

[Tentatively assigned date of 1864-07-29 based on position and day of the week. - LJK]

Friday morning 7 eth P-119

Dear Mary I received your letter of monday last night and was very glad to here from you I walked to Cleves after night for it Cleves is one mile north of here Yesterday was the great day of the fair here It commenced on wednesday night There was one thousand picks and shovels landed here and we went to work and threw up a fortification on the river Bank one half mile long and four feet high We worked till three o'clock in the morning Yesterday there was troops arriving here all day There is about four thousand men encampd here in sight of us Capt Leig is out Major and Gen Scot Harison has command of the forces up and down the river His head quaters are here There was hundreds came in from the country yesterday and was set to work on the embankments We are camped in a large lumber yard and men are rafting lumber up and down the canall all the time to build tents of Yesterday our scouts brought in four horses and two prisnors from the other side of the river and union men were bringing there horses over all day There was eight or ten thousand soldiers passed here going east yesterday I suppose they will stop at cincinnatti and go over the river All real military movements are secret here Our scouts that went over the river last night have not returned yet The report was that their was three hundred Cavalry over on the hills last night But it would be foly for them to under take to cross here I think we could stop any amount of men from crosing here without they would shell us I have not seen today's papers Dont know what the news is today I just received some good things to eat from Emily I do not think there is any danger of an attack here now as we have artilery on the hills just north of our camp We expect to be home on Tuesday next Our time will be out on Monday and Maj leg says we will go home then I would write to Sam & Henry but we have a very poor chance to write here All the rest can hear from me by you Give my respts to all

From your husband

John F Montgomery

North Bend Camp Harison