

to know how to appreciate them but the
mother must feel the worst about
it but know doubt the little
fellow is much better off than
if he had lived to grow up
for those fits must have incapac-
itated him from ever being any
comfort to himself or any one else
around him then how much
better to die young and in
innocence. Dearest wife I hope
the war will end by spring the
news from the north to day is
very cheering especially from the
west you will see it much better
in the papers then I can write it
to you Give my love to Father I
am truly glad he is so smart and
strong in his old age give my
love to Otis folks and Galen's
tell them I sympathize with them
in their affliction Love to Mr B's
folks and to George & Augusta tell
them to be good children and they
shall get married if the war don't kill
all the young men My love to you
Dearest wife and to the Babies I am
thankful they are so smart from your
loving Husband & Dane

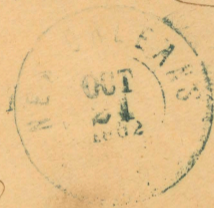
Customth New Orleans La, Oct 20-1862
Dear wife I reced your kind letter
last evening while I was on guard
and I was very glad to here from
you once more It does me a good
deal of good to hear from you now
and then it does make me feel a
little lonely when the mail comes &
all the boys get letters but sure
but I have learned to bare with
disapointments and I just think
well Nicks letter will tell whither
You are all well or not and let
it go at that for it is no use to
wory or chafe here in this climate
for that comes natural of it self
My health is good as it has
been since I left home and I
get along first rate Nick has
been very sick with the Diareaken
but is getting better now he has
not been on duty since he reciv'd
his warent most of the boys are

well except some few have got the
flying at handles, this is an up
an down business for we have
to go up and down 60 stone steps
to the Privy, I think Dear wife
you must have had a splendid
time with Jeff Davis old Beau regard
well I am glad you enjoyed it
so well though it was rather hard
for you to travel so much how
much did he charge you for the use
of the old General, or did he pay
you something for using him
Now for Mason I always thought
he was a mean sort of a cutthroat
after his backdown on the Enlisty
Scrape there is nothing of him in
fact I do not think he is worth
so much as a good fat dunghill
roster and that is the cheapest
kind ^{of bowl} you wanted to know how
I liked my stockings and hankies
and all the other things you cannot

imagine how nice it is to have such
nice things sent to one wool sack
shapes ones feet and in hot weather
it is very disagreeable, the Hank, etc is
very nice and just the thing it has
saved me many a bite from the mus-
-quitos the butter is very nice and
also the tobacco and cheese the cider
spoilt every thing else it was as
black as charcoal, but we think
none the less of the contents of the bot
the act that Prompted it is worth more
then ten thousand boxes to a poor
fellow situated as I am here but
the main things in the bot was in
good condition and is just as good
you must look out for new cider
whenever you send another bot, it is
stuff that will not be confined any
how I know Balens folks
must feel very bad about their
little boy it is hard for one
to loose children after they begin

J Sawtelle
Major 26th Mass

3



Mrs. E. Lane

Ballard vale P.O.

~~Wm. Andrews~~

Soldiers letter

map