

Wm. Hynes
22ND ILL.

(Robert's Brig.)

22nd Ill
Wm. Hynes

On picket, six miles S.E. From Murfreesboro
Jan. 15th, 1863

Dear Parents,

Yours of Dec 27th was received yesterday. I had been looking for a letter from you every mail for a long time, and had almost concluded that if you had written the letter had been lost. And it appears that souch(sic) was the case with part of the letters from each way. I last wrote to L. to Alice just before our advance to Murfreesboro. We started the day after Christmas. Since then mouch (sic) has transpired. The last week of 1862 will long be remembered by the "Army of the Cumberland." The last day of the year especially by the 22nd and many other regiments. You will probably have arts. of the Battle of "Stone River" through the paper some time before you receive this.

There was hand fighting on different portions of the line for four days, the 30 & 31 of Dec. 1862, and the 1 & 2nd of Jan. 1863. The general attack was made on the 31st. All the fighting of our reg't was done on the 31st except skirmishing. We skirmished on the 30th & 1st.

We went into the fight on the 31st with 341 men (bearing guns) & stacked arms that night with only one hundred (100 guns, 33 came in during the 3 or 4 following days. part of these men were properly absent taking care of wounded etc. but a part I am ashamed to say were in a large crowd of skedadlers at one time numbering several thousands. Trying to make their way to Nashville as fast as weary limbs impelled by fear would carry them: under the impression that our army was defeated. And part of them actually did that night succeed in reaching the city a distance of 30 m. but the majority were either turned back by our own men or captured by the rebel cavalry who were making a raid in our rear.

This skedaddle occurred about 2½ on the 31 & was caused by our wing (the right) being driven back some distance. Our division (Sheridans) was the left center, of the right wing (McCooks Corp): composed of four divisions commencing on the right with Johnsons division; then Davis; ours next & Negley's on the left. The left wing was Crittenden Corp, Thomas' corp being in reserve, as I have been informed this I think is a correct statement of our position though it is hard to learn in so large an army & I have seen no official statement.

The enemy mapped nearly the whole of their force on our wing and attacked Johnson on our extreme right at day break surprising him & capturing most of his artillery while the men were absent watering their horses which they had to go some distance to do. Johnson gave way before their spirited attack all most with out resistance. They then fell on Davis & drove him back & then onto us. Our division by their stubborn resistance is said to have saved the day. And it is said (how truly I dont know) that Sheridan gives our brigade the most credit for checking their advance. I do know that we fought them stubbornly at great odds till we were nearly surrounded, but finally had to fall back a short distance (to prevent being cut off) to a new line which was then formed. By this time the engagement had become general along our whole line the left wing was not driven back, but drove the enemy. our win(g) (sic) swung back so that the right of it was one or two miles farther back than at the commencement of the engagement. I don't think that Rosecrans expected a general engagement that day the rebels made the attack. and I think a large portion of our force was still back some distance. In the three last days fighting the rebels - got decidedly the worst of it. Their position was very stran(ge) (sic) & could have been defended to great advantage. Our Co. with the exception of three or four; the reg't stood to their duty manfully & fought with

coolness) & courage. A few of our company as well as of others showed "the white feather". I will not now mention names but if they should ever after returning home presume to attempt to place themselves on the same footing as true soldiers, who did their duty for their country in the hour of her need. I shall then have the satisfaction of showing them offin (often) their true coulors. Only two of our Co. were found dead & buried. Anson D. Abbott & Abner Petijohn (G.Pettijohn), the latter a recruit. both soldiers good and true who died a soldiers death; fighting manfully at thier post. Col. . . . T.P.C.White (Theodore) 2nd Sergt has since died (Jan. 10, 1863) from a wound in th head; it was at first thought he would get well. Wm. Elam has not been heard from supposed to have been taken prisoner. Joseph Armstrong and McCollum (Nelson) have been heard from as taken prisoner. neither of them were wounded. Our wounded 10 in no. are said to all be doing well. Alvah (G.) Stephens has had his leg amputated below the knee, but when last heard from was doing well. (died of wounds Jan. 16,1863)(sic) John Alexander was shot through the side & probably touching the lungs but was doing well Jan 18th. As you will see from the heading of this it was commenced the 16th on pickett. The weather changed that after noon and a cold rain set in so that I was unable to finish that evening. The rain continued through that night and the next day till noon it then turned to sleet & snow. The weather was quite cold, cold stormy till yesterday it began to moderate. In the mean time, things have been in souch (sic) a bad fix for writing that I havent(sic) attempted to finish this letter. Everything which we have both on, in our tents, was completely wet. The weather was cold & our tents smoke so badly when I have to have a fire that we can bearly stay in them it is impossible to stand up in them at any time & when the state of the atmosphere is souch (sic) as to prevent the smoke

