Civil War
Letters
Jan. - June
1863
Goldwater, Jan 8th, 1768

Dear Wil,

I have got out here at last. I had begun to think the intended keeping one in Detroit all winter but as soon as the snow gets a stop to the work for a while I started for camp and now if they want any more lumber town down or loader then I can send somebody else as I have had all I want of it. I left Detroit the day after New year's I called on nearly all my freependants the day before they were all glad to see me and I had quite a pleasant day of it. I received one descriptive odd from the old regiment the morning I left and got one back pay ($46.45) which I deposited in the bank that with what I had before will make a hundred twenty five dollars cash on hand.
which I hope will carry me
through. I am beginning to see the
day clearer and consequently
am feeling better now than
when I wrote a week ago. I have
been anxious to get to 10 to 12 to
begin

Drawing. May be the art is as

Who is the boy, is a brother of the

Mr. Miller, who spent the summer
at the Langdon house and is
a first-rate good fellow) that
he hasn't any doubt—but that I
will be pressed to show pages
from the date of my commission
which is past two months ago, the
now, which if we will still give
along amicably. Had I known
ie spent at the Offords. The child
knew one at first I was amazed
into the part of the Two Mr. Offords
at there looking at if they understand
what I wanted, but as soon as
I said how dear they both were.
Up explaining why! God love son! Where did you come from? and were twenty half to death! To see one Harveys grown so large. I mistook him for Dudley. Janes remembered one and remembered Billie too. I was introduced to Doctor Thenns a younger sister of Mrs. Thenns also a Doctor. Somebody and Lady who invited me to dine and decision whenever I felt disposed at last. The staffords also who told one to consider that my home whenever I felt like going any place. I think I am doing very well to begin now. The lady-says there is some doubt as to the place he has been there. I wish and do ought to know I went to church this morning with Willibrige (who is our here to see some writing for the pulpit) express to see what kind of people there were there but one.
Some late ones had to take a back seat so we couldn't see their faces. They were pretty good looking, though. The singing sounded natural with Mrs. Jefferson in the quire. I expect she'll be very busy this winter. I told Mr. Jefferson last night I was going regular on horseback. I might get stuck with a conviction or something else. Coldwater is a much larger place than I expected our camp is in a very well located and the man love beginning to come in there is now about four hundred in camp and more expected this week. Recruiting is not as live as it used to be. Since I am afraid it will take some time to fill up, it is about time to go to bed. Good night. My love to all.

John Brothers Jr.
Dear Til

I have got out here at last, I had begun to think they intended keep me in Detroit all winter but as soon as the thaw put a stop to the work for a while I started for camp and now if they want any more lumber torn down or loaded they can send somebody else as I have had all I want of it. I left Detroit the day after New years. I called on nearly all my acquaintances the day before they were all glad to see me and I had quite a pleasant day of it. I recieved my descriptive roll from the old regiment the morning I left and got my back pay ($76.45) which I deposited in the bank that with what I had before will make a hundred & twenty five dollars cash on hand which I hope will carry me through. I am begining to see the way clearer and consequently am feeling better over it then when I wrote a week ago. I havn't been mustered in yet so as to begin drawing pay but the adjutant (who by the way is a brother of the Mr. Miller who spent the summer at the Marquette but house and is a first rate good fellow.) says he has'nt any doubt/that I will be mustered to draw pay from the date of my commission which is just a month ago tomorrow which if so will help me along amazingly. Last my first here evening I spent at the Saffords. they didn't know me at first. I was shown into the parlor the two Mrs Saffords sat there looking as if they wondered what I wanted, but as soon as I said how d'ye doo they both jumped up exclaiming why! Ed Watson! Where did you come from? and were tickled half to death to see me. Harry has grown so large I mistook him for Dudley. Corine remembered me and remembered Willie too. I was introduced to Miss Flinn a younger sister of Mrs S's and also a Doctor sombody and lady who invited me to come and see them whenever I felt disposed, as did the Saffords also who told me to consider that my home whenever I felt like going any place.
I think I am doing very well to begin on the adjt says there is some pretty girls in the place he has been here a week and so ought to know I went to church this evening with Mr. Lillibridge (who is out here to do some writing for the sutler) expresly to see what kind of people there were here but we were late and had to take a back seat so we couldn't see thier faces they were pretty good looking bonnets though the singing sounded natural with Mrs Safford in the quiir I expect I'll be very pious this winter I told Mrs. Safford last night I was going regular in hopes I might get struck with a conviction or something else. Coldwater is a much larger place than I expected our camp is very well located and the men are begining to come in there is now about three hundred in camp and more expected this week recruiting is not as lively as it use to was and I am afraid it will take some time to fill up it is about time to go to bed so good night, my love to all

Your Brother

Ed
Jan 11, 1863

Detroit, Jan 11, 1863

Dear Sir,

Sunday again and an hour to spare before dinner, just time enough to oblige the want of the past week which by the way, was not very important. Think I last wrote I was at Coldwater where I spent several days very pleasantly. Last Thursday I received orders to go back to Stockbridge and ship out the rest of the lumber as there was one other officer and none but what was necessary. I was sorry to hear it, for while I was in service, I was on duty almost all the time first I was officer of the guard then officer of the drill and acting adjutant which kept me on duty all the time, however I had no work to do or else to do so I might get not well be busy and help out of...
On mischief, I had any measures taken for a suit of clothes while there and expect them here on Monday morning. Went I put on suite with old long tailor clothes thought I was at the theatre last night. Capt. Nicholas sat just behind one when I looked at him he didn't recognize one so I tore a page out of my notebook I wrote Ed. Waterloch Orson and in it I understand it to him you had ought to have seen how glad he was to see me I am going to see him at the Exchange this afternoon he told me to give his respects to you all at home he says J. P. Pendell will be here in a day or two do I expect I will see some one from Orson pretty soon I received a letter from Ed. Jackson a week or so ago congratulating me & he hadn't...
much occurs to write about -

the boys his horse had fallen

with him lately and heard him

do as to lay him up for a few

days nothing pretty serious.

I have as time permitted or

get so as to draw pay but the col

days I shall be occupied for

all the time I have been engaged

with this bundle transaction.

I suppose I had no right to guess

the if I get -peppered by the odds

before I get -announced by the folks

but it will be dreadfully un-

convenient if any friend should

happen to give out however that

can't happen for some two or

three months to come get -do I was

anticipate. Col. Davids loses

one of his children together by

scarlet fever. Mrs. C. L. Bridge

came back to Detroit I have

been to see his relations since.
I came down but once this week as I promised that no New Years to call and get a bottle of rasberry wine or catsup as I preferred. Hillier, wife & child are sleeping here he has just got over and attack of the measles from but had resigned before he was taken I always have an idea he would never face the music if he could help it. However he looks hard enough now the bell has rung America is ready no good by. Any love to you all from your Brother

Ed
Dear Til

Sunday again and an hour to spare before dinner—just time enough to chronicle the events of the past week which by the way are not very important. When I last wrote I was at Coldwater where I spent several days pleasantly. Last Thursday I received orders to go back to Detroit and ship out the rest of the lumber as there was no other officer in the regt but that was recruiting. I wasn't sorry to hear it for while I was in camp I was on duty about all the time. First I was officer of the guard than officer of the day and next acting adjutant while the adj't was away which kept me on duty all the time, however I hadn't any thing else to do so I might just as well be busy and keep out of mischief. I had my measure taken for a suit of clothes while there and expect them here on Monday morning, wont I put on style with my long tailed clothes though? I was at the theatre last night Capt. Nicholson sat just behind me when I looked at him he didn't recognize me so I tore a page out of my memo Book & wrote Ed Watson Marquette L.S. on it & handed it to him you had ought to have seen how glad he was to see me. I am going to see him at the Exchange this afternoon he told me to give his respects to you all at home, he says J. P. Pendell will be here in a day or two so I expect I will see some one from Marquette before long. I received a letter from Al Jackson a week or so ago congratulating me etc. he hadht much news to write about the boys his horse had fallen with him lately and hurt him so as to lay him up for a few days nothing very serious.

I havn't been mustered in yet so as to draw pay but the col says I shall be remunerated for all the time I have been engaged with this lumber transaction. I suppose I hadn't ought to grumble if I get peppered by the rebels before I get mustered by our folks but it will be dreadfully inconvenient if my funds should happen to give out however
that can't happen for some two or three months to come yet so I won't anticipate. Col Davids lost one of his children the other day by scarlet fever. Mr Lillebridge came back to Detroit. I haven't been to see his sisters since I came down but must this week as I promised. On New Year's Day to call and get a bottle of raspberry wine or catsup as I preferred.

Hillier wife & child are stopping here. He has just got over an attack of the scarlet fever but had resigned before he was taken. I always had an idea he would never face the music if he could help it, however he looks hard enough now. The bell has rung dinner is ready so good by.

My love to you all from your Brother.

Ed
St. Joseph Jan 20th 1863

Dear Sir,

I have been so busy lately that I had not had time to write my weekly letters, but were

sent in the last Wednesday and were nearly a week written and put up for in it. I was so interested in

Capt. Miller's list of and were interested to see such an Act. Could not get my

plag to state back to you now you were

ing in the hunter and I suppose you

ought. Writing time would do just as well. I've lacked some documents

having enough to answer with and

had to borrow them from one of the

other companies. They were not ready

to answer yet and so been asked to

through. With the occasion we left

Ramp for the suspension recruiting

team, but (I recollect I received

here last night) we have got one already
and I think we'll have the best in the country of a cake or two. I came through the mill in the
evening and asked into a back room to get a cheese round.
and I see do you think was no one profi-
cienced in your course. I am sure. 
Tell you not Glenn was there.
I couldn't think where to go. I had
never seen him before but couldn't
place him until he mailed me the
same love. We had quite a long talk. He
wanted to know what had become of
all the old aunt folks, and the
young and I for that another.

