Charles Oscar Adams 
Letters 
1861-1862

240. Adams, Charles Oscar, 1831— (Fentonville)

Eleven letters written to his parents and his wife while he was serving in Company I, Third Michigan Cavalry, 1861–62. He tells of life in camps Anderson and Benton in St. Louis, comments on officers, quarters, slowness in equipping the cavalry units, picket duty, weather, and poisoned food sold to the soldiers by citizens. He describes the train trip to St. Louis, the use of balloons, and a Washington’s birthday celebration. Much of each letter is given to religious reflections. Adams was discharged in July of 1862 for disability.


Fentowville March 161

Dear Father

I saw Mr Whaling the other day & he said I wrote to you that he would
leave off that place as the Doctor had not given him any
encouragement or definite answer whether he would take it
or not. You had better come to see about soon as Whaling is
figuring for it. We have not as yet come to a settlement with
Lattourette but think he will lose 1000 if George sticks
up to him as I had. Sticking Stakes at 500 hundred D as
I did not want to be double minded or back from what
I said it fell on hikers to stick his Stake & if he dies
Stick to it it will be so much in our pockets. Mr. Alexander has left East & returned I had with that interview with him to he told me he had bought 7 machines very cheap & we are all well at present busy every morning & cheap day after a nice state of things when one has to get up at 12 & work eighteen hours. Tell Mother to be careful & if God please my life I will try to do more & make our comfortable & happy than I have done in any way by & tell hung I have not forgotten the advice she used to give me. She heard me to say the hymn she sang to when we lived in the Old Logg House at Niland the
Words are these I would not have always I ask not to stay
and when my mind wanders back to those days and how attentive
I was I saw how much she desired
to see all her children love the Saviour and follow his command
and be prepared for Death and Eternity.
To follow your life along from day to day although it
seems to be a life of toil and care and I may say hardship,
Yet I share all along joy and beginning
and when it has been necessary
for you dear Father to use the rod of correction to keep down
my rebellious nature and which
I can try by looking up to God and thank him for giving me such
a Father one who has ever been anxious to see his children
do right. It is now that I can
appreciate these blessings and thank
you for them, but you no when I thought I were better than Father and this I rebelled and it became your duty as a Father to chasen me the rebellions part arise and of eas Mother had to bear what I intended to do then his kind word of advice came and away I have thought I must in time to keep me from going astray.

O I have often thought in my own life I to only see that I did not discover in myself that desire to repay those acts of kindness to you and y I can only say you must forgive your unworthy done I will with God assistance he will be more faithful. I am afraid I shall every your patience do unless your unworthy done.

Charles Oscar Acland
Tentonville, July 12th 1861

To John E. Adams

Ft Wayne

Dear Brother,

I was of the Seventieth not read after some looking and anxiety and was glad to hear you was all well and began to like your situation. After all I don’t hardly feel satisfied to have you go into the Army nor particularly upon the act of the bad influence it has upon the minds of men in general as for instance when men are arrayed in one continues hostile force against each other waging with each other to see which can destroy the most life & property continually devising plans to destroy without loitering and all having an atendency to harden the heart and blot out every feeling of refinement, then go on from Sin to Sin until the

Daron
Last neglect of charity and love is you forever, yet nut is not necessarily so, but such are the influences of war. But the true soldier puts his trust in God and the more he sees of its evil and the influence it has on men and their sinfulness the more he sees the need of prayer and trust in God the God of Nations. Thus Washington returned to such a glorious height in the estimation of men, so may it be with you if you continue to labor for your country, combine also in the labor of your greater and not forget your dependance in him to make you great and good. Forget not each morning before you enter upon the cares of life to ask God for his guiding care. I also before retiring, thank him for his blessing, thus fortifying your trust in one who will hear and answer prayer.
Father has bin quite well these two months you left. I have bin helping him do his haying. Since he finished yesterday, the barn frame is all most ready to raise. Bradley comes today to day to finish the wall. You will have to help a little as it is tiring me rather heavy at present. I would like to know what offer you get. How much a month? Write often. Do not wait for me write with a pen and take pains to do it well as you may have an official report to make. Do not want to look well when it comes before General Scott for inspection.

Yours in haste,

O. O. Adams

P.S. Do you get papers to read & have you time to read them yet, my dearest.
Camp, Anderson Oct 29th 1861

My Dear Brother I have another opportunity of writing a few lines to you to let you no how I get along in Camp. It has been fine weather since I came back the last time until this morning. This morning after the sun was rising clear and riding fair for a fair day it went under a cloud and the sky looked like a storm. At 9 o'clock it commenced to rain quite hard and how the thing is that of the Christians life today are enjoy the comforts of life and all seems fair and beautiful, there could never come another cloud or storm to take away peace and quietness, but in a few short hours some affliction comes and perhaps the one least expected and most trying to the soul. The storm comes by the thunders of the Lord on one after another until it threatens to break down and destroy and how often does the conflict force us to seek refuge and it is a solemn thought to think that some take refuge in the things of earth and those things that are least calculated to sustain them and after struggling along day after day for year after year. But last fall sundry the burden, only look in vain to see that they have pursued the long course and that its long to come again to these. God I know fearful the condition.
of such a man after tasting of the love of Christ then to fall a victim to the adversary of the soul, but how different the true Christians course at their more than twenty years of prayer & malignant in confidence trusting in the arms of Christ with confidence that can only be felt by those that have felt his pardoning grace and as I look back over my stormy past it arises the bounding peace and the soul finds rest again and it is my earnest prayer that this storm threatening our civil institutions and religious institutions may pass away soon and those who have been made to mourn an act of friends who have gone to perdition those institutions. Brother I often think of you and wish you had come home all paid for do that you can. Father could be contented and happy but you see that if God has ever life that I will do all can to make you happy and comfortable and not tell you in whom to trust a woman so that already but I do ask for your prayers and council. Brother I have no idea that I shall be called in the battle field but feel that there is something within that tells me that I shall return again but for all of that I wish to be all the more faithful in my master's cause. Mother I don't
I wonder if Shall be here as they are now getting up new ladles so that all can eat at once but it is hard to tell about the other things we may go off very soon and Shall most likely get to Newbern both Pigs together but we will have to have new bread as there is not some for but one here with their horses and it would be better for both Regiments I am quite well at present but the cool weather does not make it very comfortable without a good place to warm and so the Pope are our felt quits this it makes it unpleasant for them but I hope the clothing will be here soon and then it will be more comfortable and cheerful for all when you have not heard of me I would like to have you send it to me as I don't have much of a chance to get papers here if not at prayer meeting last evening we have good meetings but I would seem that we could not enjoy them much so much noyle and con. Indian but no are now what they can undergo in this respect until he has tried it. Mother you and Father must write as often as you can send anything that will be interesting and almost anything
would be interesting to me if it comes true. I have always hoped all the folks got along well and all about it I understand that Queen refuses to pay Johnson for his horses or part of it, saying that they must not accept but that is not so as they are here and have the V.S on showing that they have the $10,000. To tell Caroline that if she is coming out here to come right away without any nonsense it is not pleasant here anymore. With best wishes.

