

# BEST DISPLAYS

John H. Best & Sons, Inc.  
Burlington Road, Galva, Il. 61434  
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JULY 29, 1987

DEAR SIRs:

HERE ARE THE CIVIL WAR LETTERS YOU REQUESTED FROM EUGENE A. LYFORD'S JOURNAL. I DO HOPE YOU WILL FIND THEM OF INTREST AS WE DID. I HAVE ATTEMPTED TO TRANSCRIBE THEM WHICH YOU WILL FIND ALONG WITH A COPY OF THE ORIGINAL. IF WE CAN BE OF ANY FURTHER HELP PLEASE DROP ME A LINE

TO: MRS. STAN KENNAUGH  
814 N.W. THIRD AVENUE  
GALVA, ILLINOIS 61434

SINCERELY,

CHARLOTTE O. KENNAUGH

*Killed Battle of Stone River*

*December 31, 1862*

*Buried in Illinois.*

Received

AUG 3 1987

STONE RIVER  
NATIONAL  
BATTLEFIELD

Supt. *Don S/4*

Historian \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ranger/In \_\_\_\_\_  
 Admin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ranger/Ad \_\_\_\_\_  
 Maint \_\_\_\_\_  
 Enp & Ma \_\_\_\_\_  
 File \_\_\_\_\_



# 19

CAMP OF THE 88th  
NASHVILLE, TENN.  
SAT. NOV. 8th, 1862

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME,  
NIGHT BEFORE LAST AFTER A NICE LITTLE MARCH OF TWENTY THREE MILES AS  
WE LAY AROUND OUR CAMP FIRE BEFORE THE CAMPTAINS TENT THE POST MASTER  
A BRIGHT BOY THEY CALL CHARLIE HANDED A LITTLE BUNCH OF LETTERS FOR  
COMPANY II TO THE CAPTAIN. I MERELY GLANCED UP FROM THE PANCAKES I  
WAS FRYING AND BUTTERING! AS FAST AS FRIED FOR I COULD NOT BELIEVE ONE  
FOR ME WAS AMONG THE SIX OR EIGHT HE HAD. BUT WHEN SERGANT LYFORDS  
NAME WAS CALLED YOU BETTER BEFIEVE MY KNIFE DROPPED AND MY FINGERS  
EXTENDED IN A TWINKLING TO CATCH THE LETTER AS HE THRUS IT AT ME!  
~~MY~~ MARY YOU DISCUSSED VERY SAFELY AN THE TOPICS OF THE DAY. I BELIEVE  
THAT WAS ABOUT THE MOST SENSIBLE OF YOUR LETTERS TO ME YOUR OPINION  
OF OLD BUELL IS THE SAME AS ALL OF US HOLD. AS WE HAVE SEEN HIM AND HIS  
LONG TRAIN OF CAVALRY MEN POSS US, WE ALWAYS THOUGHT HIM AN OLD FOGY FOGY  
AS WWELL AS AN OLD GRANNY AND THOUGHT IT NOT STRANGE IF HE WAS A TRAITOR  
AT LEAST! THE STORY GOES AMONG the boys that as the hospital when th  
wounded rebels RUN LEFT AT PERRYVILLE ONE OF OUR MEN ASKED A REBEL  
WHAT KIND OF A GENERAL BUELL WAS HE WANTED TO KNOW "WHAT BUELL" FOR  
GEN BUELL COMMANDED THEIR ARMY! SOME OF THE MEN SAY IT IS THEIR BELIEF  
THAT THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE WAS A AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GENT  
BUELL AND BRAGG AT LEAST A SHAW FIGHT BUT MANY BRAVE MEN AND SOME BRAVE  
COMMANDERS FOUGHT WITH TERRIBLE EARNESTMESS AND FOUND A PATRIOTS GRAVE  
HOW EAGERLY THE 88th HAVE FOLLOWED THE REBELS UP THAT VERY NIGHT  
FOR TWENTY MILES ANDHOW EASILY COMES WE HAVE DONE OUR PART IN  
ENTRAPPING THE WHOLE ARMY OF BRAGG! THERE SHAME IN THE TRUDENESS OF  
BUELL IN ORDING THE FIRING TO CEASE AND FOR HOLDING US BACK, EAGER TO  
FOLLOW UP THE TRACK OF THE RETREATING FOR! SHAME FOR EVER AND INFAMMY  
IN HIS NAME! WE ARE ALL DISGUSTED WITH THE MAN. WE HAIL ROSENCRANS  
AS OUR LEADER AND THE WEARY HOURS SEEMED SHORTER WHRE WE HEARD  
OF THE HAPPY CHARGE. WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO HAVE A FIGHTING GENERAL  
TO COMMAND OUR CORPS. GEN MCCOOK IS WELL SPOKEN OF I BELIEVE GENERALLY  
OUR DIVISION COMMANDER GEN SHERIDAN WE SEE ALMOST EVERY DAY. I KNOW  
LITTLE OF HIM AND HEAR BUT LITTLE ARE ALL I CAN SAY AGAINST HIM IS THAT  
HE ~~AM~~ IS AN INFERRIOR LOOKING MAN AND WILL DRINK. SO IN THE LATTER RESPECT  
OUR BRIGADIER AND COL BRIG GEN. GRENSIL IS MUCH LIKED BY ALL THO WHEN

# 19 CONT.

WHEN ORXED HE WILL SWEAR AND BELLOW DREADFULLY. HE IS THE OLD COL. OF  
36th ILL. WHO ARE WITH US ONE OF THE REFIMENTS OF OUR BRIGADE AND  
HAVE PEA RIDGE TO AN THEIR FATTEND BANNER. THEY ARE  
OLD SOJERS UP TO ANY SÐORT INTO ANY MWSCHIEF  
YOU SPEAK OF THE PT. BYRON BOYS BEING TIRED" OFXM THE SERVICE. HA!  
YOU WOULD LAUGH (OR CRY) TO HEAR SOME OF OUR MEN CRY OUT AGAIN GENERALS  
AND EVERYTHING ELSE ALMY TOWARDS NIGHT AFTER WALKING AN AND ON FOR MANY  
MILES ON THE LAND KY. PIKE. O! HOW THEY WILL GROVEL AND SWEAR SOME\_  
TIMES ESPECIALLY IF THERE IS NO SIGN OF A HALT. TIS REALLY PLEASING TO  
SEE THE 88th NOW AND COMPARE IT WITH THE 2nd BOARD OF TRADE REJEMENT OF  
SEpt. the 1st THERE ALL was morn and jUMPING AND DANCING AND SINGING  
AND HURRAHING NOW WE ABE SOBER AS DEATNIS THO OUR LANGUAGE IS NOT SO  
REPRIED AS A GENERAL THING. ALL OUR LITTLE TRAMPS FROM DEPOT TO CAMP  
AND FROM CAMÐ TO DEPOT TWO MONTHS AGO WE YELLED OR CHEERED AT EVERY  
FLAG OR DEMENSTRATION. NOW WE PASS ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING WITHOUT  
A WORD FROM OUR LIPS A SILENT, DUMB DUSTY TRAIN. EVERY MAN FIXING  
HIS EYES ON THE HEELS OF THE MAN BEFORE HIM TO KEEP FROM RUNNING UP  
AGAINST HIM WEHEN HE STOPS. I HAVE KNOWN THE REJEMENT TO MARCH ALMOST  
FOR HOURS SO SILENT ALONG THE DUSTY PIKE THAT NOTHING COULD BE HEARD  
BUT THE RUMBLING OF ~~WXXXXX~~ WAGON WHEELS AS THE CLATTERING HOOPS  
THE RATTLING OF TIN CUPS YOTER CANS PAILS OR THE HUNDREDS UTENSILS  
SHOPPED TO THE SOLDIERS ON COOKING PURPOSES

19  
12

ON LAST FRIDAY LAST DAYS I MARCH WE PASSED TWO HOUSES ALL IN FIRE SET BY ORDER. THE WOMAN WHO ( ) THERE HAD ENDEAORNED TO PIRIERE A WELL OUT OF WHICH SOME OF OUR OFFICERS DRAUD AND CAME NEAR LOOSING THEIR LIVES. AS WE PASSED BY A HOUSE NEAR BY THESE WE SAW A UNION?FLAG IN THE WINDOW AS MUCH AS TO SAY "DONT HURT US" IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISTQUISH BETWEEN A LOVER OF THE UNION AND A SOUTHERNER HERE. ~~ARE~~ ALL MUST SUFFER TOGETHER WITH OUT MUCH DISTINCTION O WHAT DESTRUCTION GOES ALONG WITH AN ARMY. FENCES CURUB UP HOUSES PLUNDERED, FIELDS STRIPPED AND EVERYTHING LAYED WASTE WHERE A FEW THOUSAND MEN HAPPEN TO LOEB EVER NIGHT. MEN ARE NOT ALLOWED, HOWEVER TO LEAVE THE RANKS DURING THE MARCH, THO   MANY DO IT AND ALMOST EVERY HOUSE IS ENTEND ALAY THE ,

GENERALLY THE BOYS ARE WILLING TO PAY A GOOD PRICE FOR THE THINGS THEY GET, BUT SOME TAKE A BEE HIVE AS ANYTHING IN THE VERY SIGHT OF THE INNER. ~~ARE~~ ONE OF OUR BOYS I UNDERSTAND WENT INTO A HOUSE AND GOT THE FIRE TO SMOKE THE <sup>EE</sup> BUS OUT BESIDES TAKING THE HONEY. AS WE APPROACHED THE SUBBUBS OF THE CITY ON THIS SIDE OF THE RIVER THE HOUSES BECAME NIM FREQUENT AND BEAUTIFUL. WE SAW SEVERAL LAYE, HANDSOME RESIDENCY IN THE GROVES OF TOLL ELMS WHICH SEEM TO ABOUND ON THIS SIDE. BUT NO FLAGS WAVED FROM THE WINDOW AS ~~TM~~ AT CINNICINATI NONE~~X~~ BUT COLORED FACES SEEMED TO OCCUPY THE FIMMES HAPPY HOUSES OF NOW RUINED MEN. THE REGEMENT BROKE INTO PLATOM AND THE BAND PLAYED ITS BEST FOR A SHORT TIME ONLY WHEN WE WHILED BACK INTO ~~EXX~~ COLUMN OF RANKS AND MUSIC CEASED AS IF IT WOULD NOT PAY TO PUT US AIR BEFORE EMPTY BUILDINGS. WE ARE ENCAMPED NOW IN A BEAUTIFUL GROVE NOT IN SIGHT OF THE CITY, BUT HALF A MILE OR MORE FROM THE RIVER. I HAVE NOT ~~RRYED~~ TO CROSS THE RIVER YET, FOR SO FAR IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO GET AWAY I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN GET A PASS TOMORROW AND IF I CAN I SHALL CAPT. WHITRUS COMPANY PROBABLY AND ALL THE PT. B. BOYS IN IT NOW. IT WILL BE PLEASANT TRULY I HOPE I CAN. THE TROOPS THAT ARE HERE HAVE BEEN ON HALF SATIM FOR MONTHS SHUT OUT FROM ALL THE WORLD. THEY SAY WE LOOK THIN AND WORN OUT. SHOULD YOU NOT THINK WE WOULD LOOK SO? I HOPE WE SHALL BE PERMITTED TO STAY HERE AND RECRUIT UP AND THAT THEY WHO HAVE BEEN LYING STILL SO LONG HERE WILL BE ORDERED AWAY, IF ANY ARE TO BE. WE OFFICERS IF I MAY MYSELF AWAY THAT NUMBER HAVE FACED VERY WELL SINCE WE HAVE BEEN HERE, THE BOYS BROUGHT US IN A QUARTER OF NICE MUTTON. SOME TURNIPS ETC. A FELLOW FROM OUR COMPANY WHO IS BRIGADE FORAGE MASTER BRINGS IN SOMETHING

#2 CONT.

2 19 CONT.

GOOD ALMOST EVERY NIGHT I GENERALLY DO THE COOKING OR PART OF IT. LIENT. M. HAS A NEGRO BOY HE PICKED UP AFTER THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE WHO SEES TO CLEANING UP THE DISHES. SO WE ARE GETTING ALONG NICELY NOW. IF WE STAY HERE A FEW WEEKS I SHALL HAVE TIME TO WRITE TO ALL MY FRIENDS. I HAVE NOT WRITTEN TO CHARLOTTE YET TO ANNIE AND FREY BUT ONCE SINCE I ENLISTED. I WANT TO WRITE TO MY SUNDAY SCHOOL AS SOON AS I CAN GET TIME TO COLLECT MY THOUGHTS AND FORGET DETAILS AND DRAWING VALIONS. ROLL CALLS ETC.ETC. AS TO MY THINGS I WANT YOU TO SEND ME I CANNOT TEEL AT PRESENT WHERE TO HAVE THEM SENT. THEY CANNOT BE SENT HERE NOW FOR THE RAILROAD IS NOT COMPLETED THROUGH YET. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CARS WILL NOT BE RUNNING THROUGH TO NASHVILLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS PERHAPS WEEKS. YOU MAY WAIL \_EVAIL\_ OR SEND THEM HERE AS YOU PLEASE YOU KNOW ~~WHEREXXXND~~ WHENAND WHERE WE SHALL GO AS WELL AS OURSELVES. I SHALL WRITE SOON AGAIN. YOU MUST WRITE AS OFTEN AS POSSIBEE TELLING ALL THE NEWS WHILE I REMAIN

TRULY AND AFFECTIONALELY

EUGENE

SIDENOTES: SUNDAY AM 9th

the CUMMAISSARY TRAIN BACK TO MICHELVILLE THIS MORNING SO I WILL SEND YOU THE THE HALF WRITTEN LETTER IT WILL ASSUM YOU OF MY GOOD HEALTH AND SAFE ARRIVAL IN NASHVILLE OFTEN PASSING A HARD MARCH. I KNOW NOT HOW I CAN WRITE YOU YOU NEED NOT SEND MY THINGS UNTIL I WHEN WE SHALL WINTER I WILL WRITE E

MONDAY MORNING NOV. 11 1862

THIS LETTER IS BUT A CONTINUATION OF THE ONE I SENT OFF IN A HURRY  
 YESTERDAY E

YES, MANY OF OUR BOYS ARE TIRED OF THE WAR, WISH THEMSELVES HOME,  
 WISH THEY HAD NEVER COME ETC.ETC. I DO NOT WISH AS THEY I EXPECTED  
 MANY OF THE PRIVATIONS THAT I HAVE FOUND, BUT I REALLY NEVER THOUGHT  
 IT WHAT IT IS AND HAS BEEN WITH US LEFT LOUISVEILLE OCT. 1st  
 AND HAVE TRAVELLED 38 MILES SINCE THEN ~~ARRK~~ AVERAGING 1" MILES ADAY.  
 SOME DAYS WE HAVE RUN OUR 2" MILES ~~SO~~ SOME DAYS WE HAVE LAIN IDLE .  
 WE HAD NO TENTS AN THE CAMPAIGN UNTIL FOUR DAYS AGO. I ASSURE YOU THEY  
 SEEMED LIKE HOME. THE THREE OFFICERS AND I OCCUPY ONE TENT I ROOM ?  
 WITH TEM AND LIVE AS WELL AS THEY. I MANAGE TO CARRY BUT LITTLE MORE  
 THAN OUR CAPTAIN IN THE MARCH. THE LIEUTENANTS CARRY SOME THINGS FOR  
 ME IN THEIR SACHEL AND OTHER MINOR TRAPS I TUCK INTO OUR TENT. SO I  
 VIRTUALLY CARRY NO KNAPSACK. LIUENT. BALL IS ~~ASSEM~~ ABOUT USED UP AND  
 TALKS OF RESIGNING. LIEUT. MILLER IS GOING TO TRY TO GET A POSITION  
 FROM HIS COUSIN, WHO IS BRIG. GEN. SICK AT NASHVILLE. SOTHERE WILL  
 PROBABLY BE A CHANGE SOME IN OUR COMPANY OFFICERS. YOU NEED NOT  
 THINK THAT I FARE WORSE IN MY POSITION THAT DO LIEUTNANTS AND CAPTAIN.  
 IT IS HARD AS THOSE WHO CARRY THEIR BED AND BOARD ON THERE BACKS.  
 THE MOST BLESSED IN THE ARMY AS THE MOUNTED MEN WHO ONLY ~~KEEP~~ ALONG  
 WITH FOOT SOLDIERS. I HAVE RIDDEN ONLY A FEW TIMES. TWO HALF DAYS  
 ON THE BAGGAGE WAGON GOING TO BOWLING GREEN AND THE PART OF TWO DAYS  
 COMING TO NASHVILLE. WHEN THE CHAPLAIN KINDLY LET ME RIDE HIS HORSE  
 AND THAT TOO WITHOUT ASKING. I SUPPOSE I MUST TELL YOU SOMETHING OF  
 OUR LONG MARCH HERE OF ~~NEWK~~ NEAR FOUR HUNDRED MILES FROM LOUISVILLE, KY.  
 WE WERE A LITTLE MON HOW THIRTY DAYS PERFORMING IT, THE ~~BEATHER~~ HAS  
 FAVORED US WONDERFULLY WE BEING BUT A FEW TIMES COMPELLED TO SLEEP  
 OUT WET NIGHTS OR MARCH IN THE RAIN. THE ROAD HOWEVER HAS BEEN VERY  
 DRY, AND DUSTY WE SOMETIMES SCARCELY ABLE TO DISTUIQUISH ONE FROM  
 ANOTHER. YOU WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN ME HAD Y OU STOOD BY THE ROAD SIDE  
 AS WE PASSED. MRS. JOE DOW, HOWEVER PICKED ME OUT AS WE PASSED THROUGH  
 CHICAGO. ALMOST A DUSTY AS WE HAVE EVER BEEN SINCE. WE THOUGHT THAT  
 FIVE MILES MARCH WES DREADFUL TRUE IT WAS HARD ON US GREEN AS WE WERE

# 20 CONT.

BUT IT IS LITTLE TO COMPARED WITH WHAT WE HAVE ENDURED SINCE, NOW WE CARE NOT FOR DIRT, HEAT, RAIN, OR COLD. WHEN TIRED WE TIE DOWN ANYWHERE EVEN IN THE CENTER OF THE ROAD, HOW WOULD I LOOK LYING DOWN IN THE ROAD FRONT OF THE DRY STORE. YET I HAVE DONE SO IN THE STREETS OF SOME OF THE KENTUCKY CITIES! A SOLDIER CARES FOR NOTHING WHEN BROWN WITH DUST FROM HEAD TO FOOT. YOUR LETTER THAT YOU KNOW ABOUT AS MUCH IF NOT MORE OF THE KEYUCKY OR RATHER "CUMBERLAND " ARMY THAN WE WHO COMPASS IT. WHEN WE LEFT OUR CAMP NEAR CRAB ORCHARD WE SUPPOSED WE WOULD GO TO LEBANON AND TAKE THE CARS EITHER FOR LOUISVILLE OR NASHVILLE. WE DID NOT SEE LEBANON, BUT WENT AROUND IT TO BOWLING GREEN. CONTRARY TO OUR EXPECTATIONS WE ONLY STAYED AT THE CITY OF SIX THOUSAND INHABITANTS BUT TWO DAYS, WE GOT SOME CLOTHING. I GOT ME A PAIR OF SKY BLUE PANTS OF MUCH BETTER MATERIAL THAN THE DARK BLUE ONES WE GOT AT CHICAGO. WE ALL HAD A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO CLEAN UP ~~THEM~~ WITH THE WATER IN GREAT BARREN RIVER. BUT WE BRUSHED OFF THE DUST ONLY TO BE COVERED AGAIN IN THE TRAMP OF 60 MILES IN FOUR DAYS TO THIS CITY. ON WEDNESDAY WE PASSED THE STATE LINE INTO TENNESSEE. AS WE PASSED THE STONE HEAT MARKED THE BOUNDARY A FAINT CHEER WAS GIVEN AND ALL SEEMED TO WALK AND BREATH MORE FREELY "GLAD" TO GET OUT OF THE WILDERNESS" FULLY SATISFIED WITH OUR EXPERIENCE IN KY. ASSUMED THAT WE HAD SEEN ENOUGH OF HER. THERE SEEMED TO BE NO DIFFERENCE IN THE GENERAL ASPECT OF THE TWO STATES, Save that her wind HAD SWIFTED DURING THE DAY AND BLEW COLD AT NIGHT. I ALSO HUNTED UP THE 51st ILL. BUT THEY WERE OUT ON REVIEW, SO ~~XMX~~ THAT I SAW ONLY TWO OF THE BOYS. I FIRST MET "PUD BELL" THE SAME LITTLE ROUND FACED SOQUE HE WAS WHEN HE LEFT HIS ~~HOME~~ ? JAMES SHEPPARD WAS ON GUARD SOMEWHERE BUT I COULD NOT FIND HIM, BUT I WAS TOLD THAT HE "STOOD IT" WELL I HAD A LONG TALK WITH MARCELLAS METZGAR IN THE ADJUTANTS OFFICE WHERE HE WAS STAYING WHILE THE REJ. WAS OUT. HE IS LOOKING VERY HEALTHY AND SEEM TO BE ENJOYING HIMSELF VERY MUCH. HE SAYS HIS EXTRA PAY AS CLEKK OF FOUR CENTS A DAY IS PLAYED OUT SO THAT HE NOW RECIEVES ONLY SOLDIERS WAGES BUT HE HAS AN EASY TIME OF IT. HE CAME PART OF THE WAY OVER WITH ME TO CAMP. WOULD HAVE COME CLEAR OVER BUT THOUGHT IT TOO FAR. HOWEVER HE RODE OVER NEXT DAY AND SAW THE ROCK ISAAND BOYS. I ASSURE YOU HE WAS GLAD TO SEE THEM. I SUPPOSE HIS REJ. LEFT NASHVILLE ABREADY AS MANY TROOPS ARE LEAVING TODAY. I KNOW NOT HOW SOON WE MAY GO TO. AS TO DAVID W. HE IS IN THE 24TH WISCONSIN REG. OF OUR BREGADE. I SEE HIM FREQUENTLY HE HAS KEPT WELL ALL THE TIME AND TAKES GOOD CARE OF HIMSELF



# 20 CONT.

I JUDGE. HIS FRIENDS NEED NOT BE ALARMED ABOUT HIM. I HAVE NOT SEEN MCCASKY SINCE THE DIVISIONS SEPARATED AT CRAB ORCHARD AWAY UP IN KY. I SUPPOSE THEY HAVE EITHER GONE ON TO CUMBERLAND GAP OR MARCHED BACK TO LOUISVILLE. OUR DIVISION WAS REVIEWED THE OTHER DAY BY GEN ROSENCRANS NOTICING THAT I HAD NO KNAPSACK AN HE PLEASANTLY REMARKED AS HE RODE BY. "SERJANT GET ALL THE LAW ALLWS YOU, AND KEEP IT. REMEMBER THAT SERGANT ORDERLY SERGANT" WE WERE STANDING AT "PRESENT ARMS" I REMAINED IN THE STEADY POSITION OF A SOLDIER NEITHER LOOKING TO THE RIGHT OR THE LEFT. I DID NOT LOOK UP AT HIM, tho i knew he was speaking to me, but as he SAID THE LAST TWO WORDS I BOWED MY HEAD AND HE RODE BY. HE JOKED PLEASANTLY WITH THE BOYS AS HE PASSED SLOWLY UP AND DOWN THE RANKS FOLLOWED BY HIS LONG TRAIN OF MOUNTED OFFECER AND MEN AWAY WHOM I NOTICED OUR DIVISION GEN. SHERIDAN, GEN. ,MCCOOK AND OTHERS CONNECTED WITH THIS ARMY CORPS. WE PREPARED FOR REVIEW AT THREE OCLOCK BUT GEN. R. DID NOT COME UNTIL SUNDOWN AND IT WAS SO DARK THAT I ACTUALLY COULD NOT DISTINGUISH HIS FEATURES ~~MYSELF~~ SO THAT I SHOULD HARDLY KNOW HIM TO SEE HIM AGAIN. WE ARE ALL PLEASED THAT THE UNION ARMY IS OUT OF THE HANDS OF MCCLENNAN AND BUELL BOTH VERY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS. MUCH AS I ONCE THOUGHT OF THE FORMER. I NOW HARDLY KNOW WHETHER TO CALL HIM A TRAITOR OR AN INCAPABLE GENERAL. I HOPE THE WAR MAY SOON END BUT THE FUTURE IS DARK AND TO CONTENT MYSELF AND TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT I PLACE THE END FAR OFF. I AM VERY SORRY TO HEAR OF MR. TAYLORS DEATH. BUT MANY HAVE BOYS MUST FALL I ALSO HEAR TODAY THROU LIENT. MILLER OF THE DEATH OF MY CLASSMATE AT GALESBURG SHIELD MANY WILL PROBABLY REMEMBER HIM. HE WAS A HOMELY BUT GOOD HEARTED FELLOW. IS A LITTLE UNWELL. NEETCOLF HAS A LAME FOOT. THE OTHER R.I. BOYS ARE WELL, WHO ARE WITH US. I HAVE NOT HEARD FROM HAZELTIN. WE LEFT HIM AT BOWLING GREEN. I HOPE TO SEEE HIM WITH HIS COMPANY SOON AGAIN. I LEAVE IT WITH YOU TO SEND MY THINGS OR NOT TO ME AT NASHVILLE, TENN. I AM CREDIBLY INFORMED THAT THE R.R. WILL BE OPENED TO LOUISVILLE IN A FEW DAYS. IT CAN COME TO NASHVILLE BUT WHETHER WE SHALL REMAIN OR NOT IS A QUESTION DO AS YOU PLEASE.

TRUELY  
EUGENE

(1) ~~Monday~~ Monday, Monday, Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> 1862  
This letter is but a continuation of the one  
I sent off in a hurry yesterday - E.

Yes, many of our boys are tired of the war, wish  
themselves home, wish they had never come, &c. &c.  
I do not wish as they, I expected many of  
the privations that I have found, but I really  
never thought it what it is and has been  
with us - he left Louisville Oct. 1<sup>st</sup> and have  
travelled 3811 miles since then, averaging  
11 miles a day. Some days we have run  
over 20 miles. Some days we have lain  
idle. We had no tents on the campaign  
until four days ago, I assure you they  
seemed like home. The three officers and  
I occupy one tent - I mess with them and  
live as well as they. I manage to carry  
but little more than our Captain on  
the march. The lieutenants carry some  
things for me in their satchels and other  
minor traps I tuck into our tent. So I  
virtually carry no knapsack. Lieut.  
Ball is about worn up and talks of  
resigning. Lieut. Miller is going to try

to get a position from his cousin, who is  
Brig. Gen. - lives at Ashville. As there  
will probably be a change soon in  
our commanding Officer, I do not  
think that I can come in my position than  
do detailed out Captain, this kind a  
man who carry their bed and board on  
their backs, the most deerskin the  
among or the regulate men who only  
keep along with just drinking, I have  
asked only a few times the last days  
as the baggage wagon going to P. being  
broken and the part of two days being to  
Ashville, when the Captain kindly let me  
ride his horse - and that ~~was~~ without ask-  
ing.

- I suppose I must see you sometime  
of our long march here of near five hundred  
miles from Knoxville, Va. We saw a little more  
than thirty days journeying it, the weather has  
proceeds us remarkably, we being but a few hours  
compared to steps out our nights in march in  
the rain. The road however has been very dry,

and dusty - we sometimes - nearly all to  
distinguish one from another, I do could not  
have known me had I got stuck by the  
road side as we passed. Now, for some  
hours, I could see not as we passed through  
things, almost as much as we have ever  
been since. We thought that five miles march  
was trivial - but it was hard as we passed  
as we were there, but it is little to be compared  
with what we have endured since, there are  
some not for skill, but, rain or cold, when this  
in the mountain region even in the center of the  
road. There could I wish lying down in the  
road front of the dry stone, but I have  
done so in the shade of some of the  
Kentucky cities. A British Car for nothing  
when known with dust from head to foot,  
I am better than that you know when  
a "muck" if not more of the Kentucky  
or rather "Southern" land "Army" than we who  
compare it. When we left our camp near  
Fort Dickard we supposed we would go to  
Shelburne and from the car either for train-

vill or Nashville. We did not see Lebanon, but  
went around it ~~and~~ ~~went~~ to Bowling Green.  
Contrary to our expectation we only stayed at  
that city (of six thousand inhabitants) but two  
days, we got some clothing, I got me a  
pair of sky blue pants of much better ma-  
terial than the dark blue ones we  
got in Chicago. We all had a good opportunity  
to clean up, with the water in Maab Barren  
river. But we brushed off the dust only  
to be covered again in the tramp of  
60 miles in four days to this city.  
On Wednesday we passed the State line  
into Tennessee. As we passed the stone that  
marked the boundary a faint cheer was  
given and all seemed to wash and  
breathe more freely, "glad to get out of  
the wilderness", fully satisfied with our  
experience in Kentucky, assumed that we  
had seen enough of her. There seemed to  
be no difference in the general aspect of  
the two States, save that the <sup>wind</sup> had shifted  
during the day and blew cold at night.

~~2740~~ ~~1888~~ (2)  
~~James Sheppard~~

I also hunted up the 57<sup>th</sup> Ill. But they were out on review, so that I saw only two of the boys. I first met "Cud Pule", the same little round faced rogue he was when he left his home James Sheppard was on guard somewhere but I could not find him, but I was told that he "stood it" well. I had a long talk with Marcellus Metzger in the Adjutant's office where he was staying while the reg. was out. He is looking very healthy and seem to be enjoying himself very much. He says his extra pay as clerk of 40 cents a day is played out. So that he now receives only Soldier's wages. But he has an easy time of it. He came part of the way over with me to camp. Would have come down over but thought it too far. However, he rode over next day and saw the Rock Island boys. I assure

you he was last to see them. I suppose his reg. for Sept. Fairville already as many troops are leaving today. I know not how some may go to. - A to avoid N. he is in the 24<sup>th</sup> His cousin Reg. of my brigade. I see him frequently. He has kept all the time and takes good care of himself & his. His friends need not be alarmed about him. - I have not seen McClosky since the divisions separated at Crab Orchard away up in Kentucky. I suppose they have either gone out to Cumberland Gap or marched back to Louisville.

Our division was received the other day by Gen. Wheeler. Noticing that I had not ~~kept~~ back on, he pleasantly remarked, as he rode by, "Sergeant, get all the law al- low you, and keep it. Remember the Sergeant, Orderly Sergeant!" "Where standing at 'present arms', I remained in the steady position of a soldier; <sup>looking</sup> neither once thought of the former, I hardly

to the right to the left. I did not look up at him, tho I knew he was speaking to me, but as he said the last two words I bowed my head and he took by. He joined pleasantly with the boys as he passed slowly up & down the ranks followed by his

regiment of mounted officers & men away from I noticed our division in Gen. Sheridan, Gen. McCross

And others connected with this army. He prepared for review at

there I chose, but Gen. R. did not come until sundown & it was so dark that I actually could not distinguish his features

that I shined hardly knew him to see him again. We are all pleased that the Union Army is out of the hands of McCallan and Buell, both very suspicious characters. "Michael"

once thought of the former, I hardly

know whether to call him a traitor  
or an incapable general, I  
hope the war may soon end  
but the future is dark and  
to content myself and to avoid  
disappointment I place the  
end far off.

I am very sorry to hear of  
Mr. Taylor's death, "But many brave  
boys must fall." I also hear to day  
thru Lieut. Miller of the death of my  
class-mate at Galburg - Shields. Many  
will probably remember him. He was  
a homely but good hearted fellow.

Holl is a little unwell, Metcalf  
has a lame foot. The other R. I. boys  
are well, who are with us. I have  
not heard from Hazelton, He left  
him at Bowling Green. - I hope to see  
him with his company soon again.

I leave it with you to send  
my things or not to me at  
Nashville, Tenn. I am credibly in-  
formed that the R. R. will be  
opened to Louisville in a few days.  
I can come to Nashville, but whether  
we shall remain or not is a question  
do as you please. Truly  
Yours

CAMP OF THE 88th ILL VOL.  
NEAR NASHVILLE, TENN. NOV. 16th

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME

BEFORE DINNER I RECIEVED A LETTER FROM YOU AND NOW THAt THE DINNER IS THROUGH AND YOUR GOOD LETTER READ. I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT MATTERS AND THINGS "AWAY DOWN SOUTH IN DIXIE" YOURS WAS WRITTEN JUST ONE WEEK AGO TODAY (SUNDAY) I WONDER IF YOU WERE SITTING BY THAT STOVE IN THE SITTING ROOM AND I WONDER IF YOU HAD ANYTHING LIKE WINTER UP IN THAT WONDERFUL TOWN OF PORT BYRON. WE IF I RECOLLECT RIGHTLY ENJOYED A BEAUTIFUL INDIAN SUMMER DAY HAD PREACHING THE FIRST FOR A GREAT WHILE AND A BRIGADE REVIEW IN THE AFTERNOON IN THE LATTER ALL OUR GUNS, AMMUNITION KNAPSACKS ETC. WERE INSPECTED BY GEN GRENSEL OR SOME OF HIS STAFF. YOU~~X~~ LISTENED TO SERMONS SITTING IN THE PEWS OF A CHURCH WE SAT ON THE GROUND AND ASSUMBLD IN A GROVE AS OUR TEMPLE. K KNOW NOT WHAT YOU ALL ARE ~~DOING~~ DOING TODAY OR IN WHAT A SITUATION YOU ARE, BUT THIS SUNDAY FINDS ME AS HEARTY AND WELL AS EVER I WAS. THE CAMP IS VERY QUIET AND REALLY SABBATH LIKE. THE AIR IS WARM AND A SLIGHT RAIN IS GENTLY FALLING. IT WOULD NOT BE STRANGE IF OUR RAINY WEATHER SET IN HERE SOON AND IT BE OUR LUCK TO MAKE OUR NEXT CAMPAIGN IN MUD AND WET. BUT TO YOUR LETTERS MOTHER NEED NOT TALK OF FURLOUGHS FOR NO MORE FURLOUGHS ARE GRANTED NOT EVEN SICK FURLOUGHS. I CERTAINLY SHOULD LOVE TO BE AT HOME TO EAT SOME OF Y~~OUR~~OUR NICE BREAD AND ESPECIALLY BUTTER BESIDES IF YOU WOULD GIVEE ME A DRINK OF BUTTERMILK TO GO WITH THEM, IT WOULD BE ALL I WOULD ASK. NEVER MIN~~D~~D YOUR CHICKENS AND FRUITS, BREAD BUTTER AND MILK WOULD BE HIGH LIVING FOR A SOLDIER. CERTAINLY I WOULD LOVE TO SIT DOWN AND EAT A MEAL WITH YOU ALL, BUT THERE IS NO USE TALKING

I AM IN FOR THE WAR AND THERE IS LITTLE USE TRYING TO GET OUT OF IT AS A LIVE MAN OR SOUND MAN. MOTHER NEED NOT LOOK OUT FOR ME TO COME ON THE CARS FOR I DONT EXPECT TO COME VERY SOON. I TELL THE BOYS THAT TWO YEARS IS THE LEAST LIVID I PUT TO MY ABSENCE FROM HOME AND THAT I SHALL NOT BE ASTONISHED IF I STAY MANY MONTHS LONGER. I OBTAINED A PASS TO NASHVILLE LAST WEEK AND ENJOYED MYSELF VERY MUCH. I ACCOMPANIED THE CAPTAIN WE WALKED THE ~~NARROW~~NARROW STREETS OF A SOUTHERN CITY WITH EAGER EYES VIEWING THE DESERTED BUSINESS HOUSES THE VACANT MANSINS THE FORTICATION ALL WITH INTEREST. SOME PREETY RESIDENCES SEMMED TO SHOW NO CHANGE ON ACCOUNT OF THE WAR, BUT ALL TOLD HER GREAT TALE OF WAR. THE GREAT AND SPLENDID STATE CAPITOL IS THE LINE OF THE CITY SITUATED ON AN ERNINENCE IN THE CITY NT IS USED AS A



# 21 CONT

FORTIFICATION. THE GREAT BLOCKS OF STONE THAT FORMED THE FENCE AROUND IT ARE USED IN THE WORKS AROUND THE BUILDING. ON THESE WORKS FOUR HUGE CAUUM BESIDES TWO PIECES ARE MOMNTED THE BUILDING IS FILLED WITH TROOPS QUARTERED THERE AND EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE GOING TO SACK EXCEPT THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES WHICH ROOMS I NOTICED WERE SHUT UP. THE TWO HOUSES THAT OF REPRESENTATIONS AND SENATE NOW RESUMED ~~THE~~ WITH THE NOISE AND NOT OF PRATTLING SECESSIMISTS AS IT DID A YEAR AGO, BUT OF SOLDIERS CARELESS OF CARPETS AND CHAUDELAN AND THE SPLENDID BUILDING ONCE POLLUTED WITH FROM THE WE STUDIED THE MAP OF THE CITY BUT I WILL NOT ELABORATE HERE FOR MY JOURNAL CONTAINS ALL I COULD WRITE YOU ANYWAY. REMEMBER ME TO MRS HARPER. I DO NOT KNOW HOW SOON I CAN ANSWER THE S.S. LETTERS EUGENE

1621-

S.S. Letters  
But I have not seen I can answer the  
Remember me to Mr. Jackson & do

Camp of the 85th Ill. Vol. <sup>Reg.</sup> Nashville, Tenn.