Had the stop to steer in another station
which makes two. I lost tea with
the coffee to start dining and
went to church with them in
the evening. Then we three young
women in the savviest things all
and ships Katie about while I am
not so of course. I spent about
Three evenings out of the week, there is a number of girls in town, but during the week it is long enough to go with one of them. I am in hope I will not have to come around so much when our company is full. I have made arrangements to travel with the Capt. Wilson when I go back to celebrate which will be more pleasant than than being at a hotel. I expect I will be very busy in drilling the co after its all full as neither the Capt nor Genl Jones know a thing about it. It is getting so dark I cannot see the time any more so I will have to give you good bye for present. I am in good health and Cordell has about gone.
and my Spirits have been in proper tune. Things look bright.

[Signature]

Edward
St. Joseph Jan 23rd 1868

Dear Mr. Wil.

I have been so busy late of late that I have not had time to write any letters lately, we have been preoccupied with last wintering and nearly a month writing and prepping for it. Have a tenant by name Capt. Miller Et al and more being in the Act couldn't get my pay to date back, they are yearning for gain in the lumber and I suppose we thought they would do just as well. We had no some twenty shoes needing enough to shoo with and had to borrow them from one of the other companies to go on. We needed more lumber yet and an iron as the ice is through with the pressure but if the camp gave the shrewder corn in turn from the Indians some food we could have been last night we have got ours already.
and I think I will have the

Dear sir, I am coming of a week or so

two. Came through Union in the

everyhere and stopped at a

bank there to get a check on hand

and although you think over the good

chief. Know that can't go to

with all the Col. Youlain要去

I could not think of what to say. I knew

that seen them before but could not

place him with he total one for

some we had quite along talk he

wanted to know what had become of

at all the old Aunt yelts and the

young ones to see that Shatter

had to stop. He showed me another woman

which I knew too. I had tea with

the Col. Spots last Sunday and

went to church with them on

the evening. There are two young

men in the carriage, Mr. Schrims

and wife Katie who is Mr. Schrims

into Col. forward. I spend about
Three evenings out of the week, there, I know quite a number of the girls in town, but one day, there long enough to go and see them. I am in hope I will not have to run around so much. There is no company in full dinner must be arrangements to travel with the Capt. Wilson whom I go back to Baltimore, which will be more pleasant than than living in a hotel. I expect - I will be pretty busy in drilling the co after it is all full as neither the Capt. or Capt. Dent knew a thing about it. It is getting to crack, I cannot see she likes any more do I will have to visit you good bye for present. I am in good health and Cordel has about gone.
Dear Til

I have been so busy lately that I haven't had time to write my weekly letter, we were mustered in last Wednesday and were nearly a week writing and preparing for it. I was appointed 1st Lieut of Capt Miller's Co and was mustered in as such the Col couldn't get my pay to date back so as to pay me for working in the lumber and I suppose he thought promoting me would do just as well. We lacked some twenty men of having enough to muster with and had to borrow them from one of the other companies who were not ready to muster yet and as soon as we were through with the operation we left camp for the purpose of recruiting them, We (that is Lieut Reford & I) arived here last night we have got one already and I think will have the rest in the course of a week or two I came through Niles on the way here and stopped into a bank there to get a check or cheque cashed and who do you think was the proprietors? I know you can't guess so I will tell you. Col Glenn was there. I couldn't think who he was as I knew I had seen him before but couldn't place him until he told me his name. We had quite a long talk he wanted to know what had become of all the old Saut folks and the young ones too for that matter. Had to stop to swear in another man which makes two. I took tea with the Saffords last Sunday and went to church with them in the evening. There are two young ladies in the family Miss Flinn and Miss Katie Chase while I am in Coldwater I spent about three evenings out of the week there. I know quite a number of the girls in town but don't stay there long enough to go and see them. I am in hopes I will not have to run around so much when our company is full. I have made arrangements to board with Mrs. Capt Wilson when I go back to Coldwater which will be more pleasant than then living at a hotel. I expect I will be pretty busy in drilling the Co after its all full as neither the Capt or 2nd Lieut know a thing about it. It is getting so dark I can't see the lines any more so I will have to bid you good bye for present. I am in good health. My Cold has about gone and my spirits have risen in prospection things look brighter. Goodbye Ed Watson.
St. Joseph, Feb. 18, 1886

Dear Nell,

Sunday again, and nothing particular to write about, but nevertheless I must make my weekly communication. I have been here a little over a week, have attended two balls and got acquainted with all the girls in the place besides getting two dozen recruits. Right before last some of the town boys hearing there was to be a dance out in the country about eight miles so they got a wagon load of girls and invited me to go with them. We were about three hours in going our way a rough road and crowded when we got there that we were the only ones that knew anything about a dance around, then digging we began to think we were sold, but it would never do to go back to town.
Without some kind of a shinin',
I rode up to a log farm house
Waked up the people and for a
giggler and danced all night.
I got in the floor for the first time
in my life (except once at our house
when I made a failure of it) and danced
every cent they all helped me through
it and said I done first-rate for
a new beginner after I've been two
or three more I guess I can go through
with it all right. This is the greatest
place I was ever in for girls there is
lots of them here good looking ones
for the boys are all paloozy because
they won't notice them as long as the
shoulder blaps are around and the
girls are continually telling me that
such a gosh wears paint or such a
one is poor another lazy and so on
something the matter with them all except
the one that's talking about it, guess and it?
Our Lord Jesus Christ Before went to camp.
last week with the recruits and just returned last night with orders for me to return and the company we left here. Since then it is of course enough to say he has been unwell to muster in with I am sorry I didn't go down to you directly, I believe I would have had cells, when I may have to be later in the training if. Do I shall be very glad to go through to Mexico and see you all. I wrote last week to Colonel I couldn't have him with us but I am afraid he cannot raise the gale of mumps without which it would be very difficult to obtain the position he is looking for. I received a letter from him last week containing some good advice and warning to act accordingly in the main, don't have a great deal time when the war comes and always take care. again I went up yesterday but it happens after the gray appeared.
enough to leave me with when enlisted, but I am afraid it will be some time before it will be. I am in a fair way for I only think of it fourteen thousand dollars a year enough to make a gain such of the claims have to spend the want it is expenses that are unavoidable however I hope while writing about plantation matters to want say any more about it.

Tell father I am much obliged for his offer of fifty dollars but hope I will not need it.

My love to all at home and best respects & friends. Hoping that when I write again I will have something more interesting to tell you about. I remain ever your & Sister's et.

[Signature]

[Date]
enough to leave them in my  
entirety but I am now  
be sometime before it.  
I am in a fair way for I recog-  
ize of 1400 hundred dollars a  
year enough to work a proper  
of the claims here to spend  
and the expenses that are.  
However I am most sincere in the  
mentioning about .

I want to say more about it.  
Tell Father I am much obliged  
for his offer of fifty dollars but  
I hope I will not need it.  

My love to all at home and  
best respects to friends.  
Recalling that when I write again I will  
have something more interesting  
I tell you about my return  
I expect you at your return  
also I am good enough  
Yours faithfully  
Old
St. Joseph, Feb. 1st, 1865

Dear M.-

Sunday again and nothing particular to write about but nevertheless I must make my weekly communication. I have been here a little over a week and have attended two balls and got acquainted with all the girls in the place besides getting acquainted with the men. Might before last some of the town boys heard there was to be a dance out in the country about eight miles so they got a wagon load of girls and invited me to go with them. We went about three hours in going over a rough road and found when we got there that we were the only ones that knew anything about a dance around. Since we arrived we began to think we were made but it would never do to go back to town.
without some kind of a thinking so we rode up to a log formation &
woke up the people aint for a
fiddle & danced all night
I got on the floor for the first-time
in my life (except once at our house
when I made a failure of my tendend
every seat they all helped me through
it & said I done first-rate for
a new beginer after I've been to two
or three more I guess I can go through
with it all right. This is the greatest
place I ever seen in for girls there is
lots of them here good looking ones
for the boys are all galloos because
they won't notice them as long as the
shoulder slopes are arome & the
 girls are continually telling me that
such & such wear paint or such a
one is poor another bags & another
something she matters with them all except
the one that telling about it, guess am I?
Our Lord Jesus--Yes Before went to camp
Last week with the recruits and just arrived last night with orders for me to return and be assigned to the regiment now. I must say it is very pleasant to be near you. I have been thinking of you ever since I left. I was so much against going back that I didn't have time to sleep. But I believe I would have had to leave.

I am very much later in sending this. I hope it will be received and it will be through to Marseilles and will reach you all. I wrote last week to Bulfinch to have three or four letters of the month with me. I must have time with no time to lose. I cannot raise the goods of my account without which it would be very difficult to obtain the position he is looking for.

I received a letter from Mr. last week containing some good advice. He said to consider the matter carefully. I have not time. We have a great deal of work to do. When the war is over and all is clear, we must do better.

