

Tell all the friends that I should be glad to hear from them and to write to them but time will not admit of it when we are marching and fighting all of the time most. I should be very glad to hear from any of them. it is so cheering to get a good long letter when on the Battlefield or on the march now I hope they will all write Direct your letters as before only put on the 20th Corps in place of 11th Corps. your letter found me in good spirits and I hope this will find you the same I shall write to Libbie if we lay here a day or two and I have time. you need not send me only two or three stamps for I have some now.

I dont know when I can send this but the first time the mail goes I will put it in the mail does not go regular now. I am glad to hear Welley is doing so well. he is a fine Boy. Charley and Frank must write some too. I will close for now it has commenced raining.

This from your Son

M. W. Darling

Diantha M. Darling

Leon
N. Y.

Tuesday June 7 after dark

the mail goes now and I send this
Good night

Your Son

Cell Darling

Well and with the Regt

Tennessee
Chatanooga PO
Mr James M. Carpenter

Camp 154th N.Y.V. In Field
Friday June 24th 1864

Dear Friends

I improve the opportunity this pleasant morning of writing a few lines to let you know that I am well and still with the Regt. I have received your kind letter of June 5th and was glad to hear from you you can bet high. I shall have to tell you of an other fight that the 154th has been engaged in that took place the 15th of June, but I was not in for the day before the fight I was sent to the Division hospital sick and remained there till the 19th I believe I was taken with the Diarheoa and was uncomfortably bad off for four or five days but now I am well again and doing duty. the loss of the Regiment on the 15th was 24 and the 16th 2 one of them was Capt Crosby formerly our Adjutant of this number three were killed and one since died of wound. besides Capt Crosby there was Lt Barnhart wounded. our Co. did not loose any we have been very fortunate so far on this Campaign only one wounded in this fight our boys had the fun of chasing them about a mile. The Regiment is very small now but what there is of it is good ones. I got a letter from John the other day he thought they were doing something in Va. but did not mention a thing about as we had done anything I shall write to him soon as I can get time, we do not have much time now to write. We lay in the rifle pits now and are not allowed to go off a great ways for we some expect the rebs to come and attack us if they do they will get a warm reception I'll bet. It is very warm here now days. we are not far from Marietta Ga. I suppose you see all the war news in the papers so I will not write any for I dont know as much about that as you do Monroe and Isaac Smith were sent to the Hospital about the 29 or 30th of May and I have not heard from them since. Monroe has a letter here and I shall send it to him soon as I know where he is. if you see Sarah ask her where he is and send me his address. It is uncertain about Greely being killed no one saw him hirt and he was seen near the Rebel Rifle pits, so I have some hopes of his being all right yet. I saw a list of the drafted in Leon, it was very good especily on the Wellises. We belong to the 20th Corps 2d Division and 2nd Brigade. I got my hat the time we lay at Kingston Ga. and it come in play good then. It appears that you have not got my letter written since the 29th of May I hope you will get them all right.

I dont see why Lyb dont write since she is married I shall have to give her a talking to if she dont write ere long. The letters direct the same as before. put on 20th Corps instead of 11th. The mail goes out at this P.M. and I think we shall get some mail I hope so. Tell all the folks if I dont write they need not think I dont want to hear from them, for if any one loves to get a letter it is me and on the march or battle field is the time when I love to get mail. now please tell Libbie to write soon and long letters too. I will close for now and write some more if we can send this P.M. Yours as ever, M. W. Darling
P.M. I have just eat my dinner and will mail this now hoping to get a letter from home this P.M. Good bye for this time M.W.D.
Charles please write will you? Cell D.

