

Samuel K. Harvyn # 5603

70th Ind.

Dear Sir,

4 no 17 (4)

1

On the 26th Rebels manifested to  
 destroy the rail road as was expected  
 to prevent their march while they  
 made an attack on it. They placed  
 1000000 rounds the track above and  
 below Liverpool, at 3 o'clock in the  
 morning an empty freight train  
 came up from Manchester, the  
 engine started and proceeded the  
 locomotive and three cars were  
 set on at 8 o'clock AM a train  
 came out from Manchester and the  
 shells exploded just in front of the  
 locomotive without doing any damage.  
 The Rebels had remained there a short  
 fifty or more say to plunder the train.  
 The report of the shells caused  
 much like that of a cannon, the  
 General sent me out with a detachment  
 out of 30 Cavalry to learn the cause  
 of alarm on reaching the place  
 where the shells had exploded, which  
 was done 4 miles out I found that the  
 Rebels fired in their march that  
 they returned, the put spurs to our  
 horse and General the shells  
 nearly all along in pursuit of them  
 but without effect for in passing  
 place the Cavalry was so dense that

General Sherman's report of the  
 destruction of the rail road  
 was handed on the 26th and it  
 was not until an early answer  
 that communication would not permit  
 me to write at that time I was  
 give you a brief summary of events  
 from that time to the present  
 The 11th Cavalry on the  
 1st day of June 1862, was directed  
 on the same ground as before  
 at 6 o'clock P.M., with the  
 Whittaker's Battalion and  
 at sundown about 9 o'clock  
 engaged in an all night  
 night without rest or shelter  
 were all faced with the

The residence of Mr Harris received a  
 cannon shot during the fight. Mr. Lee  
 killed a fine dog and put some  
 in the steam. She is strong  
 it a very clean bit and takes  
 measure in economy. More when  
 called on. She performs some pieces that  
 require an very much of exercise.  
 The country around Orange  
 is very rough and hilly. The forest  
 is principally cedar in the parts they  
 give keep and brought out in the  
 hills low and scrubby.  
 On the 21<sup>st</sup> of June I was passing  
 some land grants over to the Court of  
 the City. The night came out to discharge  
 their term. They find a full party with  
 stacks of tobacco as I was passing  
 through. The facts which are around me  
 came down of them I am sure. I think  
 into me to weeks. It was a narrow  
 escape for them were near the burning  
 point all at once and in the same

These birds which are not new  
 and the first evening. He was  
 if my party were burning for three  
 evening and our beds comfortable  
 plenty of earth because too thick  
 to be comfortable. Here we received  
 the 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment  
 their camp. The 10<sup>th</sup> Virginia Regiment  
 had a very comfortable camp in a  
 pleasant place. They had built very  
 neat huts by cutting out of cedar  
 timber and covered them with bark  
 when leaving they covered their camp  
 to the spot. It is said by whispering  
 officers to be the best arranged camp  
 in the Department. I will return to  
 very much a village.  
 The camp was once a  
 beautiful one but was destroyed  
 by the fire that broke out there. I have  
 seen the site and they stand

Application returned, I have not  
 had time yet to look around so as  
 to give you any thing. A fire occurred  
 in the South Hill where the grimmel has  
 been covered with human gore and  
 the smell of the dead dido nights with  
 the admiral here,

Muthersohn was once a  
 beautiful town filled with fine buildings  
 Grants held, set with Sunday, and  
 magnificent garden personally filled,  
 every thing with eating. The little and  
 slender, but three fine houses have  
 been adjacent, their fine gardens and  
 well arranged yards thrown up, and  
 the convenience of their whose services  
 need to make the place look, and  
 attractive during its history, (say)  
 now look a good deal better, with  
 the houses of their own history looking  
 the best in the face.

The fight is going on  
 in front with good success,

He had a National  
 local trial yesterday with 64  
 cases, which made his way to  
 still be down the head of the 13th Co.

The Regiment now on the 13th Co.

a man could not be seen so  
 feet,

On the 28th the last information  
 that a force of five hundred British  
 cavalry were in the vicinity of  
 Strins and intended to attack

The train next morning, as the  
 train had the shells exploded in  
 the 20th, the 7th was ordered out  
 to prevent the train, as I had  
 been over the ground over the  
 ground since the attack to prevent  
 them from getting started at Strins  
 through the rail and train, and therefore  
 about eight miles over the ground  
 country from our forward part of the  
 line we had a road, and part of  
 the line through the woods and across  
 the ground in many places. The train  
 had to pass through the woods and  
 scarcely get through at that frequency