November 16<sup>th</sup> 1862

My dear folks at home -

before dinner I received a letter from you, and now that the dinner is through and your good letter read, I shall endeavor to talk to you about matters and things "away down South in Dixie".

Yours was written just one week ago today (Sunday). I wonder if you were sitting by that stove in the sitting-room and I wonder if you had anything like winter up in that wonderful town of Port Byron. Mo., if I recollect rightly, enjoyed a beautiful Indian Summer's day, had preaching (the first for a great while) and a brigade review in the afternoon, and the letter all our guns, ammunition, knapsacks, &c. were inspected by Gen. Gravel or some of his Staff. Now

returned to Vermont, settling in the place of  
a Church, Doc put on the german  
and accounted in a grave as one Sid down and eat a meal with  
Temple. - I know not what you all you all, but there is no use Falving  
an saying today or in what a situation I am in for the war and there is  
you are, but this Sunday joins me as little we trying to get out of it as a  
leary and well as ever I was, the live man or sound man, Mother  
camp is very quiet and every Sabbath need not look out for me to come  
like, the air is warm and a slight on the ear, for I don't expect to  
rain is gently falling. It would not come very soon, I see the boys that  
be strange if our saying we is the least level I put  
in her son and it be our luck to my absence from home and that  
to make our next company in I place not be obtained if I stay  
and and out. - But to your many thanks dear.

Letter - Mother need not be of fulfills I obtained a pair to charcoal last  
for no more fulfills are granted - not well and enjoy myself very much  
even see fulfills I certainly shred I accompanied the captain in the  
him to be at home to eat some of walk the main sheet of a Southern  
your nice meal and species letter with eyes rejoicing the dearest language  
Reader if you would give me a diar honey the vacant morning, the intensity  
of hittin with to go with them, it would all with interest. Some pretty articles  
be all I would ask. Warm mind remind to show no change as element of  
your children and fruit, bread, butter the war, but all else the the the

great Hall of War. The great and Splen-  
did State Capitol is the linch of  
of the city however. Situated on  
an eminence in the city, it is used  
as a fortification. The great blocks  
of stone that formed the fence around  
it, are used in the works around  
the building. On these works four huge  
cannon - besides two brass pieces - are  
mounted. The building is filled with  
troops quartered there and everything  
seems to be going to rack - Except the  
library and archives, which rooms I  
noticed were shut up. The two houses  
- Hall of Representatives and Senate  
now resound with the noise and din-  
not of prattling secessionists - as it did  
a year ago, but of soldiers, careless  
of carpets and chandeliers and the  
splendid building once polluted  
with treason. From the dome we  
studied the map of the city, but I  
will not elaborate here, for my  
Journal contains <sup>all</sup> I could write you any way.

ON PICKET EIGHT MILES  
SOUTH OF NASHVILLE  
SUN. NOV. 23rd 1862

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME\_

GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL THIS BRIGHT BALMY BEAUTIFUL SABBATH MORNING! I WOULD LOVE TO BE AT HOME TODAY AND NOT AWAY OFF HERE IN TENNESSEE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR THE SECISH. THE REBELS ARE SAID TO BE IN FORCE AT MURFEESBORO ONLY TWENTY TWO MILES AWAY. THEIR PICKETS ARE BUT A MILE FROM WHERE WE ARE STATIONED. THIS IS THE NEAREST THE 88th EVER STOOD PICKET. BUT WE ANTICIPATE NO SHIRMISH OR ANYTHING OF THE KIND. I WHO HAVE NO DUTY TO PERFORM ~~EXXN~~ ENJOY PICKETING MUCH MORE ~~XXN~~ THAN BEING IN CAMP, WHERE THE IS EMPLOYED IN DRILLS AND ANSWERING TO THE THOUSAND CALLS FOR THE "ORDERLY" ALL I HAVE TO DO HERE IS TO EAT WHAT THE BOYS BRING IN TO "US OFFICERS" AFTER WE HAVE COOKED IT IN THE MOST EXQUISITE MANNER. TODAY I AM ENDEEVING TO ANSWER SOME LETTERS. I HAVE TOO LONG NEGLECTED. AND YOURS FIRST FOR LETTERS FROM HOME~~X~~ ARE THE DEAREST ONES THAT I GET. IT CAME TO ME JUST AS WE STARTED FROM OUR CAMP ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER OPPOSITE NASHVILLE. AS WE HALTED NOW AND THEN I READ IT BY PIECE MEAL UNTIL I HAD FINISHED IT. MARY WRITES OF MR. TEMPLES" DISSATISFACTION. SHE WOULD NOT THINK IT STRANGE HAD SHE HEARD THE GRUMBLINGS AND SWEARING AMONG THE SOLDIERS THAT I HAVE HEARD. ESPECIALLY SUCH AS I HEARD THE FIRST TWO WEEKS ON OUR CAMPAIGN AFTER BRAGG. TELL EDWARD GATES THAT HE WOULD GET TIRED OF SOLDIERING A GREAT DEAL SOONER THAN OF ANY WORK HE CAN DO ABOUT PT. BYRON LET HIM AND AL BEST TRY IT TWO WEEKS <sup>ON</sup> ~~AND~~ THE MARCH OR SICK IN THE AMBULANCE OR HOSPITAL A FEW DAYS EVEN AND THEY WOULD WISH THEMSELVES HOME AGAIN. WERE I HOME AGAIN I WOULD BE VERY SLOW TO PERFORM THE DUTY IF IT WERE A DUTY OF ENLISTING IN THE ARMY. LET ALBERT NOT THINK THAT HE WILL BETTER HIS CONDITION BY JOINING THE ARMY. JUST TELL HIM THAT I HAVE SEEN THE HARDEST DAYS OF MY LIFE SINCE I LEFT HOME LAST AUGUST. BUT I BELIEVE I AM DOING MY DUTY BUT IT IS A DREADFUL DUTY. TELL HIM OF THE 125th ILL REJEMENT I WAS PERFECTLY ASTONISHED THE OTHER DAY TO HEAR THE FACTS IN REGARD TO IT. THEY ONLY TURNED OUT ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE MEN AT DRESS PARADE! OUR COMPANY WHICH LEFT DIXON WITH ~~88~~ ONE HUNDRED AND TEN MEN HAD ONLY TWELVE OUT AT COMPANY DRILL THAT DAY! OUR REJEMENT LEFT CHICAGO WITH 85 MEN NOW WE CAN MESTER ONLY 5 "" WE DREW SATRINS FOR 83 MEN FOR OUR COMPANY AT CAMP FULLER. NOW I DRAW

ONLY 51 SABIN.? BUT FEW OF OUR MEN HAVE DIED. THE SICKNESS IN CAMP IS WHAT THINS THE RANKS. ~~HOW~~ YOU WOULD BE MUCH INTERESTED IN SEEING THE SICK WINDING THEIR WAY EVERY MORNING WHEN THE SICK CALL IS SOUNDED. DROOPING OVER HANDS IN THEIR POCKETS WITH LONG FACES THE "SICK AND LAZY" MARCH TO THE SURJEAN TENT AT THE TIME OF "JUM ALONG A JOSY" MANY OF OUR BOYS AT FIRST WERE INCLINED TO MAKE SPORT OF THEM AS THEY SLOWLY PASSED BY EVERYDAY ONE IN PARTICULAR ALWAYS WOULD LAUGH AND CRY OUT "THERE GO THE SICK MEN!" I TOLD HIM HE MIGHT SOME DAY DANCE TO THE SAME TUNE HE LITTLE FEARED IT STRONG AND RUGGED AS HE WAS. BUT YESTERDAY ON OUR LITTLE MARCH FROM CAMP HERE HE FELL OUT OF THE RANKS AND HAD NOT COME UP THIS MORNING AT ROLL CALL BEING SICK ON THE MARCH EXPECIALLY IS TO BE DREADED BY SOLDIERS. UP TO A FEW DAYS AGO OUR RJ. HAD THE USUAL NUMBER OF AMBULANCES TWO NOW WEK HAVE FOUR\_ BUT THAT MANY IS NONE TOO MANY. THERE ARE ALWAYS MORE X APPLICANTS. THAN CAN BE ACCONDATED AND ON SUCH A HARD LOT FALLS. MANY A POOR SOLDIERS HEART HAS SUNK WITHIN AS HE LAY BY THE ROAD SIDE REFUSED A RIDE AND UNABLE TO KEEP ALONG WITH HIS REJEMENT AND OFTEN WITH HIS DIVISION TO SAY NOTHING OF HIS BRIGADE. I HAVE SEEN A STOUT HEARTED MAN WEEK AS AFTER EVERY EXERTION HAD FAILED HE LEFT THE RANKS, LEAMED HIS MUSKET AGAINST THE FENCE AND LAY DOWN ONLY TO SEE HIS COMPANY THE SURGEIONS AND REGIMENT AFTER REGIMENT PASS ON CARELESS OF "STRAGGLERS" LET EDWARD GATES OR ALBERT BE PILED UP" IN A FENCE CORNER DOWN ~~AWAY~~<sup>AMONG</sup> THE HILLS OF TENN. AND IF HE DOES NOT WISH HIMSELF AS A FARUS AT HOME WITH PLENTY TO EAT AND PLENTY OF FRIENDS THEN I WILL GIVE YOU MY HAT AND COME HOME ON A FURLOUGH! THERE IS NO FUN IN WAR! MOTHER HOPES I "WILL FIND BETTER QUARTERS IN NASHVILLE" COMPARED WITH OUR LIFE DURING OUR FORTY DAYS CAMPAIGN WE LIVE AT HOME NOW IN OUR TENTS WITH LITTLE TO DO AND ENOUGH TO EAT AND VARIETY ENOUGH TO THOSE WHO HAVE MONEY. WE HAVE HERE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING LITTLE ARTICLES WHICH THE GOVT DOES NOT FURNISH BUT AS A GENERAL THING THE PRICES ARE ENOMOURS. COFFEE SELLS AT 8 SUGAR 5" BAKERS BREAD 111 A LOAF AM PRICE ABOUT SIX INCHES SQUARE! EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE SAME PROPORTIONS BUTTER 75x! I SUPPOSE WHEN THE CARS GET THROU THINGS WILL CHANGE AND PRICES COME DOWN. I UNDERSTAND THAT TODAY THE TRAIN DIRECT FROM LOUISVILLE WILL BE IN. IT CERTAINLY WILL BE SOON FOR THEY HAVE A LARGE FORCE AT WORK ON THE ROAD. THE PRINCIPLE Damage to be repaired is a tunnel the side OF MITCHELVILLE WHICH WAS EXPLODED FULL OF ROCKS BY THE REBELS. I BELIEVE I WAS TOLD THAT THE TUNNEL IS TWO MILES LONG! THIS HAS BEEN THE DELAY IN COMPLETING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN IT AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

SIDENOTE: I DO NOT WANT ANY MORE OF MR. HUGHS BOOTS THOSE I LEFT HOME WITH I GAVE TO COZ ISIAH BEFORE I LEFT CHICAGO THE ARMY SHOES WITH SEWED <sup>BUTTONS</sup> ~~XXXXX~~ ~~BOTTOM~~ ARE THE THING.

THE WEATHER NOW IS DELIGHTFUL THE DAYS ARE CLEAR AND JUST COOL ENOUGH PERFECT SPRING WEATHER. I CANNOT THINK HOWEVER OUR REST AND GOOD WEATHER CAN EXIST TOGETHER. BUT OUR HARDEST MARCHING MUST BE OVERMINE ANYWAY FOR I HAVE LEARNED THE OLD SOLDIER" AND CARRY NO KNAPSACK ONLY AN EXTRA OVERCOAT WHICH IF TOO WARM I SLING OVER MY SHOULDER ON MY SWORD I HAVE NO DOUBT BUT WE SHALL STAY IN OUR PRESENT CAMP SEVERAL DAYS FOR WE MUST HAVE SOME CLOTHING BEFORE WINTER COMES AS FARTHER AND BESIDES THE ENEMY SEEM TO BE NOT A GREAT WAY OFF WE HAD A GRAND FORAGING WXPEDITION IS WEEK WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND HALF OF FRIDAY IT CONSISTED OF FOUR HUNDRED TEAMS OF SIX MILES EACH. WITH A GUARD OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED MEN UNDER COMMAND OF COL. SHERMAN WE STARTED OUT IN A RAIN STORM BUT WERE SO FORTUNATE AS I GET A RIDE TO THE PLACE WHERE THE TEAMS WERE LOADED OUR RIDE THOU IT SAVED OUR FEET FROM INJURY WAS HARD AN OUR BODIES THOSE ARMY WAGONS ARE THE MOST DREADFUL THINGS TO RIDE IN I EVER SAW. MANY TIMES I HAD TO STAND UP GOING OVER THE STORRY PIKES. BUT WE WERE KEPT FREE FROM THE MUD AND RAIN SO THAT WE WERE MUCH PLEASED WITH OUR RIDE WITHAL THE ONLY ACCIDENT THAT HAPPENED ON THE WAY WAS TO THE 85th ILL AN OLD DEAD TREE FELL ACROSS THE ROAD AS THE WAGON CARRYING THEM WERE PASSING KILLING TWO SOLDIERS INSTANTLY AND MORTALLY WOUNDING TWO OTHERS. WE SAW ONE OF THE GUNS ALL BENT UP AS WE RETURNED THE DAY AFTER. THE TEAMS WERE LOADED FROM THE PROPERTY OF AN OLD SICESH WHO IS SAID TO OUR EIGHT SQUARE MILES OF LAND THERE ON THE CUMBERLAND. WE DROVE AHEAD OF US MANY LOGS AND SHEEP AND CATTLE WHICH WE PICKED UP AROUND THE DIGGING THE DAY WE CAME BACK TO CAMP WAS MOST PLEASANT INDEED AND WE ALL ENJOYED THE MARCH VERY MUCH. I PICKED A ~~W~~ SPRIG OF JUINIPER WITH THE LITTLE BLUE BERRIE SET BEAUTIFULLY AMONG THE LEAVES. I MEANT TO SEND IT HOME BUT HAVE LOST IT SINCE. E

SIDENOTES: THIS PAGE I HAVE ADDED SINCE WE RETURNED FROM PICKET CANNOT WRITE MORE NOW

THE CAPTAIN HAD A LETTER FROM GEO. HAZELTON TODAY HE IS QUITE SICK AT BOWLING GREEN HOSPITAL # FOUR HE SAYS HE IS GAINING SLOWLY.

SERG. MEACHAM IS ALONG WITH US TOLERABLY WELL HE EATS TOO MUCH!

TELL FRED TO <sup>SAVE</sup> ~~WAXE~~ SOME OF THESE APPLES UNTIL THE WAR IS OVER BUT I DONT THINK THEY WILL KEEP TWO YEARS!

# 22 cont

SIDENOTESX:

DO AS YOU THINK BEST ABOUT SENDING MY THINGS THERE ARE 250 TURIS OF  
EXPRESS MATTER IN LOUISVILLE FOR THE ARMY BUT DO AS YOU THINK BEST  
THEY WILL MAKE ? ME SOME TIME



I am in Chicago, the average there  
 with regard to the "orderly" I have had  
 are the things of darkness, dim, low, 23-161  
 they are taken at home.  
 good morning, the  
 you are, the night, being, beautiful, darkness,  
 morning, I would like to be at home today,  
 and not away off in a distance as  
 the best out in the world, the water an  
 said to be in line at New York only  
 hours, two miles away, their checks are  
 but a mile from when we are that  
 time, this is the nearest the 8th even  
 than quiet, but we anticipate no  
 shipment or anything of the kind, I,  
 who have no duty to perform, saying in  
 speaking - much more than being in  
 cause, when the time is suitably in  
 drives are answering to the thousands  
 case in the "orderly", I have had to do  
 them in to get what the boys bring in  
 to "in order" after we have covered

It is the most exquisite manner, to day  
I am endeavoring to answer some letters  
I have two long neglected. And yours  
first, for better you have are the several  
our that I got. It came to me just  
as we started from our camp on the  
other side of the river opposite Shoshone.  
On our boats now and then I read it  
by piece-meal until I had finished it.  
There is a great deal of dissatisfaction  
The words not themselves change had the  
beard with glasses and a very long  
the distance that I have heard of  
sect as I heard the just two weeks on  
our Catawpa of the Briggs - see Edward  
hate that he would get tired of  
a great deal from than you can be  
could do about it. I am not sure  
belt bag. It is too narrow and the  
right in the ambulance or hospital  
days now, but they could with  
have again. More I have again, I  
be very slow to perform the duty, - if it

of some matter in  
I should stay in  
I should not think that he will better  
250  
my life. Since I left home last  
But I believe I am doing my  
but it is a dead for duty, but  
The 18th we received, I was  
by returned the other day to hear the  
my part in regard to it. They only turned  
not one hundred and twenty five men  
of their parade. The Company  
left. Six or seven with one hundred and  
the men had only twelve out at  
Company drives that day. One regi-  
ment left Chicago with 8500 men, now  
we have musters only 5700. We draw  
position for 83 men for our company at  
Jeansville, and I draw only 57  
of our men. But few of our men have  
The sickness in camp is  
the route, how comes the  
during the sick nursing

but I don't think they will keep two <sup>men</sup>  
their way. Every morning when the "Sick  
Call" is sounded, Drooping over, Hands  
in their pockets with long faces, the  
"Sick, lame and lazy" march to  
the Surgeon's tent at the time of "Jin  
Along, a joss". Many of our boys  
at first were inclined to make sport  
of them as they slowly passed by every  
day. One in particular always would  
laugh and cry out "There go the Sick men!"  
I told him he might some day dance to  
the same tune. He little feared it <sup>at</sup> strong  
and ruffed as he was. But yesterday  
an our little march from camp he  
he fell out of the ranks and had  
not come up this morning at roll call  
Being Sick on the march especially  
is to be dreaded by Soldiers, up to a few  
days ago our reg. had the usual number  
of ambulances - two - now we have four -  
But that many is none too many. There  
are always more applicants, than can be accom-  
modated and on such a hard lot falls. Many  
a poor Soldier's heart has sunk within him as he  
lay by the road-side - refused a ride - and ~~made~~

minutes!

(12)

to keep along with his regiment and often  
with his division, to say nothing of his bri-  
gade. I have seen a stout hearted man  
wrap as - after every exertion had failed -  
he left the ranks, leaned his musket  
against the fence and lay down only to  
see his company, the Surgeons, and regiment  
after regiment pass on careless of "stragglers".  
Let Edward Galt's or Albert be "piled up" in  
a fence comes down among the hills  
of Tennessee and if he does not wish  
himself as a farmer at home, with plenty  
to eat and plenty of friends then I will  
give you my hat and come home  
as a furlough! - There is no fun in  
war!

Mother hopes I will find better quarters  
in Nashville. Compared with our life  
during our forty days campaign, we live  
at home now in our tents with little  
to do and enough to eat and variety  
enough (to those who have money.) We  
have here an opportunity to buy little

but as a forecast thing the prices are  
 quite ~~low~~ <sup>low</sup>. Copper been at 80". Sugar 50"  
 and Corn 11" a loaf - a piece a cent  
 Six inches square. Every thing else in the  
 same proportion - better 75%! I suppose  
 when the cars get thru things will change  
 prices come down. I understand that ~~to day~~  
 the train direct from Louisville will be  
 in. It contains six or seven. In the  
 train a large price at which we  
 the road. The principal ~~business~~  
 be repaired is a tunnel, this side  
 of Mitchelville which was expected  
 full 3 weeks by the rebels. I believe  
 I was told that the tunnel is two  
 miles long! This day I saw the delay  
 in connecting ~~communication~~ between  
 and the rest of the world.  
 The winter here is delightful, the day  
 was clear and just cool enough  
 first spring weather, I cannot think  
 know our best and first weather  
 to be in ~~our~~ <sup>our</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup> ~~at this time~~  
 - ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup>  
 - ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup>  
 - ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup>  
 - ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup>  
 - ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> ~~country~~ <sup>country</sup> ~~is~~ <sup>is</sup> ~~not~~ <sup>not</sup> ~~at~~ <sup>at</sup> ~~all~~ <sup>all</sup>

Ever said. Many times I had to stand  
up, going over the stony piles. But  
we were kept free from the mud and  
rain. So hot we were much pleased  
with our ride withal. The only accident  
that happened on the way was to  
the 180<sup>th</sup> M. An old dead tree fell  
across the road as the wagon carrying  
them were passing, killing two soldiers  
instantly and mortally wounding two  
others. We saw the axes of the game all  
bent up as we returned this day after.  
The teams were loaded from the  
property of an old Sisseton who is said  
to own eight square miles of land there  
on the Cumberland. We drove ahead  
of us many logs, and sheep, and cattle  
which we piled up around the "dumps".  
The day we came back to camp was  
most pleasant indeed and we all  
enjoyed the march very much. I picked  
up a Sprig of Juniper with the little blue berries  
set beautifully among the leaves. I meant  
to send it home but have lost it since - E

How added since we returned

IN CAMP SEVEN MILES FROM  
NASHVILLE, NOX. 25th1862

DEAR FATHER

I HAVE JUST LEARNED THE PAINFUL FACT THAT ~~W~~BO. BODWELL KAZELTIN IS DEAD. THE SERGANT MAJOR OF OUR REGIMENT HAS RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO THE VARIOUS HOSPITALS WHERE OUR SICK SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN LEFT. HE INFORMS ME HE DIED THE DAY BEFORE HE THE SERGANT ARRIVED AT BOWLING GREEN, WHICH WAS SOMETIME LAST WEEK I HAVE LEARNED NO PARTICULARS AND CAN SAY NO MORE THAN THAT HE WAS GREATLY RESPECTED BY ALL THE BOYS AND THAT THEY LEARN WITH GREAT SORROW THE DEPARTURE OF SO HIGHLY AN ESTEEMED FRIEND. WHEN OTHERS MURMMURED AND COMPLAINED IN THE DUSTY HARD DAYS MARCH HE KEPT ON PERSEVERINGLY WITHOUT ONE WORD OF COMPLAINT. HE WAS EVER KIND AND GENTLEMANLY AND ALWAYS READY TO DO HIS DUTY. WHEN I TOLD LIEUT~~M~~MILLER THAT GEO. HAZELTON WAS DEAD HE REMARKED TO ME THAT "HE WAS THE VERY BEST BOY IN OUR COMPANY" AND ALL ~~E~~STEEMED HIM SUCH. OUR COMPANY WILL MISS A NOBLE SOLDIER FROM THE RANKS AND HIS MEN THE BEST FROM THEIR NUMBER. ANY ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS THAT I MAY LEARN I WILL WRITE IMMEDIATELY IT IS PROBABLE THAT HIS FRIENDS HAVE HEARD OF HIS DECEASE BEFORE THES, BUT I PROMISED TO WRITE THEM OF ANYTHING HAPPENING TO HIM. YOU WILL INFORM THEM OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS IF THEY HAVE NOT HEARD. I SUPPOSE HIS REMAINS COULD BE FOUND AT BOWLING GREEN WITHOUT MUCH DIFFICULTY AS I BELIEVE THE GRAVES ARE MARKED. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GRAVES OF THOSE WHO FELL AT PERRYVILLE WERE ALL MARKED. I CANNOT WRITE MORE NOW FOR THE MAIL GOES OUT SOON. I AM VERY WELL AND REALLY ENJOYING MYSELF. WE HAVE A MESS CHEST NOW IN THE CAPTAINS TENT AND HAVE THE GRATIFICATION OF EATING AND DRINKING FROM NICE WHITE DISHES! THE PROSPECTS ARE THAT WE SHALL LIE HERE A WEEK OR TWO.

EUGENE

In Camp seven miles from  
 Nashville, Nov. 25<sup>th</sup> 1862.

Dear father-

I have just learned the  
 painful fact that Bro. Rodener Hazleton  
 is dead. The Sergeant Major of our Regiment  
 has returned from a visit to the various  
 Hospitals where our Sick Soldiers have been  
 left. He informs me he died the day  
 before he - the Sergeant - arrived at Bowling  
 Green, which was sometime last week.  
 I have learned no particulars and  
 can say no more, than that he was  
 greatly respected by all the boys and  
 that they leave with great sorrow the  
 departure of so highly an esteemed friend.  
 When others murmured and complained  
 in the dusty, hard days march he kept  
 on perseveringly, without one word of com-  
 plaint. He was ever kind and gentle-  
 manly, and always ready to do his  
duty. When I told Lieut. Miller that Bro. Hazle-  
 ton was dead, he remarked to me that "he  
 was the very best boy in our company"  
 And all Esteem him such. Our Company  
 will miss a noble Soldier from the ranks and  
 his men the best from their number.



Any additional particulars that I may  
learn I will write immediately -

It is probable that his friends have  
heard of his decease before this, but I  
promised to write them of anything  
happening to them. I will inform  
them of the contents of this, if they  
have not heard. - I suppose his  
remains could be found at Bowling  
Green without much difficulty, as  
I believe the graves are marked.  
I understand that the graves of those  
who fell at Perryville were all marked.

I cannot write more now for  
the mail goes out soon. I am  
very well, and really enjoying  
my self. We have a new chest  
now in the Captains tent and have  
the gratification of eating and drinking  
from nice white dishes!

The prospects are that we shall  
lie here a week or two.

Eugene -

CAMP OF THE 88th REG. ILL VOI  
DEC. 4th 1862

MY DEAR FATHER

THE ARRIVAL OF A LARGE AMOUNT OF THINGS FROM CHICAGO FOR THE 88th  
LAST EVENING INCLUDES ME TO SEND OFTEN WHATEVER YOU HAVE READY FOR ME.  
YOU I THINK HAD BETTER EXPRESS THE BOX TO JISIAH OR DEARBORN AND LET  
HIM SEND IT ALONG WITH SOME ONE GOING TO THE 88th AS SOME ONE IS GOING  
THERE VERY FREQUENTLY. THE EXPRESS RUIN THROUGH TO NASHVILLE NOW BUT  
HUNDREDS OF ? OF MATTER CANNOT GET THROUGH. I AM IN GREAT NEED OF  
STOCKINGS. BOOTS YOU NEED NOT SEND UNLESS YOU CAN FIT ME. MY HEALTH  
IS GOOD THBU SUFFERING WITH A BAD COLD. SETTLED IN MY HEAD CAUSING  
CONSIDERABLE HEADACHE. THE FIRST SINCE ENTERING THE ARMY. I HAVE PLENTY  
OF TURKEY, CHICKEN, PIG ETC,ETC, TO LIVE UPON NOW SINCE THE BRIGADE  
A MAN FORM OUR COMPANY MESSES WITH US I AM NOT IN WANT OF MONEY AND  
YOU NEED NOT SEND ANY THOU I HAVE NONE. THE CHAPLAIN OWES ME TEN DOLLARS  
AND THE BOYS EIGHT FOR THINGS I HAVE SOLD THEM. THERE IS NOT MUCH  
CHANCE OF AIR BEING PAID OFF AT PRESENT THOU THE 36th ILL IN ON  
BRIGADE GOT THEIR GREEN BACKS TODAY. I SEND A LETTER FOR GEO. B.HAZELTIN  
AND ONE FROM HIM TO CAPT WHICH YOU WILL HAND HIS FOLKS. THE R.I. BOYS  
ARE WELL EXCEPTING HALL WHO IS GETTING A COLD AND SHEPPARD WHO  
HAS BEEN UNDER THE ~~EX~~ WEATHER BUT GETTING FIT FOR DUTY" AS THE SURGEON  
REPORTS IN MY SICK REPORT BOOK. I SEND A SPRIG OF JUNIPEN TO MOTHER  
TO REMEMBER MY THANKSGIVING DAY BY. TELL HER I CANT COME HOME CHRISTMAN  
BUT INTEND TO SPEND THE WINTER "HERE" AT THE "SOUTH"

I AM AFFECTIONATELY YOUR SON

EUGENE

Camp of the 88<sup>th</sup> Reg. Ill. Vol.  
Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> 1862

My dear father

The arrival of a large amount of things from Chicago for the 88<sup>th</sup> last evening induces me to send after whatever you have ready for me. You - I think - had better Express the box to Jewish (or Dearborn) and let him send it along with some one going to the 88<sup>th</sup> as some one is going there very frequently. The Express runs through to Nashville now, but hundreds of tons of matter cannot get through. I am in great need of stockings, Boots you need not send unless you can fit me.

My health is good. I'm suffering with a bad cold, settled in my head causing considerable head ache. The first since entering the army - I have plenty of turkey

chicken, pig, &c. &c. to live about now  
Since the Brigade Major Moster  
(a man from our Company) messes  
with us - I am not in want  
of money and you need not  
send any, tho' I have none.  
The Chaplain owes me ten dollars  
and the boys eight for things  
I have sold them. There is not  
much chance of our being paid  
at present, tho' the 36<sup>th</sup> Ill. of our  
Brigade got their Green Backs today.

I send a letter for Geo. B.  
Wagelton and one from him to Capt  
which you will hand his folks.

The R.I. boys are well - except  
ing Hall who is getting over a cold  
and Sheppard who has been under  
the weather but getting "fit for  
duty" as the Surgeon writes in  
my Sick Report Book.

