

14  
Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, O.  
Oct 1, 1862

Cate Schmidt.  
Dear Wife

Yours of the 25th Isned has com to hand wich pleased me very much. I see in your letter beging me if poseble not to go to the fruntteers to fight the Indians. I haf alreedy bin orderd with my Company to the above named Camp wher they organice several Regts. to go on the frunteers if needet to fight the said Indians. But stil I think I shal come hoam once more befor I am ordert to Minnessoda on the above named dutis. We ware all paid up to the last of August 1862. And so was I glad to hear that you got Conrad Hellers House for \$3.00 month and that you was sadisfied with it and morso that you & Caspers health is so good & stil increasing I thank God for such fortune hoaping it will still more increas. I heard that Brother Casper was coming hoam on a sick furlough. Tell me as soon as he comes. I seen Coloni Siber of the 37th in Columbus & seen several Cpts. I understand Capt. Hipp is Major of the 37th Regt. O.V.I.

No yous in sending P. Stamps nor Paper nor Envelopes for I have plenty now. I can send some my self. I cant tell just when I can come for I must git permission of General Wallace for so few days, lieve of Absent, I think he will grand such to me. I shal close my few lines giving my best Respects your Mother, Sisters & Brother, all the Brewers, Expesly Heddy & John. I send you an Envelope with the corect directions on it to me as soon as you answer you can put this inclosed envelope. I shal send an envelope with my directions on it.

I Remain Yours Truly Beloved Husband.  
Lient Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. G. 1st. Regt. of Paroled Forces at  
Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, Ohio

Tel John that I dit not git the money yet. I wroat him a letter about it, what to do & what not to do. H. Schmidt

Camp Lew Wallace  
Oct. 9, 1862

Cate Schmidt.  
Dear Wife

Yours of the 5th Inst has com to hand but I am sorry to hear that our son, Casper is sick. Hoaping though that it will soon be over again meby he has catched a bad coald and thats what keeps him back. I was glad to hear in your letters before stating that he was giting along so fine. Hoaping that his health will restore again befor long.

I am stil at Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, Ohio. Yet first Lientinent in Company C. 1st Regiment of Paroled Forses under Capt Syms, & Colonel Neff. Thank fortion my health is good and plenty to do now, drill every day, Drespirade [dress parade] every evening & plenty guarding to do. I can not tell when I can git lieve of absent to com home and git what I am in need off. I have only one pair of pants with me and I havent had them off yet sience I left hoam.

If Casper gits wirs wright to me about it so as to let me know and I shal trye my best to com hoam for a few days if no more. I Recieved a letter of Brother John today saying what nice tyme he had at Sidney [with his luck at Sidney].

I shal cloas my few lines not knowing much news at present. Hoaping though that I will hear better news about Casper our Son & child.

So I remain your True beloved Husband until deth. Give my best respec to all inquiring friends. Expecly to Your Mother, Sisters, Brother & C.

Lient H. Schmidt  
Co. C. 1st Regt. of Paroled Forses near Columbus, Ohio

25  
Camp Lew Wallace  
Oct. 15, 1862

Cate Schmidt.  
Dear Wife

Yours of the 11th Isned has come to hand stayting that Casper is still sick. I do not know about coming hoam. I cant tell you exacly wether I can or not this week. Meby at least I hoape so. I shal trye my best as soon as I see the Collonel & General. It is hard giting away from hear for an Officer and every man absent from hear on parol that has bin paid is taken as a Deserter and delt with as such. I recieved a letter of Casper today stayting that he will be discharged and that he is very sick. Thank fortion my health is good again I had the feaver an ague last Sadurday but I stopt it on me with Pickels & Brandy. And I havend had it sience. I am stil at the same old place Co. C. 1st Regt of Paroled Forces Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, Ohio.

I shall close my few lines and Remain Your True Husband until Deth. Pleas Give My best Respects to all Inquiring Friends. Expesly Your Mother, Sisters & C.

Lient Henry Schmidt  
Co. C. 1st Regt. P.F.  
Camp Lew Wallace

Camp Lew Wallace  
Oct 19, 1862

Cate Schmidt  
Dear Wife

Yours of the 13th just has com to hand. Hoaping those few lines may find you in good health. I am glad to hear that Casper is giting better. Thank fortion I am all right again. About the Watches, Mr L. Miller he paid me \$4. on his wach he owes One dollar yet. He can pay you if they is eny body their that can take the Watches along . You can let them have them. Casper can tent to that. Caspers wach cost \$1.50 One Dollar and fifty cents. I had it cleant out, you can give it to him and he can pay you. I had to pay \$10. dollars to git all the waches fixt if the man can pay the ballance that takes the waches \$3.50. He can do so but if he cant you can tell him that they can send the money to Casper the first change they git & Casper can give it to you. Just let Casper read this letter and he will know what to do with the waches. He can give all the prices of the waches to Mr. Boasel. I understand that he is orderd to git the waches probely he can pay the \$3.50 & then git it from the boys again tel Casper that he shal tent to it and about coming hoam, they is no chance now. Casper says that they could not make me go and fight the indians, he is mistaken it is a order from the war department to reorgenice all paroled forses in to Regiments and if neadet to go to the frontteers to fight the indians. I think though that I will be exchanged befor long so that I can go back to the 37th Ohio regt. and help to drive the enema[enemy] back out of the Kanawa Valy. Again I heard to be true that all Ohio troopd ware to be exchanged expesly all Ohio Officers. They was a lot of Officers exchanged alreedy out of this Regt and they left this week to join their Regiments. Hoaping that I may be so lucky befor long and about the goald pen let Mr Craig have it for it dont belong to me for I only foud [found] it and I haf no yous for it no eny how. News I dont know much now at the presend tyme I am the only Officer in this Company our Colonel was exchanged and left. We are in tents we had a hard frost last night. I would like to see Casper my Brother very much but I cant git hoaping that I will soon see all of yous at Wapak. Dont forget to tell Casper about the waches, he knows who they belong to. I shal close my few lines and Remain Your.

Pleas give my best respects to all inquiring Friends, Expesly Your Mother, Sister&

Brother, Sam Craig, Jo Schubert, Chs. Carber & all the ballance & all the Brewers.

Expesly Heddy.

I Remain Your True Husband Until Deth.

Lient Henry Schmidt

Comdg. Co. C. 1st Regt. of Paroled Forses

Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, ohio

Answer Soon Let Casper read this letter and he will know what to do with the Waches.

Filson Historical Society

Camp Lew Wallace  
Oct. 24, 1862

Cate Schmidt  
Dear Wife

Yours of the 21st Inst has com to hand. Staiting about me being angry or mad at you. I do not know what you mean by that for I know that I dit not wright eny thing to hurt your feelings in the last week maybe you could not read my letter for I wroat it in a hurry and you might a mistakeun readin it , theirfor or drop such a foolish thing, like you know that we are married and coresponding love letters has \_\_\_\_\_ out for married men. News I dont know much at present. I think that we will stay here at Camp Lew Wallace all winter.

Dit you tel Casper about the waches or dit you let Casper read the letter I send you. And dit you give Mr Craig the Goald pen or not if you ditent give it to him as soon as poseble and about the Wil I will tent to that in tyme dont be eny ways uneasy about that. And about wood John can git some wood for you and he can pay for it and charge it to me I shal wright to him about it and you can tel him your self and let him read this page he can have from five or six cords of wood halt to your house for Winter.

I shal Cloas my few lines and Remain Yours Truly. Give my best respec to all inquiring friends. Hoaping that I shal soon see you all before long.

Give my best Respects to Your Mother, Sisters, brother, S. Craig, Brother Casper, John & C.

Your Truly Beloved Husband

Lient. Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 1st Regt.  
of Paroled Forses  
Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, O.

you can tair this half page off and let John read the other half.

84  
Headquarters Camp Lew Wallace  
Nov 4, 1862

Cate Schmidt.  
Dear Wife

Having arived hear at the above said camp. Save and sound [yesterday noon]. My Breved Seckond Lientanant toald me that it was all right the Company was Mustert for Pay last Friday the mustering Officer Inquierd for me and he toald him that I had a lieve of absant and it was all right the talk is to pay us off this week I doubt it very much I hoap so at least the boys ware all glad to see me for some of them needet clothing. I would if roat yesterday but they is One of my men hat his pistel, Money & C. stolen from him by one out of Co. B. this Regt. and I was bount to git that for him befor I don eny thing els, for he is one of my best men. News I dont know very much. Our armys are doing hevy fighting in Virginia.

About what I toald you the evening befor I left you, you must not bother yourself about for I love you and always did and always shal til deth parts us and everything I toald you is for your own good. I regret that I ditent expalain you what I ment, for I seen that you dit not understand me exacly [mebe you do now at least I hoape you do] Stil what is past is past but dont think that I do not or will not tent to my buisness or duty in tyme, If you think eny other way you think wrong and hurt my feeling very much. I hoape that you will settle your mind and so as I toald you a menia tyme. Hoaping that God may be with you in all your doings , do your duty as a Cristian as you have don and we will again meet in love and peas, live in peas, and once be hapy for Ever and Ever. Aman

I Remain your Truly beloved Husband until deth.  
Lient. Henry Schmidt  
Condg. Co. C. 1st Regt. Paroled Forces.

Camp Lew Wallace  
Nov. 9, 1862

Cate Schmidt  
Dear Wife

Yours has come to hand seeing your good health. Thank fortion my health is good. Hoaping that it will continue so. News I dont know much at present. I am glad to hear that you are better sadisfied, I hoap you will remain so for it is the best for you. For my share I shal do what is wright wich I always have don so far. And hoap that God shal spare my Health and Life to do it further. Payday has not come yet. I supose we will be paid next week. I have no cirtenty what day I have fulfilt your desier for I made you a ring as good as I could with a knife. If I hat toles [tools] I might if fixt it better. I supose it will suit you for I wirket hard enough at it. Cuting my fingers & C.

Give My best Respects to all Inquiring Friends, Expesly Your Mother, Brothes & Sister.

Casper, John, Mother, Father, Sam Craig, Hedy, all Brewers.

I remain Yours true Husband until Deth.

Lient. Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 1st Regt. P. Forces.



Camp Lew Wallace  
Nov. 19, 1862

Cate Schmidt  
Wapakoneta, Ohio

Dear Wife.

Yours of the 16th just has come to hand which pleased me very much you mention about me being exchanged, that is more than I know but if such is the case I shall come home once before I leave Camp Lew Wallace to go to the 37 Regt. O.V.I. About your coming hear it is rather foolishness for it takes the pile considerable, if I am exchanged I don't expect to leave hear in less than four or five weeks at least and I can certainly find three or four days time to go home to take good by once more. News I don't know any at the present time. Pay day has not come yet. It seems to me that you don't care how long the pile [of money] lasts. Hoping that you will act to your and mine advantage. Hoping that your mind hasn't troubled about you not seeing me any more. For if possible I shall go home and stay a few days before long [if exchanged or not].

Dear Wife I have given you a small lesson on the other side so that you know what I think and mean. Hoping that you fully understand what I have mentioned to you. I shall close my few lines. Giving my best respects to all inquiring friends, especially Your Mother, Brother, Sister, Samuel Craig, all Brewers & C.

And I shall remain Your True Husband until death.

Who will and shall advise you now and always to your own good. As well to your body as to your soul. Hoping God may be with us both now and always so that we may join in the other world as lovely as on this.

Lient. Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 1st Regt. Par. Forces.  
Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, Ohio

Camp Lew Wallace  
Nov. 23, 1862

Cate Schmidt  
Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Dear Wife

Yours of the 20th has come to hand a few minuts ago. Staiting in it that you was in fun about your fisigan [visiting] me hear in Camp Lew Wallace. I supose it was for I thought at the tyme red it that you had more sience then that. Hoaping that all such thoughts may be in fun so that they mayent amount to anything. For I would just as lieve take a woman in a Hoor House as to fech her in this Camp. I wouldent be hootet at as much as I would hear among so meny roudys. I am sorry to say such but it is a fact. I have seen enough how wimman was hoopt at hear in Camp. This Camp is a seckond hell the boys refust to perform Guard duty , burnt the Guard House last night and doing develment wher ever a change offers. No farmer is safe in stoping hear to sell fruits & C. . They knoct the sutlers windows in last week and thretent to set it on fire. The whole Regiment stacket their arms yesterday , al of them laying around and doing nothing, eating, every thing they can git, kill Hogs, Calvs, Chickens & so on. It is giting wirs and wirs every day. One reson is the boys hasent bin paid thus month yet and they are bount to do all they can until paid. For myself I cant complain for I git along well enough. As long as my health is good and thank God such has bin the case, ever sience I left you last I have had and hav yet a bad coalt, coafing & C. but is decreasing every day. Theirfor it is safer for wimmen to remain at hoam and Generly always, for you never see a good womman run from one house into an other and about the lesin [lesson] you speak of in your last letter, is all right for I ment what I said wether you ware in fun or in earnest. For I have toalt you my wishes over and over and about me being Exchanged I dont see it and dont believe it, For I see that they exchange larger troops. That is wher they was a good meny taken prisoner at one tyme and one plase such as Bull Run & C. and about small squads. As when I was taken I believe that we are in tierly forgoton or laid aside. I hoap and wate with pations for my exchange so that I can once more go to the 37 Ohio Regt. among friends to give the Rebbels a chase. Hoaping that the above wish may soon be fulfilt. The weather is nice and very butiful since or during the past . We had two days rain but it is all nice

again. I have not bin outside of this Camp sience I came hear when I was at hoam last.  
I shal close my few lines with the above wishes and giving my best Respects to all Inquir-  
ing Friends, expesly your Mother, Sister, Brothers. Samual Craig, all Brewers & C.  
About the ring you can put the silver plates in your self and rub them on wood, that is if  
you have not lost them. Wright soon and I shal answer promptly.

Remaining Your True Husband Until Deth.  
Lient. Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 1st Regt Par. Forces.  
Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, Ohio

Filson Historical Society

Camp Lew Wallace  
Nov. 30, 1862

Cate Schmidt  
Dear Wife

Yours of the 25th Inst has come to hand wich pleased me very much. Thank fortion my health is good. Hoaping those few lines may find you in good health as it lieves mine. News I dont know eny about me being exchanged. Is doubtful for I hear nothing of it concerning me expesly, an exchange has taken place but it is doubtfull if it hat reachet me I hoap so about me coming home I am in a bad fix I understant that we are to be paid of. If we git paid paid the first part of the week I shal be at hoam the latter part of it. If not meby I shal come eny how to stay a few days. I partly scart when I seen [in haste] on the out side of the envelope you send me but when I opent it I seen that it was all right and I was very well pleased dont be scard about me lieving hear befor you know it or befor I see you again. I supose Father Andrews has made a grade excitement at the City of Wapakoneta about the Fair.

