

MEMORANDUM FROM PRISONER OF WAR RECORDS.

No.

(This blank to be used only in the arrangement of said records.)

NAME.	RANK.	No. of Reg't.	ORGANIZATION.			INFORMATION OBTAINED FROM—				
			State.	Arm of Service.	Co.	Records of—	Vol.	Page.	Vol.	Page.
<i>Decker, J.</i>	<i>P</i>	<i>44</i>	<i>Pa.</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>7</i>	<i>16 pp.</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>48</i>		

Captured at _____, 186 , confined at Richmond, Va., _____, 186 ,

Admitted to Hospital at *21 Richardson Plac. Dec. 12/63.*

where he died *W.D. Mill. P. Hosp. Dec 23, 1863, of Diphtheria.*

Paroled at _____, 186 ; reported at Camp Parole, Md., _____, 186 .

Hammer April 23. _____

Copied by *EGG*

77714 PA -

I certify, on honor, that Isaiah Decker a Private of
Captain McGouell Company (F) of the 77 Regiment of Infantry
VOLUNTEERS, of the State of Penn, born in Fulton Co., State
of Penn, aged 22 years; 5 feet 9 inches high; Sark complexion,
Grey eyes, Black hair, and by occupation a Farmer, having joined the company on
its original organization at Chambersburg Pa and enrolled in it at the muster into
the service of the United States at Millburg Penn on the first day
of April, 1863, (or was mustered in service as a recruit, by
....., at, on the day of,
1863, or was drafted and mustered into the service of the United States from the
Enrollment District of the State of, at,
on the day of, 1863), to serve in the Regiment, for
the term of; and having served **HONESTLY** and
FAITHFULLY with his Company in 77th Regt Pa Vols to the present date, is now

entitled to a **DISCHARGE** by reason of Having died in Rebel Prison
Richmond Dec 25th 1863 3 mos made prisoner at Chancellorsville Dec 4th
19th 1863

The said Private Isaiah Decker was last paid by Paymaster
Maj Wilson to include the thirtieth day of June, 1863, and has
pay due him from that time to the present date; he is entitled to pay and subsistence for
TRAVELING to place of enrollment, and whatever other allowances are authorized to volunteer
soldiers, drafted men, or militia, so discharged. He has received from the United States **CLOTHING**
amounting to 22 76 dollars, since the 31st day of December,
1862, when his clothing account was last settled. He has received from the United States
..... 100 dollar's advanced **BOUNTY**.

There is to be stopped from him, on account of the State of, or other
authorities, for **CLOTHING**, &c., received on entering service, 100 dollars; and
for other stoppages, viz: seid Decker is entitled to bounty amounting to
\$100.00 for clothing not drawn 18th 46
..... 100 dollars.

He has been furnished with **TRANSPORTATION** in kind from the place of his discharge to
.....; and he has been **SUBSISTED** for **TRAVELING** to his
place of enrollment, up to the, 1863.

He is indebted to, **SUTLER**, 100 dollars.
He is indebted to, **LAUNDRESS**, 100 dollars.

Given in Duplicate, at Camp at Blue Springs Tenn this 26 day
of April, 1864

Geo W Johnston
1st Lieut Co 57th Regt Pa Vols

Date	Person	Place
1862, November 21	George W. Decker	Annapolis, MD <i>not included</i>
1862, April 13	Isaiah Decker	Camp Shiloh, TN
1862, December 11	Isaiah Decker	Nashville, TN
1862, February 11	Isaiah Decker	Camp Woods, KY
1862, January 15	Isaiah Decker	Camp Woods, KY
1862, June 6	Isaiah Decker	Camp Corinth, MISS
1863, April 23	Isaiah Decker	Murfreesboro, TN Camp at Fortifications
1863, August 27	Isaiah Decker	Bellefonte, AL Camp Ventrebra
1863, February 6	Isaiah Decker	Camp Sill, TN
1863, January 9	Isaiah Decker	Murfreesboro, TN
1863, July 5	Isaiah Decker	Tullahoma, TN
1863, June 6	Isaiah Decker	Murfreesboro, TN Camp Drake
1863, March 11	Isaiah Decker	Newbern, NC
1863, March 23	Isaiah Decker	Murfreesboro, TN Camp Fortifications

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISALAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

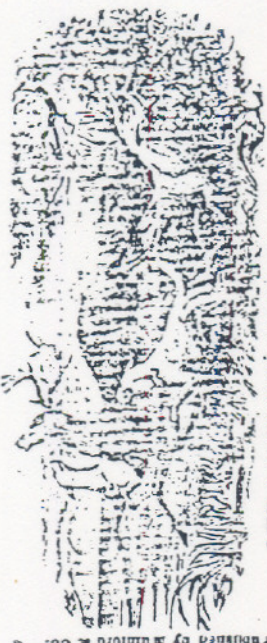
Camp Woods Jan 15th Hart County Kentucky

Dear Father I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well at present and hoping these few lines will find you all well I was laying around with the mumps a couple of weeks but I am all right now we are Still at Mumfordsville Green River we are expecting a battle here every day but we are ready at any time old Buckner Sent up a flag of truce and Said he would give us five days to leave or he would make us leave but the five days has run ashore but no Buckner come and Monday he Sent word for all the women and children to leave town but he never come we are throwing up Entrenchments on the other Side of the river I dont know how long we will Stay here but it is our orders to be in New orleans in thirty days but the Sooner the better we are all an^xxious to get away from here the bridg is finished across this river but the rail road is tore up clear to Bolin green which will take us a long time to mend up the dammed Rebles tares up things and we have to fix them up we have got new rifles we will make the rebles get they are well drilled on a run for they have experienced it So often that they no exactly when to start we got our dingbats yesterday and I Sent \$20.00 home the Fulton boys Sent their money by Express to Chambersburg to James Wishart and he will distribute it around you will get mine in ten or twelve days the weather has been very wet and rainy ever Since the 1st of January it Snowed Monday night about 2 inches and now it is raining now it is dinner there come a box from the valley and we got lots of roasted chicken bread Butter cakes Sausages we had a nice dinner and lots left Bully for the valley girls I will have to bring my Scribbling to a close for this time for I have eat So much chicken that I dont feell inclined to wr^{tie}ie any more this time for the paper is poor any(way) my best respect

Isaiah Decker

Peter Decker

Direct to camp Wood Hart
county Ky 77 reg Pa col
Stumbaugh in care of capt
H. S. Wishart



Published by Mumford & Co.

LET LOOSE THE DOGS OF WAR.