O. Adams

Direct to Company T
3rd Regt Irish Cavalry
Grand Rapids

With
Camp Anderson Nov 3d 1861
Dear Mother it is sometimes times I have
heard from directly but that doesn't
make me feel as though I couldn't
answer you but my heart is troubled
upon you and all the rest of the folks
when am alone and in my reflective
and then am carried along down the
stream of time and as events after
event has filled up its space and I
look at the teachings of God's word
compared with that which I have
been taught by you and how unfruitful
they blend together I can only look to God
and thank him for such Orients and give
such instruction but Mother if you
had not thanked from your children you
would be rewarded by the God of our Salva
tion for all you have done in his name and
so it is with all who do these matters well
and it has bin the hardest work forme
to make up my mind to go from home on
Your account but after all I have felt that it was my duty to go but it is my prayer to God that He may return me safe to you that I may enjoy your society again so that we may worship God together and glorify His name. Mother if you have any letters from John I would like to have them sent to me I have had one since you got back and have answered it and will write another to him soon. I am quite well and am gaining in flesh all the time although we dont have but two meals a day but the other regiment will leave this week and then we shall have about 3 meals a day. we have to move here for the accommodation and room we have. The first regiment will get their pay before leaving this place and I fear that some going to make a disturbance in the Second so they all enlisted in the first. Some say they will desert and even whole companies say they will march out and not come back until they get there pay.
but what this will lead to I can't tell but hope for the better it is with peculiar to see how the men feel salt and speak like a dog with a sore head and our young chap often speaks of the proceed of the Man that was well and wanted to be better and here you can he applies it to himself he was doing well & enlisted & can't get away the boys have a considerable fun at his expense one man will hear that one doesn't get our pay only from this month and it goes all over the Camp and all the men will be in aces about it but it soon turns out otherwise & then it is something else & if it goes day after day they you see it makes it very unpleasant but it isn't nothing more than expected so far are not disappointed at these but feel that there is all the more for me to do and that I need to put forth all my energy and there is other things one is the Office stay to the city to much for the good of these companies and thus we have
we have had some incrimina-
tion in Bank and it is so much the be-
ter that things are left to the under
officers, there is one company that
has not called the roll in a week while
they are required to call it 3 times a day
and all such things make men
upset and discontented and with
hope I lay within me think there
will be a change soon. Mother will soon
be chuful and trust in trust as I am
salvation tell all the folks to its me a often
as they can I suppose Carson will be here
to-morrow to stay a week. I see some of them
folks often they as well and look for
you out there this winter. Today is the
sabbath but O how different from that I spent
at home where all is quiet how little I have
appreciated that day and is it not so with thou-
ands and thousands of persons by heart is
so with many other privileges and many of
us feel bad because we have to part with sick
old men on the great deal but when
I look ove the truth and by that declation and
seign of favor that is spread all over the country
they not only have the friends to part with but
they are driven from there homes and settled
and their property destroyed and not a few was
laid on so that to all they have written the
wreath is over who shall answer for the O
What is the responsibility rests on those who had
caused all this trouble. But I repeat that
as there is no one come and perhaps it
will not be interesting to you good by
Bettie O. Alcorn
CAMP ANDERSON, Nov. 9th, 1861

