

Toledo Aug 23rd 1922

Mr. George W. Keller }

Mourne Indiana. { My dear old Comrade
(and one of the boys of old Co. A. 100th O.V.I.)
I must say that I was ^{happily} surprised at when
I got your good letter and knowing that
you are still on top. and in very good
health for your age 82^{1/2} years. was also pleased
to know that your financial matters were in
such good shape. you mention about the
last time you spoke to me after we were captured
Sept 8th 1865 (⁵⁹49 years ago) that you asked me if
I thought we would be paroled when we
reached Lynchburg. that I replied that you
might be but that I did not expect it.
well George it turned out that I was about
right. as you stated. as you say you was paroled
after six months. I was never paroled or exchanged.
I was in prison one year & four months altogether.
I succeeded in making my escape from their prisons
three times. but was recaptured by the dogs

and men on my first two times that I got away.
but on the third time. I escaped from their prison
at Columbia South Carolina Nov 26th 1864. and
got into our lines Dec ²⁷~~28~~ 1864. at Sweetwater Tenn
about 40 miles from Knoxville. out 32 nights & travelled
about 400 miles was a hard trip. so you see I was not
paroled but made ^(an old soldier who has been in the army since 1812) my own get away. I can beat you
a little as to age. I will be 85 years old next
month Sept 18th. my health is pretty fair but my
poor old legs have given out. and I can
only manage to shuffle around at my home.
when I go to the bank about once a week. I have
to go & come ^{ride} by ~~stage~~. with George there are only
a few of our gallant boys of our old Co A. left
and all ~~most~~ of them must be up in the 80's. My
eyes are failing and it is hard for me to write
but I was bound to answer your letter. I
thank you for writing to me. as we will never
probably meet on this earth. I ^{have faith} know that we
will meet again in the great hereafter when
our time comes as it will surely come before
a great while. hoping that you will make your
100th year. I remain as ever. your old comrade
L. B. Blair

I believe if I could I would have something to say

My health is very poor
I am here in a very poor
state of health.

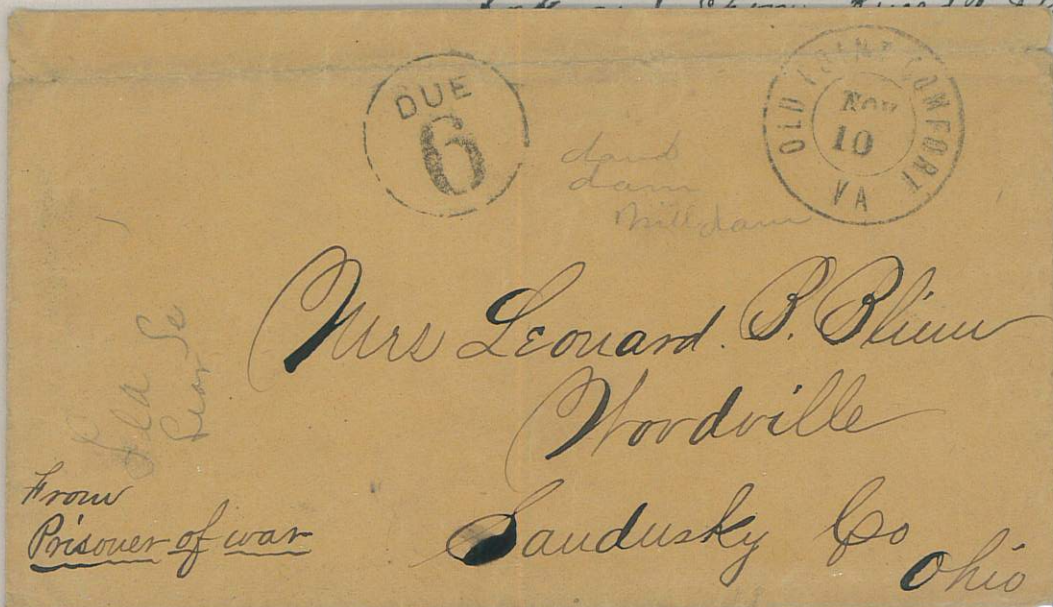
Libby Prison

Richmond V.A.

November 1st 1863.

My Darling Wife

Your most welcome letters
have just reached me. the first that
I have received for nearly three months.
I am very sorry to hear of Andrews
death he was a brave and good soldier.
the Boys are all on Belle Island. I
have not seen any of them since I
first came here the last I heard from
them they were all well. there seems
to be no telling when we will get
out of here. it may be a long time
and yet there are hopes that we may
get out of here in a short time. I
wish you would send me immediately
5 Lbs ground Coffee $\frac{1}{2}$ ^{lb} Salaratus $\frac{1}{2}$ ^{lb} L-tarter
1 Paper pepper 10^{lb} Coffee Sugar 2^{lb} Rais. Butter
 $\frac{1}{4}$ ^{lb} Tea 1^{lb} Chewing tobacco. 1 tin plate. knife.
1 lb thread a few



STAPLES

To Capt & Mrs Leonard B. Blum
 your letter will be examined before I get from direct
 to Capt & Mrs Blum. I am very sorry to hear
 that you are in the Libby Prison Richmond Va.
 Monday Sept 14th 1863.