I am stil in comand of Company C. 1st Regt. Paroled Forces at Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, Ohio.

I shal close my few lines giving my best Respecs to all Inquiring Friends, expesly your Mother, Brother, Sister, Mr Samual Craig [I heard that Sam was at Camp Chase in a Band, pleas let me know in your next] , all Brewers, expesly Hedy, My Father, Mother, Brother and relation & cosin Mary Smith. And all you hear inquiring for me. And I remain Your True Husband until deth.

Rest in Peas my dear,  
Lient. Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 1st Regt. Paroled Forces  
Camp Lew Wallace near Columbus, O.

Answer the last letter I send you, I wroat last Sadurday and it got among a pile of papers. An ditent lieve hear til Wednesday. H. Schmidt.

Camp Lew Wallace  
Dec. 14, 1862

My Dearest beloved Cate.  
Dear wife

Having a few minuts tyme to drop a few lines to you. You must excuse me for not wrighting eny sooner. I shal give you a small history how I past my tyme sience I come to Camp Lew Wallace, O. I arived at Camp Last friday at twelf Oclock. When I arived at Columbus, O. at 11:45 A.M. I seen Mr G.C. Kitchim my Braved 2ed Lient. at the Depo waiting for me He toald me that he hat 10 days furlough from Capt Dot. I then went to Camp wher I seen the Orders laying on my stand, no Seargt. nor nobody els to help me I went to wirk wroat all that day taking heardly tyme to eat supper wrighting til three Oclock that morning then I couldnt hoalt the pen eny more and I went to bead [bed]. Got up at Six Oclock yesterday morning went to my wirk wroat all day yesterday without taking Dinner after Supper I comenst again and wroat til two Oclock this morning. Wher I hat to quit and take a small rest and sleap this morning. I comenst again and kep on til a few minuts ago. Wher I got through with what was needet the wirst. Tomorrow I shal have to take an other full days wirk and then about two days more after I git the blanks from the U.S. Quartermaster. He has to git them first from Columbus, O. and they hafent gat them printet yet. I scribelt over 3 lbs of paper full.

Sience I left you I wish the whole Instatution was in [\_\_\_?] for my arm is so soar that I cant heardly lift a tin cup with Coffee. I havend seen no order yet that reaches me about the exchange but none of them includs me. I hoap the joyfull news will soon com that I am exchanged. Burnside has bin fighting very heard [hard] the news come this evening that they was over 70,000 kilt and wounded on both sides.

Yours Ever True  
Henry

next tyme I shal wright more I will have more tyme.

Sent to Chas. W. Hill Adgtant General

[Each Ohio Volunteer to whom this blank is sent, will please immediately fill up, sign and return it to the Office]

186\_  
To the Adgtant General, Columbus. O.  
I hereby report myself as a Ohio  
Volunteer a prisoner of War!  
I was enrolled at \_\_\_\_\_  
State of \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 186\_  
in the \_\_\_\_\_ Regiment Company \_\_\_\_\_  
O..V. \_\_\_\_\_ I was taken prisoner  
at \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 186\_  
in the State of \_\_\_\_\_ on the \_\_\_\_\_ day  
of \_\_\_\_\_ 186\_  
[ have state wether exchanged or paroled;  
and if paroled the condition of the paroled  
briefly but accurately. ] \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

My Post Office Address will be \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ in the County of \_\_\_\_\_ and  
State of \_\_\_\_\_  
Sign full name \_\_\_\_\_

Camp Lew Wallace  
Dec. 18, 1862

Most Dearest wife Cate

Yours has just come to hand . Wich pleased me very much. Thank fortion my health is good hoaping those few lines may find you and all the balance the same. I am stil busy but I can see to all easy. News I dont know much except the joyfull news that I am exchanged for cirtain and I have my orders to go to the 37th Regt. by next week. Wich pleases me very much. I recieved the orders yesterday. I think though that I shal be to hoam by monday noon if not befor and start to the Regiment from Wapak meby Tusday. I shal see and do the best I can. I have sent a box with Cloathing to you and wroat Father a letter to send me five dollars by expres imeaditly and pay the freight charges on the box and have it draged down to your house. I do not know what to say about that dam thick Head John to lieve Father in a pinch. I supose Casper is the fault of that. Weather is awful coalt hear I likent to if froas[froze] last night in my tent. Thank fortion ill be gon in a few days from this horable Camp. They came about five thousand more Paroled men in the last three day. Gen. Morgan captured a whole Bregade containing the 106th & 108th Ohio Regt.[the 4th & 5 German] and some Cavelry & C.. Morgan is stil playing Hell in Tennessee & Ky. & C..

You dont answar this letter for it would be in fain[vain]. I wouldent git it enyhow, I purty shure I shal see you in persen first of next week. So dont answar this ty;me until I wright again. If Father hasent sent the five Dollars by Sadurday tel him that he shouldent send it then. I would like to have them this week if poseble, if not , dont send. Give my best respects to all inquiring friends. Expesly Father & Mothers.

Yours until Deth  
Henry Schmidt

Ohio River  
Jan. 3, 1863

My dear Beloved Cate.

Finding it my duty to drop a few lines to you as follows. I arrived at Cincinnati today at Eleven O'clock A.M. while on the train yet I heard that the 37 Regt. and several others were ordered to Tennessee. I went to the river after I had arrived at Cincinnati to see about a Steamer for Kanawa River after I got there they were none. I and Fred Buchholtz then went up town to Wm. Hipp, as we entered his Soap Store we seen our Quartermaster present with Wm Hipp. They told us that we were one day too late that the Regt. past through Cincinnati last night about Nine O'clock, to go to assist Gen. Rosacrans for he has been fighting since last Tuesday near Memphisburg and lost over 2,000 men and still a fighting yet and our Regt. and others filling Eight Steamers full to go and reinforce him. I hardly knew what to do. I then hurried down the wharf with the men and things, just in time for a Steamer for Louisville, Ky. on which I am writing this letter probably I shall catch up with the Regt. at Louisville, if not we will follow up as quick as possible. For I'll think that we will have some fun now, if not get whipt like thunder, which I don't hope. The today's account is rather serious they are over 200 Canons that are playing since Wednesday, except the musketry. It is just 10 O'clock now and again morning we will be at Louisville, we are about half way. I traveled to Cincinnati for two dollars and forty cents, and paid only two dollars and fifty cents from Cincinnati to Louisville. Super dinner and Bed in the Barg. I am about 300 miles from home now. I think we will see some bloody times now. Thank fortune with God's Grace and Your Sweet Prayers I shall see all safe through don't forget me Morning and evenings and where ever you go to Church and be sure that the Almighty will restore me to your bosom again. And do not trouble yourself about me. Do what I have told you and with the assistance of Holy Mary the Mother of God. And we will Shine in the Eyes [eyes] of God.

I shall close my few lines for I am somewhat tired and go to bed and dream of the sweet times that are past and of what stands before us now. You don't need to answer this letter for I don't know when I will be so as to address it.

I shall write as soon as possible when I can. Send you an correct address So that I know that



I recieve it. I wright this with a Lead Pencil for it was to much trouble to git my Paper,  
Ink & C.

I Remain Your True Husband until Deth  
Lient Henry Schmidt  
37 O.V.I.

Filson Historical Society

15  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Jan. 13, 1863

Dearest One Kate.

It is with haste that I drop a few lines to you hooping those few lines may find you and all the ballance in good spirit. I just arived at the above said place all right as you know that I left Wapak on Sadurday, Jan. 3ed arived at Cincinati at Elevon A.M. took a Steemar for Lousvilla, Ky. wher I found the Regt. Campt their until last friday morning wher our Regt was ordert to Memphis, Tennasee. I think probably that by tomorow we will go for Fixburg [Vicksburg]. Wher we will see some hard fighting. We are stil on the Missisipi River in the Steamar in wich we got in at Lousvilla, Ky..

I shal close my few lines and do as I toald you in my last. I shal send you my adres this tyme to Memphis, Tenn I think I shal git it the quickest.

Your Truly until deth  
Lient. Henry Schmidt

Napolian, Arkansas  
Jan. 19, 1863

Dearest Beloved One Cate.

It is with plesior that I take my Pen in hand to drop a few lines to you hoaping those few lines may find you in good spirit and good health. Thank fortion my health is better. I was afraid that I would git sick for I had such awful bad coald. My mouth was so sour that I could not eat at least I havent et enything but Crackers and Coffee sience I left Lousvilla, Ky.. I think that we will git our backs full befor long for we shal try to take Fixburg[Vicksburg]. Our Forces tried to take it about ten days ago but got whipt & lost about half of their men, the fifty cicaghth Ohio only has four Officers yet. The ballance are all Kilt and woudet. they are about Sixty Steem Boats full of Soilgers hear and we think they will be about One Hundred more in a few day. Cannon boats we have plenty with us. I dont know excagly how meny, but I am afraid Fixburg will Fix us. Stil I shal hoap the best. I understand it is hard to be taken. The Rebels has about Eighty thousand at Fixburg and the City is so that the Cannen Boats cant git to it and Infantry about the same. For it is all One Swamp around it and wher it might be so as to git through the Bushes are so thick that a bat cant git through. We are about thirteen Hundred Miles from Hoam. Answas soon acording to the Adres.

I dont know what to do. I have enough to eat so as to keep from starving but to much to starve me.

I shal cloase my few lines and Remain your True Husband until deth. Give my best Respects to, your Mother, Brother, Sister, Father & Mother, Sam Craig, hedy & C.

Yours  
Lient Henry Schmidt

Camp Opposite Vixburg.  
Jan. 30, 1863

Dearest Wife Kate.

It is with plesior that I drop those few lines to you hoaping those few lines may find you and all the ballance in good health. I have wroate two letters to you, I supose you recieved them, while on the Ohio & Misuria [Missouri] River. Our camp is in Lousiana just opposite Vixburg wher our forces got wipt the last tyme. We are digging a Canal so that we can git at Vixburg with our Canon boats. We have about twenty with us. I think it will take some wirk until we take Vixburg. We can see over easy and see their Fortifications they have them selfs fortified about fifteen miles along the Missisipi River. Our Artillery and theirs are Firing every day. We have about two Hundred Canons with us and Infantry. I dont know how menia we have they are strung along for at least Five Miles. and stil we havent Half Enough to take Vixburg. We have a bad place hear we might lay hear for four or Five weeks yet meby longer befor we atack Vixburg. If the Canal Operation wirks I think we might take it if not I dont believe that we will take it this Jurk. The watter is bad we have over Thirteen thousand Sick alreedy. We have nothing but Swamp Watter to drink. I never Froas [froze] so in my live as I dit while I am hear and in about two weeks or four it will be so hot to roast all of us. Boarding is from Fourteen to twenty Dollars per week hear, Whiskey \$2.50 a pint, ginger bakes 5 cents a peas, Cigars 10 cents a peas, Tobacco Comon Cuttendry is \$2.00 a pound and so on but thank fortion I can do without all that. I live on Crackers and Coffee thats if I have got it. I had the Tennasee Quickstep but I thought of it in tyme, So as to buy a box of Pils to stop it. Thank fortion I feel purty well yet I have a bad pain in my Brest but I think that well all be right in a few days. I think it coms from Riding so much. I have bin Acting Regimentel Quarter Master sience the 22ed of this Month [I Belong to the Staf now]. If I can stand riding I'll stay with it if not I wont. I have seen sum, Mot, Jake and Dave Baker, Luis Seller, Wm Brown and a good menia other ones. They are all right. Today we have a nice day. We captured one Rebel Steemer with som Men & Provisions. We are laying behind a levy and we can see the Reble Artillery with our naket eyes wich they have got Plantet on the other side on the Vixburg shore. The place lays so that we cant git at it. I just wate to see what the Gun

Boats will do. I dont believe that we will take it without losing about twenty or thirty thousand men. The last Regments that was ingaged in it lost over half of their men. The 58th Ohio only com out with 113 men Fit for duty they lost 12 Officers out of 16. News I dont know eny more. Hart tymes and stil wins acoming. If you feel like it you can let Brother John read this letter for I havent tyme to wright him or Father a letter now. Give my best Respects to all Inquiring Friends. Expesly your Mother, Sisters, Brother, Father, Mother, Brother, Cusents[cousins], Aunt Hedy & C.. I shal cloas now. Dont bother your self about me if you dont git your letters correct for it is hard to git letters of now. And do as I toald you in my last letter and be a saving wher ever you can for I do the same. The Boys are all right, Fred Buchholtz shot his litle finger off of his left hand by axident. He is with the Regiment now.

I Remain Your True Husband until deth.  
Lient Henry Schmidt  
A.R. 2. M.  
37th Regt. O.V.I.  
Camp Opposite Vixburg in Lousiana Kanawa Bregade  
under Gen. Huing, Gen. Shermans Division

Camp opposite Vicksburg  
Feb. 20, 1863

Dearest Beloved Wife.

Yours of the 21st of last month has just come to hand which pleased me very much. I am glad to hear that you and all the balance are in a good state of your healths. Thank Fortion my health has bin good all along. I have an awful headache today. News I dont know but very little, it is a going about the same as I wrote in my last letters. Still Cannonading Vicksburg but we cant do much, they have themselves too strongly fortified. One of our Gun Boats run the Blockade again without getting hurt of any account. We have two Gun Boats below Vicksburg that have run the Blockade. They keep Seseesh Steam Boats from coming up to Vicksburg so as to fetch Food & C. for them, they have sunk seven Seseesh Steamers already, Capturing some men & C.. We are still working on the canal about One Thousand Niggers and about three Thousand Soldiers. It isnt near done yet. I dont believe that we will take Vicksburg under two months, If then for we cant get at it with Infantry nor Cavalry, for it is all one swamp around behind Vicksburg. And in front, the Mississippi River, the town lays in a bend and they have their Artillery planted along for at least fifteen miles along the river and from five to ten miles back of the town. We have some Mortars here and we have bin trying to shell Vicksburg yesterday and today but couldnt do much damage. It is about two miles across the river and it isnt much to be hit. If we get the Canal done we can get enough Gun Boats below Vicksburg so as to attack the town from above and below, So as to silence the Batteries and then through our Infantry across the River and by that time [I think that] Rosecrans will be in the rear to be ready for them. I understand that Sigel has joined Rosecrans. I shall close my few lines giving my Best Respects to all Inquiring Friends. Especially Your Mother, Sister, Brother, Sam Craig, Hedy & C.. My Father, Mother, Brother, Cousins and all Friends and I Remain Your True Husband until Death.

And dont forget to have the white wash ready when ever I come back. I would write more but my Headache pains too much. Right all news and what you are doing.

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C  
Yours.

Lient. Henry Schmidt

37th Regt. O.V. I. 3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15. A.C.

Camp near Vicksburg in Louisiana

Mississippi Valley

Filson Historical Society

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Camp near Vicsburg  
Feb. 25, 1863

Dearest Beloved Wife.

