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## William Knight Civil War Letters, 1861-1863

MS/52, 1862 Letter 007

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1862-07-30

# Knight, William W., Letter to Mary Knight, July 30, 1862

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Caustons Bluff July 30<sup>th</sup> 1862

Dear Wife I received yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>  
Several days ago but I have waited till now  
to answer yours knowing you would get a letter  
mailed the last of the week as soon as if I  
sent it of sooner This leave me in tolerable  
good health and I hope it will find you and  
the children in good health and doing well we  
have a little news in our camp as it happened  
near enough for us to hear the guns probably a  
part of it is true five Federal Subboats attacked  
~~the~~ Genesis Point Battery yesterday morning and  
but they ~~were~~ ~~now~~ after a ~~short~~ engagement  
the Battery proving to strong for them this place  
nine miles below the Ogechee Bridge the Nashville  
lies there taking on a cargo of cotton and no  
doubt they have got information of her whereabouts  
for the Savannah newspapers has been very indiscreet  
in regard to the Nashville & Kate it very certain  
that they get the Savannah papers regular and will  
continue to do so unless there is a thousand or  
two yankees killed out of that place the Kate  
has been gone some ten days we think she got off  
safe but it will be very difficult for the Nashville  
to run the blockade now although they cannot  
take her where she is they may cause our people  
to have to burn her to keep her out of their hands

but I hope she will be able to get off safe yet Mary  
you wrote to me to get off from the service and come  
home if I was to leave the service there would  
be no chance to get off in my case I know of  
four men in our camp but not in our company that  
is at times unable to stand on their feet from the  
same cause yet they cannot get clear on that account  
if they were not in the service they would not be  
received but there is no chance for them to be discharged  
I believe it is my duty to do all I can for our country  
and as long as I am able I will try to do my duty as  
a soldier I do not need of my presence at home and all  
I hold dear on earth there save my rights as a free man  
and the rights of those dear to me cannot be defended  
~~there same way~~ ~~it the for our rights~~ will soon be  
gone too many have already gone out of the army for our  
good and still more are trying to get off on every kind  
frivolous excuse. my family and home is dear to me  
as any mans. and God knows I would be glad to be with  
them I do not like the idea of war but stern necessity  
forces us to it with all our strength we should meet  
it with all its calamities. not trying to see how  
many may evade it but all should do their whole  
duty and with God giving me strength I hope to do mine  
I do not think we have justice done us by some  
of our head men but we should not give up our  
country's cause on that account but all such should  
be put down if we cannot do it now there will come  
a time when it will be done. we have not had justice

1862-07-30

## Caustoun's Bluff July 30<sup>th</sup> 1862

Dear wife,

I received yours of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> several days ago but I have waited till now to answer you, knowing you would get a letter mailed the last day of the week as if I sent it or sooner. This leave[sic] in tolerable good health and I hope it will find you and the children in good health and doing well. We have a little news in our camp as it happened near enough for us to hear the guns. Probably a part of it is true. Five Federal gunboats attacked Genisis Point Battery yesterday morning and but they withdrew after a [short?] engagement. The battery proving to strong for them. This place nine miles below the Ogechee Bridge, the Nashville lies there taking in a cargo of cotton and no doubt they have got information of her whereabouts for the Savannah newspapers has been very indiscreet in regard to the Nashville. And Kate, its very certain that they get the Savannah papers regular and will continue to do so unless there is a thousand or two yankees killed out of that place. The Kate has been gone some ten days, we think she got off safe, but it will be very difficult for the Nashville to run the blockade. Now although they cannot take her where is, they may cause out people to have to burn her to keep her out of their hands, but I hope she will be able to get off safe yet. Mary, you wrote to me to get off from the service and come home. If I was to leave the service there would be no chance to get off in my case. I know of four men in our camp but not in our company that is at times unable to stand on there feet from the same cause, yet they cannot get clear on that account if they were not in the service, they would not be received, but there is no chance for them to be discharged. I believed it is my duty to do all I can for our country, and as long as I am able, I will try to do my duty as [a] soldier. I no[sic] the need of my presence at home and all I hold dear on earth there, save my rights as free man and the rights of those dear to me cannot be defended there save [damaged passage] will soon be gone. Too many have already gone out of this army for our good and still more are trying to get off on every kind [of] frivolous excuse. My family and home is dear to me as any man's and God knows I would be glad to be with them. I do not like the idea of war, but stern necessity forces us to it with all our strength. We should meet it with all its calamities, not trying to see how many may evade it, but all should do there[sic] whole duty, and with God giving me Strength, I hope to do mine. I do not think we have justice done us by some of our head me, but we should not give up our country cause on that account, but all such should be put down if we cannot do it now, there will come a time when it will be done. We have not had justice.