Dear Parents, we have little and say little, are often fixed on you I feel it my duty to visit you often and nowing it will be a great loss it makes it a pleasure to me I am quite well all the time since I have not written letters from John lately not know first came back, but as you have testified to one you get it doesn't make so much difference but like to hear from my friends even especially receiving such letters and sundries but these things don't mean me when I feel it is to defend the cause of our County and its People but when I look on those that have caused this trouble I pity them as they have not only committed the Sin of Rebellion but have but themselves into their own midst and therefore suffer greatly and feel here that we have to make great sacrifices but when we had you to defend the County and then no that our families that were behind men in person it seems the gloom would be greater upon the minds of those that were thus detained but these are only to help make history and to fill out the life we have to live here but how little did me think that these would come upon us before one
Century had passed since this Government was
formed. O! It is sad to think that I am about
to leave this world in so short a time, but
such is true even of this generation but thank
God there are those in Love the Saviour and fear the
God of Israel and may that God hear the prayers of
His children and may that cry go for the
Salvation of this country as did the prayers of
Abraham go up for the Salvation of the City of
the Plains and perhaps for the few that
are Christians God may save the soul. I had
a letter from Brother Booth this week they say
as well as usual I have a number of Boys
that have the Trench and a number that have
had colds our barrels of food and clothing light
for many of the Boys now but one late blanket
a piece but sick in the influences of a small
and Wicked Warfair yet all of this helps fill
up time here. South I know you are looking
anxiously for all the news these days especially
of the Great Naval Expedition and its destination.
May being bad news to me but for one I have
made myself up for all that may come trusting in
God's Providence for the consequences and why this
almost Marked feeling for those I love it is not
because I don't love those that are so near me
not so it's far my friend near I dear to me I would do anything in my power to help them and I can only be satisfied by knowing that they have made there peace with God and if called to give up their life it is but a sacrifice on the altar of our once happy country that Asylum for all who would take their refuge in it. But did I say all, ask if you would to God it were so and had it bin true this sad state of things would not be upon us now and as that is what we desire to make this country we can afford to sacrifice a great deal to accomplish this end but eighteen of that as ye say I may weary you patience things are going off quiet at present the Lord reign unregarding their play and expect to leave us soon as they get there pay & it is hop ed they will leave soon as we are short of room and only get 2 meals per day & that irregularly I report this morning 1898 92 cupboards lack today but not all sick a bed for my part I have plenty of clothing Caroline sent box me another blanket she said you had lent me another quilt but as I had written to him that we never enough the did not bring it but when she returned I told him to send it along and I will divide with the rest of the boys and you can tell him to get
all the old quilts from the Wiltby's old
mansion, just as good as new even if they allow
a little. It will be a hardship afterward, any of
the boys that came this family back and
without money till you tell me to send them
along as soon as she gets them. Mother
you said you was a-wake all night thinking
away that I was sleeping cold you must
not bother about me but when
your sisters you help me
let you have done all you ought to by
sell those live to not sell and I will look
Stone so I think I can use it there
Reto often yours truly
Lor. O. Workman
Camp Anderson Nov 20th 61

My dear Mother it is sometime
since I have written to you but I have
not forgotten you but I have been
so busy employed lately as the battle had
been fought in you and all of the rest the news
have been sick. I have had a great deal to do but I am getting along well
with the Boys we have not had any commands yet from our Captain as yet nor
an orders from our 1st Lieutenant
but have not had as I have been in some
but you must not think that I have
been idle but I must stop of this as
it is not easy for me to tell twice out
of School. So please don't tell anything
I have written about the Officers or about
me but it may be in the same for myself
as there must be changes here
before long in how every thing is.
Private that now you want the
Apples Our Captain is the
Now, inspector of our regiment, they are bringing very good horses the Livy to a great company, and get a room for us. In the morning, we have plenty of corn and a good look. Stoves and an old man that looks for us making everything comfortable and nice. And how long we can draw and reactions. Can't tell. But hope it will be till I come here. Our books name John Frank he is, to be a wise old man. He used to preach. He tells me that he owned five hundred acres of land, but cleared it to his children and not long since. They forced him out of doors. After he found that they would not take them back, he looked up his papers and found that he had no deed of lift. He then built a house and got everything nice. He went to his wife to see if she would not grant. Keep a home for him, but the children pleaded on him not to live with him and this is the blame of his building it to go among.
Tell Mary Es A how sad that y the condition of such a man but indeed the changing scenes of life to day we are made sad by some of the scenes of life tomorrow need to be enjoyed in other but light enough of this at least I expect to be home again before we leave here some day that we will get ready for a start by the first of the month but I think we will stay here some time yet as they are fixing up the hospital and all the barracks our boys are comfortable now as regards fires there is a stone in our Company but they have bent an iron that each and that is not light enough to keep them warm consequently there are a large number of men sick me have done very sick with the Measles I report 22 sick yesterday as soon as you get a letter from John you must send it to me as I have not heard from him since I came back and I am quite anxious about him let me know he is safe
as I see no act of the two...いう会話で、彼らは再び会うことの希望を持っています。もっとも、近い将来に期待するでしょう。そして、次の日々は良い運気をもたらし、皆さんに神が祝福を与えることを願っています。良い夜。

The two days are gone for blowing out any light yours in hast.

Chas. C. Adams.
Camp Benton (St. Louis)

Benton Barracks, June 2, 1861

My Dear Wife, I have at last arrived at St. Louis and shall send my last at home again at last, but the duty and the hard service at the army family is that the hard service at the army family is to be expected and to incline my merry and the family of the army had best to it in camp life but I must not dwell on anything long at present. Carolina had 9 or 10 men much many already 9 or 10 days ago, some had upon some alone. It would of cost nothing on the train. Came two or sound of willingly spent 12 months in exact sound the country and the display of military life, new and all other General. It seems that only for the soldiers they all with he was here to lead them to the west coast yet all of the men like General Hunter to send over a paper to deny and send me to what the General of Missour. Here, this Camp Benton is in front of the view of the wall made of stone great.
Benton Barracks, Feb. 2, 1861

My Dear Wife: I have at last arrived at St. Louis, safe and sound, and feel quite at home again, all but the sad fact that we shall make a personal visit to Benton with all the incident of parting and the sending of the proxy I am glad it is in camp life, but I must not dwell on anything long at present. Having had a month’s work, much more work than I do now, you should of had upon one among us without doing anything as the main camp here. I would say I have spent 2 months in official work, and seen the country and the display of military life, and all that General Fremont and the soldiers do, all of which I wish you were here to lead, them as to the easiest yet all of the men like General Hunter I shall send you a paper to draw and you can see what the soldiers think of your men. This letter Benton’s is yours. The view of work or all manner of men. The work may be hard, I am at the charge of the mont.
the one upon Lee in the distance is the fair ruined
march which will send in another letter to you as we
move and also one at Fort Towson which is 17 thousand
men on the ground. 

