

COL. EZRA WOODRUFF.

(To the Editor of the Courier-Journal.)

The death of Col. Ezra Woodruff, of the United States Medical Staff, retired, breaks another cherished link in the chain that binds me to the better part of my life's environment. Our friendship was forged by association as fellow students in the first class organized in 1856 in the Boys' High School of this city.

He was a fine specimen of youthful vigor, and ambitious capacity. A diligent student at all times, though at the same time engaged at night as an amanuensis by the great editor, George D. Prentice.

Though only two members of our class graduated, Judge James S. Prtie and Prof. Louis D. Kastenbine, it contained about thirty to thirty-five members in 1859. The members fell off in the next year and in the fall of 1858, on account of interruption in the faculty, all but two went to business or to other colleges. They were young men of good ability, and I mention particularly: Evan J. Cole, Richard O. Cowling, William M. Mann, William Forrester, William Prentiss Graves, Cornelius Holt. There were many other brilliant young debaters and writers. Among them Ezra Woodruff held his own especially in literary skill and strength. He was a young man of exemplary character, social in his nature, abounding in health, amiable in disposition, frank and generous.

Being a large, stalwart youth, he was a leader in many games and contests on the playground. I remember he was a terror in the football contests. Altogether he was highly respected and loved by his whole class.

After leaving the high school Ezra Woodruff went into business for a few years. Early in the Civil War he became attached to the medical service and, graduating from the medical department of the University of Louisville in 1864, became a surgeon in the regular army. His promotion was in due course until he reached the highest rank, in the line, of Colonel, and, coming to the age of retirement, was retired with that rank.

Col. Woodruff was married to Miss Gaubert, sister of George and William Gaubert, and often returned to the home of his early years, while he had many friends to welcome him. His son, George Ezra, lives here, having married a Louisville girl. Mrs. Woodruff and a daughter, Miss Woodruff, reside in Washington City.

I write this as a tribute of affection to my old schoolmate and lifetime friend, a very distinguished Louisville boy.

W. J. M'CONATHY.

March 18, 1913.

THOS. O. MURPHY,
ATTORNEY AT LAW,
KAMPFMAN BUILDING.

San Antonio, Texas, March 1st, 1905

Dr, Ezra Woodruff

Brooklyn NLYL

Dear Doctor:

I just received Redemption certificate from the
Comptroller which I enclose.

This you can have recorded at any time if you chose. Most people do not
have them recorded but keep them, however strictly speaking they are a link
in the title and a purchaser may demand that they be recorded and if they
do it can be done at any time.

With kindest regards to all

I am yours very truly

Thos. O. Murphy

War Department,

ADJUTANT GENERAL'S OFFICE,

Washington, January 14, 1890

Sir:

I have the honor to transmit herewith your commission of Surgeon with the rank of Major.

Please acknowledge your receipt thereof as early as practicable, and, in case of acceptance, fill up, subscribe, and return the accompanying oath of office duly executed.

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

W. Keen

Asst. Adjutant General.

Major
Ezra Woodruff
Surgeon, U.S.A.,
Fort Hamilton, N.Y.

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Surgeon General's Office.

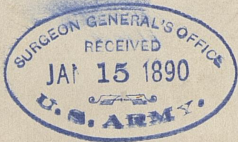
January 16th 1890.

Respectfully forwarded to Major
Egna Woodruff, Surgeon U.S. Army
Fort Hamilton, N.Y. & New York.

Receipt to be acknowledged through
this office.

By order of the Surgeon General,

W. R. Woodruff
Major and Surgeon
U.S. Army.



Fort-Keogh Montana

February 1. 1894,

Dear Mother Woodruff,

The Doctor received
your letter some weeks
ago - and as he has not
replied - as yet - I thought
you might like to hear
how we were getting along
in this desolate, cold country.

