

wife whose earnest prayers are ascending to the throne of grace in my behalf daily praying that God may shield & protect me from all dangers and spare my life that I may return to the bosom of a loved companion

There has 20 steamers loaded with troops arrived here to day making in all now here about 150,000 men this Army is not to be supposed will lie idle for any great length of time

I hope and trust that you will try and keep yourself as quiet as possible and not worry so much as I fear that you may wear yourself sick I shall come home any way as soon as they will grant any passes from here for I must see you if it costs all my wages

I will write you again on Wednesday until then believe me your loving husband

N. F. Mearns

believe me your loving husband



Camp Hamilton Fort St. Mowat  
March 23<sup>rd</sup> 1862

My Dear Wife

Your kind letter was received yesterday and I assure you it was a most welcome epistle I had been looking anxiously for it for many days and at last I had the joyful satisfaction of receiving it

I am very sorry and feel quite concerned on account of your health. I wish you to consult Dr. Parker at your earliest opportunity. It makes me homesick. But I do not know how long it will be before I can come home as no one is allowed to leave this place now. Neither soldiers or civilians. There were 20 boat loads of soldiers landed here to day amongst them the regiment that Capt. Cook's company from Allegany belongs to.

Do not worry on my account for I feel confident that my life will be spared through the mercy of God until such time as I can get home. I do not want you to be dependent upon any one neither do I want you to undertake to support yourself. I have been drawing 20 1/2 dollars per month since