I am sorry I wrote so much in a hurry.
St. Joseph  Feb 1st 1863

Dear Til

Sunday again and nothing particular to write about but nevertheless I must make my weekly communication I have been here a little over a week have attended two balls and got acquainted with all the girls in the place besides getting 1/2 a dozen recruits. Night before last some of the town boys heard there was to be a dance out in the country about eight miles so they got a wagon load of girls and invited me to go with them, we were about three hours in going out over a rough road and found when we got there that we were the only ones that knew anything about a dance around them diggings. We began to think we were sold but it would never do to go back to town without some kind of a shindig so we rode up to a log farm house waked up the people sent for a fiddler and danced all night. I got on the floor for the first time in my life (except once at our house when I made a failure of it) and danced every set. They all helped me through it and said I done first rate for a new beginner. After I've been to two or three more I guess I can go through with it all right. This is the greatest place I was ever in for the girls there is lots of them here, good looking ones too the boys are all jealous because they went notice them as long as the shoulder straps are around and the girls are continually telling me that such a girl esse wears paint or such a one is poor, another lazy and so on something the matter with them all except the one that's telling about it, queer aint it?

Our 20nd Lieut Ira Rifold went to camp last week with the recruits and just returned last night with orders for me to return and take charge of the company we lack over a dozen men yet of having enough to pay back what we borrowed to muster in with. I am sorry I didn't go direct to Green Bay. I believe I would have had better luck, I may go up there later in the spring if I do I shall be very apt to go through to marquette
and see you all. I wrote last week to Pulver I should like to have him with us but I am afraid he cannot raise the quota of men required without which it would be very difficult to obtain the position he is looking for. I received a letter from Al last week containing some good advice and wishing to be remembered to you all at home. Won't we have a great old time when the war is over and all get back home again. I won't care how soon that happens after my pay amounts to enough to leave me even with when I enlisted but I am afraid it will be some time before it will. However I am in a fair way for it only think of it fourteen hundred dollars a year enough to make a man rich if he didn't have to spend the most of it on expenses that are unavoidable however I didn't intend writing about pecuniary matters so I won't say any more about it.

Tell father I am much obliged for his offer of fifty Dollars but I hope I will not need it.

My love to all at home and best respects to friends. Hoping that when I write again I will have something more interesting to tell you about.

I remain

Your Brother

Ed

P.S. Excuse the X no you needn't either, it's good enough
Camp Lewis, Coldwater, Feb 17th

Dear Penn,

On returning to Coldwater I found three letters awaiting me since from your own hands, which I now undertake to answer. I have not anything particular to write about; we are now safe without any particular exciting adventures and proceeded on to the Ohio to take possession of the town which we engaged for one, but was informed by Mr. V. that I had been away so long that the people I was coming to had engaged the town to the two Majors, one of whom but the said I might accept this if I could lodge in camp, which I could do well enough and in fact now do but I told him I did not like the company as I would have to stand to much on my dignity so I looked about for other quarters and finally went to a farm house about half way between here and town where there were four or five other Scotts boarding who were a great deal more agreeable and that was just what I wanted; the people are not very elegant in their language as you may imagine by what the landlord told me at supper this evening which was that I must not offer the dishes if I wanted to see what was covered up and take right just as if I was at home. Good advice and done that I am very able to follow but am looking around to look for a boarding house for one of our boys who is not
very well I came across a house where they are very anxious to get some officers as boarders and so they live in pretty good style all a good table besides having nice good looking girls to wait on it. I am very much afraid that my present landlady will lose a hand or about my size before a great while. I spent the evening tonight before last at the Saffords and I learned to play backgammon from Miss Rhym. I beat her the 1st game but she beat me the other two. Mrs. Mary Safford was here this afternoon but I was busy and didn't see her. I have been drilling the company every day since I returned. They seem it somewhat fast for new recruits and now we get the men all in I think we will pick up the drill as fast as any of them. I opened my tent the other day and found everything in good condition with the exception of that can of syrup which had all ran out but fortunately was absorbed in the five bowls and did not get on the cakes which is still in good eating condition and is very acceptable between meals I haven't examined all the cans yet I have opened one of peaches and one of cranberries both of which are very good. There is a hard shanty built for the officers of each company and one officer of each company is obliged to stay in the ground and so the capt. had built one with porches I have to stay here and act as captain. I have got my house fitted up and live quite comfortable, my tich white clothes come very handy. The rest of the furniture consists of a stove, wash basin, lathering place, four shelves, towel, luxuries ain't it? I shall fall so I must quit. My love to all.

Ed
Dear Pen

On returning to Coldwater I found three letters awaiting me, one from your own precious self, which I now undertake to answer, I haven't anything particular to write about nor any very good paper to write it upon, but such as it is and what it is, here goes for a trial. I wrote last from St Joseph since then I arrived here all safe without any particularly exciting adventures and proceeded at once to Mrs. Wilson's to take possession of the room Lieut Riford had engaged for me, but was informed by Mrs. W. that I had been away so long that she though I wasn't coming so had engaged the room to the two Majors Lieut Col & Adjutant but she said I might board there if I could lodge in camp, which I could do well enough and in fact now do but I told her I didn't like the company as I would have to stand to much on my dignity so I looked about for other quarters and finally went to a farm house about half way between here and town where there were four or five other Lieut's boarding who were a great deal more sociable and that was just what I wanted. The people are not very elegant in their language as you may imagine by what the landlady told me at supper this evening which was that I must unskiver the dishes if I wanted to see what was kivered up and take right hold just as if I was to hum. Good advice and some that I am very apt to follow but in looking around to day for a boarding house for one of our boys who is not very well I came across a house where they are very anxious to get some officers as boarders and as they live in pretty good style set a good table besides having three good looking girls to wait on it, I am very much afraid that my present landlady will loose a boarder about my size before a great while. I spent the evening night before last at the Saffords and learnt to play backgammon from Miss Flynn. I beat her the 1st game but she beat me the other two. Mr & Mrs Safford were here in camp this afternoon but I was busy and didn't see them. I have been drilling the company every day since I returned they learn it remarkably
fast for new recruits and when we get the men all together I think we will pick up the drill as fast as any of them. I opened my box the other day and found everything in good condition with the exception of that can of syrup which had ran out but fortunately was absorbed in the two towels and did not get on the cake which is still in good eating condition and is very acceptable between meals. I hav'nt examined all the cans yet. I have opened one of peaches and one of Pears both of which are very good. There is a board shantie built for the officers of each company and one officer of each company is obliged to stay on the ground and as the capt & 2nd Lieut are both gone I have to stay here and act as captain. I have got my house fitted up and live quite comfortable my tick & bed clothes come very handy the rest of the furniture consists of a stove, pail, wash basin looking glass, box blacking & towel, luxurious aint it. Papers all full so I must quit.

My love to all

Ed
Dear Aunt Cassy,

I suppose you will be surprised when you receive this, and see the heading for I don't believe you knew before that you have a nephew in the United States army, but such is the fact nevertheless and what is more he has risen from a private to be a 2d Lieutenant in a cavalry regiment and has been in the service nearly two years during which time he has been in forty-two different fights, large and small and six pitched battles at the last one (Bull Run) I was wounded and taken prisoner by the rebels. They were short of provisions though and kept me only five days when I was paroled and released. While I was on parole I made a visit home (about six hundred miles from where the fighting was) to see the folks. I had been gone about fifteen months and so you can readily imagine they were very glad to see me and I know that after living over a year in camp sleeping on the ground half the time without as much as a tent for shelter and living on hard biscuit and Pork for diet I was mighty glad myself to get home to our well filled table and soft beds though it was a good while before I could get used to sleeping in a bed in a house. But I managed to spend thirty days at home very pleasantly at the end of that time I was exchanged and ordered
to rejoin my regiment but about that time there
was three or four new cavalry regiments started
in our state [Michigan] and it was necessary to
get drilled and experienced men for officers and
as the Colonel of one of the new regiments was formerly
a captain in the same regiment I belonged to I was
offered a 2nd Lieutenantcy and by paying strict
attention to my duties I have since been promoted
to 1st Lieut. which is not very bad for a young man
not yet twenty three years old and without the aid of
either money or friends dont you think so. I am now
in the state of Michigan with my new regiment some
five hundred miles from home the lakes are frozen
up so that there is no travel that way by boats until
the ice breaks out in the spring then if we are not ready
to go south to the seat of war by that time I will make
them another short visit. But if we go before navigation
opens I will not be very apt to see them until the close
of the war if indeed I should ever see them again as
you know a soldier's life is liable to be cut short at any
time more especially when they fight like we do in
this country. I've got a little brother willie at home some
three or four years old just about the size George was
when we were with you he thinks a great deal of me
and Matilda tells me in her last letter that he wants
spring to come and bring his Dress back to him. George
has got to be a large strong boy almost a man grown he
wanted to go with me in the army but I wouldnt let
From the time he is subject to bad colds and hardships and exposure would soon kill him. Smoky when I first left home was a giddy school girl as regular fly away but while I was gone she sobered down into quite a respectable young lady and flourished with all the dignity of a schoolma'am. For a couple of months at a salary of twenty-five dollars a month which gave her quite a little sum for pocket money and you know it is not disgrace to earn money in this country, she is quite a good looking girl of eighteen and will make somebody a good independent kind of a wife. I suppose you begin to think that Lida is cut out for an old maid. She is past twenty-four and I am sure I can't say as she is spoken for yet, it looks as if it was rather a slim chance as the young men are mostly gone to war but there is no letting what three girls have in their heads and I should not be at all surprised if some good looking fellow would return from the war and claim her yet however she is a dear good sister and always has been and deserves better luck. Father is stout and healthy yet grey hairs begin to show a little but not very much he is salesman in a large store and gets a good salary which enables the family to live in pretty good style and mix with the best society of the place in Ireland. A clerk would not be respected much but here where everybody is bent on making money the man that earns his living is respected as much as the man that inherits his.
the same store when the war broke out getting a
salary of two dollars a year but I felt it to be the
duty of every American to uphold the government
and if need be fight for it before we let traitors over throw
it and for that reason I along with nearly half of our
Town people enlisted as a private in the 7th Michigan
Regiment of Cavalry and went to the war where I have been ever since
until I was taken prisoner and went home but hope I will
doon get those again. Harriet must be quite a young lady
now give her my love and tell her to write to me I should
like very much hear from her. Little Calleen must be
quite a girl now too. Emily and Kate Gough or Coff must be
pretty well advanced in years are her married yet if not
give Emily a kiss for me. Tell Stephen if he is still
in the country to write and give me an account of his
experiences since we posted at the passageway at
Johnsonville. Since Uncle Joe and aunt Florence and
my love also aunt Elly. If Peggy is still alive remember to
tell her. I should like above all things to go back and see you again
that year we spent and I'd have will always be remem-
bered by me as the happiest one of my life yours fami-
ly circle. Then hand signed since then our kind and good ole
grand mother has passed away mourned of her
deceased abroad as by hope at home I had hoped to have
met you all again as circumstances now are it is doubtful
if we ever see each other again but that love and secure
which I felt for my family circle at Suchon is still as strong
if not stronger than when I left you a headstrong boy of fifteen
some ten years ago. Write soon and tell me all about
every body I used to know and I will probably get your
answer blown in Virginia somewhere. My love to you all
your affectionate Father.
Edward M. Watson.
Camp Lewis Coldwater, Feb 18th
1863