This morning the mercury
stood at twenty five below
zero - yet it is a most
beautiful winter day -

The air is clear as a
bell and perfectly still -
while a lovely network of
frost - covers the trees and
bushes - We have had snow
enough for sleighing ever
since New Year day - yet
it is not very deep - There
is very little snow fall here
but when it falls it stays
for weeks -

Montana air agrees with
the children - they have
been very well this winter
and enjoy the out - door ^{sports}

immensely - They skate
and sleigh and tie their
sleds on to passing vehicles
Egna is very enthusiastic
over horse back riding, he
rides his pony everyday
notwith~~standing~~ tending the cold.
He has a large fur
cap - leather leggins
which reach above his
knees - and a long over-
coat which reaches to his
heels - when equipped in
this way - he can
defy all sorts of weather
All the children here are

rosy and healthy looking
and can stand any amount
of exposure to the cold with
out getting sick -

The Dr also is looking
remarkably well - and
does not seem to mind the
cold very much - so we
have many reasons to be
thankful for our lot in
Montana - as health is our
greatest blessing - we certainly
should be contented -

We all unite in sending love
and hope you will write again
Yours affectionately
Francis G. Goodhue

Fort Davis Texas

Sept 25 1877.

My dear ma, your letter stating that you had heard of the death of Bro Williams, baby came to hand. I had heard from him also by the papers of his sad loss. It will be a sad bereavement to him and greater because it is his first great grief.

We are quite well and settled. We have two cows and make our own butter. We are going into the Chickew business too as soon

As I can make arrangements them very much.
for coops &c. The weather
has been intensely hot but
is now cooler. It is really
dreadful the dry and look
of this mountainous
wilderness. Little or no rain
has fallen this summer
and the creek which
irrigates our garden has
gone dry. But most of the
vegetables have a good
start and will mature
well. Our greatest loss
is the melons. We have
such an abundant supply
thus far, that we will miss

them very much. There is no news of
importance. Fanny has
had a letter from Mrs
De Russey. The troops
had all gone to Pa
to put down the R.R.
rebellion. My little
patient with the bad
foot had recovered
so far as to go out
riding.
The Mexican excitement
is subsiding somewhat,
and I am growing quiet
and stupid in this
quiet spot, having but

little interest in the
outside world, not even
in what Congress will
do with the army.

Lieut. Trimon has got
to be a Captain at last.

I send you the recipe
for Chutney. You saw and
helped me make it and
can do it as well as the
inventor. Learn out the chili
seeds. at least part of them.
Everybody eats chili down
here, green and red. It is not
very strong pepper but pleasant
flavoring.

Give my love to George,
wife and children and I
remain Your aff. son Ezra.

Fort Davis, Texas
July, 5. 1877.

Dear Mother Woodruff -
in looking over my trunk
this morning I found one of
your handkerchiefs, which I
enclose.

You are very much pleased
with our new station, we
enjoying good health and are
quite comfortable although
none of our household goods
have arrived and have not
even been heard of -

Doctor has not had a touch
of sciatica since he has been
in Texas, in fact I never saw
him so bright and well.

The people of the garrison are very pleasant and kind. Some of the ladies take me out driving nearly every day, there are a number of "turnouts", here and some of them quite elegant. There was a hop given in honour of our arrival which we enjoyed very much.

Yesterday being the Fourth of July was quite a gala day here. The soldiers who are all colored, had games and races of all kinds, foot races, sack races and wheel races, and wound up the day with dances.

We also had a flag raising at noon with music by a brass band and a salute of thirty eight guns.

Doctor received a letter from his Knoxville brother stating the

arrival of a new son weighing ten pounds, which news I presume you have already heard.

Hoping you are well I must close as I have a visitor just come in
Yours Affectionately
Fannie.

San Antonio, Texas -

May 17, 1877.

Dear Mother Woodruff -
Knowing you will feel
anxious to know where
Doctor has been assigned
I will write to tell you
we are just on the eve of
our departure to Fort Davis
it is a distance of 500 miles
from here, it is situated in
the north western corner of the
State on a plateau six thousand
feet above the level of the
sea, it is said to be very

cool and remarkably healthy.
There is a Mrs Bliss here at
the hotel who has just returned
from Fort Davis, she pronounces
it delightful.

We are going to travel by
ambulance with an escort
of armed soldiers in company
with Captain French, his wife
two children, Miss LaMonde a
young lady from Washington and
two servant-girls. We expect
to be twenty days on the way as
we travel only in daytime and
camp out at night. Captain
French who has had much
experience in this manner

of life has made all the
necessary arrangements for the
comfort of the party, and we
feel very thankful that we
have met with such good
fortune in being permitted
to go in this way. Otherwise
we should have been obliged
to have taken the stage and
travelled night and day.
None of our household goods
has arrived but the quartermaster
will forward them.

