

MACK TO NAN

{Love}

True {Nan} never  
{Mc}

{dies}

Nov 21<sup>st</sup> 1864

Tuesday morning.

My Dear and Loving Companion

Nan, this morning I received your kind letter dated Nov 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup>. O how glad it makes me feel to hear that you are getting along so well and hear that the baby is well and so fat. I know he will be so much co[mpany] for you when you wood feel lonesome and sad without him. I wish I cood see you and the little fellow. how glad I wood feel. Nan I am glad that you are getting along so well. I was afraid you wood have a long bad trying time of it, but as the worst is over I feel better satisfied and do hope you wont have any backset or bad luck any way. how glad I am to hear such good news from you. if I cood only be with you it wood all be right. I hope the time aint far distant when we will meet to stay together again. Nan I got a letter this morning from Bill and one from Mr and Mrs Abbott and Lydia. they were all well as common. poor Lydia feels so bad about Alvin I feel bad for her. I know her heart is broke, but she casts all her cares on God. She writes so good. She says when she mourns and studdies about him she stops and thinks that if he is gone it is his gain but her loss. and she trys to console her self in the hope of meeting him in Heaven. What a thought is this. O yes this is a blessed thought the only consolation of a Christian. Alvin lived a Christian to the end I do believe, if so be that he lives on earth no more. he often told me his prospects for Heaven was good and he said to me once that if he never saw his little family again on earth he wood meet them in Heaven. I know it is well with Alvin if he is gon. why should we ask him back. yet there is natural effection one towards another that brakes out and sighs and says Oh that I cood press that loved one to my heart again. this is our nature, but if we have the grace of God in our hearts we have the consolation of meeting again. therefore let us live faithful to the grace allready given that if it is gods will that we shoold never meet on earth a gain we will meet in heaven with loved ones that have passed on before.

I still cherish a faint hope that Alvin is a prisnor. if so we may all meet on earth again. Billy said that him and Bell had been to the Union School-house to preaching to hear the new preacher. Bill said they had a good meeting, but did not tell that he got on his tip toes. Bess wrote to D.C. that Bill took a big shout in time of preaching and again in Class meeting. I know he lives a good Christian. I am glad of it. his letter was dated Nov 14<sup>th</sup> the folks was all well as common. D.C. also got one from Bess and Clay dated the 14<sup>th</sup> Andy started back for hospital last friday. I expect him to the Reg.t in course of 6 or 8 days now. Nan Bess said in her letter to D.C. that mother had sent me a pair of gloves by Andy. So if you hant knit any you need not or if you have you may let the boys have them for if I get the pair that is on the road they will be enough at once. it is still raining hard today and last night. I hant any more to write that I can think of now. I wrote to you yesterday. So I will bring this to a close, hoping it will find you and Cooter both well. Nan take good care of your self and the baby till you get perfectly stout. I want to see you so bad.

give my love to Pap Hank and all the family. tell John that my Boy will take him down if he dont walk strait.

I have a pretty bad cold but I feel better than I did when I wrote to you last. Marks Hylliard and Spence Beard was both here a few minits ao they are well. now I close for to day. write often as you can good by Dear Nan and Cooter for this time your loving Mc Nan

Included on the inside flap of the envelope: "letter hasten to your receiver and in answer I hope to hear the good news you are both well Nan and Cooter Mc to Nan"

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Note: Spencer Beard enlisted in Company C of the First Michigan Sharpshooters on December 22, 1862 at age 19. He was promoted to Corporal on June 5, 1865 and was mustered out on August 7 of that year. Marks Hillyard was in Company K of the 27<sup>th</sup> Michigan Infantry. He enlisted at the age of 22 on December 22, 1863. Hillyard was wounded on Spottsylvania Court House on May 12, 1864, about the time that Mack and his companions were in that area. Hillyard was mustered out on July 26, 1865. Both Beard and Hillyard were from Woodbridge Township.

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