Yours of the 12th Inst has just come to hand wich pleased me very much. Stating that your health was in good and all the ballance of my friends and relation. Thank fortion my health is good. You complain that you ditent recieve no letter for three weeks that might all be but I wroat one letter every week, regular this makes the seventh one and I wroat one to Father and one to Casper, besides news I dont know much . We ar stil camping near Vicsburg and heard at wirk Builting a Cannall through the corner of a piece of land wher the Missisipi River takes a bend wich I shal mark of for you so that you may git a for understanding of it.

Lient. G.A. Wintzer is permotet First Lient., Theodor Nieburg is Acting Regt. Adgndent, Antony Kliffel is Quartermaster Sargant. I regret that George Koons wife is dead for she was a special friend of mine, so as Abe Lenix. I knew it for some tyme that they are dead. I seen Luis Jacson yesterday and some other boys. And about Joseph Smith weding and wife I dont know what to think I gues it is al right [I dont care]. I gues they boath must if bin <sup>dumb</sup> ~~Conf~~ Struck [Silance]. If you can pleas and git John Distelraths direction and send it to me. I would like to hear from him or corispond with him and about Sarah. I am glad to hear it. Tel her I toald Mrs Nester to fech two for her, a big boy & gal. And about you that is all right when I git back I can easy put the Masheen in Operation, It wouldnt pay the last tyme I was at hoam. Bil is live, is plaid out now, but when he gits hoam you can easy blow the live of breth in him. And about the musick studis. I think it is best myself but that is no sign that you should waste or spend it for things that haint absolutly neadet. Save in tyme and you have in your need. ?? Pal. 7 to 10 Vre?? thats something I know you look out for [or should at least for it is your duty and Hily Duty]. Listen to no body els but me not if eny body says you ought to have this or that, to run and git it right away, see first if it is absolutly nessesity, if it is, then go and suit your self if not dont do it for my sake. I know that you wont do eny thing out of the way but it dont hurt to put you in mind of it. For it is for yours and mine welfare.

I shal wright one letter every week no diferance wether I git one from you or not if I do I



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shal mention it with date & C.. You wantet to know wether it was true that I was Quartermaster. I haint it yet but I have bin acting as such. The Colonel toald me the other day that he thinks that he must take me for Quartermaster for they wasent an other man fit for the office. I shal close my few lines [but you dosent say eny thing about it until I tel you to just becaus I dont want you to] and Remain Your True Husband until Deth . Give my best Respects to al Friends, Expesly your Mother, Sister & Brother, Sam Craig, Hedy, Father & Mother, Brother & C.

Yours Truly

Lient Henry Schmidt.

Filson Historical Society

Camp near Vicksburg, La  
March 11, 1863

Cate Schmidt.  
Dearest beloved Wife

Yours of the 22ed day of February has come to hand wich pleased me very much. You state that you didnt recieve no letter for some tyme. I cant tel the reson for I wroat one letter every week regular and I dont see enything to keep them from you not giting them. I recieved four letters from you now and this is the eighth at least I write to you. Meby you git them all in a pile. I am glad to hear that your health is good. Thank fortion mine is good and has bin all along. You toald Christena Schucraft that's what she wroat to G.A. Wintzer that if you wouldnt git more letters from me you would look for an other man. Al right, but when I com back you must be mine again or I'll have a fight or foot race. Ha--Ha--Ha--He--He--

I was astonished when I red that Casper was married to a Cincinnati Gal. John Schnider toald me that he seen her , that she was a Clean Nice and Fancy Gal. That he seen Casper take her to the theater at Cincinnati. I am well pleased hoaping that he don well selectet a good partner and will do better him self. I would like to know if she is catholick or not and dit you see her and was she at Wapakoneta with him and is she English or German.

That about Capt Hipp is fals, he is Major of our regiment and a bully one at that. News I dont know much. I wroat the moast in my last to you and I wroat one to John and one to Father and one to Casper at Cinci. hoaping that they all will be recieved and answerd. The letters must arive it cant fail. I know other peoples letter dont fail most all shure. The Missisipi River is stil raising we come purty near being drove away on account of the watter for the Levee Broak and we had hard wirk to fill it up again. Day befor yesterday the Sesesh Solsiars desertet from Vicksburg and come over in a yeal they give us considerable information yesterday morning. The Gunboats comenst sheling Vicksburg but hat to quit on account of the rain wich comenst with a hevvy fog so that they couldnt see fourty yards ahead so they put it of until some other day it can comenst every minute. I wish it would for it is nice music it pleases about a dozen tymes, they fierd over at us ball [that is Canon Bals] struck the ground but a few paces from me just as good as a mile

some bustet richt above me and some near me. All just as good as a mile. And it makes nice music. And thats my ticket, not like the Copper heads that are to hoam afraid to go to Arms and fight for their Cuntry. I shal fight until I dye befor I voat for such Copper-headet Compermice as those at hoam are trying to do it wont be don if we must go to our native hoams an Kill all we can befor we or I agree to a Shameful Compermice and al the Solsiars are the same as I. Of cors we want the war to end but in a fair way not to disstroy the Union for ever. Such men ought to be hung. Give my best Respects to all Inquiring Friends, Expesly to your Mother & Sister, Hedy & My Father, Mother, Brother, Cosents & C. Christena to for the joak she wroat to gust[jest].

And I remain your true Husband.

Lient Henry Schmidt  
37th Regt. O.V.I. 3ed Brig. 2ed Div.  
15th Army Corps.  
Camp near Vicsburg, La.

you have my adres in all letters without going to other peoples for such.

Camp near Vicksburg  
March 14, 1863

Cate Schmidt.  
Dearest beloved Wife

Yours of the 27th of Feb. & 2ed of March just came to hand. Seeing that your health is good so as all the balance wick pleases me very much. Thank God my health is good now and I havend much to complain for our Sutles [Supplies]? is with us now and we can git most all we need. Such as Bread, Sausage, Cheas [cheese] three kinds, Stink Cheas, Swis Cheas and Comon Cheas, Tripes, Picles, Mustert, Hams & C.. You state in your letter of the 27th that I should resign and go hoam that we wasent fighting for the Union but that we ware fighting for the Nigros. You are badly mistaken for peoples that think or say so are Copper heads and wins then Sesesh peoples that are at hoam have good talking. Such Cowerdly Dogs afraid of their litle live and rather see the union to brake them to pich [pieces] in and fight four Countrys Flag a shame for such men. They run around now on the streets and try to keep the other ones from going, they say we fight for Nigros let us rather voat becaus we have the Majority now and settle the war. We dont care a dam for the Union & so on the draft that is coming on now suits me and morso pleases me. I wish that all such men at hoam now would have to go Excepting those that the Law agreed to lieve at hoam but dont think that I shal shamfully lieve the army in the state it is now. I would rather go and help Kill those that refuses. Their I give you my full thoughts and persenly expresion. But do not trouble your self about me for I am all right on the Goose for the Union must be restord if it costs the last drop of my Hurts [hearts] Blod. I always have loved you, always shal and will do it but I see our country is in need and I must prefer to save it or morso restor it. News I dont know but very litle. The Canal is stil progresing but slow for we cant wirk in it now for the leve broak, so as to let the watter in the?truches? are at wirk in it the Canal above is doing well. Weather is nice. The Mississippi River is about the same heighth as a week ago, most of our troops has gon above health in Ragularity is good.

I shal close my few lines. Giving my best Respects to all Inquiring Friends, Expesly Your Mother, Brother & Sister, Samuel Craig, Hedy, Mrs & Mr Breas, Father, Mother, Brother, Uncles, Cusents & C.

but dont think that I shal shamfully resign and meby be draftet in coars of two or three month. I supose you can wate until I can com with Honor orrabble [Honorable] Discharge in my Pockit & C. out of the U.S. Service. Probadum.

Your true Husband until Deth

Lient Henry Schmidt  
37th O.V.I. 3 Brig. 2ed Div.  
15 Army Corps.  
Camp Youngs Point, La.

I dont know wether Father or John recieved my letters or not.

Filson Historical Society

Camp Youngs Point  
March 28, 1863

Dear Beloved Wife.

Yours of the 8th & 10th Inst. has come to hand on the 19th Inst. while on Queens Plantation but could not answer until now. For I had no Ink, Paper nor Pen with me for we war going on an Exbadition wich I shal give you a small statement about our Exbadition. On the 17th Inst. In the morning at three oclock we Recd. orders to be redy to march at five oclock A.M. to take one days ration in haversack and three men with Cooks of each Company with five days rations. Were to go on board of the Silver Wave [Steamer] at five oclock A.M. We marcht to the lower landing with the balance of our Brigade [3ed Brig.] and the Seckond Brigade. After ariving at the loer landing we were put on board of the Steamer Fany Octon wich was all don by nine oclock A.M. We then went up the Missisipi River about fourty miles to Eagles Bend got their in the after noon. Remained on the Steamer until the next morning.

On the 18th. At about 10 oclock A.M. we ware put on shore at Queens Plantation [the wether was bad al last night] wether plesend today, making shelter for ourselves. Coald during the night.

On the 19th. Wether warm, hevvy Canonading heard in the direction of Vicsburg al last night. Seckond Brigade hard at wirk at Mud creak about one half mile below making Briges,asisting Pionears.

March 20th. Wether plesent. Stil hevvy Canonading heard in the direction of Vicsburg. Reported that three Gun Boats of Gen. Burnsidess Fleet hat Run the Blockade at Fort Hutson. Sank four Reble transports, three Escapet. Reportet that the Gun boats ware below Vicsburg and two of our Run Gun Boats had run the Blockade at Vicsburg. So as to asist the Gun Boats that came from below.

March 21st. Weather plesent. Hevvy Canonadg heard below Vicsburg by our Gun boats firing on Vicsburg.

March 22ed. A detail of One Hundred Co. A. and part of Co. K. ware orderd to build a Bridge from the Missisipi River to the lower Brege [Including me]. We got through by seven oclock P.M. Drawed Whisky for the men on Fatig then returnt to the Regt.

March 23ed. Gen. Order that the whole 37th Regt. was to be at Steals Buyouh [Steeles Bayou] at Five oclock A.M. About one and half mile we packt and put, when at the Buyouh we stacket armes, unsling Knapsacks and staid until elevon oclock A.M. wher we ware put aboard the Steamer Silver Moon, went on up Steals Buyouh, the Buyough was so narough [narrow] that it rocket the Steam or Smoke Pipes of. Arived at Black Buyough at seven oclock P.M., went up Black Buyough wich was wirs then Steals B.. Stopt about ten oclock until morning.

March 24th. Startet on arived at Trutel [Turtle]? Creak wher we ware put on shore. Hil Plantation unlodet [unloaded] the amunitions and provisions and made our Camp. At seven oclock Col. Siber got orders to send him the best Marching Officer that he has in his Regt. to cary Dispatches. The Colenel calt me, he asqned [asked] me wether I was well and good on foot. I toald him Yes! Then toald me to report my self with One Body Guard to Gen. Steward, wher I would Recieve some dispatches. I prepairt Comandet. The best man in Co G. to go with me. I thus Reported my self to Gen. Steward, he gave me four Dispatches to give to Gen. Sherman and he give me instructions when ever I was atackt to destroy the dispatches as soon as poseble and if I got to the Forth Virginia to take as meny men for body Guard as I think proper. I put of, mud ass deep and by the tyme I got to the 4th Va. Regt. the man I had with me, give out. I was all right though. I went to the Comder [Commander ] and toald him, he toald me that the whole Fleat was coming back, Gun Boats and every thing. I then took one man and went on about two miles farther wher I met Gen. Sherman. I give him the Dispatches he red them and laught, he toald me to tel Gen. Steward that he ditent need no reinforcements eny more that they ware all coming back that the Buyough was blockadet and the Gun Boats could not git through. Five Gun Boats, four Morter Boats and four Orderlis? with about three thousand Infantry. The Gen. wantet me to stay with him that night but I wouldent.

March 25th. I returnt. Arived at the Regt. next morning [25th] wher the Colonel excused me and was very glad. I went to Gen. Steward reportet myself back, toald him what I was ordered to. Took my diner with him and then returnt to the Regt. In the after noon we the whole Regt. was orderd on picket [for the Gun Boats & C. hat com back] we then went out about three to four miles wher we took our position, the Colonel toald me that I

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should sleep but I could not for I was wet al through and full of Mud.

March 26th. Co. G. and I with Capt Shoing was orderd to advance about one mile and take post becaus I knew the road, we done so. I took twelf men and a corpl. an postet them in advance of the Company about nine oclock I seen one Shesesh Calvelry man, he stopt about fifteen minuts wher about thirty gard him, they seen our picket and fired on it our picket fierd on then, they dismountet and scadadile. I took the first platoon and deploid them at Scermenshis[skirmishes]?? and advansed but could not git a fight with them. Then the bugal bload to return, wich I dit fel back about one mile then took post throod scermershes out every way but they wouldent bite. We then returnt to Camp and reportet Mar. 26. we ware orderd to go aboard of the Gun boat Corontalote [Corondelet] and on the wich we dit and went back, came hear yesterday Mar. 27th—Sound and safe. I might of roat it planer but its to cold. H. Schmidt

Lient. Henry Schmidt.



Camp Youngs Point  
April 4, 1863

Dearest Beloved Wife.

Yours of the 20th and 24th of last month just come to hand wich pleased me very much stating that your health so as al the ballance and al right. Thank fortion my health is good and all the ballance present hear. I shal give you a smal lesen this tyme in referance to your letters, for you have plenty of tyme to wright diferent then you do, for you dont wright as nice a letters as you youst to. For often you comenst to tel a thing in your letters and tel about half and then comenst something els so that but very seldom I can git plain sence out of it. I know that you can do better and that you have plenty of tyme. Pleas for my sake do take more pain for you have tables and good pens, al you want, if you mention enything tel it to the end and dont stop in the middle of it and comence something els it wil be for your own good. You have nothing to do and better tymes then eny other lady in Wapakoneta. You mentiond in your last three letters that you weigh [20] twenty pounds and brag about it being so fat but I think you must be awful poor weighing only twenty pounds. I suppose you mean One hundred and twenty lbs. and so you make mistakes in every letter you send me and wirs ones by a good eel, theirfor be carful and take your tyme [for you have plenty]. I am well enough sadisfied with what you dit wright but stil I know you can do better if you want to and take tyme. You statet in your last about going to Sidney this summer. Take my advice, a womans place is at hoam. That is spending money wher not neded, expesly poor people like us. Then you speak of me not teling Ms. Nester to fech a Boy [a baby] for you, no need of that yet or if you would like to nirce you can take my old pance [pants] and make a doll out of it and then nurce it singing Bi Bi Babe or John can give you a chiny doll. I gues he has one yet that he can sell no diferance if a Black One. Ha. Ha. Ha. Ha. Then you wantet to know how the weather is some tymes it is awful hot and some tymes purty coalt to sleep in the tents, without stove, fier or much beding.

