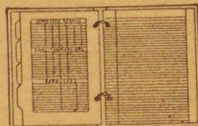


STUDENTS

CLASS-I-FIER

AND SCHOOL RECORD

THESE INDEXING SHEETS ARE NOT
ONLY HANDY FOR RECORDING
SCHOOL EVENTS, BUT ARE



ALSO VALUABLE FOR SEPARATING
AND CLASSIFYING SUBJECTS IN
LOOSE LEAF NOTE BOOKS.

Name Otto E. Heller

Telephone _____

Address Chilton R. 3

School _____

Class _____

Course _____

Year _____

Feb 2, 1938

SUBJECTS

Copies of Civil War Letters
written by the
Brooketown Indians
from Dec 26, 1861 to July 25, 1865

CLASS SCHEDULE

PERIOD		FIRST	SECOND	THIRD	FOURTH	FIFTH	SIXTH	SEVENTH	EIGHTH
MONDAY	COURSE	<u>90 Pages</u>							
	INSTRUCTOR								
TUESDAY	COURSE								
	INSTRUCTOR								
WEDNESDAY	COURSE								
	INSTRUCTOR								
THURSDAY	COURSE								
	INSTRUCTOR								
FRIDAY	COURSE								
	INSTRUCTOR								
SATURDAY	COURSE								
	INSTRUCTOR								

ASSIGNMENTS

DATE

SUBJECT

The 17th Regt was the Irish Reg. Col J. J. Doran
 The 21st Regt organized at Oshkosh
 Col. Benj. J. Sweet, 1002, left for Cincinnati
 Sept 11, 1862
 The 3rd Regt left Camp Hamilton, N. D. T.
 for Harrisburg, Penn under command of Col
 Chas. S. Hamilton on the 12th of July 1861 with
 979 men. ~~Believe this is the reg. that had Old Abe, the eagle~~
 The 5th left Camp Randall, 1058 strong
 commanded by Col Amasa Cobb on the 24 of July 1861
 for Washington D. C. Known as the Bloody Fifth
 The 14th Regt was organized at Camp
 Wood, 5th and 6th under Col D. E. Wood, 970 men
 Left for St Louis on 8th of Mch 1862
 The 1st Reg of Cav. left Kenosha, Camp Harvey for
 St Louis on Mch 17/62. Col Edward Daniels, 1124 men
 The 2nd Reg of Cav left Mil on Mch 24, 1862, 1127 men
 for St Louis
 The 3rd Wis Cav. Janewills, Camp Barstow left for
 St Louis Mch 26, 1862, 1186 men, Col W^m A Barstow
 The 36th Reg had 990 men, had only 24 recruits
 during the war, no drafted men, 296 killed, 214 discharged
 for sickness and wounds, only 21 desertions, mustered out 445
 The 5th had the largest total of soldiers for
 the regts in this 2256 men, mustered out 1424
 Harrison C. Hobart of Chilton was Capt
 of Co K-4 Wis Cav
 General Edward S Bragg was Capt of
 Co E, 6th Reg when it left N. D. T.
 Benj J. Sweet of Chilton was Major of Reg
 Jacob H. Cook of Stockbridge was Capt of
 Co J-5th Wis Inf
 Gabriel Douck was Capt of Co E, 1st Wis Inf
 The 4th lost the most men

Bragg Capt
of Co 2

Chas
Jeff Davis

E. S Bragg
Capt May 1861

Wagner left 17, 61

Left Col June 4, 62

Col Mar 10, 63

Brig Gen. June 25, 64

Wounded at
Antietam

Salisbury
men

Oshkosh

Camp Washburn Milwaukee
Dec 26, 1861

Friend Edgar

I now take my gold pen in hand to let you know I am still numbered among the living and enjoying pretty good health for me. My appetite is such as will admit of my eating my regular rations but I tell you I cant eat any pie or cake nowadays But I would try if I had any to try. Wont you please send me a peice in a letter and I will send you some ^{as} good beef as you ever put your lips to. But enough of this perhaps you will begin to think I am not contented, But I tell you I am well suited with a soldiers life so far,

We have enough to eat, a good place to sleep in, And good officers so you see I have no cause to complain. All of the boys are satisfied at least I have not heard any complaint.

We was mustered in last Monday. We was the first Company sworn in and we are on the right on a dress parade And I hope we shall be Company A.

A true copy - Guard duty I was day
Like the Army. Few horses
Fine penmanship

I tell you we are about as hard as
Company as there is ~~there~~ is here, That is to
handle I mean. The Colonel says we
are the best disciplined Company in Camp.
There is ten Companies in Camp here And
they expect two more in as soon as they
can get the barracks ready for them, that
will fill the Reg't. There will be 1200
men here and 1200 horses. It will be the
largest Reg't ever raised in the State.

We havent got only about 50 horses here
yet but they are buying them as fast
as they can. I have just returned from
the hospital There is four boys in there
from this Company sick with the measles
I think they will go through the Reg't, but
thank goodness I have had them. I suppose
you had great times yesterday and last
night shaking your feet. I should
like to been there very well but I
tell you I was merray here, I and Noel
and Orlando was on guard, we went on
at 9 o'clock in the morning and came off
at 9 o'clock this morning But you had
ought seen me shake my feet and

make the snow fly when I was on guard.
I was bound to have a dance any way.

There was pretty good sleighing here
yesterday but It has caught a thaw now
and is fast disappearing. We have not got
our uniforms yet but we shall get ^{them} in
a few days I hope. We have got our
shirts, socks and Boots. There is talk that
some of the boys are coming home New Years
but I doubt it some. I dont think I shall
come then but I shall come soon after if I can.

Well Ed I wish you was here long enough
to see the bread we eat every day. We eat
bread by the cord and meat the same.

Well Ed I heard some news concerning
you since I came away from there, I heard
you went home with six girls in one
night, is it so, if it is so I am going to
have you Court martialed. I did not
think you would take advantage of my
absence and cut up such a rusty as that,
And here me poor devil cant so much
as get a squint at one but I spose
it is good enough for a soldier But
I must quit my foolishness perhaps

I have wearied your patience already
so I will quit, so good bye

Yours in Friendship

and haste

John W. Dick

To Edgar M. Dick

Write soon

Direct to Milwaukee Wis

In care of Capt Woods

2nd Regt W. C.

Camp Washburn, Milwaukee

Jan. the 28th 1862

Dear Friend Abba,

I received your kind letter last evening and was glad enough to hear from you and to hear that you enjoyed your self so well at the Washington hall and to hear that you had such a good supper but I should suppose that you could ~~relish~~ ^{relished} something else at that time as well as cabbage. I suppose you went for the ride as much as anything.

