Camp Near Hellena Arakansas
Aug the 3 1862
Dear Wife

I once more Set down to write you a few lines to let you know how I get a long
I am well at the preasant time the boys are all well that is from that Section of the contry was knews is tolarbly Scarse here and what there is it is not very favorble [word crossed out] Mclene Refuls from richmond and our fleet drawing back from Vicksburg all goes to show that there is Something that is not right in the plan of the war the fleet that was at vicksburg is here now I is com by Com Davis thare is Some 12 or 14 boats in the fleet thare is three 3 gun boats 3 morter boats and several rams but they dont all amount to much the whole of them let the Arakansas get away from them without doing her any ingury It was carlessness on the part of our officers that we did not get the Arakansas if things is not tended to better and the leading officers move more careful this war will not end way soon but if they would carry things on right this thing would soon Syush thare is talk of us soon leaving this place the talk is that we are going to littlerock but weather it is so or not I cant tell but I think that we will go somewhares before long
we have got our pay and drawed some clothing
Since we came here I drawed 37 Dollars and 87cts
I sent you 50 fifty dollars it is sent to mr
Froat the same as I sent the last I have
never got any word from you since you got the
20 I sent before and I dont know wheather you
got it or not but the Smith boys has herd
from theirs that they sent in the same pakage
so I presume you have got yours beofre now
I want you to tell me in your next letter how
much money I have sent home I have forgotten
and I would like to know thare is not much
knews here that would I interes you I might try
to Discribe to you what a gun boat looks like
loging on the Miss River if I was to discribe
one I would say that it looked like a big
driping pan botom side up loging on the water
only on a big scale you can see the old port
holes with the black musles of the gbuns sticking
out thare is a good many Reg here thare
to com here gen Curtises and gen Walaces
Gen Wallace has about 10 thousand men and curty
about 20 the 4 Iowa cavlry is camped about
6 miles from here I saw Wm Fashier Day before
yesterday he begins to look prety well they are
camped out in the country thare is Some
talk of our leaving here to morrow but
I will wait and see wheather it is so
it has been some ovir a year now since I left
home one third of our time is out
I dont know what you will do this fall to get your hay cut or how you will get it cut because this new call for volunteers will take lots more of the men away from home and thare was not an overly lot left before I am in hopes that they will not have to draft thare because I dont want any one to come to the war that haint got enough union blood in their veins to think that it is their duty, I dont know wheather thare is any companies being made up in madison county or not I have not herd from thare latly___ Capt Cummings started for Iowa about a week ago what his business is thare I dont know some says that he has gone to recruit for the reg and some says that he has gone to get com of a new reg I believe that he would mak a beter col than lots of col that is in the service I I dont know but he would do beter for a col than a captain, if thare is a going to be a bad chance to get hay cut this fall you had beter sell the cattle off only what you can get feed for that is if you can you know the chances to get feed beter than I do I dont expect to get home in time to put up hay this fall and maby I wont be thare next fall thare is no knowing the time now thing dond look as clear as they did 3 months ago but the darkest hour is just before Day so hope for the best
If Mr. Grater has not fixed that wagon yet, take it away from him. I understand that he is a Sese if this is the case, I don't want him to have it. I don't want any Sese to have anything that belongs to me. I had rather it would lay and rot, but I am in hopes that I have been wrongly informed about Mr. Grater. For I thought that he was too smart a man to be a Sese. But I guess that I have written all the news. The last letter I had from Fred was dated before Richmond. I presume that he was in the fight there and perhaps fell. I have not heard from him lately. I am going to write to him today. I would like to be at home a spell now to eat up some of eggs and butter that aren't worth anything there if you had them here you could get all they are worth. Butter is worth 30 cents here. Heese 25 there is no eggs here. Every thing thing is high but I think that thing will be more reasonable. The boats come in loaded every day but no more this time.

Write as often as you can to

From George B Davis
To Catharine Davis