Roasted chicken bread butter
 makes sausage we had a
 nice dinner and lots left
 Billy for the valley girls
 I will have to bring my
 writing to a close for
 this time for I have not
 so much to write that
 I don't feel inclined to
 write any more this time
 for the paper is poor very
 my best respect
 Wm. D. Dickson

Direct to Camp Wood Hart
 care of 77 reg Pa art
 Humbergh in care of capt
 H. S. Whistart

Barry Harbo Ford is a
 County Kentucky Democrat
 I later my pen in hand to see
 you know that I am well
 present and hoping these
 lines will find you all well
 I was laying around with
 the mumps a couple of weeks
 but it am all right now we
 are still at Manassasville
 Green River we are expecting
 a battle here every day but
 we are not sure of it
 Baseline sent up a flag of
 Texas and said he would
 give us few days to leave in
 would make us leave but
 the Union has more soldiers



but the Backers course will
Monday he sent word for
all the women and children
to leave town but he never
came we are throwing up
embellishments in the other
side of the river it stands
within four days we would lay
there but it is our order to
be in New Orleans in thirty days
but the sooner the better we
are all anxious to get ready
from here the price is finished
except the river but the railroad
is done up clear to Baton Rouge
which will take us a long
time to travel up the
downward boats also will

They did not see about tonight
there up we have got needs
either we will make the will
get they are with the
on a train for they have
experimented it so often the
they are really where to stay
we got our things to go down
and I don't go so far the
Jackson says sent their money
by Express to Alexandria
to pass on Wash and she
will distribute it according
you will get mine in the
or Lucie says the court
has been there they are
being over since the rest of
journey it started in the
night about a week or
now it is raining now it
is raining here and a few
the

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp Wood Feb 11th 1862

Dear father I take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well and hoping these few lines will find you enjoying the same Blessing we are Still here in our old camp at Mumfordsvill Green river I dont think we will stay here much longer for the Bacon Creek troops has moved down across the river yesterday there was 16,000 crossed three batterys the railroad bridge is fixed So that horses and wagons crosses it is 118 feet high the entrenchments is finished they are $1\frac{1}{2}$ long every thing is ready for moving here but the tunnel of the railroad is blowed shut by the rebles tomorow morning we will commence to lay a track around it is about 5 miles from here there is a reble camp 8 miles of this only 18,000 but that wont make us a breakfast bite but there is a good lot of them at bolin Green Gen Johnson and Gen Buckner is there we have a Johnson here in our advance they are brothers fighting against one another they have a Gen Critenden and we have a Gen Critenden Brothers but it is expected by our head men that we will get in one of the Bloodys fights that ever went off in America and that is at Bolin Green we are preparing for marchig now for I hear the officers a going around through the camp hunting all the boys that is not able to go in ranks to send them to Louisville for we are only 40 miles from Bolin Green but we are the boys that has got the vinegar to try them a rip there was a victory won by an expedition they took fort henry the fort on the Tenesee river .the weather here looks more like winter now than any time yet there was a snow last night about 2 inches deep we get fresh bread every day we have a bakery in every reg fresh pork an beef potatoes beanes mollases coffe we got a box of provisions from that

PAGE 2 LETTER FROM CAMP WOOD FEB 11TH 1862

county and we are very thankful to the friend and them that had hand in it
for their kindness toward us I am very well sadisfied here better than if
at home it just suits me to run round I will have to bring my scribling to
a close it may be that I will have some things of more importance to
write the next time if you write Direct to the same place if we move the
letter will follow

Food in the trenches never
the smaller here looks
more like winter now
than any time yet there
was a snow last night
and it makes deep ice
and fresh bread every
~~day~~ day. ~~There is a bakery in~~
There are fresh pork and
potatoes beans mutton
Coffee we got a box of
provisions from that route
and we are very thankful
to the friend and them
that had hands in it for
their kindness toward
us. I am very well satisfied
here better than I at home
~~at present~~ I will have to
bring my scribbles to a
close it may be that I will
have some things of more
importance to write the next
time if you write sweet to
the same place if we move the
to the will follow



MAJ. GENERAL McCLELLAN.

Camp Ford
Feb 11, 1862

Dear Mother
I take my pen
in hand to
inform you that I am
well and hope these
few lines will find
you enjoying the same
pleasing we are still
here in our old camp
at Munfordsville from
which I don't think we
will stay here much
longer for the Boon
creek troops has moved
down across the river
yesterday there was 1600
crossed three battalions the
railroad bridge is fixed
so that horses and wagons

0
Please it is 11:50 feet
High the entire element
is finished they are the log
every thing is ready for
moving here but the
Council of the railroad
is divided about by the
Raffles locomotives morning
we will commence to
lay a track around
it is about 5 miles from
here there is a cable car
5 miles of this with 15:00
but that would make
as a breakfast table but
there is a good lot of them
at Antioch from San Antonio
and San Antonio is there
we have a Johnson here
in our advance they are
Whitaker fighting against
our matter they have

0
A few considerations and
we have a few considerations
Brothers but it is expected
by our head man that
we will get in one of
the Memphis fights that
ever went off in Memphis
that that is at Boston from
we are preparing for many
now for I hear the officers
a party around this night
the camp including all
the boys that is not able
to go in bands to send
them to Louisville for six
we only 30 miles from
Boston from but there are
the boys that has got
the Chicago to try there
a life there was a victory
won by our expedition
they took for victory the

March 10th 1862

Camp Andy Johnston Davison County Tennessee

Dear father

I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well at present and hoping these few lines will find you all enjoying the same Blessing I received a letter from you and Mr. Fohner yesterday so as I have not much to do this afternoon I would write a few lines in reply to it well I suppose you would like to know how we are getting along we are getting along firstrate we have had a considerable march since I last wrote home we are 4 miles below Nashville Tenn 120 miles from Green River we left there the 14 of Feb we have been here since the 3rd I dont know how long we will stay here the rebles never made any stand at Bolin Green or at Nashville their force is 20 miles from here they are at Mumfordsboroug they say they intend to make a stand they had seven forts and lots of breastworks the most magnificent thing I ever seen but there is some rebel cavalry around here they took 4 of the Indiana boys a standing on picket last Friday night and they have shot some of our provost guard in town and yesterday morning about 7 oclock as it was Sunday we generally have a midling hard day

there was some Rebel cavalry come up and attacked our pickets the 1st Wisconsin reg there being only about ten in the squad but they soon ralleyed together and give the alarm in camp I was out laying and G. W. Houser in the wagon yet the long role begun and the boys was took out in double quick but before we got there they had left but we followed after them about 5 miles over hills and rocks but we did not get sight of the Devils but we took 2 prisoners and killed 6 of them they wounded 2 of our men mortally I have not heard wether they are dead yet or not we the 77 [PA 77th Inf.] did not see the dead rebles but we seen the blood where where [sic] they fell Bully for them the prisoners say the[y] only intend to fight us one time more and that is when they all get together and then they intend to fight till they are all killed I glory in their spunk I thing[k] Rebeldom will soon go up the spout we [partly erased?] all the boys is well and in good heart we have plenty of clothes and plenty to eat fresh bread evry day so we would not call the king our unkle Bully for us so no more at present