from rising freely we can only stay in them when we have a fire by lying down. We are now camp(t)(sic) about 2½ m south of Murfreesboro on the Shelbyville Pike; have been here ever since the 2nd day after the rebels evacuated M'_____ it seems likely that we will remain here several weeks yet. The 29th Ind. Uncle Daves regt. belongs to Johnsons Division Pinner Dunn is 1st Lieut in Co. E of that regt. I haven't seen any one belonging to the regt. havent been able to get to them I saw a man who belongs to that division who said the Col. of the 29th was taken prisoner on the 31st. The Louisville Journal has Parmer's name among the list of the wounded. I suppose from what I can learn that Mack Dunn (Uncle Ianis son) was killed in a skirmish near "Triune" on our road out here. He was in a Co. of the 3rd Ind. Cav. of which there are two here he was also in Johnson Division. In trying to find the 29th one day I cam acrost(sic) one of the 3rd Ind. Cav. he told me that Mack belonged to the other company & was killed in that skirmish. He said he was shot in three places. I suppose it is true, but I doubt the story about Uncle Dave. I will hunt up the 29th the first opportunity & learn the truth. You will probably wonder why I haven't written sooner I would have written (sic) as soon as the fight was over but I had nothing on which to write & no stamps envelopes and since have been some what sick from exposure. Several persons had writen (sic) and I know that you would that I was safe. John has a cold and like the most of us is not feeling very well in consequence. Learned of Grandma's death from Uncle Al's letter, Uncle Dave has been in command of the regt for sometime & I believe had received his commission as Col. before the battle. I havent answered Uncle Als letter yet it has been almost impossible to write of late. Tell him I will do so as soon as possible. Aunt Jennis do I havent received but one letter from the boys since they left home. I look for a letter from them every day. I learn from some of the

boys that Geo. Wood belonged to that co. & died not long ago of typhoid fever. Some new regt have come from Louisville lately and I have some idea that Jim Skean may be here but it is very hard to get from one division to another for some reason they are very strict and will not grant any papers. Our field officers are all wounded except the adjutant. Our Col. and Major formerly Capt. Abbott, havent been fit for duty in the field since Belmont. Lt. Col. Swanwick (Lt.Col.P. 22nd Ill) (formerly major) (sic) (formerly major) has been in command since the death of Lt. Col. Hart/Col. S. (Harrison Co. E.) (sic) was wounded & taken prisoner in the late fight. He had his left arm shattered badly. Lt. Galloway was wounded slightly in the leg. I have mentioned the most seriously allready & will now give the names of the rest as I have plenty of room. they are Sergt Joel D. Parsly arm, Henry File shoulder, Robt Reams body, M Hanly leg, Hale Scratch taken prisoner & paroled Col...seven flesh w'd in leg, Col. Dougherty is in command at Paducah and our officers are making efforts to have the regt sent there, Capt. Jackson has gone to Nashville to day to see Gov. Yates who is said to be there to have him use his influence to have us sent to P I think it is very doubtfull by them to get to go. If we should there might be a little chance of getting home on a furlough. If I should have the chills again I will try the Wallnut bark remedy, but hope to have no occasion. Tell Charlie & Ella I hope they had a nice time Christmas & New Years than I did. if they didn't they hadnt mouch(sic) to brag on. But I must close.

With love to all I remain

Your Dutifull Son

William

Wm. Hynes
22nd ILL.

Camp in Field five miles from Murfreesboro, Tenn Fe'y 16th, 1863

Dear Pa,

I suppose that by this time you have received my letter written last Mo. unless it has met with the fate of some others and never treaded the "labrynth's of 'Uncle Sam's' mail bags." I seem to be especially unfortunate in my correspondence; but hence for fear that my letter to Uncle Al may never reach its destination I will state that yours of 19th & 30th Jan. was received a week ago. That is the only letter that I have received this year. I have written to you & ma, the Boys, Alice & Uncle Al & Co.