Camp 154th N.Y.V.
In the Field
Saturday July 9th 1864

Dear Friends and companions in Leon

Today is a day of rest and we are improving it some, or as well as we can. I have just come from the creek where I have been washing all my clothes and myself. I have got one shirt and that I washed and boiled with my pants and put on again to dry. I boiled every thing so now I have not got a live Louse on me, which I could not have said yesterday. I think I wrote you the last time about the 26th of June and now I will commence for another and tell you something what we have been doing. the 28th(?) as you will probably see in the papers an assault was made on the Rebel position at Kenesaw Mountain or Div did not loose many then or in any day since that day and since then we our Regt has lost one killed and three wounded. the one killed was in Co. E from Chataugua. The night of the 2nd of July the Rebels were flanked and retreated. the 3rd we followed on and I never saw such a streaming in our lines of Rebel deserters since Bragg was ousted from Mission Ridge last Nov our Brigade picked up about one hundred and twenty five, probably a larger proportion than the rest of the Army for we were on a main road and near the woods where they could hide from their Officers. they said that they ~~were~~ were sick of fighting and retreating all of the time for two months well it has been tiresome for us but not so much so as for them for they are expecting an attack from us all the time and have to build Earthworks and lay on their arms all night. not so with us we are not affraid of them attacking us much. There has not been a day since the 8th of May but we have eather cannon or musketry and only three days but what we have _____ was when we were at Kingston. The Rebels are now on the bank of the Chattahoocha and we are on a large range of hills where we can look down upon them and there is constant picket firing but they hirt none of our men and I dare say we hirt none of them. We have a good position for Artillery and keep dinging away at them with that. a cannaon is fired on an average as often as once in a minut all day. they do not use their Artillery hardly any for as soon as they open a piece a whole Battery of ours will pitch into them and Silence theirs. We can see the Church Spires in Atlanta from our present position it is about ten miles they say to the city. the Rebels tried to stop on their retreat from Kenesaw mountain here but were soon flanked and went on again to this line of the River and near it. The fourth of July we lay still while some other portion of the Army _____ I suppose but never mind. I shall have a fourth sometime if I ever get home all sound but I feel that I am remembered among some of the old friends in Cattaraugus. I dont know how long we shall rest here but expect only a few days. I am well and ask your prairs and wishes in my behalf I have written you about the fight of the 15th of June where we lost 26 killed and wounded and hope you have got the letter. I was sick

then and at the Div Hospital but soon got well and now I feel very well. It is very warm here now days. I have not had a letter in some time till today and I got three one of yours the 21 the other the 28th of June was mailed I got one from Harty too he feels well and I do love to get a letter from him. he said that Chaffee was drafted (good).

All of the Leon boys are well that are here our total loss since we left the Valley in killed and wounded is 104. this is the sheet of paper you sent but you need not send any more for I can get paper, but send me some Stamps if you can. I am out of money and dont want much here now we shall get pay some time but dont know when. I suppose you know the Soldiers pay has been raised privates to \$16, Corporals to \$18, Sergeants to \$20. I draw twenty dollars per month now from the first of May. Now I want to tell you once more how to direct and it is always the same tell Libbie for as long as we are in this Army it will be the same so it matters not how much we march.

Sergt. M. W. Darling Co K 154. N.Y.V.
Nashville Tenn (20th Corps)

please tell Libbie not to forget

I am happy to hear that Libbie has got such a good home. I should like to make them a visit also John. I should like to have you send me the Tribune as soon as you get it, send through for we dont get much reading any good Books that you have send I should like. Cell. continued on next sheet.

I have just been to dinner and will tell you what I had for dinner some flour Gravy hard Tack and Coffee Dont you wish you had some We have plenty such as it is but not much vegetables

I will write some more on another sheet.

Camp 154 N.Y.V. In the Field July 9th/64

I have been very fortunate in every fight yet and so has our Company. I have had my gun hit twice once at Chancellorsville and once near Dallas. I am thankful to the all wise being that I have thus far been spared to relate the history of eight hard fought battles which I have been in, but some of them we have not been in the front line consequently we have not lost a great many in some of the hard fights, but we have lost a larger proportion than the rest of the Regiments or Corps in this Army. We have not heard from the Chicago convention yet or whether it was postponed or not I should write oftener but there is no chance to send mail in four or five days some times and when there is we do not know it till the time to send it comes. Now as I tell you do not wait for a letter from me but write often as you can and Libbie too. I wrote to her a short time since I saw the list in the paper of the deaths in Ga of prisoners there was one of our Company Allen Robins his name.