We are all well but Vet, he is very sick, his eyes are swelled so that he is nearly blind, his left eye is completely closed and the other not much better, he has gone to the Hospital but they have got such a miserable doctors there that it is doubtful about his getting much help there but I hope that he will get better soon. I dont know what the doctors call it but it looks to me like the mumps, it is a rather a hard disease any way.

I dont know when the boys will be home, they thought they would be home

last week but they cannot come before next month at any rate but they would like to go first rate. They cannot get furloughs, they are trying to come all the time but the Captain cannot spare them now, not until he can get more men in their places, so you must not look for them until you see them. He are going to have a payment in about 12 days, then I suppose they will go.

I am quite contented here so far and I might as well be for I cannot get away, tell Victorine I should like to take supper with her very much for I am quite tired of our rations here, for we have to live on beef and I don't like that pretty much, for it is getting to be an old story to me.

Give my best respects to all enquiring friends and to Victorine especially. I suppose I must go and dull now for one or two hours.

Well I have got back from dull and now I shall try to finish my extra

letter, you must excuse all poor writing and spelling for you will find plenty of it here.

I guess I must bring my letter to a close. I guess I have wrote all I know and maybe a little more, you must write as often as you can make it convenient to your own good will for I could read a letter from Brothertown every day, no more at present.

Yours most Respectfully

L. F. Hauby

Miss Abba L. Fowler

To ~~Abba~~ Abba Fowler, daughter of
Orsamus S. Fowler. She was a school
teacher

Camp Washburn,

Milwaukee Wis Feb 5, 1862

Dear Cousin:

I grab my ever faithful pen this evening to write you a few lines for the first time in my life as I have nothing else to do this evening, I thought it would ^{be} killing time at more advantage by writing you a few lines than playing cards as I should be doing if I was not writing. I am in good health at present and hope that these few lines will find you enjoying the same good blessing for I find that good health is a great blessing. I do not know when I have enjoyed as good health as I do now.

Vet. has been sick in the hospital for about two weeks but he has got back again to Camp. Hoel and Ha Higgins has got the mumps and I guess that John Dick is going to have them. I have been trying get away to come back to old Brothertown for about two weeks but I guess I ~~will~~ ^{shall} not make out, Our Captain says that we are going to leave here in

about 6 weeks and he says that none of us can go home until we are paid off and can carry home better news than we can now, that is in regard to this Regimental Disbanding which is the rumor here in Camp but I know nothing how true it is and I understand too that we are going to be turned to Infantry but if I have my way about it I'll not go into Infantry but if they go as Cavalry I am bound to go, we have only about 60 horses yet and no equipment at all, we do not have any cakes or pies to eat here, our victuals are beef, pork, potatoes, onions, rice, bread and molasses and our drink is tea and coffee and no milk for coffee or tea. I have not seen any milk almost three months. It would seem odd to sit down to a good nice meal of victuals once more. I like to forget to tell you that I came very near getting into the Guard house the other day for running horses. We were exercising the horses and got to running races. It would have been a

good joke if we had got in there. You must excuse my poor writing and all mistakes and all my foolishness for I always write just what I think but however I guess that you will overlook all of my nonsense and I will try ^{to} ~~and~~ write something sensible the next time. I know nothing when I shall ever get back to old Brothertown for it such that I must call it for I cannot say that I have a home there and I do not care whether I have or not for as far as ever living in Brothertown again I do not think that I shall, that is if I ever get through of this war alive and well I cannot stop writing yet. (Continued)

We have lots of sport and plenty of music. We have two Violins and a Bango and good players too on both violin and bango.

I am at work in the stable and we have to drill about four hours in a day. If we boys can get a furlough to come home we shall, so as to attend the convention but I have got so I do not care much whether I ever get back there or not.

I heard from Osk. the other evening

From your sincere Cousin L. M. Johnson
Please excuse poor writing and all mistakes
Please Address Loring M. Johnson 2nd Regt Cavalry
Milwaukee, Wis In care Capt Wm Woods

and he says he thinks that he can go through H-I and not get singed and that is talking rather rough.

I think if he undertook it he would get warm by the time he got through.

I am getting pretty tough but not as tough as to stand fire especially when made of brimstone. We have first rate sleighing here, the snow is about two feet deep, I was down to the city the last Sabbath eve to meeting, there was about 300 soldiers went under our Captain. Our Company holds the right wing of the Reg't and if nothing happens we shall be Co A. I do not know as I have much more to write.

It is comfortably cold here this evening where I am sitting and writing. It is the Company's Mess Room and the wind has almost flared my candle out, so I will dry up for this time by sending my love to you and all enquiring friends if there be any and remember me to Grandmother, tell her I have not forgotten her yet for it is often that I think of her, write soon as convenient. Abba,

Assignment of Co. Has Mumps
do not know if they will go south

Camp Washburn Milwaukee Feb 8th 1862

Friend Edgar

I now grab my ever faithful pen to try to answer your kind and welcome letter which came to hand last night.

I was very glad to hear from you once more And to hear you was well. I began to think you had forgotten me entirely But the reception of your letter changed the current of my thoughts. I am not very well at present or very sick. But I have got the mumps perhaps you have had them, if so you know what they are I have had them most a week and I don't see as they get any better. Noel and Ira have also got them, Sylvester has got some better so he is out of the hospital but can hardly see anything out of one eye.

All the rest of the boys are in good health. I have no news to write you this time. Only our Company has been assigned their position in the Reg't. We are Co. A. of the first Battalion so you see we are on the right of the first Battalion and on the right of the Reg't and in

front on a march. You said the reason
you did not write sooner was you expected
me home I will tell you Ed you need not
expect any of us home until you see us
for we dont know as we shall come at all or
not. There is so many out of this Co. on
furlough who have stayed over their time
We dont know as we shall go south or
where we shall or as we shall go at all There
is one sure thing that they will have to
pay us off before they remove us or disband
us. I have not asked for a furlough yet
but shall about the 18th of this month And if
I dont get one I shall think swear words.
I shall ask only once and if I am refused
I will get mad and stay in Camp

Yours in Friendship

J. W. Dick

Direct to Co A, 2nd Reg't N. C.