Dear Aunt Cassey,

I suppose you will be surprised when you receive this and see the heading for I don't believe you knew before that you have a nephew in the United States army, but such is the fact nevertheless and what is more he has risen from a private to be a 1st Lieutenant in a cavalry regiment and has been in the service nearly two years during which time he has been in forty two different fights large and small and has fought battles at the last one (Bulls Run) I was wounded and taken prisoner by the rebels they were short of provisions though and kept me out five days when I was paroled and released while I was on parole I made a visit home (about sixteen hundred miles from where the fighting was) to see the folks I had been gone about fifteen months and as you can readily imagine they were very glad to see me and I know that after living over a year in camp sleeping on the ground half the time without as much as a tent for shelter and living on hard biscuit and Pork for diet I was mighty glad myself to get home to our well filled table and soft beds though it was a good while before I could get used to sleeping on a bed in a house, but I managed to spend thirty days at home very pleasantly and
to resign my regiment. But about that time there was three or four new cavalry regiments started in our state (Michigan) and it was necessary to get drilled and experienced men for officers and as the Colonel of one of the new regiments was formerly a captain in the same regiment I belonged to I was offered a 2nd lieu tenantcy and by paying strict attention to my duties I have since been promoted to 1st lieut. which is not very bad for a young man not yet twenty three years old and without the aid of either money or friends don't you think so? I am now in the state of Michigan with my new regiment some five hundred miles from home the lakes are frozen over there is no travel that I know of. We have no travel until the ice thaws out in the spring then if we are not ready to go south to the seat of war by that time I will make them another short visit. But if we go before navigation opens I will not be very apt to see them until the close of the war if indeed I should ever see them again as you know a soldiers life is liable to be cut short at any time more especially when they fight like we do in this country. I've got a little brother willie at home some three or four years old just about the size George was when we were with you he thinks a great deal of me and Matilda tells me in her last letter that he wants spring to come and bring his clothes back to him. George has got to be a large strong boy almost a man grown he wanted to go with me in the army but I wouldn't let
time as he is subject to bad colds and hardship and exposure would soon kill him. Emily when I first left home was a giddy school girl a regular fly away but while I was gone she sobered down into quite a respectable young lady and flourished with all the dignity of a schoolmarm for a couple of months at a salary of twenty five dollars a month which gave her quite a little sum for pocket money and you know it is most grace to earn money in this country. She is quite a good looking girl of eighteen and will make somebody a good independent kind of a wife. I suppose you begin to think that tilta is cut out for an old maid she is past twenty four and I am sure I can’t see as she is apt to get it done as if it was written down of the young men as mostly gone to her but there is no telling what these girls have in their heads and I should not be at all surprised if some good looking fellow would return from the war and claim her yet however she is a clear good sister and always has been and deserves better luck. Father is stout and healthy yet grey hairs begin to show a little but not very much he is a young man in a large store and gets a good salary which enables the family to live in pretty good style and mix with the best society of the place in Ireland as clerk would not be respected much but here where everybody is bent on making money the man that earns his living is respected much as the man that inherits it I was clerk in
the same store when the war broke out getting a salary of $200 dollars a year but I felt it would be the duty of every American to uphold the government and if need be fight for it before we let traitors over throw it and for that reason I along with nearly half of our townspeople enlisted as a private in the 1st Michigan of Cavalry and went to the war where I have been ever since until I was taken prisoner and went home but hope I will soon get these again. Harriett must be quite a young lady now give her my love and tell her to write to me I should like very much hear from her. Little Cathieen must be quite a girl now to. Emily and Kateought or left must be fairly well advanced in years as they married get if not married yet. Tell Stella and Mr. she is still. A true account of his experience you must find out and pawnage at Honduras. Joe and Joe. If Virginia still lives tell her I should have heard from her and see you all again. That you are all well and I will always be remem bered by me as the happiest of my life your family circle I hear has changed since that our kind and good old grand mother has passed away mourned and sincerely by her descendants always so by you at home I had hoped to have met you all again but as our circumstances now are it is doubtful if we ever see each other again but that love and secured which I felt for you family circle at Boston is still as strong if not stronger and I left you a hardy strong boy of them some ten years ago. Write soon and tell me all about every body I used to know and I will probably get your answers blown or rewritten some where. My love to you all your affectionate nephew Edward Millman.
Dear Aunt Cassy

I suppose you will be surprised when you receive this and see the heading for I don't believe you knew before that you had a nephew in the United States army, but such is the fact nevertheless and what is more he has risen from a private to be a 1st Lieutenant in a cavalry regiment and has been in the service nearly two years during which time he has been in forty two different fights, large and small and six pitched battles at the last one (Bulls Run) I was wounded and taken prisoner by the rebels, they were short of provisions though and kept me only five days when I was paroled and released, while I was on parole I made a visit home to (about sixteen hundred miles from where the fighting was) to see the folks. I had then been gone about fifteen months and as you can readily imagine they were very glad to see me, and I know that after living over a year in camp sleeping on the ground half the time without as much as a tent for shelter and living on hard biscuit and Pork for diet I was mighty glad myself to get home to our well filled table and soft beds though it was a good while before I could get used to sleeping on a bed in a house. but I managed to spend thirty days at home very pleasantly at the end of that time I was exchanged and ordered to rejoin my regiment but about that time there was three or four new cavalry regiments started in our state (Michigan) and it was necessary to get drilled and experienced men for officers and as the Colonel of one of the new regiments was formerly a captain in the same regiment I belonged to I was offered a 2nd Lieutenancy and by paying strict attention to my duties I have since been promoted to 1st Lieut which is not very bad for a young man not yet twenty three years old and without the aid of either money or friends don't you think so? I am now in the State of Michigan with my new regiment some five hundred miles from home the lakes are frozen up so that there is no travel that way by boats until the ice thaws
out in the spring then if we are not ready to go south to the seat of war by that time I will make them another short visit. but if we go before navigation opens I will not be very apt to see them until the close of the war if indeed I should ever see them again as you know a soldiers life is liable to be cut short at any time more especially when they fight like we do in this country. I've got a little brother willie at home some three or four years old just about the size George was when we were with you he thinks a great deal of me and Matilda tells me in her last letter that he wants spring to come and bring his Eddy back to him. George has got to be a large strong boy almost a man grown he wanted to go with me in the army but I would'nt let him as he is subject to bad colds and hardship and exposure would soon kill him. Emily when I first left home was a giddy school girl a regular fly away but while I was gone she sobered down into quite a respectable young lady and flourished with all the dignity of a schoolma'am for a couple of months at a salary of twenty five dollars a month which gave her quite a little sum for pocket money and you must know it is no disgrace to earn money in this country. She is quite a good looking girl of eighteen and will make somebody a good independent kind of a wife. I suppose you begin to think Matilda is cut out for an old maid she is past twenty four and I am sure I cant say she is spoken for yet, it looks as if it was rather a slim chance as the young men are mostly gone to war, but there is no telling what these girls have in their heads and I shouldent be at all surprised if some good looking fellow would return from the war and claim her yet, however she is a dear good sister and always has been and deserves better luck. Father is stout and healthy yet grey hairs begin to show a little but not very much he is sales man in a large store and gets a good salary which
enables the family to live in pretty good style and mix with the best society of the place, in Ireland a clerk would not be respected much but here where everybody is bent on making money the man that earns his living is respected as much as the man that inherits his. I was clerk in the same store when the war broke out getting a salary of 500 dollars a year but I felt it to be the duty of every American to uphold the government and if need be fight for it before we let traitors overthrow it and for that reason I along with nearly half of our towns people enlisted as a private in the 1st Michigan reg of Cavalry and went to the war where I have been ever since until I was taken prisoner and went home, but hope I will soon get there again. Harriet must be quite a young lady now give her my love and tell her to write to me. I should like very much hear from her. Little Calkeen must be quite a girl now too. Emily and Kate Gough or Goff must be pretty well advanced in years are they married yet if not give Emily a kiss for me. Tell Stephen if he is still in the country to write and give me an account of his experience since we parted at the parsonage at duncenick. Give Uncle Joe and aunt Florence my love also aunt Ellie. If Peggy is still alive remember me to her. I should like above all things to go over and see you all again that year we spent in Ireland will always be remembered by me as the happiest one of my life your family circle is still as strong if not stronger than when I left you a headstrong boy of thirteen some ten years ago. Write soon and tell me all about everybody I used to know and I will probably get your answer down in Virginia somewhere. My love to you all. Your affectionate Nephew

