

Hambden Geauge Co Ohio

Feb 16th 1863

Benjamin Sober Esq.
Huntsburgh, Ohio

Dear Sir

I have heard that you have lost a son in the Army. If so and he died without being discharged you are entitled to the Bounty and back pay. I am engaged in getting Bounty Money, Pensions and Back Pay. If you wish I can get the Bounty and Pay for you. If you do please inform me.

Very Respectfully yours

Rele Thayer

Note: The son that Mr. Thayer was referring to was Austin. He left the hospital in Louisville, Ky on December 29, 1862, on a furlough and died on January 2, 1863, at home in East Claridon, Ohio. This information was taken from his military service record.

Camp Cleveland (Ohio)

August 16th (1862)

Dear Father

I now sit down to let you now (know) that we are well and doing well. I probably shall get into Candfield's Company. They probably will muster the Company in Monday or Tuesday then I shall know what I shall do. If I get in I shall be home then. I probably shall be home in the fore part of next week. The boys all feel well. They seem to enjoy camp life pretty well. You need not answer this. You need not look for me till I come. For I can not tell when this will be if I am mustard (mustered) in I shall get a furlow (furlough) and come home. If not I shall come home any how. There is the jollyest set of fellows I ever saw. Austin is all right. George is well and feels first rate. There is a Regiment here or fast filling up. 105 - 103 and the others I don't know the No. (number). We have plenty to eat beef pork potatoes coffee sugar salt bread

S. Sober

Camp Cleveland (Ohio)

August 20th (1862)

Dear father

I now take this opportunity of letting you now (know) that we are all well at preasant (present). We have bin (been) transferd (transferred). Austin (and) Orland and myself to Capt. Williamses Co. I think we will have a better Captain than Canfield. There was about a dozzen (dozen) of us transfred (transferred). We are going to Columbus tomorrow. There we will stay for a time. I don't know how longe (long). You must get George or some one to help you and pay them out of my own money. You must settle with Dan. I will send you the amount in my count (account) book which I will send home by George Sober he was rejected. I will write to you as soon as I get to Columbus (Ohio). If you get a chance to send me a towel and a couple pair of ~~shoes~~ socks. I have got a bottle of pain killer and I am a going to ge another (another) before I go away from here. We are a going to garding (guard) prissoners (prisoners) some whare (where). I don't know whare (where) but I am going to see the end if it ever comes. My tools you may get home and use. The key is in the stand drawer. The amount of my worke (work) is on a piece of paper in my count (account) book. I shall get all the things that I kneed (need) at Cleveland before I go away from here. You kneed (need) not answer this for I dont (don't know whare (where) I shall be by the time that you could get a letter back. I am going to make some arrangement about our money so you can get it. I am petty (pretty) shure (sure) that we will go to Kentucky some time.

Love to all

Note: This letter was not signed, but was written by Spencer Sober.

Covington (KY)

August 21 (1862)

Dear father

I now take this opportunity to let you know that we are well at present (present) and hope that these few lines will find you the same. We are encamped at the depot at Covington (KY). We are on our way to Lexington (KY) I suppose but I do not know for certain (certain). I will write (write) again as soon as I get to some stopping place. We were paid off at Camp Cleveland that is the county bounty. I sent our money home by Mr. Nelson Loud. We sent 45 dollars a piece and we were paid 13 dollars to day at this place and we are a going to have the rest pretty soon. The United States pay master was not here so I shall keep this till we get the rest then I will express it. We made an assignment of 10 dollars a month to be drawn by you at Geauga Bank every 2 months. You need not answer this either for I do not know where to tell you where to direct. Dan owes me \$63.23 sixty three dollars.

Note: This letter was not signed but was written by Spencer Sober. There may have been another page to this letter.

Camp near Lexington, K.Y.

tuesday morning

Aug 26th (1862)

Dear father

I now take this opportunity to let you know that we are well at present (present) and hope that these few lines will find you the same. I ment (meant) to halve (have) got a furlow (furlough) before we left Cleveland (Ohio) but I did not want to come home till I knew that I was a going to go or not. And so I did not get a chance for we was mustard (mustered) in on Wednesday and broke camp on Thursday noon and got on the cars and the next morning we was in Cincinnati (Ohio) and then we crossed the Ohio (River) at sun rise and marched to Covington Station (KY) whare (where) we stayed till Monday then we came to Lexington (KY) whare (where) we are stationed. I do not know how long we shall stay. They captured a number of gorrillies (gorillas) at Sinthianna (Cynthiana, KY). Some dozzen (dozen) or so and killed 20 it is about 10 miles from here. We drew \$50. at Cleveland which Dock (Austin) and I sent \$45. a piece home by Nelson Loud and we drew \$13. on Friday which we expressed 10 of it and on Sunday we drew \$25. which I expressed. Dock was sick so that he did not draw. The money you may do with as you see fit. I have expressed \$80. and Dock \$55. We made arrangements for you to draw \$10. dollars a month of our pay at Geauga Bank. I have bin (been) on picket guard all day and all night. I like it very well so far. If they will give us a chance at Morgan's (Confederate General John Hunt Morgan) gorillies (gorillas) we will fix them. They dispersed a boddy (body) of our cavalry the other day near Cumberland Gap. There is three camps in this place. One regiment in our camp. The boys all feel first rate. They found a patch of water mellons of about three acres and they cleaned it out in one day. It is a very good country about Lexington (KY) but the country from Covington (KY) to Paris (KY) is the rufist (roughest) country I ever saw. The railroad is as crooked as a black snake. Its a perfect (perfect) bed of lime stone from here to Cincinnati.

