

7-5-1863

Letter from William McKinney to His Cousin Martha McKinney, July 5, 1863

William M. McKinney

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Home - Sunday Morning - July 5th 1869

Cousin Mat.

It is a real shame that your letter of the 13th ult remains until now unanswered - yet so it is. I have been waiting and hoping that when I did answer - I could give you some news of my resignation - but alas! none. It is now four weeks since the papers were started forward - and yet no word from them. I am getting entirely out of patience - am really at a loss to know what to do - and now that the Army is now in motion - there is no more telling when I may hear from them. I have almost made up my mind to go down to Muskegon and look after them myself - am dying of this suspense. I was at Crawfordville three days of last week - attending Commencement exercises - had a very pleasant time - met scores of old friends whom I had not seen for four years. I have been very unwell for the past two days - having taken a severe cold - and have been suffering from severe pains in my breast and side - am some better to day - but am far from being well - do not believe I am in as good health as when I left you four weeks ago.

As I got sick in the Army - I am still of the opinion that
the Army is the only place where I can get well.

I suppose you had a grand 4th yesterday - so had I - the
folks all went to a celebration a few miles away -
I remained at home to keep house.

If I felt in a writing humor to day - I would
write you a long letter - but I do not - my side
pains me while I sit to write - and I am so
waxed about my papers - that I can scarcely speak
peaceably to any one. The Men folks are all busy in
the lowest fields week days and the women "beins"
putting up fruit - but they love to keep one gentleman
about the home - much as they dislike it.

I would not trouble them long - if I could
only receive my resignation - I would get out
of this place at once - and sick or well - go into
the six months service - I never was so tired
of staying one place in my life - I want to be
doing something - and yet I cannot do anything
until I hear from my resignation. I wish I
had gone to Memphis - when I left Ohio - it
would have been all right by this time - or else I
would have been with my Company down
about Tallahassee - where I ought to be.

I suppose Uncle Cy still cuts his tobacco over offices
at Weiksbury - scratches his head over matters in
Penn and looks knowingly when he speaks of the
movements of Rosecrans - Presume he is so busy
with his burvent - that he has little time or inclination
to think of war matters. I wrote to "Saraena" a
few days ago - have had no answer yet.

Has Aunt clustered any more freight trains since
I left? When or if I go to Newfawston I will
certainly write to you - Love to all -

As ever

Wm H. Kimsey