Correspondence

Aug.-Oct. 1864
Louisville, Ky. Sunday Aug. 21st, 1864

Dear Parents and Sister,

This is the first opportunity that I have had to write, since leaving Detroit. I will improve it in writing home, and let you know where I am and (as well as I know) where I am going. We left Detroit Friday evening at 9 o'clock on the Michigan Central, and arrived in Michigan City about day light Saturday morning. There we took the train for Indianapolis where we arrived a little before dark, where I reported and got our supper then back to the depot took the 9 o'clock train, and arrived in Jeffersonville twenty minutes after. Three this morning, crossed the Ohio in a ferry and came here to the Exchange barracks in Louisville, this is the same building that I wrote home from last week. While going through here, we expect to leave here some time this afternoon for Nashville.

May marvel if left in to Mrs. Griffith's daughter. Together with a letter for Wesley, which I intended to give to the Chief Police at the depot to hand him, but had not time.
Please see Wesley as soon as you receive this and tell him about it as he knows where the store is, do not forget to tell him that I left a letter also, the key to the warehouse in the letter. I would like to ask how Charley is, but you better not write until after I hear from him again.

Do not worry about me; I will write as soon as I get to my place of destination. Either I tried my best several times already to get a pass to go down to the city to see about that business, but I could not.

Please let Emma or some one return this. Have books as soon as you get the reply. God be with all, from your son and brother.

Franklin H. Bailey.
Louisville K.Y. Sunday Aug. 21st 1864

Dear Parents and Sister

As this is the first opportunity sic( that I have had to write, since leaving Detroit, I will improve it in writing home, and let you know where I am and (as well as I know) where I am going. We left Detroit friday evening at 8 o'clock on the Michigan Central, and arrived sic( in Michigan city about day light saturday morning there we took the train for Indianapolis where we arrived sic( a little before dark. We went up to the soldier home and got our supper them back to the depot took the 8 o clock train and arrived sic( in Jeffersonville twenty minutes after three this morning, crossed the ohio in a ferry and came here to the Exchange barracks in Louisville. this is the same building that I wrote home from last october while going through here. We expect to leave here some time this afternoon for Nashville.

My valise I left into Mr Griffaths sic( drug store together sic( with a letter for Wesley, which I intended to give to the Chief Police at the depot to hand him, but had not time. Please see Wesley as soon as you receive this and tell him about it he knows where the store is, do not forget to tell him that I left a letter also, the key to the valise is in the letter. I would like to ask how Charley is, but you better not write untill sic( you hear from me again. Do not worry about me, I will write as soon as I get to my place of destination. Father I tried my best several times friday to get a pass to go down to the city to see about that buisiness sic( but I could not. Please let Emma or some one return Mrs. Hunts sic( books as soon as you get the valise, Good by love to all from son and brother

Franklin H Bailey.
Cullucka, Tennessee. Aug. 27th 1864.

Dear Parents,

I have delayed writing for three days, since our arrival here, for the reason that I have been expecting it to be sent to another post, but this morning I thought that I would wait no longer before writing home.

I wrote you a letter from Louisville on our way here, which I suppose you have got before this time; we had been away from Louisville the day that I wrote, not until the next morning and arrived in Nashville Monday evening. Stayed over night and until the next afternoon in the Solicofer house when we left there for camp Smith, started Tuesday night in camp Smith and started Wednesday morning before daylight for the depot, where we took the top of a freight train and arrived here in Cullicka about noon. Cullicka, or Pleasant Grove as the station is sometimes called, is a very pretty little place just ten miles south of Columbia on the railroad.
Our Head Quarters are at Columbia, and the dismounted part of our regiment are scattered all along the railroad guarding bridge, trestle works, switches, &c.; there is a very large trestle-work here at Cullick and two block-houses in which to fight in case we are attacked; night before last we received orders to hold ourselves in readiness for there was a bandit of bushwhackers not far off, yesterday were employed in emptying the action in the block-house and filling it with pure water, we have provisions and water in the block-house. To last me one week in case we are kept in there long at any time.

