


Camp near Murfreesboro

January 9<sup>th</sup> 63

Good Morning  
My Darling Sister

I assumed the great pleasure of writing a few lines to you my dear sister to let you know that I am still on the land of the living five of the darkest days that ever passed over my head are gone yet thousands lay neath the Gory field - of which I came unscathed. Oh It was dreadful 1/2 of our co fell wounded on that deadly field where we fought the enemy muzzle to muzzle - I cant describe how terrible the battle was - awful beyond description - 1862 went out amid the cannons deafening roar we shot the old year off surely this time at dawn on the morning of Dec 31<sup>st</sup> the Rebels (as you know) attacked (Gen \_\_\_\_\_ Divis) Commanded by Gen Johnson captured 11 cannon when the horses were off watering and hurled their Columns with such ~~ir~~ \_\_\_\_\_ on our left flank Brigade after brigade came rushing on them with bullets & \_\_\_\_\_ & having their own Cannon hurl a shower of Iron hail into their very faces, our men retreated in confusion \_\_\_\_\_ I may say the line of battle was in the form of a horse shoe

Something like this 

We were to act as a Reserve + we little expected

the terrible battle that was ~~do~~ close on to us -  
You can little imagine what a feeling it produces upon  
the observer to see thousands of men running in confusion  
and Panic stricken The shells came in showers the  
bullets came like an avalanche while the 12 pounders  
before his veterans & spoke with tears rolling down his  
cheek & we were warned by him of what was left for  
us to do to rescue that portion <sup>(or division)</sup> of the army  
from a ruinous  
disaster we must turn the tide of battle - resist  
to the last drop of precious blood the         
onstand of the enemy or be chased across the Ohio  
river Rosecrans came dashing up, cold sweat oozed  
out of his forehead & I doubt not but what he  
trembled in his boots - just at that moment a cannon  
shell ~~like a bullet~~ <sup>burst</sup> ~~heard off~~ <sup>burst</sup> and the blood ~~inlashed~~  
fell before we got there - we laid down at orders

and lay with our guns cocked and fingers on our triggers = (our men fell back over us in confusion and the wounded with bloody cloths hobbled over us while others = less able were shot + shot again & fell fall of wounds lifeless) but a minute more and the butternuts came to deep double quicks on us but ah: "The Regulars were there" the Regulars were there; we poured such an unearring shower of bullets into their advancing columns = they returned the fire and now I cant ~~best~~ describe it language cant describe it - it begins description - we were only about 100 feet ~~at~~ apart in the "dark cedar woods" = they couldn't drive us it was to much for flesh & blood in quick succession we poured volly after volly into the wasps - and if it was any satisfaction to our dying to see our men bite the dust they \_\_\_\_\_ in another / minute the Regulars were alone the volunteers had fled from both ends of our line (or both flanks) (as we would say) Retreat or capture was the only \_\_\_\_\_ we chose the former after being ordered 3 times to retreat we left = after leaving the cover of the woods = it was a run for life the Rebels were on our heels and such a withering blast as \_\_\_\_\_ the General with our dead bleeding oh my friends it was terrible our old commander Stephen D Carpenter fell first riddle with balls this terminated his 25 yrs of service = I expected every minute would be my

lost that balls seemed the thickest of the  
thicks I can say truly that the ground was  
covered with blue coats - I must mention one  
instance - one of Co D. fell mortally wounded before  
me and rolled over on his back a fatal  
\_\_\_\_\_ of life's exit he -

(Incomplete from Reuben Jones)

19<sup>th</sup> - WS

Camp near Murfreesboro  
Good Morning  
My Darling Sister -

I assume the great pleasure of writing a few lines to you my dear sister to let you know that I am still on the land of the living - five of the darkest days that ever passed over my head are gone - yet thousands lay near the bloody field - of which I came with me - or it was dreadful - 1/2 of our loss fell <sup>wounded</sup> on that deadly field where we fought the enemy in a terrible struggle - I can't describe how terrible the battle was - awful beyond description - Yes - went out - amid the cannons deafening roar we shot the old Year off - surely this time on the morning of Dec 31<sup>st</sup> the Rebels (as you know) attacked Gen. Gills Divis) Commanded by Gen Johnson - captured 11 cannon when the horses were off water in g and hurled their columns with such irresistible impetuosity on our left flank. Brigade after brigade came

