

NAN TO MACK

March 9th Jackson

My Dear Mc I now seat me to right a few lines to you again. hoping they may find you in good health and also in good hart I received your verry kind letter of the 27enth yesterday glad to say they found us all well. Father received a philadelphia paper this evening we supposed you sent it for it looked like your righting on the rapper and I looked all over it to see if I could not find a word in it some place but I found no righting on it. father sits by the table verry buisly reading it Mc the weather for a few days past minds me verry mutch of last spring about the time you enlisted it has bin raining all day and to night it is some what coulder and is sleeting yes it is about a year now since you began to talk about going in to the Army and all most too years (will be the 12 of this month) since we buried our little Loella. and three years ago now we were looking forward with mutch antisipated pleasure to the day when we would be united by the holly bands of matrimony, little thinking of the tryals that were in the future for us. but to night my hart is still full of expectation looking in to the dim future pictureing out for us a pleasant walk together through life yes I some times imagine us living in a snug little cottage (or cabin) surounded by something less than a half dozen little white heads you going to and from your work on the farm--while I should be buisly engaged in the hous spring weaveing moping cooking and so on now Mc this is one of the various pictures that I am daily dreming for the feuture. but with all the exciting seans of this wourld I am not unmindful that this is not our abiding home and should this picture that I have drawn eaver become a reality and you and I become the head of a famely or hous of our one [own] among all the varrious things that we should need in our hous I should want a famely alter erected where we might daily consecrete our all to him and great preserver now I will stop for to night the Baby is getting sleepy and I must atend to his little wants so good night Dearest one far away Nan

Friday night 10th all well to night we got a letter from Alvin last night him and Lydia were going to start of Michigan yesterday so to night I expect they are with some of the friends in ould Mich I wish we were there with them now Mc I rote to you that John was about to loos his bounty but we got a letter from him the other day and a receipt to draw his bounty so he is not fooled out of it as we thought he would be. he is going to send his money out to Mich to pay on some land that Alvin told him of. he said that Al told him that there was 40 acres there that could be got for 5.00 dollars but I dont know anething about where it is unless it is Zuvers land

the people here have got the oil fever pretty bad they are forming co[mpany] to prospect for oil in this co. I rote to thomas but I expect he did not get the letter before he left chester. I guess there will be more hard fighting there on the potomack where you was this spring

well now I will stop for this time truly jhoping this may find you well Mc I am still in hops yu will get a dis charge I wish I was there to beg for you if it would do aney good but I expect it would not do mutch good. I would still ask your prayers to suport me right often as convenent good by this time

(I wait to hear thy foot step and listen to thy voice)
(That in the sadest hour could make my heart rejoice)
(I long to clash thy manely hand I long to see thy form)
(And feel thy kiss upon my cheek affectionate and warm)

Mc you spoke of your soulders letters some time ago but I sure forgot to say anething about them when I rote last I onely had to pay three cents for them well now I will stop righting and take our little Boy Baby over to the bed how I wish you were here to go to bed with us I do hope it will not be long till you will get to come home and the prey with me and Baby Boy so good night Nan to Mc Ewing

Now Mc this is Saturday and I expect this will not be mailed before Monday but I will send it to the office this evening as I might not have a chance Monday all well to day hope you are well good by

Note: This letter bears postmark Mar 13 which was Monday.

The sheet is full to edges and the last paragraph was written on the top margin of the first page.

In this letter mother comes out as both artist and poet. Her pen picture of domestic happiness in her fancied farm cabin is as vivid as it is modest, and her soulful verse denotes quite a poetic trend.

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