

Carter Depot Tenn.  
April 7, 1864

My dear wife

As I have now to fall back on the uncertain method of communicating with you by mail I must write to you a little oftener than I did when I could depend on furloughed men taking a letter to you. If Stallcup was back Baker could get a furlough now. Stallcup's time was out yesterday but he has not yet got back. I look for him soon and Baker will then very probably get to go home. I have agreed to let Nancy Baker live in the Jesse Bird house provided you had made no other disposition of it and let her have the garden in the forks of the branch also. I presume that Conner has e'er this moved away. I wrote to you a day or two ago directing you to take Jimmy Gibbs. Let him come to you as soon as he wishes. I will do the best I can by him. April 8<sup>th</sup> I stopped at this point yesterday and this morning commence to finish my letter. This is the president's last day or rather I should say the day set apart by congress and the president for fasting and prayer. I am observing the fast and I do hope that I will be generally observed throughout the country. The people of Ninevah believed God and proclaimed a fast and were saved from destruction by it and for us. Who can tell but that God will turn away from his fierce anger that we perish not. My He listen to us and have mercy on us and speedily come to our rescue.

Of our neighbor boys here all I believe are well. Elbert looks better than I ever saw him. My own health is as good now as it ever was.

Today completes two years for me in the army and I can say I fell if possible stronger in the cause than I did at the commencement. I do hope that one more year will bring about our complete Independence and with it peace. I had but little thought at the commencement of this war that it would last three years but it has and will I think last a year longer but I see no cause for despondency. On the contrary much cause for graduation and hope. My motto is still "no surrender". How much I would like to see you now! But "time flies" August will soon be here. In that month I expect to see you.

We still keep up the bible class that I wrote to you about but our literary club has given out, I think I have however some hope of its revival. Our bible class is quite interesting and I hope will last as long as the members remain together.

We are now the outpost of the army and may possibly have to fight or run on of these days but the enemy doesn't seem inclined to come up the road and I think the Yanks in that respect observe a commendable prudence. I understand that the cars will not come down today so I will leave my letter to be finished tomorrow.

April 9<sup>th</sup> – This day two years ago I entered the service. I remember it was rather a .... sorrowful day for my little wife. I felt then that the country needed me but I did not then know how pressing that need was. I had then but little idea that the war would continue two years longer but here I am at the end of two years, and still the war rages,

but the end is every day getting nearer. Our enemy is beginning to show signs of exhaustion. One more desperate effort and the prize of independence will be ours.

Today is a gloomy dark rainy day. The spring is backward, peach buds are just swollen and ready to burst but are not opened yet. One warm sunshiny day would bring them out. I dreamp last night of seeing you and Mollie and Sallie. I thought you were all well and looking better than usual. I thought I saw Hattie too. Tell Mollie I dreamed she kissed me and I could almost feel her little arms around my neck when I woke. Kiss her and Sallie for me. A hundred kisses for you. Write to me as often as you can and write great long letters. You can not imagine the good it does me to get a letter from you, and the most insignificant things about my loved home and from my loved ones are intensely interesting to me.

Remember me kindly the kin & friends.

Your affectionate husband

Jas. W. Terrell

Mrs. Ann E. Terrell