Camp Washburn
Milwaukee, Wis

Sturgeons fishing

Officers of Battalion

The Reg't numbered 1127, Col. Cadwallader C Washburn

Camp Washburn, Milwaukee Feb 8, 1862
Well Brother soldier

It was with much pleasure I heard
from you once more, I have hardly heard from
you since you left us. I did not know but
you had gone the way of all of the earth.
But I am sorry to hear you are in such
poor health I think you had better take
good care of your self or else you wont be
good for much if you have many more hurts
I think they ought to begin to catch
sturgeon by this time. Tell Phoebe I guess
he better keep his looking old hood off if he
wants to catch any fish, tell him he must
look ragged. I wrote one letter to them,
Phoebe and his wife, when I first came ~~here~~
into camp but I got no answer yet And
I dont write the 2nd letter to any one
when they dont answer the first. That is
my style. Our regiment is full of mumps,
and measles are prevailing yet, 18 in the
hospital, only one from this Co. James But
They are drilling us about five hours in a
day now, every man fit for duty has to
go on sword drill. The drill by Battalion

instead of Companies, four Companies in a
Battalion. Ours is in the first Battalion
Capt Wm Woods, Capt Dale, Capt Hartwell
Capt Hutchings. They have appointed
our non commissioned officers

1st Sergeant - G. T. Wilkins

2nd " A. J. Palmer

3^d " S. Church

4th " C. E. Joubert

5th " M. Hill

2. M. A. Stringham

Corporals, 1st C. Adamson

" 2nd L. C. Wheelock

" 3^d W. S. Ball

" 4th J. S. Beagle Tom Woods

" 5th J. S. Beagle

" 6th L. M. Johnson

" 7th N. C. Jones

" 8th L. Crosset

From J. W. Sick

To F. M. Sick

Capt Wm Woods enlisted at Cleve

Franklin M. Sick, Brother of Edgar, killed at Vicksburg 7/22/64
Co. D. 35th N. Y. A. Inf

Milwaukee, Mch 7th / 1862

Friend Abba

It is with pleasure that I now
improve a few moments in writing you
these few lines.

When I came home to camp I found
a letter and as we are about taking our
leave, to go to Saint Louis I thought
I would write these few lines.

Our Reg't is ordered to leave the 10th
and as I had a few spare moments I thought
I would write you one more letter while
in Wisconsin but I ain't sure we are
going for we ha'nt received any pay yet
and the Reg't won't move until it
is paid off.

The boys are well as usual and
waiting to start. I was about down
sick when I got back home in camp but
I've got over it and I feel quite smart
for an old man and hoping to leave but
I'm afraid we won't go as soon as the
10th for I don't believe they will allow
folks down there.

I trust these will find you

Mc Clellan Letter head

enjoying good health but be careful and not let the horses get loose and run in the fence. I would like to have been there to the last day of school, the boys said they had a good exhibition.

O, dear me how my finger smarts, I blistered it washing this forenoon, you needn't laugh about it neither for you know they don't allow folks,

When I got back the Lieutenant told us boys it would not make any difference if we had ~~stayed~~ to the dance but I was glad when we got back for I was about wore out.

Yet thought it was dull here last night after he got back in camp.

It don't seem as it used to two or three years ago at home. I didn't think I could stay away from home two weeks without getting dreadful lonesome two years ago, now I don't know hardly what I shall do if this (Regt) disbands, whether I shall or can stay at home. I would like to be there to make sugar (Maple) this spring for I don't know whether I shall

have any or not. If we leave the State at all we won't go much before the 20th.

Well I guess I've written enough of this nonsense, excuse poor writing and spelling.

I must close, so good evening A. S. with my respects to you from

O. Dick

Illustrated Poem - A Soldier's Dream
Description of trip from Camp Washburn
to St Louis and Camp Grounds
Left Milwaukee Monday March 24, 62 - See O'sick letter

Benton Barracks, Mo.

March 28, 1862

Dear Friend Abba

I now sit down to write you a few lines to inform you that I am well at present. ~~We~~ are here in Mo. safe and with the exception of one, he fell off from the cars just this side of Chicago and was run over and had one of his arms and his head cut off, we left Camp Washburn on Monday morning about 8 o'clock and arrived at the Mississippi River Tuesday night at 12 o'clock and staid in the cars the rest of the night and in the morning one of the Sergeants let us go out to wash in ^a pond that was close by, and when we got there the water was all dirty so we all started and ran for the river and the sergeant kept telling us to come back but we paid no attention to what he said but run the faster for that and for the first time in our lives saw the beautiful river Miss. and the smoky City of St Louis all along the opposite shore. The river was all covered with boats and after we had

washed ourselves and looked round long enough we all went back to the cars and ate our breakfast. We then marched to the river and the Regiment crossed on a boat and marched through the city and thence to Benton Barracks where we now are. The streets of St. Louis are narrow and the buildings are dirty, so was the city of Chicago and none of the places look as nice and clean as Milwaukee. We stopped at Chicago and had some hot coffee and once more at a place called Mattoon, Tuesday morning just as the sun was rising the train stopped on the prairie of Illinois and we all got off and washed in a little brook that ran along by the side of the track and the snow was all gone and the birds of spring were singing all round and the grass looked green and some of the farmers were plowing but we could not stay there long before we had to go on the cars and go ahead. I heard last night that as Barstow's Cavalry were coming over a bridge they broke through

to go
(3^d Regt. Cav.)

and there was 10 killed and 50 wounded, we came over the same place and it was ^{an} awful looking place to. When we came here the dust flew so that we was all covered and we was a hard looking set

We camped on the fair grounds about 5 miles from the city and it is a handsome place, there is 20 000 troops. Henry Toussy is here, he belongs to the 17th Wis. Regt. I guess he has outwitted his old dad this time. There is 3 or 4 Wis. Reg't here now. It takes about 500 soldiers here for guard duty. Night before last one of the pickets was shot at and they caught the fellow and he is here now in guard house but he did not hurt anyone. We have got a handsome place to camp, it is in a little grove and we have got some new tents, it is just like summer here. We had a game of ball this morning with one of the Iowa Reg't and beat them badly. We have not found our match yet at a game of ball. This is a very nice place. Oh, who would not be a soldier. Well this will be about all for this time. My best respects to you and all enquiring Friends.
Truly Yours, S. Speesuck

35
You are Little Head, Forward to Victory
Has seen Steve Nick, He is in the 1st Wis Cav.
The 3rd Wis Cav. was in a wreck, a bridge gave way
a guard shot, soldiers injured, horses in a day or two.

Camp Benton, St Louis Mo.

March 29, 1862

Dear Father and Mother

I received your kind letter yesterday and was very glad to hear from you all, O how it made me bound with joy, it was the first that I received since I've been here. You cant tell how much good it done me. The boys are well and in good spirits and I am well as usual and enjoying myself very well. We had a tiresome old journey but there was one man killed, he was a private in Co H.

There are 2300 Union Troops in Camp here, the 3rd Wis Cav. Regt came in last night, they met with a sad accident on the cars, had a real smash up, there was 10 men killed and 25 wounded.

Stephan Nicholas is here, we are on the same camp ground but about 1 mile apart. We live in tents now, 17 men in a tent, I dont like them so well as I did the barracks for there is no place to hang up any thing and no place to set down, only right flat on the ground

O, what pleasant weather we are having here, the grass looks green, birds are singing lively, our tents are in a grove, its a splendid place, we had a little shower yesterday and it made the grass look green. Tell Frank that we couldn't get any money for him, all that was thrown out didn't get any pay.

