Correspondence

Nov.-Dec. 1864
Camp near Louisville, Ky., Nov. 17th, 1864.

Dear Parents:

I received your kind letter dated Oct. 28th a week ago last Sunday. Mess are we have been so very busy since that I have not had time to write. Today I received Emma's letter in which you both wrote a few lines and sent some stamps and money which came very acceptable. The paper and envelopes that you sent me together with the Stars came to hand. The same thing that agree with letters old, while I was at Columbia. Now my health is very good better than I could expect considering the amount of exposure that I have been through and clearing the last month. I shall begin and tell you where I have been and what I have been doing since I wrote you last. A part of mine went from Columbia to Columbia just two weeks before election, and had been there a few days before the officer in command became discouraged for fear of civil war, that he said we all set work on a fort near Columbia, where he kept us every day rain or shine, and several days at our first taste of very rainy, and he even kept us to work nights when we could see. That is, by relief, on half a day. Then of half a day. The day after election we left Columbia, but only traveled as far as Spring Hill, that being a distance of twelve miles we had to stop and carry our luggage on account of
general rail-road bridge having been carried away by the flood at Spring Hill and Rock The Train.

The next day, left and went to Rock Hill and from the railroad and for the road about five hours waiting for them to get an engine on the track from a few miles from Spring Hill, the reason that it took them so long was because the track was torn up for about one rod, after one got to Nashville one went to the Dolinger’s House and stayed the rest of the night, and did not lay down thereon until they gave us some supper for our stations had run out of provisions, and one raised an uproar as soon as one got into the house declaring they did not give us anything to eat. They were almost starved down, the house. The next morning one got a piece of bread and a piece of meat and some coffee one. Started for the depot where one took the train for Louisville: remember when I say the train and always mean the cattle train or baggage train, for we never rise on any thing else, and then in the last train, until the train was completely loaded down inside and on the top, so thick that one could hardly sit down. Upon on top of a car, one were all that day without any thing to eat except our morning breakfast, about midnight one stopped at Bowling Green, there I stuffed a lot of hard-tack out of a government train.
and took out to the car. That my company was on and in. I thought as did the little major above that told the turkey of his snare, and was puzzled of dealing, he said, no he had to steal, the turkey was nervous and he was nervous. The turkey only change places. & so with the top of heart's need. I do not know what one would have done if I had not got it, before we reached Louisville, which was not until about two o'clock. The 2nd day, that might be done on top of the car are nearly broke it was. The oldest might that we had seen this month. We are in camp in sight of Louisville, but I hope that we will not stay here long for if we they will kill us in a day or two. The officers are good, the men tell the officers spend on, none can rule call upon. From a day, drill twice a day, primer and after dress parade once a day. police once acting in fact one hour over time to do our own washing and hardly time to cook and eat our meals. Then we have camped around all around camp, which keeps me pretty busy. I can tell you. We expect to be mounted soon but where we are going none of me know. Some think that we are going to Missouri. The officers tell us that we will get pay as soon as our company books get here. They are at Chouteau.
I hope that we will get it while we are here. It will be so handy to express it home, and I know that you will need it. I am afraid in the letter that you sent that money and the stamps, that if I get it, you would send me some more. I am very much obliged to you for what you sent, but I do not think you had better send any more, unless we leave here without our pay which I do not think we will, if we do I will let you know and if we get pay I will express it as soon as I get it and write also. I would be very thankful if you would send me the shares every month after you receive it. Whether you spoke of Helen & Emma getting married, the girls got married if they wish, but I do not think they show much satisfaction in marrying at such times as these. The girl that marry's this Chick will not have to elate her marriage during such a political revolution as the present one should. At least ten years, I am sure, hope however that one year more will finish this war. I see my sheet is nearly full, hence this poor writing for I have written very rapidly on account of short time, write just as soon as you receive this if convenient and I will try and be better next time. I will write to Emma soon, except of my love to you all and hope you are well. The army is busy.
Camp near Louisville K. Y.
Nov' 17th 1864.