Key to a short distance from
here there is another camp of 17 thousand men

miles from camp of 5 Regiments. The other day from
this camp for

just a Picket duty the 3rd yesterday was
a grand one the Cavalry Artillery & Infantry an

review they have Sham Shites of ten and the

three horse Major killed one Horse by accident

yesterday there was one Major killed by the

discharge of a gun at earliness. The He has 50

soldiers killed by thinking they had Lignum

Vitae before most a reception of a marabout in

trying to run the guard the man commanded

the Steam at Halt but did not answer that

through at once the country is infallible had

the buildings also vile the are done decections

blast by and have had put spies in the night and

and 3 of them have been Shot lately in the same

field. Blast by here 8 got to J. Clinco's town

Saturday night at goldlock at night and slept

in the woods that night also making en

in the bars and days all the days yet very

tired before they got to camp it is dry heat

and the Selfarming boys rose in blazoos and

me. Looked like Stocklike unless no here

I shall write from all the preceding.
Long it was not possible for me to write before I got here as that paper was not in my satchel or coat and I could not get off to get any at all. We had no time to write letters as I could not note to all at once, as the line is about 75 miles of this camp to 75 thousand men all ready to write, but so long as you see me land something towards6 drawing out the reeds I shall write you every day until I have to be alone so that I shall not have time to do it all and do the same or at least 12 or 2. Twice a week I will send something to write that will be interesting to you, the Officers are the same as greatly as regards getting out of the camp, ground this is it and there are other Officers that are getting through one of these letters and I don't think that will be the case with you of an 20 at least it very hit to be all. They close me nothing else be cheerful or anything. I think it will be over as soon as spring when that comes I shall be glad to leave home at once no more at present. Object to C C Adams Company I B 64 Regiment Michigan Cavalry Fort Barracks St Louis Missouri

Wyatt Earp
I have just seen Missis Crane
She thinks it rather hard
Here and tells of going
Back to Fentonsville. No letter
Yesterday was pleasant but bold. This morning the snow is 2 inches
deep but the sun has come out
and it is pleasant again. Since
I have been writing there is a report that another
man has fin that dressed in
summer clothes a day.

Going toMont.

P.S. It is so cold here I do not much
and I have been cleaning out of the officers
quarters and I cant stand it to do.
St. Louis from the River.

Dear Wife,

I again take the opportunity of letting you know that I am well. I did not enjoy my trip to St. Louis as the trip was very tiresome to me as well as the rest of the boys after one day at St. Louis. The officers went into the sleeping cars and the mess were left in my charge having guard over them all of the way which made it very tiresome for them but when I found that the bars would stop one half hour I would let the boys get of and have a rest. But it seemed to make the offi.

Benton Barreto, Dec. 4th, 1861.

Dear Wife,

I again take the opportunity of letting you know that I am well. I did not enjoy my trip to St. Louis as the trip was very tiresome to me as well as the rest of the boys after one day at St. Louis. The officers went into the sleeping cars and the mess were left in my charge having guard over them all of the way which made it very tiresome for them but when I found that the bars would stop one half hour I would let the boys get off and have a rest. But it seemed to make the officers act rather peculiar but that made no difference. I new how to pity the boys, the officers had a bar with a table set and sham hair and everything nice home meals for day. If you had come along it would not of cost nil anything at all only while we were here one of the Privates took his wife and he has you back again we got to Pittsburg and had a rest day. Night.
I don't think it necessary to mention any of it, as I think the Indians have learned a lesson.不过，当他们想摆脱困境时，他们应当知道，他们将会付出代价。The only mistake I should have made is that I should have given a description of the country, but not having any papers, I have made no sketch of it at all. And one wants a place like the Bois Joli, where there are no officers, no residence, and not trying to feed them on the dining here as they did in New Orleans. The men went up to the city hotel and got their supper and we only had one meal from the time we left Orleans till we got here, only hard bread and water to drink or what they called coffee. One went by the mayor of Chicago and out of the way to get a grand reception at that place, but the reception was 200 gallons ofCalls and one hundred lots of Bull Beef and some old folks other words to come it around on but only a companies got any of it, and after motoring along them it had been Euland along them. The horses for Chicago and cheers for Mrs. Hart. The provisions you first of all are very, very good indeed, and before I got here I was glad to eat dry bread, and it tasted very good to me, if I never expected to come to get it took it cheerfully, but if many Indians would not feed us better would abandon the fort for the winter, I can ensure even more than you have yet and be contented.
So day I can help establish there again there 5 were 1 killed in trying to use the guard every day and no one can get out of St. Louis even the General himself without a pass from the provost martial who is in the city. There has one at the levee down the river but send nothing to St. Louis as they expected all think there that the rebellion is almost run its race and one of our boys would call it or they have been these last drumline and there is also talk of destroying all cavalry out of Lewisa that is not bade and complete, and I am afraid that will do but don't me as the Michigan boys as they are the best in the levee, they call them Michigan boys as they say they are the laziest of all men on the ground and you can tell them when everyone see them I guess somewhat as without to find so many of the Missoury men in the field about one half of them are for the Union while St. Louis is all secessionist and they are only kept down by the Provost martial keeping his foot on their necks. There is hardly a man to go down after dark and there is no one but what is watched by the detectives they have their tickets stationed out 12 miles away as all volunteers when when my heart and here there runs 5 regiments or an picket guard the grounds are not fenced in they are guarded by men with loaded guns and no one.
think of getting out without a foot
it don't seem to me that they mean in the December
county at all but it is so all that my expect
any danger from is this and he is 250 miles
away and is retelling part of the time and other
advancing but we can demolish 2 rifles and then
in this card they say it takes a great many
No play the second Melcher's that is what we
Should have to do if attacked then would not do
well if anything happens me as described by English
so the boys they will follow me and when that
and ships they will take the measure and go in
and generally finding well last 1st light will be
as almost all hard bad shots but generally two
yet along quite well we have not got to thinking
any yet our tomatoes are very nice yet to the regular
all what washed inside down and that building in the
cent of the engraving of your other letter is better forever.
Stag and is the last quarters of the commanding general
and would think he look at it that it was a failure
but when you get close to it is rough kind and what
washed out looks most it don't think that not I shall
be you at this side more than one year perhaps
not more than 2. Many if you make me be of good
wells to have your hands kept off and God look