I suppose that you al know that Vicsburg isent taken yet. Yesterday our Regt. [the 37th Ohio] went up the Mississippi River and comenst diging an other canal and finished about half of what Infantry can do. The balance of our Brigad was with us and wirket to. The

Truches? will finish the balance. Give My Best Respects to al Inquiring Friends And I  
Remain Your True Husband until deth.

Lient. Henry Schmidt  
37th Regt. O.V. I. 3ed Brig.  
2ed Division 15 Army Corps.  
Camp Youngs Point, Missisipi Vally

Filson Historical Society

Camp Youngs Point, La.  
April 17, 1863

Dearest and Truest wife.

Yours of the 7th Inst. has just come to hand wich pleased me very much. Stating that your health is good so is all the ballance of the folks. Thank fortion my health is good and has bin for some tyme. Weather is awful hot today. You wantet to know wether Vicsburg could be taken. Of coars it can and if it was coverd over with Iron Six feet thick, of coars it is hard to be taken but we must wate the tyme, tyme brings ?Pases? as the saying is, we will take it, must take it and can take it. We must only wate the tyme if we want to safe lives.

Plenty excitement every day. Last night Sevon Gun Boats and three transports run the Blockage at Vicsburg. They all got through safe except the Steamer Henry Clay wich was set afier by one shel that entert the Co Ben Room, it burnt to the waters edge and an other one of the transports recieved a shot through the steam pipe and one through the wheel house but it got through, the later was very soon repaired. I seen the whole canonade. It was nothing but one light by the flashes of the canons and a contined roaring of the canons for about two hour. The Sesesh have their artilery string along for about ten miles as you can see on the smal map I send you. It was awful, for I seen all, just as well as if I would if bin in it & seen it at day light. The last I could see the Steamer Henry Clay float down the Missisipi Burning but she dit not explode. We have now ten Gun Boats and two transports below Vicsburg of wich som carys as high as fourty four canons aboard. After they had run the blockade they went to Warenton and set it on fier. silenced their bateris eny and all day we can hear them going on. One shot after the other roaring like thunder out of the large guns, that are on the Gun Boats. I think that they are going down the Missisipi as far as Ft. Hutson and take it and then com back and try Vicsburg for ?banks? will be with us then.

But you ought of heard the cheering after the boats had got through and not more then one sank in such tremendous shout of ?Bals?. The Sesesh are giting scart for we can run the blockade with our hevy Gun Boats when ever we pleas, with out them hurting them with all their canon that they have placed along the Vicsburg side. They have an awful

Respect for our Gun Boats. The Boys are all right.

I Remain Your True Husband until Deth. Give My best Respects to all Friends.

Lient. Henry Schmidt

37th Regt. O.V.I.

3ed Brig. 2ed Dev. 15th Army Corps.

Camp Youngs Point, La.

Misupi Valy

Filson Historical Society

Camp Youngs Point, La.  
April 25, 1863

Dear beloved Wife Cate.

Yours of the 7th and 15th Inst. has just come to hand wich pleased me very much, stating that you health was good so as all the ballance. Thank fortion my health is good and so is all the ballance of my Wapakoneta Friends. I shal give you a smal statement of what acunt [account] since the last letter I send you.

On the 19th. Just the whole regiment was orderd on guard we startet at sevon oclock A.M. Three Companys [ A, K. & H.] was orderd on the Point direct opposit Vicsburg. We arrived at the point at about nine oclock A.M. Wher we were taken to by the Steamer Morning Star. Wher we relieved the old Guard . Staid their all day. Our Artillery Fiering all day over to Vicsburg. Wher we could see every shot, wher it fell and Burstet and wher it entert. Two shots entert the Coart House. I recieved stricket orders during the night. Wher I could not sleep a minut all night at about eleven oclock I recieved orders to send all the men I could spare out of my Company to take the two peases of Artillery and take them down to the landing wich they don.

April 20th. We were relieved by the sixth Misuria [Missouri] Regiment. We went on board of the Morning Star. We went up the River about two Hundred Yards wher we had to stop [for the Steam pipe burstet] and anker wher we laid until twelf oclock. Wher we ware got by the Steamer Corontelet wich hichet to our boat and took us to the landing wher we arived at our Camp at about two oclock P.M.. I have almost forgot to say that yesterday while on Guard, two skifts ful of Solsiars went out on the extream point to set the houses on Fier, wher they ware discovered by the Rebles and they fierd on them with Artillery and they had to fall back without seting the houses on fier. In the night they went out again but ware chased back by Infantry that ware plased on the point. One of ours was wounded.

April 21st. Wether plesent.

April 22. Wether plesent but awful Hot.

April 23ed. Last night Eight Transports Run the Blockade at Vicsburg. All got through safe except two wich ware out of youse for the bals had past through the Steam pipe and

they floatet down the River past Vicsburg out of the reach of the Enimas [enemy] Artillery. Wher they ware landed and repairt and then went on. The Canonading was awful heavy. It was one continuel roar and flash of sighting. I thought shure that all the boats would be sunk but as luck hapend I was mistaken.

April 24th. Weather very hot.

April 25th. Wether dito and we ware orderd to dril in the for noon. Wher I went like a good felow. One Hundred and fifty men ware orderd [Co. C., H. & G.] on fatig for two days with two days ration with them. They went on a Steamer up the River to the Canal probably to wirk their as repairing the Levee & C..

April 26th. Weather plesent rather warm [and Sunday] Recieved orders to keep redy for march in a moments warning wher we ware to follow the 13th Army Corps and 14th Army Corps our [the 15th Army Corps] to form the left flank of the Army, the 13th the center and the 14th the right flank. wher we will go up to Miligans sunday and march about fifty miles around so as to git about thirty miles below Vicsburg. wher we will manuver against Ft. [Port Hudson] Hutson with General Banks wher will probaly have a hard fight for I think to atacket Ft Hutson from four sides, two by land and two by water. It will be a hard place to chew but I feel a good eal better. Sience I heard that we will have some fun. I think this will be the last letter I can wright to you from this camp but I shal right the first opertunaty I git.

Give my best Respect to all Friends and I Remain Your True beloved Husband until deth. [Adres as befor] until further orders.

Lient. H. Schmidt  
37th O.V.I. 3ed Brig.  
2ed Div. 15th A. Corps.  
Camp Youngs Point, La.

Camp Youngs Point, La.  
April 30, 1863

Dear Parents, Brothers and Friends  
of Auglaize Co., Ohio

I, a son, Brother, and a Friend, address you from the field of renown, in urgent entreaty upon matters of such grave import to you and to the country, as to demand your calm and patient audience. Exiled from home for long weary months, away from the pretty strife of local politics and the influence of selfish demagogues and party leaders, with the pure and steadfast faith in the holy cause of defending our Government which brought us into the field and has sustained us in perils, hardships, toils and exposures, which have scarcely a parallel in history, I feel none of the acrimonious bitterness that now enters into the ignoble contentions of home politics, and certainly view the conditions of the country from that only stand point—the soldiers and patriots devotion to the great republic, once blessed of all nations. I ask, what means this wild shameless party strife at home? Why any opposition to this war of self-preservation? Why any but political demagogues should wish a severance of the Republic? Wherefore a foolish cry for a cassation of hostilities on our part, to give time to the traitor-rebels, to strenghten their defences and descipline their armies? Why should the brave, true men of the great army of the U.S., war-worn, toil-worn and battle-stained, be left without sympathy or aid from you men of Auglaize County, now enjoying the blessings of peace, careless of the dangers of invasion and war's dread terrors, only because we, your Brothers, and Friends stand "between your loved homes and war's desolation?" Are we not in a war?

Is not the whole forces of the Government employed in defending the nation against a gigantic effort to destroy it? Has not blood flowed like water and treasure expended to make rich a nation? Is it not worth preserving? Can two or more States be carved out peacefully from the present loved Republic? Can we give away its rivers, lands and loyal people to its destroyers? Can we afford to divide the Republic into contending petty States and be forever the victims of internecine wars between small principalities? Can we quietly, calmly, even complacently sit by and see the grand Republic of the world thus cut off and destroyed by innate weakness? No honest citizen of Auglaize County is

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willing that such should be our fate.

What matters now the cause of the war? By whose fault, or by the adoption of what mistaken policy? It exists! It must be fought out, or ended by giving up all, that it is waged for. For the sake of Peace; to be rid of the burdens of taxation; for fear of the shedding of blood; would any basely give up his nation and become the citizen of a ruined and dishonored land?

Then wherefore opposition to the war? Because a particular party is in power? Because it has committed errors? Because it has thrown to its surface and given prominence to incompetent men, or adopted political theories and sought to make them practical which are condemned by many men? No! The remedy for all these evils, if they exist at all, may be sought in the quiet but powerful means of the ballot, which has power in our Government to change dynasties. Where the Armies of the world fail.

It is thought that peace and a voluntary restoration of the Union may be effected by compromise. All that has been tried. Disdainfully the Rebels flung in our faces every proffered olive branch, before peaceful men become armed soldiers and the booming of Fort Sumpter's cannon, with its terrible alarm called a nation to arms. And now insolent and, insolent and defiant, they laugh to scorn all thoughts of peace on any other terms than recognition of their false nationality. They are stronger now than then. The despots and money changers of Europe have given them substantial aid to destroy a Republic; they have more powerful armies, abler Generals and a firmer determination than when the rebellion began. They know their strength and Appeal to it—not to the poor demagogues of the North who are their allies. They condemn and dispise them. Read their proclomation addresses, army orders and newspapers. At no time have they ever spoken of Northern Friends except as Allies in the war! They deride the foolish appeals of their Northern allies for peace and Compromise, and preclude all hope of the restoration of the Union on any terms. What incalculable mischief is being done by the Northern allies--their speeches and newspapers are quoted, and results of elections reported in Southern papers, as evidence, not of any hope of restoring the Union, but to show that the loyal people of the North are becoming willing to submit to any dishonorable or humiliating terms of peace, based even on a full recognition that this fiendish rebellion was right, and



that it was well to destroy the Government.

### People of My Hoam

But one alternative is left you. You must pronounce this a just rebellion. You must say that it was right and justifiable to destroy this Republic; that a Republic is weak helpless Government, powerless to sustain itself, and to be destroyed when ever conspirators enough can be allied for the purpose or you must show the world the power of Self-proservation in the great example of Confederate Republics. That it has a quiet dorment force, which aroused, has gigantic strength and energy. That it not only can protect its citizens in all their rights and privileges, but can sustain itself as well against foreign attack as internal treason. We are fighting for the Republic-to it we have given our hearts, our arms, our lives--We intend to stand between you and the desolating hosts of Rebels whos most cherished hopes and desires has been and is to take possession of and revage your own beautiful Ohio. You know not what the Army has suffered. You know not now, the hardships and sufferings of your soldiers in their chill tents, their shelterless bivouacs, their long wery Marches and their battle thinned ranks. If there be honesty and purity in human motives, it must be found among your long-enduring Soldiers.—hear us and for your country's sake, if not for ours, stop your wild shameless political strife, unite for the common cause and never think or speak of peace and compromise until the new empty terms mean: The Republic as it was, peacefully if it may be, but forcibly at all events. It is said war and force can not restore the Union! What Can? Is there anything else that has been left untried, short of national dishonor and shame? Nothing. Purely physical power has been invoked to destroy the government, and physical force must meet it. Conquer the Rebellious armies, shut in by blockades and victorious armies, the deluded people of the rebellious States, and let no peace, no happiness, no prosperity dwell in their land or homes until they rise against their own tyrants, until popular opinions with them overth-rows their false Goverment and dooms their despotic leaders. Whip them and confine them until "Actaeon is devoured by his own dogs?" this is all that can be done, and it must be done with the determined energy of a united people. Thus feel and think the soldiers of the grand army of the United States. Are you with us? or will you now desert us, sell your national birthright for a mess of pottage, and for success in local politics,

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barter away your country, crawl at the feet and lick the hands of the perfidious, cruel and develish conspirators, who have organized this rebellion, and who boast of their success in destroying our Government, slaying your sons and wasting your treasure, contemned, divided and despised by them, while you are humbly craving their favors? Not waiting or even hoping for returning loyalty in them. Can you thus honor yourselves, your soldiers and your States?

We ask you now to say, support and uphold the hands of your soldiers.

Give some of the wasted sympathy so illy but free bestowed, who seek a blessed martyrdom in Lincoln Bastiles to the suffering and bravely enduring soldiers who in the camp, the field and hospitals bear real hardships uncomplainingly if treason must run riot in the North, keep it there-insult not your soldiers by sending to them the vile emanations of the traitors who are riding into office, place and power, over the ruins of the Government and making them the stepping stones, which tell us we are engaged as hirelings in an unholy Abolition war, whose hypomole idols of the hour of those who hypocritical demagoguery takes shape in cowardly convert treason-whose constant vocation is denunciation of their Government and its armed defenders.

The Army of the Mississippi is in terrible earnest-earnest to conquer and destroy armed Rebels-earnest to meet force with force-Ernest in its hearty detestation of Cowardly traitors at home-earnest in will and power to overcome all who desire the Nation's Ruin. Ohio's 100,000 soldiers in the field, citizens at home, potent in either capacity, ask their father brethren and friends, by their firesides and in their peaceful homes, to hear and heed this appeal and put an end to covert treason at home, more dangerous now to our national existence then the presence of the armed hosts of misgided rebels in the field.

I remain yours until deth.

Lient. Henry Schmidt 37th Regt. O.V.I.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Divi. 15th Army Corps.  
Camp Youngs Point, La..

You must excuse bad wrighting, the weather us ti warm and I wroat until I got our of pations and partly sick.

**Expesly Writen for my Auglaize Co., Friends.**

**Give my best respects to all Friends. Espesly Mr. Dombrof, Fritch, Mike Miller, Monk  
Katz-the Clock Maker & C..**

**Yours  
Lient. H. S.**

Filson Historical Society

Duck Port Post.  
May 10, 1863

Dear beloved Wife, Cate.

It is with plesior that I drop those few lines to you hoaping that those few lines may find you in a state of good health. Thank fortion my health is good and has bin for some tyme, news I dont know but very few, wich I shal give you a small statement off, of what acount sience I wroat the last letter to you.