Dear Parents,

I received your kind letter dated Oct' 23d a week ago last sunday, but we have been so very busy since that I have not had time to write. today I received Emma's letter in which you both write a few lines and sent some stamps and money, which came very acceptable; the paper and envelopes that you sent me togather †sic( with the Stars came to hand the same time that your first letter did, while † was at Columbia Ten'. My health is very good better than I could expect considering the amount of exposure that I have been through with during the last month. I will begin and tell you where I have been and what I have been doing since I wrote you last at first we were sent from Cullioka to Columbia just two weeks before election, we had been there but a few days when the officer in command became so frightened for fear of old Hood, that he set us all at work on a fort near Columbia, where he kept us evry †sic( day rain or shine, and several days it was very rainy; and he even kept us to work nights when we could see, that is by releives †sic(, on half a day then off half a day: the thursday after election we left Columbia but only traviled †sic( as far as Spring-Hill that day a distance of twelve miles, we had to foot it and carry our luggage, on account of several rail-road bridges having been carried away by the freshet. at Spring-Hill we took the train the next day, but did not reach Nashville untill †sic( in the night we
had to stop once on the road about five hours waiting for them to get an engine on the track that run of sic but a few miles from Spring Hill, the reason that it took them so long was because the track was torn up for about one rod, after we got to Nashville we went to the Lollicofer House and staid sic the rest of the night, we did not lay down however untill sic they gave us some supper for our rations had run out that morning, and we raised an uproar as soon as we got into the house declaring sic that if they did not give us some thing to eat that we would pull down the house. the next morning we got a peace of bread a peace of meat and some coffey sic and started for the depot where we took the train for Louisville remem ber when I say the train I always mean the cattle train or baggage train, for we never ride on any thing else, without it is the dirt train, well the train was compleatly sic loaded down in side and on the top, so thick that we could hardly sit down. I was on top a car, we were all that day without any thing to eat except our morning bite, about midnight we stoped at Bowling-Green there I gobbled a box of hard-tack out of a government train and took it to the car that my company was on and in. I thought as did the little negrow sic slave that stole the turkey of his master, and was twitted of stealing, he said, no he had'nt stole, the turkey was massy's and he was massy's the turkey only change places. so with the box of hard-tack, I do not know what we would have done if I had not got it, before we
reached Louisville, which was not until about two o'clock the next day; that night riding on top of the car we nearly froze it was the coldest night that we had seen this month. We are in camp in sight of Louisville, but I hope that we will not stay here long for if we do they will kill us with style, the farther we got from the front the more style (the officers put on, we have role) (call four times a day, drill twice a day forenoon and afternoon dress-parade once a day police) (once a day in fact we have no time to do our own washing and hardly time to cook and eat our meals), then we have camp guard all around camp which keeps us pretty busy (I can tell you. We expect to be mounted soon but where we are going none of us know. Some think that we are going to Missouri. The officers tell us that we will get pay as soon as our company books get here they are at Chattanooga. I hope that we will get it while we are here it will be so handy to express it home, and I know that you must need it. You said in the letter that you sent that money and the stamps, that if I got it you would send me some more, I am very much obliged to you for what you sent, but I do not think you had better send any more, unless we leave here without our pay which I do not think we will, if we do I will let you know and if we get pay I will express it as soon as I get it and write also. I would be very thankful (if you would send me the Star evry week)
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after you read it. Mother you spoke of Hellen C- & Emma T- geting sic( married. let the girls get married if they wish, but I do not think they show much patriotism sic( in marrying at such times as these. the girl that marrys sic( this "Chick" will not have to date her marriage sic( during such a political revolution sic( as the present one should it last ten years, I am in hopes however that one year more will finish this war. I see my sheet is nearly full, excuse this poor writing for I have written sic( very rapidly on account of short time, write just as soon as you receive this if convenient and I will try and do better next letter.