We received your letter
yesterday and were glad you
had arrived in safety.
Written in haste. Doctor sends

his love in which I join him
to yourself Brother George,
Sister Lizzie and family
affectionately
Fannie

Louisville Ky
Apr 16-1877

Dr Ezra Woodruff

Dear Sir

I send en-
closed the Marriage Cer-
tificate, as you request
Please remember kind-
ly to your Lady and
believe me with sin-
cere wishes & prayer for
your happiness & pros-
perity to be
Yours Truly

J L Burrows

THIS CERTIFIES

That on the Sixteenth day of
April

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
1873

Dr. Ezra Woodruff
and Miss Frances Gaullbert

were by me united in
Marriage

at Louisville Ky.

according to the Laws of the State of Kentucky

Witnesses

Geo. W. Gaullbert

Dr. Forrester

J. S. Burrows

Pastor Broadway
Baptist Church



U. S. A. Post Hospital,

Fort Niagara, N. Y., April 15, 1876.

My dear mother, this is the first anniversary of my marriage. One year ago I entered a new existence and began a new life. I am a very happy married man and when I look back at the gloom and discontent of bachelorhood, I rejoice very heartily that I am out of it and that I am enjoying the light and brightness of a new world. It is my dear Frances and her sweet presence that makes everything in my life so attractive. I think you may now feel that your labors and prayers have not been in vain, for

speaking for myself, I can
assure you that one of your children
feels grateful to you for your efforts
in teaching him how to be a man
and gives you full credit for all the good
in him, — and all that ought to be, and
— isn't. What I want to say, dear ma,
in fewer words is, that I love you
~~and~~ and think of you continually and
thank God always for such a
good mother, and for her example
and for her precepts. Fanny sends
her love and says you must be
sure and answer her letter.

There is a revival progressing
in the Methodist church in the
village and so many billiard
players have joined the church
that the saloon has been closed
for want of customers. Mr Reed
the pastor of the Presbyterian



Fort Niagara N.Y.
Jan 16th 1876.

My dear ma, your kind
and cheering letter came
the other day and I was
so rejoiced to get it, for
I am very lonesome since
my dear wife has been
absent from my hearthstone,
and your letter cheered me
up as I said.

There is no news. I wrote
to Sophie the other day

and requested her to
send me Mammies address
If you know it, do you
send it to me.

About your visit, I think
it would be best to wait
until after Bub's return
from the Centennial trip,
next summer. It will be
pleasant to travel in the
Autumn and you will
see this country to a
much greater advantage.

Tell Bub, if he
goes through Louisville
to call for my wife
and bring her on with
him. She is at 365
4th Street. I wish he
would write to me when
he intends starting.

Give my love to all
and believe me to be
Your affectionate Son
Ezra

Port Niagara N.Y.
Jan 3rd 1876.

My dear mother, your
kind letter arrived to-day
and I was so glad to
get it, for I am again
a bachelor temporarily, -
Fannie having gone to
Louisville to see her friends.
I took her a short
distance and then left
her to travel by herself.
Her mother had been
very anxious to see her

but she would not
have gone so soon had
not the approaching
marriage of her brother
George to Dr Rosen's daughter
hurried her off. I consider
it unfortunate in my
case that her father
should disapprove our marriage
for it makes it impossible
for me to visit her house
and of course throws a
shade of sadness over our
happiness. Fannie is a very
superior woman, with no
foolishness about her. She
accepts the fact of my

being poor as a matter
of course and is in every
sense of the word a true
helpmeet, sensible, discreet
and economical.

In regard to your
visit, I cannot find it
in my heart to urge
you to come on this
winter. It is bleak and
disagreeable in every way.
You would perforce be
housed most of the time
with no one to see or
visit. It would be so much
more pleasant if you could
be here in Summer, which

is a delightful season.
But I wanted to invite you
so that you might know,
as of course you know
anyhow, that you would
be welcome. If I am
ordered to the South next
time, I hope to get near
you where we can see
each other oftener than we
have been permitted ~~the~~ of
late years. Write to me
soon. Give my love to all
and the dear children,
with much love to you
I remain your affectionate son
Ezra

Fort Niagara N.Y.

Nov 2 1875.