I send a spring of Jumper  
to mother to remember my  
Thanksgiving day by. Tell her I  
can't come home Christmas, but intend  
to "spend the winter" here at the "Front".  
I am affectionately  
Yours in England

CAMP OF THE 88th ON MILL CREEK  
FIVE MILES FROM NASHVILLE  
SUNDAY DEC. 14th 1862

MY DEAR PARENTS

I HAVE NOT RECEIVED THE USUAL WEEKLY LETTER. THIS LAST WEEK THAT YOU PROBABLY WROTE LAST SUNDAY NOR HAVE I WRITTEN YOU FOR OVER A WEEK. AND I HAVE NOT WRITTEN WITHER BECAUSE I HAVE NOT FOUND TIME OR HAVE NOT TAKEN IT FROM THE BROKEN HOURS OF ALL "ORDERLYS" LIFE. COULD I COLLECT ALL MY SPARE MOMENTS INTO ONE BUNCH I COULD WRITE COLUMNS OF MATTER TO MY FIVE HUNDRED FRIENDS BUT WHEN YOU HAVE TO RUN A HALF A DOZEN TIMES TO DETAIL A MAN FOR THIS AND OTHERS FOR THAT, WHILE WRITING A PAGE OF NOTE PAPER YOU MAY WELL EXCUSE ME FOR PUTTING IT OFF, AND PUTTING IT OFF UNTIL A MORE CONVIENT SEASON. SUNDAYS ARE GENERALLY OCCUPIED IN RECIMMISSANCES OR FRAGING EXPEDITIONS OR REVIEWS AND WHEN THEY ARE NOT SO USED THEY OFFORD THEE ONLY SPARE TIME I HAVE FOR WRITING LETTERS. I DID NOT GO TO HEAR THE CHAPLAIN PREACH THIS AFTERNNNN BECAUSE I DETERMINED TO FINISH A LETTER TO COZ CHARLIE I COMMENCED LAST SUNDAY. I WROTE HER NINE SOLID PAGES LIKE THIS TELLING HER OF MY WANDERINGS AND EXPERIENCES IN THE SUNNY SOUTH. I DO NOT REMEMBER WHEN I WROTE HER BEFORE SINCE I JOINED THIS ARMY. SINCE I WROTE YOU LAST WE HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO MARCH AND HAD THOSE ORDERS COUNTERMANDED SEVERAL TIMES. FIRST CAME THE ORDER ONE NIGHT ABOUT MIDNIGHT TO HAVE THREE DAYS COOKED SATIM IN OUR LAVERSACKS IMMEDIATELY AND BE READY TO MARCH AT A MOMENT NOTICE SO WE WERE UP ALL THAT NIGHT FUSSING AROUND AND IN OBEDIENCE TO "RED TAPE" THE COMPANIES WERE GOT ALL READY TO START AT FIVE OCLOCK AND WAITED AND WAITED UNTIL TEN WHEN WE WERE ORDERED OUT IN BATTALLINES DRILL! SO ENDED THE FORENOON ABOUT TWO THE LONG ROLL WAS SOUNDED AND THE WHOLE REGIMENT AS WELL AS THE REST OF THE BRIGADE WAS DRAWN OUT IN LIVE OF BATTLE IF THE REBELS WERE UPON US. THERE WE RESTED ON OUR ARRUE UNTIL SUNDOWN WHEN ~~IN~~ WE WERE ORDERED BACK TO CAMP. THE OCCASSION OF ALL THIS MOVEMENT WAS PICKET FIRING ARE ALONG OUR LINES DURING THE DAY. THE NEXT DAY WE WERE ON PICKET AND WERE NEARER THE BUTTERNUTS THAN WEK WERE EVER BEFORE FOR ~~WE~~ WE COULD HEAR THEIR DRUMS AND AT NIGHT SEE THE LIGHT OF THEIR FIRES ABOUT A MILE OR TWO OFF. WE EXPECTED AND ATTACK IN THE MORNING AND OF COURSE KEPT A VIGELANT WATCH DURING THE NIGHT. THE DAY WE WENT ON PICKET WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY AND OUR COMPANY WAS GESTED DOWN IN A LITTLE HOLLOW IN A CHARMING GROVE OF BEECH HICKORY WALNUT OAD AND MAPLE TREES. AND AS WE WALKED ALONG

THROUGH THE THICKLY FALLEN HEAVES. I ~~COULD~~ <sup>COULD</sup> NOT BUT THINK OF MRS. KENNANS  
"SEPT. DAYS" AND SPECIALLY OF "HEAPED IN THE HOLLOW OF THE GREENS  
THE WITHERING LEAVES LIE DEAD, WHICH NESTLE TO THE EDDYING GUST, OR  
TO THE RABBITS MAD" IN SUCH A CONCEALED PLACE WE WERE ALLOWED FIRES  
DURUID DAY AND NIGHT AND A NEIGHBORING FENCE SUPPLIED US WITH RAILS.  
SO THERE WE SPENT THE DAY READING, WRITING EATING OR COOKING. THE  
GREAT ABUNDANCE OF NUTS HERE IS A FINE THING FOR US SOLDIER AND THE DRY  
WRATHES HOLDING IN SO LONG THEY DO NOT SPOIL BY THE EXPOSURE. WHEN I  
FEEL LIKE TAKING A "CRACK" I SO NOT "OF COURSE" GO TO THE GARRET AND  
HELP MYSELF FROM THE BARREL OR TO THE WOODHOUSE, BUT ONLY STEP A LITTLE  
OUTSIDE OF THE CAMP LINES AND PICK THEM FROM THE GROUND ALL DAY AND  
NICE. SO IN POKET THE PRINCIPAL THING WE DO IS TO EAT. IN FACT THIS  
MAY BE EARNED THE PRINCIPAL EMPLOYMENT OF THE SOLDIER! I WISH YOU COULD  
HAVE HEARD OUR HEARTY LAUGHTER WHEN A LITTLE DUTCHMAN STRAT AS A  
SAW ROD AND FULL OF SELF CONDIDENCE WENT TO DRILLING TWO MEN IN  
THE MANNER OF ARMS <sup>TO</sup> HE HEAR HIM SAY "SHOULDER ARMS! IN HIS SHORT GENUS  
ACCENT THE PERFORMANCE WAS MOST CRITICAL I ASSURE YOU HAVE LAY ON THE  
LEAVES AND LAUGHED ALMOST LOUD ENOUGH TO BE HEARD IN THE REBEL CAMP.  
THE 27th ILL RELIEVED US AND FROM THEM I LEARNED THAT THEY WERE IN THE  
SAME BRIGADE AS THE 51st AND THAT THERE CAMP WAS JUST ACROSS THE ROAD  
FROM OUR ENCAMPMENT. SO WHEN WE RETURNED TO OUR NEW CAMP FOR EVERYTHING  
HAD BEEN CHANGED WHILE WE WERE AWAY I STARTED OFF AND VISITED THE 51st  
WHO SHOULD I FIRST SEE BUT HENRY MUT? HE LOOKS NOT THE SAME SQUARE  
STUNK HE WAS AT PR. BYRON BUT MUCH THINNER STILL HE LOOKS HEALTHY EXCEPTION  
HIS EYES ARE QUITE SORE. MRS DAY ALSO IS TROUBLED WITH SORE EYES  
LIENT. WHITMAN TOOK ME INTO HIS TENT WHERE MR. COLE NOW ~~EXT~~ ACTING LIENT  
WAS I HAD A VERY PLEASANT TIME WHILE I STAYED. LEWIS GENNING HAS BEEN  
SICK AND DEES NOT LOOK STRONG TET. MILLARD BOWKES HAS GROWN TO BE A  
HANDSOME YOUNG MAN. JAMES SHEPPARD LOOKS MARCELLUS M. WAS OFF  
TO TOWN BUT CALLED OUR TODAY AND I HAD A LONG TALK WITH HIM. ALLEN  
GRAY A CLASSMATE OF MINE AT EVANSTON IS COMMISSARY SEGEANT IN THE 51st  
HE CALLED TO SEE ME DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY. HE IS THE SAME JOLLY BUT  
HAS LOST ALL THE EARNEST RELIGION HE HAD AT COLLEGE. I REMEMBER HOW HE  
USED TO BE EVER READY TO START TUNES. SUCH AS "THERE'LL BE NO MORE SORROW  
THER ETC. IN PROFESSOR NEYES CLASS meeting he says he got along very  
WELL DURING THE THREE MONTHS SERVICE BUT SINCE THEN HE HAS HAD SUCH  
AN INCLINATION TO SWEAR AND STEAL AS ALL SOLDIERS HAVE THAT HE HAS  
GOT OVER IT ALL. HE SAYS OF JAMES MILNER THAT HE WILL GET EVER SO JOLLY

now and then and that omen foster is very noisy now and then. i am sorry FOR JIM MILNER. HE WAS A VERY SMART YOUNG MAN AND WHILE I BOARDED WITH HIM I LEARNED TO LOVE HIM. HIS PARENTS MUST FEEL VERY BAD FOR THEY WERE SO GLAD THAT HE HAD AS HE DID AT ONE OF THE CHICGO CAMP MEETINGS. IT IS STRANGE TO THINK HOW CARELESS MEN WILL GET IN THE ARMY. THE CHAPLAIN ONLY HAD TWO OR THREE DOZEN MEN TO LISTEN TO HIS SERMON TODAY. HE IS NOT VERY INTERESTING IN HIS SERMONS AND THEN THE COLONEL TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SNUBB HIM. MR. THOMAS HAD A HARD TIME OF IT AMONG THE SET OF OFFICERS AT THE HEAD OF THE REJEMENT. AN COL. DRINKS A GREAT DEAL BUT NOT WITHSTANDING THIS AND MANY OTHER OBJECTIONABLE CHARACTERISTICS ABOUT HIM HE UNDERSTANDS HIS BUSINESS PRETTY WELL. HE IS A GOOD DEAL LIKE CAPT. DODGE IN MANY RESPECTS. NO ONE SPEAKS TO PRAISE HIM BUT TO USE HIS OWN LANGUAGE OF HIMSELF WHICH I OVERHEARD HE HAS CURSED TO H\_L A DOZEN TIMES BY EVERY MAN IN THE REGIMENT STILL ALL PLACE A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE IN HIM. FOR INSTANCE HE HAD BEEN GONE A SHORT TIME AGO ON A COURT MARTIAL ABOUT A WEEK AND LEFT THE LIENT AND COL IN COMMAND BUT HE BEING UNACCUSTUMED TO COMMAND MADE A GREAT MANY FOLKS. AND THE MEN REALLY CHEERED AND SPRUNG TO THEIR ARMS WITH A BOUND WHERE THE OLD FANATIAN VOICE OF THE COL CALLED US TO ATTENTION ON HIS RETURN WHEN WE WERE IN LIVE ONE DAY. YOU DOUBTLESS HAV HEARD OR READ IN THE PAPERS OF ROSECRANS ARMY BEING PROVIDED WITH SHELTER TENTS YOU KNOW WE NOW HAVE THESE LARGE COMMODIAN SIBLEY TENTS SHAPED LIKE FIGURE I ABOUT TWELVE FEET HIGH AND TWENTY FEET IN DIAMETER ACROSS THE BASE CAPAPABLE OF HOLDING TWENTY MEN THEY ARE WARM AND SHED THE WATER WELL. THE SHELTER TENT REPRESENTED BY FIGURE II ARE MADE BY BUTTANCING TWO PIECES OF COMMON FACTORY CLOTH TOGETHER AT THE TOP AND PINNED TO THE GROUND AT THE SIDES WITH A POLE UPRIGHT AT EACH END. HELD OF GOU FASTENED BY PINS THESE TENTS ARE VERY SMALL OPENED AT EACH END BUT MADE SO THAT MORE THAN ONE TENT CAM BE BUTTONED TOGETHER AT THE ENDS. IT IS CALCULATED FOR A MAN TO CARRY ONE HALF OF A TENT APIECE OF CLOTH ABOUT FOUR FEET BY SIX AND THAT TWO MEN SHALL SLEEP IN A TENT MADE OF THE TWO PIECES.

# 25 (4)

NOW ALMOST USELESS SUCH SHELTERS WILL BE IN A RAIN OR IN COLD WEATHER YOU CAN JUDGE. THE WHOLE ARMY SO FAR AS WE CAN HEAR HAVE DECIDED THEY WILL NOT HAVE SUCH THINGS IN SHORT REFUSE TO TAKE THEM AND SAY THEY WILL NOT GIVE UP THERE SIBLEYS. OUR BRIGADE HAS SO DECIDED so HAS THE ONE IN WHICH IS THE 51st ILL. YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO HEAR OUR STATE BRIGADE SHOUT AND SCREAM OUT "FALL IN FOR YOUR DOG HOUSES" one evening WHEN THEY WERE BROUGHT TO US AND ONE WAS PITCHED IN <sup>FRONT</sup> ~~PART~~ OF THE COLS HEAD QUARTERS. THE LITTLE MISERABLE THINGS GO BY THE NAME OF "DOG HOUSES" EVERYWHERE HERE AMONG THE SOLDIERS. I KNOW NOT HOW THE TENT QUESTION WILL TURN OUT WHETHER WE SHALL BE FORCED TO TAKE THEM AND GIVE UP THESE OR NOT. GEN. HALLECK. I BELIEVE ORDERED ~~THEM~~ THEM FOR THE ARMY. THEY WOULD CERTAINLY SAVE BAGGAGE TRAINS, BUT THE SOLDIERS HAVE ENOUGH LOAD NOW TO CARRY ON THEIR BACKS. THEY CARRY THEIR BED AND BOARD MUST THEY ALSO CARRY THEIR HOUSES TO LIVE IN? IN ANY EVENT I SHALL BE ALL RIGHT FOR THE OFFICERS CAN HAVE A WALL TENTS ALL OF THE SQUARE ONES AS YOU SEE OF THE PICTURES LIKE THE DIAGRAM IN THIS CONER. MONDAY EVENING I WISH YOU COULD LOOK IN UPON US NOW JUST AS WE ARE. THE RAIN IS PATTERNING IN THE TENT AND GOES "DRIP, DRIP OUT DOORS IT BEGAN AT TWO OCLOCK WHEN WE WERE FALLING IN THE COMPANY FOR BRIGADE DRILL BUT THE COL CAME AROUND AND TOLD US TO DISMISS THE COMPANY" WHEN WITH A SHOUT THE BOYS RAN INTO THEIR TENTS. I WONDER IF I ~~EXXX~~ CAN GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF OUR CIRCUMSTANCES! NOW LOOK AT THE DRAWING #I IS THE DOOR OF THE TENT WHERE THE WATER DRIPS IN A LITTLE. # II IS THE MESS CHEST WITH COVER OPINING TOWARD # IO THE ANTREPOLE ON THE CHEST ARE OUR DISHES BEING WASHED BY THE COOK (A MAN FROM OUR COMPANY) WHO ~~SITS~~ SITS AT #VI # IV IS WHERE LIENT. MILLER SITS READING "THE INDEPENDENT" # V IS WHERE JOHNSTON BRIGADE FRAGEMASTERS (OR THIEF AS WE CALL HIM) SITS TALKING WITH LIENT. BALL #VIII THAT SQUARE SPOT IS OUR FIRE PLACE MADE BY DIGGING A HOLE IN THE GROUND AND COVERING THE DITCH WHICH RUNS OUTSIDE WITH FLAT ST? AND A HOLLOW LOG FOR A CHIMMEY. AT #IX CAPT SPALDING SITS LOOKING OVER HIS VALISE #VII IS WHERE THE NIGGER (SCOTT" ABOUT 14 YEARS OLD) WAS FUSSING ABOUT WHEN I DREW THE DIAGRAM HE NOW IS POUNDING COFFEE ON THE HEARTH STOVE IN A BAG FOR BREAKFAST. UNDER THE EDGE OF THE TENT BEHIND IV IS OUR STRAW (LIENT. MS AND MINE) AND WHERE WE SLEEP AFTER SPREADING IT OUT. WE ARE JUST OF A HIGHT



# 25 (5) CONT.

AND ? 21 YEARS OF AGE AND WITHAL ARE VERY COMPAN? WE ASSUM!  
I WAS VERY MUCH PLEASED TO RECIEVE YOUR LETTER OF LAST SUNDAY ENCLOSED  
I FOUND \$2.00 AND POSTAGE STAMPS BOTH WILL COME VERY HANDY. IT SEEMS  
VERY STRANGE for you to be talking of cold weather and everything  
FROZEN UP SKATING ETC FOR HERE WE HAVE HAD NO REAL COLD SPELLS YET.  
I HAVE NOT REALLY NEEDED MITTENS OR ANYTHING YOU CAN SEND UNLESS IT  
BE STOCKINGS. THEY ARE VERY SCARCE INDEED. IF WE DO NOT GET A SUPPLY  
SOON FROM UNCLE SAM WE SHALL ALL HAVE TO GO WITHOUT EXCEPTING THE FEW  
WHO ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET SOME EXPRESSED FROM HOME. THE CAPT GAVE  
ME TWO PAIRS OF COTTON SOCKS TONIGHT WHICH WILL BE SUFFICIENT FOR ME  
FOR MANY WEEKS. COULD YOU SEND MY THINGS BY SOME ONE COMING TO THE 88th  
FROM CHICAGO. I WOULD GET THEM NOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN HERE SO LONG,  
IF THEY WERE EXPRESSED TO NASHVILLE WE MIGHT BE GONE SO AS NEVER TO  
GET THEM. YES I "CAN BUY THINGS" HERE BUT AT ENOMOURS PRICES FOR INSTANCE  
A GOOD PAIR OF BOOTS COST FROM \$8. to \$14. DOWN HERE, THOU I GOT ME A  
VERY GOOD PAIR BY CHANCE FOR \$7.00 THIS AFTERNOON.  
ALBERT MUST TRY AND STUDY LESSON? THOUROUGHLY I SHOULD LOVE TO NOW  
FOR IT ~~TRM~~ TELLS SO MUCH HOW WARS WERE CARRIED ON IN CAESARS DAY AND  
HE CAN COMPARE THEM WITH MODERN MODES. NOW MUCH WE ALL HAVE LEARNED  
SINCE THE "DOGS OF WAR" WERE LET SLIP AT SUMPTER!  
I REJOICE WITH ALBERT THAT "HE HAS PLANED HIS LAST FURROW" AND I BELIEVE  
YOU ALL WILL REJOICE WITH ME WHEN I HAVE FOUGHT MY LAST BATTLE AND NO  
SOUND SHALL AWAKE ME TO GLORY AGAIN." I THINK IT IS VERY DOUBTFUL ABOUT  
LIENT. WHITON AND "SELL" METZGAR GOING HOME AT CHRISTMAS. IT IS NO  
EASY THING TO GET ~~WXX~~ AWAY WITHOUT TALKING ? LEAVE NOW HAVE THEY SAID  
ANYTHING TO ME ABOUT IT I AM NOT COMING THEN NOR SHALL I TRY FOR IT  
IS NO USE. I DO NOT KNOW BUT I SAW MR. ALEXANDER IN NASHVILLE WHEN  
WE PASSED THROU THERE FOR I SAW A CINUTENANCE ON THE STREET WHICH LOOKED  
LIKE HIS THOU THINNNER. I DID NOT SPEAK FOR I WAS NOT CERTAIN ABOUT HIM.  
TELL FRED THAT THE "BATTLE OF CRNSTALKS" OF WHICH MARY SPEAKS IN HER  
LETTERS TWO WEEKS AGO BRINGS TO MIND THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE WHERE WE  
FIRED AT A CORNFIELD FULL OF REBELS THOU WE COULD NOT WEE THEM. OFTEN  
THE BATTLE WAS OVER THAT EVENING I WENT ~~TX~~ INTO THE FIELD A FEW STEPS  
AND ON LOKKING AT A COUPLE OF STALKS BY MYSIDE. I FOUND THAT EACH HAD  
BEEN RIDDLED BY OUR MUSKET BALLS. TELL HIM I GUESS I WAS IN THE GREATEST  
BATTLE! I HOPE I SHALL NEVER SEE ANOTHER SUCH A ONE. STILL SOMETIMES I  
ALMOST LONG FOR A FIGHT. IF IT DOES COME I SHALL TRY HARD TO DO MY DUTY.

# 25 (6)

THE R.I. BOYS ARE ALL WELL. SGT. MEACHAEM IS VERY ELESY NOW HE EATS  
TOO MUCH AND BEGINES TO HE WILL GET SICK WITH A FEVER. I AM FATTING  
UP FAST BUT AM VERY CAREFUL OF MY DIET AND SHALL TO HARD TO KEEP IN  
GOOD HEALTH. I PURPOSE TO WRITE TO MY SUNDAY SCHOOL SOON IF POSSIBLE.  
I DO NOT FORGET THOSE DEAR ?

TRULY EUGENE

My dear friends,  
I have not received  
the usual weekly letter this last week  
that you probably wrote last Sunday,  
nor have I written you for over a week.  
And I have not written either because I  
have not found time or have not felt  
it from the broken hours of an orderly  
life. Could I collect all my spare moments  
into one bunch I could write volumes  
of matter to my five hundred friends but  
what I have to own a half a dozen  
times to detail a man for this and others  
for that, while writing a page of note paper  
you may well excuse me for putting  
it off, and getting it off until a more conven-  
ient season. Sundays are generally occupied  
in recitations or fraying expeditions or  
reviews and when they are not so used  
they afford the only spare time I have for  
writing letters. I did not go to hear the  
Chaplain preach this forenoon because I  
determined to finish a letter to Cr. Charles  
I commenced last Sunday. I wrote her  
nine solid pages before this telling her of  
my wanderings and experiences in the  
Sunny South. I do not remember when  
I wrote her before since I joined the

The N. O. boys are all well. I get Meacham is very healthy now. He got too much, and begins to get sick. I am getting up fast but am very careful of my diet and

My dear friends,  
I have not received  
the usual weekly letter this last week  
that you probably wrote last Sunday,  
nor have I written you for over a week.  
And I have not written either because I  
have not found time or have not felt  
it from the broken hours of an orderly  
life. Could I collect all my spare moments  
into one bunch I could write volumes  
of matter to my five hundred friends but  
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ordered to march and had their order soon-  
terminated several times, till came the order  
one night about midnight to have their days  
cooked cabins in one hour's notice immediately  
and be ready to march at a moment's notice  
So we were up all that night "singing  
around" and in obedience to "red tape" the  
Company were got all ready to start at  
five o'clock and waited and waited and  
then when we were ordered out no battalion  
drill, to enter the morning. - About two  
the long were was sounded and the whole  
movement as well as the rest of the brigade  
was drawn out in line of battle for  
? the orders were before us, then we met  
an our arms with confusion when we  
were ordered back to camp; the reason  
? all this movement was picked firing all  
along our line during the day. - The  
next day we were on picket and were  
near the bottom of the river we were  
seen by one of our men near their  
drums and at night like the light of  
their fire about a mile or two off. We  
expected an attack in the morning and  
? came kept a rigid watch during  
the night. The day we went to picket  
a beautiful day and our company was  
? a day in a little distance in a  
? distance from the front, but they were

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along through the thick green leaves &  
could not but think of Sepatan days' and  
"Sepatan days" and "specialty" of  
"No paper in the bottom of the grass,  
the withering leaves lie dead,  
Which make the Eddy's quest,  
Or to the rabbit trace."

In short a concealed place, we were  
allowed five during day and night  
and a nighting fence supposed  
us with said, so then we spend the day  
reading, writing, eating or working.  
The great abundance of nuts here is a  
fine thing, for in order and, the day  
works leading in or long, they do not  
spoil by the exposure. When I feel like  
taking a "break" I do not "curse" so  
to the guard and help myself from the  
trunk or to the warehouse, but only  
step a little outside of the camp line  
and pick them from the ground, all day  
and nice. So in picked the principles  
thing we do is to eat, I'm just this  
may be called the principle of eating.  
I wish you could have heard  
our hearts flourish, when a little  
detachment, that is a new one, and full  
of any confidence, and to drinking the  
new of the substance & new.

(4)  
say "shouldn't you!" in his short humor  
account. The performance was most comical  
I assure you, ~~we~~ lay on the leaves  
and laughed almost loud enough  
to be heard in the rebel camp.

The 27<sup>th</sup> Ill. relieved us and from  
them I learned that they were in the  
same brigade as the 51<sup>st</sup> and that  
their camp was just across the road  
from our encampment. So when we  
returned to our new camp (for every-  
thing had been changed while we were  
away) I started off and visited the 51<sup>st</sup>.  
Who should I first see but Henry Wood?  
He looks not the same square & round  
he was at Ft. Pryor, but much thinner  
still he looks healthy excepting his  
eyes are quite sore. Mr. Day also is  
troubled with sore eyes. Linn Whitson took  
me into his tent where Mr. Cole, now called  
Linn, - was. I had a very pleasant time  
while I stayed. Linn's Henry has been  
sick and does not look strong yet.  
Mileard Butler has grown to be a hand-  
some young man. James Sheppard looks  
well. Marcellus W. was off to town, but  
called over today and I had a long talk  
with him. Allen Gray a classmate of mine  
at Evanston is Commissary de part in the 51<sup>st</sup>.  
- he called to see me day before yesterday.  
He is the same jolly Gray but has lost all  
the earnest religion he had at college.

(5)  
I remember how he used to be ever ready  
to start times, such as "There'll be no more  
sorrow there &c", in Professor Ayer's class meeting  
He says he got along very well during  
the three month service but since then he  
has had such an inclination to swear  
and steal (as all soldiers do) that he  
has got over it all. He says of James  
Milner that he will get ever so jolly  
now and then and "That Omei" Fortes  
is very noisy now and then. I am sorry  
for Jim Milner. He was a very small  
young man and while I boarded  
with him I learned to love him. His  
parents must feel very bad, for they  
were so glad that he had gotten  
as he did at one of the Chicago  
Camp Meetings. It is strange to think  
how careless men will get in the  
army. The Chaplain only had two or  
three dozen men to listen to his sermon  
today. He is not very interesting in  
his sermons and then, the Colonel takes  
every opportunity to snub him. Mr. Thomas  
had a hard time of it among the set  
of officers at the head of the regiment.  
The Col. dislikes a great deal, but notwithstand-  
ing this and many other objectionable  
characteristics about him, he understands  
his business pretty well. He is a good  
deal like Capt. Dodge in many respects.

No one speaks to praise him - but to use his  
 own language of humility (which I overheard)  
 he has been coming to be a danger to me  
 by my own in the regiment, "Stie will  
 please a great deal of confidence in  
 him, for instance; he has been given a  
 short time ago on a great number  
 about a week and left the field; Col.  
 in command; but he being unaccounted  
 to command made a great many belts,  
 and the men rally cheered and sprung  
 to their arms with a shout when the old  
 Janitor & voice of the Col. called as  
 to "attention", he returns when we  
 were in line one day.

You doubtless have heard or read in  
 the papers of Ben Crow's army being provided  
 with sheets tent. You know we now have  
 three large, common sibly tents shaped



like figure (1) about twelve  
 feet high and twenty feet  
 in diameter across the base.

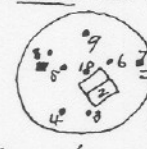
Copied etc I had been turning over. They are  
 warm and shed the water well. The sheets  
 tent supports are by figure (2) are made  
 by fastening two pieces of canvas or heavy  
 cloth together at the top and pinned to  
 the ground at the sides, with a pole  
 upright at each end held by guy ropes  
 fastened by pins. These tent are very  
 small, appear at each end, but make

so that more than one tent can be fastened  
 together at the ends, it is calculated for  
 a man to carry one half of a tent - of course  
 of cloth about four feet by six - and the  
 two men share each in a tent made of  
 the two pieces. No one doubts either with sheets  
 will be in a rain or in cold weather you  
 can judge. The whole army so far as we  
 can hear has decided they will not  
 have such things - in short agree to have  
 them and say they will not give up  
 the sibles, Ben brigade has so decided -  
 so has the one in which is the 51st 111.

You would have been pleased to hear  
 our other brigade shout and cheer out  
 "fall in for your 'dog houses'" one evening  
 when they were brought to us and we are  
 pitched in front of the Col's head quarters, the  
 little, miniature things so to the name of "dog  
 houses" every where here among the soldiers. I  
 know not how the tent question will turn  
 out - whether we shall be forced to have  
 them and give up those so not, but, No doubt, I  
 believe ordered them for the army. They would  
 certainly seem to be a good thing, but the  
 soldiers have enough to do now to carry  
 on their backs. They carry their bed and  
 board - Must they also carry their money  
 to him in? Do any soldier I know to be  
 useful for the officer can have a worse tent  
 one of the 51st than you see. The  
 in picture like the diagram in this case =

are by the 51st than you see. The  
 in picture like the diagram in this case =

-Monday Evening- I wish you could look in upon us now just as we are. The rain is pattering on the tent - and goes "drip, drip" at doors. It began at two o'clock when we were falling in the company for brigade duty, but the col. came around and told us to "dismiss the company", when, with a shout, the boys ran into their tents. I wonder if I can give you an idea of our circumstances. Now look at the drawing. No. (1) is the door of the tent where the water drips in a little, No. (2) is the mess chest with corn spicing toward No. (10) the center pole. On the chest are our dishes being washed by the cook (a man from our company) who sits at No. (6). No. (4) is where Lieut. Miller sits reading "The Independent". No. (5) is where Johnston - brigade quartermaster (or thief as we call him) - sits talking with Lieut. Ball (No. (8)). That square spot is our fire place, made by digging a hole in the ground and covering the ditch, which runs out side, with flat stones, and a hollow log for a chimney. At No. (9) Capt. Spalding sits looking over his valise. No. (7) is where the nigger "Scott", about 14 years old was "fussing" about when I drew the diagram he now is foundering coffee on the hearth stones in a bag, for breakfast. Under the edge of the tent behind (4) is our straw (Lieut. Mc Mine) and when we sleep after spreading it out. We are just of a height and both 21 years of age - and withal are very confidential companions.





(9)  
I was very much pleased to receive your  
letter of last Sunday - Enclosed I found  
\$2.00. and postage stamps - both will come  
very handy. - It seems very strange for  
you to be talking of cold weather and  
everything frozen up - skating &c; for here we  
have had no real cold spells yet. I have  
not really needed mittens or anything you  
can send unless it be stockings. They are  
very scarce indeed. If we do not get a ship  
ply soon from Uncle Sam we shall all have  
to go without excepting the few who are lucky  
enough to get some expressed from home. The  
capt. gave me two pairs of Cotton Socks  
tonight which will be sufficient for me  
for many weeks. Could you send my things  
by some one coming to the 88<sup>th</sup> from Chicago  
I would get them. Now that we have been  
here so long, if they were expressed to Washville  
we might be gone so as never to get them.

Yes, I can buy things here but at enormous  
prices; for instance, a good pair of boots  
cost from \$8. to \$14, down here, tho' I got  
Mr a very good pair, by chance, for \$7.  
this afternoon.

Albert must try and study Caesar  
thoroughly - I should like to now, for it tells  
so much how wars were carried on in  
Caesar's day and he can compare them with  
modern modes. How much we all have learned  
since the "days of war" were let slip at Sampten!

I rejoice with Albert that "he has plowed his  
last furrow" and I believe ~~you~~ all will  
rejoice with me, when I have fought my  
last battle and no sound shall awake  
me to glory again. -

I think it is very doubtful about Lieut.  
Whitson and "Seri" Metzger going home at  
Christmas. It is no easy thing to get  
away without taking French leave. Now  
had they said anything to me about it,  
I am not coming there nor shall I try  
for it is no use. - I do not know but  
I saw Mr. Alexander in Nashville when  
we passed thro' there, for I saw a counte-  
nance in the street which looked like  
his tho' thinner, I did not speak, for  
I was not certain about him. -

Tell Fred. that the "battle of Cani-  
stota" of which Mary speaks in her  
letter two weeks ago, brings to mind  
the battle of Perryville when we fired  
at a confused full of rebels, tho' we  
could not see them. After the battle  
was over that evening I went into the  
field a few steps and on looking at  
a couple of staves by my side I found  
that each had been riddled by our  
musket balls. Tell him I guess I was in the  
greatest battle! I hope I shall never see  
another such a one. Still sometimes I  
almost long ~~for~~ for a fight. If it does  
come I shall try hard to do my duty.

# 26 HIS LAST LETTER.

CAMP OF 88th ILL VOL 8 MILES  
NORTH OF MURFRESBORO DEC. 28th  
SUNDAY 3PM

DEAR FOLKS

WE MOVED DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY FROM CAMP IN MILL CREEK AND ARRIVED HERE YESTERDAY IN AN AWFUL RAIN. WE TRAVELED THE DAY BEFORE WHILE THE WATER CAME DOWN IN TORRENTS AND THE BOYS WERE YELLING LIKE MAD DOGS SOME IN FACT BARKING. SOME GIVING THE USUAL ORDER IN BATTLE "LIE DOWN" ALL EXCEEDING LY MERRY. BUT IT CLEARED OFF LAST NIGHT AND THE WEATHER IS BEAUTIFUL TODAY. WE REACHED HERE WITH ONLY A FEW SHIRIMISHES WITH THE ENEMYS AND PORTS. FRIDAY LAST 13 KILLED AND WOUNDED. 3 KILLED AN MEN OF COURSE "THEY SAY" THE REBS LAST MORE I DONT KNOW WHETHER WE SHALL HAVE A FIGHT OR NOT YOU CAN JUDGE AS WELL AS I. THE ENEMY IS HERE AND MAY MAKE A STAND I BELIEVE ALL WILL BE WELL WITH ME.

WE ARE IN A LAND OF PLENTY YOU WOULD JUDGE SO COULD YOU SEE THE LOADS OF NICE HOUSES. MUTTON, PUQLTRY, FLOUR MEAL AND TOBACOO THAT HAS BEEN COMING IN, IN A PERFECT STREAM. TALK OF THE REBELS STARVING! WHEN THE PLANTERS CELLARS ARE STUFFED FULL OF PROVISIONS FOR THE ARMY WE CANNOT STARVE THEM OUT AND I BEGIN TO THINK WE CANT WHIP THEM. THEY CAN HOLD OUT AS LONG AS WE. THEY NEED ONLY HALF OUR FORCE TO HOLD THE HILL, AND STRONG POSITIONS ALL ALONG THEIR BORDERS. THIS ~~THE~~ IS THE OPIONION OF THE SOLDIERS AND WILL ~~BE~~ BE MINE EVE LONG I BELIEVE! LIENT. WX MUTSON IS CAPT NOW. I CALLED ON HIM LAST NIGHT. WRITE OFTEN I LOVE TO READ YOUR LETTERS.

I AM TRULY EUGENE

SIDENOTE" LIENT. BACE HAS HANDED IN HIS RESIGNATION HE CANNOT STAND THE SERVICE. IF ANYTHING OCCURS OF IMPORTANCE I WILL WRITE IMMEDIATELY IF NOT WHEN I GET A CHANCE.

HE DIED AT THE BATTLE OF STONE RIVER DEC.31,1862.

of any thing seen or heard of the  
of our men, of their horses & pack animals.  
In some of the same  
of our men, of their horses & pack animals.

No 211

Camp of 88<sup>th</sup> Ill. Vol. 8 miles

North of Memphis Tenn. Dec 28<sup>th</sup>

Sunday - 30<sup>th</sup> Dec

Dear folks

We moved day before  
yesterday from Camp on Mill Creek  
and arrived here yesterday in an  
awful rain. We tramped the day  
before while the water came down  
torrents and the boys were yelling  
like mad dogs. Some in fact barking  
ing. Some giving the usual order  
in battle "lie down" all evening  
by men. But it cleared off  
last night and the weather is  
beautiful today. We reached here  
with only a few skirmishes with the  
Enemy's out posts. Friday, lost 13 killed  
& wounded. 3 killed - our men  
of course. They say the rebels lost more.  
I don't know whether we shall

have a fight or not - you can judge  
as well as I. The Quincy is here &  
may make a stand - I believe you  
will be well with me.

We are in a land of plenty  
you would judge so, could you  
see the loads of rice, ~~hides~~ ~~meat~~  
poultry, flour, meal and tobacco that  
has been coming in, in a perfect stream  
Tide of the whole steaming! when the  
planters' fellows are stuffed full of  
provisions for the army - We cannot  
stave them out, and I begin to  
think we can't whip them. They can  
hold out as long as we. They need  
only lay our force to hold the hills  
and strong positions all along the  
border. This is the opinion of the  
Soldiers and will be mine ever  
long, I believe! - Link Whitson is Capt  
now. I called on him last night.  
write often & I hope to read your  
letters. I am truly  
Cousin

Saturday, Nov. 9<sup>th</sup>, 1863  
 The Commissioning  
 train for both  
 to not schedule  
 this morning  
 so I will send  
 you in the big  
 written letter,  
 it will come  
 you know  
 of my good  
 health and  
 left arrival in  
 charitably of the  
 party, hardly  
 through a hard  
 morning. I am  
 not long away I  
 can write you  
 from here. Be  
 sure you send  
 my regards to all  
 my folks when we see  
 each other. I will write you  
 soon.