Isaiah Decker
To Peter Decker

March 10th 1862
 Camp Army Johnston's Division
 County Tennessee Dear Father
 I take my pen in hand to let
 you know that I am well at
 present and having had
 few lines with you and
 enjoying the same
 I received a letter from
 you and Mr. Johnson yesterday
 so as I have not much to
 do this afternoon I would
 write a few lines in reply
 to it with a hope you
 would like to know how
 we are getting along while we
 are getting along while we
 have had a considerable amount
 since I had wrote home we
 are 4 miles below Nashville
 some 120 miles from Green

where they see duty for
 from the prisoners say the
 only intent to fight is that
 one have more and that
 to whom they are get together
 and then they intent to
 fight till they are all
 killed I glory in your
 pattern I think I shall
 write down go up the
 about we all the keep
 to write and in your
 heart we have plenty
 of clothes and plenty
 to eat fresh bread every
 day. Do not think of making
 call the King our more
 duty for us so in more
 at present I have been
 Go Peter Decker

never we left there the 14th of
Feb we have been here since
the 3rd I don't know how long
we will stay here the Rebels
never made any stand at
Berlin Green or at Mechanics
their force is 20 miles from
here they are at Chambersburg
they say they intend to make a
stand they had seven forts
and lots of breast works the
most insignificant thing I
ever seen but there is some
Rebel Cavalry around here
they took 3 of the batteries
they are standing in perfect
order Friday night and they
have shot some of our
Artillery down in town and
yesterday morning about 9 o'clock
as it was Sunday we generally
have a meeting every day

there was some Rebel Cavalry
come up and attacked our
batteries the 1st Wisconsin Regt
these being only about 1000 in
the spread but they were killed
together and gave the Rebels
we camp 2 miles out from
and I. W. Brown in the
camp and the long pole began
and the boys was look out in
Doubt quick but before we got
there they had left but we
followed after them about 5 miles
over hills and rocks but we
did not get sight of the Rebels
but we took 2 prisoners and
killed 6 of them they were
2 of our men probably
I of our men and there were
not there either they are
they are
they are
they are

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp Shiloh Tennessee River April 13th 1862

Dear father I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well at present and hoping these few lines will find you all the Same we are now camped 7 miles up the Tennessee ^{river} from Savannah at the Pittsburg landings and also on the battle grounds of the 6th and 7th which I suppose you have heard of before this time we left Columbia on the 1st of the month and marched on 6 days in succession until we reached this place the distance of 90 miles on Sunday last we was 24 miles of Savannah and we Started about 6 oclock and Soon we heard canonading and about 12oclock we got orders to leave our wagons and take three days rations with us and we was 14 miles off Savannah we went on and got there about 8 Oclock and layed there till 4 Oclock in the morning and got on the boats and went up the river and was ready to go into battle till 8 the rebels formed their line of battle on Saturday night and on Sunday morning they mad(e) an attact and come in our camps and drove our men out and killing the Sick and driving our men back they fought all day Sunday and nearly drove our men back until nearly night when our men begin to get reinforcement and the gunboats begun to play on them midling keen and they Stoped it till morning and against that time Gen Buell's army was there and we commenced playing on them monday morning and it was not long till we took 6 of their batteries they played on all day Sometimes giving back and forward Such cannonading and reports of muskets made one continual roar till about 3 Oclock they got up howling and left the dead men was allmost innumerable you could not walk ten steps without Steping over the dead I Seen places where you could Stand Still and count 50 dead rebles I seen 300 piled on one pile they are not all burried yet we have not heard the true amount of the killed and wounded their loss is heavy they have calculated their 5 to our one they are now about 16 miles from here they are at Corrinth where they intend to give us another rip our teams has not come up yet as soon as they come we will move on down on them we have a midling heavy force here now there was only 8 wounded in our regiment two or three midling Serious two of our company Thomas McElwell from Huntingdon was shot through the breast we have not

Page 2 Letter from Camp Shiloh

heard wether he is dead or not yet and one from Mercersburg was shot in the hand
all of our boys is well that went from (These?)part of the county I will have to
close froy this time give my best respects to all inquiring friends

Peter Decker

I Decker

Direct to McKooks Division
company F 77 Reg Pa vol
Tennessee

ANSWER SOON

killed on one pile they are not all
buried yet - we have not heard the
true amount of the killed and
wounded their loss is heavy they
have calculated their 5 to our one
they are now about 16 miles from
here they are at Carrington where
they intend to give us another
trip our Camp has not come
up yet - as soon as they come
we will move in double force and
we have a smelting heavy force and
we have now a there was only 8 and
we have now a there was only 8 and
our own regiment two or three
milling Generals from huntingdon
Thomas McElwee the breast we have
was shot through he is dead or not
yet and one from Mercesburg was
shot in the hand all of our boys is well
that went from the part of the count
I will have to close for this time and
my best respects to all, inquiring
friends Ben Dicker, J. Dicker,
Direct to McKees Division
Company F 17 Reg R vol
Tennessee

Answer
Dixon

Camp Shiloh Tennessee River
April 15th 1862 Dear Father
I take my pen in hand to let you
know that I am well at present
and hoping these few lines will find
you all the same we are now Camp
7 miles up the Tennessee River
at the Pittsburg Landings and also
on the battle grounds of the 6th
and 7th which I suppose you have
heard of before this time we left
Columbia on the 10th of the month
and marched on 6 days in success
until we reached this place the
distance of 90 miles on Sunday
last we was 24 miles of Savannah
and we started about 6 o'clock
and soon we heard commanding

And about 12 o'clock we got orders to get reinforcement and
to leave our wigwags and take three the gunboats to play on their
days balloons with us and we was Micklin keen and they stoped
14 miles off Savannah we went on it till morning and against
and got there about 3 o'clock and that time Gen. Buell's Army was
layed there till 4 o'clock in the
morning and got on the boats
and went up the river and
was brady to go into battle till 8
the rebels formed their line of battle some times giving back and forward
on Saturday night and on Sunday such commoading and reports of
morning they mad an attack
and come in our camps and
drove our men out and killing
the sick and driving our
men back they fought all
day Sunday and nearly drove
our men back until nearly
night when our men begin
and count 50 dead & 1000
500