Edward M. Watson

Insert: I hear has changed since then our kind and good old grandmother has passed away mounded as sincerely by her descendants abroad as by those at home. I had hoped to have met you all again but as circumstances now are it is doubtful if we ever see each other again but that love and regard which I felt for our family circle.
Camp Lewis Coldwater
Feb 24th, 1863

Dear Andy,

Yours of the 8th came to hand this evening and was all the more acceptable for being the only one I have received (with the exception of one from N.C. which I received the same time) since I returned from recruiting over three weeks ago. I should judge from your letter that the people of Greensboro were having a grand time. I am glad they had plenty of amusement for it must be very dull otherwise. I should like very much to be here to go through it all with you but I have the company on my hands now and have had for nearly a month. There are ball & parties going on most every evening down town and I have invitations by the dozen but the Capt & Capt. Thurn are both away and the orders are for one commodious officer & of each company to be on the ground all the time which puts a damper on my having a good time. However I have stood it so long now I have lost all inclination for going in society at all. I have to go to the Officer's once a week at least. I was there the night before last and found Miss Alice quite out of humor because no one came to take her to the festival which was got up by the Soldiers Aid Society and she was to go up and sell ice cream for them. Mrs. Olivia went up about four and promised to send for her but failed to connect.
and that was what was the matter with my sister Alice but I managed to get her in a good humor again after a while and when we had finished a couple of games of backgammon a little boy came with a lantern to escort her to the Hall but she concluded she would not go after declining my escort so we had a very pleasant evening over the game we have been having a gay old time at the house lately there is none of us board here and those girls belong to the family who are just as full of fun as they can be another one went away this evening who had been spending a week there on a visit the greatest girls to carry on you ever saw they have been playing tricks on us and we on them ever since we have been there I got my neck full of water this evening when I thought to supperse in post payment of a drive I came on one of them the other day the inventor gave his coat to one of them to mend the other day and coming to put it on he found the sleeves blew up but the best drive we've had lately is one I played on our sister a good natured honest old fellow who sat next to me at the dinner table. I slipped a tea spoon in his coat pocket and when he went out I followed out to him Mrs. Burnett says there is no spoon on your feeding plate but he didn't see the point until some one accused him of stealing spoons from the boarding house before.
a crowd of officers in the camp he was so mean as could be at first and to prove it he began to empty his pockets but when he touched the spoon he jerked out his hand as if he had been burnt and he is bothersome twenty times a day now by some body who wants to know who stole the spoons. We had a game of spoons last night for beans nine of us played 7 girls vs gentlemen and played till after ten o'clock which is pretty late hours for me as I have to be in bed early in order to be up before sunrise to attend roll call in the morning We have the rough set company on the ground and I have to get right on the ground among them or they would be fighting among themselves half the time but everybody acknowledges that we are the best drilled of any company in the regiment which flatters myself as all owing to my humble exertions. The Col has been home nearly all the time since excuses either himself or family being sick has been the cause he was here a few hours last Tuesday evening just long enough to give me a good blooding up for being at the ball one night when our company got into a fight and nobody could stop them until they had it out. A good blooding will do me good yes it did not seem hardly right to stay in camp all this time before but now I know what to expect if I don't. I received a letter from Al
this evening he mentions having received a letter from you & says he is enjoying himself but leaves all the news from the Marquis's boy for Pulver to write but I haven't seen any thing of his letter yet and I am afraid he is not a very good correspondent. The Col told me after he had got done scolding me that he was going to send me up to take superintend recruiting in a fortnight or so to which I made no objections of course so you need not be surprised if you see me up there in the course of a month or so if I go I will have to recruit a week or so around Green Bay and will be some time on the road after I get the order. I don't know how it came that I haven't written to you before but if this is the first one for this winter I must ask your pardon in time to save my ears. There was a Corporal from the 1st Regt here the other day who was taken prisoners last month and was just from the regiment I was talking with him all the evening and never was so home sick in my life as I was to get back to old Co B again which seems to have ten times the attraction that home has, not that I wish to disguise any of you at home though but that month I spent at home last fall seems so stupid in comparison with the same length of time in the Old Dominion that I couldn't help feeling discontented. I suppose though it would have got sick enough of it by this time if I had started with
the company especially if I had got to become

thing above a private. I can't hardly realize

half the time how I come to get a commission it was so for removals from my thoughts a week

before any appointment. But now that I have the

stress on it seems the most natural thing in

the world and I find that I can support the dig-

nity with all the grace becoming a man of any
dcloth especially when most of the other officers are

perfectly green at the business and look up to me

for an example. Sappers have blown over an hour

since so it must be after two o'clock, I am de-
tailing as officers of the guard tomorrow and

must get to bed in good season so that I can

keep awake tomorrow night. By the way I never
Wrote anything about the lot of cake & things you which I opened the day I got back from St Joseph and from which I have had a treat myself and sometimes my friends every day since the cake was eaten long ago but the precious hold out yet and coke versus take the place of the for ones I think of home every time I take a spoon full and think woods ain't half good enough to thank you with give my love to all my female friends tell them I am heart whole yet but don't expect to be where I leave Marquette the next time my love to willie Emily Boyu and the rest of the family and also good health to yourself hoping that I may soon see you again and give you a chance to tell that 20 lands at the same time bid you speed and say for the present from Bro Bob
Dear Pen

Yours of the 8th came to hand this evening and was all the more acceptable for being the only one I have received from home (with the exception of one from Til which I received the same time) since I returned from recruiting over three weeks ago. I should judge from your letter that the people of Marquette were having a gay time. I am glad they find plenty of amusement for it must be very dull otherwise. I should like very much to be there to go through it all with you but I have the company on my hands now and have had for nearly a month. There are balls & parties going on most every evening down town and I have invitations by the dozen but the Capt & 2nd Lieut are both away and the orders are for one commissioned officer % of each company to be on the ground all the time which puts a damper on my run around however I have stood it so long now I have lost all inclination for going in society at all. I have to go to the Saffords once a week at least I was there night before last and found miss Alice quite out of humor because no one came to take her to the festival which was got up by the Soldiers Aid Society and she was to go up and sell ice cream for them. Mrs. Olivia went up about four and promised to send for her but failed to connect and that was what was the matter with miss Alice but I managed to get her in a good humor again after a while and when we had played a couple of games of backgammon a little boy came with a lantern to escort her to the Hall but she concluded she wouldn't go after declining my escort so we had a very pleasant evening over the game. We have been having a gay old time at the house lately there is nine of us board there and three girls belong to the family who are just as full of fun as they can be another one went away this evening who had been spending a there on a visit the greatest girls to carry on you ever saw they have been playing tricks on us and we on them ever since we have been there I got my neck full of water this evening when I was down to supper in part payment of a drive
I came on one of them the other day. Lieut. Saunders gave his coat to one of them to mend the other day and come to put it one he found the sleeves sewed up but the best drive we've had lately is one I played on our sutler—a good natured honest old fellow who sat next to me at the dinner table and I slipped a tea spoon in his coat pocket and when he went out I hollowed out to him; Mrs. Bennet says there is no spoon on your pudding plate. But he didn't see the point until some one accused him of stealing spoons from the boarding house before a crowd of officers in the camp—he was innocent as could be at first and to prove it he began to empty his pockets but when he touched the spoon her jerked out his hand as if he had been burnt and he is bothered twenty times a day now by some body who wants to know who stole the spoons. We had a game of Loo last night for beans nine of us played 4 girls and 5 gentlemen and played til after ten o'clock which is pretty late hours for me as I have to be in bed early in order to be up before sunrise to attend roll call in the morning. We have the roughest company on the ground and I have to be right on the ground among them or they would be fighting among themselves half the time but every body acknowledges that we are the best drilled of any company in the regiment which I flatter myself is all owing to my humble exertions. The Col. has been home nearly all the time since muster either himself or family being sick has been the cause he was here a few hours last Tuesday evening just long enough to give me a good blowing up for being at the ball one night when our company got into a fight and nobody could stop them until they had it out. A good scolding will do me good for it didn't seem hardly right to stay in camp all the time before but now I know what to expect if I don't. I received a letter from Al this evening he mentions having received a letter from you & says he is enjoying himself but leaves all the news from the Marquette boys for Pulver to write but I havn't seen any thing of his letter.
yet and I am afraid he is not a very good correspondent. The Col
told me after he had got done scolding me the other night that he was
going to send me up to Lake Superior recruiting in a fortnight or so
to which I made no objections of course, so you needent be surprised
if you see me up there in the course of a month or so if I go. I will
have to recruit a week or so around Green bay and will be some time on
the road after I get the order. I dont know how it came that I havent
written to you before Jan but if this is the first one for this winter
I must ask your pardon in time to save my ears. There was a corporal from
the 1st Reg here the other day who was taken prisoner last month and was
just from the regiment I was talking with him all the evening and never
was so home sick in my life as I was to get back to old Co B. again
which seems to have ten times the attraction that home has, not that
I wish to disparage any of you at home though but that month I spent
at home last fall seems so stupid in comparison with the same length
of time in the Old dominion that I couldnt help feeling discontented.
I suppose though I would have got sick enough of it by this time if I
had staid with the Company especially if I hadnt got to bee any
thing above a private. I cant hardly realize half the time how I come
to get a commission it was so far removed from my thoughts a week
before my appointment, but now that I have the straps on it seems the
most natural thing in the world and I find that I can support the dig-
nity with all the grace becoming a man of any cloth especially when
most of the other officers are perfectly green at the business and
look up to me for an example. Taps have blown over an hour since so it
must be after ten o'clock I am detailed as officer of the guard day
tomorrow and must get to bed in good season so that I can keep awake to
tomorrow night. by the way I never wrote any thing about the box of
cake & things yet which I opened the day I got back from St. Joseph and from which I have had a lunch myself and sometimes my friends every day since. the cake was eaten long ago but the preserves hold out yet and crackers take the place of the former. I think of home every time I take a spoonfull and think words aint half good enough to thank you with. Give my love to all my female friends tell them I am heart whole yet but dont expect to be when I leave Marquette the next time. My love to Willie Emily Beay and the rest of the family and also a good share to yourself. Heres hoping that I may soon see you again and give you a chance to pull that ear and at the same time Bid you Good Bye for the present.