To Mr. Adams Company of 3rd Regt.
Bernard Barndt 3 Corps
Military
Benton Barracks, Dec 6th, 1861

My dear Wife another day has passed since you left me and I find me well except a cough but I have been off duty a day since I arrived but there are a number of our boys that are sick with cholera our quarters here is much closer than we left at Camp Anderson with a double number of them & not being ventilated it is almost insufferable but all these things are those that make War such a great novel it is not so bad to be an Officer but how can I be an Officer yet there are times in one week that are more trying than some of the Office and are much more trying these are the ones that go because they love the Union & would give all they have to live for it the national We are not yet but but even the men that are soldiers I can have no mode of finding all but almost all can understand a little but there is enough of this mean defying to chill now in good earnest and it would be so good to be small but alone drizzling there with our battery of Artillery on the ground & that
not fall yet that there is only 12 tire of arming the 2 6 pound Rifle cannon but what the 2 in the other Camp of instructing some out not like men here. The Boys there are 20 pounds that will shoot from 2000 every day if necessary they can. The Boys in this Camp one under the drilling another the other Camp not one man safe from here but a few of them they live intent in that Camp there is. Do the 2nd men there. Din the City there is 25 thousand snow in the City it is thousand dollars in Camp Jackson which is down the river as. So they are plenty all around there that they have excitement in the City a little here the musk came that there was coming within 10 miles of our Camp but it did not seem to have the least affect on me I cant tell why but we had no means to defend ourselves with I made up my mind what to do very quickly so that meant to help take care of the Wounded but we were came there was no one in the.
I wrote before within about two miles from here not very many miles but according to Esco's estimate I can safely say in about one and a half months somewhere. I think it is best to stay at this state and don't let it be found and I don't know about the Indian matters. Michigan State where the Indians are to be found east of the river the air blows strong from the south. Should it continue to be so there will be plenty of dust. It is not a good place for farming. It is very quick to get dry and a little rain makes it very sticky. The boys often say they can't bear it. And even the last fall rain, there are great numbers of locusts. Lost to the camps but they keep on running. If it were not for the General Marshal they would do a great deal of harm but the General Marshal keeps his post and needs to keep them down there. I can't tell you exactly how many in his patrol there are, but there is a great amount of troops.
Carolina, you would like for all of the men and all three at once last said the worst of you and review instead of teaching as they say it. So all the time kept to the old and great dissatisfaction of the boys, with regard to their Captain and Lieutenant. The first was no confidence in himself, the other has never been able to be trusted at all but I don't think what will become of them nothing done before will improve. They will not understand. Some of the boys also think they have been there Three times with day both things going on, will have a time of it. The boys tell me some said they wouldn't and to take the rest of the crew out of the ranks. Caroline should have had no letters from him or kind. I shall have to do it only every three or four and then make it known. But I have written a letter and have not heard from him since.

Halt, come here, the little thing now must be in place. I shall keep on my best, I have got around a horse to ride in the evening to get what daylight I might gathering till dark. It is a little hard, the little thing now must be in place. I shall do my best. Carolina remember this one or it seems all this goes out of the way that he is going to become small having any hundred at all. I think that, but I do not know. I hope the boys will understand it all. If they will. If it is all I do not know it. The boys may not understand. The officers must be the last and I hope the people will understand it all. We are as the knowledge with this the only one else in the year or the year last heard from.

Chas.
Catherine you would like to all of the boys
and will here at once last but both of them
and a grand review instead of preaching
and they say it's so all the time but what
not there is great dissatisfaction among the
Boys with regard to they Captain 1st
Lieutenant the first was no confidence
in himself and the other was much
less but not at all last day we
what will be done of them nothing
except they will
naturally under Loam some of the Boys
also like them so much that they have stopped
up their stone pipe twice with the clay
or breathing polish & will have stated
the boys told & said they wanted him to lead
them & take the rest of the crew out of the
hull Caroline I have had no letters
from anyone since I think here but am
looking every day for one or two & hope
to see some soon.

written the letter I caught here and sent it
back to Mr. Smith I shall keep
on myself I have got around & have to
write in the evening to pray that
day night & keep going till hard.

Both for me and the little thing now
I would like to do & myself Caroline Remember
me in your prayers as I have no opportunity
to writing anything any words at all of all
those that I am sending now I just put you
in this will be the most I can say & must
shame to say I have along and yet you all
who read this have no idea on gatherings meaning it is a little
longer. All of you in love & 1 O 000
Benton Baracks Dec. 6th 1871

My dear Wife another day has passed since I wrote & I find me well expect a cold but I have had it off only a day since I envired & there are a number of our boys that are sick with colds our quarters are much closer than me left at Camp Anderson, with a double number of men & are not being ventilated it is almost suffocating but all these thing are those that makes war such a great sears it is not so bad to be an Officer but then I can not be an Officer yet here are three in every ranks that are sick more than some of the Officers & are worth more money, those are the ones that go because they live the Civil War. I cannot give you I cannot write they have the list for perpetration they at the time had not soldiers if en have any more or find soil but almost all are now in eastern Pennsylvania but enough of the mean you will be able to drill now in good earnest & I would do you good to see all out alone drilling there & had our battery of Artillery on the ground that is
...write to置于 within 100 miles from here...yet they may con...portioning...he states every where some where.For my...opinion that this State is close to land...not has failed to show...they at Botetourt...will be in the future...identical...for they are all...not to be...will be just about cool...not enough to be...resent about this matter and I think...have died off the land...the air blows...off from the north...Shall it continue...would be a plenty of dust...I do not expect...at Botetourt...the ground was black as ink...like this...it is very green after rain...but a little rain makes it very shiny...the...they conclude...and every later...it rains there...great number...loss, etc., but they keep mamma...if it were for the present...grand...they...would degrade a deal of harm...the...that keeps his foot on the neck...it keeps...down there...is important...law in this...letly...one can see yet in sight...town...not a post in the dome...with the other...
Benton Barracks Dec 9th 1861

Dear Parent: I again take this opportunity of writing you a few lines but have not received any form.