We are staying in an old store awaiting for orders, that is those of us that came here from Nashville the 1st of May that 1st of July, we have been drawing clothing today and will probably be divided up among the different posts before long some sent one way and some another. I had almost forgotten to say that my health is feeling good, I am feeling better than I have for some time before. It is quite
worn here, but I have not yet been obliged to be out in the sun long at a time. There is so much noise and confusion here in the building that I can hardly keep my sense about me enough to write and I must finish in time to have the letter go out today. Please write as soon as you receive this and write all the news, how is Charley and Chief Ward, both well by this time I hope to hear from you again. Give my best respects to all the neighbors, and kiss the little ones for me. Tell me when you write if you received any other letters, for fear that you did not I will tell again. This week I left my wife at Mrs. Griffeth's in Detroit, she is there and return Mrs. Henry looks as ever as you receive it if you have not. I have not known any thing from her one shall remain can sure it will be until we get horses directed to Columbia in care of Colonel Parks. Good by from your affectionate son,

Franklin H. Bailey.
Aug' 27th 1864

Culliola. Tennessee.

Dear Parents

I have delayed writing for three days since our arivel sic( here for the reason that I have been expecting to be sent to another post, but this morning I thought that I would wait no longer before writing home.

I wrote you a letter from Louisville, while on our way here, which I suppose that you have got before this time; we did not leave Louisville that day that I wrote, not untill sic( the next morning and armed in Nashville Monday evening, staid sic( over night and untill sic( the next afternoon in the Golicoffer house, when we left there for camp Smith, staid sic( Tuesday night in camp Smith and started Wednesday morning before day light for the depot, where we took the top of a freight train and arived sic( here in Culliola about noon. Culliola, or Pleasant Grove as the station is sometimes called is a very pretty little place just ten miles south of Columbia on the railroad, Our Head Quarters are at Columbia, and the dismounted part of our regiment are scatered sic( all along the railroad guarding bridges, trestle-works, switches, &c; there is a very large trestle-work here at Culliola and two block-houses in which to fight in case we are attacked, night before last we received orders to hold ourselves in readiness for there was a band of bush-whackers not far off, yesterday we were imployed sic( in
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empting \( sic \) the cistern in the block-house and filling
it with pure water \( sic \), we have provisions and water \( sic \)
in the block-house to last us one week in case we are kept
in that long at any time.

We are staying in an old store waiting for orders,
that is those of us that came here from Nashville the time
that I did, we have been drawing clothing today and will
probaly \( sic \) be divided up among \( sic \) the different
posts before long some sent one way and some another. I
had almost forgotten \( sic \) to say that my health is keeping
good, I am feeling better than I have for some time before.
It is quite warm here, but I have not yet been obliged to
be out in the sun long at a time. There is so much noise
and confusion here in the building that I can hardly keep
my senses about me enough to write but I must finish in
time to have the letter go out today. Please write as soon
as you receive this and write all the news, how is Charley,
and Miss Ward, both well be this time I hope to hear when
you write. Give my best respects to all the neighbors,
and kiss the little ones for me, tell me when you write
if you recieved my other letter, for fear that you did not
I will tell you in this that I left my valise at Mr Griffiths \( sic \) in Detroit, be shure \( sic \) and return Mrs.
Hunts \( sic \) books as soon as you receive it if you have not.
We do not know any thing how long we shall remain here, it
will be untill \( sic \) we get horses. direct to Columbia
in care of Colonel Parks. Good by from your affectionate
son

Franklin H Bailey. Emma how do you do, dont' feel
slited \( sic \) because I did not write to you this time.
Gulliver, Ten.

Wednesday, Sept. 7th, 1864.

Dear Parents and Sisters,

I suppose that you have heard of Morgan's raid through this part of the country, and are moving about one, for fear that I was killed or wounded. I should have written before, but it would do no good and it did not seem how long before this letter will get through to you. There is no trains running on this road after six, but there probably will be before long.