rushing on them with bullets & steel & having  
their own cannon hurl a shower of Iron hail  
into their very faces, our men retreated in  
Confusion = Rear Routed, I may say - the line  
of battle was in the form of a Horse shoe.  
~~something like this~~ ~~|||||~~ We were  
to act as a Reserve & we ~~|||||~~ little expected  
the terrible battle that was close on to us = You can  
little ~~imagine~~ <sup>imagine</sup> what a feeling <sup>it produces upon the observer</sup> to see thousands of  
men running in confusion and panic stricken.  
~~has upon an observer~~ The shells came in showers.  
the bullets came like an avalanche - while the  
22 pounders made a trail of blood through  
whole columns = The woods were darkened  
with soldiers flying <sup>from the line of battle</sup> some wounded - others without  
hats or guns - seemed scared to death perfectly  
crazy. Rousseau viewed the Crisis with tears  
in his eyes - and he rode before his veterans  
& spoke with tears rolling down his cheeks,  
& we were warned by him of what was left <sup>for us</sup> to do  
to rescue <sup>that portion (or division) of the army</sup> from a ruinous disaster. we must  
turn the tide of battle - resist to the last drop  
of our precious blood, & be steady on our

Not the enemy, or be chased across the Ohio River.  
Rosecrans came dashing up, cold sweat  
oozed out of his forehead & I doubt not but  
what he trembled in his boots - just at that moment  
a Cannon ball took Gareshead's ~~his aid assistant~~  
~~adjutant general~~ head off; - and the blood  
splashed over Rosecrans' face, he glanced at  
his favorite aid's mangled body - it was but a moment  
he pointed down to a dark line of Cedar woods  
& as he told Rousseau something - we saw Rousseau  
shake his head - and then he rode up to us - the  
die was cast - the Regulars must hold those  
cedars (the outer edge) - so we were double quick into  
line but ~~some~~ of our boys fell before we got  
there - we laid down our orders - and lay with  
our legs cocked and fingers on our triggers - ~~our~~  
men fell back over us - in confusion and - the  
wounded with bloody cloths, hobbled over us  
while others - less able - were shot & shot again &  
fell full of wounds & ~~lives~~ - ~~in~~ a minute more  
and the butternuts came to deep double quick  
on us, but ah! "The Regulars were there".  
The Regulars were there; we poured such a

unbaring shower of bullets into their  
 advancing columns - they returned the fire  
 and now I cant describe it. Language  
 cant describe it - it beggars description - we  
 were only about 100 feet apart ~~then~~ in the  
 "dark cedar woods" - they couldnt drive us  
 it was to mutch for flesh & blood. In quick  
 succession we poured volly after volly into  
 the wasps - and if it was any satisfaction  
 to our dying to see our enemy like the dust  
 they had it. In another minute the  
 Regulars were alone. The volunteers had  
 fled from both ends of our line (or both flanks  
 as we would say). Retreat or capture was the  
 the only resort. We chose the former after being  
 ordered 3 times to retreat we left - after  
 leaving the cover of the woods - it was a run  
 for life - the Rebels were on our heels - and  
 such a withering blast as streved the  
 ground with our dead & bleeding.  
 Oh my friends it was terrible - Our old  
 Comdrander Stephen H. Carpenter fell first  
 riddled with balls. This terminated his 35 yrs  
 of service - I expected every minute would  
 be my <sup>last</sup> ~~last~~ - the balls ~~thick~~ the thickest of  
 if the thickest I can say truly that the ground  
 was covered with blue coats - I must  
 mention one instance - One of Co H. fell mortally  
 wounded before me and ~~and~~ rolled over  
 on his back - a fatal part of life's ~~cut~~ ~~cut~~ he

(Incomplete from Review Jones)



19<sup>th</sup> US

Murfreesboro Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 63

Brother John

I am still in the land of the living - 1/3 of our Co. were wounded in the terrible 5 days battle and they couldnd come nearer me than shooting a hole in my hat = \_\_\_\_\_ must be respected I would have written sooner but no mail was permitted to go I just finished on account of our Co to sum =

You have doubtless read all the news about the battle of Murfreesboro - it was more terrible than Shiloh - and the way we suffered having nothing to eat but corn & ~~unhusked~~ <sup>unhusked</sup> & dead horses = 1862 the last night of 1862 was was the darkest \_\_\_\_\_ that ever went \_\_\_\_\_ our heads - ~~with~~ <sup>with</sup> New Years came the midst the roar of Federal artillery But I have no time \_\_\_\_\_ particulars now