Camp Corinth June 6th 1862 Mississippi

Dear father

I take my pen in hand to let you know that I am well at present and hoping these few lines will find you all well well now I will tell you where we are now we are camped one mile of Corinth I can not tell how long we will be here we moved our camp here yesterday we have been in Corinth a couple of days a fixing up things I suppose you have already heard that the rebels has left here for some other Seaport but wher they are going to try to make anothe Stand I dont know and I dont think they do themselves we have the railroad in our possession here we have 6 or 7 engines running I dont know how many cars it is reported that we will be left here to take charg of this place Gen McCooks Division Some of our Generals is Still following on after them the rebles left this town in a Sad looking condition burning all their commisary Stores and hauled all their waggons carriages together and burned them the women and children all left and now they are coming back carrying their goods on their backs well thats enough on that Subject Captain Wishart has returned back to us again bully for him we was paid off last week for 4 month 40 dollars will be Sent home to you from Washington it will be sent to Alexander in Wells Vally and he will send it to you I dont know how soon it will reach there it may not be there for 6 weeks and then it might be there in 2 but as soon as you get it I want you to let me know I Suppose it will Soon be harvest now there is no grain in this part of the country there is not any cleared land here and what little there is camps on I dont think that I will harvest any this harvest there is enough of poor peopl that is afraid to soldier to do all the harvesting this year unkle

Sam pays us the cash for eating and sleeping and drinking lemonade so what is the use working you need not think that I was drunk while I was writing this being I mised one line it was done in a mistake I had the paper doubled the weather here is midling warm and pleasant all of our boys is well and in good spirits I have nothing strange to write this time perhaps we will know where and what we will have to do in a day or two the girls will have to get along the best way they cant till we get back and live in hope if they do die in dispair I will have to bring my Scribling to a close give my best Respect to Mr Fohner(?) and all inquiring friends

answer if you please

Isaiah Decker

To

Peter Decker,

Direct to

CcCooks Division 5th Brigade
77 reg Pa Vol Company F Mississippi

WHERE LIBERTY DWELLS

Camp Corinth June 6th 1862 Mississippi
I take my pen in hand to let (Dear father
you know that I am well at present and
hoping these few lines will find you all well
well now I will tell you where we are now
we are camped one mile of Corinth I can
not tell how long we will be here we moved
our camp here yesterday we have been in Corinth
a couple of days a fixing up things I suppose you
have already heard that the rebels has left here
for some other seaport but where they are going
to try to make another stand I dont know and
I dont think they do themselves we have the

railroad in our possession here we have 6 or 7
Engines running I dont know how many cars
it is reported that we will be left here to
take charge of this place Gen Mc Cooks Division
some of our Generals is still following on after
them the rebels left this town in a sad looking
condition burning all their commissary stores
and hauled all their waggons carriages ^{together} and burnt
them the women and children all left and
now they are coming back carrying their goods
on their backs well thats enough on that subject
Sr Captain Wishart has returned back to us again
bully for him we was paid off last week for
4 month 30 dollars will be sent home to you

from Washington it will be sent to ~~John~~
Alexander in Wells Bally and he will send
it to you I dont know how soon it will
reach there it may not be there for 6 weeks
and then it might be there in 2 but as soon
as you get it I want you to let me know
I suppose it will soon be harvest now there
is no grain in this part of the country there
is not any cleared land here and what
little there is camps on I dont think that
I will harvest any this harvest there is
enough of poor people that is afraid to soldier
to do all the harvesting this year unlike

Sam pays us the cash for eating and sleeping
and drinking lemonade so what is the
use working you need not think that I
was drunk while I was writing this being
I mised one line it was done in a mistake
I had the paper doubled the weather here
is middling warm and pleasant all of
our boys is well and in good spirits
I have nothing strange to write this time
perhaps we will know where ^{and} what we
will have to do in a day or two the
girls will have to get along the bit
way they cant till we get back
and live in hope if they do

die in despair I will have
to bring my scribbling to a close
Give my best Respect to Mr. Johnson
And all enquiring friends
Answer if you please
Isaiah Docter

Direct to
In Person

to Mr. Cooks Division 5th Brigade
79 reg Pa Vol Company F Mississippi

These is my home
Where Liberty dwells

I
y
h
u
w
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ou
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ha
fr
to
i

COMP F 77 Regt P. V.

Dec. 11th 1862

Dear father

I Seat myself this morning to pen a few lines to you as I have not much to do. I am well at present and hoping when these few lines reaches you they may find you all well I have not anything of any importance to write this time we are Still camped near Nashville we are 4 miles South of it we moved our camp one mile back toward town the reason for this I can not tell the Secesh is all around they tried to Shell Gen Sherdens camp on the right of us but they did not get much done it is reported they have 60,000 I Suppose they have there camp principaly at Murfreesboro we run them out of Laverne 8 miles from here a few days Since but they returned again but we burnt the Town when we left we have a Strong picket guard on we are expecting an attack here evry day we have to be up at 4 oclock in the morning and Stand in the Street with our arms in readiness we have to forage all of our feed for our teams there was 16 teams captured a couple days ago the(y) got around them and took them hooping they killed Some 4 or 5 men and Some mules but the rest got out the weather at present is favorable but midling cold we had a fine little Snow a few days ago and we have Some on the ground yet our accomodations is very nice and comfortable now for Soldering I am as well contented as ever but I am beginning to think it Soon time the war was over but the way things is working it does not appear any nearer than when it first begun, I Re^{cd}(received) a letter from you about 2 Weeks ago and answered it wether you got it I can not tell there is a good many letters lost I have run out of postage Stamps and there is no Such a thing as getting them here now for love or money I will be under a thousand obligations to you by Sending me 50cts worth if you can get them without much trouble I will let you know that all the rest of our boys is well that come from there So no more at present My best wishes to you all

Isaiah Decker

Peter Decker

Answer if you pleas

Directions are

Comp F 77 Regt
P. V. 5th Brigade

would be under a thousand
negotiations to you by sending me
not worth if you can get them
without much trouble I will
if you know that all the
out of our boys is well that
me from here do the more
I present they best wishes
if you all I wish I could
I am sure if you please

Directions are

Comp 5th Regt
P. D. 5th Brigade
2nd Division
Tenn

Comp 5th Regt P. D. Dec 11th 1862
Dear Father
I had thought this morning
to pen a few lines to you
as I have not much to do
I am well at present and
hoping when these few lines
reaches you they may find
you all well I have not
any thing of any importance
to write this time we are
still camped near Nashville
we are 4 miles south of it
we arrived from Camp near
mile back toward town
the reason for this I can not
tell the reason is all around
they tried to shell Gen
Sherdens camp on the right
of us but they did not get

Much done it is reported
they have 50,000 I suppose
they have there camp principally
at Mungreoboro we run
them out of Saccane 8 miles
from here a few days since
but they returned again
but we burnt the town when
we left we have a strong
picket guard on we are expecting
an attack here every day we
have to be up at 4 o'clock in
the morning and stand in
the street with our arms in
readiness we have to forage
all of our feed for our teams
there was 60 teams captured
a couple days ago we got
around them and took them
hooping they killed some horse
men and some mules but

the rest got out the weather
at present is favorable but
midling cold we had a fine
little snow a few days ago
and we have some on the ground
yet our accommodations is very
nice and comfortable now for
soldiering I am as well contented
as ever but I am beginning to think
it soon time the war was over
but the way things is working it
does not appear any nearer than
when it first begun, I Re^{ed}
a letter from you about 2
weeks ago and answered it
whether you got it I can not
tell there is a good many letters
but I have run out of
postage stamps and there is
no such a thing as getting
them here now for love or money