My dear mother, your
kind letter has been here a
long time, and I feel
ashamed of my neglect.
But no news is good news
and you may always
know that we are well
while you do not hear
from ~~you~~ me. We had
a long pleasant summer
and we are now having

a bleak Autumn and
an early Winter. We
have had several severe
snow storms and to-day
I have another, but no
sleighing.

Fannie's health and
mine is good. My dear
wife has a famous
appetite, which I think
is a first rate symptom
of good health in a
woman. She remains
very contented but will
probably visit her
home folks in Louisville

sometime this Winter.
I wish you could come
on to spend a while
with us. I cannot offer
many inducements but
a hearty welcome. The
weather is cold and
we are very quiet and
lonesome. The Summer
is our pleasantest
season. But come when
you will I will be
glad to have you. You
can arrange the time
to suit yourself. I would
like to have you visit
me so that you could

to see the great falls.
This is only a two
year station for me
and I shall probably
be away before next
winter.

Give my love to
all and believe me
to be your affectionate
son

Ezra

Torl Niagara N.Y.

Sept 28th 1875.

My dear ma, I am afraid
that you are forgetting
me for you write so
seldom. Fannie and I are
both well and are getting
well acquainted. I find
that I am happier and
better than I was ever before
in all my life. I waited
a long time but my dear
wife is a treasure that
fully repaid me for the
delay. We live as quiet

a life here as I did
in Peubina, although there
are a great many more
people here. They are a plain
set of farmers, comfortable
but do not make much
display.

The fruit season is now
at its height. There were
eight hundred baskets of
peaches shipped this
morning by the boat to go
to Toronto. Also pears, apples
&c.

In one of my letters
I said something about
being ordered south. I did

not mean that there was
a probability of my going
soon. But my term will
be out at this Post next
fall one year hence and
I think it probable that
I may be sent South
then. I hardly think
that I will be sent West
again and if I am not
sent West, I may be sent
either to the Pacific Coast
or to the Dept of the
South. I would rather go
South than so far as
the Pacific Coast.

We have had our first
frost but the weather

is pleasant and cool.

You must write soon.

Fannie is sitting near me
busily engaged in sewing
and looks up to send
her love to all.

I remain Your son

Ezra Woodruff.

Port Niagara N.Y.

Aug 31^d 1875.

My dear ma, this is the
last day of Summer. It has
been a pleasant happy
season and I hope that
I am now embarked safely

on a prosperous career.
I hope too that you and I
may again be with each
other for a season. I think
it is possible that I
may be ordered to the

Department of the South.
If I could only get to
Atlanta, it would be
delightful for us to have

another household reunion.
But I can promise you
that we will live in
better style than we did
at Taylor Barracks. By
the way I see by the
papers that Stewart's
sister, a Mrs. Inyalls wife
of Lieut. Inyalls fell a
victim to the Yellow fever
at Barranacas during
the epidemic there. Did
I write to you that Miss
Hedie Badger, the daughter
of the Chaplain at T. B.
was married to an army
officer down in Texas.
I wish you would write

me when Mammie King
is married. Sophie has
never said anything
to me, about the matter
and I don't want to ask
her plump.

Your old friend Miss
Mammie Cochran came
as far as Ashtabula Ohio
with Miss Kate Gaulbert,
when she will or has spent
her vacation. It was
not a great way from
Niagara Falls.

They are all very well.
Tell Bub not to forget
to send me the case of
ladies scissors, three small

pair in case and one
layer pair. I want them
of the best quality. He
can send them by mail.
Mum sends her love

Your affectionate son
Ezra

Fort Meazara N.Y.

June 17/835.

My dear ma, I hope
this will find you as
well as it leaves me.
Our Summer is come at
last and colds and
catarrhs have left me.
I eat well and sleep
well and pass the time
pleasantly, although somewhat
monotonously.

My dear wife Annie is
well and contented. The

expect her sister Kate
to visit us for a few
weeks this Summer which
will be a boon to Fannie
for she of course misses
her home associations.

I want Bub to come
by to see me this Summer
when he comes East.

Give my love to Ella
and the sweet children.
I think of them very often
with affection.

We are struggling to
make gardens but it
is a difficult labor

on account of the
little rain. We have no
strawberries yet and
have only had lettuce for
a few days.