Your Bro Ed
Dear Sir

Yours of the 7th. came to hand this week early. But I put off answering it until to-day in hopes I would have something to write about but there has been nothing to kick up any excitement worth writing about lately. Mr. Train gave a speech here night before last. I went down intending to go and hear him but went too early in the evening. As, I went into a billiard room with three or four of the officers and played a game or two to pass away the time, and after a while discovered the time of some one thinking it must be nearly time for the speech to commence. When I was astonished to hear him say it was quarter past ten, do that was the way I was fooled out of that speech. I took one of the young ladies to the theatre last night—for the first time in her life—and got home just in time to escape you having been to the theatre on Sunday. There is a dance in town once or twice every week. I got a ticket to one one night—but had not the courage to dance the first but as I went down the billiard room to get courage and went to playing pool with some of the boys. And played until the ball was over. I hate to get up before a respectable hour unless I can go through without any mistakes down in the woods at those dances.
You about I shouldn't care and get along well enough. However this ain't the subject for Sunday so I guess I will drop it. Writing or writing rather of Sunday suits me in mind that I must go and take tea with the staff this afternoon and I suppose I will have to go to church too. I expect I will get a mending for I haven't been to see them for four or five weeks. I have been to busy with the company and the camp has been away most of the time except last week and I have had charge of his absence. And besides I have lost all inclination for leaving camp at all. I am glad to hear you had such fine times shooting and sleighing lately but am equally sorry that you can't all agree. I am sure I don't know who is to blame but it appears to me it would be better to keep on good terms with everybody more especially the young men. When they are as scarce as they are in Harpersfield. I don't know positively yet when I will get started for Lake Superior as the Col. is away but hope it will be soon. We need about twenty or twenty five men to fill up our company and I think I can get them among the prisoners of Green Bay. It will shorten my visit home to recruit on the way but as I will be sent out especially to recruit I will have to follow the old adage of business before pleasure. We had three more Com-
panies mustered in this week which makes
five altogether only three more Companys
and then hereafter for Dixie. The boys all
have an idea we are going to hatch to keep the
Mormons & Indians but that would be to good
luck for us! I expect we will go either to
Kentucky or Virginia but it will be eight
or nine months before we will be drilled
sufficiently to stand fire or cross sabers with
the greybacks. So it don't make much difference
where we do go. There don't seem to be any prospect
of paying us off until we get south and as
a natural consequence the officers are about all
booked I have five dollars left yet out of twenty
I borrowed or hired from the butcher a week or two
ago which will pay my board until a week from
tomorrow might do I feel pretty comfortable
while the money lasts and when that is gone I
will hunt up some more but don't intend to
borrow any trouble until the time comes. Now
I am going to get a saber belt, sheat, & daddle
which will cost at least a hundred dollars is
a mystery to me however I won't bother about
him until I return from up the lake. Col
David promised to go see my security for a hundred
dollars to pay my recruiting expenses which I
guess will take me up homb & back again.
It is nearly one o'clock and time to go to din-
ner & I must not be
neglected give me love to all the girls
obligations of friends and dont expect me
for no month to come yet my love to Willie
& Emma Bozy and the rest of the family

---

P.S. Miss Van Aldenstine was here just now
in a carriage to see me. She is a sister
to George Becker who was in Co. 8 of
the 1st Cav and you will remember was
as fresh to die in Washington. She is the
woman that run off with John Alexander.
She came to tell me that his husband Bill Vanicko-
ston was at home & would like to see me.
So I suppose I will have to go some time
this week I believe Bill run away from his
regiment and is going off this week.

---

Mar. 5 1863
Dear Til

Yours of the 4th came to hand this week early but I put off answering it until to day in hopes I would have something to write about but there has been nothing to kick up any excitement worth writing about lately. Mr. Train gave a speach here night before last I went down intending to go and hear him but went too early in the evening so I went into a billiard room with three or four of the officers and played a game or two to pass away the time, and after a while inquired the time of some one thinking it must be nearly time for the speach to commence when I was astonished to hear him say it was quarter past ten, so that was the way I was fooled out of that speach. I took one of our young ladies to the theatre last night for the first time in her life and got home just in time to escape you having been to the theatre on sunday. There is a dance in town once or twice every week I got a ticket to one, one night but had'nt the courage to dance the first sett so went down to the billard room to get courage and went to playing pool with some of the boys and played until the ball was over I hate to get up before a respectable crowed unless I can go through without any mistake down in the woods at those dances I wrote you about I didn't care and got along well enough. However this aint just the subject for sunday so I guess I will drop it. Talking or writing rather of sunday puts me in mind that I must go and take tea with the Safford's this afternoon and I suppose I will have to go to church too I expect I will get a scolding for I have'nt been to see them for four or five weeks I have been so busy with the company, as the capt has been away most of the time until last week and I have had charge in his absence. And besides I have lost all inclination for leaving camp at all I am glad to hear you had such fine times skating and sleighriding lately but am equally sorry that you cant all agree I am sure I dont know who is to blame but appears to me it would be better to keep on good terms with every body more especially
the young men when they are as scarce as they are in Marquette.

I don't know positively yet when I will start for Lake Superior as the Col is away but hope it will be soon. We need about twenty or twenty-five men to fill up our company and I think I can get them among the pineries of Green Bay, it will shorten my visit home to recruit on the way but as I will be sent out expressly to recruit I will have to follow the old adage of business before pleasure. We had three more Companies mustered in this week which makes nine altogether only three more Companies and then, hurrah for Dixie. The boys all have an idea we are going to Utah to keep the Mormons & Indians but that would be too good luck for us. I expect we will go either to Kentucky or Virginia but it will be eight or nine months before we will be drilled sufficiently to stand fire or cross sabres with the grey backs so it don't make much difference where we do go. There don't seem to be any prospect of paying us off until we get south and as a natural consequence the officers are about all broke. I have five dollars left yet out of twenty I borrowed or hired from the sutlers a week or two ago which will pay my board until a week from tomorrow night so I feel pretty comfortable while the money lasts and when that is gone I will hunt up some more but don't intend to borrow any trouble until the time comes. How I am going to get a sabre, belt, sash, & saddle which will cost at least a hundred dollars is a mystery to me however I won't bother about them until I return from up the lake. Col David promised to go my security for a hundred dollars to pay my recruiting expenses which I guess will take me up home & back again. It is nearly one o'clock and time to go to dinner and business you know must not be neglected give my love to all the girls repects
to friends and don't expect me for a month to come yet. my love to willie & Emma Bosy and the rest of the family

Good Bye

Ed

P. S. Mrs Van Iderstien was here just now in a carriage to see me. She is a sister to George Decker who was in Co B of the first Cav. and you will remember was the first to die in Washington. She is the woman that run off with John Atwood. She came to tell me that her husband Bill Van Iderstien was at home & would like to see me. So I suppose I will have to go some time this week. I believe Bill run away from his regiment and is going off this week.

Ed
Camp Lewis May 12th, 1863

Dear Sir,

I arrived here Saturday afternoon with my nine men. Found the one I had sent before and with the one that arrived here last night. I have eleven men all told, which seemed to be quite satisfactory to the Col. & Capt. Our company left for Cin. on horseback yesterday afternoon with the 1st Battalion. I was left behind to get the new recruits mustered in and to settle up my business around. The Col. says there is four or five hundred dollars coming to me at the paymasters office. For one $100, which will just about make me even when my debts are paid. I was glad to get back to the Company again and if I can judge by the aspect
tion I met with you were so glad to see me. I have been at work day & night since I returned. I have received several invitations from the suffragers but have not had time to go yet. The men are to be addressed this afternoon. Col. Everett & I are going down to Detroit on the one o'clock train tomorrow morning. Col. sends his best respects and wishes me to tell his folks he will write as soon as he gets a chance and has something to write about. I must go and find a horse to go to dinner with the good bye for the present. I think a letter will reach me directed to the 8th Michigan Car via Cincinnati.

Your Bess, Edo
Dear Til

I arrived here Saturday afternoon with my nine men found the one I had sent before and with the one that arrived here last night I have Eleven men all told which seemed to be quite satisfactory to the col & capt. Our company left for Cincinnati yesterday afternoon with the 1st Battalion I was left behind to get the new recruits mustered in and to settle up my business around. the col says there is four or five hundred dollars coming to me at the pay masters ready for me to draw, which will just about make me even when my debts are paid I was glad to get back to the company again and if I can judge by the reception I met with they were as glad to see me I have been at work day & night since I returned I have received several invitations from the saffords but havnt had time to go yet the men are to be mustered this afternoon Ed Everett & I are going down to Detroit on the one o'clock train tomorrow morning Ed Sends his best respects and wishes you to tell his folks he will write as soon as he gets a chance and has something to write about. I must go and find a horse to go to dinner with so good bye for the present.