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER,
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp Near Murfreesboro Tenn Jan 9th 1863

Dear father I take my pen in hand this morning to let you know that I am in the land among the living and hoping when these few lines reaches you they may find you all well I will now tell you that we had a hard battle here close Nashville the day after Christmast and drove them back within 1½ miles of Murfreesboro the battle commenced on the 30st and the morning of the 31 our regiment was on picket we was attacked on the line the troops was laying in lines of battle but the rebles broke on us about daylight in Such a heavy force of our right wing we was on the right our regiment was the first fired on the Secesh come So heavy on us that we was compeled to fall bakc they throwed their force on our right that we was compeled to fall back about 1½ miles while the left nearly held their position the loss on both Sides was midling heavy the loss of our regiment was about 80 killed wounded and missing our colonel was wounded and died the next day they drove us back till about 10 oclock when we got our line formed on the brow of a hill where we held our position and fought them five days when they left where they intend to give us another fight I can not tell we are now 4 miles South of Murfreesboro we could not follow them up on the account of rations the rail road is tore up between Louisville and (Town name unreadable) and the water is not raised Enough to run boats we have not got any mail for nearly 2 weeks I dont know wether our letters will go through or not therefore I will not write much this time the loss of our company there is but 2 gone but what we can account for and that is Milton Horton and Randel Childers from the valley perhaps they was taken prisoner there was 2 taken prisoner one from Adams county and one from Bedford 2 wounded William Bivens got his left forefinger Shot off he Said that he did not get it out of the way of the ball in time George Heavner of Bedford County was wounded in the knee but not Seriously that is about all our Brigadier Gen was wounded I will close for this time for it is getting dark Excuse bad writing for I done it in a big hurry from

Isaiah Decker


To Peter Decker

Directions are 2nd Division
77 Regt P.V.
Camp F Tenn

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER,
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp Sill

Feb 6th 1863

Dear father With due respect that I owe to you I this morning I take my pen in hand once more to answer a few lines received from you last night which gave me the Satisfaction of hearing that you was all well I am well and as hearty as Ever I was in my life I received your letter Some time Since with them Postage Stamps you need not Send any more now for I was at Nashville and got Some the talk is that we will be paid Soon and then the Setters will have a Supply on hand there is nothing Strange going on here now we have our rations to haul from Nashville yet the Secesh is Sticking around here yet I can not tell when we will move from here we have lots of picket duty to perform and we are building fortifications around Murfreesboro the weather is cold here now Snowing and Sleetng nearly every day there is not much prospects of the war Ending verry Soon for there is too many Breckenridge Democrats in the North aiding and giving Encouragement to the South and money making Generals they wont work together while the South rich and poor young and old throw Everything down and go into it with all their might and leave their niggers on their farms to raise provisions to carry on their army I think if we can get the infernal niggers from them we can get them Starved to death and the traitors of the North all hung about the drafted men not reporting themselves they ought (to) Send Enough (men) to make them go and Evry man that Said any thing against to Shout them down on the Spot I would like to be one to go through the north on that business for I would just as Soon Shoot a traitor as a grey back in the South bully for McConnellsburg and the Editor and all the rest I Say hang the Sons of  I will close for this time My Best Respects to all whom may inquire and Except a portion for yourself

Isaiah Decker

Peter Decker

Camp F 77 Regt P.V.

2nd Brigade 2nd Division

Tenn

go through the north on
that business for I would
just as soon shut a trailer
as a grey back in the South
bull job Mr Connellsburg and
the Editor and all the rest
I say hang the sons of
I will close for this time
My Best Regards to all
whom may inquire and
except a question for yourself
Saidh Decker
Peter Decker

Camp Ft 77 Regt - P. O.
I get Brinsde 2^d Division
Tenn

Camp Hill

Feb 9th 1863.

Dear father
With due respect that I owe
to you & the morning I take
my pen in hand to pen in
kind once more to answer
a few lines received from
you last night which gave
me the satisfaction of hearing
that you was all well & am
well and as early as ever I
was in New life I received
your letter some time since
with some postage stamps
you need not send any
more now for I was at
Nashville and got some the
talk is that we will be paid

born and from he settles
will have a deputy or board
there is nothing strange going
on here now we had our nation
to hand from Nashville get
the doctor is sickening around
how get? I can not tell when
we will move from here we
have lots of picket duty
to perform and yet we build
fortifications around Memphis
the weather is cold here now
snowing and sleeting now,
every day there is not much
people of the war making
very slow for there is too many
Proslavery Democrats in the
North realize and giving
encouragement to the South
and money making

Generals they would work
together while the South is
about poor young and old men
very thing about and go into
it with all their might
and leave their negroes on
their farms to raise provisions
to eat on their army. I think
if we can get the information
negroes from them we can
get them starved to death
and the sections of the
North all being about
the constant man not reporting
themselves they could do
enough to make them go
and very man that said
any thing against to about
them down on the spot I
would like to be one

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER,
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Newbern North Carolina March the 11 1863

Dear father it is with pleasure that I Seat myself down to drop a few lines to you to let you know how I am getting along I am tolerable well at this present time only I have a middling bad cold and cough now I must tell you of our reconoitering excursion we Started out from Newbern on last friday morning and Struck in the direction of Trenton and traveled the the distance of twenty miles and there we encamped in a field within eight miles of trenton and the next morning we was to march out to Trenton and and to attack them there in the morning we loaded our guns and Started leaving our knapsacks in care of a guard and we marched within about 2 miles of the place and then we was halted and the cavelry went on to trenton and the rebels had left they heard that the malitia was a coming and they thought they would better be a leaving bully for them they Just saved their bacon and then we turned around and marched back to our knapsacks that making a distance of twelve miles and then we made coffee and eat our dinⁿer and then we Started in the direction of Jacksonville and marched ten miles yet that after noon and then we layed down in an open field after making some coffee and Some refreshments that making us a distamce of twenty two miles that day and then we lye down on the ground and Slept there until morning or Spread our dog tents down and layed on them and on the next morning it being Sunday morning we layed around until about ten Oclock and then we Started on our rout towards Jacksonville and leaving our knapsacks we marched on about the distance of about fifteen miles and there our cavalry had taken Six rebel cavalry five privates and a lieutenant but some think he is a Colonel what made them think he was a colonel they took a negro and put him in with the rebels and the negro Said to him Col how did you get here and it being very thick there with Small pines and there we was marched out in the woods and then we killed a beef one for each Reg and cut it up in Small pieces and Stuck it on Sticks and held it to the fire and roasted it and then we crawled up together and Slept having no over coats or blankets along but there was lots of leaves and we Slept firstrate and in the morning about 10 Oclock we Started back again towards our knapsacks for Some Said that the rebels had left Jacksonville (The rest of this letter is torn off)