Write to me when
you can. Your letters are
so much appreciated.
both by Fannie and
myself. Your Affectionate son
Ezra

Port Niagara N.Y.
May 3^d 1875.

My dear mother, now that
your last son is married
and settled and I may
say well married and
settled. I think your
mind and heart will
be more at rest and
peace. I know very well
that you never seriously
thought that I could
go far wrong after
you had launched me

into manhood so well. I can see now how wide of the mark I might have strayed had it not been for your influence and example. I bless God always for the good influence of my good mother and hope to go on in the way she brought me up.

I am very happy in my wife and in her love. I have a very charming woman. She

is very much better than I deserve, but I believe I can grow to be worthy of her in time.

We are happily located. a nice little cottage of six rooms, Parlor, dining room, kitchen three bed rooms. with a nice pantry and plenty of closets. I am all carpeted, have a piano, (which I hire) and good crockery and plated ware. I feel very thankful for my privileges, and

sometimes rub my
eyes to be sure that
I am not dreaming.

I feel thankful that
sister Ella was with
me for I would ^{have been} ~~be~~ ^{so} ~~lonely~~ ^{lonely}
without some body belonging
to me.

The winter is not over
even in this low latitude.
The river is full of ice
and the weather is cold.
Not a bud or blossom
or leaf out. But we will
have summer by and by.
Give my love to all. Tell
Dad his kind letter was fully
and duly appreciated. Yours son
Ezra

Fox Niagara N.Y.
April 23 1875.

My dear mother, ~~now~~ I
have been married a week
and am very proud and
happy. I think you have
a charming daughter and
a very proud son. I regard
all my little success in
this life thus far as due
to your teaching and early
influence and especially
in this thing I believe
that your noble example
in showing me what a
good woman can be

has enabled me to
choose a wife with
judgment and has
also given me the power
to win her.

Sister Ella was on
hand and afforded
me so much comfort
and strength by her
presence. I regretted
Bubs absence but Dr
Kovveter came out strong
as best man and stood
by me nobly. I do not
know what I should
have done without
Sister Ella here.

Write to me soon.
Jan and I both send
you our love and
duty I remain
Your affectionate son
Epra

Fort Pembina D.T.
March 3 1872.

My dear ma,

Your kind
letter of the 15th Feb has
just come and finds
me quite well and
just back from a
pleasant trip to Fort
Garry where I stayed some
5 days and enjoyed
myself very much, - being
wined and dined by
all the nice people in
the Settlement including
Lieut Gov. Archibald a
nice old New Brunswick
gentleman with a

stylish daughter.

The Canadian people authorities affect to think that the services rendered by our troops in stopping the Persian raid last fall were very great, (and indeed they were) and so we are treated very nicely in spite of the Alabama claims and all the war talk. I had not been absent from the Post for more than a year and my trip was a great relief. Our winter is making up its mind to depart

and yield place to Spring. The sun shines very brightly but its cold glittering rays only affect the snow very slightly and in the middle of the day.

The ice in Red River is 3 feet 8 inches thick. To see a great mass hauled out weighing thousands of pounds would please you very much. We saw it off in large pieces and then hitch 6 oxen to it and draw it out of the water, when it is again sawed into smaller pieces so that it can be

hauled by two men

In regard to saving
money, it does seem that
I have the hardest time.
But you need not fear
about the watch, it is
a good investment.

You must write me a
long letter soon. I received
a very nice letter from
Sophie, which I will try
to answer soon.

Give my love to all

I am as ever

Your son

Ezra Thordrup

Fort Pembina S.D.

January 25 1872

My dear ma, your Newyears
letter and the one previous
are both at hand. The

short dark days are passing
away and the sun is getting
up earlier and setting later

But about Christmas, he
did not rise until 8 A.M.,
and went to bed at 4 P.M.

This makes us lazy too. By
the time breakfast was over

it was 1² o'clock and the
evenings were interminably

long. My friend Maize
who married Miss Buband
and at whose marriage

I was best man, spent
about three weeks with
me, coming up on Carol
Martial duty, and the
stormy weather keeping him
here. I was real glad to
see him and his stay
made a great hole in
our long dull winter.