My Dear Wife

You will no doubt be surprised to
 find us here but such is the case I am well and
 as cheerful as the circumstances of the case will
 permit. I with fifteen other officers and 238 men
 were captured at Big Limestone Creek ^{Sept 8th}
 after fighting from sunrise to 4 P.M. Sergeant
 Charles Abbott of Portage was wounded in the
 face Corporal Andrew Brownberger was wounded
 in the hip both of the above were sent to the
 rear and I think they were not captured as they
 were wounded in the morning. Corporal J. D. Smith of Bowling
 Green was wounded in the leg Private Charles Fowler
 was wounded in the arm they are both prisoners.
 Adam Shellen of Portage Perry M. Miller of Bowling
 Green and Frederick Long of Bowling Green are missing
 and I do not know if they were wounded or not
 because of them as we were marched off immediately.
 Lt. Hearn was left with Capt Bishop to guard a
 bridge and was not in the fight and I believe they
 are prisoners. The list of
 as follows

Mrs Leonard B. Blum
 Miss Cent Stony Ridge
 Wood Co Ohio
 From Capt S. B. Blum
 Prisoner of war
 Charleston S.C.
 Sept 17th 1863
 Agent for Exchange

Mrs Leonard B. Blum
 Miss Cent Stony Ridge
 Wood Co Ohio
 From Capt S. B. Blum
 Prisoner of war
 Charleston S.C.
 Sept 17th 1863
 Agent for Exchange

STAPLES

Libby Prison Richmond Va.
Nov. 18th 1863.

My Darling Wife

Your most welcome letter of 1st inst has just reached me, and how happy and much more contented I am to hear that you and little Carrie are well and enjoying freedom. it is now nearly three months long dreary months since I have been a prisoner. Can you imagine how hard it is to look through the bars at the world outside and not permitted to enjoy any of its comforts. the news to day are discouraging there is no prospect of an immediate exchange. how long we are to remain here time can only tell however I will try to bear up cheerfully as possible until we are liberated. I have written several letters to you for provision

last I heard from the boys they were all well

Due 3



Mrs Leonard P. Rhine
Woodville
Sandusky Co Ohio

From
Prisoner of war
Richmond Va.

I would gladly write more but there are so many
 things I want to say that I must write one another
 time short and to the point

Libby Prison Jan 20/64

My Darling Wife

I have just been made the
 happy recipient of four letters from you of
 Dec 21st 24th of Jan 1st 4th it relieves a great
 anxiety to hear that you and pet are both
 well. ~~my health is very good at present~~
 in my last letter to you I wrote for you
 to forward that box that I order'd some
 time ago. I hope it will be on the way
 before you receive this if it is not forward
 it immediately (unless you hear of an exchange) I
 believe I mentioned my Colmcoat & some socks
 after you send the one mentioned. you need
 not send any more until I order them. I
 hope we may all be exchanged. I often dream
 of home and of you and Carrie but always
 awake to find myself surrounded by the
 walls of Libby. but this cannot always be and
 how happy I will be to once more each have

if you could see me at this time. you would see a happy family

1863
 Dec 18 63
 Wm. Leonard, B. Blum
 Woodville
 Sandusky Co
 Ohio

1863
 Dec 18 63
 Wm. Leonard, B. Blum
 Woodville
 Sandusky Co
 Ohio

from Prison of war
 Richmond Va

one and
 from
 Lib

STAPLES

My dear wife
 Libby Prisor Jan 24 1864
 My Darling Wife

To day is Sunday and every thing is very quiet here. I have been reading my testament very faithfully to day. it seems like spring to look out on the heavens. the sun shines brilliantly and the sky is clear. how I would enjoy a good walk or ride in the open air. it is now nearly five long dreary months since I have been permitted to do so. and how many more God only knows. Hunt & I have eaten up all the provisions received from home and are now living on Corn bread and rice ^{and have been} for some time. we have not had any meat for six or seven days. consequently the pangs of hunger is not a stranger to us. four of my men have died since we were captured. Asher Simonds. S. J. Colvin. James I. Barton. & Benjamin Johnson. you will recollect Johnson his family lives on the Findlay road. you and I stopped there. poor old man he has made his last march.

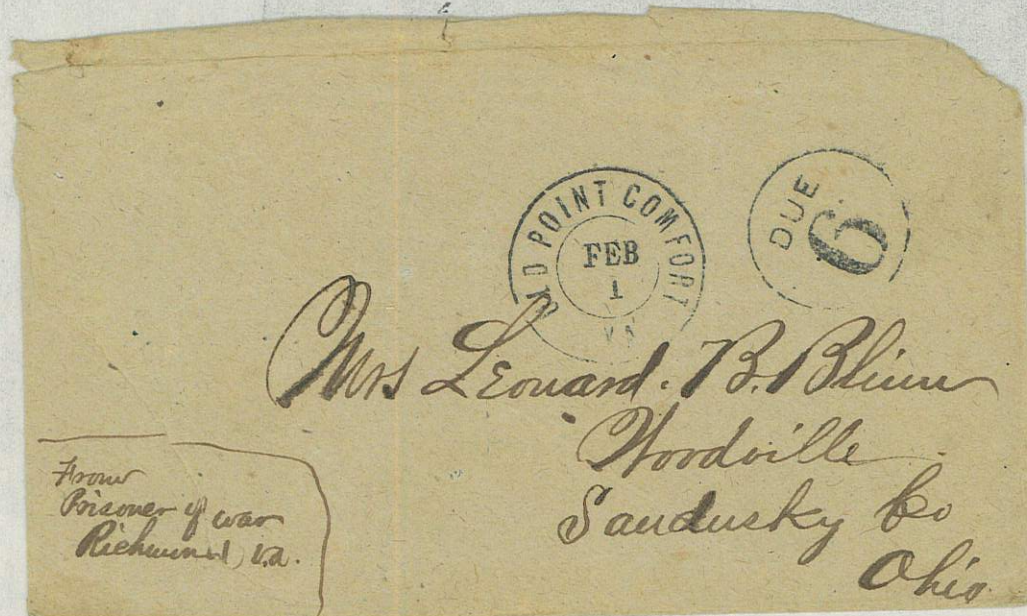
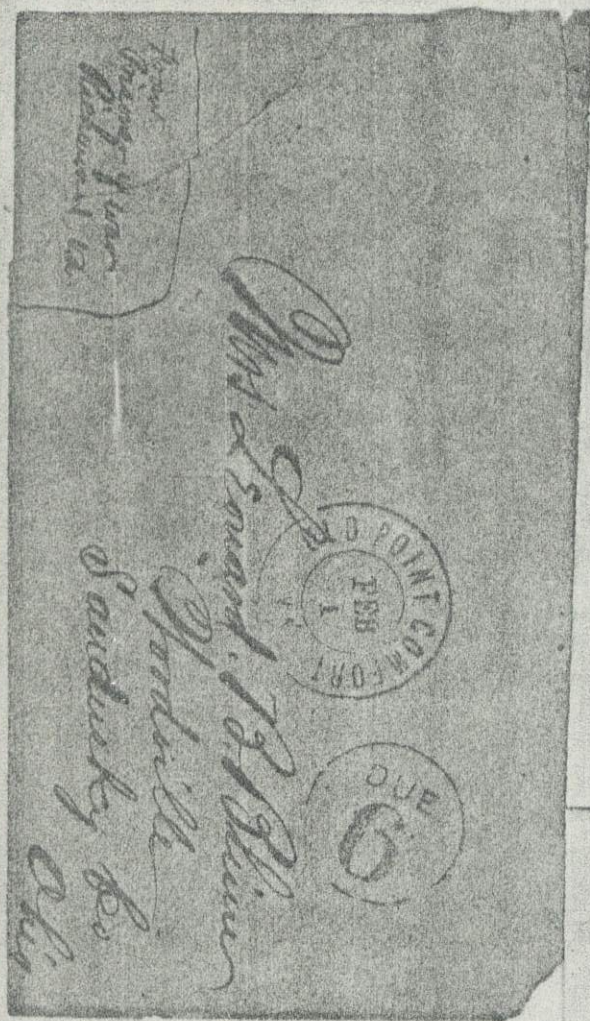
little pet for me. Can
 to use proper language
 I remain as ever, Libby