Mother you have enough to see to at home without worrying or wishing you could help the wounded Soldiers. I know they see hard times when wounded and left on the field but all is done for them that can be. We have clothes a plenty and rations too such as they are. money we could not use if we had it unless we want Tobacco and that I dont want you know. I see you think I must be patient and contented to not get discouraged when we are so fatigued and tired. I look at it like choosing the best of two worst if I get homesick it will make it the worse for me.

This is a pleasant country if it were not desolated so by war there is some fine buildings but the Rebel citizens have all removed South when Johnston fell back there is a great deal of woods here on these mountains and along the River so we are favored some with shade.this hot weather. Please tell Aunt Mary I should be glad to hear from her. I have had a few black berries but there is so many after them that they go fast as they get ripe and some of them green. I have not seen any other kind of berries here. I tell you I should like a Short cake of straw berries about this time of the day and be there to eat it with you all. Tell Harty that I will write to him soon as I get time.

We have been making out the muster rolls since we got here and have been very busy I dont know when I can send this but will soon as there is a chance Has Milo gone to Mich yet. I have had one letter from John since we left the Valley he is very busy at work and is working hard he said. Well Charley I suppose you have been to the fourth, I did and where they fired some canon too and put in shells and Solid Shot. Well I shall have to close for I have got to go on picket at 5 O clock P.M. and that is near at hand I will leave this with the boys and perhaps they will have a chance to send it before I get in from picket.

Now if you can send me some good paper like the Tribune or some good Book do so and some stamps too.

My respects to all

from your Son in haste
M. W. Darling
Co K 154 N.Y.V.

Now have Frank and Welley write as often as they can Frank how are you today and what are you doing picking berries I guess Cell

Monday July 11th _____ been on picket and returned and they have not sent the letter so I will send it at nine O clock this A.M. night before last the Rebels all retreated across the River and we advanced the pickets to the River the River is the dividing line now and I think we shall get some rest now a few days but cant tell for certain. It rained some last night and to day it is quite comfortable cool. the mail _____ go soon and I must close so as to send this Now Mother do not worry about me for I shall get along some way.

Yours truly

Cell D.

Camp 154th N.Y.V. In the Field
Two miles and a half from Atlanta
Saturday July 23d 1864

Dear Friends, I am well and yet all right an other hard fight has passed and our Regiment lost one killed five wounded and the Adjutant wounded, William Clark from New Albion. The 17th we crossed the Chattahoochee and the 18th advanced slowly with some skirmishing the 19th the same only a few more of the enemy were found the 20th we advanced a little ways and had not got Earth works thrown up only partialy for we had not had time and the enemy massed their troops in the woods and came upon us with a rush and in overwhelming numbers. we were looking for an attack from the enemy and they thought they would surprise us and capture our Artillery but Hooker's Corps is not very easily move when the have the Old Gen. himself on the ground as he was there they caused a little confusion at first for there was a large Rebel force some places five lines deep while ours was ony one they got up very cloce to a Battery but to their sorrow, for they had to fall back several desperate attacts and the Artillery just mowed down in piles, and they accomplished nothing and lost very heavy to be sure we lost some but their loss was a great deal the largest, for I went over the ground myself after the Rebels had been repulsed. after they fell back we built breastworks and lay quiet all day the 21st and that night the Rebels fell back in our front two miles leaving one line of strong works which they had been compelled to give up on acct of a flank movement. yesterday we advanced up there and built very strong works and now would give them a hot time if they would come up here. our Batteries can shell Atlanta from our present position.

It is quite cool and comfortable here today, cloudy. there is heavy firing from artillery all of the time now but the enemy do not hirt much for their Artillery is not very good. The best news I can tell you is that I am well and hope to remain so. I have no postage stamps and no way to get them here and hope you will send some in your next letter. you speak of the fight of the 27th of June. Our Corps was not engaged much and did not loose much I have written about it before.

I have received your letter of July 10th and it was a good one but I am sorry to hear that you was worrying so about me. tell Sarah that I sent the letter to Monroe at Chattanooga Then I have got a niece have I that is news to me. Cell

I can not write much for the mail goes out at noon I will try and get a Stamp of some one all well

Marcellus W. D.

To Mother

Q. M. Department 154th N.Y.V.
Atlanta Ga. Sunday Sept 11th 1864

Dear Friends.