My dear folks at home -

No. 29 -

night before last after a

nice, little march of twenty three miles, as we  
 lay around our camp five byon the Captains  
 tent, the ~~little~~ post-master, a bright boy, they call  
 "Charlie", handed a little bunch of letters  
 for "Company II" to the Captain. I merely  
 glanced up from the pan cakes I was frying -  
 and buttering!! as fast as I could, for I could not  
 believe one for me was among the six or  
 eight he had. But when Sergeant Lynde's  
 name was called, you better believe my  
 knife dropped and my fingers extended  
 in a twinkling, to catch the letter as he  
 threw it at me! - Many, you discuss very  
 safely on the topic of the day, I believe that  
 was about the most desirable of your letters  
 to me. Your opinion of old Bull is the  
 same as all of us hold, As we have seen

him and his long train of Cavalry-men pass  
us, we always thought him an "old foggy"  
as well as a old granny - and thought it not  
strange if he was a traitor at heart!  
The story goes among the boys that at  
the hospital when the wounded were  
left at Perryville one of our men asked a  
what what kind of a general, Buller was.  
He wanted to know "what Buller", for he  
Buller commanded their army. Some of the  
men say it is their belief that the R. R. of  
P. was an agreement between the two generals.  
Buller and Bragg - at least a sham fight -  
but many brave men and some brave  
commander fought with Terrible earnestness  
and found a patriot's grave. How eagerly and  
The 88th Laor followed the rebels up that very  
night for twenty miles, and how easily and  
we have done our part in outtrapping the whole  
Army of Bragg! Then, shame on the Fudgers &  
Buller in advising the going to camp and for  
holding us back, eager to follow up the tracks  
& the retreating foe! Shame for ever and injury

on his name! We are all delighted with the idea.  
The hail storm was as our leader and  
the way boys seemed shorter when we heard  
of the happy change. We are also pleased to  
have a fighting general to command our  
exped. Gen. McCook is well spoken of - I believe  
generally. Our division Commander, Gen.  
Sheridan we see almost every day. I know  
little of him and hear but little. All I can  
say against him is that he is an unprincipled  
looking man and will cheat. So in the  
battles respectly an indignation and so. Bragg.  
Gen. Howard is much liked by all, tho' he  
when vexed, he will swear and yell  
dreadfully. He is the old Col. of the 36th PA.  
who are with us - one of the four regiments of  
our brigade - and have Pea Ridge he understood  
an their father's banner. They are "old sojers."  
up to any spot, into any mischief -  
You speak of the Pt. 1300m boys being tired  
of the service, Ha! You would laugh (or cry)  
to hear some of our men cry out again  
generals and everything else along towards

night after walking on and on for many miles on the Land Kentucky pike, O! how they will grow and swear sometimes - especially if there is no sign of a salt. It is really pleasing to see the 88<sup>th</sup> now and compare it with the "2<sup>nd</sup> Board of Trade Regiment" of August September, the 1<sup>st</sup>! Then all was ~~and~~ and jumping and dancing and singing hurrahing, - now we are "sober as death" tho' our language is not so refined as a general thing. An our little tramp from depot to camp and from camp to depot two months ago we yelled or cheered at every flag or demonstration, now we pass anything and everything without a word from our lips - a silent, dumb, dusty train. Every man fixing his eyes on the heels of the man before him to keep from running up against him when he stops. I have known the regiment to march almost for hours so silent along the dusty pike that nothing could be heard but the mumbering of wagon wheels or the clattering of hoofs or the rattling of tin cups, oyster cans, pails or the hurried utters stopped to the soldier for cooking purposes.



On last Friday (our last days march) we passed two houses all as fire set by order. The woman who owned them had endeavored to poison a well out of which some of our officers drank and came near losing their lives. As we passed by a house near by them we saw a curious play in the window as much as to say "amb. hurt us". It is difficult to distinguish between a lover of the Union and a Southern here. All must suffer together with-out much distinction. O what destruction goes along with an army. - fences burnt up houses plundered, fields stripped and everything laid waste when a few thousand men happen to loiter over night. Men are not allowed, however, to leave the ranks during the march, tho' many do it, and almost every house is entered along the road. Generally the boys are willing to pay a good price for the things they get, but I once take a bee-hive or anything in the

very sights of the river. One of our boys I  
understand went into a house & got the  
fire to move the tees out bride's Looking  
the Money.

As we approached the suburbs of the city  
on that side of the river the houses became  
more frequent and beautiful. We saw  
several large, handsome residences in  
the form of two stories which seem to  
abound on that side. But no flag  
waived from the windows as at Levee.  
note, none but colored faces seemed to  
occupy the former happy homes of our  
mined men. The regiment broke into platoons  
and the band played its best for about  
time only, when we whiled back into column.  
of our ranks and music ceased as if  
it would not pay to put an air beyond  
Empty buildings.

We are encamped now in a beautiful  
grove not in sight of the city, but only a  
mile or more from the river; & have not  
tried to cross the river yet, for so far

it has been impossible for me to get away  
& understand that I can get a pair tomorrow  
morning, and if I can I shall see Capt.  
Whitman's company probably and all the  
P. B. boys in it now. It will be pleasant  
to see them.

The troops that are here have been  
in a long station for months; shut out  
from all the world, they say we look  
thin and worn out. I think you do not think  
we would look so? I hope we shall  
be permitted to stay here and re-  
fresh our spirits, and that they who have  
been lying still so long here will  
be ordered away, if any are to be.

Our officers, if I may count myself among  
them number have found very well since we  
have been here, the boys brought us in a  
quantity of rice, mutton, some turkeys etc.  
A fellow from our company who is Brigade  
major writes - brings in some things for sale  
Every night, - I generally do the cooking  
or part of it, about 11. Has a reputation for

picked up after the battle of Perryville  
who sees to clearing up the dishes.  
So we are getting along nicely now.  
If we stay here a few weeks I shall  
have time to write to all my friends.  
I have not written to Charlotte yet -  
to Annie and Henry, but once since  
I enlisted, I want to write to my  
Sunday School as soon as I can get  
time to collect my thoughts and forget  
details, and drawing, salvage, roll collections  
&c. - As to my things I want you to send  
me, I cannot tell at present where to  
have them sent, they cannot be sent  
here now for the railroad is not completed  
through yet. It is expected that the cars will  
not be running through to Ashville for  
several days - perhaps weeks. You may  
wait, or send them here as you please.  
You know when and where we shall go as  
well as ourselves. - I shall write soon  
again, You must write as often as  
possible telling all the news - while I remain  
truly and affectionately  
Ever yours - H

K14

September 5, 1995

Mr. Tom Eipper  
1155 Wagonwheel Gap  
Boulder, CO 80302

Dear Mr. Eipper:

Thank you for the transcripts of letters that you donated to Stones River National Battlefield. We maintain a file on each regiment that fought in the battle and make the information available to visitors when they inquire. The letters are a valuable addition to the collection and help fill out the human story of the battle.

I'm enclosing some information from a catalog about preservation of paper documents. You may want to check into some good storage techniques for your letters in order to better preserve them if you have the originals. For long term protection, you may wish to consider making originals or copies available to the Illinois State Archives. An address list of state archives is enclosed.

Thank you again for the transcripts and for your interest in Stones River National Battlefield.

Sincerely,

Gilbert J. Backlund  
Chief Ranger

GJBacklund:gb:09-03-95

RECEIVED  
STONES RIVER  
NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

Aug. 19 95

AUG 21 '95

~~Exp~~ ~~Chief Ranger~~ ~~Star Ranger~~ ~~ENP&MA~~ ~~Asst. Dir.~~ ~~Chief Maint~~ ~~M.~~ ~~Inc.~~  
2 years ago we stopped at the  
Stones River battlefield and  
I talked to the man at the desk  
we had a distant cousin that  
was killed there and we  
have letters that he had  
written and he said the  
park would like a copy of  
them - so here they are.

They were found in a attic  
several years ago by some  
relation. Some of the letters  
are hard to understand because  
the originals were hard to read.  
His father was a doctor  
in Port Byron Ill.

Hope you can use these  
Tom Eipper

any questions - TOM EIPPER  
1155 WAGONWHEEL GAP  
BOULDER, Co. 80302

# 1

Camp Douglas  
Aug. 17th Sunday

My dear folks-

I have been around the camp among the tents to find a planned board to write on. I am now sitting near the door of the tent within which the men are lying on the ground, some writing, some discussing the tendency of drinking so much coffee as we all do, and some reading etc.

When we arrived in ~~from~~ town last Wednesday eve. we found that Capt. Bolls men had gone to Camp Douglas - is to speak strictly- below Camp Douglas proper- in Cottage . I went to Mrs. Haines- the other two men of mine to a hotel. Mrs. Haines folks are all well. The y are moving the buildings now. A (CATS or LOTS) letter from Honorable says he is wearing away rapidly. Thusday I waited all day at Capt. Christophers office to be mustered in and at night when that operation was performed he repeated the oath so rapidly that we hardly knew what we were swearing. Friday I waited at the Court House for my bounty check all day- There was such a rush every where in the military line. We do not expect our money to come around for some time.

As you will notice in todays Tribune Capt Bolls company and Capt. Spaldings effected a consolidation yesterday- We gave him the Captians and are dearyent and one corporal for 35 men. At the election Spalding was put in Capt. Miller first- and Boll second Litutuant Meachaus and I are to have the first two searjeucys- Wheter he or I will be "orderly" I cannot tell. I stand a pretty good chance for it. Will know tomorrow but whatever I get I shall not complain. I am so glad that we have a good man for our Captian. Capp. S. is a member of the YMC assosiation and will re commended to us by Eids Boring and Harvey. He is quite young and very kind and pleasant. We have many good men in our company but two or three who drink

Last night we got our blankets 84 of us what a gay 84 we were. I slept very but I lay awake till two o'clock there was such a ~~big~~ noise in the tents around us- singing, whistling, talking, laughing fiddling etc.etc. How strange it sounded! ~~W~~ And today what a strange Sunday! We were marched to the lake before breakfast for a wash, and have been drilling ~~in~~ all on Sunday! Men cutting wood, boxing laughing, running and everything else make a curious Sunday! In fact there is no Sunday in Camp, There are bible classes and preaching

I tried to get out of camp this morning to stay with Mrs. Haines but the colonel ~~wants~~ would give no pass, ~~th~~ He gave only two to guard tomorrow.

Mr. Neatheror is our cook. Mr. Sheppard is an odd talks sometimes of hitching up his tram to go to oak home to hear Mrs. Flehasty! Says he is going home sh hands with the guys and says "good" complains some this morning but I he is not much unwell. I think you would laugh to see us in our tents at the table with our tin cups of coffee and tin plates or any But I like this lazy life, well gain fat on it- Eugene

SIDE NOTES: You will save these letters as I shall keep no other Journal

Do not write to me until I can give you my address. I shall write again soon. E

#2

Chicago Ill. Aug. 21st 1866

Dear Folks-

You probably have been looking for a letter from me every mail, and you should have received one, had I not been so busy. I was fortunately put in a "Orderly" by our officers, they gave me the office because they had promised it to me as certain, and because (as they say) they thought me a person very fit to have it. The duties of the office keep me going a greater part of the time. I have to call the roll four times- or more- a day, take them to the lake before breakfast drill them at tree, make reports every morning to the adjutant (who by the way, complimented me this morning as having made the first cencb report draw the rations daily, detail men for guard and police duty, and answer the hundred and one calls for the "orderly"

I suppose I shall never be so busy again as I have been for a few days past. I have so many rolls to make out etc etc that I can hardly think of home or anything else.

Today I am in the Court House square as a tent recruiting, we have 86 men in camp, but we wish to get all that we can, recruiting is a very easy business (herr) All that I have to do is to sit in my tent and wait for recruits to come in. I wish you could see me now as I write amid the noise of the streets and the banging of drums, I can count 13 recruiting tents from my tent- there are several men in the other side of the court house.

I shall stop at Mrs. Haines night until I go back into camp. She is very kind to me and wishes me to act as I would at home. They have been moving the house across the street and everything is upside down. But if I cannot find lodging in the house- as I am a soldier, I can lie out in the ground. The boys do it frequently down in camp in preference to sleeping in the tent. For instance, are you on coming out of my tent, whom should I see wrapped up in his blanket with a stick of cedar-wood for a pillow, but Samuel Odell?



#2

(2)

I was greatly to do something similar last night, it was so warm, but the officers calling me to their tent I stayed inside with them. But we did not succeed in getting to sleep until after a long time of laughing and story telling. We do have jolly times now, but it will be different when we get down in the Land of Colton probably. But here we stand to live or die, live

Our men had a prayer meeting last evening in one of our tents. The tent was so crowded and so many were crowded around the that I could not get in, than holy of our men were present to say nothing of men from other companies.

When you write - direct your letters to me in care of Capt. J.J. Spalding box 4343 Chicago Ill.

I shall probably again tomorrow. It is sundown ~~now~~ now and I must shut up Bhop

Very truly  
Eugene A. Lyford

#3

Chicago  
August 31, 1862

Dear Father,

I succeeded in getting out of camp once more yesterday, but only on the plea of ill health. You must not conclude that camp life does not agree with me for in fact the cause of my complaints lies in the kindness of the friends of Capt Spalding and his men. During the first part this last week our tables groined under heaps of cakes, pies, chickens, fruits, etc.etc. My appetite has been excellent from the day I went into camp two weeks ago. And when these things came it "goy the better of me" A dose of pills and dieting I think will bring me out all right.

I do not fear, if I can only thake proper care of myself which I shãal try to do. I hope mother will not be anxious about me for I am with the best of friends. The captain keeps me in his tent and let me lie on his cot when I felt most unwell. He took me out of camp last Sunday to church. I heard him bid "good bye" to his Sunday School Last Friday evening he went to his class in Black Street Church, of which he has been the leader for five years. He is praised by all who know him.

Although we probably shall have a drunken Colonel and have already a drunken most skillful and experienced Surjeon. I am thankful and contented that was Captain is a man every inch of him. My mind is made up to Lee the war through if I can have life; at any rate I Shall try to be prepared for the onset. Let not my mother be troubled for me for all I know is well in any oral  
I suppose we shall in a few days- I am truly Eugene

SIDE NOTE: I sp last evening pleasantly with Miss Luci Bragdon she and Miss Sesuken came to see me

# 4

Camp Fuller  
Sept. 3rd 1862

MY DEAR PARENTS,

WE HAVE ORDERS TO LEAVE TONIGHT EITHER TO KENTUCKY BY WAY OF LOUISVILLE OR BY CAIRO. ALL IS HASTE AND HURRY. I AM READY TO GO WHEREEVER I AM SENT. I KNOW NOT WHETHER I GO TO RETURN AGAIN OR NOT, BUT I TRUST ALL IS WELL. IF I CAN DO ANY GOOD IN THE CAUSE OF MY COUNTRY I ASK NO MORE.

I RECIEVED A LETTER FROM ANNIE AND AUNT M. TODAY. THEY THINK I AM DOING MY DUTY. AUNT M. QUOTES A PASSAGE FROM THE BIBLE WHICH SHE SAYS WAS HER CONCOLATION WHILE F. WAS IN CAMP!

I FEEL MUCH BETTER SINCE MISS LOUIE B. AND ANNIE SIMPSON TOOK ME OUT OF CAMP LAST SATURDAY! I DID NOT RETURN FROM THE CITY UNTIL MONDAY I SPENT A GREAT PART OF SUNDAY AT THE HOUSE OF THE WESTERN EDITIRE OF THE RURAL NEW YORKER \_ CHAS. D. BRAJBON ESQ. I ENJOYED MYSELF VERY MUCH.

I HAVE NOT WRITTEN OFTEN, BECAUSE I HAVE BEEN TOO BUSY TO DO SO, YOUR NEED NOT WRITE ME UNTIL YOU HEAR FROM ME AGAIN.

IN GREAT HASTE  
EUGENE A. LYFORD  
88th REJ. ILL. COL.

# 5

CAMPSHERMAN  
CAMP SHERMAN  
JEFFERSONVILLE , IND.  
SEPT. 7th 1862

MY VERY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME,

MY LAST LETTER WAS WRITTEN AT CAMP FULLER , CHICAGO, ON THE EVE OF DEPARTURE TO WHERE WE KNEW NOT, ALTHOUGH WE SUSPECTED WE WOULD GO TO LOUISVELLE. THE NEXT MORNING MARCHING ORDERS CAME, KNAPESACKS WERE ~~BAKED~~ PACKED, TENTS STRUCK, " UNCLE SAMUELS" GREAT BAGGAGE WAJORS LOADED WITH TENTS, COOKING UTENSILS and officers baggage AND THE COMPANIES MARCHED OUT ONE BY ONE FROM THE BEAUTIFUL GROVE IN WHICH WE HAD BEEN EUQUIPPED \_ FIRST GRASSY then bare ground.

OUR LITTLE MARCH OF FIVE MILES FROM CAMP TO THE DEPOT BY WAY OF THE BOARD OF TRADE BUILDING WAS A VERY SEVERE ONE. IN THE MIDDLE OF THE DAY, THROUGH A THICK CLOUD OF DUST WE WOUND OUR WAY THRU WATER BARBS OF THE CITY. WHEN WE ARRIVED AT MICHIGAN AVENUE NEAR THE MIDDLE OF THE CITY THE COLUMN WAS HALTED AND OH! HOW GLAD WE ALL WERE, TWO OF ~~XX~~ OUR COMPANY FAINTED AND ALL OF US CRIED IN IMPATIENCE FOR WATER. KIND FRIENDS BROUGHT OUR GREAT TUBS OF IT. PAILFUL OFTEN PAILFUL DISAPPEARED UNTIL THE EIGHT HUNDRED MEN WERE SATISFIED. WE RESTED FOR ABOUT A HALF OF AN HOUR, WHEN THE REGIMENT WHEELED PLATFORMS AND MARCHED UP TO THE BOARD OF TRADE ROOMS. THE ~~COMMANDER~~ MADE A FEW FAREWELL REMARKS. AMONG OTHERS HE SAID WE WERE THEIR CHILDREN , THEIR SONS AND BROTHERS. HIS TALK DOES NOT ~~DO~~ VERY WELL WITH OUR TREATMENT TO FAR, FOR WE WERE PLACED INTO A LOT OF FRIGHT CARE WITH ~~THEY~~ RATHER BUNCHES IN THEIR. CRACKERS AND CHEESE AND BOILED HAM WERE GIVEN US. THEY WE RODE TO INDIANAPOLIS. WE ARRIVED THERE FRIDAY MORNING. WE WAITED ABOUT THE RAILROAD DEPOT UNTIL TWO IN THE AFTERNOON WHERE WE WERE PLACED IN THESE COAL CARS EXPOSED TO THE BURNING SUN AND THE BURNING CINDERS FROM THE LOCOMOTIVE WE ENDURED THE FUMES AS WELL AS WE COULD UNTIL THE SUNSET" IN THE WEST AND THE LATTER WE FOUGHT UNTIL MIDNIGHT WHEN WE ARRIVED AT JEFFERSONVILLE. WE WERE WELCOMED ALL ALONG THE WAY WITH CHEERS AND WAVING HANDKERCHIEFS, FRUITS COLD WATER AND A FORTH. FRIDAY MORNING THE TRAIN STOPPED FOR HALF AN HOUR. AND WE ALL GOT OFF WASHED UP AND

# 5 cnt.

HELPED OURSELVES TO FRUIT WHICH WAS VERY PLEANTY. I GOT SOME BUTTERMILK AND WAS VERY THANKFUL THAT I HAD LEARNED TO LIKE IT. WE REACHED JEFFERSONVILLE LATE AT NIGHT TIRED, COVERED WITH DUST, EYES FULL OF CINDERS AND GENERALLY USED UP. WE WERE GLAD ENOUGH TO GET OFF ALTHOUGH THERE DUST WAS DEEP AND THE AIR HOT. IN THE CLEAR MOONLIGHT, AND THE DEAD STILL OF MIDNIGHT WE FORMED INTO COLUMNS AND MARCHED TO A NEIGHBORING ~~GROND~~ AND SPREAD OUR WEARY BODIES ON THE GROND TO SLEEP AND DEAR ME ! HOW WE DID SLEEP. BEFORE I KNEW IT ALMOST THE DRUMS BEAT FOR AND WE ALL HAD TO SPRING INTO RANK FOR ROLL CALL. I GOY MY BREAKFAST ATA NEAT LITTLE COTTAGE IN COMPANY WITH LUIT. BOLL AND ONE OF THE CAPTAINS. I HAD SOME COFFEE, HOT BUSCUITS AND SYRUP. O HOW HOOD THEY WERE! THAT LITTLE SIMPLE MEAL MADE ME FEEL THAT

FOR THRU YEARS IS NOT LIKE THAT OF TWENTY YEARS PAST AT HOME AND AT COLLEGE . AT ELEVEN OCLOCK WE WERE MARCHED TWO MILES TO ANOTHER COMPANY GROUND AN EX. SENATOR JESSE BORRGHT WHO WAS LATELY EXPELLED FROM THE SENATE BRICK YARD OPPOSITE THE KENTUCKY SHORE. THERE HAS BEEN A GREAT MANY REJEMENTS IN CAMP HERE BEFORE WHERE THEY FIRST CAME BRIGHT HAD A GREAT BRICK KILN ON THE GROUND. THE GROUND BECOMMONG VERY M MUDDY LAST WINTER, THE SOLDIERS TOOK THEM AND MADE WALKS ALL OVER THE CAMP. IN SHORT JESSE BRIGHTS BRICK YARD AND BRICKS WERE CONFISCATED!" THE CAMP GROUND NOW IS IN A MESERABLE CONDITION ROUGH AND BAKED HARD AS A ROCK. SIX OR EIGHT SHADE TREES USE OLE WE LANE FOR SHELTER FROM THE HOT SUN BESIDES A TENTS. BUT WE HAVE GOOD COOL SPRINGS OF WATER AND A WHOLE RIVER TO BATHE IN AT ,LOUISVILLE IS OPPOSITE AND A LITTLE BELOW. IT IS QUITE A LARGER CITY BETWEEN 60 AND 70 THOUSAND I BELIEVE. JEFFERSONVILLE HAS SOME EIGHT THOUSAND INHABITANTS. THERE ARE TWO BOATS THERE BUILDING. THERE IS A VERY LARGE CAMP OVER THE RIVER. REJEMENTS GO OVER DAILY. I HEAR THAT THE DIXON REJ IS ALREADY THERE. IF SO I SHALL SEE MY FRIENDS . WHEN WE GO ACROSS THE OHIO I DO NOT KNOW PROBABLY NOT UNTIL WE GET OUR ARMY, PERHAPES NOT FOR FOUR WEEKS, IF I DO HOPE WE SHALL NOT BE PUSHED INTO THE FIELD UNTIL WE ARE READY, AS SOME HAVE BEEN.

# 5 cont.

THERE IS GREAT EXCITEMENT HERE NOW WE OF RECENT MOVE-  
MENT OF THE REBELS. OVER ONE HUNDRED LEADING MERCHANTS AND BANKER OF  
LOUISVILLE ARE SHUT UP IN THE STATES PRISON HERE. THE CITY OF LOUISVELLE  
IS UNDER MARSHALL LAW. BUSINESS IS STOPPED AND THE PEOPL E FRIGHTENED  
GENERALLY THO THERE IS LESS ANZIETY NOW THAN THERE HAS BEEN FOR SOME  
DAYS PAST. THESE NEW REJEMENTS COMMING IN HAVE COMPELLED THE REBELS TO  
FALL BACK.

I WENT TO CHURCH TODAY WITH CAPTAIN SPALDING. THE CHAPLAIN OF THE  
STATES PRISON INVITED US TO DINNER WE HAD ALL WE COULD EAT OF CHICKEN  
POTATOES, TOMATOES, PEACHES PUDDING AND DIFFERENT KIND OF

HE WAS UP TONIGHT AND TALKED TO US. WHILE WE WERE AT HIS HOUSE HE HAD  
A GREAT DEAL TO SAY ABOUT THE WAR. HE HAS FOUR SONES IN THE ARMY AND  
MUST TAKE GREAT INTEREST IN THE EVENTS OF THE DAY. HE KINDLY ASKED US  
TO CALL IN ~~KNTX~~ ANY TIME.

CAMP LIFE SUITS ME VERY WELL SO FAR THO IT IS A HARD ONE. THE WAY WE  
WERE AROUND COMING FROM CHICAGO WARNS US THAT WE MUST  
BE PREPARED FOR THE WORST. I AM FEELING EXCEEDINGLY WELL AND LOOKING  
MUCH BETTER THAN WHEN I LIFT HOME. YOU SHALL SEE MY BROWN FACE IN A FEW  
DAYS IF I CAN GET OUT TO THE CITY AND HAVE SOME PHOTOGRAPHS TAKEN. ALL  
THE FAULT I HAVE TO FIND IS THAT I AM TOO BUSY CANNOT HARDLY FIND  
TIME DO ANTHING I WANT TO DO. I TRUST THE DAY IS NOT FAR DISTANT  
WHERE I SHALL HAVE LEARNED AN "ORDERELYS" BUSINESS SO WELL AS TO LEAVE  
IT FOR A LESS DRIVING ONE. THRU "ORDERELYS" WERE MADE SECOND LUIETENT  
DAY BEFORE WE LEFT CHICAGO OF THE PROMOTION OF THEIR CAPTAINS.

I WISH YOU COULD SEE HOW WE LIVE HERE. UP AT SUNRISE FOR ROLL CALL. FROM  
SIX TIL SEVEN SQUAD DRILL AT SEVEN BREAFAST QUARTER BEFORE EIGHT. SURGEONS  
CALL EIGHT QUARD MOUNTING NINE TO TEN OFFICERS DRILL TWELEVE DINNER  
THEN BATTALRIM DRILL AND DRESS PARADE. SUNDOWN ROLL CALL NINE OCLOCK ROLL  
CALL SO YOU SEE THEY KEEP US GOING ALL DAY. THESE WARM NIGHT I SLLEP ~~SE~~  
OUT ON THE GROUND AND I SLEEP SO SWEETLY AND THE BANKS OF THE OHIO!

# 5 cont

PLEASE EXCUSE ME FOR NOT WRITING BEFORE AND FOR WRITING SO CARELESSLY NOW  
I CANNOT DO ELSE UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES MUCH LOVE TO ALL MY FRIENDS  
SEND MY MAIL TO ME AT JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA. CARE CAPT. SPALDING CO I  
88th ILL COL. TO FOLLOW THE REJENMENT

I AM YOUR TRULY

EUGENE

SIDENOTS:

OUR LITTLE MARCH OF FIVE HUNDRED MEN WAS THE CENTER OF WAY OF THE  
LEADS OF YOUR MARCHING AND WE WERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE  
DAY, THROUGH A THICK SMOKE OF SMOKE WE WENT THRU WATER  
OF THE CITY, WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE MIDDLE OF THE MIDDLE OF THE  
CITY THE COLUMN WAS WAITED AND ON THE ROAD WE ALL WERE, TWO OF US OUR  
COMPANY FAINTED AND ALL OF US WERE IMPATIENT FOR WATER, KIND PEOPLE  
BROUGHT US GREAT TUBS OF IT, PATROL OFFICERS WERE HELD UNTIL  
THE EIGHT HUNDRED MEN WERE SATISFIED, WE MARCHED FOR ABOUT A HALF OF AN  
HOUR, WHEN THE REJENMENT WENT TO PLATFORMS AND RACKED UP TO THE BOARD  
OF TRADE ROOMS, THE GENERAL MADE A FEW PARTIAL REMARKS, AMONG OTHERS  
HE SAID WE WERE THEIR CHILDREN, BROTHERS AND BROTHERS, HIS TALK DID  
NOT GO VERY WELL WITH OUR TREATMENT SO FAR, FOR WE WERE  
PLACED INTO A LOT OF FRIGHT CASES WITH BREAD AND BUTTER BUNCHES IN  
THEIR, CRACKERS AND CHEESE AND BONES HAD WERE GIVEN US, THEN WE ROSE  
TO INDIANAPOLIS, WE ARRIVED THERE ON MONDAY, WE WAITED ABOUT  
THE RAILROAD DEPOT UNTIL TWO O'CLOCK AFTERNOON, WHEN WE WERE PLACED IN  
THREE COAL CAR EXPANSION TO THE HOTEL, WE WERE GIVEN BREAD AND BUTTER

# 6

COVINGTON KY.  
SEPT. 12th 1862  
FRIDAY MORNING

MY DEAR PARENTS\_

NIGHT BEFORE LAST AT DRESS PARADE DOWN IN CAMP AT JEFFERSONVILLE, INDIANA THE ORDER CAME THAT WE WOULD GET READY TO MARCH IMMEDIATELY. IT WAS RUMORED THAT WE WOULD GO TO CINCINATI. OUR ARMY CAME AT THE EDGE OF EVENING AND WE WERE FITTED OUT WITH EVERYTHING COMPLETE BY MIDNIGHT. WE HAD OUR UNIFORMITE = A BLOUSE COAT, A DRESS CAOT AND OVERCOAT ONE PAIR OF PANTS TWO PAIRS OF DRAWERS TWO PAIR OF STOCKINGS TWO BHIRTS A KNAPSACK ONE BLANKET ONE LAVERSACK ONE CARTRIDGE BOX ONE CANTEEN A RIFED MUSKET ETC.ETC. ALL THESE THINGS MAKE A GOOD LOAD FOR US TO CARRY. WE MARCHED TO THE DEPOT ABOUT THREE OCLOCK BUT DID NOT LEAVE THE OHIO UNTIL DAYBREAK. WITH WHAT GEST EVERYBODY ALONG THE ROAD CHEERED US! THE NEARER WE APPROACHED CINCINNATI THE MORE WAS THE INTEREST IN US. WE RIDE FOR TWENTYFIVE OR THIRTY MILE THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CITY I ENJOYEI HUGELY. WE ROAD ALL THE WAY WAS ALONG A DEEP WINDING RAVINE WITH HILLS RISING ON EITHER SIDE COVERED WITH FOLIAGE OF THE MOST PLEASING VARIETY. THE LONG TRAIN OF CARS FULL INSIDE AND COVERED ON TOJO WITH SOLDIERS WOUND IS WAY ALONG THE CROOKED ROAD LIKE SERVE HUGE SNAKE. THE TRACK IS A BROAD GUAGE AND HENCE THERE IS LITTLE DANGER IN FACT. THE TRAIN FLEW LIKE LIGHTENING ALL THE WAY IT SEEMED THEY WENT THE FASTIS AMONG THE HILLS WHEN WE WAD WAS MOST WINDING. THE HILLS AS WE APPROACHED CINCINATI WERE COVERED WITH VINYARDS. SUCH A SIGHT I NEVER SAW: BUT FOR MOST OF THE WAY BETWEEN JEFFERSONVILLE AND HERE THE COUNTRY IS BAREN AND BROKEN, COVERED WITH LOCKS. I SAW WHAT I HAVE HEARD DESCRIBED ROCKS IN PILES ALL OVER A WHEAT FIELD. SAMUEL ODELL

SIDE NOTE: HERE IS A LETTER I CUMMMENCED THE OTHER DAY

E



# 7

COVINGTON KY.

SEPT. 14th 1862  
SUNDAY 5 OCLOCK AM

DEAR FATHER,

I WISH I COULD FIND TIME TO WRITE YOU LONG LETTERS FREQUENTLY BUT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE, MOVING AS WE ARE EVERY DAY. FROM JEFFERSONVILLE, IND. WE WENT TO CINCINNATI LAST THURSDAY AND WERE WELCOMED WARMLY BY EVERYBODY. THE CITIZENS GAVE US A GOOD SUPPER. WE WENT OVER THE RIVER AND A BRIDGE AFTER SUPPER AND ENCAMPED IN THIS CITY WE ARE OPEN SPOT. IT PRETTY MUCH ALL NIGHT. I WAS PARTIALLY PROTECTED BY A SHORE OF THE CAPTAINS NIBBER BLANKET. IT SEEMED ODD ENOUGH TO HAVE THE RAIN POURING DOWN OVER FEET WE HAVE CHANGED CAMP IN THIS CITY TWICE THERE, AND ARE SOMEWHERE THIS MORNING PROBABLY NOT FAR. THE DAYES TO THE CITY OF CINCINNATI IS WAR. THE REBELS ARE RETREATING. I AM WELL, SHALL WRITE WHEN I CAN, SO NOT BE ANXIOUS, ABOUT ME

TRUELY EUGENE

LETTER BLURRED FROM THE RAIN

# 8

IN CAMP NEAR  
COVINGTON KY. SUNDAY  
SEPT. 14th 1862

MY DEAR SISTER MARY\_

I WROTE a hasty letter to father last night before we had left the city' of ~~XXXX~~ COVINGTON I HAVE TIME THIS AFTER NOON AS ALL THE CAMP HAVE EITHER TO SLEEP OR WRITE. I AM SITTING IN OUR CORNER OF MY NICE RUBBER BLANKET I BROUGHT YESTERDAY IN THE CITY. THE CAPTAIN IS OCCUPYING THE REMAINDER OF IT, ASLEEP. LIENTEUANT MILLER IS STRETCHED OUT IN THE GROUND BY MY SIDE. SERGANT MEACHAUM IS LYING JUST OUT SIDE THE TENT ASLEEP LIENTENANT BOLL HAS TAKEN OUR CANTEENS AND GONE OUT OF THE LINES AFTER SOME WATER. I PACKED MY PORT FOLIO IN A BOX THIS MORNING BEFORE WE LEFT OUR OTHER CAMP SO I BORROWED THIS SHEET OF PAPER FROM PRIVATE SHEPPARD. IT IS PLACED IN MY DIART WHICH IS JUST AS LONG AS THE PAPER IS WIDE. AND WHICH I BOUGHT WHERE AT CHICAGO. IT HELPED ME PICK IT OUT AND TO HER I PROMISED TO SEND IT WHEN IT WAS FILLED AND SHE WILL SEND IT TO PORT BYRON. I HAVE WRITTEN IN IT ONLY TWICE, BUT I HAVE WRITTEN TEN ~~PAGES~~ PAGES. I WILL HAVE A PLENTY TO WRITE IN IT NO DOUBT. MY LETTERS ~~WILL~~ HOME WILL CERTAIN ABOUT THE SAME MOTHER HOWEVER.