Richmond
 Sandusky Co
 Ohio
 Mrs. Leonard B. Prisor
 Woodville
 Sandusky Co
 Ohio
 From Prisoner of war
 Richmond
 Va.

STAPLES

Libby Prison Feb 1st 1864
My Darling Wife

Your welcome letter of Jan 6th 1864 I
have just received. the Rebel Authorities have just
issued an order that we can only write one letter
a week and that not to contain only six lines
you can write as ^{usual} much write often kiss little Carrie for
me. this is very severe but we must submit. I am well
from Len

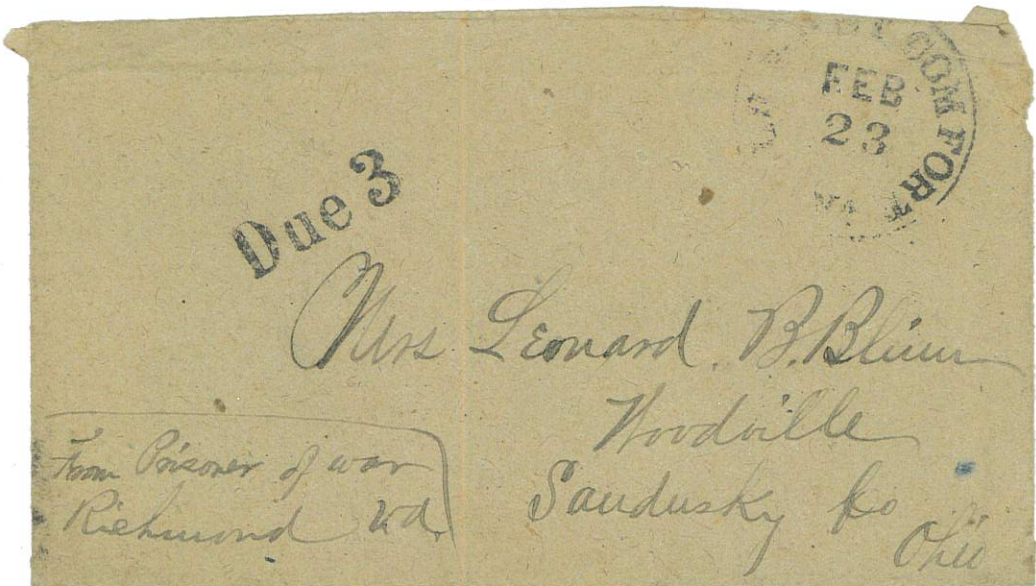
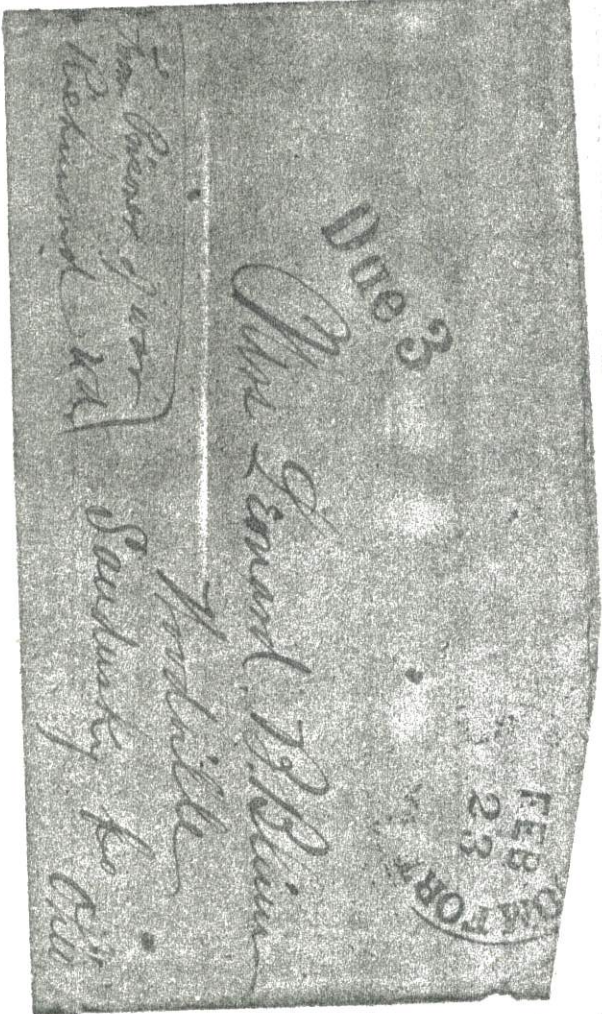


St. Valentine's day with Prisoner
Feb 14th 1864

My dear Mr.