Our brigade is now on advance picket post around M. (Murfreesboro) (sic) we are stationed here for five days & will then probably be relieved by some other, we dont anticipate any danger here as our troops are at Franklin & 30 miles beyond. Still small squads of cavalry occasionally show themselves within a few miles of camp. Several days ago a Squad of Paymasters arrived from Nashville since then we have been waiting expectantly for our pay. there are only lacking 12 days of six months pay being due to us but we shall feel very well satisfied if we get 4 mo's or indeed if it is any benefit to our "Uncle Sam" the most of us will be very well satisfied with one or even none. We are not so anxious about pay as to see our cause propsering.

Yet I am afraid there are many by whom the cause alone would be rejected; as a bare bone neither having worth or merit; souch (sic) is the nature of this selfish world. (or at least so it seems to me with my little experience) that high principles & policies will be neglected & wrong upheld by the majority of men if the former; are dis advantageous & the latter advantageous to their individual selfish interests. So you must not appeal to the crowd if you wish to gain their aprobation with plea that a policy in the conduct of this war is right ("mighty right?)" but rather that it is to our interest & will pay. And I sometimes think when noticing this

great lacking in want of love for right & true principles whether it will not yet for a while; prevent the salvation of our country & whether it will not be given up yet for a while longer to war. "which cleans is as by fire" that it may be purified. These are thoughts which I have not expressed before; and hardly know whether they are correct enough to be worthy of expression now. But I wish to know your opinion of these things & naturally to gain it express mine. I would like to know especially what you think will be the result of that strong opposition & disloyalty to the government which has of late showed itself in such(sic) a marked manner at the North, John received a letter from ma & also Willso Blant & James Waffin within the last few days. John & Scott are both enjoying their usual health. They have both been promoted from coporals to sargeants to fill vacancies occuring since the late fight. My health is all together better than it was for several previous months, though for several previous months, though for several weeks I have had the camp diahihoia, but cant see that it affects me mouch.(sic)

For fear that Uncle Al's letter may not reach him I will state that I saw Lt. Gibson about the debt which he owes & he said he was looking for pay every day & as soon as we were paid off he would send the money to old man Grump, his father (step) to pay that & other debts.

When we are paid of I wish to send you some. the am't will depend on how mouch(sic) we receive. I will send all I can spare & wish I was able to make it more, but I am forced to spend a goodealy(sic) for something to make my diet so that I can keep my health not that we dont get anough(sic) but because it is of a kind that does not agree with me. Our ration is now confined to crackers pork & at times plenty of poor beef, sugar & coffee. We get no vegetables or fruit of any kinds & I find I must have them at times to preserve my health & prevent scurvey & other diseases. I mentioned receiving the \$5 which you sent me at Louisville before but you didn't probably receive the letter.

I cannott now write more but will not wait long before writing again. Write soon & tell all the home news. With respect to all enquiring (sick) friends & love to all at home. I remain your affectionate Son. William --

Wm. D. Hynes
22nd ILL

Camp near Murfreesboro Tenn
March 29th 1863

Dear Pa,

Captain McAdams starts for home this morning on a 15 day furlough. He says he will be glad to take any letters which I wish to send. So I have concluded to send you a few lines. We just came off pickett this morning & have not mouch(sic) time to write.

Capt Hubbard started home the 25th inst. I sent by him to you fifty dollars (\$50) I didn't send any letters by him. When Scott sent you that \$100⁰⁰/₁₀₀ he borrowed \$20 of me. He has now paid me principal & interest. So that the note for the 100 is entirely his, and suppose it has been drawn up. Affairs here are assuming a more lively aspect. our army has made several reconoisances. one to Columbia our division was engaged in. Our reg't didn't have any fighting to do. The rebs in retaliation have within the last 8 or 10 days made several cavalry dashes on our lines. We (our brigade) are now encamped about 2 miles outside of the lines as an out post so if there are any dashes made we will be apt to have some of the fighting to do, we are camped on the Salem pike.

