



Mrs. Eugene A. Tower

Box 261

Cohasset

Massachusetts

The Second Congregational Church

COHASSET, MASS.

ORGANIZED 1824

Church Clerk

EUGENE N. TOWER
Residence, Beach Street
Tel. Cohasset 123-2

Treasurer

OLIVER H. HOWE, M.D.
Main Street
Tel. Cohasset 14

Deacons

PHILANDER BATES
WARREN L. TOWER
OLIVER H. HOWE
EUGENE N. TOWER

Thursday August 17th 1916.

My own precious, darling wife,

Tell dearst another hard days work finished. We left at 7:30 this morning and marched 6 miles to the Mesa or table land on the side of the mountain, in the desert, there is nothing there but sand as far as the eye can reach, with cactus plants and mesquite which is a bush that grows up as high as a rose bush with sharp prickles all over it and between the cactus sticking in your knees & the constant watch I kept for rattlesnakes together with the heat I had quite a busy morning. Tell Sargent we had skirmish drill there and it was quite realistic as we went forward in thin lines and all the latitudes were there. The Michigan boys marched right by us on the way up but Kelah Bonni was guide & his ears burned as "the boys of K Co were all hollering for him to hit it up" etc. but of course he fled as the officers were ahead on horseback. When we halted the boys were chasing 1000 big bugs & looking for Rattlesnakes. Most every bug is dangerous in this country & I never put my shoes on morning without shaking them & run my hand in each one to make sure there isn't anything in them as we are having the rainy season now and the bugs are all out. We had four dinner on time today at 12:30 when we got back and it tasted good after about 15 miles hike. We had Beans and a pickle each with iced tea & it went good. At the parade & guard mount the black clouds were gathering all around & lightning all

around in the leaves, it looked grand with
the stars & stripes & band playing amidst the
flashes, we got back to our tents just as
the rain came down in bucket fulls and it
looks as if it would thunder & rain all night
it don't rain it just comes down in a steady
stream and the thunder & lightning keep up for
hours at a time. Well I am perfectly safe dearest
and am feeling all OK. as I am not afraid of
anything as I am in the care of my Heavenly
Father and He will take care of me for your
sake, and I am sure that I will return safe
& sound to you in a few weeks. I wish it
was to-morrow we were to go home, but
to-morrow our company goes up on the Mesa
to drill in the morning again and then we
leave camp for outpost duty along the Rio Grande
at 5 o'clock to-morrow night.

I hope it won't rain as hard to-morrow night
as it does to night, as camp keeps dry on outpost
work when it rains hard. My dearest one I wish I
was home in my own dry bed to night, you bet.
But it won't be long now I hope before the
welcome "Home Sweet Home" sounds on the camp
ground as all the boys would cheer their heads off
if we were starting back. My darling I love you
with all my heart & soul and I am praying and longing
for the time when I can take you in my arms
and tell you how much I love my dear wife who
has been so good to me, and had had so much to
bear during the last two months, only two months and it
seems like two years to me, as I never was away from
your side before this way and it is just about killing
me this separation, but we will hope for the best
dearest one, that this separation will draw us closer
together if such a thing is possible, and that we
will be permitted to love & cherish each other for
a great many years to come.

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I didn't get any letter from you today darling one, but I hope it will come to-morrow. You have been awfully good as I hardly ever miss a day, and when I don't hear from you I usually get two letters the next day. My vaccination didn't take, as I haven't noticed any sores or any thing so guess I did not need it.

Tell Sargent we have a floor laid in our tent and are quite comfortable as it only beats in the fly door, but Frank Salvador & Pete Doherty the cooks & messmen haven't a floor in their tent yet and there is over a foot of water in it now & Pete has just stuck his head in the door here & called us every thing he could think of as his camera & gun & bedding are all under water. I asked him how he would like to be in Hingham Square & you ought to hear him rave. Sargent knows how things are, Ketchum just came in, bear legged with shoes on he has been wading around with a lantern trying to straighten out matters. Geo. Mealy hasnt come in yet from dome town, he goes down every day & when he gets in to night I expect the air will be blue as he will be wet through and it don't take much for him to rave about.

The 23rd Regt Regulars are in water up to their cot beds & everything is floating, the next Company to us are most all in the freight cars on the RR track as every thing in their tents is rot. The Hudson Company next back of us

are on interior guard & they come in not
through & the relief are all scrapping for
#1 Post as it is the only dry one on the office
street all cinders so the water runs off.

This is Soldier life on the border, I haven't
got met this time and am wise enough not
to go out unless I am ordered to.

The boys are all buying trunks to keep their
clothes in. They cost \$4.00 and are made by the
government, and are made very strong. If I
didn't have so many trunks at home I would
buy one but I guess we have trunks enough.

Tell Sergeant Geo has just come in with
a whoop said he and another fellow paid
\$1 apiece to be brought up in an auto so as
not to get met. I guess he must have some
money drawn in advance. There is some talk
now of our getting paid to-morrow. I hope it is true.

Now my darling I am still expecting to be
home in September & if not by October anyway.
As Col Logan of the 9th Regt told one of
the machine gun men that he could write
home to his father that they would parade in
Boston October 12. That isn't Labor day but
it sounds better than all winter in this forsaken
country. My darling one, I am awfully homesick
for you and if I could only fly home I
would. I long for you dearer one more than you
can ever know, and if I ever get home again
I will show you how much I love my dearest
wife. You and all the news to me, darling and
I hope to cuddle up with you in our room
& tell you all my love with kisses and hear
you whisper in my ear how much you love me
dearest one. I would give my life for you
& you know it dearest & we will be awfully
happy together again when I get back to
you dearest one. With love to Sergeant Olsen
& lots of kisses & all my love to you dearest one
Your loving husband Eugene