I seat myself once more to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and prospering finely in the great and famous City of the South. You will see by the date or hearing of this that I have left the Hospital, and I am detailed as Commissary Serg't. of the Regiment (that is) to draw and issue the rations for the Regiment. we have got a commissary to our regiment but he is detailed at Corps Head Quarters and Edgar had a chance to recomend any one he choosed to for the place so he choose me. there is one or two things why I had rather be here, that is I do not have to carry any gun and when on the march I do not have to cary any of my things and I mess with Edgar. he can buy any thing they have at the commissary so we can live very well. I had just got back from the Hosp't. the day I was detailed (day before yesterday) I can probably stay here if I suit them (which I think I can do) till our commissary Serg't. gets back and I dont know how long that will be he may stay where he is till our time is out and he may come back when we move but I think not. I have just come from the Reg't. have been issuing Soft bread I got the package of Envelopes you sent me. this is the first mail that has come in in several days for the road has been cut I expected to get three or four letters today, being I have not had any in so long a time, but I will never mind perhaps I shall get them next time. I believe I told you to mail the envelopes at Rutledge for I know it would be just like Kellogg to charge nine or twelve cents for sending I have just been up to the regiment and issued soft bread for one day the boys are all having a nice rest now, the first time in over four months but what they have been under marching orders, (that is liable to move any time) but now it is understood they are to rest some time dont know how long when the Army moves from here again there will have to be some troops left to guard the place and I think it is as likely to be our Div as any one for it is so small the white star have done some fighting since the fourth of May last.

I get plenty of reading matter now from these old houses (not old but deserted) by their owners the house we are in is in the edge of the City and upon an eminence so we can overlook the whole city nearly. It is a wonder why some General has not taken possession of it before this time but lucky for us that they did not and I hardly think they will order us out now though it is just as they take a notion about that you know or at least I do.

Then Charley has gone to work by the month has he I am most afraid he will hirt himself at work he is so ambitious. that never was the case with me they hardly ever could get enough out of me to hirt me. Well now I must tell you I wrote a letter to Deloss yesterday and sent it by a citizen that is going south through our lines he said he would carry it right through and he thought sure Deloss would get it. I heard that the man had charge of the prisoners at Andersonville Ga. but dont know that this is so most all of the Reg't. wrote that had any acquaintances there and the man promised to see the letters safe through I did not seal mine up I wrote that all were well the last I heard from home and that you and Lyb had heard from him by way of Mr Moore that escaped from there I am in hopes he will get the letter. the citizens are all going north or south which they choose best and this is the way I sent the letter by a man going.

Q. M. Dep't. 154th N.Y.V.
Atlanta Ga.
Sept. 19th 1864

Dear Friends

I am well and hope these few lines will find you all enjoying the same blessing I was very sorry to hear that Frank was sick but am in hopes to hear that he is getting better, and that soon too I have worried a great deal about him the poor little fellow how I long to see him with laughter and joyful eyes and Welley too they all seem dear to me and I am in hopes to be with you all next fall at this time or a little later our time is rolling away swiftly two years the 26th of this month has all ready passed and I can say truthfully that I never have seen the time since I enlisted that I regretted putting down my name, though we have see hardships in the field it was unpleasanter at James-town on some accounts than any place I have been yet since then I did not know what Soldiering was and was all of the time dreading it though anxious to leave there and find out the realities of Soldiering. I think I know now about what it is.

Edgar, Dell and myself stay together now and have (this day) moved into a nice house left by some rich Secesh when the Rebel army fell back from here. Edgar says it makes him think of going to School at Randolph and so it does me though we do not have to cook our own "grub" Edgar is entitled to a waiter and he cooks for us all

As I look out of the window into the camp and city it is a war like scene. would that Charly could be with me a few days and see the "gate city" and army of this Military Division of the Mississippi I have been around through the Town some and saw the effect of our shelling while the Rebels were here. a great many of our shells lay around in the streets some that burst and some that did not in front of our Corps there are a great many buildings nearly demolished large stores and dwelling houses all show the marks of war. all of the citizens that remained in the place during the Siege had dug a "Goapher hole" or under ground cellar for safety there they had to stay the most of the time it is hard I know but such is war and so it is we have all got to stand it.