I think a letter will reach me directed to the 9th Mich Cav via Cincinnati

Your Bro

Ed
Lexington, N.Y. June 4th 1861

Dear Mr. Lincoln,

Yours of the 21st May came this morning, giving me quite an agreeable disappointment, as I was expecting a letter from Detroit with a dozen photographs in. However, don’t know but what your letter is the most acceptable. Any way for I don’t believe the pictures will amount to anything after they get here, but such as they are, I suppose I will have to send them as I think it is extremely dutesious whether I get any more taken in the course of the next year or not.

The last time I wrote I think was from Coldwater, where I was left with 18 new recruits to get them enrolled in and receive their bounty, all of which I accomplished in the space of ten days during which I went to Detroit and received my pay, bought several traps & Calamities which I needed.
and so I went back to Camp, acted as adjutant to the Colonel while we remained there, on the road to Covington. Took tea with Mr. Safford a couple of times, Henry J. & family have moved to Cincinnati. Saw Mr. Safford before I left, while he was back on a visit. We left Coldwater Monday morning, reached Toledo on the afternoon was very busy changing horses & freight from one train to the other until evening. When some body slapped me on the back as I was superintending the moving of a pile of saddles, and on turning around I found myself face to face with Warren McCollum who was tickled as could be to see me. I got excused by the Mayor and went up in the city with him where we found Seth Hall. I forgot to say that Everett went with and we went into a restaurant and
while we fours were regaling ourselves with ice cream soda water &c in stepped Charly Parker & Jim Eaton which made six of us all from Marquette Warren was clerk in a Wholesale Flour store but was in a Jewelry store Charly was carpentering & Jim was painting they said they were getting on famously and were of having gay times &c &c I spent a couple of dollars hours with them very pleasantly talking over old times and left in reason to take the train about ten & Clock we went only about 70 miles that night on the Dayton & Cincinnati R.R. The next morning we found ourselves in a splendid farming country and all that day we passed through the finest part of the country I ever was ever in we took dinner our at Dayton and arrived at Cincinnati early in the afternoon after stationing
guards at the doors of the camp the major sent me up into the city to report to them but for orders. by the time I returned the battalion were nearly ready for a start & according to instructions we marched down to the Ohio River and were ferried over by a couple of steamboats landed at Covington just across the river, a mile & a half back from the river we found the other two battalions of our regiment Camped out in small shelter tents such as I described in one of my letters from the Potomac. We arrived at Camp at dusk received a very enthusiastic cordial reception after which we bunked in with the balance of our Company and our new recruits slept their first night in Camp. The next day I took charge of the drill of the Company and in fact most of the others.
business connected with the company. I got everyone working all right to give the company a good discipline in the following four days. When on Sunday our company received orders to pack up our saddles and march immediately towards Lexington & report to Capt. Morris who had charge of Gen. Burnside's head quarters. Train of Wagons which was the first duty performed by any of our regiment. And we feel quite tickled to think that Co. E. should have the honor of doing the first duty. Well to return to the narrative (for narrative is what this letter is getting to be). We got ready to move in about an hour but had to leave our company wagon & baggage behind. With eight or ten of the men to pack all the things and started finally with 56 men.
We went first to the cistern to water our horses, and then, back up, our line of march on the Berington turnpike, we reached the wagon train a little before dark about the same time a storm reached us so that we had the pleasure of pitching our tents in the rain, and managed to worry out the night tolerably comfortably. Next morning the train started off bright & early, we divided the company, half went in the rear of the train to prevent the bushwhackers from coming off with the wagons there and the other half took the advance to clear the road under the command of your affectionate, brother & humble servant. Well after three days March the particulars of which are not interesting enough to write about unless it is one of the boys in watering his horse in a pond got in to far, while his horse stuck in the muck & fell down, throwing the man into the water and sticking up quite
an excitement for fear he would be drowned, and another event quite as important to me was dining at the governor's house yesterday during a halt on the road near his residence, which is the hand somest place I ever saw while riding through admiring the grounds that I was invited into dinner by the governor a young man about twenty years old who was the only one of the family home except the overseer, the balance of the family were at Frankfort the capitol. He gave me a very strong invitation to call again if ever had an opportunity. The people down here are very sociable and hospitable, but as I was going to write before I forgot myself after three days march we arrived at Lexington
Marched through the town camped on the fair grounds on the other side. After getting provisions for the men, hay & oats for the horses and everything fixed comfortable for the night. Capt & I went to town to get fixed up a little & get something to eat. Barber shop was the first place we patronized where I got shaved and was foolish enough to let the barber include me to have my moustache colored. The next place was a store good place for a collard after that a restaurant where we called for the best stuff they had on the house. But all they had was ham, eggs and while waiting for them to cook the Capt grew so hungry he drank up all the vinegar in the Custon once. Part of the mustard. I then called for some soda water the dish was cooked after a while and then as we were pretty tired we started
back to Camp. It being then after
nine oclock reaching Camp we turned
in with Col & the quartermaster
Sergant with one blanket on the
ground & two over me and slept
as comfortable as you please. This
morning the Company were acti-
onsked when a black moustached
man ordered them to fall in for a
roll call, but obeyed quick enough
never the less you he had the same
voice I used to have once they
knew what I did with the men
that did not answer to this name.
After breakfast there was a young
man came into Camp from a
vating that was raised in Cleveland
and Camped near us so I went
over to see them but didn't find
any one I knew when I came
back I heard that part of our
regiment had gone through the
City with our wagon and the balance
of the company to the Cape & I got in our boat &c and followed on after them. We overtook them about two miles from the city. I
before had a letter for me and one for Col. which we got and I had one of the men bring back 
Campbell Bay and cable back to the city. Spent two or three hours there in making purchases and then returned to camp. Where
I got a hard bread box for a table and got my things about out of my satchel and shot down in the shade to answer your kind letter which
I think I have pretty near accomplished. Col. says he will send that photograph
when he has some taken and sends his best respects now. My respects to Mrs
Sympathy very with Ella & Jaft the sick 
and love to all. We leave for
Hickman's Bridge tomorrow. The Head
quarters of Gen. Burnside will write
again when I get a chance.
Good Bye Col.
Dear Til

Yours of the 27th May came to hand this morning, giving one quite an agreeable disappointment, as I was expecting a letter from Detroit with a dozen photographs in. However I don't know but what your letter is the most acceptable any way for I don't believe the pictures will amount to anything after they get here, but such as they are I suppose I will have to send them, as I think it is extremely dubious whether I get any more taken in the course of the next year or not. The last time I wrote I think was from Coldwater where I was left with 13 new recruits to get them mustered in and receive their bounty all of which I accomplished in the space of ten days during which I went to Detroit and received my pay, bought several traps & calamities which I needed, and some that I didn't, went back to Camp acted as adjutant to the Colonel while we remained there & on the road to Covington took tea with Mrs Safford a couple of times, Henry S & family have moved to Oberlin I saw Mr Safford before I left while he was back on a visit. We left Coldwater Monday morning reached Toledo in the afternoon was very busy changing horses & freight from one train to the other until evening when some body slapped me on the back as I was superintending the moving of a pile of saddles and on turning arround I found myself face to face with Warren McConnel who was tickled as could be to see me. I got excused by the Major and went up in the city with him where we found Lett Hall. I forgot to say Ed. Everett went with me, We went into a restaurant and while we four were regaling ourselves with ice cream soda water &c in stepped Charly Parker & Tim Cating which made six of us all from Marquette, Warren was clerk in a wholesale Flour store Lett was in a Jewelry store Charly was carpentering & Tim was Painting, they said they were having gay times Ed & I spent a couple of dollars hours with them very pleasant talking over old times and left in season to take
the train about ten o'clock. we went only about 70 miles that night on the Dayton & Cincinnati RR. The next morning we found ourselves in a splendid farming country and all that day we passed through the finest part of the county I was ever in. we took dinner at dayton and arrived at Cincinnati early in the afternoon after stationing guards at the doors of the cars the major sent me up into the city to report to Gen Cox for orders by the time I returned the battalion were nearly ready for a start & according to instructions we marched down to the Ohio River and were ferried over by a couple of steamboats landed at Covington just across the river, a mile & a half back from the river we found the other two battalions of our regiment camped our in small shelter tents such as I described in one of my letters from the potomac. we arrived at camp at dusk. received a most very enthusiastic reception after which we bunked in with the balance of our company and our new recruits slept their first night in camp. The next day I took charge of the drill of the company and in fact most of the other business connected with the company. I got every thing working all right to give the company a good disciplin in the following four days when on Sunday our company received orders to pack up our saddles and march immediately towards Lexington & report to a capt Morris who had charge of Gen Burnside's head quarter train of wagons, which was the first duty performed by any of our regiment and we feel quite tickled to think that C. L should have the honor of doing the first duty. Well to return to the narrative (for narrative is what this letter is getting to be) we got ready to move in about an hour but had to leave our company wagon & baggage behind with eight or ten of the men to pack up the things and started finally with 56 men we went first to the ohio river & watered our horses and then took up our line of march on the Lexington turnpike we reached the wagon train a little before dark about the same
time a rain storm reached us so that we had the pleasure of pitching our