Tell Francis, John says he will do as she wanted but he says he is not going to let the Secesh kill him, give my respects to her quick as you can,

There is a great many Secesh (here) but they don't say a word only there is once in a while a picket shot off his foot, Thursday night, there was one but didn't kill him, the other guard that was with him caught the rebel and he is in prison here and I expect he will pay dear for that shot.

General Halleck has had notices put on every corner in the City that if they don't stop shooting, he will clean out the city.

I have been on guard once since I came

in camp and when we was relieved we all lay down out doors and slept. He was guarding our horses, there is none of us been on picket duty yet, the pickets are about five or six miles around from the camp.

O, how I have sweat to day just walking around.

We have just drew our labors and the boys are strutting around big enough, we expect our horses in a day or two.

What poor water we have here, I dare not drink any of it, it makes the Whis. boys sick. I have got to the end of my paper and I must close with my compliments and best wishes to the whole family and enquiring friends
from your son
O. Dick

Illustration of Camp Benton, An Rice
plantation, firing on pickets. Says Porting
Gov Harvey was drowned at Savannah harbor
on the Tennessee River on the 9th of April 1862. (What paper of 4-13-62)

Camp Benton (St Louis) Mo.

April 6th 1862

Friend Ed!

As I have a few minutes of leisure
now I will improve them by writing you
a few lines to let you know that I am
still in the land of the living and
enjoying very good health for a soldier
like me. All the boys are in good health and
full of the old herry as ever. There is five or
six sick in our Company and 25 or 30
sick in the Reg't. I write to you this time
and I am in hopes I shall soon hear from
you although I believe you owe me a
letter. I should like to know what I have
done to you that you don't write to me.

If I have done anything I will apologize
and keep apologizing as long as you wish
so write soon and let me know all
of the news. Well here I am in the land
I have so often heard sung about, called
Sixie. The above picture is a very
correct one I tell you and we are in the
tents close by the flag you see in the
background, we are in a grove just to the left

of it. It is the prettiest place I have seen yet.

But we have the regular Mississippi River water to drink and I will give you a receipt to make it so you can get a specimen of it. Take one quart of foot water, one quart of quick sand, one quart of clay and mix well and you will then have some such water as we have to use.

I think as the warm weather advances we will have a good deal of sickness among our Wis. boys. There is four regiments of Wis. boys here now and two batteries of Artillery. There was two boys in the 17th Regt. died within the last two days, I am now sitting by the side of my tent and the sun is pouring down as hot as it does in Wis in June and the grass is up enough so the cattle gets very good picking. We are in Sibley tents, 17 in a tent and are having good times, we have got our swords and uniforms, hats and expect we will get the rest of our arms and horses in a few days. There has been a good many soldiers in camp here but there has been six Regts

called away in the past week. There has been two or three pickets guards fired on since we came here but there hasn't been only one killed. I heard the Commander-in-Chief, Gen Halleck, said if they dont cease firing on the guards he will let his army loose and clean out this state and I am in hopes he will. There is enough Wis. boys here to clean this state out. I was talking with a man the other day, a citizen, and ^{said} he that this City of St Louis was more than $\frac{3}{4}$ ^{the} Secesh if they dared show it And still the stars and stripes float over them.

I have heard guns all morning over to the fort and do not know what it means but I think it must ~~mean~~ be they have heard some good news. We are in the sight of the Miss. river and can see the smoke of the boats as they pass. He was reviewed the other day by the Governor of Wis, Harvey, And it came off on the plantation of Gen. Price.

Who once reigned here with his niggers in all his glory but I think his chance for it again is very slim.

The 1st Wis Cavalry is here and Steve Nicholas is here now and is the same old Steve, looks as fat and hearty as ever, we have to come right down to our drill now. 7³⁰ 8 o'clock A.M. Company drill, 10 o'clock A.M. Battalion drill, 9 o'clock A.M. Dress parade, 2 P.M. Company drill 3 P.M. Battalion drill, so you see we do not have a great deal of time to waste.

I sent you a paper day before yesterday and when you write let me know which you got first, the letter or the paper. You must excuse my poor writing and if you can read it you will please to answer it, I write in haste as I am cooking for our squad today, I think I will make a pretty good cook if I keep on. And I am very good at washing too, I must close my nonsense for this time, hoping to do better in the future.

Please to give my best respects to all of your folks and my love to all good looking girls, I remain as ever your friend

J. W. Dick

To Edgar M. Dick, Esq
Direct to Company A 2nd Regiment
Camp Benton, St Louis, Missouri,

Description of Cav. equipments
Does not believe Camp gossip

Camp Benton, St Louis, Mo.
Sunday, April 13th, 62

Miss Abba L. Fowler

I now grab my pen in hand to write a few lines in answer to yours that I received the 11th. I was very glad to hear from one more. It does me a great deal, ^{of good} to hear from Brothertown, we don't hear from home so often as we did while in Camp Washburn and it makes us bound with joy when we do hear from friends at home. The boys are all well and in good spirits except a few that have a bad cold. I am the same old noisy chap as ever and just as handsome and don't you tell me I lie neither for I don't allow folks.

All the soldiers have kept leaving here until there is none but, ^{the} three Wisconsin Cavalry Reg't and one Company of Sharpshooters here now but there is Batteries on each side of our Camp and they have quite a number of soldiers there, so we would have help if the Rebels should attack this place but then no danger of that.

We don't know nothing about how long we'll stay here nor where we will go when we do leave, they are gaining Victories so fast some think we will not go any further South. There has been dreadful hard fighting for the last week passed and our Soldiers gained the day in all the Battles.

They are gaining ground so fast that some think that they want take any more Soldiers into the field but then they don't know what will be done, there is so many stories told in Camp that I've got so I don't put much confidence in what I hear. It will take some time before we'll be ready to go into the field of battle for we have no horses yet to drill with and no Carbine, that's a small gun what all the Cavalry has, it's about three feet long and they have two revolvers besides a Sabre and the 1st Reg't has to be equipped before the 2nd and they haint got any more of their equipment than we have.

The weather today is very pleasant but the past week has been very bad, it's rained most of the time ^{and} it's been very cold too I thought. There was one man shot through the hand last week while on Guard. He was a private in Company B in our Reg't, they could shoot the Rebel brute if they had had a gun, since then they have given the Guards guns and they will give the Gentleman his due if he comes again.

I think you will have to wait until next Winter before you will take another sleigh ride and I think they will allow folks to come home. If I come across some good Music I will just send the verses along as you wished.

Yes, the oysters, I've not seen any since I left Milwaukee.

I have just come from meeting, there is meeting here every Sunday and two or three nights in the week to boot.

There is a great many sick here now, I guess in a week or two there want be more than 35 or 40 in a Company

that will be able to go on duty.