I have rec'd two letters from you yesterday. I am very glad you have sent me a box if I had enough corn bread to eat. I would do very well I hope you have paid all that is to be paid on your horse. I had a dream last night I thought I was at home and you had so much to eat. I will know how to appreciate some and good living if ever. I am not at liberty again. Take good care of yourself and let's do not send any more boxes until I write for them for we are not receiving any more by G.

Love



Little Green Feb 22 1844

My Darling Wife

I have not received any box from you but I hope I will get it this week. my health is very good. so there a good piece of land that we can buy cheap. if so I may perhaps buy it on my arrival home. have your father send a look out for a good farm. how I would like to see you and little bet. I expect she is getting quite handsome now she never looks at me give my love to all. ~~My little bet~~ yourself for me with affection
L. B. Blum

Due 3

Mrs Edward

From the office of our
Richmond Va

Due 3

Mrs Edward. L. B. Blum

Providence

From the office of our
Richmond Va

Richmond Va

OLD POST OFFICE
MAR 24
FORD

STAPLES

Libby Prison Mich 6/sep
My Dear Wife

I have rec'd several letters from you
I have not rec'd either of the boxes yet but I hope I
will get them this week. I am quite poor but well, do not
send another box until I write for one. It is now six months
I have been a prisoner, and there is no prospect
of getting out now. Kiss pet for me. Love to all write often
from your husband
L. B. Blinn

Due 3

OLD
PORT
MA
9

Due 3

OLD
PORT
MA
9

Mrs B. Blinn

Woodville

Sandusky Co

Ohio

From Prisoner of war

Richmond Va

From Prisoner of war
Richmond Va.

Due 3

Mrs Leonard B Blinn
Woodville
Sandusky Co Ohio

MAR 24

Libby Prison Week 2/68
My Darling Wife
Your welcome letters of 23
4th are received. I have not rec'd either
of the boxes yet. I suppose Major
William is at home by this time
I hope we may all be exchanged
soon. I will try and come home when
I get out of here. Col Mc Laine
goes to day. none of our regiment
goes as yet. I hope that enlisting
is going on rapidly. I have not
heard from any of the boys for
two months. I think they are
all sent south. Ara rec'd a
letter from Amanda. He writes
to her every Sunday Kip letter
pet for me and write often
L B Blinn

From Prisoner of war
Richmond
V.A.

Due 3

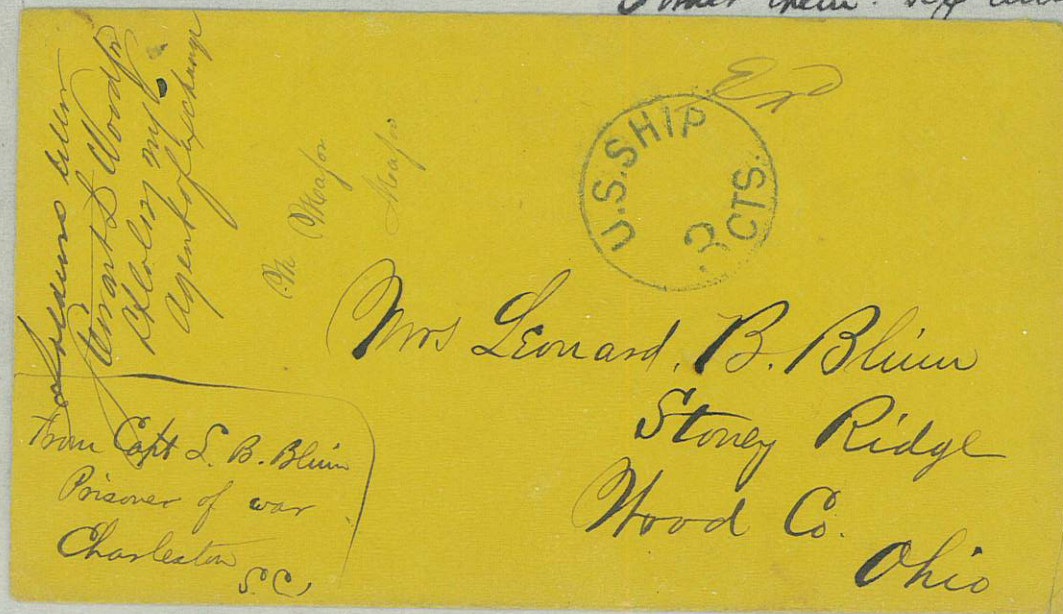
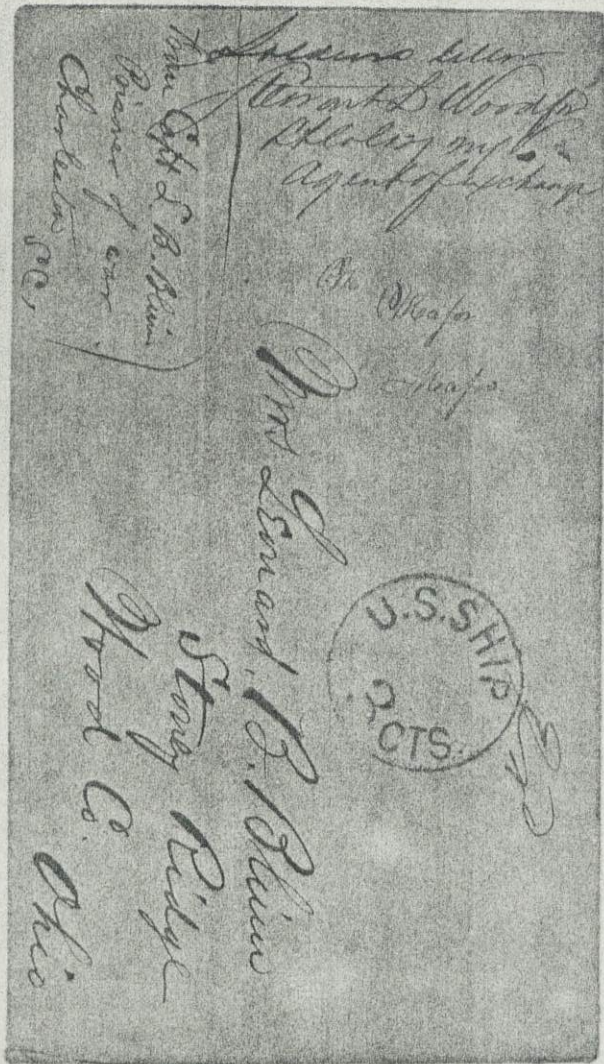
Mrs Leonard B Blinn
Woodville
Sandusky Co Ohio