No more at peasant (present)

S. Sober

Direct your letters in this stile (style)

Spencer Sober
105th Regi Co F
In care of Captain Williams
Lexington, KY

to follow the regiment.

Directed in this stile (style) it will find me in any place.

Camp near Louisville K.Y.

Sept 6th / 61 (62)

Dear Father

I now take this opportunity to let you know that we are well at present (present) and hope that these few lines will find you the same. I suppose that you have heard (heard) that the 105th has been (been) all cut to pieces but I am happy to inform you that it is all safe. There is a few of our boys that is sick on account of our long march but not dangerous. Our forces had an engagement (engagement) with the rebels on Saturday the 21st near Richmunday, K.Y. (Richmond) about 20 miles South East of Lexington and we was defeated with some 150 in kild (killed) wounded and missing. We was not in the engagement. We was in our camp at Lexington (KY). We could hear the cannon as plain as if we was there. We had marching orders on the day before the fight and the day of the battle we had formed and two companies had started for camp Dick Robinson. And the news reached us of the defeet (defeat) of our troops and orders was given to go to there (their) relief. We had proceeded about 10 miles and we met the trains of wagons with the wounded and the supplies in full retreat (retreat). And we got the news that two thousand cavalry was in persuit (pursuit) of our trains. So our regiment was formed in line of battle in a corn field and the 73rd Ind. (Indiana) and 93rd Ohio was sent on the mane (main) road to cover the retreat (retreat) of the others. And after we had bin (been) formed some 2 hours when a body of cavalry came in sight and there was a battle in our lines. Some looked rather pale but it did not last long for they found them to be ours which had bin (been) scattered the day before. Then we commensed (commenced) our retreat (retreat) as soon as the mane (main) body came up this being about 2 P.M. and about 4 P.M. it bgan (began) to rane (rain) and it raned (rained) till we reached Lexington. There we was quartered in the market house and then in the morning we went to our camp and bgan (began) preparations for the retreat (retreat) that we have made. We commenced our march about 6 P.M. and we marched all night and reached a small village some 12 miles on our journey. The next day we reached Frankfort and crossed the river (Kentucky River) and encamped and planted our battery so to hake (take) ? the bridge. The battery consists of 2 24 pounders 2 12 pounders all brass pieces. And in the morning our cavalry discovered the enemies cavalry about 1½ miles in our rear and we formed in line again and wated (waited) half an hour and went on. And in three days more we reached Louisville. The rebel cavalry hung about our rear till the second day after we left Frankfort. Then our cavalry drove them back killing 2 and taking 10 prissoners (prisoners). We had some 20 or 30 of our men taken prissoner (prisoner). They got tiered (tired) and fell behind and was picked up by the enemies cavalry. And also lost a company of cavalry. They were scouting in the rear and stopt (stopped) to feed and they lay down to rest and was taken by the cavalry. Among the prissoners (prisoners) was Charley Mack. Tell his folks of it if they have not herd (heard) it. He fell out and has not been herd (heard) from Since. There was some from Hambden (Ohio). Jim will know them. They were Mile J. Whitney Justin Brewer Oscar Tinggle and some more. All the boys from our way is well so far as I know. There has bin (been) ten men taken out of each company to go in the artillery. We have been joined by annother (another) battery since we have bin (been) here of 6 guns each 30 pd (pound) parrot guns. We will leave this place soon and I think we will go to Cincinnati. I want to have you wright (write) and tell me if you have got our money and if not look after it. I have not herd (heard) a word from home since I left and I would like to have all wright (write) that will. I do not think of anything of importance to wright (write).

S. Sober

Direct to Louisville, K.Y. Co F 105 Regi in care of
Captain Williams to follow the regiment O.V.I.

Note: Spencer incorrectly dated this letter 1861. He did the same on letter number 8 but corrected the 1 by writing over it with a 2. Also in this letter he refers to Saturday the 21st. This can not be correct as the battle Spencer is describing began on Saturday the 30th of August. He had the day correct but had his dates mixed up.

Camp near Louisville (KY)

Saturday Sept 13th (1862)

Dear father

I now take this opportunity to let you know that we are well at present (present) and hope these few lines may find you the same. I have not heard (heard) from any of you since I left home yet. I have bin (been) looking for a letter for some days but none came so I thought I would (would) mak (make) one more effort to make you wright (write). I want you to wright (write) and let me know if you halve (have) our money. If not to look after it and also to wright (write) if you under stand whare (where) you are to draw our money. If not I will inform you in my next. And wright (write) what you have done with Dan so I can direct you how to dispose of things. There is no news to wright (write). We have a large force here. It is estimated at from 75 to 90 thousand with a corrisponding (corresponding) No (number) of artillery and cavalry. I do not hear as much war news here as I did when I was thare (there). Tell Jim I would like to be thare (there) and go a hunting with him. Tell him to wright (write) and all the rest must wrigh (write) if they will if not do the other thing. I have not bin (been) home sick a bit. Dock (Austin) was a little home sick when he was in Covington (KY) when he was sick but since that he has felt well. Orland felt a little down after we got into this state (Kentucky) but he has got over that. Tell George he aught to be here and show them how to shoot. They all went out to unload there (their) arms yesterday. They brought them up by company and fired. My gun was not loaded so I did not try it. They fired 800 shots at a paper 1 foot square at about 20 rods (110 yards) and they got six balls in the mark. The balls in the tree about 10 feet high was as thick as they could be. Our guns are of long range and they did not ame (aim) low enough. The guns are light and they jump some. Wright (write) all the news and tell all to wright (write) that will. No more at preasant (present).

