

On board the Monarch  
Sept Oct 9<sup>th</sup> 1863.

My dear Sister M.

Your letter came  
to hand this morn, which was very  
welcome

But I have but very little time  
to write not time to do justice to  
your letter & not much to write  
but thought I would show a dispo-  
sition to write at least

I am well and what is better,  
in good spirits

Are near the mouth of White  
River and on our way down the  
River with orders to go as far as  
we can but will probably not go  
very far on account of low water

Health is good on board

I hope you will not fail to let  
me know about the boys S & W,  
as soon as you hear from them  
no more. I haste.

Your Affectionate

Love to all

Bro. Saml. J. Barthol