

Camp Near Abingdon Va
Oct. 25th 1863

My dear wife

Near a week has elapsed since I last wrote to you. All that time we have been in our present camps and our men are now pretty well rested. I presume we will make a forward movement tomorrow or at least in a few days. There has been very little change any way since my last. My own health has greatly improved and I am now about as well as ever. I have staid a few of the worst nights in a private house, that of a Mr. Clark and have been very kindly treated. His wife's name is Ann Eliza. I write this letter from his house although it is dated at camp. The house is a few steps from our camps.

I am still under arrest. Genl Jackson's staff tried to get me to apologize and went so far as to write a short and sweet note with a pencil as a kind of copy from me to apologize by but I, reflecting that I yet retained my self respect and could meet you and hold up my head even though I had quarreled with a Brigadier General, spoilt all the General's plans of pardon by refusing to apologize and demanding a court-martial. I don't know where my trial will come off. I will be glad how soon.

I wonder if you get my letters. I write each one as though I supposed of course you had got the preceding. If you hear no more from me than I do from you I know you must be uneasy but I hope the mail does better for you than it does for me. I hope a kind providence is watching over and protecting you even as it has protected me, and that our Heavenly Father will still keep us safe, and allow us to meet e'er long.

Today being Sunday and no preaching in camps I went over to Abingdon and heard a sermon from Rev. Mr. Munsey in the Methodist Church. How I would have liked to have been at home and with you to have visited our old log church and listened to Uncle Hicks. And how well I could enjoy the calm of this holy Sabbath evening in our own little room by our own fireside with our little jewels round us. I pray that it may not be long before we shall have that now high but once too lightly esteemed privilage.

Still write to me and direct to me a Abingdon to be forwarded. Direct thus. Capt Jas. W. Terrell A.Q.M. Thomas Legion 1 then the letter will be forwarded with the Legion mail. It may be I will yet get a whole parcel of letters that I am satisfied you have written to me, but our mail is probably loged somewhere on the road as the Yankees occupy the places where the mail was first directed to.

(extra sheet)

If we move forward soon as I now think we will I will still write back every opportunity but sometime opportunities do not occur for a long time so you must not get uneasy. Above all do not let idle rumors or grapevine dispatches disturb you. It even go in the papers that Jacksons whole command was captured not a word of which was correct.

I directed the editor to send you a copy of the Raleigh Register containing an article I wrote and the complimentary orders of Genl's Williams and Jackson which I hope you will get.

The papers generally have noticed us favorably and every body seems to think that our retreat from Greenville was one of the most brilliant things of the war.

Elbert is quite well and hearty. So are all the boys who are here.

Give my respects to all inquiring friends. My love to all the kin

Kiss Mollie and Sallie and our boy for me. A kiss for you my dearest one.

Your affectionate husband

Jas W Terrell

Mrs. A E Terrell