I was very agreeably surprised several days ago. I was unwell & lay down & went to sleep when I was sudenly wakened up by the boys shouting (Hynes! Parson! & c. so earnestly that I thought something serious had happened) Looking up I saw a pleasant faced rather elderly looking man looking down upon me I jumped up half waked, he reached out his hand & asked if I didn't know him I took his hand & looking foolish told him, I didn't know as I did. Will Dunn then steped(sic) up & said he guessed I knew him, which was true, he then told me the gentleman was Uncle Will Dunn from Frankfort, as soon as he mentioned his name I remembered having seen him at Indianapolis.

I then learned for the first time that Uncle Will had been lately been appointed surgeon of the 40th Ind. & Cousin Will (Uncle John's son) was 2nd Lieut. of Co. L(?) 40th. A few days afterward I went over to the 40th & spent a very pleasant day. It is a great treat to meet with relatives down in this almost foreign land & especially one so kind as Uncle Will. He is not yet certain that he will remain long. He fears the climate will not agree with him.

My health has been all along delicate & variable sometimes feeling for a few days pretty well, but more than half of the time, unwell. But I believe that it has been gradually getting better all the time & I now feel sounder & stouter(sic) than I have for some time & believe if not exposed toto mouch(sic) hardships this wummer it will continue to improve. Captain McAdams has gone so I have mised(sic) the oportunity of sending this by him. But it will go manly as soon by mail I suppose. There will probably be a chance for one or two out of the Co. to go home soon but I dont think I will have any chance. I learn from letters rec'd here that the 130th was about starting for Vicksburgh. Have not heard from the boys since I wrote. Write soon with love to all I remain as ever

Your aff' son

William D. Hynes

Roberts Dray

22ND ~~1862~~

Wm Hynes

On Picket, six miles S.E. from Murfreesboro
Jan 15th 1863

Dear Parent,

Yours of Dec 20th was recd yesterday. I had been looking for a letter from you every week for a long time, and had almost concluded that if you had written the letters had been lost. And it appears that such was the case with part of the letters from east way. I last wrote to S. to Alice just before our advance to Murfreesboro. We started the day after Christmas. Since then much has transpired. The last week of 1862, will long be remembered by the "Army of the Cumberland". The last day of the year especially by the 22nd and many other regiments. You will probably have acts of the battle of Stone River through the paper some time before you receive this.

There was hard fighting on different portions of the line for four days, the 30th & 31st of Dec 1862, and the 1st & 2nd of Jan 1863. The general attack was made on the 31st. All the fighting of our regt was done on the 31st except skirmishing. We skirmished on the 30th & 1st.

We went into the fight on the 31st with 341 men. (bearing guns) & stacked arms that night with only one hundred (100) guns. 33 came in during the 3 or 4 following days. part of these men were

were properly absent taking care of wounded - &c.
but a part I am ashamed to say were in a large
crowd, ^{of stragglers,} at one time numbering several thous-
ands. Trying to make their way to Nashville
as fast as weary limbs impelled by fear
would carry them; under the impressions
that our army was defeated. And part
of them actually did that night succeed
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mencing on the right with Johnson's divis-
ion, then Davis, ours next & Negley's on the left.
The left wing was Crittenden's Chord. Thomas's
Chord being in reserve, as I have been informed
this I think is a correct statement of our position
though it is hard to tell in so large an army
& I have seen no official statement.

The enemy massed nearly the whole of their
forces on our wing & attacked Johnson ^{on our extreme right} at day
break surprising him & capturing most of his artillery
while the men were ^{absent} watering their horses
which they had to go some distance to do. Johnson
gave way before their spirited attack almost with-
out resistance; they then fell on Davis & drove
him back, & then onto us. Our division by their
stubborn resistance is said to have saved the
day. and it is said (how truly I don't know) that
Sheridan gives our brigade the most credit for
checking their advance. I do know that we fought
them stubbornly at great odds till we were