MAR 24

Libby Prison Mich 28/64

My Darling Fannie

I have been made the happy recipient of one of those boxes you sent me and for which accept the thanks of a poor miserable devil. I also rec'd a letter from you. exchange question looks gloomy again, to day was the time we expected that a large number of us would go but we are again disappointed. it almost seems that we are doomed to stay here. it is now about seven months since we were captured. it seems as if we would get used to confinement. but such is not the case. and the long confinement begins to tell sadly upon strong and vigorous young men. however we do ^{our} the best to keep up courage & spirits. I hope you and pet are well. I am glad to hear that every body is enlisting and are determined to fight the rebellion out. I rec'd a letter from Amanda and answered it, give my love to all write often. send us more boxes until I order them. Kiss little Pet for me and husband
L B Blum



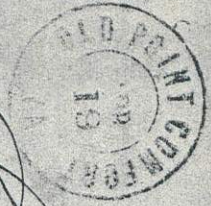
Libby Prison April 11/64
My Darling Life

It is now over three weeks since I have rec'd a letter from you we have had no mail for that period of time which I suppose accounts for it. our exchange news are very encouraging. I believe the sick & wounded would have left here yesterday if the water had not been so high. there is a perfect flood here the water is in the basement of our prison. we are very anxious for it to recede. I hope you and pet are well give my love to all kiss little pet for me and imagine a great big one from your husband

L. P. P.

From Prisoners of war
Richmond Va.

Mrs L. P. Quinn
Stoney Ridge
Wood Co Ohio



Due 3



Due 3

Mrs L. P. Quinn
Stoney Ridge
Wood Co Ohio

From Prisoners of war
Richmond Va.

Libby Prison April 25th 1862

My Darling Wife

I rec'd three letters from you. the last one was dated March 28th. I am very glad to hear that you and pet are well. I suppose by this time you are settled and having a quiet good time. I hope you have paid everything on your house and have taken up the mortgage if you have not. I wrote to Father Plum and told him to get the money from him you and fix it all up for you. we have been expecting to get out of here for the last six weeks but we are almost getting despondent again. yet we hear that the exchange of all prisoners has been effected but why they are so slow about it is what puzzles us. this living in such dre-

out of a person probably never

there is no certainty Washington,

two weeks ago is of a Rebel

now had no warning in his left eye

and skull were

scattered all over his chair & the floor & killed him instantly he hardly uttered a groan. it was the most horrible thing I ever witnessed. it will be a sad arrival when his remains arrive at his mother's. I am fearful they will not hear of it until the body arrives. now dear Cal write often and write all the news do not be afraid of getting your letters too long. Asa and I have got so that we can keep a good



Mrs L. P. Plum

Storey Ridge

Wood Co Ohio

From Prisoner of War
Richmond V.A.

batchelor hall, give my love to all my little pet for me and tell her
that papa is almost dying to see her and hear her, hoping God in
his infinite mercy will have mercy upon us and soon deliver us out
of here and to the bosom of our families. I remain Your true husband
L. B. Blinn

Libby Prison May 2nd 1864

My Dear Wife

The 1st of May has passed and finds the majority of us here. I expected to have been out of here and at home to attend the May party. but of course am disappointed again. it is now eight months that our party have been prisoners and the Lord only knows how much longer we will be obliged to remain here. prison life begins to tell sadly on us all, we are growing old very fast. Ara and I console ourselves the best we know how. we have the blues only about 5 or 6 times a day. give my love to all. how is little Carrie she must be quite a large girl now. it is almost a year since I have seen either of you. I hope I may soon see you both in the course of time. Kip Carrie for me and accept the love of your husband
L. B. B. I.

Prisoner of war -
returned via

Wood & Co

Stoney Ridge

Mrs Leonard L. B. B. I.



Due 3



Due 3

Mrs L. B. B. I.

From Prisoner of war
Richmond
Va.

