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Camp 17th U.S. Infy.
near Knoxville Va.
April 8th 1864.

Dear Sarah,

Since I wrote
you last, I have been very
happily surprised, and by a
person whom I never saw
before in my life, that I have
knowledge of, and yet I felt
perfectly free to converse with
him, as I should with any of
my old acquaintances

I think from what I have
heard you say, that you also
are somewhat acquainted
with the gentleman.

I think your Yankee Curiosity
would ask the question, who
he might be? and therefore

I will tell you, but in my own way.

Wednesday I had occasion to visit the Camp of the 12th Regt. and soon after my return went to my tent. And was somewhat delighted to find it occupied by a stranger.

Now my dear Sarah, you must not think I am jealous of you, when I tell you that after the ceremony of introduction was over, he spoke very flatteringly of you, and said he had enjoyed many good times with you, and I hope he may more, for I like his appearance much being frank and open & wholely free from what I saw.

Said he now he was in my tent, by a certain picture I had left upon the mantle shelf.

which he had been viewing and was much pleased with it.

Dear Sarah I don't think it proper to tell you when picture it was for, don't wish you to know how many young ladies pictures I have in my possession, but the gentleman was Mr. George C. Fall.

He spent two or three hours with me conversing upon various topics, looking about the Camp &c. then returned to Warrington Junction. He wished to be remembered to you.

Thursday I had to go down to Bryack Head Dis. and rode over to the Luncheon to see him again, but he had gone out to some of the Camps and I returned without seeing him.

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Today I have been out
with Maj. McCabe, and thirty
or forty Cavalrymen on a
scout for Guerrillas.

We took circuit through
the country, and probably went
about thirty miles, but we
discovered no Guerrillas.

In fact it would be al-
most impossible to find any
for the country is covered
with little scrubby pines, and
a person might secret himself
so that a body of Cavalrymen
might pass within thirty feet
and not discover him, yet I
have no doubt but what we passed
within pistol shot of a day during
the day but our party was so large
they dare not make themselves
known, but we had the privilege
of searching one house for a
Rebel Lieutenant. Although we did
not find him

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Tomorrow I have got to go
to Alexandria to attend a
Court-Martial and don't
know when I shall return.

Probably not until Monday
and perhaps not until Tuesday.

Think if I am obliged to
remain over the Sabbath I shall
go to Washington.

I am enjoying very good
health, and by the way dear
Sarah, I have left off Chewing
Tobacco again. This I suppose
you will be glad to learn.

Do you think you would enjoy
a kip any better? I certainly
should be most happy to test
the experiment.

Do you ever think dear Sarah
what a change has come over me
since my first acquaintance with you?

Then, I had none of those vile &
filthy habits. Now, I have them all,

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But I trust when I get into
Civilization again, I shall
throw aside these Evils, at least
to a certain degree.

Had almost forgotten to
Acknowledge the receipt of
your letter this Afternoon,
not however because I did
not appreciate it; for it was
gladly received. Think my last
letter has not reached you. (27)

As you ask several questions
which were answered therein.

I close by bidding you
good night & sending a kiss.

Devotedly & Truly
Your Own,
Damp.

27
1864