

Richard L Drake Letter

Diary Entry with Illegible Year

Lunette Negley Murfreesboro Tenessee [sic] July the 24 [illegible]

Dear Wife I take the Present opurtunity [sic] to Answer Your Ever Welcome letter of the 2 and Was glad To here [sic] from You But your letter found me Well and I hope this Will find you the Same there is not much News here at Present only about morgan [sic] Being in Indiana and Tenn [sic] glad that he is there and I Want them To get Enough of him and I think they Will and I Dont [sic] See any thing to hinder the War from comeing [sic] to an end Any day now and I think the rebels See how the things is Going I am glad to here [sic] that Elmer is getting better and I Should like to bee [sic] at home and have a talk With you And tell you how many things I have Seene [sic] to Shock one And turn ones [sic] head and heart within the last year and I am in hope the time is close at hand When I can See You again and then the Nois [sic] of the tested feild [sic] Shall Not take one from you again unless War is at our Dore [sic] And I hope that may Never bee [sic] the case While you and I have a Place among the Living And Our children After us the Word [sic] War is Enough to fill the hearts of Every one in the pland [sic] with Dread But they are apt to forget I dont [sic] think that I Shall forget this War verry [sic] Soon if I Should have the good luck to live to Bee [sic] an old man But you must Write and tell me All about how the fourth Past [sic] With the folks at [illegible] And about the fight and the Partickilars [sic] about it And other news there there is of the 74 Boys here With me one is Walter Crowley and Henry Goodrich And I thank you for the Stamp you Sent me for I cant [sic] Send letters verry [sic] Well Without Stamps Since The new law and I hant [sic] got any only the one you Sent me and I Will Send it to you in the morning Now love I Shall get geulous [sic] if you Dont [sic] use Some of the old names you used to Call me By and [3 illegible words] Richard that Will do for a friend But you Dont [sic] here [sic] me call you Lucy I call you Doll or love Or Some Pet name and if I Ever get home I Shall luv [sic] you Like a Doll and Shall try to make you the Mose [sic] happy in the future I Should like to Have my folks think as much of you as if you Was their Own Daughter But Let them think as they may it makes No Difference With me I Did not marry to Suit them and if they Want to make any thing of it they can Cut away Soon as they Pleas [sic] you [illegible] one and if you are Satisfied that is all I ask for I Dont [sic] Crave Favors of you nor my folks But I like to have the Good Will of Both of the families But Stoop I cant [sic] And if you Was here I Would Never return to the North Again and I dont [sic] no [sic] But I Will Send for you to come here after While for I Dont [sic] Think I Shall live in Illinois after the War is Over But You are tired of these Letters of Promises And I cant [sic] Blame You But I cant [sic] give any others At the Present it is all promise in the future and Hope is the only thing to Keepe [sic] the hart [sic] Whole in this Time of trouble now I have rote [sic] you quite a long Letter out of nothing and Will have to Hope for this Time hoping You Will keepe [sic] Well untill [sic] I See you The harvest is over here and Peaches Will Soon Bee [sic] Ripe Corn is in the Silk and What crops there is look Good the Weather is Warm and Wet here and the Nites are cool the

Streams are high cars run now South as far as taluhoma [sic] and our Cavalry is in
Florence And the men are getting horses and Will Bee [sic] mounted in a Short time the
rebs [sic] Surrender [sic] or run as our Boys Comes up With them No More at Present R
R Drake

A Kiss to all and Ma and Baby