I have a beautiful little
bay mare and she drives
very gentle, so that I have
more sleigh rides than I
ever dreamed of enjoying
when I lived in snowless
Kentucky. My mare is not
kind under the saddle, but
jumps and bucks fearfully.
She ran away with me

soon after I got her and
while at full speed she
fell on the hard road. The
Kind Providence was good
and I escaped, tumbling
off of from her on my
elbow and hip and
rolling about four somersaults.
I remember only seeing her
rolling after me and
the fear that she would
roll over me made me
turn the last one very
quickly. I beat her in
getting up, which she did
looking very sheepish. She
is quite small but strong
as a lion and carries
my two hundred pounds

easily. I am up to all
her tricks now and her
side leaps and cavorting
does not frighten me.
Lieut Bradley was looking
at us when she ran
away and he told me
that he saw us going, then
we disappeared and a
cloud of dust arose, when
he turned away afraid
that I was seriously hurt.
She goes so nicely in
harness that I do not
intend to put the saddle
on her any more, but
when the sleighing breaks
up use her in a
light wagon.



Fort Pembina D.T.
Sept 25 1871.

Dear ma,

Your kind letter stating that you had returned to Knoxville and Bob also has come to hand.

I have neglected my correspondence so much this year that I ~~have~~ ^{receive} only a few letters. We are all very quiet here as usual. The novelty of the country has worn off and I do not go out much and so remain at my quarters until I feel so stupid and ignorant that I feel careless about writing or reading at all. I have another Hospital Steward to replace the one who died last Spring but am not yet occupying the New Hospital, although I expect to do

is in a week.

There is great excitement here now over the Penian's. Several of the Penian Head centres are about Pembina and wonderful rumors are about of an invasion of Manitoba. But I do not see how they are to march any body of men through their wilderness and we ~~do not~~ know it. If they attempt to pass by or near the fort we will have to stop them and send them back. The people at Fort Garry are scared but then they are easily scared.

We have had the Indian Payment and it was interesting to see the sons of the forest with their daubed faces, grin as they took their money and blankets.

They were all drunk the next day, money gone and blankets

going.

We are getting frequent frosts and the days are getting short. I look forward to next winter with some dread as now ~~that~~ the novelty is gone time will hang heavily.

You must write soon and often. I am as ever your son
Erie Shadruff

Fort Pembina D.T.
June 15 1871

Dear Ma, your letter
of May 30th is just rec^d
I am sorry to hear that
you have been suffering
with your eyes so much.
I trust they are stronger now
and will remain so.

Your description of the
festival pleased me. I wish
I could have enjoyed
the pleasure of eating the
cream & strawberries to say
nothing of ~~rather~~ looking
at the bright faced girls
who surrounded the tables,
which I cannot do in
this wilderness.

I have not heard from Louisville for a long time. I think of sending for the Commercial just to let me know how the world moves in Kentucky.

I wonder if Bub is going to New York this summer. I sent him a list of articles I want him to purchase for me to start a mess kit. The china ware I will buy in St Paul.

The carpenters have arrived and are hard at work on the new building and I think the Post will be completed this fall.

We have had a cool June, on the 13th there was a severe frost which nipped the beans and potatoes. The mosquitoes have not been so bad in consequence of the cool weather so that our lives have been bearable.

You must kiss the babies for me and give my love to Ella. I do not know when I will be able to come and visit you all. For now I have no interest in Louisville, I shall have to make Bub's house my HQ when I visit the states.

The English soldiers have all gone back home to

Canada and there are
a great many immigrants
going down into the Red River
settlement. They are mostly
hard working Canadian
farmers and will have a
hard time.

I have written to George
lately. He seemed in fine
spirits about his crops. I hope
he will succeed in getting out
of all his troubles.

You must write to me
often and with much love

I remain
Your Son
Ezra,

Fort Pembina D.T.
May 8. 1871.

My dear ma,

Your kind letter of the 18th April has just come. We are at last having a touch of Spring. The grass is peeping out of the ground and the buds are swelling on the trees. It is a late Spring however, anywhere. We had no flood and the high water is rapidly subsiding. One of the contractors has visited us and promises to begin work on the 1st of June, and I hope that the Post will be completed by October.

My health is excellent and also that of the Post. Mrs Wheaton the Commanding Officers wife has a miscarriage at 6 months and the child was dead when delivered. She is recovering well. This is the second case of the kind I have had since I have been here. I believe I told you that my steward died leaving a wife and 3 children. He had an insurance on his life for \$3000. She is an orphan but has friends in St Louis. She is still acting as Hosp Matron and will so

remain until her insurance is secured.

