

Ked Gij 16th W. Vol
Centerville Jan 4th /62

My Darling Wife

We came out here
to do picket duty New Years day
and shall return next Thursday,
making 7 days. It has been very
pleasant so far, but has the ap-
pearance of rain now. There is
a detachment of cavalry here also.
They had a skirmish with the rebel
cavalry day before yesterday within
sight of us. I have a house to stop
in & we like very well here.

The picketing is light & we drill
every day. My health is good.
This country is perfectly barren.
The enemy had one hundred & fifty
thousand men here last winter
and the armies have been back &
forth over the ground so many
times there is almost nothing left
now. The village consisted of about
a dozen respectable houses, two churches