Stoney Ridge
Wood & Co. Ohio

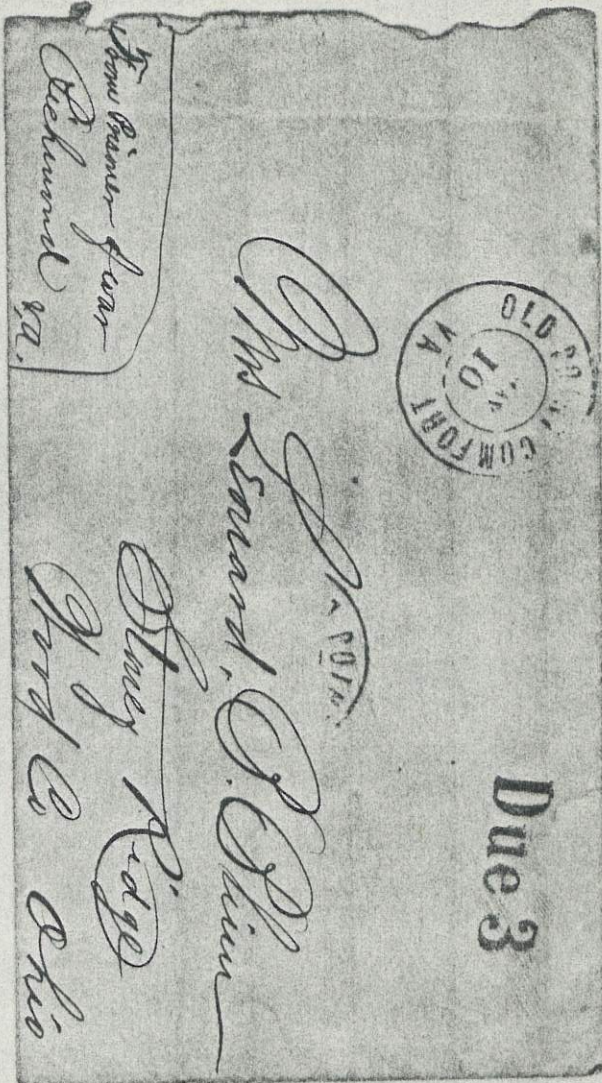
^{va.}
Lawville Prison No 3
May 9th 1864

My Darling Wife

You will probably have heard before this reaches you of our removal from Richmond. our quarters here are at present miserable, we do not know how long we will remain here, we rather expect to be sent to Georgia. we have given up all hopes of ever getting out of here. and if we should get exchanged it will be an agreeable surprise to us. it is impossible to tell when I will be permitted to see you & sit again ~~for some time~~ for everything looks blue. however much we have to suffer I will never let my courage fail as long as life lasts. I do not know hardly how you should direct your letters, but will often ask direct by way of Richmond, give my love to all kiss little pet for me and accept several from your husband

L B Blinn
D. H. to

I am well



Tell Aunt Mary that I saw a man of the
21st Feb ~~that~~ knows Vance, he said he was
sent to Georgia in April, he was well when
he left here. by by
Lena

Camp Macon Ga. May 29th 1864

Dear Wife

It has been some time since I have heard from you. we left Danville Va. on the 11th for this place. Capt Hunt & myself made our escape on the 16th by getting out of a hole cut in the cars we got out while the cars were running. we were out five days & nights when we were recaptured we suffered a great deal for want of water & catables. they caught us by putting dogs on our track & running us down if it had not been for the hounds we would have been home by the middle of June. Ara got out the same night we tried to get out together but did not succeed. Ara & his party are recaptured & are here now. you can not imagine how disappointed we are. we done our best but could not elude their dogs. I am well at present a great many officers are getting sick. it is worse than Libby. I would like to hear from you. keep up your spirits. I am your affectionate husband



Due 3

Mrs L. H. Quinn
Stacy Ridge
Wood Co Ohio

From Prisoner of war
Richmond Va

Due 3



Mrs L. H. Quinn
Stacy Ridge
Wood Co Ohio

From Prisoner of war
Richmond Va

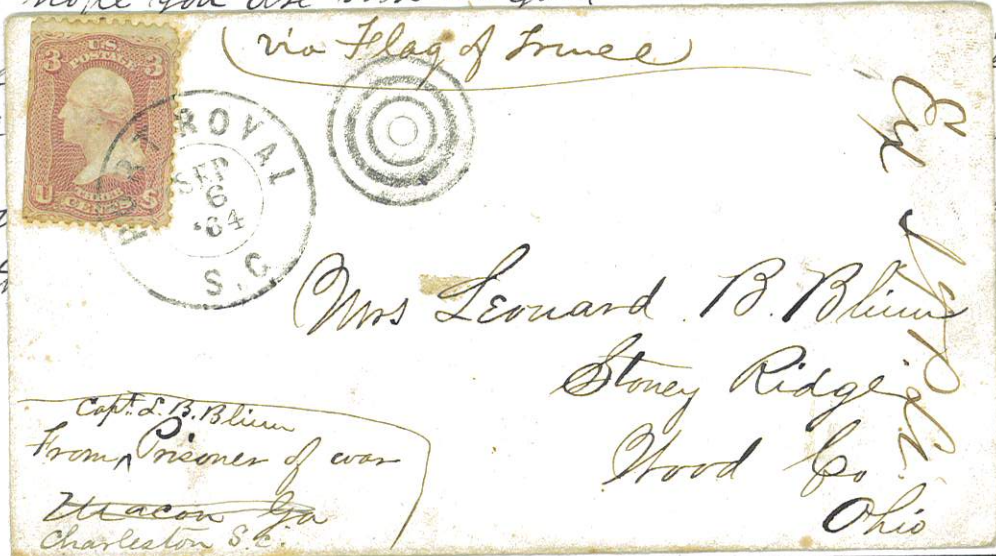
STAPLES

Confederate States Military Prison
Charleston S.C. Aug 13/64

My Darling Wife

Once more I am permitted to write to you
it has been three months since I rec'd a letter from you
we arrived at this place 29th July. Ara did not come. Capt H.H.
Poe was also left behind. Lt. Kelley & myself are the only
ones of the Regt. that are here as we were the only ones that
belonged to the squads that came. my health is quite good
Considering that I have been a prisoner nearly one year. Col
Hayes has been exchanged and has probably written you ere
this I tried to see him but could not. I wish you would have
Father deposit fifty dollars in the Toledo Bank called the "City
Bank" kept by Koarus & Smith payable to my order. as we cannot
receive goods from home and it may be that I can draw a draft
and get the money. you keep the rec't and write immediately the
particulars. how is little pet. God only knows how I wish to see
you both. I hope you are both in good health. how I wish we
could be ex-
could effect
often. give
accept a t

(via Flag of Truce)