Yours as ever

S. Sober

Direct to

Spencer Sober
Louisville, K.Y. 105 Regi
O.V.I. Co. F.
In care of Captain Williams

to follow the regiment

september 18th (1862)

dear sister

I just received your letter. I was glad to hear from you. I am well and hope that these few lines may find you the same. We are expect (expecting) a battle. There are about 8,000 rebbels (rebels) with in 8 miles of us. We have about 70,000 men around louisville (KY). I am in hopes they will gett (get) thrashed out slick and clean. I ant (ain't) a frard (afraid) of gettend (getting) killed. All the 105 is all anchovs (anxious) to gett (get) a chance at them.

sunday morning sept 21

I have ben (been) on gard (guard) for the last 20 hours. We hade (had) an order friday knight (night) that we must go and renforce (reinforce) general Buel (General George Buell). gen braggs (Confederate General Baxton Bragg) is in betwen (between) him and us. braggs (General Bragg) has about 30,000 men. Coarnal hall (Colonel Hall) sead (said) that we must cutt (cut) our way to him. We all sead (said) three chears (cheers) for Cornal (Colonel). Cathrin (Catharine) you gett (get) some boddy (body) to gath (gather) up the corn and not husk my part. (Take it) home and putt (put) my part in the barn and feed it out to my ? . I will pay for it.

I want you to go down and see Charlley mack (Charlie Mack) and ask him if he has if he has got to go to minasota (Minnesota) to fight the indindans (indians). If he has got (to) go right (write) to me. Right (Write) strate (straight) for I want to know.

good by (bye)

Note: The letter was not signed but was written by Austin Sober. He did not sign any of his four letters.

Camp near Louisville (KY)

Sept 20th / 62

Dear Sister

I now take opportunity to let you know that we ar (are) well and hope that these fiew (few) lines will find you the same. We ar (are) going to march today to help catch the rebels that is between us and gen. Buell (General George Buell). We have bin (been) entrenching our selves. We have thrown up entrenchments some 5 miles long. It extends round the city from the river below the town to the river above. The money that I expressed was put in a package with all the geauga (Geauga County, Ohio) boys that is in our company. It was in two packages \$20 in one \$25 in the other ten of the money was Austins and the rest is mine makeing (making) \$10 for him \$35 for me. It was expressed in F. D. Williames name. All in one pack and ours was marked in fathers name. If it does not get there before this does he can go to parkman (Parkman, Ohio) whare (where) this Williames lives.

F. D. Williames
Parkman
Geauga Co
Ohio

And if he can let Strong have the money it would suit me well enough. You spoke of sending me some socks and a towel. I have provided my self with all them so you need not send them. I received your letter the 18th. Dock (Austin) got one the same time. I did not get time to wright (write) yesterday for we was at work on the entrenchments. I can not wright (write) any more at preasant (present). You can let our folks see this and that will answer for both. In regard to Dan he can settle with him as he thinks best. There is due me \$63.23 cts.

Tell all to wright (write) wright (write) soon.

Yours as ever

S. Sober

Love to all
enquiring friends

So good by

the end

to Spencer I want you
to write home how
you stood it on your
march. Write soon.

Catharine

the
Huntsburg (Ohio) Sept 21 62

Good morning Austin

It is with pleasure that I take my pencil in hand to inform you a few lines to let you know that we are all well at present and hoping these few lines will find you the same. Your folks received your letter Thursday night and was glad to hear you was well and having fun. So your mother wanted me to write Sunday and so I will try to do. So I hope you are all having lots of fun down there and hope the war will come to a close before long. The folks seem to have lots of fun some of them. A Wednesday night they had a great pareing (pairing) bee to Macks. All the folks I does heard of was there but me. I suppose they had a great time I have not heard. Charlie has been to home 2 weeks this morning. Tilden Porter is in your regiment you say. I hope you will kill him. Tell Pent (to) kill him for me. James got home from over the mountain all right. He received Pents letter and has answered it. You ought to been here and went to that pareing (pairing) bee. I have not seen Charlie since he came home. Now I guess I will go down to your folks. Catherine is a coming over to day and see what she wants to write. Catherine says she will write and so I will close. You and Pent must write to me. So no more. Excuse all mistakes.

Sylvia

Sunday Morning Sept 21 / 62

Dear Brother (Austin)

I now sit down to write you a few lines to let you know that we are all well. Allvin B. has had a pair of Leather Specteales (spectacles) sent to him. He had a letter sent to him and opened it when lo and behold a pair of specs. It makes some fun I can tell you. Uncle Enoch S. has just been here and said that they were all well. He wants Henry to send home a letter. He has not heard from him in some time. We shall not have any fair at Claridon (East Claridon, Ohio) this year. Briggs is talking of buying a lot in North Nubery. Joy go with them. No more at present.