They would believe that in many  
could find the way through in the  
day time. He reached the Spot where  
made about day light I was riding  
in front of the entrance grant, spoke  
up in the Dick's Point track and  
then down the track three sections  
with him in hand, they whistled and  
started to run, I halted them but they  
continued to run, but stopping they were  
killed Dick's Point, I entered the entrance  
grant to change on them, they started  
down the road and commenced firing,  
He has jumped off at the track side and  
hid in the brush, I put Spurs to his  
side, I can put a fence and run down  
the road side to where I saw them  
run into the bushes, I saw one man  
raise his hand, I then my friend  
and I went just ready to fire when he  
threw down his gun and with both  
hands extended downwards, cried  
out "don't shoot" I found them

to be of the 108<sup>th</sup> Regt Ohio Vols which  
we obtained a few miles above  
here and were passing the place,  
they mistaken me for Dick's Point,  
and from their action the took them  
to be Dick's Point, fortunately as  
position was short but they had a  
very narrow escape, they said the  
balls whistled around them freely  
else. We rested in the woods  
during the larger portion of the day,  
the balls came to Spencerville since  
I's heels distant and I suppose  
learning we were there feet back  
to Spencerville. On the 31<sup>st</sup> of June the 108<sup>th</sup>  
except the 108<sup>th</sup> (Ohio) Strate for Spencerville  
and I went to Washville on business  
arrived with my department, and  
returned to Spencerville the next day  
He is in Camp near town, the  
Company here is beautiful and the

On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of June I was  
appointed Brigade Ordnance Officer.  
during the time I was not engaged in  
the office I acted as Aid-de-Camp  
and spent a portion of the time riding  
around gathering items and  
becoming familiar with the face  
of the Country. One day I concluded  
to draw a diagram of our Fort  
and the Approaches to same and  
send it to Hothel, where I completed  
the Fort. The General came in to look  
at it. He said I could not mail  
it to Hothel, unless it could be  
mailed at some other point than  
Cimarron, so that if it fell into the  
hands of rebels they would not know  
what Fort it represented. The next  
morning (June 26) I was appointed Brigade  
Topographical Engineer, and have since  
been serving in the two capacities,

So, as the Boys say, I am on double duty.

Genl Ward told Col Smith the other day that I was the best Officer he had on his Staff, that if there was any thing that I could not do he had been unable to find it out, He said to me since we came here, that my manner of transacting business suited him and he wished me to perform the duties of the two positions to which he had assigned me, and when he found another officer that suited him to take one of the positions, I could take my choice of the two, or if they did not suit me, I could have any position on the Staff I desired. I speak not of this in any boasting sense, but merely to let you know as a friend what my superior Officers think of me. Genl Ward is a Protection

25-2-80  
He is a Lawyer by Profession, was  
in the Mexican War, and at the Commencement  
of our domestic troubles, He raised  
a Brigade in Kentucky, entered the  
service and has remained in ever since,  
a man of Wealth and a Slave holder,  
yet he says, "Let Slavery go for the sake  
of the Union," I don't regard him as  
a fine Military man, but I do appreciate  
him very highly, as a generous hearted  
whole souled clever Gentleman, Agreeable to his  
officers and kind to his men.

The Weather here is very warm and  
oppressive, We are forced to drink water  
but I could scarcely wash my feet in  
at home.

I started that Camp Photograph to you  
the 1st of April last.

Maggie it seems that my last letter  
has touched your finer feelings, you have  
surely, misunderstood the "tone" of it. What I said  
was with the utmost kindness for you and  
your feelings, I grant your reasons for



Street in Westchester  
I cannot say how many days he will remain here

Dear Sir,  
I have just received from you  
the most of the letter of the 1st of August  
and am glad to hear that you  
were written in that I appeared  
in the paper for the Sabbath, and could not  
remember for the Sabbath, and could not  
ask you to do so, but on that day for my  
convenience that would be in accordance with  
the Convention and I will not do so  
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My friends, hence I was the first among  
to hear from you, and I take the friendship  
between us as a way to be maintained,  
and I would not be any of the  
to make a mistake in either of the  
I do not get anything in return, to  
improve your feelings in the  
I have no more to say in the  
I would like to do your  
to interest it with your  
I have no more to say in the  
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As our conduct has been such, as to  
warrant me in the belief that you are  
my friends, hence I was the first among  
to hear from you, and I take the friendship  
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for their defence during the 4  
day, the riding over the hills

no. 18  
(31)

70<sup>th</sup> Ind. 1  
Small P. H. M. 1866

Dear Mother

August 11 - 1866

Dear Maggie

Yours of the 5<sup>th</sup> and

6<sup>th</sup> just came to hand yesterday.

I was glad to hear from you

but truly sorrow to learn that

your Pa and Ma were in bad  
health.

I will send that

photograph to Miss Jennie Clark today  
as per request. The photograph was

sent to you of Genl. Sherman is a little

better looking than he is and

makes him look rather young

yet she is a good looking

man and it represents his

features very nearly correct.

I had the pleasure of him or their

pictures with him while at

and very interesting and every  
place I could not have known  
but for the visit of Mr. J. J. J. J.  
to the place, the whole atmosphere  
around headquarters is so improved  
and the scene of the place that it  
is truly pleasant and healthy.