Newbern North Carolina March the 11 1863

Dear father it is with pleasure that I seat myself
down to drop a few lines to you to let you know
how I am a getting along I am tolerable well
at this present time only I have a meddling
cold and cough now I must tell you of our
reconnoitering excursion we started out from Newbern
on last Friday morning and struck in the direction
of Trenton and traveled the distance of twenty
miles and there we encamped in a field within
eight miles of Trenton and the next morning we
was to march out to Trenton and to attack
them there in the morning we loaded our guns and
started leaving our knapsacks in care of a guard
and we marched within about 2 miles of the place
and then we was halted and the cavalry went
on to Trenton and the rebels had left they heard
that the militia was a coming and they thought
they would better be a leaving bully for them so
they just saved their bacon and then we turn
around and marched back to our knapsacks
that making a distance of twelve miles
and then we made coffee and eat our dinner
and then we started in the direction of
Jacksonville and marched ten miles yet
that afternoon and then we layed

down in an open field after making some coffee and some refreshments that making us a distance of twenty two miles that day and then we lay down on the ground and slept there until morning or spread our clogs tents down and layed on them and on the next morning it being Sunday morning we layed around until about ten o'clock and then we started on our rout towards Jacksonville and leaving our knapsacks we marched on about the distance of about fifteen miles and there our cavalry had taken six rebel cavalry five privates and a lieutenant but some think he is a Colonel what made them think he was a Colonel they took a negro and put him in with the rebels and the negro said to him Col how did you get here and it being very thick there with small pines and there we was marched out in the wood and then we killed a beef one for each Reg and cut it up in small pieces and stuck it on sticks and held it to the fire and roasted it and then we crawled up together and slept having no over coats or blankets along but there was lots of leaves and we slept prostrate on ~~the~~ in the morning about ten o'clock we started back again towards our knapsacks for some said that the rebels had left

Jacksonville and
was too strong for
that was if they
if the rebels is
on with my story
our knapsacks and
killed some more
we lay down to
began to roar and
and some of the boys
but some of us
much after all
Tuesday ~~we~~ we started
a distance of two
get into camp on
head and we re
set I do not know
there now Isaiah
very well content
home the last
and was glad to
they was all well
since that was
time a coming the
I want to know
George and Isaiah
want you to do

me to know
got my letter
had whole line and the very week
I did not know what was the matter
I am still well and hearty at present
and hoping that when those few lines
comes to

THE FOLLOWING IS A LETTER WRITTEN BY ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER, AND HIS BROTHER, WILLIAM DECKER DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp Fortifications-----

Murfreesboro, Tenn
March 23rd 1863

Well and respected father I take my (pen) in hand once more to reply to your most welcomed letter which come to hand yesterday I am well and hearty I was loading ground on wagons this forenoon we are Still working here Steady 4 houres a day the whole army is Still here we are expecting an attact here evry day they made a dash on our pickets and dfove them in Saturday morning we run out a few pieces of artillery they soon left here is the place we want them to come you Said the talk was of another draft I expect the conscript business will Soon Commence the sooner the better we have not army enough to hold our position and keep them Son's of ___ h from getting in our rear and cutting of(f) our Supplies about the money matter you wanted to know about I hardly know what to say if you see a good chance of putting Some in Safe hands I don't care I would like to know who it is that Says that government money will not be worth any thing after the war is over I hope they have not give up yet that the South will gain their independence I have not give up yet nor I do not think they ever will gain it if the government is broken up and money worthless then I want out of the united States of America I believe the(y) will be united again and that before long you Spoke about peace it does not look much like it now if it is made Soon it will be very likely to be made with a disgraceful Compromise we would like to hear of peace as well as any body but we want an honorable peace or none we would rather fight them till H ll freeses over and then give them a turn on the ice I will close for this time Soon I have very poor accomodations for writing I expect it will work you to read it so no more this time

from Isaiah Decker
to Peter Decker

William Dear Brother

I received your few lines a week or two ago I was glad to hear that you had evry thing all right yet it is not worth while I Suppose of me giving you any advice I Suppose you are a good boy like I used to be if it Should be when the door is shut and the light gone out and in bed asleep you will have to plough for pap this Spring I expect you will be big enough for a soldier let me know wether you run the girls any yet if you do try and tend to them right I will Send you a valentine to give to one and tell her it Come from Murfreesboro Tenn I will Close for this time if you cant read this bring it down to me Some night and I will read it for you

Isaiah Decker
Camp F. 77 Regt PV
2nd Division
Murfreesboro Tenn

see a good boy like I used to be
if it should be when the dawn
is shut and the light gone out
and in bed asleep you will
have to plough for pap this
spring I expect you will be
big enough for a soldier let-
me know whether you run
the girl any yet - if you do
try and lend to them right
I will send you a valentine
to give to one and tell
her it come from Murfreesboro
I will close for this
time if you cant read this
bring it down to me some
night - and I will read
it - for you Mariah Decker

Comp & 77 Regt I.R.
22^d Division
Murfreesboro Tenn

Camp Fortifications
Murfreesboro Tenn
March 25th 1863

Well Avid Requested Father
I take my m. hand and more
to reply to your most welcomed
~~letter which come to hand~~
yesterday I am well and heart
I was loading ground on wagons
this forenoon we are still workin
here steady 4 hours a day the
whole army is still here we are
preparing an attack here every day
they need a dash on our picket
and drive them in Saturday morn
we run out a few pieces of artiller
they soon left here is the place
we want them to come you
said the talk was of another day
I expect the conscript - trinity
will soon commence the same

The better we have our Army
Enough to hold our position and
keep them down if I don't get
in our own and out of our supply
about the Army matter you want
to know about - I hardly know what
to say if you see a good chance &
pulling down in your hands I shall
I would like to know who it is that
says that government money will
not be worth anything after the
war is over I hope they have not
gone up yet that the South will
gain their independence I have
not gone up yet - nor do out there
they can well gain it if the govern-
ment is broken up and money worthless
then I want out of the United
States of America I believe the
will be united again and that
before long you shall be about
it - does not look much like
it - now if it is made for

it will be very likely to be made
with a dignified compromise
we would like to hear of peace as
well as any body but we want an
honorable peace or more we would
rather fight them till it pleases
our own then give them a turn
in the see I will show for
this time down I have been
accommodating for writing &
I don't think will work you to
lead it - do no know this time
from their Doctor
to Peter Doctor
William Dear Brother
I received your letter
yesterday a week or two ago
I was glad to hear that you
had say this all right -
get it is not worth while
I suppose of the giving you
any advice I suppose you