Yours Catharine D.

Note: The first message in the letter must have been written by a friend of Austin's, possibly a girl friend. The second part of the letter was written by Austin's sister Catharine with an added note at the top of the letter to Spencer.

lewisville KY (Louisville, KY)

September 24 (1862)

Dear father

I now have the present oppertunity (opportunity) of wrighing (writing) you a few lines to let you know that we are well and hope that these few lines may find you the same. Henry has ben (been) in the hospital at Louisville. I don't now (know) how he is. We are a going to march eather (either) to day or to morrow. The Cornal (Colonel) says that or (our) collom (column) will reach about 50 milds (miles) in length. The old Cornal (Colonel) seas (says) that we can whip the devil out of them. We was called out about half past to (two) o clock this morning. The 105 was poot (put) a head for they was called the best of all. The old Cornal (Colonel) seas (says) that he can whip the devil out of them. He seas (says) he has lotsome (lots of) confidence in them. He don't ant (want) them to was (be) taken prissoners (prisoner). All they went for was for they (the) money that was ofored (offered) up for volenteers (volunteers). He says that they didn't (didn't) calculate to stay with us atall (at all). Tell Mr. Hall that if I hadd (had) him down hear (here) three days he would fight like thunder. Our Calvermon (cavalry men) took 17 seach (southern) Calvermon (cavalry men) yesterday. I have ben (been) up this morning too (to) see them but I dent (didn't) see but one of them. He says that they hafto (have to) fornish (furnish) everything they have. I don't know how much they gett (get) a month that is all I know about them. Tell Mrs. Hall that I have just gott (got) her leter (letter) but have not haad (had) time to answer it. I was very much pleased with the present she sent me. Tell her that I will wright (write) to her when I can get time to. Father that he (you) must keep faney (Fanny) fatt (fat) and must not sell her for I shall come home some day or other and shall want to ride once more. Tell Charley Mack to wright (write) to me. Tell Irvin Beardsley and all the rest of the folks that I send my best respects to them and want them to wright (write) to me. Tell Cath that she must not sell that colt for I want it my self. I will pay her as much as any boddy (body) will. Father if he (she) wants to sell it before I gett (get) home by (buy) it for me and pay for it out of my money. Well father I must bid you god (good) morning.

Note: This letter was not signed but was written by Austin Sober. He did not sign any of his four letters.

Head quarters lite (Light) briggad (Brigade)
army of Kentucky

I date my letter the last day of September

30 (th) of september 1862

lewisville (Louisville, KY)

dear father

I now have the present opportunity of wrighting (writing) you a few lines to lett (let) you know that we are both well and hope that these few lines may find you enjoing (enjoying) the same great blessing. The redgment (regiment) wass (was) called out this morning just as we was eating breaffast (breakfast). We all jumped up and left every thing on the ground and gott (got) our guns and was in line less than 5 minets (minutes). We marched out and was in line of battle and then marched down the pique (pike) about 2 milds (miles). The enemy was reported to be within 5 milds (miles) of us. The Calvery (Cavalry) Companyies (Companies) and redgmentes (regiments) was out for about 2 milds (miles) in length. We calculated to have a little brush with them but no such good luck as that.

October 3, 1862

Dear father and mother

I now have the present opportunity of telling you since I comenced (commenced) my letter Sept the 30th I am now trying to finish it. Our briggade (brigade) started Sept (Oct) 2 after old general price (Confederate General Sterling Price) I hade (had) the ? in my leg right whare (where) I had it last sumer (summer) but I thought it would not stop me from travlin (traveling) so I started on with the redgment (regiment). I went about 9 milds (miles) with them. My legg (leg) got so sore that I could not travel eney (any) further. I shode (showed) it to the docter (doctor) and he said that I must not travel eney (any) further with the redgment (regiment) so he gave me a pass to come back to camp. I left the redgment (regiment) at 3 oclock (o'clock) thursday after noon. I traveled about 7 milds (miles) that day. At sundown I was with in three milds (miles) of camp. I slept in the woods that night with my rifle by my side. I gott (got) in Camp the next morning about 8 o'clock on friday october 3. There is to (two) sargents (sergeants) in our Company and they are fine men both of them. They told me to taket (take it) cool and easy. (If) I did so my leg will gett (get) along I think. Now the docter (doctor) haint (ain't) gott (got) medison (medicine) enough in his office to cure it. If the redgment (regiment) don't come back with in a wek (week) we shall all be sent to Scinnatia (Cincinnati, Ohio) to the hospital. If I go thare (there) I shall think I am at home again. I figs (figure) thair (there) I will right (write) to you. Spencer is a tuff (tough) as a bare (bear). If he would let them grow (whiskers) out they would lok (look) as bad as old Ben Bahchdor. Henry wanted me to tell you to tell ? that he was tuff (tough) as a not (knot) and stood marching first rate. I forgot to tell you they have started for Bardstown (KY) to rought (rout) the enemy from that place. I hant (haven't) any thing more to right (write) to you. Dyrect (direct) your leter (letter) as before.

So good by (bye)

Note: This letter was not signed but was written by Austin Sober. He did not sign any of his four letters.

