Harpers Ferry Oct 5th 1862
Dear Sister

I received your kind and welcome Letter and was glad to hear from you. I received the money you sent me and I now return my thanks to you for your kindness. But I am afraid you have robbed your Sister. It will not be very long till you see me. I have had many a silent thought about you. I hope I shall be able to reward you for your kindness in some future day. A Soldier's Life is hard. But to me the time passes gently away. Sister, you would be surprised to see me now. My teeth is very near all gone. But they are easy replaced.
Because you will help to get new ones I know you will wont you. But that is not all I must have a new set of Running gears. How am I going to get them? I think uncle Sammy ought to provide me with a pair of fattend ones. Well, Sister, I hope you won't be grieved any more now. I want you to be content till I come home then. I shall have some funny tales to tell you. Be assured I will write now as often as I can. Now I don't want you to be discontent any more. Tell Sally if she don't write to me I will apply a pair of uncle Sams Boots the part she sets down on and mag Crossons to.
well I must throw foolishness assid and Close
By Saying I am well hoping this may find you
the Same give my Love to all and tell the girls
to write to me you Can Direct you letters the
Same
From you affectionat
Brother David Lilley
good By may god
Bless you
Sister you will hear from me Soon or perhaps
See me but the nx next will Be a Longer one
write Soon