LETTER FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Murfreesboro
Camp at Fortifications Tenn

April 23, 1863

Dear father and Mother I once more take the opportunity of writing a few lines again I received your letter about a week since it found me well and hearty hoping these few lines may find you all the same when they come to hande I have nothing much to write this time evry thing has become an old thing to us here we are Still working on the forts here we have to work 8 houres a day I like the job very well we had to move our camp a couple days ago we are now commencing work where the camp was some part of our army is gone out on a Scout with 8 days rations there was a regiment of rebels come in our lines a couple days ago and give themselves up they Say their whole force is advancing with 15 days rations I thing it is a lie they Still keep picking at the Rail road between this and Louisvill and Robing the trains and destroying the mailles evry few days we got paid again I will put five Dollars in this letter as there is so many letters lost I wont Send much at one time I will write in a day or two again the weather is nice and warm here now the woods is green we have lots of Sutter Stores in camp here evry thing is high butter 75 cents per pound eggs 60 cts per doz the citizens in the reble lines is nearly Starving to death they are allowed only $\frac{1}{2}$ pound of corn meal a day and one pound of meat a week the army the Same the meat is mule meat I could tell you of lots of things that I know to be true but you would hardly believe it any way the people in the North think that times is getting hard they know nothing about it

If Catharine Decker is about there yet tell her that I have a chat with Mr David Miller Nearly evry day he belongs to the 65 Ohio Vol I got acquainted with him last Summer he comes to See us evry few days the old Pennsylvania boys allways likes to get together I dont know wether you know him or not he is Hohn Miller's Son that was in the carding machine on Licking Creek but kate will know all about him as he used to be her old Beau Harvy Sipes is here all of our boys is well I will close for the present for it is time to go to work

Isaiah Decker
to Peter Decker
Comp F 77 Regt P.V.
2nd Division
Murfreesboro Tenn

Harvey Lipes is here all of
our boys is well I will close
for the present for it is time
to go to work. Goodish. Dear
to Peter. Dear

Camp 77 Regt P.V.
2^d Division
Munfreestown Tenn

Munfreestown
Camp at Fortifications Tenn
April 28 1863

Dear father and Mother I once
more take the opportunity of writing
a few lines again I received
your letter about a week since it
found me well and hearty hope
these few lines may find you
all the same when they come to
hand. I have nothing much
to write this time every thing
has become an old thing to
us here we are still working.
on the fort here we have to
work 8 hours aday I like the
job very well we had to move
our camp a couple days ago
we are now commencing work
where the camp was some part
of our army is gone out on a
raider with 8 days rations

There was a Regiment of rebels
come in our lines a couple days
ago and give themselves up they
say their whole force is reckoned
with 15 days Rations I think it
is a lie they still keep picking
at the Rail road between this and
Lawville and Robing the trains
and destroying the mails every
few days we got paid again
I will put five dollars in this
letter as there is so many letters
lost I wont send much at one
time I will write in a day or
two again the weather is nice
and warm here now the woods
is green, we have lots of better
shoes in camp here every thing
is high better 75 cents per pound
Eggs cost per doz the citizens in
the valley here is nearly starving
to death they are allowed only 1/2
pound of corn meal a day and

no pound of meat a week the
army the shame the meat is made
meat I could tell you of lots of things
that I know to be true but you can
hardly believe it any way the people
in the South think that times is get
worse they know nothing about it
Prof. DeFornice DeFornice is a
man that get her that I have
a chat with Mr David Mills
a hardy say day he belongs to
the 65th Regt I got acquainted
with him last summer he
comes to see us every few days
the old Pennsylvania boys
always likes to get together
I dont know whether you know
him or not he is John Muller
son that was in the Cavalry
Marching on Skating Creek that
date will know all about this
so he used to be her old Bear

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER,
PETER DECKER DURING THE CIVIL WAR.

Camp Drake Murfreesboro Tenn.

June 6th 1863

Dear father & Mother I once more Seat myself to reply to A letter which came to hand this afternoon from you the Sad and Sorrowful news it brought to me was allmost More than I could Stand to hear of parting my Dear Sisters and Brother never to meet them in this world again but in heaven I hope I may meet them where parting of friends will be no more I will let you know that I am Blessed with good health at present for which I am very thankful for health is one of the choisest Blesings that can be bestowed on man I have nothing Strange to tell you we are Still working on Our forts here we are under Marching Orders we have had Some little fighting on our front the Rebles is advancing in Smal forces and dashing on our pickets I will not write any more this time you will have to excuse my bad writing for this time answer if you pleas let it be ever so Short for you do not know how anxious I am to hear from home My love to you and Mother and all whom may inquire So no more Still Remaining your Son until Death

ISaiah Decker

Peter Decker

Camp Wake Chesapeake
June 6th 1853

Dear father & Mother I once
more seat myself to reply to
a letter which come to hand
this afternoon from you the
sad and sorrowful news it
brought to me was allmost
more than I could stand to
hear of parting my dear sisters
and brother never to meet
them in this world again
but in heaven I hope I may
meet them where parting of
friends will be no more I will
let you know that I am blessed
with good health at present
for which I am very thankful
for health is one of the choicest
blessings that can be bestowed
on man I have nothing

Strange to tell you we are
still working on our forts
here we are under marching
Orders we have had some little
fighting on our front the
Rebel is advancing in small
forces and dashing on our
pickets I will not write
any more this time you
will have to excuse my bad
writing for this time answer
if you please let it be ever so
short for you do not know
how anxious I am to hear
from home my love to
you and Mother and all
whom may inquire so
no more will be remaining
your son until death

Walter Decker
Peter Decker

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN BY ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER,
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp at Tullahoma Tenn July 5th 1863

Dear father I Seat myself this afternoon to drop you a few lines I Received yours of the 20th a day or two ago and was glad to hear from you I am well and hoping these few lines may find you well I have no accomodations for writing I do not Expect you can read it but I will do the best I can I will let you know that we have been marching and fighting Some Since I last wrote we left Murfreesboro on the 24 of June and marched to Liberty Gap and about ten miles and the 25 in the afternoon we met Some of the Arkansas boys and had a Severe fight with them and drove them out we lost a good many men of our Regt our loss in the Regt 4 killed and 30 wounded Some Seriously but we made them get up and leave there was 2 killed of our company the names of them it is hardly necessary to give George Woy and Peter Giffen and 4 wounded we have got as far as Tullahoma now but the advance is Still moving on we are Expecting to Start on at any time we have been fighting more or less Evry day Since we Started they had Some heavy fortifications here but they did not Stand much of a fight we have got them on the retreat toward Chattenooaga we have taken a good many prisoners it has Rained Evry day for the last two weeks the roads is so bad that we can hardly get through the mud we have got midling hard times now we have to picket Evry other day and forage in the bargain and march Some nights all night but as long as we can give the rebs thunder I am sadisfied to push ahead We are looking for the train from Murfreesboro this Evening all of our boys is well John Keebaugh is back at Murfreesboro in the Bakery I will Soon close for this time maybe the Rebs will capture it any way my corespondents need not look for much news from me for Some time now for our knapsacks was Sent back to Murfreesboro and we have no way of carrying paper along but I have no fears but we will be Successful here write as soon as this comes to hand and let me know how you are getting along and I will try and do better the next time I write I think they will rout the rebs out of Penn^a shortly Since they have got a new commander I will close for this time give my best respects to all whom may inquire