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nearly surrounded, but finally had to fall
back a short distance, ^{to prevent going out off.} to a new line which
was then formed. By this time the engagement
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the left wing was not driven back, but
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ed a general engagement that day the rebels
made the attack, and I think a large portion
of our force was still back some distance -
In the three last days fighting the rebels
got decidedly the worst of it. Their position
was very strong & could have been defended to
great advantage, Our Co, with the exception of
three or four, ~~to~~ the regt, stood to their duty manfully
& fought with coolness & courage, a few of our
company as well as of others showed "the white
feather". I will not now mention names -
but if they should ever after returning home
presume to ^{attempt to} place themselves on the same footing as
true soldiers, who did their duty for their country
in the hour of her need. I shall then have the
satisfaction of showing them off in their true
colors - Only two of our Co were found dead, &
buried Amos D Abbott, & Abner Pitijohn, the
latter a recruit, both soldiers good and true who
died a soldiers death, fighting manfully at their
post, Col. ~~or~~ J P B White 2nd Sergt hds since died
from a wound in the head; it was at first thought
he would get well. ~~Mr~~ Elam has not been heard
from, supposed to have been taken prisoner.
Joseph Armstrong and McCallum have been
heard from as taken prisoner, neither of
them were wounded. Our wounded 10 in no are
said to all be doing well. Alvah Stephens has had his
leg amputated below the knee, but when last heard
from was doing well, John Alexander was shot
through the side & probably touching the lungs
but was doing well Jan. 15th As you will see from the

heading of this it was commenced on 18th on perfect
The weather changed that afternoon and a cold rain
set in so that I was unable to write that evening.
The rain continued through that day
and the next day till noon. The weather was quite cold, cold
frost & snow. The weather was quite cold, cold
thawing, told yesterday it was moderate.
In the meantime, things have been as much as
just for writing that I haven't attempted to find
the weather is everything which we have both our
tents were completely wet. The weather was quite
interesting and so badly when
a fine that we can scarcely bear in them
impossible to stand up in them at any time
& when the state of the atmosphere is so cold
prevents the smoke from our camp fire, we can
only stay in them when we have a fine day
and snow. We are now camped about 2 1/2 miles south
of Murfreesboro on the Shelbyville pike. There
has been here ever since the day after the rebel was
driven out. It is probably that we will remain here
several weeks yet. The 29th Ind. Uncle Davis Regt
belongs to Johnson's Division. Parmer's Division is
Lindbergh Co. C. of that regt. I haven't seen any out
belonging to the regt. I haven't been able to get to the
I saw a man who belongs to that division who said
the Col. of the 29th was taken prisoner on the 31st
The Louisiana of orphans has Parmer's name among
the list of the wounded. I suppose from what
I can learn that Mack Durr (Cruel Sanison) was
killed in a skirmish near "Friend" on our road
out here. He was in a Co. of the 3rd Ind. Cav. of which
there are two here. He was also taken in of the
Division. I am going to find the 2nd Ind. Cav. came
across one of the 3rd Ind. Cav. he told me that Mack
belonged to the other company & was killed in that
skirmish. He said he was shot in the place
of the 29th but I don't know about it. I will
find out the 29th the first opportunity. See the truth
You will probably wonder why I haven't written sooner. I will
write as soon as the fight was over but I had nothing on
which to write. I stand's premises and since I have been here
and I think that I have learned that I was safe.
John has a cold and like the most of us is not feeling

Reading of this was commenced on 16th on 10th Sept.
The weather changed that after noon and a cold rain
fell in so that I was unable to be out but could
only stay in bed and I was surprised through that night
and the next day told me as the weather was cold
I had expected it yesterday I had been told that
In the ocean there things have been in such a
state of confusion that I cannot tell what to do
I have seen some things which I do not know
things were completely wet. The weather was cold
I think it is a bad day for me to have
a fine that I can see clearly that the
importance to the land is not at any time
of the state of the atmosphere is something that
prevent the things from being as they are
only stay in bed when we have a fine day
not down. I am now camped about 60 miles south
of Mansfield on the Shelbyville Pike. I have
been here ever since the day after the rebels
were defeated. I am probably that we will remain here
Several weeks. The 29th Inst. Uncle David's Regt
belongs to Lincoln's Division. Pioneer Division
of the 6th Co. Ca. that regt. I have not seen any one
belonging to the regt. I have not been able to get to the
lab as a man who belongs to that division who said
the Col. of the 2nd was taken prisoner on the 23rd
of August. I found that Parmer's name among
the list of the wounded. I suppose from what
I can learn that Mack Davis of Small's Battalion was
killed in a skirmish near "Log Run" on our road
west here. He was in a Co. of the 2nd Fed. Cav. of which
there were two Co's. He was also taken prisoner
I was anxious to find the 2nd men and I
across one of the 2nd Fed. Cav. he told me that Mack
belonged to the other company and was killed in that
skirmish but I said he was shot in three places
I do not know but I doubt about Uncle David. I will
write you as soon as the fight was over but I had nothing on
which to write. I am surprised and since we have been here
I have seen from several persons had written
and I think that you have learned that I was safe.
John has a cold and like the most of us is not feeling

