

MS92_9_6_07

Mumfordsville, Ky, Feb 22^d 1862

My dear Cousin Mattie,

Yours of the 13th (inst) has just been received and read, and I hasten an answer, and to you first, although, I received eight letters beside yours by this evenings mail. I wrote such a long one to you three days ago, will make this rather short. Left Camp Glenbrook yesterday morning, marched 8 miles through the mud. I stayed last night, at the house of a wealthy old Kentuckian, had a splendid time with his very pretty and interesting daughters, several of the Officers there during the evening, had our band there, had a dance, & e, & e. We are now on the South side of the Green River, where next we will go I know not, nor when. You seem to have had quite a time at "Camp McKinney," I would like to have been with you that evening, think I would have taken command myself, I know by our united force we could have held the fort. I admire your Military tact and knowledge of the business, learn fast.

(next page)

Now I have no news at all to write to night, since we only arrived here this evening, and I have learned nothing of the place. As to the general news of the war, they are as favorable as could be wished or expected and of them, you are better posted than myself. You will certainly think me a most devoted Cousin and exemplary youth, when I give you a list of the letters received, and the first of all these, I answer yours. One from dear Ann W__, one from the Bankers daughter, one from Cousin A.E., written a day after yours, one from Sister Ellen, one from a (Gramy/Ganny?) Lady you met at our house on the evening of the party, that had come a great ways and did not arrive until a late hour in the evening, several from gentlemen friends received and yet unanswered, and will write to you first of all. I have Cousin Minnie's letter, have not received an answer yet from my long letter to Aunt Angie. By the time I received another from you, I shall have looked around a

(next page)

little, and know what kind of a place we are in, I know nothing of it yet, except, that it is very muddy. I will not take you last letter through the severe course of criticism I usually do, let it has for all it is worth, and give the author credit for a good letter. Now as I said when I began this is only an apology for a letter, and the letter will come next time, but yet this is a letter and it will demand an answer of you, so you are not ahead yet, not do I intend that you shall be, as long as my is McKinney. Now miss if you do not like the way this letter is gotten up, just me know in the answer, and I will try and correct my style. By the way, I wrote nothing to Sister Molly

about Red Shoulderstraps, except what was true and truth must be told at all times, though heavens should fall, or fair ones get mad.

(signed Vertically)

Your affectionate Cousin

WM McKinney