I AM MUCH PLEASED WITH CAMP LIFE AND THERE IS ONLY ONE OBJECTIVE I HAVE TO BEING A NOW COMMISSINED OFFICER AND THAT IS THE CARRYING THE HEAVY KNAPSACKS. JUST THINK A KNAPSACK CONTAINING A SHIRT IN A MOMENTS A PAIR OF STOCKINGS A PAIR OF DRAWERS AND OVERCOAT A DRESS COAT AND A BLANKET A LOVERSACK FULL OF SATURIS AND TRINKETS A CANTEEN HOLDING TWO QUARTS A CARTRIDGE BOX CONTAINING FORTY UNUSED OF CARTRIDGES A BELT HOLDING NU COP BOX AND BEYONET AND A MUSKET ALL THESE AMOUNT TO FORTY POUNDS OR MORE. ~~ARE~~ ONE THING IS CERTAIN I WILL NOT CARRY SO MUCH I CANNOT. WE CAN MEN. I HAVE NOT SO FAR. I ~~AM~~ HAVE PACKED MY EXTRA SHIRT AND DRAWERS BLANKET AND STOCKING IN THE OFFICERS BAGGAGE AND IF THE TIME COMES WHEN I CANNOT DO THIS MY OVERCOAT ~~WILL~~ GO "TO THE DOGS" AND SO MAY MY SHIRT AND DRAWERS, VERY FEW OF THE OLD SOLDERS WE MEET EVERY DAY HAVE KNAPSACKS. THEY SAY A MAN CANNOT

# 8 cont.

CARRY THEM. ALL THEY HAVE IS A BLANKET AND ONE SUIT OF CLOTHES  
I SHALL STRIPE MYSELF IN THE SAME WAY BEFORE I SHALL CARRY SUCH LOADS  
AND SO WILL MOST OF OUR COMPANY. WE HAVE HAD NO SEVERE MARCHING YET.  
AM LOADED WAS THAT ONE FROM CAMP FULLER TO THE RR DEPOT IN CHICAGO.

AS A GENERAL THING WE HAVE A PLENTY TO EAT, ALTHOUGH SOMETIMES WE  
ARE ABOUT STARVED AND LONG FOR OUR MOTHERS PANTRY. USUALLY WE CAN  
BUY ALMOST ANYTHING WE APPITIES CRAVE. OUR BREAD NOW IS HARD CRACKERS  
I AM FOUND OF THEM, PERHAPS IT IS BECAUSE THEY ARE SOMETHING NEW.

I KEEP MY THINGS IN THE CAPTAINS TENT AND STAY THERE MOST OF THE DAY.  
BUT GENERALLY SLEEP OUTSIDE OF THE TENT. I LAY MY RUBBER BLANKET  
ON THE GROUND PUT IN MY OVERCOAT AND COVER UP WITH MY BLANKET IF  
NECESSARY. I LAY OUT LAST NIGHT AND A WOKE ABOUT ONE OCLOCK FROM A  
SOUND SLEEP WHEN THE COOKS WERE GETTING THE SATURES READY.  
ROASTED SOME SWEET POTATOES THE BOYS HAD CONFISCATED! DRANK SOME  
COFFEE AND WENT TO BED. IN THE MORNING I DREAMED A REGULAR SOLDIERS  
DREAM. I DREAMED I WAS LEAVING FOR THE WARS AND APEAL MANY LADIES  
AND GENTLEMEN SANG SOME OF MY FAVORITE SABBATH SCHOOL SONG ALSO  
ANOTHER INTERESTING DREAM WHICH I WILL NOT DISCLOSE.

OUR CAMP IS PLACED IN A WHEAT FIELD THE MOST BEAUTIFUL PLACE WE HAVE  
HAD. THE TENTS ARE PITCHED IN MILITARY STYLE THEY RUN ARE SOUND  
AT THE BASE AND CAME TO A FINISH AT THE TOP. THE BOTTOM I FASTENED  
BY STANOR TO THE GROUND AND WHEN ALL ARE FIXED SO AT THE SOUND OF THE  
DRUM THE TENTS OFTEN WHOLE CAMP RISE AT THE SAMW TIME BEING LIFTED UP  
IN THE CENTER ON THE TENT POLE. THEY ARE ALL STRUCK LIKewise AT THE  
SAME TIME. IT LOOKS WELL I ASSUM YOU TO SEE A CAMP APPEAR IN A MOMENTS  
I DO NOT KNOW WHEN WE SHALL AGAIN PERHAPES AGAIN IN A FEW DAYS.  
WRITE TO ME, SOON TO CINCINNATI OHIO 88th REG. TO FOLLOW  
THE REG CO. I

VERY TRULY EUGENE A LYFORD

# 9

CAMP COATSWORTH NEWR  
COVINGTON, KY.  
WEDNESDAY SEPT.17th1862

DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER,

I HAVE A FEW MOMENTS TO WRITE THIS MORNING AND WILL IMPROVE THE OPPERTUNITY. I BEEIEVE I WROTE YOU LAST SUNDAY SOON AFTER OUR ARRIVAL AT THIS CAMP. NOTHING OF IMPORTANCE HAS TAKEN PLACE SINCE THEN. THE ~~SCORCHING~~ SCORCHING SUN POURS DOWN REGULARLY EVERDAY. IT SEEMS STRANGE TOO THAT IT ACCUSTOMED ALL MM LIFE TO EXPECT A STORM IMMEDIATELY AFTER A LOT SPELL OF WEATHER NOT SO HERE EACH DAY IS ALIKE HOT FROM EIGHT AM UNTIL SIX PM EVENINGS COOL SO THAT WE NEED A BLANKET OVER US SOMETIMES AN OVERCOAT ON US BESIDES. WE DO NOT DRILL A GREAT DEAL. WE CANNOT OFFICERS AS WELL AS MEN THINK SO WE HAVE A MORNING DRILL AT FIVE OCLOCK JUST AS THE LIGHT IS BREAKING. THE OFFICERS OF THE OLD 36th ILL TEACH US. WE HAVE OUR MUSKETS NOW AND FORTY ROUNDS OF CARTRIDGES. OUR BAGGAGE TEAMS CAUSE IN LAST NIGHT SIX FOUR MULE WAGERES FROM THIS AS WELL AS FROM THE FACT THE GEN LEW WALLACE HAS BEEN HERE TWICE WE EXPECT TO MOVE SOON PERHAPS UPON THE ENEMY. WHOSE PICKETS ARE ONLY TWELVE MILES FROM US. OUR PICKETS WERE DRIVEN IN ABOUT TWO MILES FROM HERE NIGHT BEFORE LAST. BUT WE ARE READY FOR ~~THEIR~~ THEM IF THE DO COME, WE HAVE BATTERIES IN THE HILLS AROUND US. AND FIVE HUNDRED NEGROES ARE BUSY EVERDAY DIGGING RIFLE PWTS ALL AROUND US IT REALLY LOOKS LIKE WAR. THE KING ROLL MAY SOUND AT ANY MOMENT. HOW SOON WE COULD GET READY I COULD NOT SAY. I KNEW THE REBELS COULD CARRY OFF SOME OF US. SOUL AND BODY. BUT THEY WILL HAVE A TOUGH TIME GETTING TO OUR CAMP THEY WOULD HAVE TO CLIMB HILLS COVERED WITH FALLEN TREES IN THE FACE OF PROWING BATTERIES AND MILES OF RIFLE PITS. I DO NOT KNOW THAT WE REALIZE OUR PROXIMITY TO THE REBELS ANY MORE THAN WE DID AT CHICAGO. BUT WE SHALL AT SOME NOT DISTANT DAY. THE MOST OF US MEN NOW ALL ~~EMPLOYED~~ EMPLOYED IN GUARD AND PICKED DUTY I THANK FORTUNE HAVE NO SUCH DUTY TO PERFORM BUT AS THE COLONEL TOLD US YESTERDAY WE ORDERLIES ARE THE MOST IMPORTANT AND RESPONSIBLE MEN IN THE COMPANY WE HAVE ENOUGH TO DO THAT IS CERTAIN.

# 9 CONT

I STILL STAY WITH THE OFFICERS AND ENJOY MYSELF GUGELY" THEY ARE OUT ALMOST EVERY DAY IN FORAGING EXPEDITIONS. THEY DO NOT OFTEN CONFISCATE BUT GENERALLY PAY FOR WHAT THEY GET. BY THIS MEANS WE HAVE PLENTY OF ~~RKK~~ GRAPES, PEACHES ETC. I HAVE HAD SO MANY PEACHES I AM SICK OF THEM ALWAYS

THEM. AT PRESENT WE FARE VERY WELL. NICE B BEEF BEANS RECE MOLACES SUGAR VINEGAR COFFEE CRACKERS ALL IN ABUNDANCE I HAD AN OPPURTUNITY OF BATHING NIGHT BEFORE LAST IN THE LICKING RIVER THE WATER IS HARDLY THAN A FOOT DEEP. I HAD NOT WASHED BEFORE FOR OVER A WEEK. SINCE I LEFT JEFFERSONVILLE. WATER HERE IS QUITE SCARSE. HAVE SOME MORNINGS TO MAKE OUR TOILET WITH. I HAVE NOT WASHED TODAY YET I BELIEVE I DID COMB BY HEAD THIS MORNING. WE SHALL BE BARBARIANS WHEN WE GET HOME. BUT THE LIFE VERY MUCH WITH ALL ITS FAULTS. I SHALL BE PERFECTLY CONTENT IF I DO NOT GET SICK I STANØ IT EXCEEDINGLY WELL.

WRITE OFTEN WHETHER I GET THE LETTERS OR NOT IK AM EAGER TO GET LETTERS

I ASSUME YOU WHEN THE MAIL BOY COMES AROUND EVER DAY SEND PAPERS WE READ VERY LITTLE I SHALL ~~TERMX~~NOTHING WHEN THE WAR IS OVER. DIRECT TO CO. I 88th REG ILL VOL. CINCINNATI OHIO

E

SIDE NOTES: IT IS REPORTED THAT MR. THOMAS ONE OF US FOUR BACHELORS AT EV IS TO BE OUR CHAPLAIN

ON BOARD STEAMER ARAGO  
AT LOUISVILLE KY  
SEPT. 20th 1862

DEAR FATHER,

WE LEFT OUR CAMP NEAR COVINGTON LAST THURSDAY ABOUT NINE OCLOCK.  
AND MARCHED THREE MILES TO THE LEVIE OPPOSITE CINCINNATI WE HAY THERE  
UNTIL THREE OCLOCK PM WHEN WE WENT ON BOARD THIS NEWLY PAINTED STEAMER  
AND WITH FIVE OTHERS SAILED DOWN THE RIVER IN THE OHIO. THE 36th ILL.  
AND 24th WISCONSIN CAME DOWN BEBIDES OTHER REGIMENTS FRIDAY NIGHT WE  
STUCK IN A SAND BAR FOR TWO HOURS AND FOND OURSELVES TIED TO THE  
INDIANA SHORE IN THE MORNING WAITING THE FOG TO CLEAR OFF OUR TRIP  
YESTERDAY WAS PERFECTLY delightful our company happened to have the  
luck of being IN THE HURRICANE DECK AND A JOLLY GAY TIME WE HAD OF IT  
WE SANG AND ATE AND LAUGHED AND LOOKING SEENERY DREAMED OF HOME. I  
ONCE FOUND MYSELF SITTING IN THE SAILING HEHIND LOOKING AT THE WAVES  
THINKING OF KAYS GONE BY OF MY MOTHERS PANTRY OF MY SUNDAY SCHOOL  
AND COLLEGE LIFE. AGAIN I SAT WITH MY LEGS THROWN OVER THE SIDE  
RAILING FACING THE INDIANA SHORE WITH MY EYES SCANNING THE HIGH BLUFFS  
TOPPED WITH SOLID ROCKS FOR MILES AND KNEW THEY LOOKED THE SAME TO  
YOU LONG AGO WHEN IN WILD WESTERN DAYS YOU PASSED ALONG TBS SAME LINES.  
I CONFESS FOR ONCE I WISHED THERE WAS NO WAR TO CALL ME AWAY FROM  
THOSE I LOVE. BUT I GOT UP AND JOINED THE BOYS IN SINGING THE BATTLE  
CRY OF FREEDOM OUR REGIMENTAL SONG. WE CAME IN SIGHT OF LOUISVILLE AND  
JEFFERSONVILLE AT DUSK LAST NIGHT. SAW THROUGH THE DIM LIGHT OF EVENING  
OUR OLD CAMPING GROUND AGAIN WITH TENTS. MCCOSKY MY CHUM  
IS THERE NOW I UNDERSTAND A THIRD SERGANT.  
WE HAVE BEEN IN BOARD THE STEAMER ALL NIGHT AND NOW THIS MORNING  
FAR ADVANCED AND WE ARE NOT GONE WE KNOW NOT WHEN WE SHALL GO FROM  
HERE. WE SAVED CINCINNATI AND NOW WE WILL DO ALL THAT WE CAN FOR  
LOUISVILLE. THE REBELS ARE TOWARDS US THEY SAY. HAVE TAKEN MRNNFORDSVILLE  
AND MAY GIVE US A CHANCE TO TRY OUR MUSKETS. BUT WE ARE READY FOR THEM!  
SOME SAY THE 75th ILL IS HERE IF SO I SHALL SEE MY PT BYRON BOYS

GOODBYE

EUGENE

DIRECT SERGANT EUgene a lyford CI 88th ILL REG LOUISVILLE, KY

IN CAMP AT LOUISVILLE, KY.  
FRIDAY SEPT. 26th, 1862

DEAR FATHER,

I WROTE MY LAST TO YOU BEFORE WE HAD GOT OFF THE STEAMER AT THE LEVEE. WE WENT TO A CLOVER FIELD THREE MILES SOUTH FROM THE RIVER AND PITCHED OUR TENTS THERE. IT WAS A BEAUTIFUL PLACE FOR A CAMP, BUT THE AIR WAS RATHER CONFINED BY THE TREES WHICH SURROUNDED IT, FROM THERE WE FIVE MILES TO THE WEST SIDE OF THE CITY BEHIND THE RIFLE PITS WHICH WE HELPED TO DIG THE OTHER NIGHT. THE SPOT WE NOW OCCUPY IS THE MOST PLEASANT I THINK, THAT WE HAVE FOUND. IT IS SITUATED IN A CLEAR OPEN FIELD IN THE LIMITS OF THE CITY WITH GOOD WATER AND NICE PASADE GROUNDS HANDY. WE HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO THE RIFLE PITS TWICE, ONCE NIGHT BEFORE LAST AT THREE O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING. THIS MORNING YOU THINK, WE WERE CALLED UP TO FALL IN AT TWO O'CLOCK! WE STOOD THEN PART OF THE TIME, AND DRILLED THE REMAINDER OF THE TIME UNTIL AFTER SIX! IT WAS RATHER TOUGH. WE ARE DRILLING CONSTANTLY NOW ALL DAY LONG. YOU WOULD LAUGH TO SEE US ALL COVERED WITH DUST THE MUSKETS GLISTENING IN THE LEW, AND THE STEADY TRAMP OF THE "SECOND BROAD OF TRADE" EVERYDAY WE MARCH OUT LOOKING TOLERABLY DECENT FOR SOLDIERS, BUT CAME BACK COMPLETELY COVERED WITH DUST. THERE HAS BEEN NO RAIN OF CONSEQUENCE HERE SINCE JUNE AND EVERYTHING IS DRY AND THE WAD DISAPPEARABLY DUSTY. I NOW PERCEIVE THAT WINTER IS APPROACHING FOR THE DAYS ARE NOT SO AWFULLY WARM NOW AS THEY WERE A WEEK OR MORE AGO. I SUPPOSE YOU HAVE SOME VERY COOL DAYS WITH YOU NOW, OUR NIGHTS ARE VERY COLD, BUT OUR DAYS ARE ALMOST HOT. AS WINTER APPROACHES WE PROBABLY SHALL I WISH TO TELL MY FRIENDS THAT I INTEND WINTERING IN THE SOUTHERN STATES. GEN. BUELL IS HERE NOW, AND WE SHALL IN ALL PROBABILITY GO ALONG WITH HIM IN PURSUIT OF THE REBELS. WE MAY START BY NEXT MONDAY. IT WILL NOT BE STRANGE HOWEVER IF WE GO ON SUNDAY. AM FEAR OF AN ATTACK IN THE CITY HAVE ALL DISAPPEARED NOW WE WERE EXPECTING THEM. HUNDREDS OF THE INHABITANTS OF LOUISVILLE LEFT THE CITY. WOMEN AND CHILDREN SAW ABOUT THE STREETS CRYING ETC. SO YOU SEE WE HAVE SAVED THIS CITY AS WELL AS CINCINNATI! MY USUAL HEALTH CONTINUES, MY APPETITE IS TOO GOOD, I TRY NOT TO BUT THE OTHER SOLDIERS ARE EATING ALMOST ALL THE TIME. MONEY FOR FOR CAKES AND FRUIT LIKE WATER AMONG THE SOLDIERS. THE CAPTAIN AND LIEUTENANTS TREAT ME VERY KINDLY AND SHARE THE BEST WITH ME. WE HAVE NOT BEEN PAID OF YET, BUT EXPECT OUR PAY FOR THE TWO MONTHS SINCE ENLISTING IS A FEW DAYS. THE MONTHS PAY IS ADVANCE FROM CHICAGO IN TWO LETTERS. I FORGOT THE EXACT AMOUNT IT WAS SOMETHING LIKE FORTY \$40. DOLLARS. IF YOU HAVE RECEIVED THE LETTERS YOU OF COURSE GOT THE MONEY. THE WAR BOND COMMITTEE OF COOK CO. TAKE CHARGE OF A CERTAIN PART OF THE PAY OF SOLDIERS AND SEE THAT IT IS SENT TO WHEREEVER THE SOLDIER MAY WISH IT. MANY OF THE SOLDIERS OF COOK CO. THUS ALLOT PART OF THEIR PAY AND KEEP THE REST FOR THEIR OWN USE. I ALLOTTED FIFTEEN \$ 15. DOLLARS TO BE SENT TO YOU, HAVING FIVE PAID TO ME. IF YOU ARE NOT NOTIFIED OF ANY AMOUNT DUE YOU IN A MONTH OR

# 11 cont

TWO (YOU WILL BE, I SUPPOSE) YOU CAN GET INFORMATION ABOUT THE MONEY BY WRITING TO AUROS G. THROOP, CHAIRMAN OF WAR FUND COMMITTEE. CHICAGO COOK CO. II YOU NEED NOT FEAR HOWEVER BUT THE MONEY IS ALL RIGHT AND THAT YOU WILL BE INFORMED ABOUT IT IN TIME WHEN WE ARE PAID OFF THAT IS, every two months PLEASE TELL MY SUNDAY SCHOOL FRIENDS YOUNG AND OLD THAT I OFTEN THINK OF THEM AND AM GLAD THAT THEY ARE NOT AMONG SUCH INFLUENCES AS I AM, IT IS A DREADFUL PLACE TO BE IN, BUT I ENJOY CAMP LIKE NOTWITHSTANDING THE BAD LANGUAGE AND DISAGNABLE EVILS CONNECTED WITH IT. I WROTE TO ~~BEY~~ FEYUSON YESTERDAY AND WISH I COULD WRITE OFTEN TO YOU BUT YOU MUST TAKE MY HASTY WORDS. WRITE VERY OFTEN AND SEND PAPERS.

VERY TRULY,  
EUGENE

SIDENOTES: WILL YOU NOT SEND ME POSTAGE STAMPS IN YOUR LETTERS AS WE HAVE NO CHANCE TO BUY THEM HERE

EUGENE



IN CAMP WEST SIDE LOUISVILLE,  
MONDAY EVE. SEPT. 29th 1862

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME,

ALTHOUGH I DO NOT RECIEVE MANY LETTERS FROM YOU AND HEAR FROM PT. BYRON SELDOM, I SUPPOSE I MUST KEEP YOU INFORMED OF EVERY MOVE I MAKE AND OF THE PASSING EVENTS OF CAMP LIFE. AND TO BEGIN, I WILL TELL YOU THAT WE HAVE A CHAPLAIN. HE CAME LAST FRIDAY, I KNEW THAT HE WAS COMING AND I WAS SO GLAD WHEN I GREETED HIM ON RETURNING FROM DID THAT LOT NOW. HE IS NONE OTHER THA ONE OF THE FOUR JOLLY BACHELORS" WHO OCCUPIED THE BACHELOR RETREAT IN THE CLASSIC ~~THRXEXEXK~~ ~~TWEM~~ TOWN OF EVANSTON HE WAS OUR REGULATOR THERE, AND N HAS COME TO BE THE RESTRAINER OF THE VICES OF EIGHT HUNDRED MEN! HE CAME TO HIS WITH FULL OF GLEE MAY SAY ALTHOUGH HE KNEW THE GRAB WEEK BEFORE HIM, AND HE IS CONFIDENT THAT HE HAS COME AT DUTY CALL. HE FIGURED NOT FOR THE POSITION BUT IT WAS INGED UPONÆ HIM BY THE YOUNG MEN

OUR GOOD THING HE IS A NEVER FEAR TO SPEAK WITH ANY. PERHAPS HIS SERMONS ARE TOO LOGICAL FOR SOLDIERS WILL BE UNCEASING. I KNEW IT. HE IS ABSENT IN TOWN TODAY AND HAS GIVEN ME A SORT OF AN OVERSIGHT OF HIS TENT ETC. SO I AM HERE ALL ALONE THIS EVENING. ALL IS SILENT WITH IN BUT WITHOUT STRANGE ALL WOULD SEEM TO YOU. I MIGHT COMPARE IT TO THE BUZZING OF BEER, BUT THE COMPARISON IS NOT PERFECT FOR HERE THE SOUND OF FIFRS DRUMS LAUGHING TALKING THE RATTILING OF BONES, THE MUSIC OR VIOLINS, OF BRASS INSTRUMENTS, THE CLATTERING OF HORSES FEET AND THE TREAD OF SQUADS OF MEN ARE COMBINEDX IN ONE STRANGE CONFUSIN, COULD WOU HEAR THE SOUND BUT NICE I WOULD LIKE IT. IT IS AN OLD STORY TO ME. WE ARE NOW OCCUPYING THE THIRD CAMP AT LOUISVILLE. I HARDLY KNOW WHY THEY MOVE US SO MUCH. WE CERTAINLY LOOSE TIME FOR DRILL WHICH IS VERY NECESSARY. THE OBJECT MAY BE TO GET US ACCUSTOMED TO MOVING AT AMOMENTS NOTICE. AND INDEED WE ARE GETTING INA ISLAND BOYS ARE USED TO IT. IT TAKES BUT LITTLE TIME FOR US TO PULL STAKES AND BE OFF. AT THE TOP OF THE DRUM EVERY TENT FALLS AND AT THE SAME SIGNAL THEY USE AGAIN. I WISH YOU COULD SEE US GETTING READY FOR A MARCH AS WELL AS THE FIVE HUNDRED OTHER SI OF CAMP LIFE. WE ARE EXPECTING MARCHING ORDERS ANY MOMENT. THE MOVEMENTS OF THE BRIGADE MAY BE RETARDED SOM BY THE DEATH OF OUR MAJOR GENERAL NELSON. THERE IS LITTLE UGNT AROUND HERE THAT HE IS SHOT. HE WAS TO CAPT SPALDING AND MY SELF BY THE CHAPLAIN STATES PRISON AS BEING A RECKLESS, DRUNKEN FELLOW AND THE UNSULT HE OFFERED JEFF. C. DAVIS WAS TO BE EXPECTED AND A FALLOUT OFFICER COULD NOT PUT UP WITH IT. BOTH GENERAL ARE DOUBTLESS TO BLAME. BUT I AM GLAD IS NOT OUR MAJOR GENERAL NOW. WHO WILL TAKE HIS PLACE I DO NOT KNOW. BUELL IS REMOVED AND I KNOW NOT WHO IS OUR HEAD OFFICER. BUELL IS CALLED A TRAITOR FOR LETTING THE ENEMY GO AND

BRINGING HIS TROOPS TO LOUISVILLE AND I AM HEARTELY GLAD HE HAD TO GO TO DRILLING RAN TROOPS AT INDIANOPOLIS. I EXPECT THE GREAT UNION ARMY OF SEVENTY FIVE IS A HUNDRED THOUSAND MEN HERE WILL BE MARCHED THE ENEMY SOON. WE EXHOPE TO SCATTER THEM EASILY. WE CAN DO IT IF WE HAVE A PATRIOTIC BOLD LEADER. OH THAT WE HAD ME! THE REGIMENT WAS OUT AS PICKET DUTY DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY. WE STARTED IN THE RAIN AND MBD, BUT I WAS SAFE UNDER MY RUBBER BLANKET. AS IT HAPP THE FIRST PLATRUM OF CO II WAS NOT PUT ON DUTY AND ALL WE HAD TO DO WAS TO SLEEP ON NICE CLEAN STRAW FROM A NEIGHBOR STACK AND EAT THE COFFEE AND MILK AND AND APPLES AND SWEET POTATOES WE GOT FROM THE "UNION" NIGGERS OF A PLANTATION NEAR BY. SOME OF THESE THING, THE BOYS CONFISCATED. I AM AFRAIN WE SHALL ALL BECOME A GANG OF THIEVES IN A FEW MONTHS WE WOULD IF THE ORDER OF YESTERDAY WILL NOT BE CARRIED OUT. YOU MIGHT TO HEAR THE BOARD FENCES CRACK WHERE WE STOP NEWR ME WITHOUT ANY OTHER WOOD LAUDY I HAVE SEEN NO FENCE STANDING, NOR ANY POSTS IN THE MORING WHEN THEY WERE THE EVENING BEGIN. THE COL. HAS ISSUED AN ORDER STOPPING UNNECESSARY THIEVING, WHETHER IT WILL BE STRICTLY CARRIED OUT REMAINS TO BE SEEN WE HAD A MOST PEAR OUT TIME ARE PICKED SUNDAY MORING A WARM BREAKFAST AND A NICE PLACE TO LIE, X I ALSO WENT INTO THE RIVER AND SWAM A RACE WITH LIE NIDLER BEAT HIM TOO! WHAT WE HAVE!

SATURDAY MEACHAM AND I VISITED THE CAMP OF THE \*87th IND. SAW MCCASKY WHO IS A THIRD SEGEANT. WE WERE VERY HAPPY TO MEET. HE LIKES CAMP LIFE VERY MUCH. SAYS HE WOULD NOT BE TO LEAVE THE ARMY. HE HAS GOT TO SMOKING OFFERED ME A CIGAR AND WAS ASTMISHED TO LEARN THAT I ALWAYS REFUSE THE CIGARS OFFERED ME DAILY! I DO NOT INTEND TO COME OUT OF THE ARMY A WORSE BOY THAN I WAS AS ENTERING IT. I SHALL TRY VERY HARD TO RETURN IF I SHALL EVER RETURN A BETTER MAN. I GUESS MR. THOMAS WILL KEEP ME STRAIT. MY RECRUITS ARE ALL WELL AND GETTING ALONG FINELY. YOU MAY TELL THEIR FRIENDS THAT THE ROCK ISLAND BOYS ARE CALLED THE BEST SQUAD IN OUR COMPANY. NUTCALF AND HALL HAVE JOINED THE RIMEER COMPANY OF THE REGT THEY ARE ARMED YOU KNOW WITH SPADES PICKS AND AXES. ARE EXCUSED FROM DRILL AND GUARD DUTY. IT WILL BE HARD SERVICE SOMETIMES BUT THEY WILL HAVE MORE FREEDOM AND THEY WILL NOT BE SEPARATE FROM THE REJEMENT MATHEWS FEARS HE WILL NOT STAND CARRYING THE KNAPESACK BUT WILL HAVE IT HE IS A GOOD FELLOW WE HAVE MANY NOBLE GOOD HEARTED BOYS IN THE CAMP ANY AND WE HAVE GOT RID OF TWO OF THE WORST ARE COULD NOT BE TAUGHT ANYTHING THE OTHER WAY TOO LAZY TO LIVE ALMOST THE FORMER WE HAVE SET TO DRIVING MULES. THE LATTER WE DETAILED FO AN ILL BATTERY WANTING SOME OF OUR MEN. COL. IS NOT AL ALL LIKED. HE IS HOPED WE SHALL GET ANOTHER ONE SOME OF THESE DAYS. AN LIENUT. COL AND MAJOR ARE PERFECT GENTLEMEN OUR QUARTER MASTER IS AN EARNEST CHRISTIAN I HAVE NOTHENG MORE TO WRITE NOW. THERE IS ENOUGH TO WRITE ABOUT IN CAMP

# 12 cont.

TO KEEP ME BUSY DAYS I SHALL REITE AS OFTEN AS I CAN AND HOPE TO HEAR FROM  
YOU VERY OFTEN. SOLDIERS ARE AWFUL GLAD TO GET LETTERS I TELL YOU! DIRECT  
AS USUAL VERY TRULY EUGENE

# 13

ON YESTERDAYS BATTLE FIE:  
NEAR DANVILLE, KY. OCT 9

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME,  
I AM INFORMED OF AN OPPORTUNITY TO SEND WORD HOME THIS AFTERNOON AND AM MOST  
HAPPY TO BREAK THE SILENCE OUR LONG MARCH ACCARIMED YOU PROBABLY WERE  
INFORMED OF THE DEPARTURE OF OUR ARMY FROM LOUISVILLE NINE DAYS AGO. I  
ENDURED IT WELL. MARCHING FROM TEN TO FIFTEEN MILES A DAY. YESTERDAY OUR  
REFEMENT WAY UNDER HEAVY FIRE FROM THE ENEMY I ~~ENSCORREXMX~~ ESCAPED UNHURT  
ONLY TWO OF OUR COMPANY WERE KILLED. I HAVE TIME ONLY TO WESH THAT YOU  
WILL NOT BE AT ALL ANXIOUS CONCERNING ME. I SHALL TRY TO DO MY DUTY IN ANY  
EVENT. THE ENEMY HAS NOT SHOWN BATTLE TODAY. WE HAD IT HEAVY YESTERDAY.

TRULY EUGENE

IN GREAT HASTE

FRIDAY 1862

ON THE REBEL POSITION OF THE  
 BATTLEFIELD AT PERRYVILLE, KY.  
 OCT. 10th

MY DEAR FATHER AND MOTHER,

I SEIZED AN OPPORTUNITY YESTERDAY OF SIMPLY TELLING YOU OF MY SAFTY AND OF THE GREAT EVENT OF MY LIFE. I HAVE ANOTHRR CHANCE THIS MORNING OF SENDING WORD TO YOU AND SHARE IMPROVE IT BRIEFLY. ON WEDNESDAY OCT 1st THREE DIVISIONS OF THE ARMY OF KY. LEFT LOUISVILLE DIRECTLY SOUTH. WE TRAVELLED ALMOST ALL DAY IN THE DUST AND SUN. IT WENT HARD WITH US THE FIRST DAY I ASSURE YOU. OUR BURDENS MADE IT SO. I FORTUNATELY HAD PACKED SOME OF MY THINGS AS USUAL IN THE OFFICERS MESS. CHEST AT LOUISVILLE SO THAT ALL I HAD WAS ONE SUIT OF CLOTHES BESIDES A DRESS COAT AND OVERCOAT AND MY RUBBER BLANKET. THERE ARE ALL I HVE AND ALL THAT I CAN POSSIBLY CARRY ON MY BACK. IT IS VERY DOUBTFUL ABOUT MY SEEING THE THINGS I LEFT BEHIND BUT I DO NOT CARE MUCH FOR I INTEND THAT YOU WILL SEND ME SOME FEW THINGS IN A MONTH OR SO MOST OF THE BOYS BROUGHT ALONG J KNAPSACKS HALF AS LARGE AS THEMSELVES AND AS A NATURAL CONSEQUENCE CLOTHING WAS SCATTERED ALL ALONG THE ROAD FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS. OUR MARCHES WERE QUITE RAPID DURING THE SEVEN DAYS WE WERE IN THE ROAD TO OUR PRESENT POSITION. HOW WE LOOKED FORWARD TO OUR NIGHTS CAMPING GROUND AND O HOW GLADLY DID WE HAIL THE CAMPING GLEAMING THROUGH THE DUSK AT EVENING AS TIERD AND DUSTY WE ARRIVED AT THE CLOSE OF OUR DAYS MARCH! I WOULD NOT HAVE HAD YOU SEE ME SWEATING AND TRYING THROUGH THE DAILY MARCH FOR CONSIDERABLE I WOULD THAT YOU COULD HAVE SEEN HOW THANKFUR WE WERE AS WE DRANK OUR COFFEE BEGIN LYING DOWN ON MOTHER EARTH TO SLEEP. WE PASSED THROUGH MOST BEAUTIFUL COUNTRY INDEED IT CHARMED ME AND IT SEEMED TOO BAD THAT THE IND TRIME FORCE ROBIS OF THE NORTHERN STATES HAD NOT MADE IT A PERFECT PARADISE. BUT AS IT IS IT LOOKS DESOLATE ENOUGH. AS WE REACHED BARDSTOWN A CITY THE SIZE OF ROCK ISLAND WE FOUND THE CAMPS OF THE REBEL ARMY JUST EVACUATED TWENTY FOUR HOURS BEFORE SO THAT WE RRESSED FORWARD IN GREAT HASTE AFTER THAT THE ADVANCE OF OUR ARMY SKIMUSHES DAILY WITH THE REAR GUARD OF THE ENEMY AND DEAD HORSES MARKED THE GROUND OF CONTEST. DAYS BEFORE YESTERDAY THE ROARING OF CANNON AT DAY BREAK ANNOUNCED THAT WE FOR HAD MADE A STAND. AND AS NFW AND THEN THE WAR WAS INCURAUB, A SHORT ARISE FROM THE CAMPS OF AIR BRIGADE. TOWARDS NOON WE SPIED THE MEVEMENT OF THE ARMIES IN THE DISTANCE AND AT THREE GEN GREUSEL BRIGADE WAS INDEED TO THE FIELD. WE MARCHED OUT MANFULLY UP A RAVINE HALTING IN THE CREST OF ~~THE~~ A HILL FROM THERE WE WITNESSED A MOST TERRIFIC BATTLE AWAY ON OUR LEFT WING. I GREW TIRED LOOKING AT THE MEN SCENE AND LAY DOWN AND SLEPT FOR SOME MINUTES WHEN THE TRUMPET SOUNDED AND THE COLONEL'S ARMY (BY SEAPERS AND COLONEL)