This is a pleasant operation  
and I am having many pleasant

operations, last Sunday week  
I was invited in company with

the other to take dinner some

3 miles in the country at Mrs

Morris, the wife present with

a magnificent dinner and found

the people very clean, Mrs

Morris is a beautiful lady about

36 years old and looks so much

like you - that when I showed  
her Mrs Morris your picture, she wanted

2  
 Hurdville. There is a very pleasant  
 Southern every in this business  
 and absent in conversation; they  
 enjoy the fact that the business people  
 believe as well as the General,  
 are possessed of human principles  
 which entitle them to respect.

He is respectful and esteemed by  
 all who meet. His acquaintance  
 as well as by the Government  
 who only know him by reputation.

The moment our Headquarters  
 and all the Brigades except the  
 7th had left to leave the  
 1st of this month, and will get  
 the 7th back as soon as we  
 can have them relieved,

You Recorders that matters  
 our Brigade was as large as  
 any Division the had in front  
 and that the intention to gather  
 it to gather at Leavenworth  
 as possible and then take it to

2  
 The front

I was at Hurdville last  
 week to see the 7th I also visited  
 the 3rd and 4th regiments  
 before leaving Hurdville.

present over the whole time in  
 Company with Genl Whittier  
 who was in all the fight and  
 could indicate every move that  
 was made by the Confederates.

Commiss. His brief history was very  
 interesting, the men will give  
 an excellent opinion of the  
 and endurance of the Confederates  
 parties, in the time of our  
 probably the heaviest fighting ever  
 placed, the time are often  
 brought out and are  
 Canon and Grenade, and the  
 are wearing lines of work  
 built by the men at night

and the men at night  
 built by the men at night

River Belleville is where the

left of Rosemont & Stinson were  
engaged at the fort, during  
the night at Humphreys, the  
place where Breckenridge was  
killed, I would like to see at  
home a few days to see some  
of these interesting persons but  
I cannot tell when that happy  
day will come, soon perhaps, I  
12 months ago today about 3  
o'clock in the morning I left Memphis  
and since that time have not been  
permitted to pass her extensive State  
or pass upon her massive walls.  
12 months ago last night I left  
Memphis and took the animals  
of that pleasant Marine farewell,  
perhaps to meet again, heartily here,  
since that time I have passed  
through various scenes, sustained  
by those who suffer, the fight  
with those who weep and  
special visit those who rejoice  
I have mingled and mingled  
with almost every variety of human

to claim it as his wife, I  
wanted to see her for one of  
her curls to place in the box  
along with yours but - felt a  
reluctancy in doing so, she has  
been sleeping slaying with her  
whole attention on in the  
Rebel Army, yesterday proposed to  
be strongly in favor of the Union,  
they at least guarantee me they  
last week while I was at  
Humphreys and took dinner at  
our table and left a pleasing  
invitation for me to come out  
the following Sunday, would spend  
the day, on Sunday morning the  
General, Capt. Sherman and myself  
went out and spent the day  
at Camp and were treated to  
another fine dinner, should not  
wonder if I received them frequently

As you know I am in the habit  
of frequenting places where they  
have good eating, this country is

well supplied with honey, at  
almost every house I visit there  
a glass and at one house I was  
at the other day I found three, my  
hostess gave me a fair opportunity  
to get acquainted with the people  
and the country, and I enjoy  
it very much. I have two nice  
saddle horses, and in conducting  
the property of a noble soldier  
yesterday I got a nice bag  
I am going to try it up to  
find a pair of the best  
horses too.

Well Cavalry and  
beginning to make fair progress  
I will there in considerable  
numbers, the Cavalry spent  
Stone River last week about

7  
six miles from camp and got  
into a skirmish with the Rebels,  
killed six and took eighty  
prisoners and quite a number  
of horses.

The Cavalry are coming  
in very fast and in large numbers,  
is in the rear part of the line,  
yesterday morning there were in  
hundred men before we got up  
they came from the line about  
about forty miles in the morning  
and tonight, I am in a

At present I am in a  
of Johnson's garden of the  
Stone River Battle field, the  
shadows were quite dark  
warming up by a stack of  
the operation, and covered by the  
being in the night at the  
and were but one with me  
I and the place cannot be

Society, and witness to a great  
 extent the ruinous effects of a  
 Cruelly wicked and Causeless  
 rebellion, and have often wondered  
 how it was that the American People,  
 an acknowledged Christian People,  
 could become so degenerated,  
 could so far forget their Obligations  
 to their Country, their Countrymen  
 and to themselves as to inaugurate  
 a vicious and cruel war,  
 the effects of which, must remain  
 for ages to curse the authors  
 and their descendants, but  
 from present indications I hope  
 this War, may soon close, and  
 we be permitted to return to  
 the enjoyment of friends and  
 home.

Now Maggie I hope you will  
 write soon very soon, and direct  
 as indicated on the enclosed slip  
 so that I may get the letters without their  
 going on to the West. As ever Saml.