Still remaining
your Son until
Death
Isaiah Decker
Peter Decker

Co F 77 Regt P^a Vol
2nd Division
20th A C
Tullahoma Tenn

I have no fears but we will
be successful here while as soon
as this comes to hand and let
me know how you are getting along
and I will try and do better the
next time I write I think they will
not be so out of Pennings shortly
since they have got a new command
I will close for this time give
my best respects to all whom
they require.

Still remaining
your truly
son
writter
Death

Janian Leedy
Peter Decker

Ct F 71 Regt - 2d Vol
2nd Division
20th A C
Tullahoma Tenn

Camp at Tullahoma Tenn
July 5-7 1868

Dear father I bear myself
this afternoon to drop you a
few lines I received yours of
the 20th a day or two ago and
was glad to hear from you I
am well and hoping these few
lines may find you well I ha
ve accommodations for writing
I do not expect you can read
it but I will do the best I can
I will let you know that we
have been marching and fighting
some since I last wrote we left
Tullahoma Tenn on the 24th of
July and marched to Liberty Gap
and about ten miles and
the 25th in the afternoon we
met some of the Arkansas
boys and had a severe fight
with them and drove them
out we lost a good many.

To men of our Regt on top
in the Regt & killed and so
counted down downed but
we made them get up and leave
there was 2 killed by our company
the names of them it is hardly
necessary to give George Woy
and Peter Giffen and 4 wounded
we have got as far as Oklahoma
now but the resistance is still
morning on we are expecting
to start on at any time
we have been fighting more
or less every day since we started
they had some heavy fortification
here but they did not hit us
much of a fight we have got
them out the retreat toward
Charleston we have taken
a good many prisoners it has
rained every day for the last
two weeks the road is so
bad that we can ha-

get through the river
we have got melting has
since now we have to pi-
sory other day and forage
in the bargain need more
above night all night in
as long as we can give the
the 25th number of am the
to push ahead we are look-
ing for the hair from Memphis
this evening all of our boys
is well John Kellogg is
at Memphis in the
Baker's will soon also
for this time maybe the
Reds will capture it any
way my correspondents here
put - look for much news
from me for some time
now for our prospects
was sent back to Memphis
and we have no

TRANSCRIPT OF LETTER WRITTEN FROM ISAIAH DECKER TO HIS FATHER, PETER DECKER,
DURING THE CIVIL WAR

Camp Ventrebra Bellefonte Ala Aug 27th 1863

Dear father & Mother

I Seat myself this afternoon to answer your kind letter which come to hand last Evening which found me in good health I have not much to write but as the boys was nearly all gone out on picket and I have got my duty all done for to day which was putting up Shades over our tents and poliecing the Streets and Some other little notions I thought I would answer your letter for pass t^{ime} the ballance part of the day it is our motto for duty always before pleasure here and Receiving & Sending letters from and too our friends and acquaintances at home is one of the greatest pleasures a Soldier Enjoys Well I must tell you that that we have had Enother long and midling hard march Since I last wrote to you we left Tullahoma on the 16th and landed here on the 21st the distance being 80 miles we come through the valleys and over the Cumberland mountains one of the mountains was 14 miles across they had a gay Old time getting the trains over we was not troubled much with the grey backs this march we Seen and caught a few bush whackers we are camped One mile off the Tenn river the Rebles Stand picket on the Other Side and our men on this Bragg is Supposed to be in Chattenoga I heard to day that Some of our men was Shelling the Town from this Side I can not tell wether they are or not as we are considerable distance Down the river but I think we will Soon be ready to cross and they will have to get back Shure it was a Sight to See the Corn that is now growing in the country that we passed through this last march in Ala and Tenn and Peaches the Peaches and corn was and is now in first class condition you would better believe we had a good Old time Rallying on the Peach Orchards & corn fields and Potatoes Patches the news come in camp last night that Fort Wagoner and Sumpter had Surrendered the news is good on our Side now I think we can do our Share out here if the Eastern Army can get through there and it will not be long till we bring the Confederacy down never to rise any more I Sent that Record of our company you Spoke about the likeness I was mistaken in the time I only Sent the one in April Excuse my bad writing

Isaiah Decker

Peter Decker

Co F 77 Regt Pa Vol

2 Division

Bellfont Ala

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Isiah Stokes
Peter Stokes

Co F 11th Regt - Pa Col
2 Division
Belmont Ala

Camp Antiochia Belmont Ala

Aug 21st 1863

Dear Father & Mother

I seat myself
this afternoon to answer your
kind letter which came to hand.
Last evening which found me in
good health I have not much to
write but as the boys was nearly
all gone out on picket - and
I have got my duty all done
for to day which was putting
up shades over our tents and
polishing the sheets and some
other little notions I thought I
would answer your letter for
past time the ballance part of
the day it is our motto for
duty - always before pleasure here
and receiving & sending letters
from and to our friends and

As you know at home is one of
the greatest pleasures a soldier!
Engage well & meet - all you that
first we have had another long
and making hard march
since I last wrote to you we
left Williams on the 16th and
wander here on the 21st the
distance being 50 miles we come
through the valleys and over
the Cumberland mountains
one of the mountains was 14 miles
across they had a gay old time
getting the Indians over we was
not loaded much with
the grey packs this march we
seen and caught a few fresh
chickens we are camped one
mile off the river near the
Noble Island packet on the
other side and see men on this
Boag is supposed to be in
Charltonough & want to say

that some of them was shelling
the town from this side I can
not tell whether they are or not
As we are considerable distance
down the river but I think we will
soon be ready to cross and they will
have to get that done it was a
sight to see the corn that is now
growing in the country that we
passed through this last march
in the and corn and peaches
the peaches and corn was not
so now in that state condition
you would better believe we
had a good old time getting
on the Rock Orchard &
corn fields and potatoes
Potatoes the bees come in
camp last night that
fort Rigor and dumpster
had dinner and the melons
is good on our side now
I think we can do our