I am well and sound as when I left them although I have been since then, where the best plan was to close up vicinity firmly forever. Last Friday and Saturday we were expecting an attack very minute as the railroad and the Telegraph-wire had been previously destroyed on both sides of us; but the might and the might and the might and the might of us in the black-house, Saturday night.
fifty of Widlers men came here from Columbia to reinforce us. On Sunday morning about nine o'clock some of Widlers cavalry made an attack upon us, from the northwestern direction, where our men in the blockhouse and men on the hill met them. Widlers fifty men were shot in an old stockade that had been built down and afforded but very little protection, nor was sight of us that are without arms found on the top of a mole behind Widlers men watching the rebels. They saw us and fired several volleys at us, we called them vultures. The animosity on us as they only fired over our heads. Soon their balls began to come closer, whistling past our heads and patching little around us. Then we thought that we had better be getting out of there as we had nothing to return. These five worth, so we put back over the hill and crossed over to the ravine to another hill at the other end of the breastwork, where we could see the rebels and our men shoot as plain as could be. The rebels saw our men and formed in a line & charge.
after which Wilder men set they have a volley from their seven shorters, which staggered them; we reached the tree hill set down on some lugs and watched them for about half an hour, during which time they kept up a steady fire of our Wilder men, once after we reached our column, I saw them form a line for a charge draw their sabers, which glistened in the sun as bright, the officer swung his sword and ordered a charge, Wilder men gone. Then several volleys in quick succession and they broke and fell like a flock of sheep. God and believe that any man aware of an in a little place to witness a sight than were about a half a dozen of us, the rest of our unarmed men put for the cover as soon as the first round ever fired and none saw any of the fun. Our side did not lose a man nor have one wounded. The rolls left two dead on the field and several of several wounded. after the fight was over one of our men shot himself accidentally.
Matters fought at Columbia, and just mile below
me with artillery had to move to gone no
away I guess that be new gone before this time so
that one well an as more of him, I must not
forget to mention this earth quake that we feld
they might to shock our building very powerfully
and actually shook the rails on the railroad so
as to make them rattle, I do not know where
at ever as one did not get any apperance here,
I suppose that you have heard other it now,
and know more about it then I do.
This is the third letter that I have written home since
leaving, I have not heard from you yet, but
hope to soon. This is the only sheet of paper
that I know but I guess that the railroad
will have the troops will come through
before long. It never does as hard worth
of me as much as it is too far, I cannot
write toll, would be ashamed to have any know in
this until some other, close to all friends
and to send direct to Columbus in care of Colonel Park

Franklin H. Brooke
Cullioka Ten. Wednesday Sept 7th 1864.

Dear Parents and Sister

I suppose that you have heard of Morgan's raid through this part of the country, and are woring about me, for fear that I was killed or wounded, I should have written before but it would do no good and I do not know how long before this letter will go through as there is no trains running on this road yet, but there probaly will be before long.