There are some very nice buildings here four churches a large female seminary and medical College court house and town hall with a great many other buildings of lesser note

The stores are most all cleaned out of every thing that is good for anything some of the boys that came in here first got some Tobacco and other things but the town was pretty well cleaned out by the rebels before they left! General Sherman has issued an order to send south through our lines all of the citazens that can not support themselves and will not go north. this is a good thing for all we can get here we want ourselves, that is the rebel plan to put off on to us all the helpless and cripples that can not take care of themselves when the rebels left they did not take all of their sick and wounded they left about one hundred in one Hosp't. I saw. they all say Hood can not make his men fight any more after leaving Atlanta. I suppose we shall have a little rest now, and get pay before we start on an other Campaign

they owe us eight months pay now and I should be glad if they would pay it to us now while I can send some of it home by express and not risk mail to carry it.

There is some talk of our Corps going back to Va. but I hardly think we shall. I hope not any way for the winters are so much milder here and we have got used to the climate I think the water is better here. on some accounts it is better in Va. if one gets wounded or sick there is a chance to have better care and we should probably get better rations there that is the only thing better there than here! we have only one more winter to put in and I had stay here our time out. one year from now if we are not in an active Campaign we shall probably go home, but if we are in an active campaign we will not go till about the 24 or 26 of the month. I have been talking when our time would be out if we did not re enlist this winter. I am quite anxious to hear about the draft if it took place on the 5th or not. John said he would write to me and let me know immediately after the draft how the case stood with him.

Well I have written about all that will interest you so I will close, hoping to hear from you soon. Edgar has got to go out side of our lines tomorrow with some rebel citazens

no more at present

I have written this by candle light and have not follow the marks very well

Good night
Marcellus Warner Darling
Co. "K" 154 N.Y.V.

I am going up to the Regiment now and perhaps I shall get some mail. Good bye for this time hoping to hear from you soon and that Frank is better I close Marcellus.

Mr. Moore did not know any thing about Delosses folks he said Deloss was comfortably dressed with clothes he got last winter you must not believe all you hear about the prisoners in the papers Moore is a man you can believe & he said Deloss and them have enough such as it is and that Deloss was well

I heard that Leon had got 25 men and only wanted 2 more good for them Miron Wilson has enlisted I hear I have got stamps enough for now Cell

(Undated fragment, probably Sept. 15, 1864)

them, there has been quite a number of the boys that have sent and got them the same way and never have to pay over three cents and I think you could have sent them for that at Conewango. It is not the money I look at so much but he has no right to charge that or any more than other P.M.s if I send for any thing else I want you should mail it at Rutledge or not send it at all for I will not humor him to let him charge what he pleases. It makes me mad to think he will try to nig a Soldier so. if I did not know that others do not charge accordingly I would not say so much but I know what others get things for mailed at other post offices, but I guess this is not very interesting to you so I will change my Subject.

Dell Chaffee has just got a letter and they write that I am taken prisoner and that I was taken to Andersonville and saw my Brother Deloss. this they probably got hold of some way by me hearing from Deloss, by Mr Moore of our regiment. I wrote about it you know if you got my letter and I had a letter from Libbie of Aug. 19" she said you had got my letter that I wrote when I heard from Deloss I have not had a letter from you in some time I am looking for one now daily, I am in hopes we shall get our mail more regular now old Wheeler is whiped and John Morgan killed I hear in a fight near Murfreesborough Tenn.

I suppose you would like to hear how the City looks you have read so much about it and perhaps you have read a better account of the Town than I can give. I guess I shall have to stop for tonight for it is getting dark, so good night. Cell

Well I have got a candle lit and will try and finish this imperfect letter

Atlanta Ga.
November 4th 1864

Kind Mother.

I seat myself once more to write you a few lines. I have been thinking of writing now most every day, but have had a great deal to do to get our business straightened up. we are under orders to move soon on a fifty days Campaign in what direction none of us know as usual. but you may look for an active Campaign this fall in this Dep't. The best news is that I am well and having good times for a Soldier Dell Chaffee has been detailed at the Corps Quarter Masters and Edgar and I have all of the business to do now. we have been issuing clothing and making out the papers & getting ready to move and I have not had much time to write letters. last night I wrote making out papers till midnight and have been at it all day most and now we have got most done tomorrow (it is now evening) I shall write some more letters and try to get caught up a little.