Your son is not here but am writing with patience for the moment I last note you the weather was cold but it lasted only 2 days. The snow soon melted and one day of March with it.

It was pleasant until Saturday when it rained part of the day making the snow deep. The girls had fun but it soon cleared up again & today it is fine and very pleasant. Yesterday it seemed like spring the sun shining & the gentle breeze from the South seems to warm us & could one be in a greater little town with such weather they would hardly think of anything but peace & quiet. It could one admire their work & that of the soldiers.

In the town there are 3000 men and they were arrayed in hostility against those that should be their friends & brethren. We are sad that when we States & look at them in their true light one can only do the crying in the midst of the scene of family life & see the terrible influence it has on almost all that are in its midst. Sometimes I think if a man takes care of his morals & his health that in all he can attend to but God can help one to do a great deal if he will trust in him but even some of those boys of their best friend & then only help in time of deep distress but as for me I am fixed by the absence of God to continue to do my duty. I think the heart is but & then in one company that we prosper to live their duties & for a temple that God longs for.
And I am there has him some talk of disturbing
us having all the barracks they want but Soviet
women I expect to hear as long as I am in the term so there must
be something to talk about all the time & keep up the existence.
There are a great many here & the other barracks around here they
are not all in this camp but there is four or five & about 65 tents
and then in all that I select every night there is a signal
let you up in a balcony to see if there is something going on minor
they change the light to a deeper red & then survey it to the
directions the enemy comes if they come from the North they
survey to the North & South according to the way they come
& if they go up again so you see they are posted all the time St Louis
is under Martial Law & one can go out or come in to the city without
having a pass or proving himself a loyal Man or woman this
Scenes rather hard but it is necessary where there are so many deserting
it is hard work to get a pass down town but not go outside to drill &
there is a lot of us going into the county to gather Hickey Nuts
Pittsmons. She hopes this is something new to you it is to me
at least I have often heard the name but that it a big word but
since I came here I have found out different they are about the size
of large Hickery nuts & look red & are soft when they are green.
They are very piquing but now they are good to eat of course Sheds
be a chance I will send you some next but don’t look till they are
least sad. Both there was a grand review & it was a grand fate to see
but to day it was to muddy consequently it has been completely
still for soldiers alike. There is no getting into the other barracks
as soldiers have to have passes to get in as well as if he dont
he is checked into the guard house & still he proves himself of clear
Sometimes that 2d. House 4th to 8th was 1st. quarter. I don't remember all my writing so much will be accepted as not. But when I get to writing these hard parts to the 3d, I see 200 Booth quite often. There is some talk of his being a Lieutenant with the Captain's post of recovery. I think that which is capitain's studies would have to do the same thing on the things want go in. Our discussion is neither hard or much�� of ditto. I had. Such things I perfectly take out. It is dry enough but we have to get out of it now. That's to say, the day has drawn to its joint and one mere characteristic of a long time I have Enrolled with the three: If it is大陆 and is somewhat a good thing I might. But this thing will be the turn as when again in a little longer I might. I had almost forgotten that a eye of will see many days then the date of getting the day out to Roll call all the expected things. If there is something to be learnt I am going to go. I am going to go. I am going to go. I am going to go. I am going to go. I am going to go. I am going to go.
Benton Barracks, Dec 18th, 1861.

Dear Father: A few days has elapsed since I have had a letter from any one of my Railroad friends, and I think I shall do well to learn patience as I have to deal with all sorts of men, some of them are very short, but in order to get them to be Expected or not to do that work, the least procedure will be to say something about the subject, but all must be made good part from my letters, and I have received a letter from Scatter and found your address in the letter, and when I read the letter I was delighted with the sight of your name, and it was a sight of the most of my health. I hope it will be a successful letter. While almost all of the rest of the regiment have been sick, I have not gone, as I have had no word from any one, and I am glad I have not gone anywhere. I have never been so sick as I have here, and I have not eaten but twice, and three times I have had the chance of buying anything at all of those that remain with us in this place. But I can hardly hold anything bad for some of these men. I am sorry that those who have been able to get something to eat, but I am more sorry than those who have not. The Union of the papers from the government to be ready in such things, both come around and pick up all the old pieces of food and meat, and take them home some day to eat another day. To many others, I am not able to write as I have not got a letter from Scatter and my wife. In the new letter for the Union, I get papers from the papers that I am in such things. Both come around and pick up all the old pieces of food and meat, and take them home some day to eat another day. To many others, I am not able to write as I have not got a letter from Scatter and my wife. In the new letter for the Union, I get papers from the papers that I am in such things. Both come around and pick up all the old pieces of food and meat, and take them home some day to eat another day.
Bent on Barracks Dec 18th 1861

Dear Parents a few days have elapsed since I have had a letter from any one of my correspondents and this is a good place to learn patience as one has to deal with all kinds of men. Some of them are very obstinate & it is Ordered not to be expended except to that fall under the same & to those very intimate to me to communicate but all such letters are very good part from me.