2-15-1863
very well in consequence. I regret
the Colonel's death from some of the
other people. Dan has been in com-
mand of the regt for some time &
I believe had received his commission
as Col before the battle. I have
never seen the letter yet but
has been almost impossible to write
of late. Till then I will do so
as soon as possible. As yet I
do not have received but one letter
from the boys since they left
home. I look for a letter from them
every day. I learn from some
of the boys that Geo Wood belonged
to that Co. & did not long ago of the
cholera fever. Some new boys have
come from Louis ville lately and
I have some idea that Genl Sherman
may be here but it is very hard
to get to know the names of the
officers for some reason they are very
reticent and will not grant any
papers. Our field officers are all
wounded except the adjutant
our Col and Major formerly
Capt Abbott, haven't been fit
for duty in the field since
Belmont. Lt Col Swanwick
formerly Major has been in command
since the death of Lt Col Harb
Col S. was wounded & taken pris-

SWANWICK

Col. P. 22576

over in the late fight he had
his left arm shattered & Capt
G. B. Alloway was wounded slightly
in the leg, I have mentioned the
most seriously wounded already &
will give the names of the rest as
I have plenty of room, they are
Lieut. J. D. Passly arm, Henry Hill
Shelton, Capt. Reams body, Mr. ~~W. H. H.~~
~~W. H. H.~~ taken for a prisoner
I believe never fleshed a leg
Col. Dougherty is in command at
Paducah and our officers are
making efforts to have the rest
sent there. Capt. Jackson has
gone to Nashville to day to see Gen. Yates
who is said to be there to have some
his influence to move us down to D.
I think it is very doubtful whether we
get to ~~the river~~ ~~the river~~ ~~the river~~
but a little chance of getting home
on a fair length. If I should
have the child's game I will try the
ball with a ball, remedy, but hope to
have no occasion. Tell Charlie &
Ellie I hope they had a nice time
Christmas & New Year's that I didn't
they didn't they had a nice time
and. But I must close
With love to all
Your Obedient Son
William

think when noticing this great
lacking, in want of land for
rights & true principles, which
it will not get, for a while,
prevent the salvation of our
country, & whether it will not
begin to be eyed for a while,
longer to war, "which cleans
as a by fire" that it may be
purified. ~~But I wish to know your opinion~~
which I have not expressed
before, and hardly know whether
they are correct enough, to be
worthy of expression now.

But I wish to know your opinion
now of these things & whether to
gain it expressed, I would
like to know exactly what
you think will be the result
of that strong opposition & dis-
loyalty to the government, what
has of late showed itself in
which a marked increase
at the North, & which is
with some one & also with

Camp in field of mills from
Memphis Tenn
Feb 16th 1863

Dear Joe
I suppose that by
this time you have received
my letter written last mo-
~~th~~ perhaps it has met with the
fate of some others, and
never reached the "laboratory"
of "Uncle Sam's" mail bag.
I seem to be especially un-
fortunate in my corres-
pondence; but here for
fear that my letter to Mr
Al ~~may be~~ ~~lost~~
distinctions of will state that
yours of 19th & 20th Jan was
received a week ago -
That is the only letter that
I have received this year
I have written to you & ma-
the Boy, Alice & Uncle Sam.

Our brigade is now an advanced force with one, or even, as one
presents post, around 1000. We are not so anxious
we are stationed here for about 500 as to see our
five days, & will then probably be expected
ably be or lived by some many by whom the cause
others, we don't anticipate alone would be rejected, as a
any danger here as our base, neither having
troops and at the same time, such as the
80 miles beyond, still doubt of this aspect
of roads of Canada, access - least so it seems to me with
usually show them self with my little experience, that
in a few miles of camp high principles & policies, will
several days ago a a squad be rejected & wrong upheld
& I am not arrived from ^{the company of} the former; who dis
was built & since then we lagous, & too latter, advantage
have been waiting expectant as to their individual self
~~by the court of any other~~ is interests do you must not
only lacking 18 days of six appeal to the crowd if you
months pay them, and, to us wish to gain their approbation
but we shall feel very well with plea that a policy in
Latin friend if we get 4, that the conduct of this war is
or indeed if it is any benefit right (mighty right) but
to our Uncle Sam the most rather that it is to our interest
of us will be very well & that we will pay. And I am sure

Plaut & James & others within the
last few days. John & Scott
are both recovering their ^{respective}
health. They have both
been promoted from Corporals
to Sergeants, to fill va-
cancies occurring since the
late fight. My ^{health} is all together

better than it was for several
previous months, though for
several weeks I have had the
camp diarrhoea, but can't see
that it affects me much.