I like it where I am now first best Edgar and I can always get along if any body can. I rec'd. a letter from Byron Allen tonight he said he had rec'd. your letter. I shall write to him soon as the time will permit.

We have got about fifty recruits Green Mason and Butler went into Co. K. they are all well I believe. It has been cold and rainy here for three or four days and is quite muddy now.

We live in a white house in Atlanta and have Sweet Potatoes to eat too. I wrote to Charly the other day after I came in from foraging

I have not had any mail from Syb in some time she dont write as often since she was married for some reason you tell her that I am Still looking for a letter from her, also Aunt Mary.

Mother I was so glad to hear you had so good a visit with John. I have had one letter from him. I believe you were there then. I have recd your letter of October 16th with the one from Byron Allen enclosed. I was very glad to get your letter it was such a good one and so long that it made me think I must write you a long letter. We live very well now have sweetened joneycake every day & they are good too I do not hear anything from Deloss, over a month since I wrote him a letter and sent it by a man that was going South through the lines he said it would go all right. I should like to know if it has I wrote about it at the time but dont know as you got my letter for I have had no letters from you saying any thing about it. one thing if we go on a Campaign now I shall not have to cary any thing (which I always have had to do heretofore and I believe done it as well as any of them. we have plenty of Blankets any can carry them on the wagon.

I understood by Charlys letter that Father could not vote for Mr. Lincoln, and I was very much Surprised to hear it for I knew he was a man that read and sounded the weight of the present cricis but I am happy to learn that he is going to vote for the only right man now running it is not McClellan as much as it is the platform and the way he and the rest white wash it I must close for tonight for I have written enough for one day and it is bed times. Good night.

Cell

Nov. 5th 1864

I will finish this now if possible and send it out before we march. We have got to go tonight or in the morning but where ere we go do not worry about me I have a horse to ride and no gun to carry so I can get along I used to and carry my load and gun but now by having a friend I have got this position I have just issued five days rations and nothing to do now if we had not got to march but to write. but if we go tomorrow I shall not have time to answer Uncle Johns & Deals if they do not hear from me soon it will be because I cant send mail or some good reason I think we are going crossed through the State to Savannah or Charleston and perhaps Mobile and I should not wonder if Atlanta was evacuated if so you will hear for some good purpose for we are not obliged to do so I can assure you. I believe we are to take thirty days rations in the wagons

Write all the news that is afloat in Leon from your

Son Marcellus W. Darling

Co K 154th N.Y.V.

Camp Four miles in rear of Savannah Ga.
Friday Decem. 16th 1864

Dear Friends

Through the blessings of God I am once more permitted to write to you.

The first thing to tell you is that I am well and have been the entire campaign and I hope you are all the same.

We have marched three hundred miles and opened communications on the coast with the capture of fort McAllister and armament

I have seen a portion of Georgia on this campaign and think we shall see the inside of Savannah soon. We started from Atlanta the 15th of Nov. and reached here the 13th of Dec. I wrote to you some time before we left Atlanta that we were going some where but did not know where, you have probably heard from us some by the papers. We have not rec'd. any mail yet but expect to tomorrow and then I hope to hear from you also what has transpired north during the campaign We had not heard from election when we left Atlanta but found rebel papers that said Lincoln was elected but how much majority I did not learn I hope to get some papers as soon as the mail comes

A little about our journey the first point we struck the rail road running to Augusta was at Sircle a small town and depot we followed up this road some distance and then made for Millidgeville the capitol entered the City the 22d of Nov. lay here one day and started on. I will try and give more particulars and incidents of the march next time. there is so much to write about I cant tell what to mention first.

I should like to know if Deloss is exchanged some of the women told me that all of our prisoners had been exchanged and sent north I saw one paper that said they were delivering them over to the Yankees I hope it is so and that Deloss is with you now. We certainly made them some trouble with our prisoners. I saw a large Stockade at Millen where they had been confined it was a horrid looking place about ten thousand was said to have been confined there. their old wooden and dirt huts were standing. they were obliged to remove the prisoners but whether they were exchanged or not I do not know.

