on
& my lungs feel sore but in
a few short weeks I shall
be at liberty to come home
when I chose without all
anxious stopping I dont expect
ever to do another days work
for wages except for uncle
Sam & I am making full
calculation on going to his
arms in a short time.
The Dinsmore oil co are
said to be able to bear all
the loss of property by fire and

you + one - could have been
the we all attend - by, I wish
+ looked about - was how I hope
last - it was a grand night
there was a great many, both
higher than any here.
giving great value of work
force; but both better

making good - on the part
we had before - up + on
matter of hours that the
bank to all other men the
day + other of men to the
along the creek the other
more + has our running
I heard a good making
was a very exciting day
of little else with a few
my little corner in aspect
not long - from N.

I remain as ever my darling
most truly + fondly your
Husband + father
A. E. Waters.

Boyl Farm Feb 12. 1865
Ever Beloved Wife & Boy.

I was especially favoured
by the mail yesterday in
the receipt of 2 letters from
you written the 5 + 8 inst-
and I presume you were
alike favoured as I wrote
the same date. If I were
at home this weather I would
stay till it was better but
I am here & will not take
the trouble to discharge
myself I am healthy and
work hard & steady but
I was in hopes to have it
easier this week having got
everything repaired but this
morning opens rather unfavorab^{ly}
I am boarding at Glenn
where I used to & paying \$8. per
week they are very fine folks
as I have often told you but

they don't live as they do at
Sherwoods - no clear coffee with
nice rich cream & white sugar
for breakfast nor tender roast
for dinner. but still we
have 3 kinds of sauce & good
syrup & bread & butter very nice
this house is colder than
Sherwoods but we have
all cheerful faces & good
nature. The times are spending
dull times I came down the
last time I don't see one
speculator now where I
did a dozen before Christmas

There is a man here by the
name of Skinner who has
just sold out his farm on
the hill above here for \$75,000
1/2 down & the other as soon as
he leaves the place he wants
a farm & has a family to
educate. he has a boy in
Edinburgh at school now or

will have the next term
I am not sure which I shall
talk more with him telling
the peculiar advantages of a
farm in the vicinity of the
State Normal School a house
& lot in the village &c &c
he don't want to start out
with the cause the soil of
the land he buys I shall
come with him if he comes
directly to Edinburgh as he
will be apt to do. I have
spoken to several others &
considering the chance I
have had & the dull times
I may say I have quite a show
but I am building my castles
in the air that will hurt me
when they fall. I realize that
I am \$250. in debt & no
available means except
industry & good health to
earn the money.

I have not seen J. A. since I
stopped at Miller's farm but I
came within 10 minutes
of seeing him at Petroleum
center I was looking at his
trunk & the agent said the
owner was in & found it
not 10 minutes before
about my wages I told him
I should charge 4.50 per day & he
said he would give it or
perhaps more if we succeeded
in raising the rope rapidly
but while we were repairing
he thought 4.00 was all he could
allow. I have only talked 4.50
but it has taken so long to repair
that although I have worked
a great deal harder still I
think that unless we have very
good luck from this time I
will only charge 4.00
my bed is hard straw my
pillow soft & the covering comfort-
able with my overcoat which
is indispensable night &
day.

Ever Truly Ours

A. E. Watson

Office of the Central Basin Office

July 23, 1865

My Ever Precious Wife & Boy.

Sunday's morning is here & finds me improving the first business I have had since I left home in writing to my much loved family.

The weather has been so very wet that we have not accomplished as much as I hoped to be able by this time.

I stopped a few minutes & saw Mary and Lurrida on I rode within about 3 miles of Waterford & almost run all the rest of the way but the train was gone 15 minutes when I reached the Depot. I then went back to town & got a ride to Millville on A. & G. R.R. & in one hour from the time I left the Waterford Depot I was seated in the Mail train for Meadville.

When J. A. got on at Cambridge I came up behind his seat & called out "Tickets" he looked wild enough we reached the old mill that evening & the next day we dismantled things got ready to move but it rained so very hard on Wednesday that the teams did not come so I went to Pithole & back got some wet. Thursday we moved the Boiler & Engine and Friday we tore down the buildings

& moved a load of lumber & 10 of stone
Saturday morning I started for Meads
Creek to see about that well & get a
carpenter I expect him Tuesday or Wednesday
unless he has to drive paper for Ed Drake
I went over yesterday & got everything ready
to move so that I shant have to go back
again there is a load of lumber &
I think a hundred bu of coal to come
yet I am going to Plumer today to get the
W. O. I could not get it yesterday on
account of some irregularity of the draft
the Banker said he would wait on me
today I have a chance to hire a man
& his wife to work for me he is a good
carpenter & I am inclined to hire him
although I would be paying about to have
you with me if your health could be
retained how do you feel about it?

I need a little money of Mr White & I
will enclose you ten dollars (\$10). If
you get it all right I will send more
we have saved more than lumber
enough to build our Empire house
I believe I have written all you will
care to know send me that receipt
Direct to Plumer Benay's Co For my letters
will not go to Pitkin

Ever Truly Yours

A. E. Walcutt