I am well and sound as when I left home although I have been, since then, where the lead flew in very close proximity to my person. Last friday and saturday we were expecting an attack minute as the railroad and the telegraph-wire had been previously destroyed on both sides of us, but both nights we were ordered to take care of ourselves in the bush or woods, that is those of us that had no arms, as there was not room for us in the block-house, saturday night sixty of Wilders men came here from Columbia to reinforce us and sunday morning about nine o clock some of Wheelers cavalry made an attack upon us, from the northwest direction, where our men in the block-house could not see them; Wilders sixty men were hid in an old stockade that had been burnt down and afforded but very little protection, six or eight of us that are without arms stood on the top of a vale behind wilders men watching the rebs they saw us and fired several volleys at us, we let them waste their ammunition.
on us as they only fired over our heads, soon their balls began to come closter sic( whisteling )sic( past our heads and striking all around us, then we thought that we had better be geting )sic( out of that as we had nothing to return their fire with, so we put back over the hill and crost sic( over the ravien )sic( to another hill at the other end of the trustel sic( we could see the rebs and our men boath )sic( as plain as could be, the rebs saw us run and formed in a line to charge after when Wilders )sic( men let them have a volley from their seven shooters, which stagered )sic( them; we reached the other hill sit down on some logs and watched them for about half an hour, during which time they kept up a steady fire at our Wilders sic( men. once after we reached our lookout, we saw them form a line for a charge draw their sabors, which glistened in the sun as bright, the officer swung his sword and ordered a charge, Wilders )sic( men gave them several volleys in quick succession and they broke and fled like a flock of sheep. I do not beleive )sic( that any one was ever in a better place to witness a fight than were about a half a dozen of us, the rest of our unarmed men put for the woode )sic( as soon as the first round was fired and never saw any of the fun. Our side did not lose a man nor have one wounded the rebs left two dead on the field and caried )sic( of )sic( several wounded, after the fight was over one of our own men shot himself accidently. Wheeler fought at Columbia, and four miles below us with
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artillery but di not see fit to give us any, I guess that he has gone before this time so that we will see no more of him. I must not forget to mention the earth quake that we felt friday night it shook our building very powerfully it actually shook the rails on the rail-road so as to make them rattle. I do not know where it was as we do not get any papers here, I suppose that you have heard wher )sic( it was, and know more about it than I do.

This is the third letter that I have written )sic( home since leaveing )sic(, I have not heard from you yet, but hope to soon. this is the only sheet of paper that I have but I guess that the rail-road will be so that trains will come through before long. It never was as hard work for me to writ )sic( as it is today, I cant' write at all, would be ashamed to have any body see this but your selves. love to all Good by write soon direct as I told you before to Columbia in care of Colonel Park's.

Franklin H. Bailey.
Cullina Sen: Oct. 8th 1864.

Dear Father,

I received your letter dated Sept 25th last week, and one dated Sept 24th about a week ago; I should have answered the first one before now had the need been in writing out so that I would be sure of the letters going over as written, but I will now try and answer briefly on one: my health is good and Anna very glad to hear that you are all well. I had felt very much concerned about Charley until I received another letter a little over a week ago stating that Charley was well but Anna was very sick, then your great concern from Charley to Anna until I received your last which stated that she was beyond danger. Now speak of going into the ocean where we previously met. The hope to go that you will do well and I do not see any reason why you cannot. I am very thankful for the medal that you sent me and glad to see you so confident in the ability of the two parties (whose brothers are shown on the medal) to carry on this war and end soon. This current rebellion at last, if not a traitor to God, Lincoln & Johnson have shown it, he now have a great deal of debating her on the subject of politics as one stood just at a far. A short time ago, The Captain immediately read me all your to see how we heard, they spoke longer, then was one majesty
for Lincoln and we are sure, at election day, 
Lincoln will have the majority here, for there were more illegal voters in the N.E. than of the 

Cam on duty. I am corporal of the 

guard, a part of the guard duty. I have done 

since being elected, but I have done 

work as corporal. I am always used as one. The duty is a little easier 

than as private. I am on horseback. I wish I 

that if Lincoln is elected, that we will not 

leave. I wish it. I will make more than six or 
sight months longer. I am speaking of the war 

for ten years. The Republicans and Southern Copper 

heads. Hall-Columbia in his speech, if you will 
give the Copperheads and in fact the whole element 

City of Columbia at the pole. This fall, 

we will try and give the Reds an arm. The 

same. That is a little the worst, I think. The 

enemies of our country will soon be 

(civil war) and we will have a (right now) 

chance of having the government of our own 

way. We're the enemies of freedom. 

was this way long enough, and we 

must soon set. I plan to set. I propose letting the first relief stand on it. Eight 

years instead of four. I am in hope that 

one will be point of rest stay away which it is 

told to that I can send some family home for 

I know that you would love your home. Then
(Oct 8, 1864)

Tell Mother that I thought I would not write to her this time, for I am expected to be relieved from this duty and sent to the front, we will probably know before long and then you will write again. Do not write until you hear from me again however before you write again, direct as you did after last letter, you may best expect all engineering friends, tell Charley and Ann. That is true. Think that good luck. Lincoln will let me come home and stay some time. Must not forget to tell them what is new. Do not forget to tell Mr. Hunt to look after the girls, and her. Constitution.
near Anthocha. I go, have once or a while I borrow books, but I do not care much about meeting with them. They talk so much about cheap cloths, how much tobacco and snuff to be very suitable company.