In Camp near
Lewisville KY
(Louisville, KY)

October 6th (1862)

Dear father and Mother

I know (now) have the present opportunity of wrighting (writing) you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope that these few lines may find you enjoring (enjoying) the same great blessing. I suppose that Spencer is well. I haint (ain't) heard eny (any) thing. It come (came) in this morning paper that the rebbels (rebels) made thair (their) braggs (brag) that they would have posession (possession) of Lewisville (Louisville) by saturday (Saturday) night (night) but they mord (made) thair (their) braggs (brag) to quick. They found that our forces was advansing (advancing) on them and they had to retreat back 5 milds (miles) beyond beardstown (Bardstown, KY). I have forgot the name of the place they retreated back to. That is all the war news I have heard of. My leg has gott (got) well and I am going to my redgment (regiment) within to (two) or 3 days. I have just ben (been) cleaning up my rifle so I (can) chase the rebbels (rebels). I have sen (seen) ? of the 41 regament (regiment). I see Charlie Bridgeman and Ira Huse and Dick Huse. I haint (ain't) sen (seen) Doll Holloway yet but he is thair (there). I think the place they are in camp is east of Lewisville (Louisville). Father the next letter you send me send me some postage stamps. I havt (haven't) any thing more to wright (write). I wanto (want to) know how my calves (are) get (getting) along and how if fany (Fanny) is fat as ever. You must keep her fat. I want you to wright (write) often. I shall think you don't want to wright (write). I wanto (want to) now (know) if the folks miss us eney (any) or not. I shall wright (write) soon. If I go to my regment (regiment) I shant have time to. That is all at present so god (good) by (bye). I shall wright (write) again son (soon).

Note: This letter was written by Austin Sober but was not signed. He did not sign any of his four letters.

Oct 11 (1862)

Dear Son (Austin)

I now take the present time to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and so are all the rest of the relations. We have received all of your money and let it to M. Strong. Mrs. Mack says that if you will get some baswood (basswood) buds and boil it in an iron keetle (kettle) until it looks quite dark and wash your leg in it and drink some of the tea it will cure you. I hope you will get better Son but don't go out of the hospitall (hospital) untill (until) you get well for if you do they will put you right into service and that will give you a fever sore on your leg.

Dear brothers

I will now write a few lines to you. Mrs. Briggs and I got in corn last monday. I thought that I had better help to get it in seeing as how help was pretty scarce. I have heard from Martin ? since you left. I don't know wheather (whether) he will get home or not. I hope you will soon be well. Father will not sell the colt this fall. My little colt grows well. Old jane is fat and ugly as ever. I don't think of much more to write to you this time.

So good bye

Eliza Sober

Note: This letter was written by Spencer's and Austin's Mother. She must have written the letter on two different occasions as she begins it again with Dear brothers.

Encamped Eight miles north of
Chaplain hights (Chaplin Heights, KY)

Oct 12th (1862)

Dear father

I now take this opportunity to let you know that I am well at preasant (present) and hope that these few lines may find you the same. We had a little scratch with the rebells (rebels) last Wednesday the 8th and beat him. The result you will get ere this reaches you so I won't tell you about it but only tell you that we am all safe. There was 5 kild (killed) out of our company. Their names are as follows Thomas T Hover Fredrick Smidth Emet Huston Joseph Ball Ira Nye. Ira was shot through the hart (heart). There was ten or twelve wounded. I came through without a scratch. Dock (Austin) was at Louisville (KY). His leg was sore so he could not come but I herd (heard) from him yesterday. He was getting better. Orland is there too so I am all of the one in our company that was in the engagement of our boys. The rebells (rebels) ar (are) skedadleing (skedaddling) as fast as they can. How far they will go I cannot tell but we ar (are) moving after them. We left Louisville the first day of Oct and the eight (eighth) we met the enemy at Chaplain hights (Chaplin Heights, KY). They say so some prisoners say if they can't hold Kentucky they shall give it up but how true it is you may judge for your self. I got a letter from Dan a while (while) ago and he said that he had spoke to you about sedllen (settling) but the note that he had you did not like so he said he should have to give you his note and I should tell you to trade notes with him. When he should gett (get) one that did suit you may do so if the note suits you. You must be the judge. Dan owes me \$63.23. Act as you think proper that is all. I want you to wright (write) and tell me about the money that I expressed. There will be \$20 dollars in the Geauga Bank for me and 20 for Dock (Austin) the 15th of next month to be drawn in your name. I owe you \$5. dollars and I want you to take it out of the money that I have sent home. Toni Dow owes me \$2 two dollars. You can get that if you can. Tell John I got his letter but I have not had time to answer it yet. Tell him to wright (write) agen (again) as I do not know when I can. Direct to Louisville (KY) as usuall (usual).

good by (bye) for the peasant (present)

Note: This letter was not signed but was written by Spencer Sober.

Munfordsville (KY)

Oct 28/62

Dear father and mother

I now take this opportunity to let you know that we ar (are) all well with the exception of a slight cold. Dock (Austin) came to the regiment day before yesterday the 26. He has not had the measles at all. His leg is all right again. I am glad that you have got our money and have let it in a good place. The review that you speak of it was a hard time but I went through. The black flag of the rebels (rebels) is nothing for all the boys that wer (were) taken at the battle was used well. They let them take all their private property away with them when they wer (were) parolled (paroled).