April 29th. General Order that our Regiment should go on board of the Steamer Chancellor at eight oclock A.M. lieving back all Tents, Sick Solsiars and a smal Guard So was the whole Brigade and the 2ed Brigade and part of the 1st Brigade ordert on other Steamer making in all Eleven Steamers at half past nine oclock A.M. We left the landing going up the Mississippi as far as Yasoo River. Wher we turnt up was one Iron Clad Gun Boat, One Iron Pansert Ram [built on Monitor Stile], One very large wood Gun Boat names Black Halk [or Uncal Sam] one dito our Flag Ship with some Excelant Guns on her, four Morter Boats, four Tuck Boats, joined us and took the lead the Iron clear in front this way we went up the yasoo River. At six oclock the Fleet landed and our Regiment was orderd on shore to go out on picket. We ware in a place so that we could see the Enima [enemy] on the blufs behind Vicsburg, plain. [I forgot to say that I had Com- and of Co. G., being orderd befor we left Camp, the Captain was sick and the General Huing [?Ewing?] our Brigadear and the Brigade Band was on our boat, with staf & C.] We ware then two miles below Hinses [Haynes] Bluf, the whole Regiment was orderd forward, Co. A. then was orderd to take post on the right Flank of a Buyough near the woods, the Buyough & woods fild with water, then Com Co. K., then Co. H., then Co. C., then Co. G. wich I comanded. I was orderd to take the left flank side of a Buyough that the former one emtied into and a road brost the the former buyough ther, I advanced my picket on that Road about Eight Hundred Yds. One betwen that and the reserve of the Ballance of the Company, the Ballance of the Regiment was orderd, as our Reserve about two hundred yards behind us, that way we staid all night, not sleeping a minut. We could hear the enima making Briges on the bluf and hauling some heary articles as Canons or larg wagons.

April 30. I drew my outer pickets back to the Buyough, placing one third behind a Levee on the left hand side of the road. One third on the right side of the road & one third I deploid along the Buyough so as to be redy at any miniut, this was don a litle befor day brake. In that position we staid until sun, up wher we ware orderd back on our boats. Wich we dit and we went on the Gun boats ahead again and in a short tyme we ware in sight of Hinses Bluff, we went on and our Gun Boats opent on them, we landed about as far below the Enimas Bateris, as from O. J. Dickers to wher Charly Smith youst to be, we had a nice view of the whole Canonading We could see the Sesesh on the Bluf and Generals on horses run from one Batery to an other. Our Gun Boats ware strongly replied by the enima [enemy]. The red Ram run into two hundred yds. of the Enimas Bateris fiering shot, shel & C. and Kilt Seven Sesesh Officers and two we captured and privats, I dont know how meny. we looket on and ware very well pleased at one hour befor dark, the whole Forses was orderd on shore [for our Gun Boats had silantsd the Sesesh Bateris]. We was the Sekond Regiment, we then advansed towards the bluf but we hadend got far befor the Sesesh opend on us with artilery [our gun boats had quit shoting] we dropt on the ground, junpt up and went on and dropt again & C. for we had plenty tyme to day the Bal for we could see the smoak from the Bateris, we then ware orderd to lay down [the Canon Balls alwas went over us and never tuchet a man] then the Gun Boats opent on them again and soon silansed them, at dark we went back on our Boats, this was don to draw troops from Vicsburg to the Bluf four Gen. Grant atactet them below Vicsburg at Grand Gulf & Fort Gibson about 16 miles below. We wasent going to fight them we hadent men enough but wanted them to think so.

April [May?] First. Our Gun Boats Opend on them again and they ware Replied by the Enimays Bateris [enemy batterys] but in les than twenty minuts our Gun Boats got the Bals in so cloas, the Black Halk or the Uncle Sam shot right in their fortifacations, dismounting their canon and scatering the men all over for they run like white heads and it served em, other Batery the same way. Our Gun Boats com very near shooting the whole hill off. [I shal give you a smal map of it] at dark we all went back, arived at our Camp at two oclock that night wher we went to Camp.

Apr.[May?] 2ed. The whole Regt was orderd to be on board of the Chancelor with tents,

sick & all at five oclock A.M. at half past eight we startet up the River and landet at Miligans landing wher we went on shore and struck our tents.

Apr.[May?] 3ed. four Companys ware orderd on Guard. I was Camp officer of the day, at two oclock the whole Regt. was orderd to go on board of athe Steamer Diligent with tents & C. We then went down the river again to Duck Port, eight miles above Youngs Point and sixteen miles below Miligans Landing. Wher we are yet, the troops are all gon form Youngs Point, down below Vicsburg. Our exbadition up Yasoo River don some good for Grand. Took Grand Gulf and Fort Gibson with thirty eight hundred prisoners, Buly for that and have burnt the R.R. Bridge behind Vicsburg and cut all communications between Vicsburg & Jacson. Our Brigade forms the reserve of the whole army. I think that our army is about One Hundred and thirty thousand strong. Deserters from Vicsburg state that they are retreating fast. Ft Hutson is purty well surrounded from our troops. Our Gun Boats have 6000 Sesesh pent up on a island on the Missis River and I think they will soon surrender.

Answer soon.

Your true Husband until deth.

Lient Henry Schmidt

37th Regt. O.V.I.

While on Scermish back of Vicsburg  
near the C.S. Brest Wirks & Forts.  
May 24, 1863

Dear Wife Cate.

In haste I drop those few lines to you thank God my health is good yet and in full spirit & not ded [dead] yet but I am sorry for I have lost part of my men for I & mostly the Regt. has bin on Scermish [Bulets flying like fury around our heads, Canon Bals, Grape Shots & Canester to] we left Youngs Point on the 13th Inst marched below Warenton wher we restet. Weather awful hot, then orderd on a Steamer wher we went to Grand Gulf arived their at night, staid until morning on the boat, when we unloadet and [May 14] staid their that day and night. We ware orderd in to line of Batel and marched a smal distance and waitet until day light. Wher we returnd May 15 in the after noon Our Gen. arived with the balance of the Brigade wher was orderd to fall in and marched 6 miles that evening May 16 Marched all day. May 17th Marched all day. Captured over 200 Prisoners. May 18th Marched all day Captured more. At dark we arived in front wher the Balance of our Division was but we was orderd a litle in front on the extream left. May 19th in the morning we ware orderd in line of Batel. I was orderd to wach the C.S. [C. Sesh] movement at two oclock, I was orderd in front & all the Brigade have[half] of the Brigade made a charge but lost so meny men, had to fall back as we fierd so hard. Every man fierd over one hunderd tymes til dark and artillery fierd all day strong, in the evening the fiering seased, wher we ware Reliev'd so that we could eat, for we had no diner. May 20th. We was orderd in front again and the fiering was awful, the Bals flew like hail until dark, yesterday our regt. lost about 45 men Kilt & woundet, today not quite so meny but Gust A. Wintzer was Kilt, a Ball struck him in the head and he died in two minuts after wards, they ware other ones kilt but non that you know. Some wouled, you know, wich I shal give you all names and the exact wound & C. after this is through or after this is the sixth day that I com in the fight and all sound yet thank God. We buried Gust & 2 made a head Board for him in the field of Batle & for Some Other Ones & we lost some more Officers, non you know but Poor Gust. May 21st. At day brake I was orderd to fall back and be redy til eight oclock A.M. to make a charge against the Brest Winks. All right prepared for my last day on Erth[earth].

The Regt. fell in at Eight Oclock & the whole division. Our Regt. was the 2ed one that had to run the Blockade at ten, we all rushed out, Bayonets fixt, in four ranks. Our Canons fiering all they could but the C.S. fierd so hard on us with Muskets & Canons that we had to fall behind a hill for we could not git up them Brest winks on the above account. We laid on the ridge in front of the Sesesh Brest Winks & forts & fierd on them, laid a good meny over but couldent run them, we ware so clost to gather that we can easy speak together without belowing.

May 23ed. Fierd all day. I shal make it about now it is it looks awful dead all around, some heads off, some legs off, Arms off, by canon balls & C.. My the weather awful hot. Fiering all day, making Rifel pits, making Forts & C. but it stinks awful, the dead laying in the road, all full of worms, but it cant be helpt. My Co.C. lost five dead & twelf wounded. They ware several more wounded but of no consequence. Lt Colonel was wonded yesterday, Major Hipp has comand of the Regiment.

Please answer soon & Pray for me.

I Remain Your true Wife??until deth. But Co. C. they all folowed me when I went ahead & Swing my Sword, Bulets flying thick as hail around me, tumbling to the Earth. Didt a one wondet yours.

Lient. Henry Schmidt Cmdg. Co. C.  
37th regt. O.V. Inf. 3ed Brig. [Gen. Huing]  
2ed Div. [Gen. Blair.] 15th A. Corp [Gen. Sherman]  
in the rear of Vicsburg.  
Misisippi Valy



Walnut Hilles, Miss.  
June 21, 1863

Dear beloved Wife. Cate.

Yours of the 5th Inst has come to hand, wich pleased me very much, hearing that your health was good and all the balance. Thank fortion my health is excland [excellent] and has bin so for some tyme [Thank God]. We are stil laying on the above said Walnut Hilles, rear of Vicksburg, Mississippi. We hear Vicksburg regularly seaged with Artillery with hevvy and light of diferent caliber from 100 lbs. down to twelf lbs. Howitzers, and then Infantry along the whole line, we have all kind of Intrenchments, Rifle pits, sic sac ditches wich runs clear up to the Rebel Intrenchment, Forts & C.. We are in fifteen feet of the Reble fort in front of said W. Hilles, and so all along our lines. Our Artillery fiering daily and so our Gun Boats and Morter Boats are fiering continually, we have some morters hear with us, from wich we send over a Bom once and a while wich gives the Rebs a unplesent Saluit, and makes them hunt their holes. I think our army is closer than ever any Army was befor, for some tymes our Guard boys on onc side of a stump and a Reble picket on the other side of it, so that they can shake hands together.

Our boys and the Rebles talk together every evening as folowes, sometymes our boys comences and sometyme the rebs comences, hollow over their & the rebs will answar sometymes a dozen at once, then the blagarding and C. comences, ours then comences, helow[hello] Rebs how do you like your hog pen?, answars; purty well how do you like Johnson in your Rear?, our boys answer; Johnson is all right, we have got his teams Artillery and Gen Grand has now orderd a corporal and Six men to hoald him in check, how do you like Gen Grand? rebs answar; purty well he is a brave man but he will soon find out what well become of him. rebs how do you like our Nigers at Youngs Point?, dam your Nigers. say yanks what will you do with the Laydis[ladys] when you haint got eny mor coton? answer; they will wave red, white and blue. Rebs git in your holes a morter coming, rebs how do you like our Morters? purty well they dig holes to put our dead in wich saves us the trouble of making graves. Rebs how do you like corn meal and Mule Meat?, Answer; we have other Meat yet. Rebs come over well give you some Coffe, Bread, potatos, Whiskey, Whine, Beer & C. say Yanks What do you do

with your prisoners that you take and wher do you send them? Answer you will soon find out wher we take them to and what we do with them, they gives them a good hint [hit] with a poker.

They generly comenst talking right after dark, when the Rebs comenses helow [hello] Yanks, we have bin fighting all day now lets take a talk, and they will talk then comenst to blagard as I have mentioned befor. helow Rebs how did you like your whaling at Black River Bridge and at Champion Hills? Answar, not well your charge plaid hell with us but some of us got away by swiming the River you boys had more spunk then our boys and you had more men & enough to eat and so on, some tyme they git ugly when they are stopet when our boys Says Good Night Rebs, go to your holes. Good night Yanks some tyme two will meat and shake hands and talk a long tyme and then go back to their places, most every night some Rebs desert their lines and come over to us and they say that two thirds of the men would give up but they desert their Officers are to heard and they say Rations [provisions] are scares that each man gits one pound of Corn Meal and a peace of Meat as large as halve hand and a Canteen full of Water each day [only quarter Rations, wher our boys has most every thing they want.] Gen. Grand says that he can take Vicksburg eny tyme when ever he wishes but he dont want to take it yet, he wants to take it without losing eny Men.

Our Colenal came back he looket at the Reble wirks and say that he can take Vicksburg in two hours he give his explanation and Gen Huing and several other Colonels and they all adoptet his plan today, at 4 Oclock A.M. all our Artillery comenst and fiered til ten Oclock A.M. Keeping up a contilnel roar the Artillery scatert the rebel wirkes all over [I just heard that the largest Rebel fort was taken by us today on our left]. [I doubt it] Gen. Grand give order for the artillery to fier and if the Rebs lieves their wirks only then to charge but they ditent lieve they are purty well safed, the whole forces ware orderd to fall in at 6 1/2 Oclock A.M., wher we waitet for Orders to charge, at Noon we ware orderd to go to our Quarters again [we can take Vicksburg in 2 hours by losing 8,000 men]

I was not with Gust when he died but I seen him he was shot in the back of his head and died the same minet never said one wurd I made his head Board I seen him after he was ded he made only one groan and that was all I am sorry for my friend Gust and I am sorry

for Cristina, an other friend of mine Luis Friman got a flesh woud the other day, pasing from the uper lip Via his left cheak, G. Knost was wouDED to but none bad. August Boatker & Henry Kladdy died from their wouds. I remain your true beloved husband until deth, give my best Respects to all inquiring friends.

Lient. H. Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 37th O.V.I.

Filson Historical Society

Walnut Hills, Miss.  
June 24, 1863

Dear beloved Wife Cate.

Yours of the 5th & 11th Inst. has just come to hand, wich pleased me very much hearing that your health is good and all the ballance at home, thank God my health is stil good and has bin all along and so are the ballance of my Company in good spirit, health is in general purty well. We are stil laying on the old place near the Reble wirks. We are awful near the Reble wirks. We are right below them in shaking hand distance. We have a good eal to do hear such as Guard, Making ditches, Forts for Canons, brest wirk for Infantry & C.. I just come from picket, bin on all last night and all day, today til 4 Oc. P.M.

I have the honor to be Captain of Company C. 37th Regt. O.V. Inf.. I recieved my Comision from the Govener of Ohio by recomadation of Colonel Edward Sieber, Lient. Col. V. Blelsing and Maj. Charls Hipp, as such from the 4th day of May 1863 & Record- ed June 10th,63. I hoap and will thank God that I may keep my health so that I may stay with the Company as Capt. sound and safe. So that I may fullfill the Captancy as a true Solgiar & man. I am shure that every man in my Company will go wher ever orderd and I shal give the last drop of my hearts Blod for Each and Every One of them for they do the same for the Glourious caus wich we are in arms for, shal be sustained from first to last. News I dont know much for it is all as I have wroat befor that Our Artilery are fiering all day on the Enimas winks and that the Morters & Gun Boats are continuetly sheling the City & winks of the Rebles & so is. Our Infanatry skermishing day & night. Ever sience we are here, Vicksburg is a hard place to take but stil it must come this hall for the Rebs are about starved out, the beg our skermishers & picket for Crackers. They only git quarter rations and Our continued sheling keeps them in their holes, Every night some of them comes over and gives them selfs up & in day tyme none dast show his head, if he dos, off goes his head by our sharp shoters wich are on a continued wach[watch]. Our Gopers & Miners are unter their fort diging away and in a short tyme down comes their big & strong forts or meby goes up in the air, giving some a free ride up in the Air. Our wonded are giting along fine, about Gust Wintzer I wroat the full Notice of his deth & C. That man as you colt him Arived her yesterday with the Letter datet the 5th and a few

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Minuts I recieved one by mail datet the 11th. I recieved the letter of Fathers and its contence and wroat him what to do with the Money & C..

