

Camp Milton, Florida  
July 21<sup>st</sup> 1864

My Darling Wife

I would have written to you sooner but being absent on a Scout towards Broward's Neck watching the movements of the Enemy prevented me. Immediately after writing by Mr. Emerson I left this place and return[ed] here yesterday evening for the first time. I leave again for Browards Neck Darling six o'clock this morning. I received your letter and Spy Glass on my return and am truly sorry to hear that my precious little one is not entirely recovered from her sores. As soon as the new issue arrived at Baldwin Major Scott with the Cavalry [*sic*] went in persuit [*sic*] of the Enemy to give them battle— on our approach the Enemy fell back and cross[ed] Trout Creek at the Panama Mills and returned to Jacksonville. Everything is quiet in the Neck Darling. The Enemy have burnt Callahan and several small farms in the Neck and have also cut down some fields of corn. I have Darling quit the torpedo business for a while as I know you are so uneasy about me all the time. I have now Darling with my own request thirty men under my command, and will leave here soon. I am not to go way in the Neck, we are to establish a picket line from Old Mr. Hickginbotham's [Higginbotham's] to Thomas' Swamp. That is on the King's Road from Jacksonville to Callahan. The duty will be light Darling and the danger none or very little. I intended to write a long letter today to you Darling but was notified after I had gone to bed to be in readiness to leave six o'clock I have written to Lake City about the paper. I have sent Charley [?] home Darling or he will leave here in a day or two. I expect the fodder will soon be ripe. I had Darling engage[d] a small bible and expect to get it this morning. Mr. Brossin the Chaplin of the 2nd Fla. Cavly. [Florida Cavalry] has received a box of bibles and promise[d] me one. I will write to you Darling in a few days. Remember me Darling to all. Kiss my little one for me. It will be some time before I see you. I must now stop. Good bye for a few days.

Your Husband  
Jacob E. Mickler

Transcribed by Nicole J. Milano, University of Florida, 2009