We left Louisville (KY) the first day of october. Dock started with us and marched about 10 miles and turned back. We went on for three days toard (toward) Bardstown (KY). The division on our right engaged the rebels (rebels) there about two oclock. We could here (hear) the cannon and the rebels (rebels) run. And then we went on toard (toward) Perrysville (Perryville, KY) which place we reached about two oclock P.M. the 8th which time we went into the battle. Here we stayed two days to attend to our wounded and burry (bury) the ded (dead). Then we went to Herriodsburg (Harrodsburg, KY) thence to Danville (KY) where we stayed five days thence we turned our steps toard (toward) Lebinon (Lebanon, KY) here we stayed two days thence to this place (Munfordsville, KY) which we reached on the 23rd. We have traveled in all about two hundred miles.

How long we shall stay here I cannot tell but it may be for weeks. The paymaster came here yesterday. It may be to pay us off and it may not. I cannot tell till it comes to pay. If we stay here any length of time some one of our company will come home after such things as the boys want. If they do come home I want you to send us some boots. Morse has our measure and you can get him to make us some good ones and some under shirts. Wouldn't come mys (myself) but if I cannot get a chance to send for them I shall by (buy) them here although it will cost me more than it would to have them sent to me. Orland is still in Louisville (KY) in the hospital but he is not very sick I guess. I think he will come here in a few days. ? is discharged and sent home. He has not done any thing since we came from Lexington (KY). That march used him up as for as duty is concerned. I got 5 good shots at the rebels (rebels) at the battle. That done me some good but I cannot tell what the affect (effect) was. Webster must feel good to think he is drafted. I cannot think of any more to wright (write) at this time. Wright (write) soon and tell me all the news. Tell Lu I am going to wright (write) to him in a few days and John and Dan and James and Cath all so (also). Direct to Louisville (KY) as usual. That is the safest place at preasant (present). That is the jeneral (general) distributing (distribution) office. Excuse hast.

Spencer Sober

Camp Near Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 4th / 62

Dear father and mother

I now take the presant (present) opportunity to let you know that I am well and all sound up to this date and hope that these few lines may find you enjoying the same great blessing. Dock (Austin) has the measles but is doing well they say. He was pretty smart this morning they sayed (said) but he eat (ate a) little to much so he did not feel quite so smart at noon. There is a man in the hospital that is lame out of our company that sees to him. I have not bin (been) thare (there) for I thought it was not best for me to go as he had just as good care as I could give his (him) and I don't like to expose my self any more than I can help unnecessary (unnecessarily) but if he don't get along well I shall go and see him. Orland is at louisville (KY) in the hospital. How he is I do not know. There is nothing new in camp. You must wright (write) soon and tell me all that is going on on Clay Street and else whare (where). I took it into my hed (head) to send you that awful picture you have harped about so long which I have enclose. Don't settle with Dan without he will do the thing that is right. So good by (bye). Direct to louisville (KY) as usual. No more at preasant (present). Wright (write) soon.

S. Sober

I should have written for
the things some time ago
but I did not know but
some one would go home or
else we should leave here.
S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 7th (1862)

Dear father

I now take the preasant (present) opportunity to let you know that we
ar (are) doing well. I am all right. Dock (Austin) is getting along
pretty fast and I think he will be well in a short time. He is in a
comfortable place and all things is in good shape and things to make
them comfort (comfortable). I want you to go to William Morse and get
each of us a pare (pair) of boots made. Have them made a little longer
than the measure and a little larger just a trifle. Have them made as
soon as you posibly (possibly) can and have a box made large enough to
hold them and express them to me at this place and if you have let all
our money go you must make him wate (wait) till you draw the money from
geauga bank which will be dne (done) by the time you get this. I want
also each of us a pair of mittens with one finger and send them in the
same box. Don't have to large a box made for it will only make charges
higher for nothing. Pay the express charges for we have not drawn any
money yet and I do not know when we shall. It is getting cold here.
It snows (snowed) some to day. The snow fell here the 25th of last
month about 2 inches the same time that it snowed up thare (there). The
105th was mustered the 1 (st) day of this month and it mustered 440 men.

So good by (bye) for the preasant (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 8th (1862)

Dear father and mother

I now sit down to let you know that Austin is very sick and I never was more surprised than I was when I entered the hospital yesterday. I have bin (been) a little afraid of the mesles (measles) but yesterday I came her (here) and am here to day 2 P.M. I had herd (heard) that he was doing well but when I saw him I hardly knew him. He was so poor nothing but skin and bone and so week (weak) that he can hardly stand up. I do not know what to do for him or with him, I don't kow (know) as we could move him if we could get a discharge. If we had a good nurse I think he might get along but as you all know that whare (where) thare (there) is so many thare (there) cannot be so much attention to each as they realy (really) need. So I am in a rather tight place. I do not know which way to turn. If we had our kind of docters (doctors) I could contrive some thing for him but as things is I can do nothing but look on. I got him up and washed him and changed his shirt that will help him. They lay it all to his eating a lot of chese (cheese) after his mesles (measles) came out and turned it into a fever.

You must take things cool. I shall try for a discharge for him and if I can get it I shall tellegraph (telegraph) to you and you must come after him with all hast.