I Shal Close My few Lines, Give My best Respects to all Inquiring friends, Espesly Your Mother, Sister & brother, Aunt Hedy. John Disatelrath is here and both Hellers & the whole band. John is fat enough to bucher. I wroat a letter to Marget Smith Zanesvilla, O. but I understand that she is at Cincinnati, O.. I supose you corespond with her, pleas & give me her directions. I wroat to her some tyme ago and recieved no answer yet. and the same with Casper.

It is about three month sience I recieved the last letter of Casper. I wroat to Jo Schubert, 3 letters & got only one back.

I Remain Your True beloved husband until deth.

My dear shugar lump [Mrs Capt. Henry Schmidt]

Capt. Henry Schmidt  
Co. C. 37th Regt.  
Ohio Voluntear Infantry  
3 Brig. 2 Div. 15 A. Corps.  
Walnut Hills, near of Vicksburg, Miss.

Filson Historical Society

Walnut Hills.  
July 1, 1863

Dear beloved wife Cate.

It is with plesure that I drop those few to you and give you the following news. 1st. I shal give you notice that Vicksburg is not taken yet. 2ed. that we are stil near the old place yet [some Advansed]. 3ed. that Beer, tasts purty good to me yet & so dose Wine & the fine Music of Canons, Muskets, hand Shels, Bomb Shels & Jack Ass Badery.

I am very well fixt. I have a very fine house [Bacholors Hall. 3 of us] I have nice Wind-ow Blinds, nice done & nice wals. Every thing is nice, a very fine table, chairs, Beds, Dishes & C.. If you want to know very bad of what my furniture is made of? mention it in the next and I shal give you a full statement. The boys are all well yet & so am I my self, individual up to date, dont you wish you could give the new Capt a Kiss, a sweet one at that or two. I quit kising wiman, I joined the temperance in that part. One thing yet. the Missisippi still runs down Stream, it haint run up stream sience we are their yet.

On the 25th Inst. our men undermined the large Fort & bloat it up that is one part of it only exploded, today the other part of the Reble fort was blown up by our men. I think if we can take the Rebs eny other way we can dig them out for we have partly don it all redy, we have whole Roads under the ground partly made in to Vicksburg and other sea ports. I am very well pleased now we have plenty to do, we have don an awful side of wirk hear with pick & shovels [ & with bulits to.] we made roads, diches, Erth wirks, Forts, Rifle pits, Roades above and under ground & every thing under cover.

The other day I send home One hundred Dollars more via B.A. Wendelm at Minster to Father. I roat a letter to him with full instructions, I shal close my few lines, giving my best Respects to all Inquiring friends, Expecs Father, Mother, Brother & Sister, your Mother, Sarah, Sam Craig, Hedy & C. &

I Remain your True Husband until deth parts us.

Capt. Henry Schmidt  
Comdg. Co. C. 37th Regt.  
O.V. Inf. 3ed Brig. 2ed Div.  
15th Army Corps.  
Walnut Hills. rear of Vicksburg, Miss

Excuse my scribling I ges you can read it.

Vicksburg, Miss.  
July 4, 1863

Dearly beloved Wife. Cate.

Yours of the 17th inst. has just come to hand wick pleased me very much. Thank fortion my health is good and VICKSBURG OURS with everybody in it, Canons, Prisoners, small Arms & C.

Dear beloved wife, I am very much pleased to give you the news that Vicksburg is ours. This day on the great day of 4th of July 63., I shal give you a small statement of the particulars. Yesterday at 8 Oclock A.M., Gen. Grant send in a flag of truce to Rebel General Pemberton to serender [A uncondisionel Serender] and he would give him until 6 Oclock P. M. to think over it, if he would not serender that he would Open all his Artillery along the whole line at 6 Oclock A.M. on the 4th [is today], and shell them for 36 hours, making him no diferance wher he shot, for the 4th of July, 63 was the only & last day he was going to wait or care about any body in the city.

At 11 Oclock A.M. Gen. Pemberton send a flag of truce that he should think that they ware some of our men in Vicksburg, Miss.. Gen. Grant send back, no diferance I wan a uncondisionel serender by to Morow, the 4th or you shal sufer the consequence, at 4 Oclock A. M. Gen. Pemberton send an other Flag of truce that he would Serender at 6 Oclock A.M. on the 4th of July 63, becaus he was compeld to do so on account of Provision & C., at 6 Oclock this morning preperations was made for the Rebs to come in to our lines to stack arms and lieve all Amunition, Guns, Artillery, Forts & C. At 11 Oclock A.M. all was don and the Stares and Strips was planded on the Reble Forts & brest wirks and on the Coart house at Vicksburg and all the Captured Rebles put on Steam Boats and send up the river. HURAH HURAH for the 4th day of July 1863, in Vicksburg about 18,000 Prisoners & Guns, Artillery. I dond know how much exacly. HURAH for the western Boys. Hurah for the Stars & Stripes. I hoap they may shortly wave open the whole United States. HURAH for Gen Grant. Honor the one that deserves it. We have orders to March all redy to the rear I hoap that Gen. Johnson [Reble] will be our Fictim [Victim] in a few days.

Hura Boys Hurah down with the traitors, up with the Stars while we raly around the Flag

Boys & C. & Raly once again. I hoap that this Victory may settle the Coperheads. The Rebles had nothing to eat but Muel Meat & Corn Meal at Vicksburg for the last two weeks. We have a purty good lot of Reble Generals, Colonels & C..

Dear beloved Wife we will have some heard tymes yet, for weaather is awful hot and it just more then squeases the fat out of us poor Solsiars.

I shal close my few lines, hoaping we may stil be as lucky as befor and whale the Rebles like Hell.

Give my best Respects to all inquiring Friends, Expesly Father, Mother, Brothers & C., Samuel Craig, Sarah, Hedy & all Brewers.

I Remain Your true Husband until Deth.  
Capt. Henry Schmidt  
Co. .C. 37th Regt. O.V.Inf.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A.C.  
Vicksburg, Miss.



Jackson, Miss.  
 July 18, 1863  
 Capital of the State

Dear beloved Wife.

It is with plesior that I drop those few lines to you hoaping that they may find you in a good state of Health, Thank fortion my Helth is good at present. I wroat to you from Walnut Hills, rear if Vicksburg last, teling you in it the Surrender of said City. I supose you knew it befor you recieved my Letter. I can give you a full account of Prisoners & C. surendred to us, the Surrender was Unconditionally. Twenty 7 Thousand [27,000] men of wich Eighteen Thousand [18,000] were Effective Men and Nine Thousand [9,000] Sick and Wonded. Thirty Three Thousand Stand of Arms. One Hundred and Fourty Sevon Canon of wich Thirty Six are Field Peases and the balance One Hundred and Eleven!!!! Amuniztion Plenty. the Reble Forces General Pemberton Surendred to General U.S. Grant on the 4th day of July last at 10 Oclock A.M. In the evening of said day we recieved orders to keep redy to march in a moments warning.

Orderd to pack up and lieve all Knapsacks & Officers Bagage and Stoe them in Major Hipps Tent, wich we don, on of the morning of the 5th we Marched towards this place Jackson [theCapital of the State of Missisipi] wich Reble General Johnson Ocupied with 33,000 of Rebles. A distance of about 55 miles. We arived in sight of the Reble brest wirks. Forty & C. on the 10 Inst., at about Eleven Oclock A.M.. The Rebs opend fier on us with their Artillery but we soon had our Artillery in position and give them a warm suply of our shots & shell, we drove them inside of them brest wirks wher we took position in the center of our Army corps, the right Flank of our brigade, the 9th Army Corps on our left, the 13th on our Right and several detachments of Division, Including Gen. Osterhous [a buly General] we all made brest wirks to keep the Rebels from sheling us to much. I lost on that day one man, Private Buher of Co. C. 37th Regt. shot through his left Arm, braking his Arm above the Elbough so that the Dockter had to take his Arm off. He is now giting along fine and his arm is very well and he is in good spirits, the balance are all in good spirit. We remained in that position until the morning of the 18th Inst. wher General Gonson with his Rebles avacuated the town and left befor day light, burned the Bridges acrost Pearl River and laid torpetos all through the town, We entert

the City at 6 O'clock A.M. we captured a whole lot of shels for canon and Guns & Gun  
 Barl & C., wich they could not take along. Port Hutson was taken on the 8th Inst. I  
 suppose you know it and news about Gen. Lee & Brag & Others . I suppose you know to at  
 least news papers gives the Official by this tyme. We captured yesterday and today about  
 450 Rebles and the men & Cavelry are stil fetching in more evey hour. Those torpetos  
 laid in the streats as mentioned above, tore up One Team with Six Mules while driving  
 acrost them. One bursted and tore boath of One Mans legs off & One mans leg off &  
 wonded several besides. One blew up a few Minuts ago. I do not know the Result of it  
 yet. Yesterday very near the half of the city was burnd to Ashes, this is a very nice place,  
 some awful nice Stone building, Taverns & C., but are now very neardly all burned, the  
 town is three tymes as large as Wapak. Every thing was plundered.

This is about all the news I know or that is wirth wile to write to you. You must excuse  
 me for wrighting with a lead pencil, I have no Ink with me, this is Reble Paper and an  
 Reble Envelope.

Please give my best Respects to All Inquiring Friends Expesly your Mother, Brother,  
 Sister, My Father, Mother, Brother & Sister, Samuel Craig, Aunt Hedy & all Inquiring  
 Friends. Answer Soon.

I Remain you truly beloved Husband until deth.  
 Capt. Henry Schmidt  
 Comdg. Co. C. 37th Regt. O.V. Inf.  
 3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A.C.  
 Jackson, Miss.

Camp Scherman near Vicksburg, Miss.  
July 29, 1863

Dearly beloved Wife. Cate.

Yours of the 1st, 10th, 16th, 18th has come to hand wich pleased me very much. 1st. to recieve 4 letters at once. 2ed. to hear that your Health was good. 3ed. that all the ballance are stil on two legs. 4th. that you call yourself the Pretiest Wife in Wapakoneta. Remarks. And so is a mud Fence pleas and look in the Looking Glass, and if it is so, or not and then let me know in your next Letter. 5th. that you wished a kiss or more from me and that you would Kiss me S.C. I dont know what that is eny more, do you fry it or Roast it or take it raw or Pickle it I wish you would give me the information in your next. 6th. that you brag on the Captain Henry Schmidt. I give you notice that he is a hate full, Ugly as a Mud Fence, no shape to him, I dont like him, at awl, at awl.[at all]. He dont eat nayels[nails], dont care any thing about gals, dont kiss them eny more, be he says when he gits home we will do better.

You state that Reble Gen. Morgon past by Hamilton destroying the R.R. Telagraph ?ceothing? Despatches. Reble Gen Morgon never would if dared to go to Ohio, if they wouldent if bin so meny sesesh in Ohio, they help Reble Gen Morgan along, then Ohio & Indiana should if [of] Captured Gen. Morgans whole Forces, that looks curious that they cant take him, or could if took him befor he was only 7,000 to 8,000 men strong. I dont regret what he destroied to some but some Union Men had to suffer, some not much, for he hadend the tyme to destroy much, stil 7,000 men can do an awful in ten minuts.

You wantet to know about, Private Emric, he was killed by a musket ball he died in six hours after he was shot. My furnature is Plaid? out, I left it in the rear of Vicksburg. You wantet to know how Vicksburg looks, it looks heard Every house is shot through, several tymes, solid shot and shell dead Horses, Mules, Catle & C. ware scatert all over Town. the Citasans [Citizens] had Caves dug in the Hills side and staid in it, it looket awful heard, I have only bin in the City for the same night we ware orderd to march to Jackson the Capital of Missisipi to opporate against General Johnson [a Reble Gen.] we found him in force in Jackson, well intrenched, but he smelled the rat and skadalted. only

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Twenty four hours more and he would if ben serounded and never would if got out of it. We captured about five hundred men of Johnsons force, they report that hunder of Johnsons men left and are going home, they say that they wont fight eny more for the rebs.

Dear wife I am very well pleased with what I hear from you, 1st. that you atent Church regularly. I hoap that you will be a true Catholic until deth. I have forgot to tell you that we have a Catholick Priest with us ever sience we arived in the rear of Vicksburg. I then must say that our Colonel Edward Siber Comands our Brigade.

I shal close my few lines and give my best respes to your Mother, Brother and Sister, S. Craig, Aunt Hedy, J. Brewer. I seen young Brewer of the 16th Ohio Regt..

I Remain your true Husband until deth.

Capt. Henry Schmidt.  
37th Regt. Ohio Vol. Inf.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Division 15th A.C.  
Camp Scherman rear of Vicksburg, Miss.

To. Cate Schmidt  
Wapakoneta.  
Auglaize Co., O.

Camp Sherman  
August 5, 1863

Cate Schmidt, Dear Wife.  
Wapakoneta, O.

Pleas let brother John read this and others you like. I copied this expesly for my Friends  
& for you to keep in your posetion. Hoaping that this may finde you in good Helth, thank  
fortion I am still al right.

I remain yours until deth.

Henry Schmidt  
Capt. 37th Regt. Ohio Vol. Inf.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A. C.

you will find two Sesech postage stamps, keep them for curosimy. yours H.S.

To the  
Officers and Soldiers,  
of the 15th A.C.  
by  
W. T. Sherman  
Maj. Gen. Com'dg.  
Copyed  
by  
Henry Schmidt  
Capt. of Co. C.  
37th Reg't. O. V. Inf.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A.C.  
Department of the Tennessee  
this 3ed day of Aug.  
1863

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To the;  
Officers and Soldiers  
of the 15<sup>th</sup> N.C.

by  
T. S. Sherman

Maj. Gen. Comdr.

~~Copyright~~

by

Henry Schmidt

Capt. of Co. C.

3<sup>rd</sup> Regt. O.V. Inf.

3<sup>rd</sup> Brig. 2<sup>nd</sup> Div. 13<sup>th</sup> A.C.

Department of the Tennessee

this 3<sup>rd</sup> day of Aug

1863.



Head Quarters 15 th. A.C.  
Department of the Tennessee.  
Camp on Black River, Miss.  
July 27, 1863

To the Officers and Soldiers of the 15th Army Corps.