We have lived on the country and had plenty of sweet potatoes when we were moving but now we live on beef and a half pound of rice each day till the wagons get back from the landing where we expect to get our rations from and mail too.

All of the communications leading to the City of Savannah are cut off and the City will have to be given up when their supplies give out the City is strongly fortified but that does no good when it is surrounded. I think we shall get plenty of supplies when Sherman gets his base

well established and a better communication that we had at Atlanta. we have not had mail regular since we left Lookout Valley but now the rebels can not tear up our communications. I hear there is five men come tonight from a rebel prison in S.C., they belong to the 134th Regt N.Y.V. of our Brigade. I shall see them soon as I can and see if they know anything about the prisoners of our Regt. they are Officers and I hardly think they were with the enlisted men.

I have been very well on this march and the first one the Regt ever made when I have not had to carry a gun and knapsack I have got a horse and ride when we march it is a captured horse and shall have to turn it in when we get into a permanent camp I dont know as I can send this tomorrow but shall try for I know you must want to hear from me as I do from you.

There has been three or four of our Regt captured on this campaign when out foraging and since we came here two wounded with with a Shell thrown from a rebel Gun Boat we can see the city plain when it is clear our Reg't. lays on the bank of the Savannah River The recruits that came to us stand it well John Green makes a good Soldier

I should like to know if Simon had got the hundred dollars I sent home by the pay master before we left Atlanta I wish you would find out and write me for I am quite anxious to know. Tell them all I am well and will write soon as I can. I must write to John as soon as I can.

Write how you are getting along this winter and if it is cold. it has been some cold here but no Snow. we did have the very best weather on the march which was a great blessing. it is most bed time and I must close hoping to get some mail soon

I remain as ever
your unworthy Son
Marcellus W.

To Mother Father and all/ Saturday Dec 17th 1864
I have just got your letter of Nov. 6th & one from Aunt Mary. We shall get some more mail in the morning and I shall probably get some more Please excuse me for this time Cell I tell you I was glad to hear from home once more Cell It is very singular that you do not get my letters I wrote you just before we left Atlanta and that we were under marching orders please write if you got that. good night
Dec. 17th

(U.S. Christian Commission letterhead)

Savannah Ga. Jan 4th 1865

Dear Friends

I am once more seated at the desk to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and enjoying city life right well.

Our Division is doing provost duty in the city and Genl. Geary is in command of the Post.

I think if Genl. Geary continues in command that we shall remain here to garrison the Town. at least I hope so for it is much better to lay in camp with plenty of rations than to be marching all around over the whole confederacy. The Army will move from here soon I think, and then we can tell who will remain here. We have been short of rations since we came here till within three or four days. I think we shall get plenty to eat now. Apples are coming in but they are very dear \$2.00 per dozen. I do not buy many. if the Army moves from here we shall get things more plenty.

I have not written you I think since we came into the city. I wrote you before the city was taken. we do not get mail very often there has not been any in five or six days. I hope the mail arrangements will work better in a few days.

Well only most nine month more to serve for us. This is a very large city and has about 20,000 inhabitants about 16,000 women and children. there is a paper printed in this Town now, I will send you one in a few days so you can see the yankee spirit in Savannah Georgia.

I have not much to say only that I am well and think I shall remain so.

The chaplain gave me this sheet of paper today, so I will write to you on it.

Your last letter that I have rec'd. was November 6th 1864.

I have got Byron Allen's picture.

I did not think to tell you where to direct, but it will come all right if you directed as usual. write soon as convenient from your Son M.W. Darling Direct Savannah Geo. 2nd Div 20th Corps I should like to have you and Charly both write. Cell. It is evening and I am in my tent with several others.

