

eyes. The health of the people will be better.
You must excuse poor writing this time, and also
poor letter, as I have no news to write only the
unfounded camp rumors which is not worth
writing. Orville and all of the boys are well as
usual. I send you enclosed a song which I
heard sung here in camp. Please write soon
as convenient.

I remain as ever your

Friend

John W. Dick

Co "G" 36th Wis. Inf. Vol.

Camp Randall Madison

A. S. Fowler

Brotherstown

Wis.

Wisconsin

P.S. have you heard anything about the boys who
went in the 35th has any of them come home yet.
And when do you expect Met home. "When you
write again write all the news"

J. W. Dick

Camp Randall

Madison Wis. March 29th 1864

Miss Abba

Your kind and welcome note came
safe to hand last Friday afternoon and found me
out with the company drilling, and in usual good
health and enjoying myself as well as "camp
life" will admit. I was glad to hear from you
and to hear you was enjoying good health and
having good times in the schoolroom, and preparing
for and anticipating a good time at your "spelling
school." And nothing would give me more pleasure
than to be present at your last day of school, as
I well recollect it used to be a gay old day
when I used to go to school. But as I am once
more a "soldier", I can no longer do as I please
but will have some one to tell me when I can
go, and how long I can stay. But still I like
the life of a soldier very well, if I had not
you would never catch me in the army again.

Now speaking of "spelling schools" reminds me of
times past and gone, when we used to assemble
at the old "schoolhouse" to rehearse and prepare
for our spelling schools and Exhibitions. And I
think them was as happy times as I shall ever
see. And if I could only live them times over
again I think could improve them better than
I did. Well it seems to me as if you was
particularly blessed with snow out your way,
and here we are with mud a little less than
two feet deep, and fair prospects of it getting
deeper. But muddy as it is the boys are out
drilling, but "thank goodness" I knew just
enough to get out of it to day. But we have
got to drill six hours a day until further
orders. And I suppose as near as I can find
out, as soon as we get drilled enough we will
be ordered south. And I fear a good many
of the boys who are expecting furloughs will
be disappointed. But as I am not expecting
one I shall not be much disappointed, still if they
offer me one I don't think I shall refuse it
as I would like to come home very well.

And I think if any of us come home it will
be Civil A. Hart and some other married men.
We have I think one of the strictest "Colonels"
ever went out of the state, and everything has
got to be just so, or we hear from it right away.
And he says he isn't going to let a man go
home until we get paid off, and I think
about the time we get paid off we will get
marching orders, but I hope it will not be
so, Oscar Johnson John Simons and Walter
Doxtater left here yesterday for the army of the
Potomac. Well Altha since I wrote to you before
we have lost one of our best boys, he was from
Sheboygan Falls, his name was Wm. Skinner
he lived only about 24 hours after he went in
to the hospital. Lee Gakway and Frank
Pearce are in the hospital both sick I believe
with the measles. I would like very well to go
and see them but I can not on the account of
there being so much "red tape" being here. It
is with deep regret I learned of there being
so much sickness, and so many deaths in
Brothertown, and I hope ere this meets your