

John Blackburn

Pvt C.H 97 Infantry
Ohio

killed Battle of Franklin
Nov 30, 1864
Age 33

Camp near Maritana Camp near Maritana

June 7th 1864

My Dear Wife I again take the present opportunity of night to give you a few more lines to let you know that I am well as this leaves me hear all I hope by this lets you this will find you and the children all in good health as this leaves me hear at present thank god for it. My Dear I received a letter dated on the twenty ninth day of last month and I was glad to hear from you once well gave we got the rebels routed out from the last place where we fought the rebels a few days but we got them started once more and the next place where they are going to make another stand for a battle is about from twenty to thirty miles from where we are hear now we are going to stay at this place to day to get our rest what we have had very hard times lately what with fighting the rebels and getting no sleep we had to be up day and night nearly round yesterday was the first day for us we had a fair sleep the rebels left the place

to day we are sister yesterday was a very hot day it
is getting to be very hot down here back at the
last place where we were ~~in~~ fighting I
saw the rebels ~~scout~~ I ever saw I was in
the woods just behind a boat to see if I could see
any thing I came to three of our men lying dead
in the front and they in the main had been dead
about ten or a dozen when I saw them they made
me feel sick the maggots was thousands thick on
the poor men eating all the flesh of them you just
could see that they had been men you could see their
bare skulls well dear Jane this is only the ahead
of paper you will think it is a hard looking letter
when you see first word in a sheet of paper
it will address ~~to~~ ~~me~~ ~~as~~ ~~you~~ ~~will~~ ~~see~~ ~~it~~ ~~is~~ ~~to~~ ~~you~~ ~~dear~~ ~~Jane~~
I hope I will come safe and I hope I will
see you I long to see this war and I long to get
home to you and my poor children for I ever I long
to get safe through this thing and get home to you
I can tell you money is scarce I think the money
will nearly be all this thing I think I will
overload my ~~bag~~ ~~with~~ ~~money~~ ~~to~~ ~~send~~ ~~to~~ ~~you~~
you and children and tell them that I often think a little
from all give my best respects to the whole family and give
my best respects to John and Margaret Robert John hear in all
might yet so this comes from your affectionate
John Blackburn to his dear wife Jane Blackburn & children
Go good night and god bless you all

written by

John Blackburn, killed at battle of Franklin, Dec 31

Camp Near Macittara near Macrietta

June the 7th 1864

My dear wife

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Lines

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as this leaves me hear and I hope by this to you

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the twenty-ninth day of last month and I was

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another stand for a battle is about 10 miles from

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We are going to stay at this place today to get

a little rest we have had very hard times

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nearley and yesterday was the first day for us

to march again since the ribles left the

last
place

to day we are risten yesterday was a very hot day it
is getting to be very hot down here back at the
last place where we where ~~xxxx~~ fighting I
saw the awfulest sight I ever saw I was in
the woods just looking about to see if I could see
every thing I came to three of our men lying dead
in the woods and the three men had been dead
about ten or twelve ^{days} when I saw them they made
me feel sick the magets was thousands thick on
the poor men eating all the flesh of them you just
could see that they had been men you could see their
bare skulls well dear Jane this is only the sheet
of papper you will think it is a hard looking letter
when you rite? send me a sheet Christopher
is well and sends his respects to dear Jane
I hope I will come safely out of the next battle
for I long to see this war over and I long to get
home to you and my poor children for if ever I live
to get safe through this thing and gets home to you
I can tell you many a story I think this summer
will nearly settle this thing which I hope it may
- Dear Wife I send my best
you and children And tell them that I often think about
them all? Give my best respects to ~~John~~ Charlotte Hull
Margaret Robson
So this comes from your affection here is all
right yet to John and his dearest(?) wife Jane Blackburn
John Blackburn to his children

So good Night & god bless you
a)