Billy is our Cook today, he got us a very good dinner, perhaps you would like to know what we have so good, we have potatoes, beef, bacon, beans, rice, ~~thorn~~ corn, tea, coffee, sugar, baked bread and eggs and milk we furnish that ourselves. We don't begin to eat our rations. There ain't as good apples here as there is in this..

They are very cheap here, I don't wish to brag up this place at all and you must not think so for you know what I told you before. How tired my pen is getting and I can't hardly navigate with it and I guess it will be hard for you to find this all out. Well I must hurry for it's getting about supper time and I expect Billy is getting a good one.

I've written all I can think of this time and I must bring these broken remarks to a close with my respects to you and enquiring friends if there be such.

from Orlando Dick
Direct as before

Camp Benton May 16, 62

Miss Abba

I once again grab my pen in hand to drop you a few lines to let you know that I am alive and kicking and in good health and hope that this will find you enjoying the same good blessing. I cannot write much of a letter this time for we are packing now to get ready to leave here. We are ordered to be ready to leave tomorrow morning by 8 o'clock for Jefferson City, Mo. We got all of our equipment and we are going from Jefferson City to Arkansas somewhere, I don't know where and don't care. I must close by saying that I will write again as soon as I can.

You can act your own pleasure about answering this for if you do I may get it and I may not, from your

Ever true Friend
L. M. Johnson

Leaving Camp Benton for Jefferson City
just recovered from sickness

Left St Louis Thursday May 15-62
 Don't like Jefferson City, Mostly Leech
 did shot trying to burn bridge
 Leeches committed suicide

Camped on the Hill near
 Jefferson City, Missouri, Wed May 21-62
 Friend Ed!

I now in haste take my pen
 in hand to write you a few lines to let you
 know that I am still in the land of the
 living thought not in the best of health.
 I have been quite unwell for two or three
 days so I am excused from duty. But I
 feel some better this morning. The most of
 the boys are in good health. I received your
 letter day before yesterday but I have not
 felt much like writing until this morning.
 We left St Louis last Thursday night
 about 10 o'clock on board the steamer T. L.
 Mc Gill, The 1st Battalion consisting
 of Companies A - G - K and D came up on one
 boat and it made quite a load for one boat.
 We arrived here safe and sound Saturday
 about 1 o'clock in the afternoon. Our
 horses came verry good and safe but some
 of them has been sick since we got here.
 The 2nd Battalion came in on Sunday
 and I understand Co. B. lost one man
 overboard coming up, he jumped over himself.

10
The 3^d Battalion we expect in today.
I must tell you I was much disappointed
when I came to see this place, I thought
I should see quite a place, it being the
capital of the State but instead I find
a place but a trifle larger than
Chilton and not half the business going
on there is in Chilton, I suppose it is
owing to most of the men being in Price's
army. There is plenty of Secesh here if
they dared to show it but they dare not
say their corn is their own, For if we
want any forage for our horses we just
go out in the country and and the first
corn crib we come to we march up to it
and take a waggow load or two of it And
to finish up with, some of the boys just go
into the cellars and help themselves
to all the apples they want. It looks
rather rough to me but I suppose it
is alright. I do not like the country
here half as well as I did around St Louis,
it is all hills here. We are armed very
well, each man has a sword and a Belgian
rifle and a six shooter. There is plenty

here, mostly Cavalry and Artillery. We are to
leave here in the morning but where we are
going is more than I can tell and there is
a battery of Artillery going with us. I think
we are going ^{to} Lexington but I cannot say
for certain. I heard that night before
last there was six Secesh shot a few miles
from here, they was burning a railroad budge
and it happened some of the Cavalry boys
was watching for them, gave them
ferrie That's what the matter. We have very
warm days here but the nights is cool
enough to make it all up, I have not
got them papers yet, I have not got a paper
from home yet and I should like to see
one first rate But I must close for this
time. Please to give my best respects to
all of your folks and write soon as you
get time

Yours in Haste J. V. Dick
Direct to Saint Louis, Missouri
Co A 2nd Reg't Wis. Vol. Cav.

Camp Willis Jefferson City Mo.
May 22, 1862

Kind Friend

I've just received your welcome letter this afternoon, I was very glad to hear you was enjoying such good health and teaching again this summer. The boys are all well and enjoying the best of health. We've just pitched our tents this afternoon but we are not to stay here long, we expect to strike our tents in the morning and march to Springfield. Our Reg. left St. Louis on the 12th, went on board the boat about noon and we stayed until ten o'clock at night and then she moved off, up the Mississippi. O! what pleasant ride we had, we had pleasant weather all the while, our Battalion had good luck, good deal of sport and some excitement.

The boat landed one night and some of our Company went out on picket, the next day after we started, that was the 14th. Our Major thought he seen a Secesh flag flying in a little town ahead and he give orders to have every man load his Revolver.

I tell you what, it was a lively time with the

Orlando Dick to Alpha 13 under

boys loading their revolvers, I happened to be asleep when the order was given to load but they soon woke me up, maybe I didnt hustle any balls into my kill. devil but I reckon they didnt old man loading for I dont allow folks to do it, but the flag turned out to be nothing but a piece of cloth hanging out of a window.

There was two men lost overboard coming up, one belonged to the 2nd Battalion and the other to the 3^d. They were both lost in the night, they never see anything of them after they fell in, its no ways likely they got ashore for it is a bad river to swim in, the water runs so fast, we landed at Jefferson City the 18th just after dinner, we got our horses off the boat and mounted and marched about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile and pitched our tents right on a hill.

I thought when we see Jefferson City we would see something nice but I was disappointed, the City isnt any larger than Chillicothe and it is about as dull a place too.

I like the climate here very well, its rather

Cool, just about as it is in this, we have good clear water to drink, its better then any I had since I left Brothertown, I am sorry to have to ^{leave} ~~hear~~ so soon an account of having good water, its a healthy place too, it isnt so dreadful hot here but O dear, how hilly it is here. I dont like the Country here as well as I did in St Louis. Well Abba our Company has been promoted to General Browns body guard.

We want go along with the Company right off but well probaly follow the regiment around. General Brown has the command of the whole concern, the town and all the troops, There is a great many troops around the City and back in the country, There isnt more than a regiment in a place and there arent a great ways apart. Its the talk that the General is going to follow our Regiment right to Springfield and if he does go so soon, well have go too, but we will have to stay with him, I dont know how long our Company will be his body guard. It may be if we suit him, hell keep us till the War is over. Some of the boys think and the Officers too, that we will not see any very hard fighting. Our Captain

says its the best place we could get into,
he says that is a good place and he was
detached by the General if he would accept
the position and he is to take care of the boys
and get them in the best place he could, and
he took the position. We dont hear anything
hardly about how the fighting is getting
along further South.

I was coming down to your house yesterday
with my horse and saddle to take a ride with you,
but it had to up and rain and I had to give
it up, I was very sorry but I think I will
come down one of these days. You wanted I should
bother Jed about his dance but I guess I cant
bother him much for I've written two letters
to him and have not received as much as a scratch
from them. That was the last word he said to me
that Sunday night to write and he would do the same.