I will write to Emma soon. except sic( of my love to you all from your son in the army. F. H. Bailey

On top of page

Be sure and put on the envelope, in directing to me hereafter. my Co. & Reg. as we are all together now.
Camp near Louisville, KY, Dec 5th 64

Dear Parents,

Our regiment is receiving pay today; this forenoon the first battalion was paid. This afternoon they will pay the second, & man the third and may not get paid until tomorrow. There is a man in Co. G of 2nd Bat. that I am well acquainted with, who is going home to Kentucky; if he gets his pay this afternoon, as he probably will, he will start for home this evening. I thought that I would like to send some money by him, as I have given him a package to take to you containing a belt and a pocket knife. The belt is a fine one but of a style that was given to me; I thought that I would send it home to you; please keep it safe, but about the money I sent up to the first battalion and borrowed fifty dollars from me, I send by him. I do not know how much pay that I will get as whether I will get any army pay this time or not, but I think that the man that I borrowed this sum of the money, if they pay me all that is due me I will be eleven months pay, or $167.00; but the boys that I have been talking with in the first battalion, only got about half their pay. I will write
again in a day or two, and let you know all about it, if I get enough. That I can spare any more. You will lend it by degrees. I shall want to keep a little money by me, and there are several things that I want to buy to make me more presentable and dressy, something not very high. I want as much as the one that I have given me all more and, any coat in more parts but the one that I have worn one thirty-months ahead of the vanguard. Now, through away, but I want to keep some trimming and bring it and so sure showing a sample which would cost $5.50. I have drawn 3 of 4 Military hats showing the last year they do not last any time at all. I want to know, after many, it will be three times as cheap as this and a portfolio to keep paper in, a pocket handkerchief, a pocket knife, a shoe-reeker, and linen thread, a Bible and a prayer book to help me in traveling. The Templars, a pocket mirror, and the other books, etc., to practice penmanship in as. The one I bought at Detroit as full, but I will not close as all. I will need these in a few minutes, albeit so soon as soon receive this. I received a little from you and another as yesterday will amount to more, yours truly, your only,
Camp near Louisville, K. Y. Dec 5th '64

Dear Parents,

Our regiment is receiving pay today; this forenoon the first battalion sic (was payed, this afternoon they will pay the second, I am in the third and may not get payed untill sic tomorrow. There is a man in Co. F. Second Bat' that I am well acquainted with, who is going home this evening, I thought that I would like to send some money by him, as I have given him a package to take to you, containing a belt and a pocket Lexicor the belt is a poor one but it is one that was given to me so I thought that I would send it home to you, please keep it safe. but about the money I went up to the first battalion sic (and borrowed fifty dollars "50.00 to send by him, I do not know how much pay that I will get or whither sic (I will get any bounty this time or not, but I think not as the man that I borrowed this S W of did not, if they pay me all that is due me it will be eleven months pay or $164.00 but the boys that I have been talking with in the first battalion sic (only got about half their pay. I will write again in a day or two, and let you know all about it, if I get enough so that I can spare any more I will send it by express I shall want to keep a little money by me, and there are several things that I want to buy to make me comfortable and evry sic (thing cost very high here. I want a vest as the one that I have got on is all wore out, my coat is wore prty sic (bad the one that I have worn over thirteen months almost sic (}
of the boys would throw it away, but I want to buy some trimmings [sic] and bind it and so save drawing a new one which would cost $5.50. I have drawn 3 or 4 Military hats during the last year they do not last any time at all. I meant to buy a Burnside, it will be three times as cheap in the end. a portfolio to keep paper in, a pocket handkerchief, a pocket knife, some disareak [sic] med'-liners, thread, a Bibal [sic]Collars Manuel [sic] to help me in studing [sic] the Scriptures, a pocket diary, another blank book to practice Phonography in as the one I bought in Detroit is full, but I must close as Mr Wilcox's [sic] will want this in a few minutes, write as soon as you receive this, I received a letter from you and mother yesterday will answer it soon, good by from your son

Franklin H Bailey.
Camp near Louisville.
Dec 7th 1864.