THE BATTERY ON THE HILL AUMMECED THE Approval of the enemy. WE WERE ~~INDEXED~~  
ORDERED OVER THE HILL AND ORDERED TO FIRE INTO A CORNFIELD BELOW US FROM  
WHICH BULLETS CAME THICK AND FAST. LYING FLAT DOWN WE LOADED AND FIRED  
I STRANGE TO SAY SAW NOT A REBEL, BUT FIRED TWICE INTO THE CORNFIELD. SOME OF  
THE BOYS FIRED MORE SOME LESS. AT LAST OUR LIEUTENANT MUSUNDERSTANDING THE  
ORDERS COMMANDED A "CHARGE" SO CO II STARTED WITH FIXED BEYONETS FOR THE  
CORNFIELD, BUT SEEING THE OTHER COMPANYS BEHIND WE FELL BACK WHEN WE WERE  
ORDERED TO RETREAT WE WENT BACK TO THE TOP OF THE HILL REFORMED AND MARCHED  
BACK UNDERFIRE OF THE ENEMY. WE STOOD OUR GROUND UNTIL THE BUTTERNUTS" LEFT  
THE CORN IN DOUBLE QUICK FOR THE WOODS BEYOUND. THE CHEER UPON CHEER SOUNDED  
ALL ALONG THE LINES I THANKED HEAVEN THAT I HAD BEEN SAVED WHILE FOUR OF  
OUR REF. MENT WERE KILLED AND THIRTY FIVE WOUNDED NIGHT CAME AS AND THE  
CAUMAN HUSLED FROM EVERY QUARTERS. I DISCAUSED OF BATTLEW THAT NIGHT THE  
EIGHTY EIGHTH WON GREAT HONOR BY STANDING UNDER HEAVY FIRE SO WELL AND BY  
MARCHING INTO IT SO UNDAUNTINGLY. YESTERDAY THE REBELS RETREATED AND LOST  
NIGHTER WE ADVANCED TO THEIR POSITIONS WHICH AN WHOLE ARMY NOW USES AS A  
CAMP. WE ARE NEAR BY A HOSPITAL IN WHICH THE REBELS LEFT THEIR WOUNDEED ALSO  
SURGENS AND MEN TO CARE FOR THEM. THEY CONVERSE FREELY WITH US. SAY WE CAN  
MEVER WHIP THEM, BUT CONFESS THAT NORTHERN SOLDIERS HAVE EQUAL PLUCK WITH  
THERES. SOME OF THEM ARE TIRED OF THE WAR AND WESH TO GO MOME. SOME ARE VERY

THE BATTLE FIELD SHOWS THAT THE BATTLE WAS SEVERE, I SAW ONE  
HICKORY TREE WITH ONE SIDE JUST TORN OFF BY A SHOT OF SHELL. THE REBELS EEFTE  
THEIR DEAD IN THE FIELD AND HEAPS OF SIXTEEN OR TWENTY. LIE AROUND IN SOME  
PLACES. THE YARD ARMED THE REBEL HOSPITAL HERE IS FILLED WITH WOUNDED SOLDIEI  
LYING AROUND, IT IS DREADFUL INDEED. I HOPE I SHALL NOT MEET WITH SUCH A FAC  
AS SOME OF THOSE POOR FELLOWS HAVE MET. I TRUST WE SHALL SEE LITTLE MORE  
FIGHTING AND THAT I SHALL BE PERMITTED TO RETURN HOME AGAIN TO ENJOY ITS  
COMFORTS ONCE MORE. I SHALL KNOW HOW TO VALUE THEM THEN WHAT DO YOU THINK  
I HAD FOR BREAKFAST THES MORNING? COFFEE, CRACKERS AND STEWED APPLES! WHAT  
A LIFE WE LIVE! I ENJOY IT IN MANY RESPECTS BUT ~~WAX~~ LONG FOR THE END. WE  
HAVE HAD NO MAIL FOR OVER A WEEK BUT EXPECT ONE TODAY. I HOPE I SHALL GET A  
LETTER FROM SOMEBODY THOSE LAST TWO PAPERS YOU SENT ME I HAVE NOT HAD TIME TO  
READ BUT HAD TO USE THE INDEPENDENT TO DO UP SUGAR COFFEE ETC. TO CARRY WITH  
ME. PLEASE SEND PAPERS OFTEN I MAY GET A CHANCE TO READ THEM DIRECT MY LETTE:  
THE SAME AS BEFORE TO CO II 88th REJ ILL VOL LOUISVILLE, KY. TO FOLLOW THE  
REGIMENT SEND STAMPS IN YOUR LETTERS Give my kindest regards to all WHILE  
I REMAIN YOUR

AFFECTIONATE SON

EUGENE LYFORD

in camp near crab orchard, KY  
OCTOBER 19th 1862

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME

I WROTE TO YOU BUT A DAY OR TWO AGO BUT AS I HAVE SOME SPARE TIME TODAY (SUNDAY) AND HAVE SOME WANTS TO TELL YOU I WRITE AGAIN SO SOON. COLD WEATHER IS NOW APPROACHING AND REMINDS ME OF A PREPARATION FOR IT. TO BE SURE, I HAVE AS MANY THINGS AS I WANT TO CARRY ALREADY BUT THERE ARE A FEW TRINKETS THAT I GREATLY NEED AS SOON AS WINTER SETS IN. THE MOST IMPORTANT THAT I THINK OF NOW ARE A PAIR SOLDIERS MITTENS TWO GOOD PAIRS OF STOCKING A NICE WARM THICK BLUE FLANNEL SHIRT WITH A NEAT TURN OVER COLLAR AN IT, A POUND OF TEA, A SUSALE QUANTITY OF CAYNINE PEPPER AND ONE OF DODA, A GOOD STRONG SMALL TWO BLADED KNIFE AND SUCH OFTEN LITTLE TRINKETS AS YOU THINK WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE TO ME. THE OTHER ROCK ISLAND CO BOYS WILL WANT SOMETHING SENT IN THE SAME PACKAGE PROBABLY WILL SEND THEM BY EXPRESS TO LOUISVILLE, KY. TO THE SAME ADDRESS AS MY LETTERS. PERHAPS I MAY GIVE YOU DIFFERENT DIRECTIONS IN MY NEXT BUT THEY WILL BE SAFE IF SENT AS MY MAIL IS NOW SENT. FOR THERE ARE FREQUENT OPPORTUNITIES OF SENDING TO LOUISVILLE FOR ANYTHING WE WANT BY THE TEAMSTERS. WE HAVE BEEN BYING IN CAMP HERE SEVERAL DAYS FOR WHAT REASON I KNOW NOT. PERHAPES BRAGG HAS ESCAPED US OR IT MAY BE BUELL IS COLLECTING HIS WHOLE ARMY TO MOVE UPON HIM IN FORCE. IT WAS HARD TO ENDURE AT FIRST THE SUSPENCE OF NOT KNOWING WHETHER WE WERE GOING BUT NOW WE ARE IN A SENSE ACCUSTOMED TO IT, AND CALL NOT ARE CONTENT TO BE DRIVEN ALONG LIKE "DUMB DRIVEN CATTLE" WE ARE NOW ENCAMPED AS A BEAUTIFUL SPOT OF GRASSY GROUND HAVE ERECTED US BOOTHS BY MAKING A SHED OF SAILS AND CORNSTALKS WHICH ANSWER THE PLACE OF OUR TENTS WHICH WE LEFT BEHIND US AT LOUISVILLE OUR PARADE GROUNDS ARE MAGNIFICENT DOWN A LEVEL BASAN. YESTERDAY WE WENT THROUGH A BATTALLUM DRILL OF THREE HOURS AN THE DOUBLE QUICK FORMING HOLLOW SQUARES CHARGING BEYONETS WITH A SHOUT AND YELL. AND SO FORTH. IT WAS THE FIRST TIME OUR COLONEL EVER INSPIRED ANY THING LIKE ENERGY INTO THE MEN. HE IS GENERALLY AND PROFANE AT HS WHICH MAKES THE MEN ALL THE WORSEC BUT YESTERDAY HE TALKED PLEASANTLY TO US EVEN CHEERED US ON IN OUR CHARGE WITH THE PLEASING EXCLAMATION GIVE EM HELL BOYS! OH! HOW WE DID YELL AND FANCIED OURSELVES OFTEN

# 15 CONT

AFTER THE REBELS" WITH A SHARP STICK:" I BELIEVE THE 88th COULD MAKE A SPLendid BEYONET CHARGE. WE WERE GOING TO MAKE ONE THE OTHER DAY IN THE BATTLE CO. II MISUNDERSTOOD THE ORDERS AND STARTED AHEAD THE OTHER COMPANIES STRAIT DOWN HILL FOR THE CORNFIELD, WHEN SEEING OUR MISTAKE WE HALTED AND KEPT ON FIRING AWAY AT THE REBELS. TODAY HAS SEEMED EXACTLY LIKE SUNDAY TO ME. MOST OF THE COMPANIES BEING ABSENT AND PICKET DUTY, SO THAT WE HAVE HAD NO DRILLS. WE HAVE HAD SERVICES THE AFTERNOON. BUT OUR CHAPELAIN BEING UNWELL WE HAD MISERABLE PREACHING. I UNINTERESTING INDEED THAT WHILE LYING ON THE GROUND LISTENING(?) TO THE SERMAN I FELL ASLEEP! WE DO NOT HAVE SERVICES OFTEN WHILE WE ARE MOVING ABOUT SO MUCH AS WE HAVE BEEN THE PAST THREE WEEKS. WE HAD AN INTERESTING TIMES LAST TUESDAY EVENING. THE CHAPLAIN HAD JUST RETURNED FROM HIS CABIN AT THE HOSPITAL AMONG OUR WOUNDED SOME FORTY. HE READ OVER THEIR NAMES , STATED HOW THEY WERE WOUNDED AND HOW THEY FELT. IT HAPPENED THAT MOST OF THEM WERE PROFUSING CHRISTIANS AND ALL BUT A VERY FEW EXPRESSED A WHISH TO BE SUCH IN EARNEST. THE STORIES HE TOLD HAD A GREAT INDLUENCE ON THE SOLDIERS GATHERED AROUND TWICE, AND OFTEN SOME REMARKS HE CALLED TO HIM ALL WHO WERE DETERMINED TO LEAD A DIFFERENT LIFE. TWELVE CAME FORWARD AND KNEELED BEFORE HIM. ONE FROM OUR COMPANY WHO WAS ONCE A CHURCH MEMBER CAME AWAY THE NUMBER. WHEN THE CHAPLAIN ASKED FOR HIS NAME HE JUMPED UP MUCH EXCITED EXCLAIMING " WHAT HAVE I DONE! I DONT WANT TO GO!" AND "WHEN AM I? WHO CAN TELL" ~~EXTXXXXXXXXXX~~ AFTER THIS HE SAT DOWN ON THE GROUND PERFECTLY STUPID AND HAS BEEN SO EVER SINCE, REFUSING TO EAT ANYTHING AND TO SAY A WORD. SAM WALTERS\_ THAT IS HIS NAME\_ WAS A GOOD HEARTED YOUNG MAN, BUT WILD AND RESTLESS. ALWAYS OUT SCOUTING AROUND. HE COULD GET THINGS TO EAT WHEN NO ONE ELSE COULD. HE COULD RUN ANY GUARD IF HE WANTED TO, BUT HE WAS KIND AND GENEROUS. WE MISS HIM VERY MUCH FROM OUR COMPANY AND PROBABLY PITY HIS SAD CONDITION. THIS AFFAIR CAST A SHADOW UPON THE SERVICES THAT EVENING AND HAS BROUGHT MANY A SLUR UPON THE CHAPLAIN. YO U CANNOT REALIZE HOW WE MISS THE SABBATH PRIVILIGES WE ENJOYED AT HOME. WITHOUT THEIR SUNDAY IS NO SUNDAY AND WITHOUT THEM ALL SLACK AND LOOSE IN CAMP. OUR WANT OF NEWS\_ PAPERS CAUSES GREAT IGNORANCE OF MILITARY AFFAIRS AWAY THE ARMY AND EVERY SCRAP OF NEWSIS RECIEVED WITH GREAT INTEREST. WE KNOW LITTLE HOW THINGS ~~XXX~~ ARE GOING DN AND CANNOT JUDGE ABOUT THE PROSPECTS OF A TERMINATION OF THE WAR. THE BOYS START ALL SORTS OF RUMORS WHICH FLY AS THE WINGS OF THE WIND TO EVERY EAR. CREATING OFTEN TIMES GREAT

EXCITEMENT. FOR INSTANCE TODAY A REPORT WAS OUT THAT AN OFFICER WAS  
AROUND SECURRITEY FOR THE REGULAR ARMY THAT THEY WERE TO INCREASE IT  
TO A HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND MEN. OF COURSE THIS MEANT THAT THE  
WAR WAS ENDED AND ALL THE POOR SOLDIERS WERE TO RETURN HOME IN A FEW  
DAYS. BUT THE SOLDIERS ALL SAY THAT THEIR FRIENDS AT HOME ALL TALK OF  
A SPEEDY TERMINATION OF THE TRUGGLE. THEY ALL WISH IT AND WHO WOULD NOT?  
THE WOUNDED REBELS AT PERRYVILLE WERE TIRED OF IT AND LONGED  
TO BE RELEASED. AND IT IS SAID THAT THE REBEL ARMY ARE WITH DIFFICULTY  
KEPT TOGETHER THAT DESERTION ARE CONSTANT OCCURRENCE. IT WOULD SEEM  
NATURAL THAT THE ARMY SHOULD FEEL LO LED AS THEY WERE UP TO THE LIMITS  
ALMOST LOUISVILLE AND CINNCINATI AND NOW FORCED TO BEAT A HASTY  
RETREAT BEFORE THE HATED YANKEES" HOW WE MEN WOULD FEEL TO BE OBLIGED  
TO RETURN TO LOUISVILLE ALL THE WAY BY THE BLOOD\_THIRSTY  
ARMY OF BRAGG. INDEED HOW WE GRUMBLED ON THE FIRST DAYS MARCH WHEN WE  
WERE OBLIGED TO TURN BACK AND TO FAKE ANOTHER. SOME EVEN  
SWORE AND CURSED THAT THEY WERE INDEED BACK AT ALL EVENTS I INTEND TO BE  
PATIENLY TRUSTING THAT ALL IS WELL EVEN SHOULD THRU YEARS ELAPSE ERR  
WE SEE OUR DEAR HOMES. MANY SUCH ACTIVE MARCHES AS WE HAVE PASSED  
THROUGH WOULD SOON DECINATE OUR SAUKS. FULL ONE TENTH OF OUR MEN ARE  
EXCUSED FROM DUTY SINCE HALTING BESIDES, FULL ARE FIFTH WHO WERE  
LEFT BEHIND AND ON THE WAY HERE, ALMOST EVERYONE IS COMPLANNING, I  
HAVE BUT LITTLE REASON TO COMPLAIN FOR I AM ALMOST AS WELL AS ANYONE  
IN THE COMPANY. THANK FUTUNE. AND I HOPE I SHALL NOT GET SICK IN THE  
ARMY AN AWFUL PLACE TO BE SICK. YOU NEED NOT TALK OF COMING TO TAKE  
CARE OF ME FOR WOU COULD NOT GET HERE. WRITE ME VERY OFTEN AND SEND  
RIECES FROM NEWSPAPERS IN YOUR LETTERS ALSO SOME STAMPS NOW AND THEN.  
YESTERDAY WITH ~~IXXX~~ LETTER WERE VERY THANKFULLY RECIEVED.

E



NEAR LANCASTER, WEDNESDAY  
OCTOBER 15th, 1862

MY DEAR FRIENDS AT HOME,

I DO NOT KNOW WHEN I SHALL HAVE AN opportunity to send a letter home, but as the column has halted and a shock of CORNSTALKS INVITE I IMPROVE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO WRITE YOU. I HAVE ALREADY WRITTEN MY JOURNAL FOR YESTERDAY UP TO THE PRESENT AND NOW FOR A FEW WORDS TELLING YOU HOW I FEEL SINCE THE BATTLE, WHAT WE ARE DOING ETC.

THE TONE OF THE MEN HAS CHANGED SINCE THE EVENTFUL HOUR DURING WHICH THEY WERE HELD UNDER DEADLY FIRE FROM A CONSIDERED FOE. BEFORE THEN ALMOST ALL WERE WISHING FOR A FIGHT NOW THEY SAY THAT THEY NEVER WANT TO SEE ANOTHER SEACH! THEY FIND FIGHTING IS NO FUN. BUT EARNEST STERN WORK. YET NOW I KNOW THAT BUT FEW WILL SHRINK A PARTICLE FROM PERFORMING THIS DUTY OF THE SOLDIER. I KNOW I SHALL NOT. AND TRUST I SAY SO WITHOUT BOASTING. I INTEND TO FACE DAYS AND DO MY WHOLE DUTY COME WHATM MAY. BUT BATTLES SELDOM TOUCH AN INDIVIDUAL REJEMENT. OURS WAS IN THE REJEMENT THE OTHER DAY. IT MAY NOT SEE ANOTHER OR TAKEPART IN ANOTHER FORR MANY MONTHS. WE MEET MANY OLD REJEMENTS THAT WERE NEVER UNDER FIRE. STILL WE MAY BECOME "THE BLOODY 88th" AS MANY OF THE BOYS ALREADY CALL IT IN SPORT" OUR ARMY SINCE THE BATTLE HAS BEEN WATCHING THE ENEMY VERY CLOSELY EVERY DAY WE HAVE BEEN ON THE MOVE. AS WE HAVE BEEN IN FACT EVER SINCE WE LEFT LOUISVELLE. NOT A SINGLE WHOLE DAY SINCE THEN HAVE WE STOOD IDLE SOMETIMES WE HALT FOR HOURS X THE GREATER PART OF A DAY IN ONE PLACE, AT OTHERS TIMES, WE HAVE NO GOT OUR COFFEE BROKEN UP AND FIRE WILL ALL EVERLASTING THIS MORNING I HAD GOT MY TIN CUP ON THE FIRE WITH A FEW POTATOES IN IT NICELY COVERED WITH ALL THE WATER I HAD WHEN WE WERE CALLED INTO LINE, AND AWAY WENT THE PRECIOUS WATER TO WASTE AND MY POTATOES INTO MY KNVERSACK, BUT THE CALL WAS ONLY TO STACK ARMS, WHEN WERE ALLOWED TO "REST" AGAIN FOR A FEW MOMENTS DURING WHICH I COOKED A COUPLE OF MY POTATOES AND JUST HAD TIME TO COOK THEM BEFORE WE WERE OFF I ATE ONE AS I WALKED ALONG AND GAVE THE OTHER TO LIENTENAT MILLER.

# 16 CONT.

AN ADVANCE GUARD IS ANOTHER OF BRAGG ALL THE TIME AND COMMANDING IS HEARD AHEAD OF US ALMOST CONSTANTLY WE PRESSED SO CLOSELY YESTERDAY THAT THE BRIDGES AS TWO DIFFERENT CREEKS WERE SMOKING RUINS AS WE PASSED OVER THE BEDS OF THE ALMOST DRY BOTTOM OF EACH. THERE IS SOME HOPES THAT BUELL AND LU. WALLACE FROM COVINGTON WILL "BAJ" THE WHOLEPACK OF REBELS, BUT I THINK HE WILL MAKE HIS WAY CUMBERLAND GAP, THAT TROUBLESOME RAT HOLE OF KW. HE MAY MAKE A STAND BEFORE THEN, BUT I HAVE NO FEARS ABOUT THE RESULT, FOR I AM EVER CONFIDENT OF OUR SUCCESS, AND ALWAYS FEEL THAT I AM MARCHING ON TO VICTORY CAN NOT FEEL OTHERWISE. THE COUNTRY THROUGH WHICH WE PASS IS MOST CHARMING AND OF ITSELF WELL

FOR OUR TRAMP THROUGH IT AND HAVE BECOME AN ARDENT ADMIRER OF MR. HILTONS "OLD KY." THE LAND TO BE SURE IS NOT THE RICH SOIL OF ILL. BUT IT LIES MOST BEAUTIFULLY COVERED WITH VERY SPLENDID GROVES OF BUCK MAPLE OAK HICKORY AND WALNUT. IF YOU SHOULD WISH TO LAY UP A GOOD SUPPLY OF NUTS, ALBERT AND FRED HAD BETTER COME TO KY. FOR THEM. THERE ARE NO PEOPLE HIRE TO GATHER THEN AND THEY CAN HAVE NONE TO DISTURB THEIR O ! SHALL I SEE THE BOYS PICKING UP NUTS DOWN HERE AMONG THE REBELS SOME OF THESE NICE FALL DAYS?! THEY MAY BE BOIL COFFEE IN MY TIN OLD SMOKED UP THING! AND NIBBLE AWAY AT MY HARD CRACKERS. THEY WOULD COME HANDY TOO, FOR CONFISCATION HONEY CHICKEN MUTTON AND SUCH OTHER THINGS AS THEY MIGHT FIND IN REBEL POSSESSION. WE ARE NOT ALLOWED TO LEAVE THE RANKS ON THE MARCH, ELSE WE COULD SUPPLY OURSELVES WITH SUCH DELICIOUS! WHAT! TAKE THINGS WITHOUT PERMISSION FROM HOUSES ALONG THE WAY!" YES SOLDIERS HUNGRY SOLDIERS HAVE NO consciences especially when tired with THE DAYS MARCH AND WITH LAVER\_ SACK EMPTY. THEREFORE THEN I EVEN I WOULD NOT HESITATE TO TAKE ANY EAT\_ ABLE THAT COMES HANDY. LAST NIGHT WE ARRIVED IN CAMP AT DARK, ALL TIRED AND HUNGRY BACON AND MEAT ALL GONE I DETERMINED TO SALLY FORTH FOR A SUPPER. WE WENT TO A HOUSE WHERE AN OLD NEGRO LADY SEEMED TO HAVE THE SAY. I FIRST PURCHASED SOME CORNMEAL FOR WHICH I PAID IN THE SURPLUS COFFEE I HAPPENED TO HAVE IN MY LAVERSACK. I ALSO GOT SOME FLOUR. I STEPPED INTO ANOTHER ROOM AND FOUND SOME 88 BOYS SITTING AT THE TABLE WITH HOT COFFEE (SOME THEY FURNISHED) AND HOT CAKES SMOKING BEYOND THEM. THEY URGED ME TO SIT DOWN AND HELP THEM FINISH THE MEAL. I DID SO WITHOUT HESITATION AND O HOW GOOD CORNBREAD TASTED TO ME WITH EVEN NO BUTTER NOR SAUCE UPON IT! WE GET TIRED OF CRACKERS AND JUMP AT THE SIGHT OF CORNMEAL. MANY A TIME HAVE I SCRAPED ENOUGH MEAL

# 16 CONT.

FROM AN EAR OF CORN T<sup>U</sup> makez A CUP OF HASTY PUDDING. IT SEEMS too bad that thou we pass by hundreds of acre of standing cotn DAILY, WE CAN HAVE NONE FOR A VARIETY. THE INHABITANTS ALONG THE ROAD ARE ALL BUT & STARVED, NO FLOUR, NO MEAL, NO ANYTHING, THE REBEL ARMY HAVE STRIPPED THEM OF EVERYTHIN . SOME SAY THAT ~~THEIR~~ THEIR SON HAVE LOST THEIR MEAL AN THE WAY HOME FROM MILE AND EVEN THEMSELVES HAVE BEEN PRESSED INTO THE REBEL SERVICE . WHAT KY. WILL DO NEXT WINTER I CNANOT TELL POOR AS POVERTY NOW, SHE MUST STARVE THERE UNLESS PEACE IS HASTILY RESTUNED AND GOVERNMENT AWAY HER CITIZENS IS MIRACULOUSLY FROM SET\_ ABLESHED. ONLY THINK AW AWAY I HEADING GROUND IT HAS HELD BEFORE AND OVER WHICH THOUSANDS OF REBELS HOOFS HAVE CLANKED. ~~SHE~~ STRIPPEI OF HIS INHABITANTS AND OF HER WEALTH. KY. HAS PAID DEARLY FOR THE NEW .SHE HAS TRIED TO MAINTAIN IN A STRUGGLE, SHE MUST HAVE KNOWN AFFECTED HER AS WELL AS THE WHOLE NATIONS. IT IS THURSDAY NOW THE 16th WE HAVE BEEN IDLE ALL DAY ENCAMPED IN OUR GREAT FIELD OF CAMP NEAR CRABORCHARD, AND DICKS RIVER, ABOUT HALF WAY BETWEEN LOUISVILLE AND CUMBERLAND GAP. I KNOW NOT WHY WE ARE IDLE TO DAY UNLESS WE HAVE LOST TRACK OF BRAGG. I" ALMOST KNOW HE WILL ESCAPE OUR CLUTCHES. BUT I EARNESTLY HOPE WE WILL BAGG HIS WHOLE FORCE AND STOP TREASON IN OUR STATE AT LEAST. WE HAVE ME ENOUGH, IT SEEMS TO ME AND CANNOT WE DO IT? TIME WILL TELL. YOU AND I LOOK EAGERLY FORWARD TO SOME END OF THESE TROUBLES. YOU HAVE A GENERAL INTEREST IN THE WAR. I WATCH NOT A MOVEMENT ON THE POTOMAC AN SEACROST. BY WHOLE INTREST IS IN OUR NOBLE ARMY. I COULD NOT IS I SHOULD TRY KEEEP MOVEMENTS AT THE EAST IN MY VIEW FOR WE HEAR NOTHING OF THE WORLD AROUND US. THE AMERICAN NEWS IS HEARD SOONER AND MORE ACCURATELY IN ENGLAND THAN IN THE ARMY. A PAPER A MONTH OLD IS A CUR PERHAPS IS WILL NOT BE SO WHEN WE GET SETTLED SOME WHEN NEW COMMUNICATION IS ALMOST WHOLLY CUT OFFF. AND SINCE THIS IS SO I WANT YOU TO TELL MY EVERYTHING ACCURING AT HOMEAND ABROAD, YOU KNOW NOT HOW I AM INTEREDTED IN READING YOUR LETTERS WRITE HALF ENOUGH SEND PIECES CUT FROM THE DAILY PAPER OF INTEREST TO ME ABOUT LATE BATTLES OR ANYTHING OF MY REFEMENTS. I HAVE NOT EVEN SEEN THE PRESIDENTS PROCLAMATION YET, ONLY HEARD OF IT. MUST WRITE VERY MUCH TO ME IF YOU WOULD PLEASE ME. SERGANT MEACHAM! I AM SORRY TO SAY FELL OUT OF THE RANKS YESTERDAY AND WAS CARRIED IN THE AEBULANCE WHEN HE HAS BEEN TODAY. I HOPE HE WILL SONN GET STRONGER AND BECOME AS RUGGED AS MYSELF. I SEE ME. VERY OFTEN, THE ROCK ISLAND BOYS ARE ALL WELL BUT SAMUEL ODELL. HE HAS BEEN LEFT BEHIND SENT BACK TO LOUISVILLE"

# 16 CONT.

I BELIEVE POSSIBLY WILL BE DISCHARGED ~~ANXAX&E&MMHTX&ERE~~ ON ACCONT  
ANFECTION OF THE LUNGS. ARMOR SHEPPARD I SHOULD ALSO SAY IS BEHIND  
SICK IS UNWELL. I KNOW NOT HOW SERIOUSLY. I TRUST I SHALL CONTINUE IN  
GOOD HEALTH AD SAFELY RETURN HOMR TO MY FRIENDS SOON.

EUGENE

SIDEMOTES: I KEEP MY JOURNAL WHICH WILL BE OF SOME INTEREST TO YOU  
I SHALL SEND IT ABOUT THE FIRST OF JANUARY I SEND TO FATHER A NOT  
IRSHIAH GAVE ME AT CHICAGO FOR MONEY HE BORROWED.

E

SEND ME POSTAGE STAMPS!

# 17

IN CAMP AT ROLLING FORK  
SIX MILES FROM LEBANON  
OCT. 23rd 1862

MY DEAR PARENTS,

WE ARE JUST SITTING BY OUR GUNS ON OUR KNAPSACKS THIS COOL BRIGHT MORNING AWAITING ORDERS TO FALL IN AND BE OFF AS ANOTHER HARD DAYS MARCH. LAST NIGHT ENDED AN AWFUL KILLING MARCH OF THREE DAYS. YESTERDAY WE TRAVELED OVER TWENTY MILES ON THE MACADANIZED KY. PIKE. THE GREAT INSTITUTION OF THE STATE. YOU MUST BELIEVE MY FEET WERE AS WE HALTED AT NIGHT. I NEVER SUFFERED. SO BEFORE FROM TRAVELING. AS WE WOULD HALT YESTERDAY AFTERNOON FOR A FEW MINUTES IN GETTING UP I LIMPED EVEN AND COULD WALK ONLY WITH PAIN. WHEN I GOT TO GOING HOWEVER I GOT ALONG VERY WELL. I KNOW NOT WITHIN WE ARE GOING. SOME SAY TO LOUISVILLE SOME SAY TO NASHVILLE. SO YOU MUST NOT SEND ME THINGS UNTIL FURTHER ORDERS. YOU KNEW NOT HOW GLAD I WAS TO RECEIVE A LETTER FROM HOME LAST NIGHT. I COULD SCARCELY KEEP THE TEARS FROM MY EYES AS I READ OF YOUR ANXIETY FOR ME. I THANK HEAVEN THAT I AM SAFE. I TRUST YOU HAVE RECEIVED MY LETTERS BEFORE THIS TELLING ABOUT THE BATTLE. YOU INQUIRE AS TO MY SUPERIOR OFFICERS. COL. SHERMAN COMMANDS OUR REGIMENT GEN. GREUSEL OUR BRIGADE (37th) GEN SHERIDAN OUR DIVISION (11th) GEN GELBERT OUR CORPS OF THE ARMY OF THE OHIO WHICH BUELL COMMANDS. OTHER DIVISIONS COMMANDERS ARE CRITTENDEN, DURUANT, MCCOOK, RISSEAN, SMITH THOMAS ETC. SOME OF THESE COMMANDS ARE PRESSING THE REBELS TOWARD COMBERLAND GAP. WHILE WE ARE GOING BACK SOMEWHERE. I SEND F.S. LETTER. I RECEIVED LAST EVENING. DIRECT LETTERS AS BEFORE I AM AFFECTIONATLY

EUGENE

SIDENOTES: I HAVE NO MORE TIME NOW. SEND ME STAMPS AND EXTRACTS FROM PAPERS. REMEMBER ME TO ALL INQUIRING FRIENDS. I WOULD LOVE DEARLY TO BE AT HOME, BUT WILLINGLY DO MY DUTY. I CAN APPRECIATE HOME COMFORTS WHEN I RETURN.

E

BOWLING GR ? KY.  
NOV. 3rd 1862

MY DEAR FATHER:

WE ARRIVED HERE LAST SATURDAY EVENING AFTER HARD MARCHING FROM DANVILLE FOR RATHER NEAR THERE ON THE ROLLING FORK WHEN I RECEIVED YOUR LETTERS REJOICING AT MY SAFETY IN THE BATTLE OF PERRYSVILLE. BOWLING G. IS NOT MUCH OF A PLACE PERHAPS A LARGER AS PT. B. THE R.R. FROM LOUISVILLE IS COMPLETED TO THIS POINT. SOON WILL BE OPENED TO NASHVILLE. IT IS NOT KNOWN BY US WHEN WE SHALL GO FROM HERE OR WHERE. I FEAR TO GO TO NASHVILLE WE PROBABLY WILL GO AFOOT AS USUAL I HOPE WE MAY REMAIN A FEW DAYS ANYWAY FOR I AM SO FOOTSORE THAT I CAN SCARCELY WALK UP IN THERE. IN FACT I HALF OF THE WAY THE LAST TWO DAYS MARCH. WE ARE SO FORTUNATE AS TO HAVE GOT OUR TENTS YESTERDAY IT HAVING BEEN A MONTH SINCE WE PARTED WITH THEM AT LOUISVILLE. THERE WILL NOT BE SO MUCH

HEREAFTER I HOPE. I HAVE A SLIGHT COLD, AND WITH THIS EXCEPTION AM IN GOOD HEALTH. I AM ALSO HAPPY TO INFORM YOU THAT I GET SOME NEW SHOES AND PANTS TODAY OR TOMMORROW MY OLD ONES BEING USED UP. THE LATTER BEING OUT IN PLACES! WE GET SKY BLUE THIS TIME OUR OLD WERE DARK BLUE LIKE THE REST OF OUR UNIFORM. THE R.I. BOYS ARE GENERALLY WELL SAM ODELL BEING IN LOUISVILLE. GUS. HAZELTON IS QUITE SICK AT A PRIVATE HOUSE IN BOWLING GREEN. WE SHALL DO ALL THAT WE CAN FOR HIM. WRITE SOON SEND PAPERS IF YOU THINK BEST. I GET ONLY A FEW.