Since I commenced I have received a letter from home and find you acting well this of course makes me feel very well. And for the distress how I am fed with both a little & it is considered as comfort of my health consequently have fared being sick. While almost all of the rest of the men have been sick but it may come my turn yet some of the men have been every sick there is now one or two but I have him but I have Epten buying anything at all of the stores that concern with drink or beer a lake but you can hardly bear the feeling back for some of these heartless men being that have me every day living only to self I am such things pay are loyal & have husbands in the army renting for the Union & yet poking in the pocket & not to bring in such things but they come around & pick in all the old messes of & meat & take them home something to eat other day to make Prune Pie or of course can hardly tell what they are made of at least the want & to endure when they are hungry and they would taste good of course of the bread of the rather is very pleasant here almost like living some & this is a good thing for
Soldiers as they are many that have not yet been clothinged and many of that number, but my pants hold good as yet but many of the men are almost naked. I must that we have lived rather hard and have changed our boots so they do better than the first ones did. It takes time to do so much. I find out how best to get along here as well as at the things. There is an anxiety on the part of the soldiers to get them armed into the work. If some of them should come again they would not go into a cavalry service. It is in the desert. There is hardly anything about on landing here while the infantry would be well drilled ready to do something to defend themselves. It still allows for these cavalry troops who have few rifles and part of our clothing, saddles, bridles, and weapons to defend ourselves with. It will take some time to get the use of them after we get them. It will not for the carrying packs on their backs the boys would want the infantry to form and good rifles would make them good. It takes care of themselves but now they can not do that unless they move. But the interest that is taken every day in the infantry regiments tell that they are expecting Marching Orders soon. Everything they do is military. That could only be felt in the heart of those that hear the lines and their county. The Regiment gets Marching Orders soon. Here after the marching there is some confusion in their command that tell you wherever come into the place to look out but after the regiment. I hear me shall have no chance to do anything for the cause but it is not our fault as all are needed to do their best. After we receive information about what will become of us but I think if there is a battalion the Potomac Lams are good soldiers and our Regiment will.
in the hand. There is not much news here at present. Would mention
my name to take care of it, I suppose, more soon. There are several regiments of Carlin's left whole of them unable
to leave for just the same. There is no change of any kind on the field.
at all & there is hope that the Enemy will be prevented from
coming across the river & the war is that New Orleans is taken but it is not confirm-
ed, but there is no doubt of its being attacked & consequently troops
will be taken from Columbus & march that joint on which seem
to be the Strong hold in the South. If I should not see often
you must forgive me, I have but little time to write & am not
spared in writing letters but I hope to get through soon. In the
shall try to write after every rain. It is more convenient, but it is
hardly possible for me to get any real half of letters. I write
anything that will interest try me to now we have had no
receiving here since I received it seems so through these means. Each
strong and both sitting with Family George. All thing that have
prayed means much, I also send Prayers, not without my prayer, in
communication with God but all the time being aware of these all
confusion & tension & their are those that we fully of letter either do
arriving there much to be lamented of when Men are forced to
write strange & give them a much more directly to call on God to
consider this could. All the faithful here all time away days
into eternity until where she decided that if that should be put the
plan for that eternity as the battle or otherwise & take up his place they
Counts plans for a village if no words but not for anything that I had
seen. All of my salvation are based on that Carlin's message. I was not better
library until the time of the arrival of them again & I of John's letters & have written to you & you have heard
Grace & Caroline, S. A. Lewis.
VIEW OF THE FAIR GROUNDS.

ST. LOUIS, MO.
Porton Barracks, Sept 27th, 1861

My dear Parent, as I have not had opportunity, of late, to write you I hope you are well but fear, there is agroundful of sickness in the barracks this evening about 60 men are sick and 20 of them are almost ready to return home.

Col Smith has ordered them to make them off all the times the cold made bare necessary on them to make them off at the times.

The Barracks are divided into 2 rooms each 3 stories high and there is two companies in them. I near the roof of the Barracks it was light for ventilation but there is not much there had about 15 inches wide there had nothing of fine windows in the place but since it got to be cold within they have closed them and tight & there is not light or ventilation for 70 men. But the officers say that it was a good sign for prayers and that they could only get out to drill about 25 men from 80 men then they began to think it time to have them fixed but it has been my policy to keep out of those Barracks as much as possible I therefore think that had been better but this is in the spring & God has blessed me with good health & have reason to thank him every day for his kindness to me & joy but I don't like as near him if I could with my best to thank him in all his forms you can be assured that I come up in all his forms I find many nations where at hot don't mind it but you still lead because it is my form that is in prayer that God will protect me by ask your prayers & I feel that I have them all by you can judge of in God's will it's impossible to know the God's will all without any bite to read by I this is one
Union men yet exonerated they have no chance to read filling their time usefully but Eighteents of such talk first in Carolina in the other day that one had lost one of our suspected rebel officers been murdered in our Company before they get to town the Corps will be at Fredericksburg. There is not many Regiments here at present as there are only one Line here but there has quite a number camp here Line one came here fall last when the day time and all that go only in the line almost all & now are not here. They go it is hard to tell when we will go or when we shall get our equipments as beginning to come such as Saddle & Bridle but we have not yet them. The weather has been cool for a few days. I should think by the feeling here & we have had it cool there. There is considerable number of batteries here now I think 10 or from 6 to 8 guns each they are beginning to drill Known as cannon there has nothing taken place here worth of notice yet. I can't find a letter without having it punctured as yet I have had no writing in our Regiment but have just got one. Captain J. has not learned his name as yet. Dear Elijah I hope you live a little better than me did at first our Christmas was spent in the barracks all but 2 hours in getting money & making preparations to send home the quick that lived but I must stopper in night as it gettig cold. Another day has passed into Eternity & I am made well & all this can attribute to the goodness of God whom we shall. I am improving in health despite day & protecting myself. May the blessings still be
all I can in return direct our Prayers to heaven tomorrow in the Sabbath but how it will be spent I cannot tell but as we have no play of worship we can hardly expect to enjoy any of the blessings of good society & the real enjoyment of Religion. I us Fridays yet we can hardly expect such things here yet if I hope I may never lose the desire for such blessings & slowly they are blessings that can only be fully appreciated by being deprived of them. I am glad to receive as many letters from you & Caroline agst as they have so far been.good news. I believe I have got a letter from all of my correspondents & that I have heard a letter from John the other day the first I have had from him if I heard a course I will send it to you. I think of writing to the boys soon if you have any letters from them forward them or if we are not yet God bless all those who desire to do what will make the army strong to fill up one regiment but it takes a long time to get a full Equiment of Cavalry dest in a great deal of Money. if I think it is almost as though it was very but it is. In Military Matter of all kinds especially when there is so much to raise & so many to equip to and a good deal more. I can but tell where one shall go to from here but it will be sometime before one shall go away from here at least a few weeks but the sooner the better. account of the War is this, unless there is something more going on. I shall not be able to write as often as I have the camp is quiet at present, then not being near as many troops here as there has been. I will send you some childin clothes if you want them. They can be had for 2 or 3 bushels they are very wise & & as I want to send something
before long I will try and send a letter to your Deering of received 2 letters from Mr. Smith to say he sends me papers but to a letter & an small sheet with miss the talk of debates with England don't seem to have much effect on the People here but if it should prove to be true you will let me know and to protect his own State but God most I hope it will be left that since I have been writing Uncle John Frank has invited me to eat a piece of pie 8 you may and some on Pop don't want ask me but once I did not stay by testing paper a 2 but stated after it was all you little that but that I would eat the hole 8 did not think he would ask me but after he did the Pampered Mr. John Shaw for Uncle John, but I have got some will make B. I shall have to give him some. Perhaps Harriet is well & seems to be quite cheerful. Sharon has sprained his ankle & has not been able to walk some time but I am not even able to see Mrs. Gordon tell her that Mrs. Gordon is getting better & is to stop part of the time all of our sick seem to be out of the gym & need to see you, and got a Minister to preach to the church again & may God bless his efforts to do good & may all be blessed to your members. Such as shall be blessed give my respects to Elder Wilkin.