When in the progress of War tyme and oppertunaty present a favorable occasion, it is well we should pause and reflect on Past. In Nov. of last year, we ware mostly at Helena and Memphis. The enemy lay in force behind entrenchments of his own choice, at the Tallahatchie; boastful of his power and strenght, defiant and insulting in his tone. In combination with our fellow soldiers of the Army of the Tennessee, we advanced directly against him, whilst a force from Helena trust laterally at Grenada, made him leave in haste and confusion and fell back behind the Yalabushe and the Yazoo and Vicksburg and its frowning hills and batteries, as his impragnable strong hold. It them became our part of Grand Drama to strike his strong hold, and we moved against it with expadition and a firm resolution to succeed. But there are in war, as in peace, limits to the power of the bravest men, and we failed to carry by dash, the line of Bluffs and Forts that had bin prepared with consummate art, and defended by a brave and skillful enemy. Not daunted, we drew off to prepare anew for a more powrful blow. Tyme offering the oppertunity, instead of awaiting in idleness, we turned against Arkansas Post, and by a quick and skillful movement we reduced and captured Fort Hindman, with all its Garre-son and material of war. Then returning to the original purpose of Campaign, we ware again at Young's Point, and began that series of preparations wich has resulted in final succsess. The labor and toil of those dark and gloomy months ware not spent in vain. The Gun boat Fleet, commanded by Admiral Porter, explored every Bayou and Creek of the netwirk of streams that afforded any chance of reaching the land above Vicksburg, and it was our pleasing task when, in March last during one of those expeditions, when the safety of our Gunboat Fleet was threatend, to hasten through water and swamp, and canebrake and storm, to its assistance, and we now know that to the labor an energy then displayed, the Cuntry owes to us, in a grate measure, the safety of the Ironclads, which have done so much to open the Mississippi.

At last, when it was demonstrated that nature and art had made Vicksburg impregnable

from the River, on its North side and our General had resolved to reach it from the South, we aided much in passing the necessary Fleet of boats below Vicksburg, and when the first battle was to begin at Grand Gulf, we had the import and but ungratefull task of deceiving our enemy by a feigned attack on Haines Bluff. That point on diversion was perfectly successful, and for weeks we succeeded admirably in confusing and deceiving the enemy as to our purposes and contributed largely thereby in gaining a successful foothold on land below Vicksburg. Then by a rapid march, we overtook our comrades, and with them swept the enemy before us to Jackson, and back again to Vicksburg, reaching, after unexampled skill, the very points we had aimed to secure in December. Of the siege of Vicksburg it ill becomes your Commander not to speak.—That the 15th Army Corps performed its full share of labor and Fighting, our General in Chief has borne full testimony, and our colors will ever bear, in proud remembrance of that great Historical event, the appropriate marks. But before the fall of the City, one of the most skillful of the Generals of the Mighty Rebellion was known to be hurrying to our rear with a large army, threatening our safety, and boasting that he would not only relieve his Comrades of the beleaguered City, but destroy and annihilate our army. We were in part, called from our Trenches to watch this dangerous enemy, and it is now known that our watchfulness befitted his purposes and when at last on the very Birthday of our Nation, Vicksburg sunk helpless and a penitent into our military power, we were called on, without rest to drop the pick and seize the musket and drive away that army which had unsolently threatened our very existence. History affords few parallels of the rapidity and success of this march. Vicksburg surrendered on the 4th July. we crossed Black River on the 6th and on the 8th we had forced the enemy to take refuge behind his trenches at Jackson. Again, we had to restore to the pick and shovel, but our enemy, reading his certain doom in the fate of Vicksburg, availed himself of the cover of night and fled across the Pearl River, and the Valley of the Mississippi became at last free of the presence of an hostile Army. Having then destroyed the Great Central Rail Road for one hundred miles in extent, and thereby made it useless to our foe in after campaigns, we have quietly returned to our camps and supplies, ready for any new events that may require our service.



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Your Comander, in thus briefly reciting the events of that past seven month, thinks in them, every officer and man has good reason to flatter himself that in producing this Grand Result, he has borne a part. In after years it will be the subject of pride to him self and children and we know how our fellow contry men ware wild with joy when the telegraph spread the good tidings that the Mississippi was again made free by the courage and perseverance of their Brave Volunteers, and that once more every American could steam up and down this Majaestic River without fearing the hissing shell, or whizzing bullet of a foe from it ambushed shores.

Let the magnificent result give to all now hope and assurance that by discipline, by patient industry, by courage and confidence in our Country and Cause, the United States of America will instead of sinking into Mexican anarchy, arise with proud Honor and Glory and become what Washington designed it The Freest and best regulated Government on Earth.

W.T. Sherman  
Major General Comdg.

Camp Sherman, Miss.  
August 27, 1863

Cate Schmidt.  
Dear beloved Wife

Wapakoneta, Ohio.

Yours of the 13th Inst. has come to hand wich pleased me very much, I am sorry that Father is unwell and can not fulfill his wish in coming home. Dear Wife it is to far it would cost me at least two hundred and fifty Dollars to go hoam from here and return and money is scares and hard to ern, caven [even] as an Officer in the Army of the United States, of America. Hoaping that those few lines may find yourself and Balance [Father] in good helth. Thank God my helth is so that I can be about and tent to my duties, I understood that Brother John was going to lieve hoam. Pleas let me know wether he gave up the notion [wich I hoap he did] or not. Dit Father recieve them one hundred dollars, wich I send from near of Vickburg, Walnut Hills. Pleas asque John, he promist to wright to me when he recieved them from B.A. Wendeln from Minster, O.. Wich he has not don yet so far, and let me know in your next letter, you state that Cate Henry has a young Soldier, I am afraid he is not, I think he is a young land Lord [or is Wm Henry in the army if so you are right] if not I am, that is the diferance in your No 1. Notice And about you braking the looking glass [ N.B. I supose you did if you looket in it and not found it so, up come a slay ely and to peaces came the Looking Glass, by biting it] [No 2 Notice] and about you seting your cap for the Capt, he dond ware caps he wares hats and some tymes when hats ar set for him he don ware eny thing runs bare headed [ your No 3 Notice] you say you can the Kisses, and wate til I come home and then open the cans and youse them, I am afraid you can them like the peaches so that they spoil or are spoiled when you open them. I was in the woods a few days ago and gatherd a lot of Muskalon Grapes and made preserves and got some Peaches and Preserved them and got some Blackbury and Preserved then & C. I tel you how they taste, they taste good and Cheap but made hard wirk of hunting them. The young Captain is Independand as a hog on ice now, if he cand stand he legs down. Our Regiment was on Picket Guard near Black river at the Amsterdam Ferry, the last seven days, we returnt yesterday at two Oclock P.M. to our old Camp. I close my few lines and remain your true

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Husband until deth, pleas give my best respects to all Inquiring friends, Expesly Father,  
my & your Mother, my & your Brother & Sister & C.

Henry Schmidt  
Capt. Co. C. 37th Regt. O.V. Inf.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A. C.  
Camp Sherman near of Vicksburg, Miss.

Filson Historical Society

Camp Sherman, Miss.  
Sept. 1, 1863

Cate Schmidt,  
dear beloved Wife.  
Wapakoneta, Ohio.

It is with plesior that I drop those few lines to you hoaping that they may find your self  
and all relation, my Father and Mother, Brother and sisters, <sup>so as your Mother, Brother and sister</sup> Sam Craig, Hedy & C. I am  
sorry to hear that Father and Brother John are troubled with the <sup>fever and</sup> Reverend Ague[Andrew],  
hoaping that they soon be reliesed from it, Thank God I can yet crall [crawl] about and  
tent to my dutis, wel then you want to know wether the war lasts much longer or not, and  
want to know wether I can come home or not on Furlough and wether it was true that  
John Kutler got hung of the Rebles or not and other things, wich you want to know. Dear  
Wife if I would know all that I would be afraid that I would dye purty soon. For I would  
git to ? \_\_\_\_\_?, and such peoples cant live long, at least I cant give no answar to non of  
the foregoing Questions. I am sorry that it isent in my power of giving you the plesior to  
know all, stil I give as near the answars as poseble. 1st. the war will last as long as they  
are traitors against the Stars and stripes and the Union. Still to my opinion it will be  
settled befor an other Fall of the Green Lieves[Leaves]. 2ed. on 20 day Furlough wont  
pay from here over 1200 miles, wher I could not return in tyme and then run the risk of  
not being charged of Deserting & C. 3ed. J. Kutler has not yet bin in this Department,  
he is or was in Virginia 1500 or 1600 miles from here, I red in the Cincinnati Comercial,  
that he had bin missing, wether he was Captured, Killed or Murderd was not stated. Stil it  
can easily be that he was Captured by Gurilars[guerillas] and then Hung & C. Wich  
nobody can depend upon. Tyme will tell the full truth. I hoap that the report is false.  
Yesterday and today we had large manuvvers, whole Divisions together, with Artilry and  
Cavelry & C. And this evening our [2ed] Division Past in Review at Genl. Shermans  
Head Quarters.

I shai close my few lines giving my best Respects to all, Friends and Relations and I  
Remain your true Husband until deth.

Henry Schmidt  
Capt. Comdg. Co. C. 37th O.V. I.

We are here for Rest and Reorganisation wich we must tent to, shurly.

Only 11 Months More to serve and when the war is over I shal Inlist him again.

Capt. H. Schmidt

Filson Historical Society

9  
Memphis, Tenn.  
Oct. 4, 1863

Cate Schmidt.  
Dear beloved Wife.

Your letter and likeings & C. has come to hand via Maj. Charles Hipp, who joined us last night right after we landed at the landing and we ware yet on the Steamer Nashville. We left Camp Sherman on the 27th of September, just one week ago today and arived here at Memphis last night and this morning we got on shore and Marched about two miles out of town and wher we will Camp for one day or so. When we will go per Rail Road to Corint [Cornith] and from their I think to Chattanooga to General Rosacrans wher we will see some more fun, like or wirs as at Vicksburg. Thats about all I know at present. I shal wright again as soon as posible. Your Picture suits me purty well except the Flat on your lap and the wirst the Turkey or Top not on your head, to much Peva or Roster, stil I am very glad to see that you look so healthy. Look at the picture or likness of myself wich you will find in here and you will see nothing but what is nacheral [natural] and wich looks as much like me as any man or likness taken can make. I shal close my few lines and Remain your True Old Man until Deth.

Henry Schmidt.  
Capt. Co. C. 37th Regt. O. V. Inf.  
3ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A. C.  
Memphis, Tenn.

The drops are the same as I had & ditend do eny good. I doubled it & No good for Tenn. 2.S., it might be for Wapak. 2.S., but not when blod runs from a person.

16  
Bridgeport, Ala.  
Nov. 16, 1863

Dear Beloved Wife.

Cate

Wapakoneta, O.

It is with plesior that I drop those few lines to you hoaping that they may find you in a state of good health. Thank Fortion my health is very good at present, for the hard tymes we have had. We left Vicksburg, Miss. on the 27th August [Sept.] on the Steamer Nashville for Memphis, Tenn., arived at Memphis on the 4th day of October, unloaded our Brigad Wagons & C. and Marched about two miles beyond the City wher we Campt. Left Camp on the 6th of Oct. and marched day after day guarding our Division Wagons to Corinth, Miss.. When we arived on the 15th day of October 63. Marched about 4 miles on the other side and camped. Oct. 16th we ware paid for 2 months & I walked to Corinth after dark and sent Two Hundred Dollars per, Adams Express. Wich I supose Father has recieved by this tyme. I wroat two letters to you sience then wich I supose you have recieved. I have recieved no letters from you Over One Month but none of our Regiment recieved any for the simple reason that we never stoped at eny plase over one halve day at once. Left on the 17th day of October and marched day after day to Iuka,[Miss.] wher we remained, one day. Then marched to Chereke Station wher we remained several days, for about 7,000 Cavelry Atacted us, but we wheilt[whipped] them and they fell back next morning, they tried it again but again we whiped them. On the 26th of October, Gen. Osterhauses Division and ours Gen. Smith's, marched on to have some fun at 2 Oclock in the morning. we ware up and on the road towards Tuscumbia, Ala., at or some befor day brake, the Canenons and Muskets comenst to make their music, the Rebs had got 4,000 Reinforcements and Nine pieces of artilyery the day befor and they fight like Bull Dogs but they could not crall us Yankeys, we drove them from one hill to the other until dark wher we had captured 2 pieces of artilyery & some prisoners & killed General Foster who comanded part of the Reble Cavelry. He fell in our hands befor he died. Next day Oct 27th fot [fought] them all this day and when we came near Tuscumbia, the Rebs scaterd all over creations. On the 28th we returned and on the 29th & 30 we marched to Eastport on the Tenn. River. An our Regt. got Musterd,

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Oct.[Nov.?] 1st, 63 in the afternoon we were ordered to Cross the Tenn River on Steamers. We crossed at dark and ferried all the Division Teams across and marched to Waterloo and from then every day to here lived on half rations. This evening and yesterday evening we have heard the Canons Roar. I suppose in a few more days we will see some fun. We are bound to have a fight and I am sure that we can whip the Rebs, if they give us half a chance, I suppose we will clean part of them out. I shall close those few lines and Remain your true Husband. The address is different now.

Capt. Henry Schmidt  
37th Regt. O.V.I. 2nd Brig.  
2nd Div. 15th Army Corps.  
Near Chattanooga, Tenn.

Filson Historical Society



Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Nov. 27, 1863

Cate Schmidt, dear Wife.

Wapakoneta, O.

It is with plesior that I take my Lead Pencil in my Hand to Inform you of the News & C.. Sience we came to and near Chattanooga, Tenn., we arived below Chattanooga, Tenn. on the 19th of November. Wher we crossed the Tennasee River on a Pontoon Bridge. Marched past the City and about three miles above it, wher we camped, on the 20th we got orders to be redy to March, at 3 Oclock in the morning of the 21st, at 12 Oclock at night. the order was countermanded and we remaind, on the 23 we got order to March at 4 Oclock in the evening , this day our forces were fighting awful hard on our right and in the center, we got redy and marched about 3 to 4 miles farther into about 200 yards of the Tenn. River and camped this night without making eny fier or noise. We were behind a ridge on this side of the River. Maj. Chas. Hipp with about two regaments of Infantry and Pioneers and 130 pontoons [large skifts to make Pontoon Bridges out of] was about two miles farther up the River, in a Crick wich run in the Tenn. River, wher all the pontoons set in it and the men in them, at 12 Oclock at night, they all came out in the River and came down put some of them on the other side wich caught the Rebles Pickets with Horses & Officers. After the Pickets were captured [wich ware 3 Posts and the Reserve, One Officer & 22 men] the pioneers came right on down and we gat in the pontoons, 30 men in each and crossed the River and in a very short tyme our division was over and we went to wirk. Every man had fetched besides his Gun and 100 rounds of Cartreges, One Shovel, Pick or Ax and we went to wirk making Breast wirks. All the while Troops crossing the River in those pontoons and til 5 Oclock in the morning our whole Army corps and part of the 14th Army corps were acrost the River, at 6 Oclock the Pontoon Bridge was don and the Artillery came acrost. At daylight the Rebs seen what was up and what trick the Yankeys had plaid on them. We finished our Brest wirk and advanced towards the Rebs to have some fun with then. Our Regiment in the front line with those of others we drove the Rebs befor us, on One Mountain wher they made a good stand but we flanked them and they left and at dark we had them drove on the Misionary Ridges [or Mountains]when we stoped on the Ridge and made Brest wirks this

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night and feched some Canons on the Mountain, on the 25th we comenst the fight, Artillery and Infantry for the Rebs had fortified the Missionary Mountains last night and postet some artillery on it, we drove them out of their first Rifle pits and charged three tymes on the upper works but the Mountain was so steep and they just Pourt The Grape & Canister Shell and Shrepnell in to us and they through a lot of Infantry against us wher a menia one of our Brave Boys had to draw his last breth, stil with all their Canons and Infantry they left at night, lieving their dead and wonded behind their works and about 200 guns & C.. I shal give you the names of those who ware wonded and killed out of my Company. But pleas and dont skare. I supose you dont know but very few of them. Most are from New Breman, O. & St Marys.

