

Camp 36th Wis. Vols.

Near Jeffersonville Ind July 1st 1865

Dear Friend Edgou:

Having, some leisure time I take this opportunity of writing you a few lines in answer to yours of the 21st Ult, which came to hand by last evening's mail and found one I am happy to say in the best of spirits and enjoying much better health than I have been since we left the Army of the Potomac. I was delighted to hear you and the rest of the friends were in good health, and preparing to celebrate the "Fourth" in a good style. Well "Ed" we are once more out of old Va. We left our "old Comrades" of the 2^d Corps at Washington in the morning of the 16th Ult, and arrived here safe and sound on the evening of the 21st and came in to camp here the same evening. We are nearly opposite the City of Louisville Ky., on the Ind. side, and have quite a pleasant camp. We are now attached to the "1st Brig. Provisional Division Army of the Tennessee" composed of all the western troops formerly belonging to the Army of the Potomac. The 5th Wis. Veterans arrived here this morning and are now in camp near here, and some says they are going to be consolidated in to our Regiment, but whether this is true or not I can not say. Oscar and Rufus are here and are both well, the 3rd Wis.

numbers 130 men, and my opinion is that they will hold their
old organization until they are mustered out. Well in regard to the
Veterans I must say a few words, as we are in a Veteran Division it
will not come amiss. When the rebellion came on, and every man
then in the service of the Confederacy ^{laid down their arms}. We were hurried on to Washington
on a Double Quick to make a fine display for those who staid at home
to see. We were promised that there we were to be mustered out and
permitted to return to our homes, but, alas! we were hurried there only
to see others mustered out who had not served so long, while we are
indefinitely retained, and why, they have served some 8 or nine mo-
nths, and we 3 and some four years. They have made great sacrifices,
but have sure been less. They have done their duty well yes nobly, have
we done less. Again we are told, we received more bounty and ought
to stay. I would ask, what bounty did the men receive who came
out in '61 and received the sum of \$13.00 per month. The Veteran
Bounty was for extra services rendered, and this I contest the Veterans
did. And again some say the government retains us as a special
favor to us, and intends as we have borne the privations so long
to give us an easy time of soldiering. If this is the reward of our
long years service, alas! for the honors of war, must bitter and repugnant.
But as good and true soldiers we shall as we ever have done, dis-
countenance all acts looking towards mutiny, or disobedience of
orders, or acts of violence. Believing revolutions are only justifiable
when grievances are too heavy to be borne, and all other modes

have failed to redress our wrongs. But I will leave this subject for
you might think I am intruding upon good nature. This I put
in as a plea for the 'Vets' not for myself, as I have served only
34 months, and I guess I am good for 18 months longer. Well
I heard this morning that Albert D. Cottrell of the 6th Wis. Vet. Vols,
died in Washington a few days since I did not learn the disease
of which he died. Geo. Potter of Chilton is here in the 6th Wis.,
Well I would liked very well to be there the 4th but as I can
not come, now I don't care if I don't get home until next fall
some time. I don't think we will have anything going on here the
4th only the dull routine of daily duty in camp, and no pay since
Jan'y 1st/65, and times seem dull. But I am having the easiest
time so far as doing duty is concerned that I have had since I
enlisted. Co. Clerk, Dr. Manderscheidt has been quite sick but
is getting well again. F. Goutsmont and G. A. Walker is both well. I am
going over to see some of the boys in the 17th Wis tomorrow. Will give my
best wishes and respects to all the family, and if any one enquires after
me tell them I am down in Indiana all right. And hoping to hear from
you soon

I am Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

Edgar M. Dick

Chilton, Calumet Co.

Wisconsin

John W. Dick

Co. G 36th Wis. Vols

1st Brigade Provisional Division

Army of the Tennessee

Louisville Ky.

