

Cin Sunday 16 August 1862

My Dear Wife

As John is going home I take the opportunity of dropping you a few lines to inform you that I am well. We arrived here at noon today we have had bad luck since I wrote you last. We broke our shaft on our up trip and shall have to lay here for several days to have it mended or probably a new one made. I cannot learn what our luck will be in getting it repaired till Morning I will probably get time to go up and see you while the repairing is going on if I can leave with any kind of propriety. It was one of the worst times that an accident could happen as the river is low and Government wants us and at good prices we were pressed into Gov Service at Gallipolis but were released on account of our broke shaft

We brought down part of 3 companies of soldiers from Gallipolis to camp Portsmouth and it would have made the hardest heart melt to have heard the women and children weeping on the wharf Boat while the men were being ordered on board there was at least 70 women & 100 children there to take perhaps the last leave of their husbands Brothers & Sons who have answered the call for men to try and restore peace and restore this once Glorious Country to peace. You see or Know nothing about this war or the effects produced upon families by it I am sick and tired of soldiers and soldiering we see nor hear but little else and what I am most fearfull of is that the end is not close at hand we carry every trip more or less sick and wounded men and any amount of women on their way to look up their sons Husbands or Brothers while I am writing the wharf is covered from Broadway to Main street with fresh recruits from Indiana & Ohio on their way to the Little Miami RR Depot on their way to Camps to be uniformed I have not been down today to see your mother but will before I write again or go up to see you I will not get to more than just go up one day and return the next if I do go at al. Write to me soon and give me all the news and take care of yourself and all the children you need not be disappointed if I don't go up through if I can learn alot I will be sure to write to me as soon as you get this in care of Isham Fisher & Co Cin give my love to the children

Your Affectionate Husband  
WB Anderson