Dear Parents and Sisters,

I have but a short time to avoid this time, and therefore shall write but little. It is after time that I was in bed and asleep and as I was detailed but a few minutes ago to be ready tomorrow morning at four o'clock, with three days rations in haversack for a week, and thought that I must write you a few lines tonight and let you know all about my pay. You have probably received the money that I sent by Mr. Williams before this time, he was to
leave it either at home or at Roberts store. There was fifty dollars ($50.00) in money enclosed in a letter, also a bill and book, I was paid $146.70. Ten months they and settled up her first years clothing, I was in debt only one dollar thirty cents ($1.30) on any clothing bill. That was not much, some boys in my 30's were in debt $30,00 for clothing and some in debt as high as $60,00 at the Clutter, when I did not owe a red. I have some ninety dollars $90.00 by one which I shall pay into the church with the money.
sides further, and then circle one and lead two
without saddles, bridle or halters, something out a
rope around their necks, some had on rope halters
warranted. I heard and knew by this time I reached camp
still but I won, today we have been busy all day hanging
survives powdering rifles and
so forth, since dark tonight
we have drawn saddles, bridles,
halters, and sabers. Tomorrow
morning we start on a three
seventy-five hour scout, with
no arms to fight with except
our muskets or musk-rooms as
we call them musk-rooms or
what are the Yanks used to
dee them glisten, when
looking back called by the
First Brigade.
Write soon as you receive this, and cheer the same as before. I must put up my writing and try a small piece of beef that I drew today, to take with me to eat with my friend tack. Then try and get a little rest before your club.

Give my love to all.

Keep up your spirits the ever can not last forev'ry, although we are having a great deal of duty to perform. I hope not feel better in a doing thing than I do now so do not worry at all about any health.

This is that all will be right! Good night, from Shemk.
Camp near Louisville
Dec 7th 1864.

Dear Parents and Sister

I have but a short time to write this time, and therefore shall write but little. It is after time that I was in bed and asleep but as I was detailed but a few minutes ago to be ready tomorrow morning at four o'clock, with three days rations in hauessack [sic] for a scout, I thought that I must write you a few lines tonight and let you know all about my pay. You have probly [sic] received the money that I sent by Mr Wilcoxs before this time, he was to leave it either at home or at Roberts store, there was fifty dollars ($50.00) in mony [sic] enclosed in a letter also a belt and book. I was payed $146.70 ten months pay and settleed [sic] up for first years clothing. I was in debt only one dollar thirty cents ($1.30) on my clothing bill, that was not much some boys in my Co' were in debt $30.00 for clothing and some in debt so high as $60.00 at the Sutters, where I did not owe a red.

I have some ninty [sic] odd $ by me which I shall put into the our Chaplin's [sic] hands untill [sic] I return from this scout.

We drew horses yesterday had to walk five or six miles for them, and then ride on and lead two without saddles, bridle or halter, nothing but a rope around their neck som [sic] had on rope halters wasent [sic] I tiard [sic] and lame by the time I reached camp I'll bet I was. today we have been buisy [sic] all day isuing [sic] horses puting [sic] up lines and so forth, since dark tonight we have drawn sadles, bridles, halters, and
sabors, tomorrow morning we start on a three-seventy-two hour
scout, with no arms to fight with except our Sabors or Chees-
knives as we call them chees-knives or what not, the Reb's hate
to see them glisten, when bucked-heanded [sic] by the First
Brigade.

Write soon as you receive this, and direct the same as
before. I must put up my writing and fry a small piece [sic] of
beef [sic] that I drew today, to take with me to eat with my
haerd [sic] tack. Then [sic] try and get a little rest before
four o clock. Give my love to all. Keep up good spirits this
war can not last forever, although we are having a great deal
of duty to perform I have not felt better in a long time than
I do now so do not worry at all, about my health.

"Trust in God and all will be right" Good night from

Franck.
Camp near Louisville Ky. Dec 14th 1864.

Dear Parents,

This is very between mine and the letter, I have just arrived from camp guard, and thought that I would write from the first thing I could, after that I was at present at very good weather and seeing some of my old friends. Since I left you by the evening train from Cincinnati, and weighed there was quite pleasant weather, but for the last week I have had very cold

and the cold weather I can tell you, we have to cut nothing and have two hours a day one in the morning and one in the evening. Then one hour to ride them but, the almost half a mile twice a day.