I ~~feel~~ find some difficulty in finding news to tell you in this quiet place. We have a steambot now running up and down the river and 3 mails a week instead of 2. In fact we have two steamboats the old International and the new Selkirk.

I hope you are getting strong and well and will continue to enjoy good health.

I intend to make But a remittance soon and will send you also.

I have got my Captaincy and am now ready almost to marry. I will let you know when I select the lady and gain her consent.

Don must write soon and often

Don Sn.

Erathoodruff.

Fort Plumbina D.T. March 6th/91.

My dear ma, We are entering upon the joys and storms of the sore-eyed month as the Indians call March. The sun is getting so much power now that the snow melts in the middle of the day and the glare is almost unbearable. I have a pair of goggles which protect the eyes very well.

This has been a hard and cold winter and I am heartily glad to see it take its departure.

The poor half breeds have had a hard time of it. I went into a hut in the woods one day and saw a mother and three little children sitting on the ground around a pan having in it a dozen pieces of bread as large as a walnut. This bread is a hard tough shortcake called "galette." I asked the woman if this was her usual diet and she said yes and thanked god that she had never starved. Nearly all the half breeds live on this bread while the weather is too cold to catch fish and they seem to thrive on it too.

We have filled a large ice

house with ice just three feet thick.
It was sawed out piece by piece and
it was wonderful to me to see such
thick and large pieces.

I recd a letter from Pat from
Phila and am glad that he is
now sole proprietor and controller of
his store. I hope he will soon have
his debt all paid up and go on
in prosperity until he is quite
well to do.

I enclose you some tax receipts
which I find among my papers.

If you could find my commission
as Asst Surgeon in the 15th Reg among
my old papers I should be glad to
get it. I don't think I destroyed it
but have no idea where it is. Please
tell Pat to look it up for me.

I am all right now. My ankle
was sprained by jumping from a sleigh
in Buffalo over shoes which are very
slippery. You must write often
to me. I remain

Your Son
Ezra

Fort Pembina D.T.
Oct 23 1870.

My dear ma, I have received several letters from you which were all duly appreciated but I have not felt in the mood much for writing and have allowed my correspondence to ~~fall~~ accumulate unanswered.

We are just beginning to have a touch of winter. It has been snowing and freezing but not extensively. My fireplace works well however and I am good for much colder weather.

We have just discovered that there are no sash for the officers Quarters and that will delay us another month. I think we will enjoy our houses when we do get into them. We have two ladies in camp now - at least they are boarding in Pembina waiting for the houses to be completed. Mrs. Wheaton and Mrs. Bradley.

I went out the other day to St. Joseph a village 30 miles West from Pembina

in company with Lieut Bradley
He had a pleasant trip and
killed some game. The country
there is more diversified than here
~~and~~ the Pembina Mountains being
close and wood and plain, hill
and valley making the scenery
picturesque. The scene from the
top of the mountain was grand.
This mountain can be seen
from our camp on some
mornings when the peculiar
refraction of the atmosphere
lifts the mountain high above
the ordinary horizon and it
becomes plainly visible.

I hear from Louisville occasionally.
Nadie Badger occasionally writes
to me. My Wagon is still there
although Mr Wagon does business
in Levington. Nadie is teaching
school in Frankfort and I want
you to tell Ella, to tell Kate
~~with my compliments~~ that she
must hunt her up make her
acquaintance, and Nadie is
just as nice as can be and I
think Kate cannot help liking

her. I had a letter from Steward
Miles. He is on his farm and
working hard. Mrs Miles sent the
love to you &c.

I received the sail needles and
sewing silk, all right and am
much obliged.

Lottie has written me a nice
letter. She seems to think Betty had
not ambitions enough to move in
fine society. I think Betty is a very
fine girl and I suppose that
she moves in the best society that
possible in the small neighborhood
around her home.

How is Choly? Is she increasing
in size much? The great trouble
with puppies after the operation
which she has undergone is that
they get so fat.

You must write to me
often & believe me to remain
Your affectionate son
C.

Fort Pembina D.T.
Sept 29 1870.