I AM TRULY,

EUGENE

SIDENOTES: THE SUNDAY SCHOOL WERE GLADLY RECEIVED  
I SEND SOME PERCIUMMON SEEDS I PICKED ON THE WEARY MARCH \_ PLANT THEM

CAMP OF THE 88th  
NASHVILLE, TENN.  
SAT. NOV. 8th, 1862

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME,  
NIGHT BEFORE LAST AFTER A NICE LITTLE MARCH OF TWENTY THREE MILES AS  
WE LAY AROUND OUR CAMP FIRE BEFORE THE CAMPTAINS TENT THE POST MASTER  
A BRIGHT BOY THEY CALL CHARLIE HANDED A LITTLE BUNCH OF LETTERS FOR  
COMPANY II TO THE CAPTAIN. I MERELY GLANCED UP FROM THE PANCAKES I  
WAS FRYING AND BUTTERING! AS FAST AS FRIED FOR I COULD NOT BELIEVE ONE  
FOR ME WAS AMONG THE SIX OR EIGHT HE HAD. BUT WHEN SERGANT LYFORDS  
NAME WAS CALLED YOU BETTER BEFIEVE MY KNIFE DROPPED AND MY FINGERS  
EXTENDED IN A TWINKLING TO CATCH THE LETTER AS HE THRUS IT AT ME!  
~~XXXX~~ MARY YOU DISCUSSED VERY SAFELY AN THE TOPICS OF THE DAY. I BELIEVE  
THAT WAS ABOUT THE MOST SENSIBLE OF MOUR LETTERS TO ME YOUR OPINION  
OF OLD BUELL IS THE SAME AS ALL OF US HOLD. AS WE HØVE SEEN HIM AND HIS  
LONG TRAIN OF CAVALRY MEN POSS US, WE ALWAYS THOUGHT HIM AN OLD FOGY FOGY  
AS WWELL AS AN OLD GRANNY AND THOUGHT IT NOT STRANGE IF HE WAS A TRAITOR  
AT LEAST! THE STORY GOES AMONG the boys that as the hospital when th  
wounded rebels RUN LEFT AT PERRYVILLE ONE OF OUR MEN ASKED A REBEL  
WHAT KIND OF A GENERAL BUELL WAS HE WANTED TO KNOW "WHAT BUELL" FOR  
GEN BUELL COMMANDED THEIR ARMY! SOME OF THE MEN SAY IT IS THEIR BELIEF  
THAT THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE WAS A AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TWO GENT  
BUELL AND BRAGG AT LEAST A SHAW FIGHT BUT MANY BRAVE MEN AND SOME BRAVE  
COMMANDERS FOUGHT WITH TERRIBLE EARNESTMESS AND FOUND A PATRIOTS GRAVE  
HOW EAGERLY THE 88th HAVE FOLLOWED THE REBELS UP THAT VERY NIGHT  
FOR TWENTY MILES ANDHOW EASILY COMES WE HAVE DØNE OUR PARÇ IN  
ENTRAPPING THE WHOLE ARMY OF BRAGG! THERE SHAME IN THE TRUDENESS OF  
BUELL IN ORDING THE FIRING TO CEASE AND FOR HOLDING US BACK, EAGER TO  
FOLLOW UP THE TRACK OF THE RETREATING FOR! SHAME FOR EVER AND INFAMMY  
IN HIS NAME! WE ARE ALL DISGUSTED WITH THE MAN. WE HAIL ROSENCRANS  
AS OUR LEADER AND THE WEARY HOURS SEEMED SHORTER WHBRE WE HEARD  
OF THE HAPPY CHARGE. WE ARE ALSO PLEASED TO HAVE A BIGHTING GENERAL  
TO COMMAND OUR CORPS. GEN MCCOOK IS WELL SPOKEN OF I BELIEVE GENERALLY  
OUR DIVISION COMMANDER GEN SHERIDAN WE SEE ALMOST EVERY DAY. I KNOW  
LITTLE OF HIM AND HEAR BUT LITTLE ~~ARE~~ ALL I CAN SAY AGAINST HIM IS THAT  
HE ~~AM~~ IS AN INFERRIOR LOOKING MAN AND WILL DRINK. SO IN THE LATTER RESPECT  
OUR BRIGADIER AND COL BRIG GEN. GRENSIL IS MUCH LIKED BY ALL THO WHEN  
DIVERD WE WILL SWEAR AND BELLOW

WHEN ORKED HE WILL SWEAR AND BELLOW DREADFULLY. HE IS THE OLD COL. OF  
36th ILL. WHO ARE WITH US ONE OF THE REFIMENTS OF OUR BRIGADE AND  
HAVE PEA RIDGE TO AN THEIR FATTEND BANNER. THEY ARE  
OLD SOJERS UP TO ANY SSPORT INTO ANY MWSCHIEF  
YOU SPEAK OF THE PT. BYRON BOYS BEING TIRED" OFTM THE SERVICE. HA!  
YOU WOULD LAUGH (OR CRY) TO HEAR SOME OF OUR MEN CRY OUT AGAIN GENERALS  
AND EVERYTHING ELSE ALMY TOWARDS NIGHT AFTER WALKING AN AND ON FOR MANY  
MILES ON THE LAND KY. PIKE. O! HOW THEY WILL GROVEL AND SWEAR SOME\_  
TIMES ESPECIALLY IF THERE IS NO SIGN OF A HALT. TIS REALLY PLEASING TO  
SEE THE 88th NOW AND COMPARE IT WITH THE 2nd BOARD OF TRADE REJEMENT OF  
SEpt. the 1st THERE ALL was morn and juMPING AND DANCING AND SINGING  
AND HURRAHING NOW WE ABE SOBER AS DEATNIS THO OUR LANGUAGE IS NOT SO  
REPRIED AS A GENERAL THING. ALL OUR LITTLE TRAMPS FROM DEPOT TO CAMP  
AND FROM CAMB TO DEPOT TWO MONTHS AGO WE YELLED OR CHEERED AT EVERY  
FLAG OR DEMENSTRATION. NOW WE PASS ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING WITHOUT  
A WORD FROM OUR LIPS A SILENT, DUMB DUSTY TRAIN. EVERY MAN FIXING  
HIS EYES ON THE HEELS OF THE MAN BEFORE HIM TO KEEP FROM RUNNING UP  
AGAINST HIM WEHEN HE STOPS. I HAVE KNOWN THE REJEMENT TO MARCH ALMOST  
FOR HOURS SO SILENT ALONG THE DUSTY PIKE THAT NOTHING COULD BE HEARD  
BUT THE RUMBLING OF WAXERXWM WAGON WHEELS AS THE CLATTERING HOOFS  
THE RATTLING OF TIN CUPS YOTER CANS PAILS OR THE HUNDREDS UTENSILS  
SHOPPED TO THE SOLDIERS ON COOKING PURPOSES



~~22~~ # 19 cont.

ON LAST FRIDAY LAST DAYS I MARCH WE PASSED TWO HOUSES ALL IN FIRE SET BY ORDER. THE WOMAN WHO ( ) THERE HAD ENDEAORNED TO PIRIERE A WELL OUT OF WHICH SOME OF OUR OFFICERS DRAUD AND CAME NEAR LOOSING THEIR LIVES. AS WE PASSED BY A HOUSE NEAR BY THESE WE SAW A UNION?FLAD IN THE WINDOW AS MUCH AS TO SAY "DONT HURT US" IT IS DIFFICULT TO DISTQUISH BETWEEN A LOVER OF THE UNION AND A SOUTHERNER HERE. ~~ARE~~ ALL MUST SUFFER TOGETHER WITH OUT MUCH DISTINCTION O WHAT DESTRUCTION GOES ALONG WITH AN ARMY. FENCES CURUB UP HOUSES PLUNDERED, FIELDS STRIPPED AND EVERYTHING LAYED WASTE WHERE A FEW THOUSAND MEN HAPPEN TO LOEB EVER NIGHT. MEN ARE NOT ALLOWED, HOWEVER TO LEAVE THE RANKS DURING THE MARCH, THO   MANY DO IT AND ALMOST EVERY HOUSE IS ENTEND ALAY THE , GENERALLY THE BOYS ARE WILLING TO PAY A GOOD PRICE FOR THE THINGS THEY GET, BUT SOME TAKE A BEE HIVE AS ANYTHING IN THE VERY SIGHT OF THE INNER. ~~ARE~~ ONE OF OUR BOYS I UNDERSTAND WENT INTO A HOUSE AND GOT THE FIRE TO SMOKE THE BUS<sup>EE</sup> OUT BESIDES TAKING THE HONEY. AS WE APPROACHED THE SUBBUBS OF THE CITY ON THIS SIDE OF THE RIVER THE HOUSES BECAME NIM FREQUENT AND BEAUTIFUL. WE SAW SEVERAL LAYE, HANDSOME RESIDENCY IN THE GROVES OF TOLL ELMS WHICH SEEM TO ABOUND ON THIS SIDE. BUT NO FLAGS WAVED FROM THE WINDOWS AS ~~TK~~ AT CINNICINATI NONE~~X~~ BUT COLORED FACES SEEMED TO OCCUPY THE FIMMES HAPPY HOUSES OF NOW RUINED MEN. THE REGEMENT BROKE INTO PLATOM AND THE BAND PLAYED ITS BEST FOR A SHORT TIME ONLY WHEN WE WHILED BACK INTO ~~THE~~ COLUMN OF RANKS AND MUSIC CEASED AS IF IT WOULD NOT PAY TO PUT US AIR BEFORE EMPTY BUILDINGS. WE ARE ENCAMPED NOW IN A BEAUTIFUL GROVE NOT IN SIGHT OF THE CITY, BUT HALF A MILE OR MORE FROM THE RIVER. I HAVE NOT ~~RRYED~~ TO CROSS THE RIVER YET, FOR SO FAR IT HAS BEEN IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO GET AWAY I UNDERSTAND THAT I CAN GET A PASS TOMORROW AND IF I CAN I SHALL CAPT. WHITRUS COMPANY PROBABLY AND ALL THE PT. B. BOYS IN IT NOW. IT WILL BE PLEASANT TRULY I HOPE I CAN. THE TROOPS THAT ARE HERE HAVE BEEN ON HALF SATIM FOR MONTHS SHUT OUT FROM ALL THE WORLD. THEY SAY WE LOOK THIN AND WORN OUT. SHOULD YOU NOT THINK WE WOULD LOOK SO? I H~~ODE~~ WE SHALL BE PERMITTED TO STAY HERE AND RECRUIT UP AND THAT THEY WHO HAVE BEEN LYING STILL SO LONG HERE WILL BE ORDERED AWAY, IF ANY ARE TO BE. WE OFFICERS IF I MAY MYSELF AWAY THAT NUMBER HAVE FACED VERY WELL SINCE WE HAVE BEEN HERE, THE BOYS BROUGHT US IN A QUARTER OF NICE MUTTON. SOME TURNIPS ETC. A FELLOW FROM OUR COMPANY WHO IS BRIGADE FORAGE MASTER BRINGS IN SOMETHING

~~#2 CONT.~~

# 19 CONT.

GOOD ALMOST EVERY NIGHT I GENERALLY DO THE COOKING OR PART OF IT. LIENT. M. HAS A NEGRO BOY HE PICKED UP AFTER THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE WHO SEES TO CLEANING UP THE DISHES. SO WE ARE GETTING ALONG NICELY NOW. IF WE STAY HERE A FEW WEEKS I SHALL HAVE TIME TO WRITE TO ALL MY FRIENDS. I HAVE NOT WRITTEN TO CHARLOTTE'S YET TO ANNIE AND FREY BUT ONCE SINCE I ENLISTED. I WANT TO WRITE TO MY SUNDAY SCHOOL AS SOON AS I CAN GET TIME TO COLLECT MY THOUGHTS AND FORGET DETAILS AND DRAWING VALIONS. ROLL CALLS ETC.ETC. AS TO MY THINGS I WANT YOU TO SEND ME I CANNOT TELL AT PRESENT WHERE TO HAVE THEM SENT. THEY CANNOT BE SENT HERE NOW FOR THE RAILROAD IS NOT COMPLETED THROUGH YET. IT IS EXPECTED THAT THE CARS WILL NOT BE RUNNING THROUGH TO NASHVILLE FOR SEVERAL DAYS PERHAPS WEEKS. YOU MAY MAIL EMAIL OR SEND THEM HERE AS YOU PLEASE YOU KNOW ~~WHEREXAND~~ WHEN AND WHERE WE SHALL GO AS WELL AS OURSELVES. I SHALL WRITE SOON AGAIN. YOU MUST WRITE AS OFTEN AS POSSIBEE TELLING ALL THE NEWS WHILE I REMAIN

TRULY AND AFFECTIONALELY

EUGENE

SIDENOTES: SUNDAY AM 9th

the CUMMAISSARY TRAIN BACK TO MICHELVILLE THIS MORNING SO I WILL SEND YOU THE THE HALF WRITTEN LETTER IT WILL ASSUM YOU OF MY GOOD HEALTH AND SAFE ARRIVAL IN NASHVILLE OFTEN PASSING A HARD MARCH. I KNOW NOT HOW I CAN WRITE YOU YOU NEED NOT SEND MY THINGS UNTIL I WHEN WE SHALL WINTER I WILL WRITE E

MONDAY MORNING NOV. 11 1862

THIS LETTER IS BUT A CONTINUATION OF THE ONE I SENT OFF IN A HURRY  
 YESTERDAY E

YES, MANY OF OUR BOYS ARE TIRED OF THE WAR, WISH THEMSELVES HOME,  
 WISH THEY HAD NEVER COME ETC.ETC. I DO NOT WISH AS THEY I EXPECTED  
 MANY OF THE PRIVATIONS THAT I HAVE FOUND, BUT I REALLY NEVER THOUGHT  
 IT WHAT IT IS AND HAS BEEN WITH US LEFT LOUISVILLE OCT. 1st  
 AND HAVE TRAVELLED 38 MILES SINCE THEN ~~XXXX~~ AVERAGING 1" MILES ADAY.  
 SOME DAYS WE HAVE RUN OUR 2" MILES ~~XX~~ SOME DAYS WE HAVE LAIN IDLE .  
 WE HAD NO TENTS AN THE CAMPAIGN UNTIL FOUR DAYS AGO. I ASSURE YOU THEY  
 SEEMED LIKE HOME. THE THREE OFFICERS AND I OCCUPY ONE TENT I ROOM ?  
 WITH THEM AND LIVE AS WELL AS THEY. I MANAGE TO CARRY BUT LITTLE MORE  
 THAN OUR CAPTAIN IN THE MARCH. THE LIEUTENANTS CARRY SOME THINGS FOR  
 ME IN THEIR SACHEL AND OTHER MINOR TRAPS I TUCK INTO OUR TENT. SO I  
 VIRTUALLY CARRY NO KNAPSACK. LIUENT. BALL IS ~~XXXX~~ ABOUT USED UP AND  
 TALKS OF RESIGNING. LIEUT. MILLER IS GOING TO TRY TO GET A POSITION  
 FROM HIS COUSIN, WHO IS BRIG. GEN. SICK AT NASHVILLE. SOTHERE WILL  
 PROBABLY BE A CHANGE SOME IN OUR COMPANY OFFICERS. YOU NEED NOT  
 THINK THAT I FARE WORSE IN MY POSITION THAT DO LIEUTNANTS AND CAPTAIN.  
 IT IS HARD AS THOSE WHO CARRY THEIR BED AND BOARD ON THERE BACKS.  
 THE MOST BLESSED IN THE ARMY AS THE MOUNTED MEN WHO ONLY ~~KEEP~~ ALONG  
 WITH FOOT SOLDIERS. I HAVE RIDDEN ONLY A FEW TIMES. TWO HALF DAYS  
 ON THE BAGGAGE WAGON GOING TO BOWLING GREEN AND THE PART OF TWO DAYS  
 COMING TO NASHVILLE. WHEN THE CHAPLAIN KINDLY LET ME RIDE HIS HORSE  
 AND THAT TOO WITHOUT ASKING. I SUPPOSE I MUST TELL YOU SOMETHING OF  
 OUR LONG MARCH HERE OF ~~XXXX~~ NEAR FOUR HUNDRED MILES FROM LOUISVILLE, KY.  
 WE WERE A LITTLE MON HOW THIRTY DAYS PERFORMING IT, THE ~~WEATHER~~ HAS  
 FAVORED US, WONDERFULLY WE BEING BUT A FEW TIMES COMPELLED TO SLEEP  
 OUT WET NIGHTS OR MARCH IN THE RAIN. THE ROAD HOWEVER HAS BEEN VERY  
 DRY, AND DUSTY WE SOMETIMES SCARCELY ABLE TO DISTUIQUISH ONE FROM  
 ANOTHER. YOU WOULD NOT HAVE KNOWN ME HAD Y OU STOOD BY THE ROAD SIDE  
 AS WE PASSED. MRS. JOE DOW, HOWEVER PICKED ME OUT AS WE PASSED THROUGH  
 CHICAGØ. ALMOST A DUSTY AS WE HAVE EVER BEEN SINCE. WE THOUGHT THAT  
 FIVE MILES MARCH WES DREADFUL TRUE IT WAS HARD ON US GREEN AS WE WERE

# 20 CONT.

BUT IT IS LITTLE TO COMPARED WITH WHAT WE HAVE ENDURED SINCE, NOW WE CARE NOT FOR DIRT, HEAT, RAIN, OR COLD. WHEN TIRED WE TIE DOWN ANYWHERE EVEN IN THE CENTER OF THE ROAD, HOW WOULD I LOOK LYING DOWN IN THE ROAD FRONT OF THE DRY STORE. YET I HAVE DONE SO IN THE STREETS OF SOME OF THE KENTUCKY CITIES! A SOLDIER CARES FOR NOTHING WHEN BROWN WITH DUST FROM HEAD TO FOOT. YOUR LETTER THAT YOU KNOW ABOUT AS MUCH IF NOT MORE OF THE KEYUCKY OR RATHER "CUMBERLAND " ARMY THAN WE WHO COMPASS IT. WHEN WE LEFT OUR CAMP NEAR CRAB ORCHARD WE SUPPOSED WE WOULD GO TO LEBANON AND TAKE THE CARS EITHER FOR LOUISVILLE OR NASHVILLE. WE DID NOT SEE LEBANON, BUT WENT AROUND IT TO BOWLING GREEN. CONTRARY TO OUR EXPECTATIONS WE ONLY STAYED AT THE CITY OF SIX THOUSAND INHABITANTS BUT TWO DAYS, WE GOT SOME CLOTHING. I GOT ME A PAIR OF SKY BLUE PANTS OF MUCH BETTER MATERIAL THAN THE DARK BLUE ONES WE GOT AT CHICAGO. WE ALL HAD A GOOD OPPORTUNITY TO CLEAN UP ~~THIXX~~ WITH THE WATER IN GREAT BARREN RIVER. BUT WE BRUSHED OFF THE DUST ONLY TO BE COVERED AGAIN IN THE TRAMP OF 60 MILES IN FOUR DAYS TO THIS CITY. ON WEDNESDAY WE PASSED THE STATE LINE INTO TENNESSEE. AS WE PASSED THE STONE HEAT MARKED THE BOUNDARY A FAINT CHEER WAS GIVEN AND ALL SEEMED TO WALK AND BREATH MORE FREELY "GLAD" TO GET OUT OF THE WILDERNESS" FULLY SATISFIED WITH OUR EXPERIENCE IN KY. ASSUMED THAT WE HAD SEEN ENOUGH OF HER. THERE SEEMED TO BE NO DIFFERENCE IN THE GENERAL ASPECT OF THE TWO STATES, Save that her wind HAD SHIFTED DURING THE DAY AND BLEW COLD AT NIGHT. I ALSO HUNTED UP THE 51st ILL. BUT THEY WERE OUT ON REVIEW, SO ~~XMX~~ THAT I SAW ONLY TWO OF THE BOYS. I FIRST MET "PUD BELL" THE SAME LITTLE ROUND FACED SOQUE HE WAS WHEN HE LEFT HIS HOME ? JAMES SHEPPARD WAS ON GUARD SOMEWHERE BUT I COULD NOT FIND HIM, BUT I WAS TOLD THAT HE "STOOD IT" WELL I HAD A LONG TALK WITH MARCELLAS METZGAR IN THE ADJUTANTS OFFICE WHERE HE WAS STAYING WHILE THE REJ. WAS OUT. HE IS LOOKING VERY HEALTHY AND SEEM TO BE ENJOYING HIMSELF VERY MUCH. HE SAYS HIS EXTRA PAY AS CLERK OF FOUR CENTS A DAY IS PLAYED OUT SO THAT HE NOW RECIEVES ONLY SOLDIERS WAGES BUT HE HAS AN EASY TIME OF IT. HE CAME PART OF THE WAY OVER WITH ME TO CAMP. WOULD HAVE COME CLEAR OVER BUT THOUGHT IT TOO FAR. HOWEVER HE RODE OVER NEXT DAY AND SAW THE ROCK ISLAND BOYS. I ASSURE YOU HE WAS GLAD TO SEE THEM. I SUPPOSE HIS REJ. LEFT NASHVILLE ABREARDY AS MANY TROOPS ARE LEAVING TODAY. I KNOW NOT HOW SOON WE MAY GO TO. AS TO DAVID W. HE IS IN THE 24TH WISCONSIN REG. OF OUR BREGADE. I SEE HIM FREQUENTLY HE HAS KEPT WELL ALL THE TIME AND TAKES GOOD CARE OF HIMSELF

# 20 CONT.

I JUDGE. HIS FRIENDS NEED NOT BE ALARMED ABOUT HIM I HAVE NOT SEEN MCCASKY SINCE THE DIVISIONS SEPARATED AT CRAB ORCHARD AWAY UP IN KY. I SUPPOSE THEY HAVE EITHER GONE ON TO CUMBERLAND GAP OR MARCHED BACK TO LOUISVILLE. OUR DIVISION WAS REVIEWED THE OTHER DAY BY GEN ROSENCRANS NOTICING THAT I HAD NO KNAPSACK AN HE PLEASANTLY REMARKED AS HE RODE BY. "SERJANT GET ALL THE LAW ALLWS YOU, AND KEEP IT. REMEMBER THAT SERGANT ORDERLY SERGANT" WE WERE STANDING AT "PRESENT ARMS" I REMAINED IN THE STEADY POSITION OF A SOLDIER NEITHER LOOKING TO THE RIGHT OR THE LEFT. I DID NOT LOOK UP AT HIM, tho i knew he was speaking to me, but as he SAID THE LAST TWO WORDS I BOWED MY HEAD AND HE RODE BY. HE JOKED PLEASANTLY WITH THE BOYS AS HE PASSED SLOWLY UP AND DOWN THE RANKS FOLLOWED BY HIS LONG TRAIN OF MOUNTED OFFECER AND MEN AWAY WHOM I NOTICED OUR DIVISION GEN. SHERIDAN, GEN. ,MCCOOK AND OTHERS CONNECTED WITH THIS ARMY CORPS. WE PREPARED FOR REVIEW AT THREE OCLOCK BUT GEN. R. DID NOT COME UNTIL SUNDOWN AND IT WAS SO DARK THAT I ACTUALLY COULD NOT DISTINGUISH HIS FEATURES ~~MYSELF~~ SO THAT I SHOULD HARDLYK KNOW HIM TO SEE HIM AGAIN. WE ARE ALL PLEASD THAT THE UNION ARMY IS OUT OF THE HANDS OF MCCLENNAND BUELL BOTH VERY SUSPICIOUS CHARACTERS. MUCH AS I ONCE THOUGHT OF THE FORMER. I NOW HARDLY KNOW WHETHER TO CALL HIM A TRAITOR OR AN INCAPABLE GENERAL. I HOPE THE WAR MAY SOON END BUT THE FUTURE IS DARK AND TO CONTENT MYSELF AND TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT I PLACE THE END FAR OFF. I AM VERY SORRY TO HEAR OF MR. TAYLORS DEATH. BUT MANY HAVE BOYS MUST FALL I ALSO HEAR TODAY THROU LIENT. MILLER OF TH DEATH OF MY CLASSMATE AT GALESBURG SHIELD MANY WILL PROBABLY REMEMBER HIM. HE WAS A HOMELY BUT GOOD HEARTED FELLOW. IS A LITTLE UNWELL. NEETCOLF HAS A LAME FOOT. THE OTHER R.I. BOYS ARE WELL, WHO ARE WITH US. I HAVE NOT HEARD FROM HAZELTIN. WE LEFT HIM AT BOWLING GREEN. I HOPE TO SEEE HIM WITH HIS COMPANY SOON AGAIN. I LEAVE IT WITH YOU TO SEND MY THINGS OR NOT TO ME AT NASHVILLE, TENN. I AM CREDIBLY INFORMED THAT THE R.R. WILL BE OPEDED TO LOUISVILLE IN A FEW DAYS. IT CAN COME TO NASHVILLE BUT WHETHER WE SHALL REMAIN OR NOT IS A QUESTION DO AS YOU PLEASE.

TRUELY  
EUGENE

CAMP OF THE 88th ILL VOL.  
NEAR NASHVILLE, TENN. NOV. 16-

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME

BEFORE DINNER I RECIEVED A LETTER FROM YOU AND NOW THet THE DINNER IS THROUGH AND YOUR GOOD LETTER READ. I SHALL ENDEAVOR TO TALK TO YOU ABOUT MATTERS AND THINGS "AWAY DOWN SOUTH IN DIXIE" YOURS WAS WRITTEN JUST ONE WEEK AGO TODAY (SUNDAY) I WONDER IF YOU WERE SITTING BY THAT STOVE IN THE SITTING ROOM AND I WONDER IF YOU HAD ANYTHING LIKE WINTER UP IN THAT WONDERFUL TOWN OF PORT BYRON. WE IF I RECOLLECT RIGHTLY ENJOYED A BEAUTIFUL INDIAN SUMMER DAY HAD PREACHING THE FIRST FOR A GREAT WHILE AND A BRIGADE REVIEW IN THE AFTERNOON IN THE LATTER ALL OUR GUNS, AMMUNITION KNAPSACKS ETC. WERE INSPECTED BY GEN GRENSSEL OR SOME OF HIS STAFF. YOUX LISTENED TO SERMONS SITTING IN THE PEWS OF A CHURCH WE SAT ON THE GROUND AND ASSUMBLD IN A GROVE AS OUR TEMPLE. K KNOW NOT WHAT YOU ALL ARE BIXN DOING TODAY OR IN WHAT A SITUATION YOU ARE, BUT THIS SUNDAY FINDS ME AS HEARTY AND WELL AS EVER I WAS. THE CAMP IS VERY QUIET AND REALLY SABBATH LIKE. THE AIR IS WARM AND A SLIGHT RAIN IS GENTLY FALLING. IT WOULD NOT BE STRANGE IF OUR RAINY WEATHER SET IN HERE SOON AND IT BE OUR LUCK TO MAKE OUR NEXT CAMPAIGN IN MUD AND WET. BUT TO YOUR LETTERS MOTHER NEED NOT TALK OF FURLOUGHS FOR NO MORE FURLOUGHS ARE GRANTED NOT EVEN SICK FURLOUGHS. I CERTAINLY SHOULD LOVE TO BE AT HOME TO EAT SOME OF YOUR NICE BREAD AND ESPECIALLY BUTTER BESIDES IF YOU WOULD GIVEE ME A DRINK OF BUTTERMILK TO GO WITH THEM, IT WOULD BE ALL I WOULD ASK. NEVER MINX YOUR CHICKENS AND FRUITS, BREAD BUTTER AND MILK WOULD BE HIGH LIVING FOR A SOLDIER. CERTAINLY I WOULD LOVE TO SIT DOWN AND EAT A MEAL WITH YOU ALL, BUT THERE IS NO USE TALKIN

I AM IN FOR THE WAR AND THERE IS LITTLE USE TRYING TO GET OUT OF IT AS A LIVE MAN OR SOUND MAN. MOTHER NEED NOT LOOK OUT FOR ME TO COME ON THE CARS FOR I DONT EXPECT TO COME VERY SOON. I TELL THE BOYS THAT TWO YEARS IS THE LEAST LIVID I PUT TO MY ABSENCE FROM HOME AND THAT I SHALL NOT BE ASTONISHED IF I STAY MANY MONTHS LONGER. I OBTAINED A PASS TO NASHVILLE LAST WEEK AND ENJOYED MYSELF VERY MUCH. I ACCOMPANIED THE CAPTAIN WE WALKED THE MAXX NARROW STREETS OF A SOUTHERN CITY WITH EAGER EYES VIEWING THE DESERTED BUSINESS HOUSES THE VACANT MANSINS THE FORTICATION ALL WITH INTEREST. SOME PREETY RESIDENCES SEEMED TO SHOW NO CHANGE ON ACCOUNT OF THE WAR, BUT ALL TOLD HER GREAT TALE OF WAR. THE GREAT AND SPLENDID STATE CAPITOL IS THE LINE OF THE CITY SITUATED ON AN ERNINENCE IN THE CITY NT IS USED AS A FORTIC

# 21 CONT

FORTIFICATION. THE GREAT BLOCKS OF STONE THAT FORMED THE FENCE AROUND IT ARE USED IN THE WORKS AROUND THE BUILDING. ON THESE WORKS FOUR HUGE CAUUM BESIDES TWO PIECES ARE MOMNTED THE BUILDING IS FILLED WITH TROOPS QUARTERED THERE AND EVERYTHING SEEMS TO BE GOING TO SACK EXCEPT THE LIBRARY AND ARCHIVES WHICH ROOMS I NOTICED WERE SHUT UP. THE TWO HOUSES THAT OF REPRESENTATIONS AND SENATE NOW RESUMED ~~THE~~ WITH THE NOISE AND NOT OF PRATTLING SECESSIMISTS AS IT DID A YEAR AGO, BUT OF SOLDIERS CARELESS OF CARPETS AND CHAUDELAN AND THE SPLENDID BUILDING ONEE POLLUTED WITH FROM THE WE STUDIED THE MAP OF THE CITY BUT I WILL NOT ELABORATE HERE FOR MY JOURNAL CONTAINS ALL I COULD WRITE YOU ANYWAY. REMEMBER ME TO MRS HARPER. I DO NOT KNOW HOW SOON I CAN ANSWER THE S.S. LETTERS EUGENE

ON PICKET EIGHT MILES  
SOUTH OF NASHVILLE  
SUN. NOV. 23rd 1862

MY DEAR FOLKS AT HOME\_

GOOD MORNING TO YOU ALL THIS BRIGHT BALMY BEAUTIFUL SABBATH MORNING! I WOULD LOVE TO BE AT HOME TODAY AND NOT AWAY OFF HERE IN TENNESSEE ON THE LOOK OUT FOR THE SECISH. THE REBELS ARE SAID TO BE IN FORCE AT MURFEESBORO ONLY TWENTY TWO MILES AWAY. THEIR PICKETS ARE BUT A MILE FROM WHERE WE ARE STATIONED. THIS IS THE NEAREST THE 88th EVER STOOD PICKET. BUT WE ANTICIPATE NO SHIRMISH OR ANYTHING OF THE KIND. I WHO HAVE NO DUTY TO PERFORM ~~EXXIX~~ ENJOY PICKETING MUCH MORE ~~THAN~~ THAN BEING IN CAMP, WHERE THE ~~IS~~ IS EMPLOYED IN DRILLS AND ANSWERING TO THE THOUSAND CALLS FOR THE "ORDERLY" ALL I HAVE TO DO HERE IS TO EAT WHAT THE BOYS BRING IN TO "US OFFICERS" AFTER WE HAVE COOKED IT IN THE MOST EXQUISITE MANNER. TODAY I AM ENDEEVING TO ANSWER SOME LETTERS. I HAVE TOO LONG NEGLECTED. AND YOURS FIRST FOR LETTERS FROM HOME~~X~~ ARE THE DEAREST ONES THAT I GET. IT CAME TO ME JUST AS WE STARTED FROM OUR CAMP ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER OPPOSITE NASHVILLE. AS WE HALTED NOW AND THEN I READ IT BY PIECE MEAL UNTIL I HAD FINISHED IT. MARY WRITES OF MR. TEMPLES" DISSATISFACTION. SHE WOULD NOT THINK IT STRANGE HAD SHE HEARD THE GRUMBLINGS AND SWEARING AMONG THE SOLDIERS THAT I HAVE HEARD. ESPECIALLY SUCH AS I HEARD THE FIRST TWO WEEKS ON OUR CAMPAIGN AFTER BRAGG. TELL EDWARD GATES THAT HE WOULD GET TIRED OF SOLDIERING A GREAT DEAL SOONER THAN OF ANY WORK HE CAN DO ABOUT PT. BYRON LET HIM AND AL BEST TRY IT TWO WEEKS ~~AND~~ <sup>ON</sup> THE MARCH OR SICK IN THE AMBULANCE OR HOSPITAL A FEW DAYS EVEN AND THEY WOULD WISH THEMSELVES HOME AGAIN. WERE I HOME AGAIN I WOULD BE VERY SLOW TO PERFORM THE DUTY IF IT WERE A DUTY OF ENLISTING IN THE ARMY. LET ALBERT NOT THINK THAT HE WILL BETTER HIS CONDITION BY JOINING THE ARMY. JUST TELL HIM THAT I HAVE SEEN THE HARDEST DAYS OF MY LIFE SINCE I LEFT HOME LAST AUGUST. BUT I BELIEVE I AM DOING MY DUTY BUT IT IS A DREADFUL DUTY. TELL HIM OF THE 125th ILL REJEMENT I WAS PERFECTLY ASTONISHED THE OTHER DAY TO HEAR THE FACTS IN REGARD TO IT. THEY ONLY TURNED OUT ONE HUNDRED AND TWENTY FIVE MEN AT DRESS PARADE! OUR COMPANY WHICH LEFT DIXON WITH ~~OUR~~ ONE HUNDRED AND TEN MEN HAD ONLY TWELVE OUT AT COMPANY DRILL THAT DAY! OUR REJEMENT LEFT CHICAGO WITH 85 MEN NOW WE CAN MESTER ONLY 5 " WE DREW SATRINS FOR 83 MEN FOR OUR COMPANY AT CAMP FULLER. NOW I DRAW



ONLY 51 SABIN.? BUT FEW OF OUR MEN HAVE DIED. THE SICKNESS IN CAMP IS WHAT THINS THE RANKS. ~~HOW~~ YOU WOULD BE MUCH INTERESTED IN SEEING THE SICK WINDING THEIR WAY EVERY MORNING WHEN THE SICK CALL IS SOUNDED. DROOPING OVER HANDS IN THEIR POCKETS WITH LONG FACES THE "SICK AND LAZY" MARCH TO THE SURJEAN TENT AT THE TIME OF "JUM ALONG A JOSY" MANY OF OUR BOYS AT FIRST WERE INCLINED TO MAKE SPORT OF THEM AS THEY SLOWLY PASSED BY EVERYDAY ONE IN PARTICULAR ALWAYS WOULD LAUGH AND CRY OUT "THERE GO THE SICK MEN!" I TOLD HIM HE MIGHT SOME DAY DANCE TO THE SAME TUNE HE LITTLE FEARED IT STRONG AND RUGGED AS HE WAS. BUT YESTERDAY ON OUR LITTLE MARCH FROM CAMP HERE HE FELL OUT OF THE RANKS AND HAD NOT COME UP THIS MORNING AT ROLL CALL BEING SICK ON THE MARCH EXPECIALLY IS TO BE DREADED BY SOLDIERS. UP TO A FEW DAYS AGO OUR RJ. HAD THE USUAL NUMBER OF AMBULANCES TWO NOW WER HAVE FOUR\_ BUT THAT MANY IS NONE TOO MANY. THERE ARE ALWAYS MORE ~~R~~ APPLICANTS. THAN CAN BE ACCONDATED AND ON SUCH A HARD LOT FALLS. MANY A POOR SOLDIERS HEART HAS SUNK WITHIN AS HE LAY BY THE ROAD SIDE REFUSED A RIDE AND UNABLE TO KEEP ALONG WITH HIS REJEMENT AND OFTEN WITH HIS DIVISION TO SAY NOTHING OF HIS BRIGADE. I HAVE SEEN A STOUT HEARTED MAN WEEK AS AFTER EVERY EXERTION HAD FAILED HE LEFT THE RANKS, LEAMED HIS MUSKET AGAINST THE FENCE AND LAY DOWN ONLY TO SEE HIS COMPANY THE SURGEIONS AND REGIMENT AFTER REGIMENT PASS ON CARELESS OF "STRAGGLERS" LET EDWARD GATES OR ALBERT BE PILED UP" IN A FENCE CORNER DOWN ~~AMONG~~ <sup>AMONG</sup> THE HILLS OF TENN. AND IF HE DOES NOT WISH HIMSELF AS A FARUS AT HOME WITH PLENTY TO EAT AND PLENTY OF FRIENDS THEN I WILL GIVE YOU MY HAT AND COME HOME ~~ON~~ AS A FURLOUGH! THERE IS NO FUN IN WAR! MOTHER HOPES I "WILL FIND BETTER QUARTERS IN NASHVILLE" COMPARED WITH OUR LIFE DURING OUR FORTY DAYS CAMPAIGN WE LIVE AT HOME NOW IN OUR TENTS WITH LITTLE TO DO AND ENOUGH TO EAT AND VARIETY ENOUGH TO THOSE WHO HAVE MONEY. WE HAVE HERE AN OPPORTUNITY TO BRING LITTLE ARTICLES WHICH THE GOVT DOES NOT FURNISH BUT AS A GENERAL THING THE PRICES ARE ENOMOURS. COFFEE SELLS AT 8 SUGAR 5" BAKERS BREAD 111 A LOAF AM PRICE ABOUT SIX INCHES SQUARE! EVERYTHING ELSE IN THE SAME PROPORTIONS BUTTER 75x! I SUPPOSE WHEN THE CARS GET THROU THINGS WILL CHANGE AND PRICES COME DOWN. I UNDERSTAND THAT TODAY THE TRAIN DIRECT FROM LOUISVILLE WILL BE IN. IT CERTAINLY WILL BE SOON FOR THEY HAVE A LARGE FORCE AT WORK ON THE ROAD. THE PRINCIPLE Damage to be repaired is a tunnel the side OF MITCHELVILLE WHICH WAS EXPLODED FULL OF ROCKS BY THE REBELS. I BELIEVE I WAS TOLD THAT THE TUNNEL IS TWO MILES LONG! THIS HAS BEEN THE DELAY IN COMPLETING CONNECTIONS BETWEEN IT AND THE REST OF THE WORLD.