I wrote a letter to you some time ago, one evening the

shy one day. The next morning, on a three donkey, I left me unrelieved that I ever own a donkey, but I brought nothing but something around here to go to the stores and the things that I have bought, money to buy card, and the things for me. That I received it and had lots and I had bought nearly all that interested. A quantity of you and your letter, I expected to see 125,000 for Adams Cypress Company, to be a boy in the army in which these are a pair of pants and shoes, these are not from Parrott. You will please at once to know may be partly for some of and a pair of pants, and the picture of if I had one had a chance to and home the one that I had. I did and now wear new pants as my old ones were patched and need new things at all and would do much warmer than the other, and then would not cost. I was to, as I had one pair. I thought I would send them home. On the next wrote in your letter, that when you arrived out of the house you would more and more of your own, and don't. That you send me all about the in your last letter, I wish that open and for open and very much. I see that you have, in a way may I show a change of open now by the Farm Quartermaster, which will do in a little one year, open yours that if I have to get out of the army C. W. Hall went to get it, was giving an education that do as soon as him are we in cloth can open me, and if you could not go my led, but I will send it in on the way, to you change of the money and only crossed to D. H. b.
sly day, nearly every card for things, and yet I needed I know their wish is for stabllest and not for one of hundreds, at all this. I have a huddle in company say with both. On since they have been here and while we are in Columbia and have done such small matters that I have been obliged to buy bread to live on, and several others I have brought back in at the conscience and forgot eight cents to spend for it, because it was cheaper than bread. Since Monday I have received out of several days wages wine, sugar and oil from let. They are not enough to last but little over half. The little that we draw for, when we go up to the town, one will be where we can change from the foreman, but I hope we can not. If it will are into a bottle. The money by and by I should leave it in the hands of one. Whips, together with your address, so that in case I am skilled to remember send it to me, if I am obtaining new one. Monday and Do have reported that one leave full wherever for the next, for we must be ready to send and allow my son to a berth. Corbly. They are not so good as to the master, but G Jones that they don't come wrong before long. Then one will be, and they are over. I received a star, last night at the unexpected and I think almost as much as a star as I differ a little. I wrote one or two, the one as soon as I finish the other and send them both, and also to Rowden. Patience you may leave here. Tomorrow I am going to long time before I will get a chance to write again. I shall try to write some former day, and endeavor upon all to write. I am sure I have seen some great a deal from some others one, please send me some letters and tell me all about and maybe you spoke of. All Emma. That sir, I seem to form to our ordered in to and, instead of holding the trace on me, but I hope to neglect her action in any things else. Miss Addis how is one. Old Pen. I hope she should like a piece of their prancing. I am much or even some of their great bread and the. Would not wish. For my part, respect on his. Wish the rest and all the girls. I wish my goods. Wages all off and the rest every one, I shall do my best to take care of my health, and I trust in God. To proceed one are the bubble fields, where I intend and wish my son the best. I hope for only a short time, for I hope that will soon come, and the sky is snowing a dead strong every night. I think it will be those fews. They get enough. That since we think they will be in the town and in the mud and snow. All the officers and all the news about others and the folks, which I the same as before.

Yours
dear son.

Frank.
Camp near Louisville K.Y. Dec' 14th 1864.

Dear Parents

It is now between nine and ten o'clock A.M. I have just come off from camp guard, and thought that I would write home the first thing I did. My health at present is very good, never weighed more in my life than I do now 140 lbs. was down town monday and weighed. The weather here is quite pleasant today but for the last week we have had very cold weather, and good sleighing. it comes rather hard on us to have horses to take care of besides our other duty this cold weather I can tell you. we have to be out curying [sic] our horses two hours a day one in the morning and one in the evening then we have to ride them to watter [sic] about half a mile twice a day.