Mrs Leonard B. Blinn
Stony Ridge
Wood Co.
Ohio

C.S. Military Prison "Sunday"
Charleston Aug. 28/64

My Darling Wife

Today is Sunday and a very beautiful day it is. I have been reading my bible this morning. it is now nearly four months since I have rec'd one word from your dear self. if I could only get a few lines from you to know that you and little darling are well. it would relieve my over anxious heart. my health has not been very good but I am at this time in good health only somewhat disheartened. however I pray to God that the time is not far distant when I can once more embrace you & pet. it will be the happiest day of my life. ere this reaches you I will have been a prisoner one whole long long dreary year. I wrote last week to Father to send me \$10. in gold via Hilton Head. if it has not been sent I wish you would express me twenty dollars green-backs. we are quartered in the Reper Hospital and it is a splendid place it is the best quarters we have had. boxes are not allowed to be sent by mail.

write
your
d
him

Due 3

Mrs Leonard, P. B. Blinn

Woodville

Sandusky Co Ohio

From Prisoner of War
Richmond Va

Due 3

Mrs Leonard, P. B. Blinn
Woodville

Sandusky Co Ohio

From Prisoner of War
Richmond Va

STAPLES

C.S. Military Prison
Charleston S.C. Sept. 4/64

My Darling Wife

It is now nearly four months since I have heard from you. it seems like an age. I think I will get a letter from you next week. I rec'd a letter from Capt Hunt he says he wrote you a letter & it probably explains for my non arrival with him. Capt McWilliams was exchanged last Saturday & he will also write you. I wrote you for money & I will probably get it before you receive this. exchange looks gloomy again and it may be a long time before I may be permitted to see you. however we must hope for the best and look for a speedy exchange. four more days will complete my first year as a prisoner of war. if I can only get a letter from you I will feel much better. I suppose those 100 day men are all at home again. home again how lovely that sounds. will I ever be able to utter those blessed words. I hope I may soon. as soon as I can find out what articles I can receive from home I will have you send me

ried
Lifes
d
to 3 lines

Due 3
Mrs Leonard B. Plumer



Stoney Ridge
Wood Co

From Capt L. B. Plumer
Prisoner of war

Due 3
Mrs Leonard B. Plumer



Stoney Ridge
Wood Co

From Capt L. B. Plumer
Prisoner of war
Charleston
S.C.

This

STAPLES

W. S. Willing Prison Charleston S.C.
Sept. 13th 1864

Dear Wife

I have just rec'd your letter of Aug. 19th 1864. It is the first I have heard from you for four months, as there is no prospect of our getting out of here you may send me immediately, by our Capt. (Capt. Conant) suppose the one I had made in (St. Louis) rec'd. Two good heavy cotton shirts with collars. one for drawers. one for socks, two towels. Two pocket kelly towels red or one will do. one for shoes (bottle for one, one, Willing 7 1/2 size. one tooth brush. one bottle hair-killer. toilet soap. paper & envelopes. a cushion deckle do not send anything only what I have written for. if it should happen that we can get outside from here I will write for you. but send only for what I have written in this box. Mark it plain & put some direction on as I write to put on the money. I have rec'd no money yet but I am looking for some from you. now darling you cannot know what I was to get a letter from you & to learn that you & the wife were well. I will, postcard in my next. my love to all & I have such kisses for you & for you. From your husband.
L. B. Blum

From Capt. L. B. Blum
Prisoner of war
Charleston S.C.
Mrs Leonard. B. Blum
Stoney Ridge
Hood Co. Ohio

Written in
Charleston prison
Mrs Leonard. B. Blum
Stoney Ridge
Hood Co. Ohio
From Capt. L. B. Blum
Prisoner of war
Charleston S.C.

Due 3
SEP 12 1864
S.C.

C.S. Military Prison Charleston Sept. 17th 1864.

My Darling Wife

I have not received any money from you yet but I expect some soon. Tell Mr. Shepley folks that Billy is in this vicinity. but I do not know exactly where. Capt. Taylor of our Regt. wrote me that he saw him and that he looked well. he did not get a chance to talk to him but understood that he was the only one of my Co. that was in that lot with him. this is the first that I have heard from any of my boys and I cannot tell how are where the remainder of the boys are. I believe Ira is in the City as the officers from Savannah are here. I will try and see him. Capt Poe is here but not in the same house with me. St. Kelly & myself are the only ones of our Reg. & I am the only one from our County that is in this building Capt Canfield is near here & the last I heard from him he was well. I wrote to Father to send me twenty five dollars green-backs more. you give it to him to send. I write to both of you for fear we might get misheard. now darling write often & write all the news. love to all & a thousand kisses for you and my dear little pet. God only knows my feelings at being separated from you so long. hoping praying to see you soon I am your husband
L. B. Blinn

Soldiers letters
Howard & Woodfin
Ed. C. 1719 inst.
Agencies exchange

Due 3

Mrs. Leonard B. Blinn
Stoney Ridge
Wood Co
Ohio.

From Capt. L. B. Blinn
Prisoner of war
Charleston S. C.