SIDENOTE: I DO NOT WANT ANY MORE OF MR. HUGH'S BOOTS THOSE I LEFT HOME WITH I GAVE TO COZ ISIAH BEFORE I LEFT CHICAGO THE ARMY SHOES WITH SEWED <sup>BUTTONS</sup> ~~NERVED~~ ~~BUTTONS~~ ARE THE THING.

THE WEATHER NOW IS DELIGHTFUL THE DAYS ARE CLEAR AND JUST COOL ENOUGH PERFECT SPRING WEATHER. I CANNOT THINK HOWEVER OUR REST AND GOOD WEATHER CAN EXIST TOGETHER. BUT OUR HARDEST MARCHING MUST BE OVERMINE ANYWAY FOR I HAVE LEARNED THE OLD SOLDIER" AND CARRY NO KNAPSACK ONLY AN EXTRA OVERCOAT WHICH IF TOO WARM I SLING OVER MY SHOULDER ON MY SWORD I HAVE NO DOUBT BUT WE SHALL STAY IN OUR PRESENT CAMP SEVERAL DAYS FOR WE MUST HAVE SOME CLOTHING BEFORE WINTER COMES AS FARTHER AND BESIDE THE ENEMY SEEM TO BE NOT A GREAT WAY OFF WE HAD A GRAND FORAGING WXPEDITION IS WEEK WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY AND HALF OF FRIDAY IT CONSISTED OF FOUR HUNDRED TEAMS OF SIX MILES EACH. WITH A GUARD OF FIFTEEN HUNDRED MEN UNDER COMMAND OF COL. SHERMAN WE STARTED OUT IN A RAIN STORM BUT WERE SO FORTUNATE AS I GET A RIDE TO THE PLACE WHERE THE TEAMS WERE LOADED OUR RIDE THOU IT SAVED OUR FEET FROM INJURY WAS HARD AN OUR BODIES THOSE ARMY WAGONS ARE THE MOST DREADFUL THINGS TO RIDE IN I EVER SAW. MANY TIMES I HAD TO STAND UP GOING OVER THE STORRY PIKES. BUT WE WERE KEPT FREE FROM THE MUD AND RAIN SO THAT WE WERE MUCH PLEASED WITH OUR RIDE WITHAL THE ONLY ACCIDENT THAT HAPPENED ON THE WAY WAS TO THE 85th ILL AN OLD DEAD TREE FELL ACROSS THE ROAD AS THE WAGON CARRYING THEM WERE PASSING KILLING TWO SOLDIERS INSTANTLY AND MORTALLY WOUNDING TWO OTHERS. WE SAW ONE OF THE GUNS ALL BENT UP AS WE RETURNED THE DAY AFTER. THE TEAMS WERE LOADED FROM THE PROPERTY OF AN OLD SICESH WHO IS SAID TO OUR EIGHT SQUARE MILES OF LAND THERE ON THE CUMBERLAND. WE DROVE AHEAD OF US MANY LOGS AND SHEEP AND CATTLE WHICH WE PICKED UP AROUND THE DIGGING THE DAY WE CAME BACK TO CAMP WAS MOST PLEASANT INDEE AND WE ALL ENJOYED THE MARCH VERY MUCH. I PICKED A ~~R~~ SPRIG OF JUINIPER WITH THE LITTLE BLUE BERRIE SET BEAUTIFULLY AMONG THE LEAVES. I MEANT TO SEND IT HOME BUT HAVE LOST IT SINCE. E

SIDENOTES: THIS PAGE I HAVE ADDED SINCE WE RETURNED FROM PICKET CANNOT WRITE MORE NOW

THE CAPTAIN HAD A LETTER FROM GEO. HAZELTON TODAY HE IS QUITE SICK AT BOWLING GREEN HOSPITAL # FOUR HE SAYS HE IS GAINING SLOWLY.

SERG. MEACHAM IS ALONG WITH US TOLERABLY WELL HE EATS TOO MUCH!

TELL FRED TO ~~MAKE~~ <sup>SAVE</sup> SOME OF THESE APPLES UNTIL THE WAR IS OVER BUT I DONT THINK THEY WILL KEEP TWO YEARS!

# 22 cont

SIDENOTESK:

DO AS YOU THINK BEST ABOUT SENDING MY THINGS THERE ARE 250 TURIS OF  
EXPRESS MATTER IN LOUISVILLE FOR THE ARMY BUT DO AS YOU THINK BEST  
THEY WILL MAKE ? ME SOME TIME

IN CAMP SEVEN MILES FROM  
NASHVILLE, NOX. 25th1862

DEAR FATHER

I HAVE JUST LEARNED THE PAINFUL FACT THAT ~~W~~RO. BODWELL KAZELTIN IS DEAD. THE SERGANT MAJOR OF OUR REGIMENT HAS RETURNED FROM A VISIT TO THE VARIOUS HOSPITALS WHERE OUR SICK SOLDIERS HAVE BEEN LEFT. HE INFORMS ME HE DIED THE DAY BEFORE HE THE SERGANT ARRIVED AT BOWLING GREEN, WHICH WAS SOMETIME LAST WEEK I HAVE LEARNED NO PARTICULARS AND CAN SAY NO MORE THAN THAT HE WAS GREATLY RESPECTED BY ALL THE BOYS AND THAT THEY LEARN WITH GREAT SORROW THE DEPARTURE OF SO HIGHLY AN ESTEEMED FRIEND. WHEN OTHERS MURMMURED AND COMPLAINED IN THE DUSTY HARD DAYS MARCH HE KEPT ON PERSEVERINGLY WITHOUT ONE WORD OF COMPLAINT. HE WAS EVER KIND AND GENTLEMANLY AND ALWAYS READY TO DO HIS DUTY. WHEN I TOLD LIEUTWMILLER THAT GEO. HAZDLTON WAS DEAD HE REMARKED TO ME THAT "HE WAS THE VERY BEST BOY IN OUR COMPANY" AND ALL ESTEEMED HIM SUCH. OUR COMPANY WILL MISS A NOBLE SOLDIER FROM THE RANKS AND HIS MEN THE BEST FROM THEIR NUMBER. ANY ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS THAT I MAY LEARN I WILL WRITE IMMEDIATELY IT IS PROBABLE THAT HIS FRIENDS HAVE HEARD OF HIS DECEASE BEFORE THES, BUT I PROMISED TO WRITE THEM OF ANYTHING HAPPENING TO HIM. YOU WILL INFORM THEM OF THE CONTENTS OF THIS IF THEY HAVE NOT HEARD. I SUPPOSE HIS REMAINS COULD BE FOUND AT BOWLING GREEN WITHOUT MUCH DIFFICULTY AS I BELIEVE THE GRAVES ARE MARKED. I UNDERSTAND THAT THE GRAVES OF THOSE WHO FELL AT PERRYVILLE WERE ALL MARKED. I CANNOT WRITE MORE NOW FOR THE MAIL GOES OUT SOON. I AM VERY WELL AND REALLY ENJOYING MYSELF. WE HAVE A MESS CHEST NOW IN THE CAPTAINS TENT AND HAVE THE GRATIFICATION OF EATING AND DRINKING FROM NICE WHITE DISHES! THE PROSPECTS ARE THAT WE SHALL LIE HERE A WEEK OR TWO.

EUGENE

CAMP OF THE 88th REG. ILL VOL  
DEC. 4th 1862

MY DEAR FATHER

THE ARRIVAL OF A LARGE AMOUNT OF THINGS FROM CHICAGO FOR THE 88th  
LAST EVENING INCLUDES ME TO SEND OFTEN WHATEVER YOU HAVE READY FOR ME.  
YOU I THINK HAD BETTER EXPRESS THE BOX TO JISIAH OR DEARBORN AND LET  
HIM SEND IT ALONG WITH SOME ONE GOING TO THE 88th AS SOME ONE IS GOING  
THERE VERY FREQUENTLY. THE EXPRESS RUIN THROUGH TO NASHVILLE NOW BUT  
HUNDREDS OF ? OF MATTER CANNOT GET THROUGH. I AM IN GREAT NEED OF  
STOCKINGS. BOOTS YOU NEED NOT SEND UNLESS YOU CAN FIT ME. MY HEALTH  
IS GOOD THOU SUFFERING WITH A BAD COLD. SETTLED IN MY HEAD CAUSING  
CONSIDERABLE HEADACHE. THE FIRST SINCE ENTERING THE ARMY. I HAVE PLENTY  
OF TURKEY, CHICKEN, PIG ETC, ETC, TO LIVE UPON NOE SINCE THE BRIGADE  
A MAN FORM OUR COMPANY MESSES WITH US I AM NOT IN WANT OF MONEY AND  
YOU NEED NOT SEND ANY THOU I HAVE NONE. THE CHAPLAIN OWES ME TEN DOLLARS  
AND THE BOYS EIGHT FOR THINGS I HAVE SOLD THEM. THERE IS NOT MUCH  
CHANCE OF AIR BEING PAID OFF AT PRESENT THOU THE 36th ILL IN ON  
BRIGADE GOT THEIR GREEN BACKS TODAY. I SEND A LETTER FOR GEO. B. HAZELTIN  
AND ONE FROM HIM TO CAPT WHICH YOU WILL HAND HIS FOLKS. THE R.I. BOYS  
ARE WELL EXCEPTING HALL WHO IS GETTING A COLD AND SHEPPARD WHO  
HAS BEEN UNDER THE ~~EX~~ WEATHER BUT GETTING FIT FOR DUTY" AS THE SURGEON  
REPORTS IN MY SICK REPORT BOOK. I SEND A SPRIG OF JUNIPEN TO MOTHER  
TO REMEMBER MY THANKSGIVING DAY BY. TELL HER I CANT COME HOME CHRISTMAS  
BUT INTEND TO SPEND THE WINTER "HERE" AT THE "SOUTH"

I AM AFFECTIONATELY YOUR SON

EUGENE

CAMP OF THE 88th ON MILL CREEK  
FIVE MILES FROM NASHVILLE  
SUNDAY DEC. 14th 1862

MY DEAR PARENTS

I HAVE NOT RECIEVED THE USUAL WEEKLY LETTER. THIS LAST WEEK THAT YOU PROBABLY WROTE LAST SUNDAY NOR HAVE I WRITTEN YOU FOR OVER A WEEK. AND I HAVE NOT WRITTEN WITHER BECAUSE I HAVE NOT FOUND TIME OR HAVE NOT TAKEN IT FROM THE BROKEN HOURS OF ALL "ORDERLYS" LIFE. COULD I COLLECT ALL MY SPARE MOMENTS INTO ONE BUNCH I COULD WRITE COLUMNS OF MATTER TO MY FIVE HUNDRED FRIENDS BUT WHEN YOU HAVE TO RUN A HALF A DOZEN TIMES TO DETAIL A MÂN FOR THIS AND OTHERS FOR THAT, WHILE WRITING A PAGE OF NOTE PAPER YOU MAY WELL EXCUSE ME FOR PUTTING IT OFF, AND PUTTING IT OFF UNTIL A MORE CONVIENT SEASON. SUNDAYS ARE GENERALLY OCCUPIED IN RECIMMISSANCES OR FRAGING EXPEDITIONS OR REVIEWS AND WHEN THEY ARE NOT SO USED THEY OFFORD THEE ONLY SPARE TIME I HAVE FOR WRITING LETTERS. I DID NOT GO TO HEAR THE CHAPLAIN PREACH THIS AFTERNÖNN BECAUSE I DETERMINED TO FINISH A LETTER TO COZ CHARLIE I COMMENCED LAST SUNDAY. I WROTE HER NINE SOLID PAGES LIKE THIS TELLING HER OF MY WANDERINGS AND EXPERIENCES IN THE SUNNY SOUTH. I DO NOT REMEMBER WHEN I WROTE HER BEFORE SINCE I JOINED THIS ARMY. SINCE I WROTE YOU LAST WE HAVE BEEN ORDERED TO MARCH AND HAD THOSE ORDERS COUNTERMANDED SEVERAL TIMES. FIRST CAME THE ORDER ONE NIGHT ABOUT MIDNIGHT TO HAVE THREE DAYS COOKED SATIM IN OUR LAVERSACKS IMMEDIATELY AND BE READY TO MARCH AT A MOMENT NOTICE SO WE WERE UP ALL THAT NIGHT FUSSING AROUND AND IN OBEDIENCE TO "RED TAPE" THE COMPANIES WERE GOT ALL READY TO START AT FIVE OCLOCK AND WAITED AND WAITED UNTIL TEN WHEN WE WERE ORDERED OUT IN BATTALLINES DRILL! SO ENDED THE FORENOON ABOUT TWO THE LONG ROLL WAS SOUNDED AND THE WHOLE REGIMENT AS WELL AS THE REST OF THE BRIGADE WAS DRAWN OUT IN LIVE OF BATTLE IF THE REBELS WERE UPON US. THERE WE RESTED ON OUR ARRÜ UNTIL SUNDOWN WHEN XM WE WERE ORDERED BACK TO CAMP. THE OCCASSION OF ALL THIS MOVEMENT WAS PICKET FIRING ARE ALONG OUR LINES DURING THE DAY. THE NEXT DAY WE WERE ON PICKET AND WERE NEARER THE BUTTERNUTS THAN WEÆ WERE EVER BEFORE FOR MÆ WE COULD HEAR THEIR DRUMS AND AT NIGHT SEE THE LIGHT OF THEIR FIRES ABOUT A MILE OR TWO OFF. WE EXPECTED AND ATTACK IN THE MORNING AND OF COURSE KEPT A VIGELANT WATCH DURING THE NIGHT. THE DAY WE WENT ON PICKET WAS A BEAUTIFUL DAY AND OUR COMPANY WAS GESTED DOWN IN A LITTLE HOLLOW IN A CHARMING GROVE OF BEECH HICKORY WALNUT OAD AND MAPLE TREES. AND AS WE WALKED ALONG

THROUGH THE THICKLY FALLEN HEAVES. I ~~COULD~~ <sup>COULD</sup> NOT BUT THINK OF MRS. KENNANS  
"SEPT. DAYS" AND SPECIALLY OF "HEAPED IN THE HOLLOW OF THE GREENS  
THE WITHERING LEAVES LIE DEAD, WHICH NESTLE TO THE EDDYING GUST, OR  
TO THE RABBITS MAD" IN SUCH A CONCEALED PLACE WE WERE ALLOWED FIRES  
DURUID DAY AND NIGHT AND A NEIGHBORING FENCE SUPPLIED US WITH RAILS.  
SO THERE WE SPENT THE DAY READING, WRITING EATING OR COOKING. THE  
GREAT ABUNDANCE OF NUTS HERE IS A FINE THING FOR US SOLDIER AND THE DRY  
WRATHES HOLDING IN SO LONG THEY DO NOT SPOIL BY THE EXPOSURE. WHEN I  
FEEL LIKE TAKING A "CRACK" I SO NOT "OF COURSE" GO TO THE GARRET AND  
HELP MYSELF FROM THE BARREL OR TO THE WOODHOUSE, BUT ONLY STEP A LITTLE  
OUTSIDE OF THE CAMP LINES AND PICK THEM FROM THE GROUND ALL DAY AND  
NICE. SO IN POKET THE PRINCIPAL THING WE DO IS TO EAT. IN FACT THIS  
MAY BE EARNED THE PRINCIPAL EMPLOYMENT OF THE SOLDIER! I WISH YOU COULD  
HAVE HEARD OUR HEARTY LAUGHTER WHEN A LITTLE DUTCHMAN STRAT AS A  
SAW ROD AND FULL OF SELF CONFIDENCE WENT TO DRILLING TWO MEN IN  
THE MANNER OF ARMS ~~HE~~ <sup>TO</sup> HEAR HIM SAY "SHOULDER ARMS! IN HIS SHORT GENUS  
ACCENT THE PERFORMANCE WAS MOST CRITICAL I ASSURE YOU HAVE LAY ON THE  
LEAVES AND LAUGHED ALMOST LOUD ENOUGH TO BE HEARD IN THE REBEL CAMP.  
THE 27th ILL RELIEVED US AND FROM THEM I LEARNED THAT THEY WERE IN THE  
SAME BRIGADE AS THE 51st AND THAT THEIR CAMP WAS JUST ACROSS THE ROAD  
FROM OUR ENCAMPMENT. SO WHEN WE RETURNED TO OUR NEW CAMP FOR EVERYTHING  
HAD BEEN CHANGED WHILE WE WERE AWAY I STARTED OFF AND VISITED THE 51st  
WHO SHOULD I FIRST SEE BUT HENRY MUT? HE LOOKS NOT THE SAME SQUARE  
STUNK HE WAS AT PR. BYRON BUT MUCH THINNER STILL HE LOOKS HEALTHY EXCEPTION  
HIS EYES ARE QUITE SORE. MRS DAY ALSO IS TROUBLED WITH SORE EYES  
LIENT. WHITMAN TOOK ME INTO HIS TENT WHERE MR. COLE NOW ~~WAS~~ ACTING LIENT  
WAS I HAD A VERY PLEASANT TIME WHILE I STAYED. LEWIS GENNING HAS BEEN  
SICK AND DOES NOT LOOK STRONG YET. MILLARD BOWKES HAS GROWN TO BE A  
HANDSOME YOUNG MAN. JAMES SHEPPARD LOOKS MARCELLUS M. WAS OFF  
TO TOWN BUT CALLED OUR TODAY AND I HAD A LONG TALK WITH HIM. ALLEN  
GRAY A CLASSMATE OF MINE AT EVANSTON IS COMMISSARY SEGEANT IN THE 51st  
HE CALLED TO SEE ME DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY. HE IS THE SAME JOLLY BUT  
HAS LOST ALL THE EARNEST RELIGION HE HAD AT COLLEGE. I REMEMBER HOW HE  
USED TO BE EVER READY TO START TUNES. SUCH AS "THERE'LL BE NO MORE SORROW  
THER ETC. IN PROFESSOR NEYES CLASS meeting he says he got along very  
WELL DURING THE THREE MONTHS SERVICE BUT SINCE THEN HE HAS HAD SUCH  
AN INCLINATION TO SWEAR AND STEAL AS ALL SOLDIERS HAVE THAT HE HAS  
GOT OVER IT ALL. HE SAYS OF JAMES MILNER THAT HE WILL GET EVER SO JOLLY

now and then and that omen foster is very noisy now and then. i am sorry  
FOR JIM MILNER. HE WAS A VERY SMART YOUNG MAN AND WHILE I BOARDED WITH  
HIM I LEARNED TO LOVE HIM. HIS PARENTS MUST FEEL VERY BAD FOR THEY WERE  
SO GLAD THAT HE HAD AS HE DID AT ONE OF THE CHICGO CAMP  
MEETINGS. IT IS STRANGE TO THINK HOW CARELESS MEN WILL GET IN THE ARMY.  
THE CHAPLAIN ONLY HAD TWO OR THREE DOZEN MEN TO LISTEN TO HIS SERMON  
TODAY. HE IS NOT VERY INTERESTING IN HIS SERMONS AND THEN THE COLONEL  
TAKE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO SNUBB HIM. MR. THOMAS HAD A HARD TIME OF IT  
AMONG THE SET OF OFFICERS AT THE HEAD OF THE REJEMENT. AN COL. DRINKS  
A GREAT DEAL BUT NOT WITHSTANDING THIS AND MANY OTHER OBJECTIONALBLE  
CHARACTERISTICS ABOUT HIM HE UNDERSTANDS HIS BUSINESS PRETTY WELL. HE  
IS A GOOD DEAL LIKE CAPT. DODGE IN MANY RESPECTS. NO ONE SPEAKS TO  
PRAISE HIM BUT TO USE HIS OWN LANGUAGE OF HIMSELF WHICH I OVERHEARD  
HE HAS CURSED TO H\_L A DOZEN TIMES BY EVERY MAN IN THE REGIMENT  
STILL ALL PLACE A GREAT DEAL OF CONFIDENCE IN HIM. FOR INSTANCE  
HE HAD BEEN GONE A SHORT TIME AGO ON A COURT MARTIAL ABOUT A WEEK AND  
LEFT THE LIENT AND COL IN COMMAND BUT HE BEING UNACCUSTOMED TO COMMAND  
MADE A GREAT MANY FOLKS. AND THE MEN REALLY CHEERED AND SPRUNG TO THEIR  
ARMS WITH A BOUND WHERE THE OLD FANATIAN VOICE OF THE COL CALLED US  
TO ATTENTION ON HIS RETURN WHEN WE WERE IN LIVE ONE DAY. YOU DOUBTLESS  
HEARD OR READ IN THE PAPERS OF ROSECRANS ARMY BEING PROVIDED WITH SHELTS  
TENTS YOU KNOW WE NOW HAVE THESE LARGE COMMODIAN SIBLEY TENTS SHAPED  
LIKE FIGURE I ABOUT TWELVE FEET HIGH AND TWENTY FEET IN DIAMETER ACROSS  
THE BASE CAPAPABLE OF HOLDING TWENTY MEN THEY ARE WARM AND SHED THE  
WATER WELL. THE SHELTER TENT REPRESENTED BY FIGURE II ARE MADE BY  
BUTTANCING TWO PIECES OF COMMON FACTORY CLOTH TOGETHER AT THE TOP AND  
PINNED TO THE GROUND AT THE SIDES WITH A POLE UPRIGHT AT EACH END  
HELD OF GOU FASTENED BY PINS THESE TENTS ARE VERY SMALL OPENED  
AT EACH END BUT MADE SO THAT MORE THAN ONE TENT CAM BE BUTTONEED TOGETHE  
AT THE ENDS. IT IS CALCULATED FOR A MAN TO CARRY ONE HALF OF A TENT  
APIECE OF CLOTH ABOUT FOUR FEET BY SIX AND THAT TWO MEN SHALL SLEEP IN  
A TENT MADE OF THE TWO PIECES.



# 25 (4)

NOW ALMOST USELESS SUCH SHELTERS WILL BE IN A RAIN OR IN COLD WEATHER YOU CAN JUDGE. THE WHOLE ARMY SO FAR AS WE CAN HEAR HAVE DECIDED THEY WILL NOT HAVE SUCH THINGS IN SHORT REFUSE TO TAKE THEM AND SAY THEY WILL NOT GIVE UP THERE SIBLEYS. OUR BRIGADE HAS SO DECIDED so HAS THE ONE IN WHICH IS THE 51st ILL. YOU WOULD HAVE BEEN PLEASED TO HEAR OUR STATE BRIGADE SHOUT AND SCREAM OUT "FALL IN FOR YOUR DOG HOUSES" one evening WHEN THEY WERE BROUGHT TO US AND ONE WAS PITCHED IN <sup>FRONT</sup> ~~PART~~ OF THE COLS HEAD QUARTERS. THE LITTLE MISERABLE THINGS GO BY THE NAME OF "DOG HOUSES" EVERYWHERE HERE AMONG THE SOLDIERS. I KNOW NOT HOW THE TENT QUESTION WILL TURN OUT WHETHER WE SHALL BE FORCED TO TAKE THEM AND GIVE UP THESE OR NOT. GEN. HALLECK. I BELIEVE ORDERED ~~THEM~~ THEM FOR THE ARMY. THEY WOULD CERTAINLY SAVE BAGGAGE TRAINS, BUT THE SOLDIERS HAVE ENOUGH LOAD NOW TO CARRY ON THEIR BACKS. THEY CARRY THEIR BED AND BOARD MUST THEY ALSO CARRY THEIR HOUSES TO LIVE IN? IN ANY EVENT I SHALL BE ALL RIGHT FOR THE OFFICERS CAN HAVE A WALL TENTS ALL OF THE SQUARE ONES AS YOU SEE OF THE PICTURES LIKE THE DIAGRAM IN THIS CONER. MONDAY EVENING I WSH YOU COULD LOOK IN UPON US NOW JUST AS WE ARE. THE RAIN IS PATTERRING IN THE TENT AND GOES "DRIP, DRIP OUT DOORS IT BEGAN AT TWO OCLOCK WHEN WE WERE FALLING IN THE COMPANY FOR BRIGADE DRILL BUT THE COL CAME AROUND AND TOLD US TO DISMISS THE COMPANY" WHEN WITH A SHOUT THE BOYS RAN INTO THEIR TENTS. I WONDER IF I ~~EXXX~~ CAN GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF OUR CIRCUMSTANCES! NOW LOOK AT THE DRAWING #I IS THE DOOR OF THE TENT WHERE THE WATER DRIPS IN A LITTLE. # II IS THE MESS CHEST WITH COVER OPINING TOWARD # IO THE ANTREPOLE ON THE CHEST ARE OUR DISHES BEING WASHED BY THE COOK(A MAN FROM OUR COMPANY) WHO~~SX~~ SITS AT #VI # IV IS WHERE LIENT. MILLER SITS READING "THE INDEPENDENQT" # V IS WHERE JOHNSTON BRIGADE FRAGEMASTERS (OR THIEF AS WE CALL HIM) SITS TALKING WITH LIENT. BALL #VIII THAT SQUARE SPOT IS OUR FIRE PLACE MADE BY DIGGING A HOLE IN THE GROUND AND COVERING THE DITCH WHICH RUNS OUTSIDE WITH FLAT ST? AND A HOLLOW LOG FOR A CHIMMEY. AT #IX CAPT SPALDING SITS LOOKING OVER HIS VALISE #VII IS WHERE THE NIGGER (SCOTT" ABOUT 14 YEARS OLD) WAS FUSSING ABOUT WHEN I DREW THE DIAGRAM HE NOW IS POUNDING COFFEE ON THE HEARTH STOVE IN A BAG FOR BREAKFAST. UNDER THE EDGE OF THE TENT BEHIND IV IS OUR STRAW (LIENT. MS AND MINE) AND WHERE WE SLEEP AFTER SPREADING IT OUT. WE ARE JUST OF A HIGHT

# 25 (5) CONT.

AND ? 21 YEARS OF AGE AND WITHAL ARE VERY COMPAN? WE ASSUM!  
I WAS VERY MUCH PLEASED TO RECIEVE YOUR LETTER OF LAST SUNDAY ENCLOSED  
I FOUND \$2.00 AND POSTAGE STAMPS BOTH WILL COME VERY HANDY. IT SEEMS  
VERY STRANGE for you to be talking of cold weather and everything  
FROZEN UP SKATING ETC FOR HERE WE HAVE HAD NO REAL COLD SPELLS YET.  
I HAVE NOT REALLY NEEDED MITTENS OR ANYTHING YOU CAN SEND UNLESS IT  
BE STOCKINGS. THEY ARE VERY SCARCE INDEED. IF WE DO NOT GET A SUPPLY  
SOON FROM UNCLE SAM WE SHALL ALL HAVE TO GO WITHOUT EXCEPTING THE FEW  
WHO ARE LUCKY ENOUGH TO GET SOME EXPRESSED FROM HOME. THE CAPT GAVE  
ME TWO PAIRS OF COTTON SOCKS TONIGHT WHICH WILL BE SUFFICIENT FOR ME  
FOR MANY WEEKS. COULD YOU SEND MY THINGS BY SOME ONE COMING TO THE 88th  
FROM CHICAGO. I WOULD GET THEM NOW THAT WE HAVE BEEN HERE SO LONG,  
IF THEY WERE EXPRESSED TO NASHVILLE WE MIGHT BE GONE SO AS NEVER TO  
GET THEM. YES I "CAN BUY THINGS" HERE BUT AT ENOMOURS PRICES FOR INSTANCI  
A GOOD PAIR OF BOOTS COST FROM \$8. to \$14. DOWN HERE, THOU I GOT ME A  
VERY GOOD PAIR BY CHANCE FOR \$7.00 THIS AFTERNON.

ALBERT MUST TRY AND STUDY LESSON? THOUROUGHLY I SHOULD LOVE TO NOW  
FOR IT ~~TRM~~ TELLS SO MUCH HOW WARS WERE CARRIED ON IN CAESARS DAY AND  
HE CAN COMPARE THEM WITH MODERN MODES. NOW MUCH WE ALL HAVE LEARNED  
SINCE THE "DOGS OF WAR" WERE LET SLIP AT SUMPTER!

I REJOICE WITH ALBERT THAT "HE HAS PLANED HIS LAST FURROW" AND I BELIEVE  
YOU ALL WILL REJOICE WITH ME WHEN I HAVE FOUGHT MY LAST BATTLE AND NO  
SOUND SHALL AWAKE ME TO GLORY AGAIN." I THINK IT IS VERY DOUBTFUL ABOUT  
LIENT. WHITON AND "SELL" MBTZGAR GOING HOME AT CHRISTMAS. IT IS NO  
EASY THING TO GET ~~WXX~~ AWAY WITHOUT TALKING ? LEAVE NOW HAVE THEY SAID  
ANYTHING TO ME ABOUT IT I AM NOT COMING THEN NOR SHALL I TRY FOR IT  
IS NO USE. I DO NOT KNOW BUT I SAW MR. ALEXANDER IN NASHVILLE WHEN  
WE PASSED THROU THERE FOR I SAW A CINUTENANCE ON THE STREET WHICH LOOKED  
LIKE HIS THOJ THINNNER. I DID NOT SPEAK FOR I WAS NOT CERTAIN ABOUT HIM.  
TELL FRED THAT THE "BATTLE OF CRNSTALKS" OF WHICH MARY SPEAKS IN HER  
LETTERS TWO WEEKS AGO BRINGS TO MIND THE BATTLE OF PERRYVILLE WHERE WE  
FIRED AT A CORNFIELD FULL OF REBELS THOU WE COULD NOT BEE THEM. OFTEN  
THE BATTLE WAS OVER THAT EVENING I WENT ~~TX~~ INTO THE FIELD A FEW STEPS  
AND ON LOKKING AT A COUPLE OF STALKS BY MYSIDE. I FOUND THAT EACH HAD  
BEEN RIDDLED BY OUR MUSKET BALLS. TELL HIM I GUESS I WAS IN THE GREATEST  
BATTLE! I HOPE I SHALL NEVER SEE ANOTHER SUCH A ONE. STILL SOMETIMES I  
ALMOST LONG FOR A FIGHT. IF IT DOBS COME I SHALL TRY HARD TO DO MY DUTY.

# 25 (6)

THE R.I. BOYS ARE ALL WELL. SGT. MEACHAEM IS VERY ELESY NOW HE EATS  
TOO MUCH AND BEGINES TO HE WILL GET SICK WITH A FEVER. I AM FATTING  
UP FAST BUT AM VERY CAREFUL OF MY DIET AND SHALL TO HARD TO KEEP IN  
GOOD HEALTH. I PURPOSE TO WRITE TO MY SUNDAY SCHOOL SOON IF POSSIBLE.  
I DO NOT FORGET THOSE DEAR ?

TRULY EUGENE

# 26 HIS LAST LETTER.

CAMP OF 88th ILL VOL 8 MILES  
NORTH OF MURFRESBORO DEC. 28th  
SUNDAY 3PM

DEAR FOLKS

WE MOVED DAY BEFORE YESTERDAY FROM CAMP IN MILL CREEK AND ARRIVED HERE YESTERDAY IN AN AWFUL RAIN. WE TRAVELED THE DAY BEFORE WHILE THE WATER CAME DOWN IN TORRENTS AND THE BOYS WERE YELLING LIKE MAD DOGS SOME IN FACT BARKING. SOME GIVING THE USUAL ORDER IN BATTLE "LIE DOWN" ALL EXCEEDING LY MERRY. BUT IT CLEARED OFF LAST NIGHT AND THE WEATHER IS BEAUTIFUL TODAY. WE REACHED HERE WITH ONLY A FEW SHIRIMISHES WITH THE ENEMYS AND PORTS. FRIDAY LAST 13 KILLED AND WOUNDED. 3 KILLED AN MEN OF COURSE "THEY SAY" THE REBS LOST MORE I DONT KNOW WHETHER WE SHALL HAVE A FIGHT OR NOT YOU CAN JUDGE AS WELL AS I. THE ENEMY IS HERE AND MAY MAKE A STAND I BELIEVE ALL WILL BE WELL WITH ME. WE ARE IN A LAND OF PLENTY YOU WOULD JUDGE SO COULD YOU SEE THE LOADS OF NICE HOUSES. MUTTON, PUQLTRY, FLOUR MEAL AND TOBACOO THAT HAS BEEN COMING IN, IN A PERFECT STREAM. TALK OF THE REBELS STARVING! WHEN THE PLANTERS CELLARS ARE STUFFED FULL OF PROVISIONS FOR THE ARMY WE CANNOT STARVE THEM OUT AND I BEGIN TO THINK WE CANT WHIP THEM. THEY CAN HOLD OUT AS LONG AS WE. THEY NEED ONLY HALF OUR FORCE TO HOLD THE HILL, AND STRONG POSITIONS ALL ALONG THEIR BORDERS. THIS ~~THE~~ IS THE OPIONION OF THE SOLDIERS AND WILL ~~WE~~ BE MINE EVE LONG I BELIEVE! LIENT. ~~WX~~ MUTSON IS CAPT NOW. I CALLED ON HIM LAST NIGHT. WRITE OFTEN I LOVE TO READ YOUR LETTERS.

I AM TRULY EUGENE

SIDENOTE" LIENT. BACE HAS HANDED IN HIS RESIGNATION HE CANNOT STAND THE SERVICE. IF ANYTHING OCCURS OF IMPORTANCE I WILL WRITE IMMEDIATELY IF NOT WHEN I GET A CHANCE.

HE DIED AT THE BATTLE OF STONE RIVER DEC.31,1862.