<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Title</strong></th>
<th>Holograph signed letter sent to Helen Loguen Douglass</th>
</tr>
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<td><strong>Call Number</strong></td>
<td>JWJ MSS 240</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Published/Created Date</strong></td>
<td>1863-03-31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Collection Title</strong></td>
<td>Walter O. Evans collection of Frederick Douglass and Douglass family papers</td>
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March 31, 1863

Camp Wigs, Readville, Massachusetts

My dearest Amelia: I am now in camp with my regimentals on, and in
stead of receiving the appointment of Lieu-
tenant's Sergeant I have obtained the
highest non-commissioned office in the
regiment which is that of Sergeant Major.
My duties are not at present very ardu-
ous. I am a sort of privileged character
being an officer of the staff answering a
squad of 10.

It may perhaps be pleasing to you to
know something of the manner in which
my men that I left Syracuse with
came here and I will tell you briefly as possible. I started from Syracuse
with 17 men, apparently able-bodied and
fit for service and men to have second
class cars but owing to some misunderstand-
ing the conductor failed to furnish
them consequently we had to ride in first
class cars which of course was very agree-
able. On the way to Binghamton my men
armed themselves by mining johnsons.
and other ways to the delight of the white passengers in the car. The Syracum men conducted themselves throughout the journey in a decided and gentlemanly manner, giving me no trouble whatever, and I very often made the remark to the other men who came accompanied charge that I wished them to follow the example of the Syracuse men, I could trust them to get in and out of the car at pleasure without any fear of their deserting a more current lot of men I don't believe are in camp. Then we arrived at Binghamton we were met by a detachment of the logen guard and escorted to a colored church and there met the volunteers from Binghamton after a few minutes and shaking me were invited by Mr. Jones Mrs. Brown and another lady, whose name I have not to dinner I and James high go taking dinner at Mr. Jones with Mr. Googeon and Edmonia and Willia and dinner Mr. Jones and myself took a walk "around town" until time for us to leave at which time we were escorted to the depot.
by the same detachment of the long sent
guard, when I met my brother who had
in charge six men, starting from here
with nine men and losing three by the way.

It is impossible for me to finish
this letter as I wish, and I must post
the Regiment looks immediately that
is the order from the Adjutant. I
shall endeavor the next opportunity
and write. Whatever I have said
is a joke about your not loving
me, means nothing you are
ever clear I have enlisted for
five years during the war
and I must close. Goodbye

Ever Loving

[Signature]

Direct to Lewis H. Douglas
Sgt. Maj. 54th Ills. Vols.
Camp Kezis Roadville

[Signature]