Well I have got out of ink and I guess I
better quit and its getting dark, we have so
much to do to get ready to march or parade,
stent and got more ink. I must close with my
respects and good wishes to you. Ira says give
his respects to you. Excuse poor writing and spelling.
for I had to lay right flat on the ground to write.
Direct as before

General Brown
Lt. H. H. H. H. H.
etc.

Hard Tack - General's Guard -

Grunt and Grains.

Rebel Prisoners work

Cush of crackers

Springfield, Mo, Camp I dont know
June 4, 1862

Well Cousin Ab

I ~~once~~ again grab my pen
in my very powerful paw to write you a few
lines in regard to myself and the rest of the boys
also. I am enjoying good health at present
But Orlando (Dick), Ira and Late are not very
well, not fit for duty but the rest are in
tolerable good health and as for me I am
getting to be as Tough and Hearty as any one
in our Company and can live on anything
even to these Mo. shingles, some call them
Hard Crackers and I believe they are rightly
named for they are hard enough But we are
going to have soft bread after this. We have
^{to} begin to gnaw on them before we get up
mornings to get enough off for Breakfast.

We have ^{to} sharpen our Teeth every little
while to keep them so we can eat the
Crackers. They are wet up in water and
fried in the same. We are not encamped
with the Battalion now, we are encamped
in the South Edge of the City of Springfield
and a very pleasant camp ground.

Our Company has it some easier since we have become the Gen. Guard and Hoel is limping around here with 6 or 8 boils on his saddle — ?

It looks rather cloudy here today, I guess that it is going to rain. I dont care if it does, we wont have to drill. Most all of the Company is gone today with the horses a grazing so it is rather ~~and~~ still here now.

There was quite an excitement raised in camp Night before last caused by the firing amongst the pickets and Co. G. was called out but it proved to be a couple of Drunken Pickets firing on each other but neither was sober enough to shoot straight. We know nothing how long we shall stay here nor where we are going when we leave here but we expect to be with the General most of the time.

There is lots of Bush Wackers, in other words, Guirilla Bands here in this Country and it is going to be a good while before they are cleaned out.

The country is not so broken around here as some parts of the State is.

We have good water to use, much better than we had in St. Louis. There is lots of springs of very nice water here. There is only one Battalion of our Reg't here yet but we expect the other Battalion along pretty soon. There is lots of good Orchards laying out to the commons here and Fruit of all kind too, Apples are pretty near as large as a Hens egg and Peaches full as large so we are going to have fruit here pretty soon and wheat is all headed out around here. It is not safe for any one to travel a great ways from Camp without being pretty well armed.

There is lots of Secesh Prisoners here in the City. Its fun to see them marched around to their work. They are flat ragged and Masty fellows. I dont know as I can say much more and I cannot write much more nonsense. When you write please write all of the Particulars and please write as soon as convenient. Remember me to Grandmother and all the rest of the folks from your well wisher.

over

Loren M. Johnson
to Miss Abba S. Fowler but I suppose
that it won't be much longer

Please Address

Loren M. Johnson
Co A 2nd Regt
Wis. Vol. Cav.
Springfield, Mo.

Miss Abba S. Fowler

Beautiful penmanship of a
Clerk of Court Martial
Examine and find it nearly ripe
Robert Prisoner
Edgar has enlisted

Springfield Mo. Saturday Morn.
June 21st 1862

Miss A. S. Fowler,

Yours of the 11th was rec'd yesterday
and you may be assured that I was glad
to hear from you and the rest of the Towns
People once more for I began to think that
you all had forgotten thing (Sas) and I was
happy to hear that you was enjoying good
health and I hope and trust that these
broken remarks may find you enjoying the
same blessing yet. I am in Tip Top Health,
never enjoyed better, I am very poor, I only
weigh 170 lbs. Since we have been here we
have lived first rate. Our Company is not
with the Reg't and probably shall not be
any more. We are with the General now and
expect to stay with him hereafter and
we are having very good times now, much
easier than we had while in the Reg't.

I, myself am Clerk of Court Martial,
Detached on Military Commission and that
excuses me from all other duty. We know
nothing when we shall leave here

12
We may leave here in a day or two and we may not leave in all summer, if we leave we shall come back soon for the General's Head Quarters are here in this place.

Hoel has got well again but Lewis Hanby is very unwell with Rheumatics, but I believe that the rest of the boys are in good health.

You cannot have the least idea of what a soldier has to endure especially while on the march and about the bread. We get middling good bread, but we got some this morning sour enough to make a pig squeal.

Don't talk to me about biscuits for I cannot get any if I want to. Hoel says there is no such good news as getting shot, I would like to know who it is that writes such reports and about my being afraid of a white cloth. I don't think it was so for there isn't any white cloths in this country or at least I have not seen any. Tell Eliza that Eggs is played out and as for Buffalo Robes, we do not need any for it is pretty warm here but rather cool today but I would liked first rate to have been there to her party, (Yes I would) but never

mind, we are all coming back next Fall.

I think that you must have had a very nice party, the one of Mr Palmer, a Drunken one I mean. I should think Billy and Emaline would get sick of parting and stay away from each other. I don't believe that you could ride on one of our saddles but if you will come out and get one you may have it. Hoel says Ben Palmer better keep away from his little Ellen she will come back and break his other arm. I thought by Jeds actions. I shall not say what. Farmers here are ahead of your farmers for there is lots and lots of grain here almost ready to cut now and we are going to have lots and lots of fruit here pretty soon and all kinds to.

Peaches will ripe in about two weeks, there is a great many good Orchards laying out to the Commons here which were Secesh Property when the Rebellion broke out and they had to leave it and go further south.

Speaking about Ellen and Ben, I guess the girls are getting so that they take up with any old thing, I guess if Joe Whitney was alive they would all be after him.

The Union troops keeps bringing in Rebel prisoners here most every day. There is lots and lots Rebel prisoners here confined and Court-martials, Two or three every day but the sentence I must not tell for it is pretty serious. I dont know as I can tell you any more so I will close my letter hoping to hear from you again, my love to grandmother and Yourself also and respects to all enquiring friends if there be any.

Hoel says he is as fat, ragged and
saucey as ever, quite some

Loren M. J. To Miss Abba S. Fowler

Please Address as follows

Loren M Johnson

Springfield

Ms.

we are of Capt Woods

Commanding Body Guard, Brig. Gen. Brown

Miss Abba S. Fowler.