I wrote a letter to you some time ago, one evening stating that we left the next morning on a three days scout, we expected that it was a scout but it was nothing but picketing around Louisville, to keep all the horses in while the 7th Penn' and an Ohio reg' pressed them for the government. I received [sic] your letter dated Dec. 7th night before last in which you wished me to send my money to you and let you muy the things for me that I needed [sic] it was two [sic] late had bought nearly all that I intended to. Monday when I was up town I expressed to you $50.00 by Adams Express Company. also a box for the Keyes's in which there was a pair of pants and a blouse, and, one spur of mine. Keyes said he wants to his folks to have them leave my things at Roberts Bailey's you will please get them the blouse may be handy for you to wear in the shop as it is a handy thing to work in, I drew a new pair of cav' pants which I should
not have drawn if I had not had a chance to send home the ones that I had. I did not draw new pants because [sic] my old ones were patched, but because cav' pants are so much warmer than infantry and them would not last long to ride in. The spurs in one that I found, as I had one pair I thought I would send that home. Father you write in your letter that when you moved out of that house you would move into one of your own, and said that you would tell me all about it in your next letter I wish that you would for I would like very much to hear that you was in a fair way to have a home of your own by the time I was of age, which will be in a little over one year. You know that if I live to get out of the army I shall want to go to work getting an education that is as soon as you are so that you can spare me. For fear that you did not get my last letter I will state in this how much money I drew this pay day, we did not get any bounty and only payed up to the first of November which amounted to $148.00 but I was in debt $1.30 I think it was, on my clothing account so I received $146.70 one hundred of which I have sent you. Thirty two I have by me, which leaves about fourteen dollars that I have spent since pay day. Nearly evry [sic] cent for things which I needed I have spent but very little for eatables and not one ct for drinkables, although there are pedlers in camp evry [sic] day with boath [sic]. Ever since we have been here and while we were in Columbia we have drawn such small rations that we have been obliged to buy bread to live on, and several times I have bought hard-tack at the commissary [sic] and payed eight cents a pound for it, because it was cheeper [sic]
than bread. since pay day they have cheated us out of several
days rations and when we do draw rations, they are not enough
to last but little over half the time that we draw for, when we
get to the front, we will be where we can draw from the country
but here we can not. If I should go into a battle with this
money by me I should leave it in the hands of our Chaplin [sic]
togather [sic] with your address, so that in case I was killed
he would send it to you. we are drawing new guns today and it
is reported that we leave here tomorrow for the front, so we
are now fully armed and equipted [sic]. I have just been up
to the orderlys [sic] tent and drew my gun it is a Sharps Carbine,
they are not as good as the Spenser, but I guess that they will
do some servise [sic] before long, then we will see what they are
worth. I received a Star last night also one monday night I
think almost as much of a star as I do of a letter. I must write
to brother Burr as soon as I finish this letter and send him
two-fifty, and also to Horace Palmer for if we leave here tomorrow
it may be a long time before I will get a chance to write again.
I shall try to write home however [sic] very often, and I want you
all to write to me often for you do not know how much good a
letter from home does me. please write soon as you receive
this, and tell me all about your house you spoke of. tell Emma that
she must find time to write once in a while, instead of holding
the cat so much but not to neglect her lessons for any thing else.
Kiss the little ones for me tell them that I say I should like a
peace [sic] of their pumbking [sic]-pie very much or even some
of their good bread and butter would tast very good. give my
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best respects to Mr Mapes's folks and all the neighbors especially [sic] the neighbors girls. Keep up good courage all of you, and do not worry about me; I shall do my best to take care of my health, and trust in God to protect me on the battle field, where I think we will very soon be, but I hope for only a short time, for I hope that this war will end soon. The reb's are making a hard struggle [sic] now, but I think it will be their last if they get whipped [sic] this time as I think they will boath [sic] in the east and in the west. Write long letters and all the news about Adrain [sic] and the folks. Direct the same as before.

Good by from your son.

Frank-
Dear Father

I received your letter and Emma's kind letter the evening of the 28th, and should have answered it before, but it not then for a very bad fall that I have on the third finger of my right hand yesterday and day before I was so very painful that I could not hold my hand steady enough to write. it has defined one almost entirely of two nights sleep. This morning I had not danced to the bone, and it feels a little better, although had enough for comfort, I am so tired and sleepy that I will not write much today.
I thought I would answer your letter and let Matthew and Bennies go out till I felt better able to write. We have been turning over our Sharps carbine rioting and cleaning the Spencer rifled smooth. I am glad for they are among them seven think as good as a gun. Tomorrow one home inspection and Wednesday morning start for Nashville and make them expecting to go for some time. And I think there is no blank but we will start Wednesday. I have a bad finger the thumb all swollen but think it will be much better by Wednesday. I have written to Israel Palmer and received a letter from him since you went before I fell on the road.
I have received Mr. Smith's letter and answered it. If she does not receive any letters I will write again. Am also not expecting any letters. My pursuance of securing the parts on land and upon the river is not successful.

In Mr. Phelps' case, they were to be left at Robert's Camp.

