

February the 23 1863

My dear beloved wife I have taken my
pen in hand to let you know that I am
in pretty good health at present I received
your letter of January the 30 on the 13 of this month
and also the one dated January the 15 on the 16 of this
month and the one of the 7 of this month the 23
I had got no letter for so long and when
they started to come they came all at once but
let them come for I was so glad to hear
from you that I hardly knew what to do
the first letter I got from Martha Nic
and I have got one from Margaret Harden
I suppose that the rebels got the one that
you wrote on Christmas and the stamps
for they captured a mail boat a box
some years in the mouth of the Oregon
river and when we took Oregon despost their
was some of the rebels was telling the boys that
they had some fine young ladies in the north
and they said that there was one woman
had written to her husband and said that
they were all well but the baby and it had
a bile on its ass and I suppose that they got
min. time well my dear I am so glad that I
can not get to go home for it is all
impossible to get a way for when Lieutenant
Rosen was sent up the river Siries wanted
to go with him and the General said that
he could only pass him to Cairo Illinois
for that was as far as our military lines
went and he could pass him no further so
it is hard to think that I can not go I
reconcile but I would be awfully glad to
get home this is spring and stay their

for I am tired of this war and I don't like
this flat hot country for it too low and
swampy to be healthy or I think so well
you said that William McAfferty had been
out to see you and would you to move back
to Monrovia again on his place and you also
said that he had offered you a good offer you
now best for you no how you get a long
where you are so I don't know what to say
but if you would have to go in the native
house you know it is a bad house and no
water nor no wood handy there is some
things handy for when there is frost you
could have perhaps what ^{you} need but the
bad house and no water ^{you} is the worst but
if you could go back where you was I would
like to have a chimney and a good fire place
but the other house is open and would be
cold in the winter and there is no chimney
to it but you know what he promises
you and I don't know so you will
have to do the best you can but I
will come home as soon as I can get to
come I am in hopes that there will be
peace made some time soon but I don't
know but live in hopes for I still think
that I will get home some time soon
Farome Shockley and Felix Hatfield is both
dead but the health of the boys is
getting better since we came in Camp here
at Youngs point So fare well for
a while write soon and I will do the same
me

Andrew J. Schickel to Isabela F. Schickel