Private Suendmacher, Killed by a shell & Musket ball.

Capt Henry Schmidt, [myself] on the Musel of left arm above the elbough by a piece of a shell [Slightly no danger] boans[bones] all right yet.

Lient Theodor Nieberg who was on furlough lately, through thigh by buck shot or Canister[no danger].

Sgt Andrew Kohler of Wapak, through his side by a Musket Ball, his U.S. is all that saved his life, wich made the Ball glance so as to pas through his left side, no danger.

Priv. William Karpp, one toe off, no danger.

Corp. Adam Wolf, a broos [bruse] wonde on his hip, no danger.

Priv. William Ersig below his pockit, no danger. This is a very painful wond but he will be all right befor long.

Priv. Joseph Tangeman, one musket shot past in near his nose and came out at his neck and one went through his shoulders, both are very sore but no danger.

Corp. Dick Schroeder, through his right thigh, breaking one bone below his knee but the nirces[nurses] tents to him purty well so that they will be no danger of him loosing his leg.

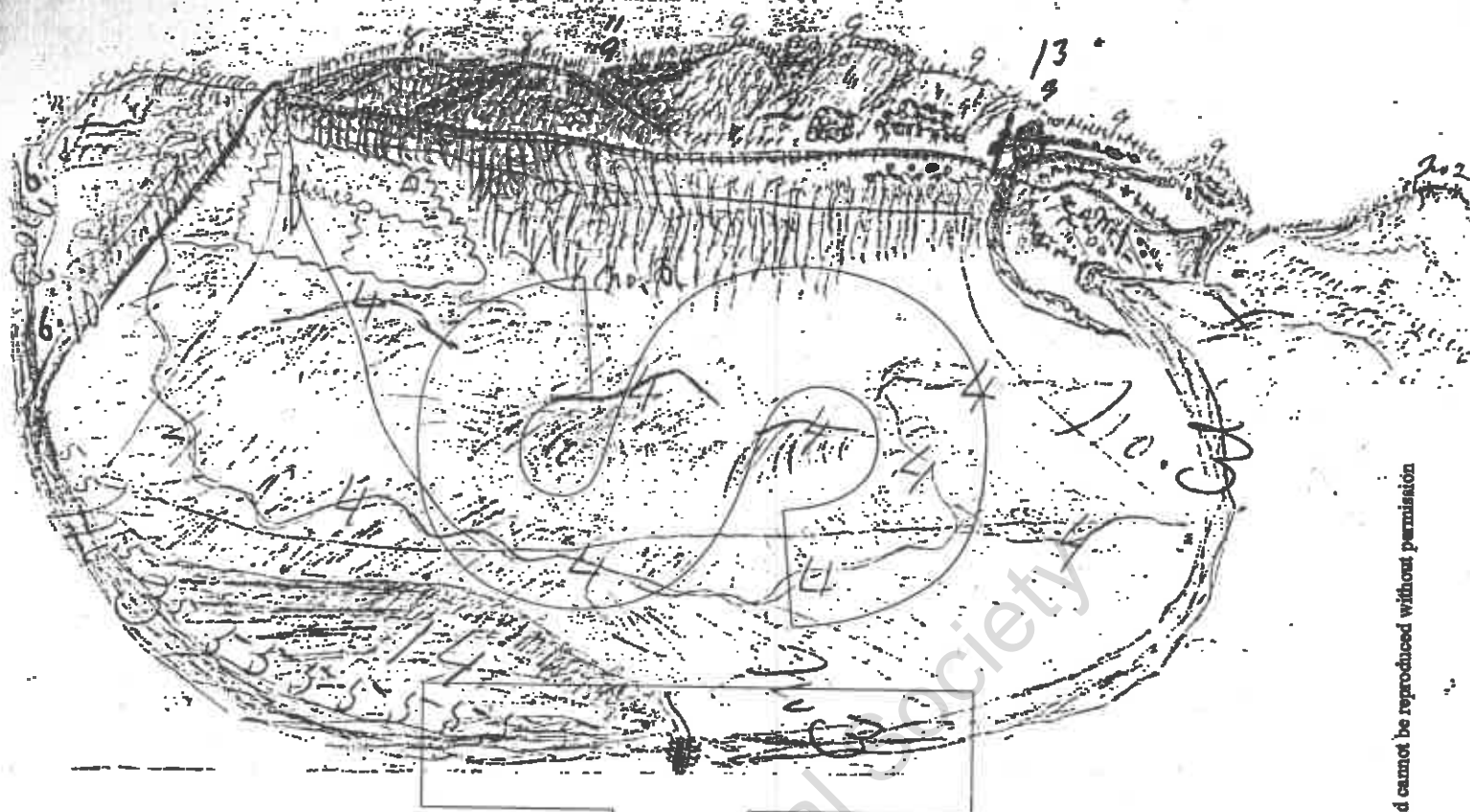
Priv. William Snedike flesh wond by Musket Ball via his leg below his knee, no danger.

We are all in the Hospital giting along fine, I dont know exacly how meny the Regiment lost, about 411 killed and wonded, other Regt. lost about the same. As I have said the Rebles have gone and our forces are following them as fast as posible. We captured up to

the 24th, 27 pieces of Artillery and 17,000 Prisoners. On the 25th we captured a lot of  
ammunitions, Guns & 200 Prisoners. 26th 200 Cavalry with Horses, 500 Mules, 2 large  
Signe Guns, some of their Train exploded their Magazine about 10 miles from here,  
destroyed a large Quantity of Corn Meal & C..

I shall close my few lines at present for I give you all the news I know about my wound,  
don't be scared for it isn't bad. In one week I can go to the Company again. I haven't  
wounded bad enough to get a furlough so as to come home. Goehart Walter is all right, he  
is still in the Guard House yet. I think he will serve his time out in it. Give my best  
Respects to all Inquiring friends, Especially Father, Mother, Brother & Sister, Your Mother,  
sister & brother, S. Craig, Hety & C. all Inquiring Friends. You can see how we had to  
fight, on the sheet of paper you have in this. I remain your Old Man and Truly beloved  
Husband until death parts us.

Henry Schmidt Capt. 37th O.V.I.



- No-1. City of Chattanooga.  
 No-2. Lookout Mountain where Gen. Hooker fought several days.  
 No-2. Lookout Mountain  
 ##### Rail Road.  
 ..... Rebel Camps.  
 xxxxx Union Breast Works around Chattanooga.  
 No-3. Tenn. River.  
 No-4. Breast Works which we made on the night of the 24th.  
 No-5. Place where we landed with the pontoons.  
 No-6. Where we captured the Rebel Pickets.  
 No-7. The Reserch.  
 No-8. Mountains which we gained on the 24th.  
 No-9. Simanary Monday.  
 No-10. Chickamauga Crick.  
 No-11. Where our Regt. charged the Rebel Works. Where I was wounded.  
 No-12. Where the 11th Army Corps charged up the Mountain.  
 No-13. Where our Center, Genl. Thomas charged the mountains.  
 No-14. Our Hospital.

Keep this, when I get home I can explain this to you.  
 Show this to John & C..  
 Yours. H.S.

Scetch of  
Chattanooga

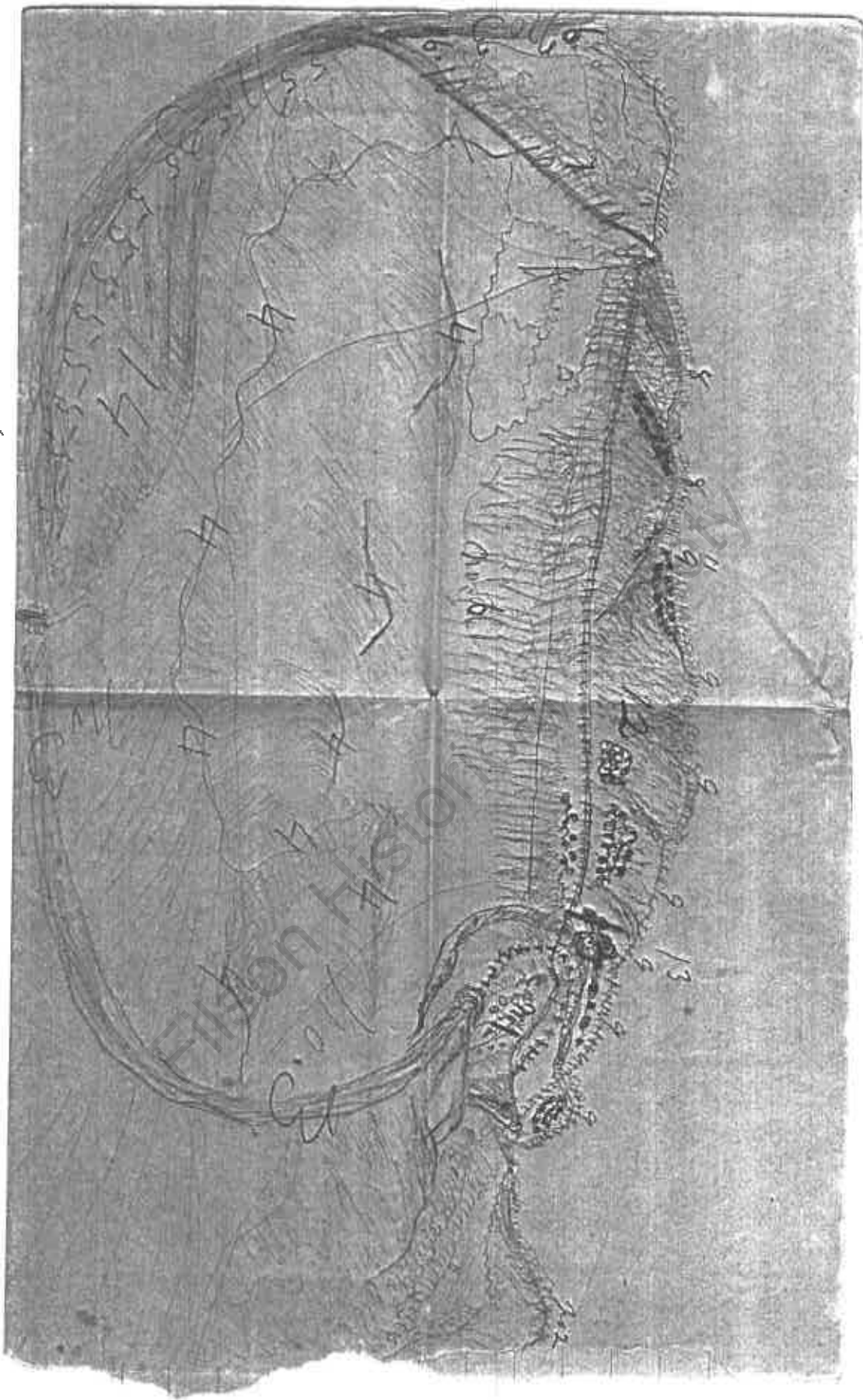
1863

Belongs with  
Nov 27, 1863 letter

Films Historical Society









2ed Div. Hospital near,  
Chattanooga, Tenn.  
Dec. 5, 1863

Cate Schmidt.  
Wapakoneta, O.

It is with plesior that I drop those few lines to you hoaping that they may find you in a state of good health. Thank fortion my health is good except the small wound I recieved here in Batle on the 25th of November 63. It is healing very nice in two weeks it will be healed up. Adj. Theo Nieberg who was at hoam last, got wounded through the calf and got a furlough, he will hand this letter to you himself, he can tell you all the news. I wroat to you a few days ago stating all I knew, the boys are all giting along fine.

I Remain Your True Husband until Deth . Answas soon.

Henry Schmidt.  
Capt. Co. C. 37th Regiment O.V. Inf.  
2ed Brig. 2ed Dev. 15th A.C.  
Camp near Chattanooga, Tenn.

Bridgport, Ala.  
Dec. 22, 1863

Cate Schmidt.  
Wapakoneta, O.

Your letters of the 9th & 11th inst. has come to hand, seeing that your health was good. Thank fortion my health is all right and my wond is healing very fast. I am with the Company again which pleases the boys very much. I dont know what to make out of your letters which you wroat last, for they are rather badly mixt up. You state that you got the Intrest for four Hundred Dollars from Mr. L. Jacobs. Dit you asque for the Intrest or dit he pay it to you without you asquing [asking] him for it, and how much dit you git, you then say that Jacobs has the four Hundred Dollaars I send home, which four hundred do you mean. You say that Samuel Craig would like to have two Hundred Dollars. You say that he is good, that might be all so, stil if I come home next fall I want the money in my hands to go in Business with, and dont want to wait and until peoples make it up, which might be six months. It isent wirth while eny more to lend eny of the money away, for those few months will be soon over and I want it then, dont tel Sam, just say I havent wroat eny thing about it, that you dont know wether I recieved the letter or not & C.. I hoap that you see in to it as plain as I do, it made me mad when I red your letter first for ———it contained so much nonsense and I supose you know that we are Man and Wife, not boy & Girl or King & Queen, that we must look ahead and know what to do and how to act. ———.

You say that I might if come home if I wanted to, that is so but I know how hard I ern [earn] my few cents and dont want throw them away, wher it isent nessesary. For Eight Months and I can go home to stay. I shal close my few lincs hoaping that you may be wise Act and like a true Woman in all things.

I Remain your True Husband until deth.  
Henry Schmidt Captain  
Company C. 37th Regt. O. V. I.  
2ed Brig. 2ed Div. 15th A.C.  
Bridgport. Ala.