I got your box the night before Christmas and we just \_\_\_\_\_ into the good things = A box never was more accepted Tell cousin Ann I am a thousand times obliged to her for that pound cake and \_\_\_\_\_ a blessing she got for it a poor soldier can enjoy good things as you know not how = Those gloves \_\_\_\_\_ bless your soul give me more comfort

on the battle field than \$10000 would have  
I slept in them and I have worn them out already  
today I put on a new Rig. \_\_\_\_\_ worth 14.00  
for laying in the mud 5 days I had burnt  
my 'a' - put in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Divis Mitchells  
old Divis but ~~no~~ now Comded by \_\_\_\_\_  
I must close good night lets hear from you  
Your affectionate  
Brother

Riuben

Please send a few \_\_\_\_\_ the next letter for I  
countnt find those you sent me we expect to be  
paid soon = I am acting as Sergt since the battle  
Davis is absent & Lemmon is unwell Hope is ... Let  
" 7 Crossley

Murfreesboro. Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 63.  
Brother John.

I am still on the bank  
of the living - 1/3 of our Co were wounded  
in the terrible day's battles and they couldn't  
come nearer me than snorting a hole in my  
hat - Great air must be respected -

I would have written sooner but no mail  
was permitted to go - I just finished an  
account of our Co to Mum -

You have doubtless read all the news  
about the battle of Murfreesboro. it was  
more terrible than Gettysburg - and the way  
we suffered. having nothing to eat but  
corn, unhusked & dead horses - 1862 the  
last night of 1862 was the darkest  
night that ever was over our heads -

New Year came in midst the roar  
of Federal artillery - But I have no time  
to write Particulars now -

I got back for the night before  
Christmas - and we just went  
into the good things - A boy's name  
was more acceptable - Tell Cousin  
Ann - I am a thousand times obliged  
to her for that I und' least - and - may  
a blessing she got for it a Poor Soldier  
can easily and truly as you know what  
how - Those gloves pro. bless your soul  
gave me more comfort on the battle field  
than \$10.00 - would have. I slept in them  
and I have worn them out already -  
- today I put on a new Reg. Capajis - worth  
14.00 - for laying in the mud 5 days - I had worn  
my clothes losing so much sleep - for 5 nights  
we were completely exhausted -

I think Rosecrans is a splendid  
General and very determined no give up  
him -

The Regulars are now all  
organized into a brigade - put in the 3<sup>rd</sup>  
Reg. of Mitchells old Divis but now Comd  
by Genl. A. H. Rowse -

I must close your night  
lets hear from you  
soon

Your affectionate  
Brother  
Richard

Please send a few Gillett. Persons the next full  
for I couldn't find those you sent me  
- we expect to be paid soon -  
I am acting Sergeant since the battle  
Davis is absent & Simon is unwell  
Here is a list of our wounded we took  
33 rank & file into battle & came out  
minus wounded.

5 <sup>th</sup> 1	Sergt Thayer	9	Harnden	
Corpl	1 Woodrofe	10	Guydes	
"	3	Harvis	11	Bennett
Pvt	4	Griffith	12	Kese Missing
"	5	Enigh	None	Killed in
"	6	Hunt	Cole-	
"	7	Crossley	"	
"	8	Imay	"	

Murfreesboro. Jan 11<sup>th</sup> 63.  
Brother John.

I am still on the bank  
of the living-ys of our Co were wounded  
in the terrible day battles and they couldn't  
come nearer me than snorting a hole in my  
hat - Grievance must be respected -  
I would have written sooner but no mail  
was permitted to go - I just finished an  
account of our Co to Mum -  
You have doubtless read all the news  
about the battle of Murfreesboro. it was  
more terrible than Shiloh - and the way  
we suffered. having nothing to eat but  
corn in husks & dead horses - 1862 the  
last night of 1862 was as the darkest  
night that ever was over our heads -  
in New Years cannon amidst the roar  
of general artillery - But I have no time  
to write Particulars now -

I got your box the night before  
Christmas - and I've just written  
into the Good things - O. V. M. in  
was more acceptable - I'm Cousin  
Annie - I am a thousand times obliged  
to her for that I can't leave - and I'm  
a blessing she got for it a Poor Indian  
Candy and some is I'm known to  
how - Those gloves pro. Bless your soul  
gave me more comfort in the battle field  
than I could have. I slept in them  
and I have worn them out already -  
I don't put on a new K. Capajie - worth  
14.00 - for laying in the mud 5 days - I had worn  
my clothes long as much sleep for 5 nights  
we were completely exhausted -