I have an agent write to the West Indies and England. Apparel is so high that I cannot buy a quire of paper, and any kind of materials for less than one dollar. When it is convenient to me, I hasten about inking a stamp at time.

I hold on until pay day; my bank is nearly played out. At the beginning of January my goods are not coming in well. Ford by favour

Franklin
Cullioka Ten'  Oct' 8th 1864

Dear Father

I received your letter dated Sept' 25th last night, and one dated Sept 2nd about a week ago; I should have answered the first one before now had the road been in running sic(order, so that I would be shure sic(of the letter's) sic(going soon as written; but I will now try and answer boath sic(in one; my health is good and I am very glad to hear that you are all well, I had felt very much conserved sic(about Charley untill sic(I received Mothers sic( letter a little over a week ago, stating that Charley was well but Anna was very sick, then my fears turned from Charley to Anna untill sic(I received your letter which stated that she was beyond danger. You speak of going into the broan sic(-handle manufacture in Co. with Mr. Mapes. I hope that you will do well, and I do not see any reason why you cannot. I am very thankful for that medal that you sent me and glad to see you so confident in the ability of the two persons (whoses) sic(pictures are shown in the medal) to carry on this war and put down this cursed rebellion sic(at last, if I had a vote to cast Lincoln & Johnson should have it. we have a great deal of debating here on the subject of politics as we stand just at a tie. A short time ago the Capt' in command had us all vote to see how we stood, evry sic(block-house but ours gave a majority for Lincoln and here we are even; at election however Lincoln will have the
Oct. 8, 1864 – page 2

majority here for there were more illeagual voters on the Mc rank than in ours. I am on duty today 'corporal of the guard' amost )sic( of the guard duty that I have done since being detailed here has been as corporal. whenever they are short of corporals I am always used as one the duty is a little easier )sic( than as private. I am in hopes however that if Lincoln is elected that we will not have to do duty atall )sic( more than six or eight months longer. You speak of that man from Ten' giving the Reb's and Northern Copperheads Hail-Columbia in his speach )sic(, if you will give the Copper-heads and in fact the whole dem' party Hail-Columbia at the pole )sic( this fall, we will try and give the reb's in arms the same that is a little the most, I think that the enemies of our country will soon be (done played,) and we will stand a (righ )sic( smart chance) of having the government our own way hereafter, the enemies of freedom have had it their way long enough, and it is now our turn at the wheal )sic(, and I propose letting )sic( the first relief stand or sit, eight years instead of four. I am in hopes that we will be paid of )sic( next pay-day which is in Nov' so that I can send some money home, for I know that you must need some this winter.

Tell Mother that I thought I would not write to her this time for we soon expect to be relieved from this duty and sent to the front, we will probly )sic( know before long and when we find out I will write again, do not write
untill sic( you heare sic( from me again however before you write again. direct as you did the last letter, give my best respects to all enquiring sic( friends, tell Charley and Anna that I think that good Mr. Lincoln will let me come home and stay some time next year. do not forget to tell me in your next if you got the valese sic( and sent Mrs. Hunts sic( books home. there is a widow Hunt and her daughter Curlley living near Cullioka. I go there once in a while to borrow books but I do not care much about visiting with them they talk to sic( much secesh sic( and chew to sic( much tobacco and snuff to be very agreeable company, I have as yet written sic( to no one except you and Lydia Ann, paper is so high here, cannot buy a quire of paper and a bunch of envelopes for less than one dollar, when it is convenient do not be bashful about enclosing a stamp or two that is untill sic( pay day, my ink is nearly (played out) and the bottom of it is thick and does not write very well. Good by from Franklin.