He[faded] Arakansas Sep the[faded] 1862

Dear Wife

I thought that I would set down and answer yours of the 22 which I received to day it found me well and hearty [stain] I was on guard to day [hole] but I come off[stain and hole] [faded][hole and stain] M[faded] do to day I told you in my last letter that I did not think that [faded] stay here a great while but things has S[faded] down again and it has the apparance now as though we would sta here some time thare is part of the Batery gone now it has been gone 5 days we look for it[hole] back to night it just went o[hole] Scouting expidition we herd to day[hole] they have had a ffight but I dont know wheather it is so or not the boys are mostly well in the reg Dane had a chill last night but he fetched me your letter to day all the balance of[hole] is well, you seem to think tha[hole] it is b[hole]d knews because harve[hole] the re[hole and faded] has enlisted[hole]

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now I think right the other way I thmt[?] that it is a good knews[?] I had a great deal rather they would enlist than for them to be drafted they are no beter to fight for thare[faded] country than any body else and their wages [hole] more than they would make at [hole] got a letter from Fred a few days ago he said that he was well but george was not very well George will get over being home sick as soon as he gets well every body prety near gets home sick when they are under the weather but they get over it again as soon as the get up I would [hole]ike to be at home my self it is [hole]eat eal more comffertable to home [hole] it is here then one dont have to do d[?] his own cooking, but we dont do our cooking now we have got a niger to kook for us we give him ten Dollars per month he is not a [hole]erry good darky I guess that we [hole]ill turn him off and hire an [hole]one they are prety hard to [hole]ou for they ha[hole]n

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all to work on the fortifycation they are all poor excuses, I forgot to tell you that we are under the command now of Prigadier ge[faded] Fred Steel I dont know wheather it is Permantly or just for a while but I hope the later for I think that gen Curt[hole] is just the ma[stain and hole] for this place [hole]en will all hate to give him up I believe that he is the furst[?] best man that thare is in the service I Believe that Haclack[?] is the best and Mclenen next and Pope third and then Curtis but this is just my opion I may be right and maby rong time will ha[hole] to show, you said that you had [hole] got any letter from me since you[hole] about the money that the other [hole] wrote about but I exceet ear this you will get a better letting you know that I sent some too for I have writen 4 Since I send the money home I am to write once week w[hole] I can and I want you to do the [hole] if not oftener I sent you[hole]

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pay day and I will try and send you 25 this I want to live as saving as I can and send all the money I can for it will come in good play if I ever get home and if I dont it aint throwed away I wa[hole] you to write and tell me how [hole]ch money I have sent for I have forgoten, I expect that we will be payed of again is the course of two weeks for we was musterd for pay yesterday But I ["have" crossed out] ve wtien all the knews that I can think of so I had Beter stop so I will Close for this remaining you Affectionate [hole]usband geo B Davis Catharine Davis