It is getting almost dark, call my meat-staff write all the mess there is let me know how the Alexander D Doug Perry gets along.

Your truly

[Signature]
Benton Barracks Dec. 2d 1812

My dear Father I have many kind duties but unluckily no how to answer in a proper manner as I am called away so often from my writing that I cannot collect my thoughts and I hope you will overlook all these things in me but I wish to say today is the Sabbath as usual we have had an extra amount of work to do and had to come out on inspection on Norwick in Marching Order as it was the first time I had not been in it that way I took advantage of the time for me and the troops to get ready for inspection the day has been pleasant but 千人万世 secure yet wet. It is about in the ground and soon will be if we have more cold weather which we do not expect. The Chaplain preached today in the morning with a feeling to hear the word proclaimed against it but to mind other days where the pieces with new hard from Sabbath to Sabbath those all was quiet in which now that could be quiet as to God without being interrupted by the duties 23 songs of [illegible] but all was quiet & perhaps only broken by fall of the rain in the Old Mill or the ring of the old church bell that told the time of the service of God, & blessed be his name the people of the army are not divided of those prayers they are not invaded by them from these homes as in the border States till the thousands sons & brothers compelled to take up arms against their Country.
against their own wishes while their families are driven from home without money or friends compelled to beg or steal. This is such trouble as I hope we may never see and there is no time under our need of Serious love more except in a dying hour when all earthly friends fail then can one throw all his cares on Jesus to pray that this time is at hand. Dear Parents while I look around to see the dreadfull sinfulness of Men I am made to tell it. They get out of the hearing the all of the scenes to watch every step ready to hail the armies of their destruction or to draw me away bent the banner scenes. Still more Arduous to pass forth that later upon the Lord that makes me rejoice with exceeding great joy. And for all this I feel your prayers have been heard and answered. So may they continue to go forth to God for all our salvation. I suppose you all rejoice at the success of our troops at Fort Hamilton and Henry the apparent speedy end of this wicked War. When you see by this that we are still in the Old camp & for all I know may be in one may be off in short notice yesterday the 28th there was a great celebration at the city in Memory of Washington. Men were shot down as Sketch that did not close their stores to see a rosette on their coats the display was grand every street filled with People & some Buildings were covered with flags & the jamb was to head but the boys stood not well. Me started at 9 am & got back at 12. I'm making seven hours in the saddle. The troops are coming in.
The Upper Mississippi long go on down the river, without stopping they say they have been hard times this Winter driving on half rations & lay on the ground without tents, we expect to get our pay this week & then move down the River with the grand division of the West mounted the Rebels lay down their arms very soon, all that Rebel prisoners is on account of Rotten to transport us down the River. The Second Regt has already gave the many prisoners arriving here for other parts of the free states they think were going to hang them. As this was what the Officers told them to make them felt well but it was nonsense, they are so many that no better or worse pressed into the service of the opportunity of getting out in that way. Colonel Kelley is here & thinks & says we will be in New Orleans in about 60 days next payday we will be discharged. I think it quite likely it is possible if they only go ahead so I think they will there be hands being hired at the Kitty & the report is Charleston is taken & your doubts have been the Governor of Vermont has advised the People to lay down their arms which if they do will soon lead to the capture of Columbus, there is a strong hold & in fact they are sick at the stomach or can't get anything to help them. If it had the effect to make them lay down their arms & they have commenced at Nashville offering to lay down these armed & we have reason to
believe God has been more kind & blessed our efforts to put down this great Rebellion. So let us give God the praise & lift our hands to him with praise & thanksgiving. I hope him as well as myself & am as far as I can be everything & which I believe through every way before I shall come to its embrace & not to be alarmed a trust in us as I think I have reason to believe God will spare my life to return home & you must keep that for me. Mother if I shall send by my legate to ask your remembrance but yet short of money consequently did not put on a letter but if many Chase I shall write before I leave this island & tell you to your friends & not be afraid to write me. My love to all & take the most yourself.

Yours in Christ

[Signature]

John O. Adams