No more at preasant (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov. 13th 1862

Mr. C. U. Frank

Sir

Dr. Seymour was here two days since and requested me to (write) you a line informing you of the state of Austin Sober's health. I am happy to inform you that he is better than when Dr. Seymour was here and that he will probably recover. Please inform his family of this favorable change in his condition.

Yours

J. G. Paulding
Ast. Surg. 105th O V I

Camp near Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 17 / 62

Benj. (Benjamine) Sober Esq.
Huntsburg Ohio

Dear Sir

I have just come from the hospital. Austin is better and I think will recover now if he does not have any relapse. Spencer is sick with measles (and) will get along without any serious trouble I think. I am well and enjoying myself finely.

Truly Yours in Hast (Haste)

J. A. Moffett

Note: J. A. Moffett was probably a member of the 105th Regiment and wrote to Spencer's and Austin's father for them since they were both sick.

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 19th (1862)

Dear father

I received your letter last evening (evening) and was glad to hear that you got the dispatch that I ordered and the letter also. I am happy to inform you that Austin is better and gaining slowly. The cause of my calling it the mesles (measles) was on the account of that being the first cause. He got better of them and then he eat (ate) a lot of cheese that set him into the fever but I think he will get along now if we can keep him from eating to much again. He is very ravinous (ravenous). I think he can get a discharge with out doubt. The docter (doctor) told him he would send him home as soon as he got able to ride. So I guess he will make out his papers for him as soon as he is able to come. I have bin (been) here with him some 12 days. I have had the mesles (measles) but I did not mind them. I have bin (been) out dores (doors) every day since I have bin (been) here. I shall stay here a while longer. Austin has (as) good care as I can wish for under the circomstances (circumstances) but I think he will come right along now if he has no pulbacks. If he gets worse I shall let you know. I will wright (write) again soon. Austin got some stamps some time ago some 10 I think it was about the first of this month I think so don't know but that is all right if you have not sent two lots.

You must take good care of my pet the old rifle. Don't let it get rusty. Use it once in a while so to keep it in good order.

So good by (bye) for the preason (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 23rd (1862)

Dear father and mother

I thought I would wright (write) you a few lines to you to let you know how Austin is as I thought you would want to hear how he is. I think he is doing well. He is a great deal better than he was when I first went into the hospital. He is in good spirits and has a good appetite and is gaining strength every day. If we can keep him from eating to much and he has no relapse he will recover. He is perfickly (perfectly) rationally (rational). Deloss Canfield brought me two pair of socks and a chunk of sugar in one of them. I borrowed two dollars of him for I was getting rather close and I did not know when we should get any pay so I thought it best to get a little wen (when) I could. I have to use a little occationly (occasionally) for Austin and I want to have you hand it to him for it was a great accommodation to me and tak (take) the same out of my money when you get hold of some.

I guess that is all at preasant (present). So good by (bye).

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 27th (1862)

Dear father and mother

I thought that you would like to hear how Dock (Austin) is getting along so I thought I would drop a line to you to day. He is doing first rate. He has sit (sat) up a little while for to (two) or three days past. He feels good and has a good appetite. The regiment has orders to march. They will go soon and they seem to think that all the sickest ones those that ar (are) not likely to be able for duty soon will be sent to louisville (KY). There they will stand a good chance to get a discharge. Austin and Philo Bonton and the blacksmith Web will go there if any of them goes. I think that Austin will get his discharge after a while. I am still at the hospital yet. I am going to stay here till I am perfictly (perfectly) well. I shant try to march with the regiment for I should stand a good chance to catch cold. I ant (ain't) going to fret the cattle much after this. You may bet high on that. I may go to louisville (KY) with the rest when they go. I can't tell any thing about it now. If the regiment leaves they will move the hospital I guess.

You need not answer this till you hear from me again.

Good by (bye) for the preasant (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Dec 18th (1862)

Dear father and mother

I now sit down to let you know how we ar (are) getting along. I am all right. Austin is coming to his appetite again. They have sent off all of the sick that is able to go to the regiment and all of the rest that is able to be moved to louisville (KY). Austin will be sent there as soon as he is able to be moved with safty (safety). Philo Bonton (and) Sylvester Web has gone to louisville. There is but 8 eight left here. As soon as Austin is able to go to louisville I shall go to the regiment. I might just as well go now as any other way for he has all the care and just as good care as I can give him. All the difference is he will feel a little better to have me here I suppose. If it had not bin (been) for that I should went this morning. I think that if he goes to louisville he will get a discharge or a furlow (furlough). He won't never have to march any more I think. I believe we all will be home in the Spring or before by the way things move off now. The troops ar (are) poring (pouring) in toard (toward) nashville (Tenn) in perfect streems (streams). I am glad that you sent the box just as you did for if you had waited a week I might never have seen it. My boots is just a fit. I wouldn't take ten dollars for them no mans money. The cakes tast (taste) first rate. The berries is good to. I am much pleased with them all. All though Austin don't enjoy it much but it is dinner time and I must close. I talked to the docter (doctor) about getting a furlow (furlough) for Austin and he said the best thing was to have him go to louisville. There he would stand a better chance than here. You need not answer this for I don't know whether it would fine me if you should wright (write).

