

Camp Near Hellen Arkansas  
Aug the 3 1862  
Dear Wife

I once more Set down to write you a few  
lines to let you know how I get a long  
I am well at the preasant time the boys are  
all well that is from that Section of the  
contry was knews is tolarbly Scarce here  
and what thare is it is not very favorable  
[word crossed out] Mclene Refuls from ritchmond  
and our fleet drawing back from Vicksburg  
all goes to show that thare is Something that  
is not right in the plan of the war  
the fleet that was at vicksburg is here now  
I is com by Com Davis thare is Some  
12 or 14 boats in the fleet thare is three  
3 gun boats 3 morter boats and several  
rams but they dont all amount to much  
the whole of them let the Arakansas get  
away from them without doing her any ingury  
It was carlessness on the part of our officers that we  
did not get the Arakansas if things is not  
tended to beter and the leading officers move  
more careful this war will not end way soon  
but if they would carry things on right this  
thing would soon Syush thare is talk of  
us soon leaving this place the talk is that we are  
going to litlerock but weather it is so or not I  
cant tell but I think that we will go  
somewhares before long

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uk62ws 3s sc18c2 3c16t th56k of 16g ts68 t8 w83t2  
we have got our pay and drawed some clothing  
Since we came here I drawed 37 Dollars and 87cts  
I sent you 50 fifty dollars it is sent to mr  
Froat the same as I sent the last I have  
never got any word from you since you got the  
20 I sent before and I dont know wheather you  
got it or not but the Smith boys has herd  
from theirs that they sent in the same pakage  
so I presume you have got yours beofre now  
I want you to tell me in your next letter how  
much money I have sent home I have forgoten  
and I would like to know thare is not much  
knews here that would I interes you I might try  
to Discribe to you what a gun boat looks like  
loging on the Miss River if I was to discribe  
one I would say that it looked like a big  
driping pan botom side up loging on the water  
only on a big scale you can see the old port  
holes with the black musles of the gbuns sticking  
out thare is a good many Reg here thare  
to com here gen Curtises and gen Walaces  
Gen Wallace has about 10 thousand men and curty  
about 20 the 4 Iowa cavly is camped about  
6 miles from here I saw Wm Fashier Day before  
yesterday he begins to look prety well they are  
camped out in the country thare is Some  
talk of our leaving here to morrow but  
I will wait and see wheather it is so  
it has been some ovir a year now since I left  
home one third of our time is out

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I dont know what you will do this fall to  
get your hay cut or how you will get it cut  
because this new call for volunteers will take  
lots more of the men away from home and thare  
was not an overly lot left before I am in hopes  
that they will not have to draft thare because  
I dont want any one to come to the war that  
haint got enough union blood in their veins  
to think that it is their duty, I dont know  
wheather thare is any companies being made  
up in madison county or not I have not herd  
from thare latly\_\_\_\_ Capt Cummings started  
for Iowa about a week ago what his business  
is thare I dont know some says that he has  
gone to recruit for the reg and some says  
that he has gone to get com of a new reg  
I believe that he would mak a beter col  
than lots of col that is in the service I  
I dont know but he would do beter for a col  
than a captain, if thare is a going to  
be a bad chance to get hay cut this fall  
you had beter sell the cattle off only what  
you can get feed for that is if you can you  
know the chances to get feed beter than I do  
I dont expect to get home in time to put  
up hay this fall and maby I wont be thare  
next fall thare is no knowing the time now  
thing dont look as clear as they did 3 months ago  
but the darkest hour is just before Day so  
    hope for the best

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If Mr gratner has not fixed that wagon yet take it away from him I understand that he is a sesec if this is the cace I dont want him to have it I dont want any Sese to have any thing that belongs to me I had rather it would lay and rot, but I am in hopes that I have been wrongly informed about Mr gratmer for I thought that he was to Smart a man to be a Sesec, but I guess that I have writen all the knews the last letter I had from Fred was dated before Ritchmond I presume that he was in the fight thare and prehaps fell I have not herd from him latly I am a going to write to him to day, I would like to be at home a fspell[?] now to eat up some of eggs and Buter that ant worth any thing thare if you had them here you could get all they are worth Buiter is worth 30 cts heese 25 thare is no eggs here every thing thing is high but I think that thing will be more reanorable the boats comes in loaded every day but no more this time Write as often as you can to

From George B Davis  
To Catharine Davis