Qr. Mr. Dept.
154th Reg't. N.Y. Vols
Savannah Geo.
January 21st 1865

Dear Brother and Sister,

I am tired of waiting any longer for a letter from you so I will write you a few lines this evening! as Edgar has gone out and I am alone in our wall Tent (or cotten house) and everything is comfortable and warm with our little box stove and by the way I must tell you how we came by it. after we got into this city we found we needed a stove and out we put came to an old "Reb" hospital that was left in our possession after the retreat of Messrs Hardee & Beauregard, here was a pile of stoves, and a guard also but as soldiers we layed a plan to get it, so Capt Gallagher was to strike up a conversation with the guard while the Quarter master and I were to clinch the stove and hurry up the street out of sight, the plan was layed and we advanced. Edgar and I flanked the guard and the Capt drew his attention by asking him what corps he belonged to and what Regiment; his back was turned and we seized the stove and off we went carrying it nearly half a mile to get and keep out of sight, the plan was a complete success and we gained a desided advantage We entered this city one month ago today the rebels leaving the night before.

I have not received only one or two letters since we came here. I got one today from Mother today with the pleasing intelgence that Deloss had been released from the rebel prison and they expected him home. I was very pleased to hear from him and to hear that he was as well as he was. I hope he is with you now and enjoying good apples and cider muchly.

I have not yet heard from my money sent home to Simon before we left Atlanta Geo. and I am a little fearful it is lost Edgar heard from his money over a month since. I wish you would see Simon and write to me as soon as possable for I must do something about it if it is lost by mail. I sent it by the Pay Master Major Campbell, there was one hundred dollars.

If you see Mother tell her I rec'd. he letter of January 8th but not the one she wrote before that she spoke of & that I will answer her's soon. we expect to move soon on a campaign towards Augusta or Charleston and you will hear more of Sherman's movements, but they can not order us around only about eight month longer and then I will tell you all about our march through Georgia and what good times we had.

Please remember me to Mrs Anesly and tell her to speak a good word to her Mary for me and remember me to all of the hill(?) girls that are gay and festive and write soon as convenient I remain as ever your loving Brother M.W.D.

M.W. Darling Serg't. 154th Reg't. N.Y.V. 2nd Div. 20th A.C.
Savannah Geo. Good night I must go to bed now In haste Cell.

Q.Mr. Dep't. 154th Reg't. N.Y.V.
In the field Thiry miles from
Savannah Georgia
January 30th 1865

Dearest Friends,

I seat myself once more to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and enjoying life well and hope you are the same. We started from Savannah the 27th and got here last night, shall move from here in a day or so probably into South Carolina. Greely is here and is doing well. I hear that I can send this in the morning so I write this evening and in great haste. I wrote you first before we left the City, and have not heard from you in some time.

I hope Deloss is well and with you now. Good night

Cell

(direct as before)

In haste

M. W. D.

Camp 154th Reg't. N. Y. V.
Goldsborough N.C.
March 27th 1865

My Dearest Beloved Friends

I am once more seated and permitted to write you.

I am tough as a bear can eat all my rations though I have enough now

We have been quite busy today building quarters, and now we have got them done and I am writing by candle light

I wrote you a letter four or five days since, just before we went to Kinston for supplies I mailed the letter then and hope it will reach you as soon as possible for I think you must want to hear from me ere this time (about two months). We had a good time going to Kinston, returned yesterday. when we left the corps was four miles from here but while gone they moved to the Town or City; where we shall probably remain till about the 1st of April though I can not tell how long! we need rest and clothing which we shall now get probably. I sent to you a few pair of Shirts and a pair of stockings and I do hope you _____ the letter if you do not send some _____ red woolen. I expect you will have _____ the cloth but I will send you some _____ ten dollars in this that is all I can sp _____ now before we get pay again then I will send enough more.

Yesterday was the first mail we rec'd. since Feb 2nd when I rec'd. the _____ from Aunt Mary informing me of Delose's death we had no chance to send out mail then. today I rec'd. a letter of Feb. 19th from Aunt Mary and two from you dated Feb 1st & 16th one from Libbie Feb 8th and one from Ettie of Jan 29th.

I tell you now it did me good to hear from you once more it has been so long. Our Colonel Jones has been made a Brig General and _____ returned yesterday. we all think a g_____ deal of him.

I have not much time to write tonight so I will close hoping you are all as well as myself

Yours as ever

M.W. Darling

(To Mother and all)

Direct to 154th N.Y.V.
2nd Brig 2nd Div
20 A.C.
Shermans Army
Goldsborough N.C.
In haste