So good by (bye) for the preasant (present)

Spencer Sober

Louisville (KY)
Dec 25th (1862)

Hospital No. 8th
Ward No. 1

(Dear father)

I now sit dow (down) to let you know how we ar (are). We arrived here tuesday evening (Dec. 23rd). Austin stood the journey first rate so far but the rest of the journey I cannot tell the result. He is very week (weak) and the diareaa (diarrhea) still hangs to him. The docter (doctor) of this hospital has made out papers of reccommendation (recommmendation) for a discharge for to take before the medical bord (board). I think there (will be) no trouble about his getting a discharge for him. He will be examined today. Pomeroy has done first rate. He worked hard and has affected every thing so far to the entire satisfaction of my self. If Austin dies on the road do not lay any blame on Pomeroy for he cannot do more than he has. There (is) no chance for me to come attall (at all) for I am to near fit for service. They don't give any furlows (furloughs) to any one and I have no chance for a discharge but all I care for is to get him off for home that will take a great burthen (burden) of (off) my shoulders then I can go along with out any more trouble. I can get along with out any trouble. This is a nice place. It is a nice as any parlor. Nice beds and every thing to eat. The ladies bring in all kinds of nice things to eat. The ladies ar (are) going to give a Christmas dinner to day to the hospital. I don't think of any thing of any importance. Pomeroy had to work hard to get me to accompany him this far. If it had not bin (been) for his being a mason and the commander of Munfordsville also or else I should have to have stayed there. I am not sick but I am going to stick to this place as long as I can. I can stay here and get my pay for it.

I shall keep five dollars of the money you sent by him. I have one dollar left yet. They (are) going to pay off all the hospitals the first of next month but I have no discriptive roll so I cannot draw mine till next time.

No more at preasant (present)
Direct to Louisville Hospital
No. 8 Ward No. 1st.

Wright (write) as soon as you get this.

S. Sober

Nashville (Tenn)

Jan 29th (1863)

Dear father and mother

I now sit down to let you know that I am well at preasant (present) and hope that these few lines may find you the same. I left louisville (KY) the 16th on bord (board) the Atlantic. 17th crossed to New Albany (Ind.) took on 5,000 bushels (of) coal then along down stoping (stopping) at various places. Arived (arrived) at Smithland (KY) the 21st taking on here and on the way here 20,000 butials (bushels) of corn. 22nd started up the Cumberland (River) reached fort donnelson (Fort Donelson, Tenn) the 23rd then to Clarksville (Tenn) on the 24th. Here we lay till the 28th on account of some rebell (rebel) batteries up the river which had to be dislodged before our fleet of transports dare start. Our fleet consists of twenty transports and four gunboats. We came through safe. We had two shots fired at us by the enemies pickets. We returned the fire and they run (ran). So much for my trip to this place (Nashville, Tenn). I don't know whare (where) my regiment is. You will hear from me again as soon as I find it. I am heavyer (heavier) that when I left home. I weigh 160 pounds now. The snow was 1½ feet deep when I left louisville (KY). It is fine weather here. No more at preasant (present). Direct to nashvill tenn (Nashville, Tenn.).

Good by (bye) Write soon.

S. Sober

Murfreesboro (Tenn.)

Feb 2nd (1863)

Dear father and mother

I now sit dow (down) to let you know that I found my regiment the very day I reached this place (Murfreesboro, Tenn.). We are encamped about one mile south of the town (Camp Stanley). I reached here the 31st. I found the boys all feeling well. There was 130 of our men taken prisoner the other day. They wer (were) out forriaging (foraging). I suppose that all of you have written to me but they came to the regiment and they sent them back to me but they wer (were) lost. The last letter I received was from Sylvia of Dec 2nd (1862). I want you to write to me as soon as you get this. I suppose that there has bin (been) several letters sent to me and wer (were) lost for the lieutenant told me that he had remailed some 8 or 10 letters to me but I never got one of them. I have answered all that I have received. I would like to be there to hunt mink a little while. It is nice wether (weather) down here. All kinds of spring birds ar (are) singing in the trees about us. I think we will stay here some time yet. Ther (there) is nothing of importance to write so I will close. Good by (bye) for the preasant (present). Write soon.

Yours as ever

S. Sober

Camp (Stanley) Near Murfreesboro (Tenn)

Feb 24th 63

Mr Sober

Dear Sir

It is hard but I must write you the painful news that Spencer is dead. He died this morning at three O clock at Hospital No. eight Murfreesboro (Tenn). Spencer came to the Regt (Regiment) about the first of this month (Feb). He was not well. He should not have come here until Spring. He was taken with a diarhea (diarrhea) about the 16th but got some better. I went on a scout the 17th (and) did not consider him dangerous. He went to the Hospi (Hospital) the 22nd. When I got back he was in the Hospi (Hospital). I should have went an seen him the 23 (23rd) but was sick. I intended to go the next day but he died. We buried him at the brigade head quarters. He had the lung fever.

I have got his things an (and) if it is posible (possible) will express them home.

I will write again soon

Orlando Dimmick

Note: Spencer died probably never knowing that his brother Austin had preceded him in death on January 2, 1863, after returning home from the hospital in Louisville, Ky. Spencer mentioned in his last letter of February 2, 1863, that he had not heard from home since receiving a letter written on December 2, 1862, however, he could have received a letter between the date of his last letter and his death on February 24, 1863, which might have informed him of Austin's death.