

On printed letterhead with cut of United States Capitol. Letter sent to Miss Ellen J. Martin, Locke's future wife. They were married on August 17, 1865, at Machias, Cattaraugus County, New York.

*Headquarters, Col PH Jones Regt., 154 Camp Fairfax Court Co. D
Virginia Oct the 19 1862.*

My Dearist Friend

I received your kind letter this morning and glad enough was I to hear from one that I thought so much of. Ell I was so glad that I could not cry but I kissed it and read it over and over again. & to hear that you was well a how you had injoyed your self to O that, I was thear again we would have a little visit I think. wall I am well as ever this morning I got a letter from wallace and Byron this morning so I have heard from all now. Ell I do not bunk with my company now I have to bunk with the musitions on the right of the Regt wall I go up and see the boys and Hiram [Martin, Private, Co. D, Ellen's brother] & Hank we talk about home and the knight I left thear evry day most [of] the boyes has been midling healthy Hank was sick 3 or 4 days but he is all right now we have lots of fun some time and some vary sober times we take turns at that when I am lonesome they sing and train like the old hary and when they are so then I go in so we are company for all of us but I steal a way now and then and look at sweet Ell and think of the past times and have a good old crying spell and then I go and wash up and feal all right but never can I forgett that one that I left behind I am glad that you got that money I sent you but you ought to saved some for your own use. Ell as you say I do not care for money I would give \$100 in a minute if I had my

onerable discharge but I do not think that we shall stay down hear long for I think that this will be settled up and when we do come we will know how to appeashuate a home or friends to thear is not an our in a day but what I think of you and home to we have slep on the groun evry [night] since we got hear but when it is fair weather we do not care but when it rains then we think of thoes sweet homes that we left to come and fight for our country we have a little tent to lay under to keep the due of and rain but the air whistles through so we have lots of fresh air. wall Hirus is now cook for his company he does not haft to drill nor stand on gard eather you would laugh to see us a cooking and to see us set the table on the ground. wall soaldiering is tuff enough with out recomending it to eney body we gett good living now and all we can eat to so we can stand it when we get enough to eat. Ell tell your Mama that I think of her and your pappa to and Hat and Idda to now Ell keep up good spirits for I do I read a chapter in my testament evry day put my trust in higher power then man Ell that I could kiss thy sweet lips and more but It is not for me to say whether I shall or not but I hope that it is my lot to come back again and see all my friends good buy here is one kiss for you. ☉ .

Ell pleas to right soon for you know that I am a good way from home this is from your dear friend Harlin Lock To Miss Ell Martin

direct to

Harlin E. Lock

Washington, D.C.

154 Regt N.Y.S.V

Co D

Capt H. Cheny