For fear that Uncle Al's letter will
not reach him I will state
that I saw Sgt Gibson about
the debt which he owes & he
said he was looking for
pay every day, & as soon
as we were paid off, he
would send the money to old
man Grump, his father (Step)
to pay that & other debts.

When we are paid off I wish
to send you some, the amt will

depend on how much ^{we get} ⁽²⁻¹⁶⁻¹⁸⁶³⁾ ^{of} ^{it}
comes. I will send all I can spare
& wish I was able to make it
more. but I am forced to spend
a good deal for something to make
my diet so that I can keep my
health, not that we don't get en-
ough but because it is of a
kind that does not agree
with me. Our nation is now con-
fined to crackers & pork & at times
plenty of poor beef, sugar & coffee -
we get no vegetables or fruit
of any kind, & I find I must
have them at times to preserve
my health & prevent I fear & other
in diseases. I mentioned receiv-
ing the \$5⁰⁰ which you sent ^{me} to Louis-
ville before but you didn't prob-
ably receive the letter.

I cannot now write more but
will not wait long before
writing again. Write soon
with all the home news. With respect
to all enquiring friends & love to all
at home. I remain your affectionate
son
William

My health has been all along delicate, & remains some times better for a few days, & some times worse than half of the time, in will. But I believe that it has been gradually getting better all the time, & I now feel much easier & stouter than I have for some

time, & believe if not exposed to too much heat & cold, this summer it will continue to improve. Captain M Adams has gone, & I have missed the opportunity of sending this by him. But it will go, as soon by mail I suppose, & there will not be any chance for me or two

of the ~~letter~~ but I don't think I will have any chance. I learn from letters rec'd here that the 130th was ordered starting for Orleans from the 1st. I have not heard from the boys since as I wrote, will soon with some to go. I remain as ever
Yours affly son
William D. Higgins

Camp near Mifflintown Tenn
March 29th 1862

Dear Po

Captain M Adams starts for home this morning on a 18 days furlough. He says he will be glad to take any letters which I wish to send. As I

have concluded to send you a few lines, he just came off. I did not this morning, & have not much time to write. Capt. Hibel and I started home the 25th inst. I sent by him to you fifty dollars, (\$50) I didn't send any letters by him when Scott sent you that \$100⁰⁰ he borrowed

of me. He has now paid me \$50.00 & interest. So that the note is entirely his, as I suppose it has been drawn up. Affairs here are assuming a more lively aspect, our army has made several reconnoissances, one to Colton

be a our division was engaged
in, our regt didnt have any
fighting to do. The regts in detail
ration have within the last 8 or 10
days made several cavalry ^(Tombrigade) dashes
as our lines were now engaged
miles about 2 miles outside of the main
lines as an out post & if there
are any dashes made we will
be apt to have some of the
fighting to do, we are camped
on the Salina pike.

I was very agreeably surprised
~~to~~ several days ago
I was unwell & lay down & went to sleep.
When I was suddenly awakened up by
the boys shouting Hyms! Panson!
i.e. so earnestly that I thought
something serious had happened.
Looking up I saw a pleasant faced
rather elderly looking man look-
ing down upon me I jumped up
half waked, he reached out his
hand & asked if I didnt know

him I took his hand, & soon
found out that he didnt know
as I did, till I saw their steps.
I knew
him, which was true, he then
told me the gentleman was
Dunn from Frankfort.

I remembered having seen
him at Indianapolis
I then learned for the first time
that Uncle Will had been lately
been appointed surgeon of the
40th Ind & Panson's Hill (Enclo. of the
son) was 2nd Lieut of Co I 40th,
A few days afterwards I went over to
the 40th & spent a very pleasant
day. It is a great treat to meet with
relations down in this (almost foreign)
& especially one so kind
as Uncle Will. He is not yet
certain that he will remain
long, He fears the climate will
not agree with him.