Brothertown

Calumet County

Wisconsin

Pairs of milk, butter, tea and coffee
Schofield order of ~~the~~ ^{against} juvenile bands
A quonant people. Surra Lady

A part of a letter from J. M. Dick to
E. M. Dick. Must have been written about

July 1, 1862. Springfield Mo.

nice farms left to the commons and are in
 Prices army, some of the best peach orchards
 I ever see and if I stay here until they get
 ripe I will have my share of them you may
 bet. This country cannot be beat for two
 things I think, That is fruit and ignorant
 people. Well will add another thing, poor
 cooks. I have not seen only one good cook here
 and that is a lady from Iowa. We go out
 and tie our horses in the shade every day
 close by these Iowa peoples house and just as
 regular as we go they send out a lunch for
 us and there is the only place I have tasted
 anything that seemed like Wis. pies.

Everything is very high here, tea \$1.50 per pound, Coffee 30 to 40 per lb. But there is one thing I cannot see in to, that is they ask .10 per quart for sweet milk and the same for a pound of butter and some of them want .05 for a quart of butter milk but some times we trade them groceries for milk and butter, then you had better

believe there is some sharp trading.
But as we are under the immediate
command of Gen Brown we have to carry
ourselves pretty straight and can not
have the privileges that we could if in
the Reg't, still I am satisfied if we only
hold our position here, we have our rations
regular and that is good and we live like
pigs in the clover but if we go down in
to Arkansas we will have to come down to
sea biscuit again. There has been an
important order just issued by Gen
Schofield, it takes from every wealthy
rebel from \$1000⁰⁰ to \$5000⁰⁰ for every loyal
citizen or union soldier wounded or injured
by these guerrilla bands who infect this state.
But I must close for this time hoping to
hear from you soon

J. H. Dick

Direct Springfield Mo
In care Capt W^m Woods, Commandg
Brig. Gen. Brown's Body Guard

Sick with typhoid fever
Does not like the Cavalry
Military funeral
Jea Wiggins is dead

Springfield, Aug 25th 62

Dear Friend

I now try to write you a few lines
in answer to your kind letter which I received
4 days ago but I have not felt like trying
to write and in fact I don't now. I am
now in the hospital and have been here 8 days
today. I am having the typhoid fever though
I haven't been so very sick yet only a day,
still I am getting pretty weak But I hope
by being careful to get around again. There is
13 in here sick from our Company mostly fevers.

D. J. Adams is sick here in the same room
with me. All of the Brother town boys here are
in good health I believe. A week ago today
poor Jea Wiggins died here in the hospital
he was here 9 days and after he had been here
3 or 4 days he didn't have his senses. They
called it the typhoid fever. He was buried
with all the usual ceremonies of burying
soldiers. There has four died here since I
came here but the most of them was
wounded men. You say you have enlisted.

Well I must say to you to be careful
when you go into camp, don't expose

yourself any more than you can help.
I have got almost sick of Cavalry, I think
it is harder upon a man than Infantry
I wish I could get into some Reg't
where some Brothertown boys are.

The weather continues hot here yet and
fruit is plenty of all kinds but that is all
the good it does me. There is no fighting
going on anywhere near here lately. But in
the N. E. part of the state there has been
plenty between the State Militia and
the guerrillas. I tell you I find some
difference in the fare here than the fare you
have up there when you are sick.

You never told me how Bill O'Brien
got along, I should like to know what kind
of a crop was raised on Mrs Harts farm.
But I must close for this time, hoping to
hear from you soon. Give my best
respects to all your folks

Yours Truly

J. W. Sick
to E. M. Sick

John Lewis in the Bloody 5th
wants the Brothertown to join his
wants to fight
On picket duty
5th Regt left the state July 24, 61 for Washington D. C.

Washington D. C.

Sept 20th 1861

Head Quarter, 5 Reg, Co I, W. V.

Well I will drop you a few lines to let
you know that I am still numbered among
the living and enjoying good health and I
hope this will find you the same. I aint
much news to tell you, that news is rather
dull now but we expect to ~~see~~ some fun
before long I hope so. I would like to get
my claws on one of them secession dogs, I
show them how to chew gum. They had a
little time ⁱⁿ Missouri last Tuesday and
Wednesday. — (The top of the letter is
missing O. & H.)

to go on picket guard once a week, he was
out on picket guard night before last and we
had good times. Ruf killed a duck and just
got it cooked, George Bennet and I got our
haversacks full of corn and some cabbage
and now by dam we are going to have a
good dinner now. The boys is all well at
present and I hope we shall keep so. Lewis
has gone fishing today, I guess we will
have a good breakfast.
over

you must tell Frank, Orlando, Ira Higgins
Bill Johnson, Bill Welch, Laton Fowler if they
want to enlist Captain says he will send
for them, they will have a free pass
to come. Tell them to write soon as they
can and let us know, so good bye, This is
from John Simons to Edgar Dick

Write soon so you can
Direct your letter to Washington D. C.
Company I, 5th Reg U. V.

Very poor writing and spelling

The second letter of the war

900 bu. of corn

from Lewis Johnson, a son of David Johnson

Camp Griffin, Virginia

Nov. 13, 1861

Dear friend Charlotte Keewil

I now set myself down to pen a few
lines to you and let you know that I got a
letter from you about a week ago and
have not had time to right before but
you must not think that I have forgot
you just because that I am so far off.

I was glad to hear from you once more
and I hope that you will try and write
again. I am not well and so is the rest of
the boys that came from town. I was up
all night on picket guard and so don't feel
very keen today but seeing that I had
a chance to write I thought I would
improve the time. I had nice time other day,
there was some boys went out on a bit
of a scout and so I went out to help and
to see the fun, we got into a corn field
and husked some 900 bushels of corn and
got beef and brought in and had a good
time of it at Uncle Sam's Huskin but
did not have no whiskey to glut down
and get tite and have a shindig but that

can't be here in Va. I had a letter from
Lish the other night but he did ^{not} write
much only his Uncle Orrin potatoes had
begun to rot and was mad and said
bad luck to him. I suppose that you have
some pretty hard weather now there in this,
that is if you have such weather there as
we have here, for it is getting kind of cold
here now days but I hope that we will
have the good luck to get back this winter.

O, tell my Uncle Lorenzo folks that I
will write to them soon as I can for I
don't have so plenty of time to write but
my compliments to them and all the rest
of the folks that live around the city and
remember to your Uncle Lisher (Elisha Schooner)
and to Orrin and his folks and to your folks and
if you do ever go to my grandmother Fowler
tell her that I am well and my well wishes
to her. If you and Clark folks go and see one
another I wish that you would tell Clark
that I wish that I was sailor but I must
draw my letter to a close now so good bye but
write soon. This is from your absent friend,

(Lewis Johnson)

L. Johnson to Charlota Revell

Camp Griffin
Levinville Va. Feb 7, 1862

Friend E. Sick, Esq.