I think Rosecrans is a splendid  
General and very determined to give up  
him -

The Regulars are now all  
organized into a brigade - put in the 3rd  
Wing - Mitchell, old Hill's but now Commanded  
by Genl. A. K. Russell -

Must close good night  
lets hear from you  
soon

Your affectionate  
Brother  
Richard

Please send a few dollars when the next bill  
for I could not find these you sent me  
- we expect to be paid soon -  
I am acting Sergeant since the battle  
Davis is absent & Simon is unwell  
Here is a list of our wounded we took  
33 rank & file in battle & came out  
minus wounded

5 <sup>th</sup> 1	Sergeant Mayer	9	Harnden	
Co 2 <sup>d</sup>	Washburn	10	Grayden	
"	3	Harvis	11	Parrott
Pvt	4	Griffith	12	Rose Missing
"	5	Enigh	were killed in	
"	6	Hunt	Cole-	
"	7	Crossley	..	
"	8	Imay	..	



If the living-43 of my Co were wounded  
in the terrible battle and they couldn't  
come nearer me than shooting holes in my  
hat - Grounds must be respected -  
I would have written sooner but no mail  
was permitted to go - I just finished an  
account of our Co. to Mum -

Camp at Murfreesboro Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 63

My Dear Brother

It affords me much pleasure to write you a note to be carried to you by a Sergeant of Co. "C" as he is going north on detached services Arresting deserters &c =

Last night I read ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> long expected letter from Home and the longer expected Box I had given up but it came I was never more pleased in my life = I knocked the lid off and there was the nice things from home \_\_\_\_\_ (caraway seed cakes) \_\_\_\_\_, fine comb, lot of usin bread \_\_\_\_\_ candy, the Childrens Pictures, Butter, Apple butter, peaches, letter & socks, paper & \_\_\_\_\_ from Cousin Mary Hughes in fact everything in as for once thrown into \_\_\_\_\_ The can of apple butter like all the canned things you sent was busted = ~~Leia~~ Serg + Davis got his box it contained nothing but canned fruit &c but all the cans were busted \_\_\_\_\_ a ruin - but mine was like my goods - everything so nice and from home Old Luck is good to me

\_\_\_\_\_ Davis expressed 4 boxes but I was the only one that got anything like a preserved box

Oh when shall I pay back my friends It made me jump for joy for indeed in this war ~~the~~ worn state all seems dismal = and the sight of a few tokens from home was enough to make a hermit glad -

A lot of Rebels have just past into town  
under guards lots are captured  
every day the Cannon is thundering in our front  
one fact worthy of note is that after Shiloh &  
Murfreesboro Battles - the sound of cannon was  
painful for a couple of weeks - it made me shudder =  
to eat knowing that 'ne has been one of your 'brother's'  
Comrade thrown by chance to serve through many  
dark battle together

He offered to go to see you before I asked him  
so I suppose he will not fail to call

If I only knew of this chance I would have  
secured some trophies of the terrible battle to you  
as you seem to be a great fellow for \_\_\_\_\_ trophies  
especial Quilt Patches where you seat those home  
as Relics of univ. campaign on the borders of Ku =

Bearer E. L. Bennett Sergt  
19<sup>th</sup> US Inf  
1<sup>st</sup> Brig Regulars  
Army of the Cumberland

It is quite unhealthy here as the great fatality  
in the \_\_\_\_\_ Hospital \_\_\_\_\_ But I am  
quite well yet no one knows when his time cometh

I should have heard sooner  
 of you had of the Lord etc for the  
 he gives you seem to be a  
 a great full on in. I shall try to  
 as you will be at the same time you  
 and those home as Relief of your  
 Campaign on the orders of the  
 I must close by = wishing  
 you much pleasure in  
 conversing with the old  
 person who has the right  
 I must close please accept his

1 Brother's Love  
 Newbern -

John West (over)

James C. L. Pennell Sheriff

1st Brig of Regulars

Merby of the Southern

It is quite unhealthy here as the  
 great probability in the Newbern  
 on the coast - but I am quite well  
 yet we are known on the land and



Ward at Newbern  
 July 8th 63

My Dear Brother

It affords me much pleasure to  
 you a note to be carried to you by  
 a Sergeant of Co. G. as he is going  
 in the detached service - awaiting  
 recruits

