



Headquarters - 71st. U. S. I.  
Docheard Tennessee.

Dear wife I feel myself this morning  
with Pleasure to Answer your kind & welcome  
letter which came to hand this morning  
before I got up. I was truly Glad to hear from  
you once more. It had been a long time  
since I got the last letter from you. I began  
to think that you had forgotten me. but I  
found that I was mistaken. Sallie I got  
two letters from you this morning one  
of them near or at the June the 29. and  
the other the 27. they near came there to  
Chattanooga. I suppose that so the  
reason I didn't get them any sooner.  
Sallie I am truly happy to now that your  
Health is good. my Health is good  
but I have a terrible time with my  
Arme. It still gets worse. In spite  
of Getin better. I am in good hopes  
that it will get well before long.

I am still doctor with it but it  
seems like nothing close to any good.  
Sallie I dont think I will have to go to the  
Hospital not unless it gets worse.  
Sallie I dont want you to get discouraged  
about the way I report to you. you report in  
your letter that you thought I didn't care  
much whether I got home or not. Sallie I  
would love to come home this morning  
and if I could I would start this very  
moment. but it no use of ~~thinking~~  
thinking of coming home till this  
curset war is over. Sallie if my thinking  
would do any good I would think  
all the time and write the same way  
as I think. but it no use of thinking  
or talking about home. Sallie there isnt  
a soldier in the Army that would  
love to be home as much as I do.  
but I think the less a soldier thinks of  
home or writes of home the better he gets  
along. Sallie ~~by~~ I dont want you to think

that I dont think any thing of home.  
I do wish I was home this morning but  
I am a fair distance from home and  
God only knows whether I will ever get  
home. but I trust that I may meet  
you in Heaven. Sallie if God speaks  
my life to stay my three years out I then  
will come home and live with you. Sallie  
think if five years dont long enough to  
~~survive~~ survive. ten years seems long enough.  
but I think this war will close before too  
years more. I hope and pray that it  
may close before six months  
Sallie I am as anxious to see the  
day when this war closes as I am  
to get down to a good table to eat a  
meat of winter. Sallie you dont  
you feel sad to read my letters. Sallie I  
dont want to write anything to discourage  
you. Sallie I dont want you to think hard  
of me. Perhaps I may get home before  
long. if my Army dont get letters I will have

100  
To Have something done with it  
I am a little uneasy about my  
Anne. I have a offell done and  
It Pares me a grate deal.

Now Sallie dont think hard of me I didnt  
mean to discourage you. I am for the  
union and do love to be a soldier  
but I will come home just as soon  
as I can.

Sallie I will close on  
this sheet and try and  
write some more

from your  
Husband

John M. Piles

Mrs Sallie Piles

