

Camp Lookout Valley Tenn
Feb'y 21st 1864

Dear Ones at Home

With greatest pleasure I take my pen to write a few lines this truly lovely Sabbath

I am well and hope you are in the enjoyment of the same blessing

It is very quiet and sunny to day and just such a day as would make us think of that Better country where "the smile of the Lord is the feast of the soul" The Christian Commission have a depot established in the Valley and yesterday I attended a good prayer meeting though there were but a few present yet there were enough to claim the Blessing. To day some of our boys have gone over to hear them Preach and as they are invited to preach here this afternoon I thought I would try and write a letter to you instead of going over there this time

The Boys are doing well Perry W is improving and some have gone on picket this morning. McKegg had better post himself with regard to matters in the company before he is too positive. For my self I have to say that when I arrived at the Regt Nov 21 I took a gun and have kept it and done duty with it ever since though I have been on Picket but twice since I left our Winter Quarters. I am happy to hear of the eminent success of that Festival the Lord seems to smile on our efforts and I wish I were there to contribute in to the Donation I have recieved yours of the 14 that is the way I found out about what is going on. I am real glad to hear that Uncles Family are doing so well and hope speedy recovery will be uninterrupted Such a delightful day as today would be just the weather for Ella to excercise I hope you will remember me to them in kindest regard

I think I may safely say that the army of the Cumberland has been on the move for the last six weeks that is portions of it forming a front and soon we will hear probably of a Battle or retreat of Joe Johnson to a more remote part of the sunny but war devastated South as there is a grand Flank movement going on. Where you will find out soon enough & so will he if he dont Dig

Genl Hookers command I hear is to Guard & Picket duty I understand this summer. Well I dont think I will be very sorry of that as it may give some of those Regts that are much larger and have been doing nothing but that a chance to operate & then Genl Hooker is winning to many Laurels I think for the suiting of some of these western Genls so they have got him a passive position

That has not got along yet as Adams Ex is overloaded with business but I have confidence in them to bring it all right. We were paid off last week and as soon as I can get to the Express office I will send some G2 and may be I shall find my Box there if so all right We live well now and are well off for clothes too

There is nothing of importance that I have met with to write about and I find it hard work to fill up this sheet

do please excuse me and I remain ever

[February 21, 1864 continued]

Truly Your Affectionate
Charley Abell

Love to all Charley

How does Franks moustache thrive I would like to have him take a likeness of it and send me