To W. William Green
Charleston S.C. Sep. 25/64

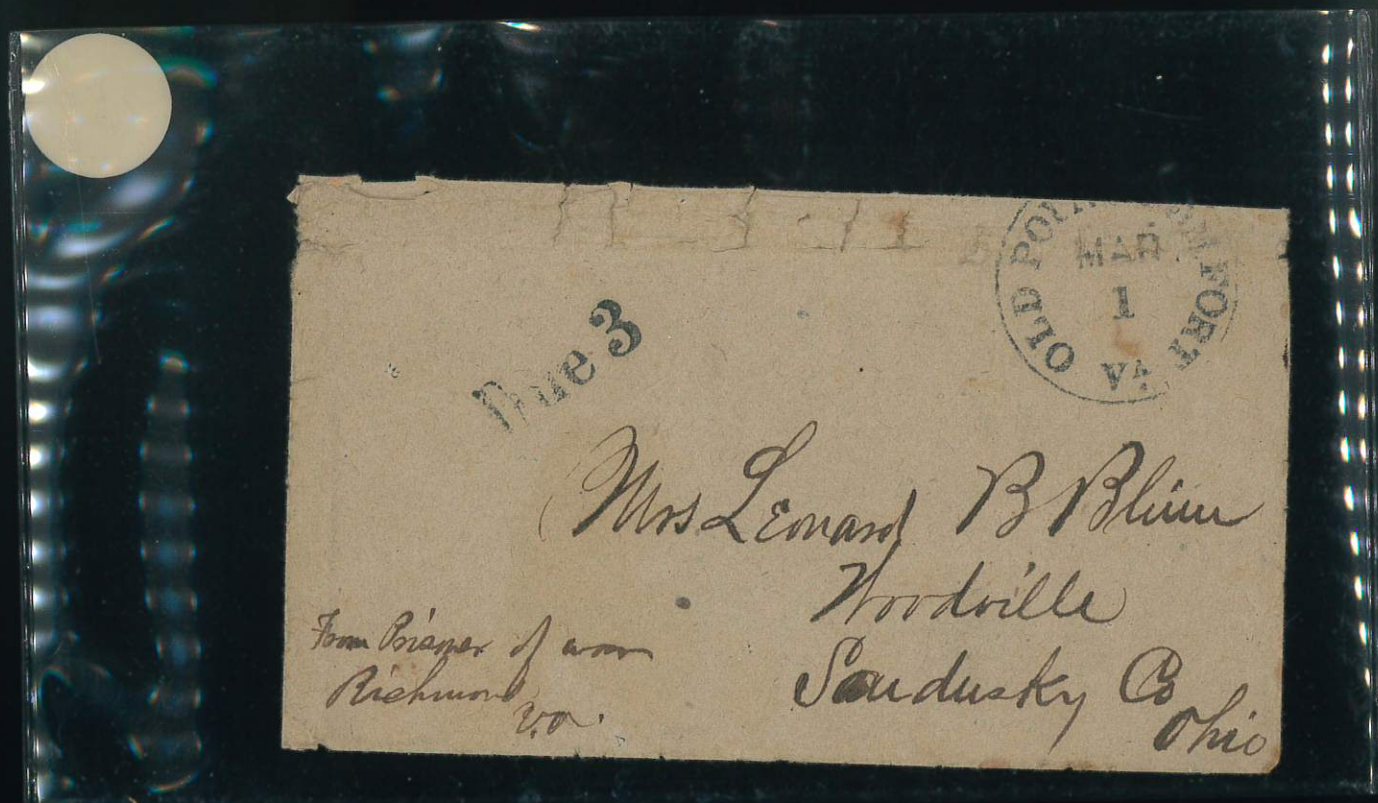
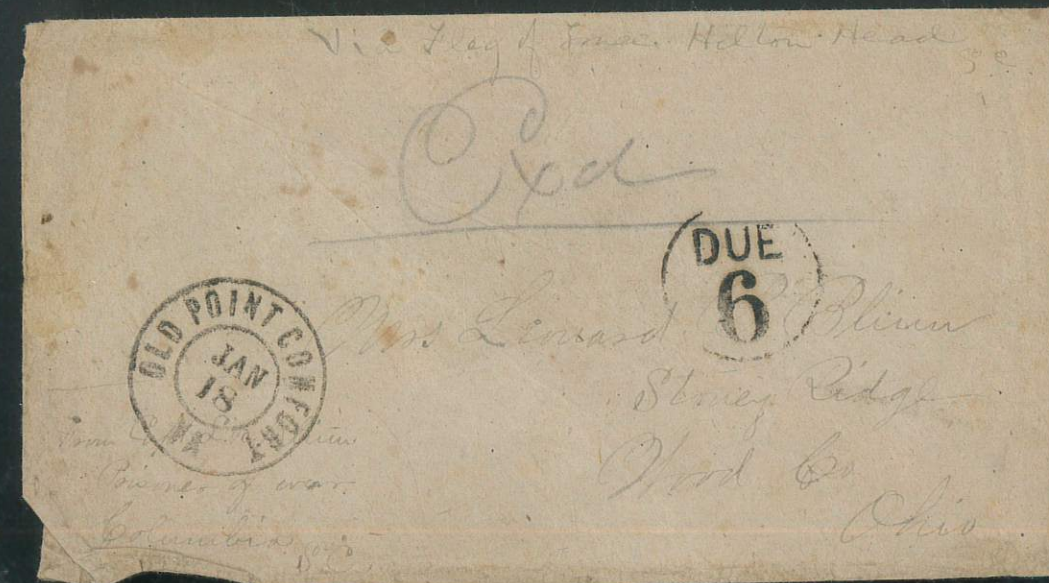
My Dear Wife

Your welcome letter of 18th inst has come to hand. it is strange that you have rec'd no letter from me yet. I have written over a doz. I wrote for money & clothing but have not rec'd any yet. and I have drawn on Father Oliver for ten dollars in gold which I was obliged to have, when the draft maker its appearance you get it for him. I hope I may receive what I have rec'd for so I will not have to draw for any more. It is now nearly thirteen months since I have been a prisoner it is not to come. I hope when I may be released and Capt. May of our Regt. & Capt. H. H. H. have both been exchanged but there seems to be no prospect for me. I guess my friends at home have forgotten me. my health is none to good. Mrs. is here in Charleston but is not in the building. she soon returned home yet. how I would like to see you & darling little. Come. give my love to all now dear wife. I tell you all the news for I have had none since last May. a thousand times for you & mine. From your husband
L. B. Blum

Received by
Wm. Green
S.C.
Charleston
S.C.
Sep. 25/64
Due 3
For Leonard, B. Blum
Stoney Ridge
Ohio
Ohio

Received by
Wm. Green
S.C.
Charleston
S.C.
Sep. 25/64
Due 3
For Leonard, B. Blum
Stoney Ridge
Ohio
Ohio

STAPLES





Due?

Mrs Leonard P. Quinn

Stoney Ridge

Wood Co Ohio

From Premier of war
Richmond v.a.