

3rd Brigade (Woodruff), 1st Division (Davis), McCook's Corps

Account of Captain William Davis Everitt, Company I, 81st Indiana Infantry

Source: Indiana Historical Society

Online: <http://www.geocities.com/Heartland/Ridge/4734/letters/letters.htm>

Acquired October 18, 2003

Camp Murfreesborow Ten Jan 13th 1862 (misdated, actually 1863)

Dear Ellen the time seems long Between letters I have rote you twoo letters since the Battle But have not got any answer yet my wound is about well & I am doing duty we are all in fine spirits this has been the hardes battle of the west But they cant whip Rosecrans little corps Rosecrans is a great jeneral we are looking for another fight here soon we have made out our payrolls & we may be paid off I expect you have sold the cattle Before this time Bybee says I will have 5 or 6 hundred bushel of corn to Sell you had better sell it as soon as possible as it will waist in the crib you rote that you would sell the wheat soon for \$1.00 I suppose you have not much to sell I want you to live while you do live use as much money as you please by what you please & dont ask nobody any ads (last work uncertain)

Ed Bowers has Been with us for 4 or 5 days I have not got my box yet I will Send for it to morrow I guess the Pies & cakes will be spoiled but the butters will Be good I have Millies & Tommies likeness I look at them Every day I think they are growing verry fast milly looks like a young woman Tommy looks like he could plow I thought that I had lost yours & Eddys Picture But I found it this morning So I can look at the hole family exc Black hawk Ellen I wish that this war was over & we was all at home as we once was happy & in peace Ellen I have passed through this battle with honor to myself & to my men at the same time every man in Company I distinguished themselves by their galiantry I will tell you what Colonel Caldwell Said to me after the Battle Said he Capt Everitt you have recd an honorable scar. I said not very honorable Colonel the scar is in the Back Part of the head & I do not think that a verry honorable place to be wounded. ah Said he, But you must remember you was attacted in the rear. Ellen I would like to be at home first rate But as long as the Lord will give me strength & health I will stay with my company I never will forsake them for they would not forsake me when I fell on the field they Stood by me & never will forget their kindness I must here say that Wm Barrett & Hanburry Hues led me from the field they Pled for me to let them carry me I told them no never as long as I could walk Ellen Wm Barrett is one of the best Soldiers & nobelest young men of this army Give my love to his friends & tell them they may be proud of Billy he is an honor to the cause. Well the first time you are in town tell Mr Cole that Tomy Cole is all right & has distinguished himself in this battle for his bravery & coolness he is a brave young man he declared when I was wounded he would have revenge he shot upwards of 40 rounds he Shot to kill took good aim & kept cool well I must close as it is know late George Peters is well he fought like a man no flinch to him tell Miss Ruth Collins that James Kelly was over to see me the other day ("Kelly" may be Killy) he is unhurt he does not look verry well he looks quite Pale & looks like he had been sick but he is verry cheerful & talked a great

deal about the battle he is a Brave soldier Ellen kiss the children for me Keep them going to school if you can at any reasonable expense

Give my love to all inquiring friends & except a portion yourself Tell Wm Bybee to rite often Give Dad Easom my respects & tell him there is no fun on the Battle field where shells & balls are flying & bursting all round you.

Farewell rite soon & often
W. D. Evritt