

Aboard the Steamer Raymond
May 13th 1864

Dear Mary I take this opportunity
to address you a few lines, also to acknowledge
the receipt of the box of provisions you sent
me by the boys every thing came through
safe. The likenesses of you and Adda. I was
very glad to get but was sorry you could not
get Therie's I think yours a very good likeness
and Adda's tolerable.

The regiment arrived at Cairo on the morn-
ing of the 10th we reported immediately to
them turned over our old guns drew new ones
and on the 11th came aboard of the boat and
started up the river to Paduca where we fell
in with the rest of our fleet then started up
the Tennessee. Our fleet consists of twelve
transports and two gun boats. it is one of
the grandest sights I ever saw. it's a beautiful
day and the river being bordered on either
side by a thick cluster of trees in full

foliage and the boats gliding over the water
as majestically as so many white swans all
contribute ^{to} brighten the beauty of the scene
But I must ^{stop} this kind of talk or I fear you
will think I am becoming romantic.

I cannot tell you our destination but it
is thought that we will land at some point
below Padburg Landing then march to Hunts
ville Alabama.

My health is still good. I weighed yesterday
140 lbs. that being 10 lbs heavier than ever I
weighed before. Mary I have not drawn
any money yet nor do I expect to now
for at least two months I fear you will
need some before I can get any.

I do not know that I have much more to
write at this time but I may have more
before I get a chance to mail it.

Yours Orlibe

Direct to

Cairo Ill. Co. E 78th Reg. O.V. I

~~in full pay~~ 2^d. 3^d div. 17 Army Corp

until further orders

May 14th 1864

We arrived at Clifton this morning
it being 40 miles below Petersburg Sunday
we will now have to start on the march
but where to I cannot tell I will
write the first opportunity

Heibe