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company half went in the rear of the train to prevent the bush whackers
from running off with the wagons there and the other half took the ad-
vance to clear the road under the Command of your affectionate brother &
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not interesting enough to write about unless it is one of the boys in
watering his horse in a pond rode in to far until his horse stuck in the
mud & fell down throwing the man into the water and kicing up quite an
excitement for fear he would be drowned and another event quite important
to me was dining at the governors house yesterday during a halt on the
road near his residence, which is the handsomest place I ever saw it
was while rideing through admiring the ground that I was invited into
dinner by the gov son a young man about twenty years old who was the
only one of the family home except the over seer the ballance of the
family were at Frankfort the capitol. He gave me a very strong invitation
to call again if I ever had an opportunity, the people down here are very
sociable and hospital—but as I was going to write before I forgot
myself after three days march we arrived at Lexington marched through the
town camped on the fair grounds on the other side after getting provisions
for the men hay & oats for the horses and every thing fixed comfortable
for the night Capt & I went to town to get fixed up a little & get some-
thing to eat a barber shop was the first place we patronized where I
got shaved and was foolish enough to let the barber induce me to have
my moustache colored the next place was a dry goods store for a
collar after that a restant where we called for the best supper they
had in the house but all they had was ham & eggs and while waiting for
them to cook the Capt was so hungry he drank up all the vinegar in the
Castor and part of the mustard & then called for some soda water the dish was cooked after a while and then as we were pretty tired we started back to camp it being then after nine, on reaching camp we turned in with Ed & the quartermaster Sergent with one blanket on the ground & two over us and slept as comforable as you please. this morning the company were astonished when a black moustachсход man ordered them to fall in for roll call but obeyed quick enough nevertheless for he had the same voice I used to have and they knew what I did with the men that didn't answer to their names. After breakfast there was a young man came into camp from a battery that was raised in Cleveland and camped near us so I went over to see them but didn't find any one I knew when I came back I heard that part of our regiment had gone through the City with our wagon and the balance of the company so the Capt & I got on our horses and followed on after them we over took them about two miles from the city. Lieut Stisford had a letter for me and one for Ed which we got and I had one of the men bring back my carpet Bag and rode back to the city spent two or three hours there in making purchases and then returned to camp where I got a hard bread box for a table and got my thingubob out of my satchel and set down in the shade to answer your kind letter which I think I have pretty near accomplished. Ed says he will send that photograph when he has some taken and sends his best respects now. My respects to Ora, sympathy with Ella & Katy the sick ones, and love to all. We leave for Hickmans Bridge tomorrow the Headquarters of Gen Burnside, will write again when I get a chance.

Good Bye    Ed
Camp, Near Hickman
Bridge June 20th [1863]

Sirs: 

I have just returned from having a swim in the buck’s river where we go about once a week to wash or bathe. I suppose would be more proper. The Capt informed me a little while ago that he had something that in his pocket that I would give a good deal to see but couldn’t guess what it was in a month so I didn’t try to guess but asked to see it, when he handed me an envelope directed to me enclosing a dozen photographs which I had been expecting from Detroit for the last month but had given up all hopes of ever seeing anything of them. I had half taken full length which look as mean like me as somebody else, the others
I think it would be a little better if you send three of each which you can distribute as you may think best. If you have anything more than will go around, you can give the balance to some of my friends, though you can do what you please about that. I believe promised several but to save my gizzard I can't remember who unless it was to Clara or Ella when I will enclose an one of my letters.

I expect Old will have a long story to write when he writes again as he started with some twenty men of our company to drive two hundred head of cattle through Somerset, they expect to be gone thirteen days as it is some eighty or ninety miles to where they are going. So if his notes fail to arrive any letters from him for a little while you can explain the cause.
We have been quite busy of late what with building fences, guarding cattle, driving animals, &c. A part of our time is pretty well occupied, I suppose, but some time or other I might have slept the same time as all I have to do is to make out the details of the order. It comes in and then fades away. The time the best way I can until the next dispatch which I generally do by sleeping through the warmest part of the day. Today for a change I got up on my horse to ride him over in the fields a little way to graze. I had nothing on him but the halter and the camp ran away with me through a wood road about two miles to a saw mill where I was afraid he would jump into the mill once as he was going directly for it, all tight as he could jump I couldn't.
Stop him but I managed to turn him around and we went back again to camp a little quicker. If this thing than we left it, I succeeded finely in stopping him at the tree where he is fast, but I made about the quickest trip to the saw mill that has been made this summer. I have been with awake all the afternoon. I believe I never wrote yet what kind of a horse I had. It was not because I was ashamed of him because I ain't for he is the handsomest horse in the region full of the old scratch though and will bite & kick at anyone because every time they come near him we have a little boy with us who followed us from Cincinnati he isn't over eleven years old, who feeds & waters the cattle horse for the sake of slaying with us as he has no parents. Well I was going...
To day he got on my horse this morning at half past eight and concluded he would put on the bridle after he had got on but the horse wouldn't let him get off he turned his head around to grab him every time he tried it I finally had to call for me but I like my horses all the better for being ugly it appears I came very near forgetting to send that picture of Christ to head promised in my last to send was blown at the Butlers & spent the after noon there Sunday got the picture from deute the fouth daughter who is going toaccoo yet you must hold the paper so that it will cast the shadow on the wall a person wouldn't suspect what the paper was for if they were not posted I would write more to night but the fact of it
matter is Cope & the other
two Sentinels are talking
politics one thing or another
and bother me so that I would
be surprised if I wrote something
you would not find in the Bible.
I can't help thinking a good deal
that is not there. I received
Pend's letter enclosing the old copy
one Saturday, it was quite a treat
though the tenor of the news was
not so very pleasant. I had no
idea that things had taken such a
turn, and him afraid I opened
old woman's ingenuity but it was
quite unintentional and I suppose
they took it as such. The page is
about full and I must say I
am afraid of it— not that I hate corres-
ponding with you but because I don't
feel in the humor for writing for reason
afforded. Love to all.

[Signature]
Camp Near Hickmans  
Bridge June 23rd [1863]

Dear Til,

I have just returned from having a swim in the Kentucky river where we go about once a week to wash or bathe I suppose would be more proper. The Capt informed me a little while ago that he had something that in his pocket that I would give a good deal to see but could'nt guess what it was in a month, So I didn't try to guess but asked to see it, when he handed me an envelope directed to me inclosing a dozen photographs which had been expecting from Detroit for the last month but had given up all hopes of ever seeing anything of them. I had half taken full length which look as near like me as somebody else, the others I think look a little better, I send three of each which you can distribute as you may think best, if you have any more than will go around you can give the balance to some of my friends though you can do as you please about that. I believe I promised several but to save my gizzard I can't remember who, unless it was to Emma or Ella which I will enclose in one of Ed's letters.

I expect Ed will have a long story to write when he writes again as he started with some twenty others of our company the other day to drive two hundred Head of cattle through to somerset, they expect to be gone thirteen days as it is some eighty or Ninety miles to where they are going, So if his folks fail to receive any letters from him for a little while you can explain the cause. We have been quite busy of late what with building fences guarding cattle driving miles &c our time is pretty well occupied, I said our time I might have said the mens time as all I have to do is to make out the details as the orders come in and then pass away the time the best way I can until the next dispatch, which I generally do by sleeping through the warmest part of the day. to day for a change I jumped on my horse to ride him over in the fields a little ways to graze I had nothing on him but the halter and the scamp ran away with me through a wood road about two miles to a saw mill where I
was afraid he would jump into the mill race as he was going directly for it as he could jump. I couldn't stop him but I managed to turn him around and we went back again to camp a little quicker if any thing than we left it. I succeeded finally in stopping him at the tree where he is fed, but I made about the quickest trip to the saw mill that has been made this summer. I have been wide awake all the after noon. I believe I never wrote yet what kind of a horse I had. It wasn't because I was ashamed of him because I aint for he is the handsomest horse in the reg't full of the old scratch though and will bite & kick at any one but me every time they come near him. We have a little boy with us who followed us from Cincinnati. He isnt ever eleven years old, who feeds & waters the capt's horse for the sake of staying with us as he has no parents. Well as I was going to say he got on my horse this morning to water him and concluded he would put on the bridle after he had got on but the horse wouldn't let him get off. He turned his head around to grab him every time he tried it & finally had to call for me, but I like my horse all the better for being ugly to strangers. I can very near forgetting to send that picture of Christ's head I promised in my last to send. I was down at the Butler's & spent the after noon there Sunday. I got the picture from Lute the fourth daughter who is going to school yet. You must hold the paper so that it will cast the shadow on the wall. A person wouldn't suspect what the paper was for if they were not posted. I would write more to night but the fact of the matter is Capt & the other two Lieutenants are talking politics & one thing or another and bother me so that I wouldn't be surprised if I wrote something you wouldn't find in the bible for I cant help thinking a good deal that is not there. I received Penn's letter enclosing the old country one, Saturday, it was quite a treat though the tenor of the news was not so very pleasant. I had no idea that things had taken
such a turn, and am afraid I opened old wounds or sorrows by inquiring but it was quite unintentional and I suppose they took it as such. The page is about full and I must say I am glad of it, not that I hate corresponding with you, but because I dont feel in the humor for writing for reasons aforesaid

Love to all
such a turn, and am afraid I opened old wounds or sorrows by inquiring but it was quite unintentional and I suppose they took it as such. The page is about full and I must say I am glad of it, not that I hate corresponding with you, but because I don’t feel in the humor for writing for reasons aforesaid. Love to all.