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## William Knight Civil War Letters, 1861-1863

MS/52, 1863 Letter 009

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1863-04-30

# Knight, William W., Letter to Mary Knight, April 30, 1863

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Cooeawhatchie April 30th 1863

Dear Mary I received yours of the  
26th Inst this morning when I come off  
Pike's Bluff I had expected it from the  
time I first heard that poor Margaret  
was sick I would not feel so bad about  
it if I could have been there with her during  
her sickness, I know she was as well attended  
to ~~as~~ as if I had been there but I would  
have been better satisfied if I could have been  
there all the time I was anxious to hear from  
there all from the time I first heard she  
was sick, seems like if I could have seen her  
once more I would have been Mary I cannot  
write any more to night May 1st Mary  
I will try and finish this morning we  
have know news here of interest we had to  
march four miles yesterday evening and  
back for Brig-Genl Walker to have an open  
place to gallop around us and show him  
self to us or us to him the men get left to  
eat here than we ever have any where since  
we have been in the service they only get  
meat enough for one meal a day according to  
the regulations and it of the sorrest kind

they get a little Sugar in the place of meat  
and they is no place for them to buy any thing at  
nor can they get any thing from there homes  
while they stay here but I do not care for what we  
have to eat it will do me but I hate to see men  
eating bread and sugar and but little of that  
that I know always had plenty to eat home  
before this war commence with no prospect  
of better fare here or any chance to go home  
if all their families were dying at once surely  
God will bring the originators of this  
war to a fearful reckoning it is an awful  
thing to think of if we ever do enjoy the  
liberty we have been fighting for the fearful  
cost we are paying will embitter the blessing through  
all our lives Mary you must excuse me for  
this short letter I tried to write last night  
but I could not do it I can not write  
about it now Mary I hope I will feel  
different about it, in a few days I will  
try to write to you again. do not think  
hard of me I would do better if I could  
Mary direct your next to Tocotaligo S.C.  
I do not know how long we will stay here

Your devoted husband W. W. Shipps

1863-04-30

## Coosawhatchie. April 30<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Mary,

I received yours of the 26<sup>th</sup> just this morning when I come off picket. Mary I had expected it from the time I first heard that poor Margaret was sick I would not feel so bad about it if I could have been there with her during her sickness. I know she was as well attended to as if I had been there but I would have been better satisfied if I could have been there all the time. I was anxious to hear from there all from the time I first heard she was sick. Seems like if I could have seen her once more, I would have been. Mary, I cannot write any more tonight May 1<sup>st</sup>. Mary, I will try and finish this morning, we have know[sic] news here of interest. We had to march four miles yesterday evening and back for Brig. Gen. Walker to have an open place to gallop around us and show him self to us or us to him. The men get less to eat here than we ever have any where since we have been in the service. They only get meat enough for one meal a day according to the regulations and if [is] of the sorryest[sic] kind.

They get a little sugar in the place of meat, and they[sic] is no place for them to buy any thing at, nor can they get any thing from there homes while they stay here, but I do not care for what we have to eat, it will do me, but I hate to see men eating bread and sugar and but little of that. I know always had plenty to eat [at] home before this war commenced with no prospect of better fare here or any chance to go home. If all their families were dying at once, shurely God will bring the originators of this war to a fearful reckoning. It is an awful thing to think of if we ever do enjoy the liberty we have been fighting for. The fearful cost we are paying will embitter the blessings through all our lives. Mary, you must excuse me for this short letter. I tried to write last night, but I could not do it. I can not write about it now. Mary, I hope I will feel different about it, in a few days, I will try to write to you again. Do not think hard of me, I would do better if I could. Mary, direct your next to Pocotaligo, S.C. I do not know how long we will stay here.

Your devoted husband, W. W. Knight.