God night I need to be  
 expected from home and the  
 longer expected by. I had given  
 up but it came I was never there  
 pleased in my life. I checked the list  
 off and there was the man Henry I know  
 him. I might that, at independence (Caraway and Lark)

See capital  
 in Cannon is  
 interest - one part  
 with after shot  
 4/10th - the amount  
 of each for a couple  
 with phudat - well  
 of field (Bennett's)  
 does not work is one  
 payment are in  
 you can in four  
 All you get the  
 killing will be  
 in time - it goes  
 you nothing to eat  
 - resident in  
 - (Bennett's - Thomas)  
 - but - through many  
 (Bennett's)

bin empty left  
 in early in children  
 the better practice  
 let Russell practice  
 first ever (shang)  
 in into practice  
 the all the amount (shang)  
 you - (Shang) Davis  
 good nothing hit  
 not all the ears here  
 four - (shang) was  
 (shang) as the  
 add back is good  
 his upward 4  
 likely one that  
 go - (shang) & (shang)  
 go pay back  
 made in (shang)  
 in the (shang) non  
 small - and the  
 the time (shang)  
 the lot of (shang)  
 the (shang) in (shang)

A. DECLARATION FOR ORIGINAL INVALID PENSION. A.

To be executed before a court of record or some officer thereof having custody of its seal.

State of Kansas  
County of Allen } ss:

On this 24<sup>th</sup> day of June, A. D. one thousand eight hundred and eighty-        
personally appeared before me, Clerk of the District Court, a court of record  
within and for the county and State aforesaid, Reuben D. Jones, aged 39 years,  
a resident of the Township of Elsinore, county of Allen  
State of Kansas, who, being duly sworn according to law, declares that he is the

identical Reuben D. Jones who was ENROLLED on the        day  
of October, 1861; in company "E" of the 19<sup>th</sup> regiment of U. S. Infantry  
commanded by Captain Tho. L. Williams, and was honorably DISCHARGED at

Atlanta Georgia on the        day of       , 1864; that his  
personal description is as follows: Age, 39 years; height, six feet        inches; complexion, flourid;  
hair, white; eyes, grey. That while a member of the organization aforesaid, in the

service and in the line of his duty at Pittsburg Landing, in the State of Mississippi (or Tenn)  
on or about the        day of May or April, 1862, he I was attacked  
(Here state name or nature of disease, or the location

with the Hemorrhoids. I had had the Chronic Diarrhoea  
of wound or injury. If disabled by disease, state fully the causes; if by wound or injury, the precise manner in which received.)

for some time previous to the Battle of Pittsburg Landing: yet was  
on duty for several days after the battle: but somehow we did not  
get our knapsacks (which we took off on hearing the first roar of  
cannon Sunday morning) for some 2 or 3 weeks after the battle or our tents &  
the exposure aggravated the disease & prostrated me with the  
Chronic Diarrhoea & Bilious Syphilitic fever  
That he was treated in hospitals as follows: Washington Growth Street Hospital St Louis Mo  
(Here state the names or numbers, and the localities of all hospitals in which treated, and the dates of treatment.)

about the 1<sup>st</sup> part of May 1862 - It has been a terrible source of  
distress & at times at intervals ever since they made their  
appearance but age & time they get worse each year  
That he has        been employed in the military or naval service otherwise than as stated above  
(Here state what the

and was 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut in Co. D. 19<sup>th</sup> U. S. Infantry from Sept - 1864 to  
service was, whether prior or subsequent to that stated above, and the dates at which it began and ended.) I also served in the "3 months servi  
Dec 30<sup>th</sup> 1865 (I have lost my Discharges - in 1861

That since leaving the service this applicant has resided in the City of Fort Scott (also in  
Allen Co  
in the State of Kansas, and his occupation has been that of a Whalright while in Fort Scott  
farmer while in Allen Co my present occupation

That prior to his entry into the service above named he was a man of good, sound, physical health, being when  
enrolled a Student. That he is now partially disabled from obtaining his subsistence by  
manual labor by reason of his injuries, above described, received in the service of the United States; and he there-  
fore makes this declaration for the purpose of being placed on the invalid pension-roll of the United States.

He hereby appoints, with full power of substitution and revocation, himself  
of Elsinore Postship, State of Kansas, his true and lawful attorney

to prosecute his claim. That he has never received or applied for a pension. That his Post  
OFFICE ADDRESS is Elsinore P. O, county of Allen

State of Kansas

Claimant's signature: Reuben D. Jones

Attest: W. G. Wilson  
W. R. McClure