I spoke of your intentions of buying that old mill property and putting up a house, and asked you what I thought of it. I think that it promises little success than any other project you have undertaken in a great an hill, and I promise you any assistance in the undertaking; my bounty is just as good an remedy as the bank for you. I hope it will get at when I am discharged if not before, and if I am killed, you can get it together with my back pay if at the
Some of any death

The officers think that are and get two months pay by the first
of January, that is if you are
in the vicinity of Nashville,
that will be thirty-two dollars
and so I have ten dollars
by me and about three dollars
among me in the regt which will
make twenty dollars. I can
send you all of the two months
pay and perhaps a little more.
It will help you a little.

I want to see you in com-
fortable circumstances, that is liv-
ing in a house of your own,
before I leave home for school
(which I intend to do if my life
is spared through this war)
and you shall have the fruits
of my labor to help pay for that
house, one or two years after I
am of age, that is by my graduation.
And I am in hope that by the
Time I am one twenty, I can
leave home in person of my own.
If you knew how bad it made me feel to not hear from you every night but not hear my name called upon would write often, there is no one that I have received letters from except you, Lydia Ann and Horace Palmer, so please write often all of you. It is not half the trouble for you to write that it is.
This is my last request to all my friends. Love to the little ones. Till then I was glad of his trials they sent, and I would be of the price of one if I could get it direct as before to Longisill.

4th Month, 2nd Day, 2nd Hour, Evening.
Dear Father

I received your, Mother and Emma's kind letters the evening of the 23d and should have answered it before, had it not been for a very bad fellow that I have on the third finger of my right hand! yesterday and day before it was so very painful that I could not hold my hand steady enough to write, it has deprived me almost entirely of two nights sleep, this morning I had it lanced to the bone, and it feels a little better, although bad enough for comfort. I am so tired and sleepy that I will not write much today so I thought I would answer your letter and let Mothers and Emma's go until I felt better able to write.

We have been turning over our Sharps-carbine today and drawing the Spencer sev-shooters. I am glad for they are more than seven times as good a gun. tomorrow we have inspection and wednesday morning start for Nashvillie and have been expecting to go for some time, but I think there is no doubt but we will start wednesday. I have a bad finger to travel with but think it will be much better by wednesday, I have written to Horace Palmer and received a letter from him since you wrote before. Tell mother that I have received Lydia Anne's and answered it, if she did not receive my letter I will write again. You did not speak of receiving the pants blouse and spur that I sent in Mr Keyes box, they were to be left at Roberts store. You spoke of your intentions of buying that old mill property and putting up a house, and asked me what I thought of
it. I think that it promises better success than any thing you have undertaken in a great while, and I promise you my assistance in the undertaking; my bounty is just as good as money in the bank for you know I will get it when I am discharged if not before, and if I am killed, you can get it together [sic] with my back pay up to the time of my death. The officers think that we will get two months pay the first of January, that is if we are in the vicinity of Nashville, that will be thirty-two dollars and as I have seventeen dollars by me and about three dollars owenig [sic] me in the reg' which will make twenty dollars, I can send you all of the two months pay and perhaps a little more. it will help you a little. I do want to see you in comfortable circumstances, that is liveing [sic] in a home of your own, before I leave home for school (which I intend to do if my life is spared through this war) and you shall have the print of my labor to help pay for that home, one or two years after I am of age, that is if you need it. but I am in hope that by the time I am one twenty, I can leave home in per-suit [sic] of an education.

[On top of pages]
write soon as you receive this. let me know what you think of the picture. I call it a very good one. I have some photography taken with a sabor I will send one to Emma. this is for you and Mother.

Please write soon as you receive this direct to Louisville and the letter will follow me do not worry about me. I will write to
[Dec. 26, 1864 - page 3]

Mother soon. love to all. Frank.

[On separate small piece of paper]

if you knew how bad it makes me feel to run to mail call evry [sic] night but not hear my name called you would write oftener. there is no one that I have received letters from except you, Lydiaann and Horace Palmer, so please write oftener all of you. It is not half the trouble for you to write that it is for me. Give my best respects to all my friends. love to the little ones tell them I was glad of the kiss they sent, and would be of the peace [sic] of pie if I could get it direct as before to Louisvill [sic]

4th Mich' Cav' 2nd Brig' 2nd Cav' Div'