Dear ma, your kind
letter containing the silk
came all right and accept
my thanks. You see by
my heading that the name
of the Fort has been
changed to Fort Pembina.
I suppose the Government
intends to name a more
permanent Fort for Gen
Thomas than this out of
the way and unimportant
station.

We have just had a
visit from Gen Hancock
with his Chief of Staff.
He advised the location

of the Camp and promised to hurry up things so that we may soon get into houses. I have my tent floored and am having a chimney built, so that I think I will get along nicely for some time.

I am glad you are having a pleasant time and I hope you will continue to have. You speak of your inability to enjoy the meetings of your church as heartily as you wish to.

I do not think in the matter of religion that all people should go into extremes. Your whole life has been a struggle

against giving way to feelings. You have had to fight against despondency, to conquer grief and have very little time to spend in pleasure and enjoyment. With your mind educated in such a hard school, I think I should feel sorry to hear that you were enjoying your church meetings by weeping and shouting. It is not required of you. Let those sanguine, impulsive and demonstrative dispositions laugh and cry as much as they please. The beauty of a Christian life is just as well shown by a quiet walk in the path of duty, by loving

God supreme and you
neighbor as yourself, as by
the demonstrations usually
made in revivals. I do
not write all this for any
other purpose than to suggest
to you that it is not
necessary for you to enjoy
the meetings in any other
way than by attending
them and learning new
ideas of the truth as they
may be expounded by the
preacher. I am glad that
Sister Ella has joined the
church and that Bub is
conducting family worship.
I might say a good deal about
the good influence of family
worship but of course I
need not preach to you

For Genl Thomas

Pembina D.T. July 17, 1870

Dear ma,

I suppose you are at the Springs having a cool time among the cool shades and drinking the waters. We have had several warm days up here too, but the nights are cool enough to enjoy blankets for covering. The site of the Fort has been chosen about one mile from our ^{old} camp where I was when I last wrote you. We have been here one week now and are comfortably fixed up as far as the sun is concerned and hope to have huts built before long. Our Fort is named Genl Thomas in honor of Genl Thomas, the greatest soldier and patriot of them all, - who died last April in San Francisco. The prairie grass is now at its full growth and rolls in waves when the wind blows like a sea, - only not so high.

The mosquitoes are past their worst
and we have some rest from their
persecutions these cool nights.

I am trying to save money enough
to buy me a quarter section of this wild
prairie land so that I may lay a foundation
to get rich. I am afraid it will be slow work
but I am not very ambitious and hope
to save a little money.

This climate is very fine for consumptive
people they say but it is not free from
other diseases. My old friend the ague
will probably leave me in peace as it
is too cold for him to live here.

I hold my own in weight about 205
lbs. Homes are high and poor up here. I
do not intend to purchase any.

If you can find any sail needles in
K. I wish you would send me one or two
Give my kindest love to all and
believe me to remain

Your son
Ezra H.



St Paul Minn
March 22 1870.

Dear ma, my
uncertainties are over
and I am ordered
to Fort Abercrombie
temporarily where you
may write as soon
as you want to and
the sooner the better
for I will be slightly
lonesome away up
there. Fort R. is about
250 miles from here
more or less. I go most
of the road in a stage
after leaving St Cloud
the R.R. terminates some
few miles from St P.
I haven't heard a word
from L since I left

by letter or paper.
The snow has been melting around here and it ~~has~~ been and is very sloppy. Skidding still goes on but not so universally as it did. Yesterday I went over to Minneapolis and St Anthony, two very pretty cities about 11 miles from here. The celebrated falls of Minnehaha are on the road. It is not a large fall but very pretty. The falls of the Mississippi between St Anthony & Minneapolis are not as grand as Niagara but are still something tremendous. I saw more lumber

piled up than I had seen for some time. ~~Such~~ ~~logs~~ ~~are~~ ~~cut~~ ~~away~~ ~~up~~ ~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~woods~~ ~~and~~ ~~each~~ ~~log~~ ~~is~~ ~~marked~~ ~~and~~ ~~tumbled~~ ~~into~~ ~~the~~ ~~river~~. They are stopped at Minneapolis by booms and sawed up partly and partly formed into rafts and floated further down the Mississippi.

Give my love to all and write soon to Fort Abercrombie
Dakota Territory.
I am as ever your
son
Ezra





Fallen at Mt Vernon.

March 1910.