I now sit down to drop you a few lines to
let you know that we are yet on this side of
the Potomac and we are all well and
enjoying pretty dam good health for the common
run of Soldiers. I received your letter last
night, I was glad to hear from you once
more. I aint nothing very serious to tell
at this time, only that our Scouts was out
to day and ketches 25 Rebel horses and all.
They have gone out to see what they can
find tonight. If they find the Cusses I hope
they will give them perfect hell under the
shirt tail. I suppose it is some cold down
your way about now. It aint very cold
here but it is muddy as damnation. I went
after a load of wood the other day and I
like to drowned in the mud, if hadnt been
so tall I would have been a gone sucker.

It would have been a good joke on the mud.

Well it is most bed time and I was on
Guard last night and I guess I wont

Captured 25 Reb. Horses

Hopert they catch some rebels

Mud is very deep

He belonged to the 5th. They numbered 1058 men

Col Amasa Cobb

Enlisted May 25, 1861

Deserted May 1, 1863

write any more. You must write as often
as you can and I will try and answer
so no more this time, So Good Night
From John Simons

Guarding R.R. Junction

Waters & the Rebels

M. J. Reed Died of disease at New Orleans, Miss

on August 13, 62, three months after this was written

His brother Orrin & owned also died at Ship Island Miss about May 13, 1862

At Lexington S.C.
May 10, 1862

Old and Respected Friend

It is with the greatest pleasure I take
this opportunity of writing a few lines to an
old and true friend, Orrin and myself are
lying under the shade talking over our
past times, it makes us home sick when
we think of old Calumet and the numerous
friends we have left behind to think of us.

We are now at the Relay House guarding
the railroad leading to Harper's Ferry,
the other to Washington. How long we
will stay here I cannot tell. We are
anxious to be led on and knock hell out of them.

We will if ^{we} get the chance or die, run or retreat
is not our motto. Tonight Orrin and
myself are chosen as pickets, seven are
chosen out of each company to act as
pickets or scouts. We have a chance to
roam where we please, & pity the peach
orchards, they are very plenty about here.

I am bound to have a Secesh Flag
before I leave this place or bleed some of
them. You cannot form any idea

the large body of troops that are passing here night or day, the cars pass every few minutes. I do not think they will have any fight until next month as they have the hottest weather this month. When the Northern troops get at them again they will suffer, it will not be a Bull Run affair. The manner they used our wounded soldiers and sick in the hospital is enough to make every Patriot blood boil with rage, Bayoneted the dead and dying, fired shot and shell into the hospital, that is a sample of the boasted Southern Chivalry.

O. D. if there is a man in the north, more particular in old Calumet County that will talk a word in their favor, his neck ought to be roped. If I get a chance at one of these Southern demons, he falls. Same (Orsamus) cant you come down and see us, you know we are in a country where they get oysters by the bushel. Give my respects to Lyman (Fowler) and say we will take ours rare. I think Orrin and myself will get a fullough

this fall and come home and see you all.

I have sent papers to Lyman, Tom and a number of the rest of the boys. Did they get them? Write me O. D. all the news, give my respects to all. I never enjoyed better health in my life, Orrin is well, we have not been sick a day since we left this.

O. D. you have what you call hot weather in this., that is no name for it here but Wisconsin men can stand anything for this Country Honors.

Direct your letters to
Washington D. C.

4th Reg Wis. Vol. Cos.

In care of Colonel N. E. Paine

Respectfully Yours

M. F. Breed

This letter was written to Orsamus
D. Fowler, father of Abba S. Fowler. (O. D. N.)
We do not who Breed was, not an Indian

U. S. Hospital,
Philadelphia, June 2nd 1862

Well now I will drop you a ^{few} lines to let you know that your address came to hand in due time, it found me enjoying good health but my arm is rather lame yet but I guess it will be all right (in) a week or two if nothing happens.

The Secesh could not kill me that hitch but I tell you the balls flew like hail stones, we had 3 killed and 5 wounded out of our Company. I cant tell how many there was killed and wounded out of the Reg't but I guess there is about 70 in all. Well I dont know as I can tell you any news about the battle we had at Williamsburg. I suppose you have heard all about it before this time. You must excuse me this time for not writing more I have to take the lame one to write and it bothers me some. Well I guess this will do. Write soon as you can, no more this time. So good day from John Simons to E. M. Disk, Direct to U. S. Hospital, Broad Street, Philadelphia

Wounded at the battle of Williamsburg
Bullets fell like hail
So writing with his wounded arm

Camp near Harrison Landing, Va.

July 24, 1862

Friend Edgar

I now take the gold in hand in answer to your address which I received this morning, it found me and all the rest of the boys well only we are troubled with the Virginian quick step, we dont have very good water to use this summer. I have been back here about two weeks.

We are inside of a fort, soon as we get this done I think the duty wont be quite as hard. I come to get the pickets and camp guard and police men out. There aint many left in the Reg't, there is only 125 reported fit for duty in the Reg't and it keeps them a humping all the while.

We dont have any Rebels to shoot at nowadays, there are no fighting up this way, I guess the Rebs is afraid to come down and see our little fort.

I suppose you will be into the wheat up to you be. by ~~this~~ time this is read I wish I was there to show you how to mow down the wheat. I am afraid

Virginian quick step
Building a fort
Morale very low

that we have got all the harvest we will want to this summer and winter too.

Well I guess I have told you all the news or all I can think of at this present time. So Good bye

My respects to you and all the enquiring friends

Yours Truly

E. M. Dick

from John Simons
Write soon

Disgusted with the war
a money making scheme for the Big Bugs
Poor writing and spelling

Camp near Harrison's Landing, Va

July 27, 1862

Dear Friend

I received a letter from you yesterday dated the 18th, that was the first letter that I have had for about two months. I began to think that I never was going to get any more.

I have sent Bid a number but was not going to send any more. Q the letter found me in good health, better than it has been. I had something that acted like erysipelas but is better.

If I was out here in the Army all alone I don't know as I should ever think of writing but seeing the boys writing, it, ^{kindly} reminds me of it. I tell you that there is a great many sick, it is hot as Satan down here. You spoke about the folks had just begun to harvest or rather hay it, the wheat has been fit to cut for over six weeks down here.

We have got a camp for the summer. I think by the run of things, I tell you this war is carried on the damndest

that a war ever was. It is just kept
up for some of the S-Big Bugs to
make a little money on and when
they get their pockets full, this war
will be done with. I wish that I was
out of it. They might do just what they
are a mind to but I suppose that they
do just as they mind to any how.

If I was at home they might draft
and be buggered, they never would get me.

I dont know as this S-Rebellion is
any nearer to an end than it was a year
ago but they got filled up pretty well on
this strategic movement but that haint
whipping them, not by a jug full for
they will fight as long as they have got a
man. I hope that Kinross will never come
back here again. Well I shall have to draw
to a close now. But I dont want you to
think hard of what you find in this letter
for it is rather a poor letter, so good bye from
Lew Johnson, to C. A. Hewitt

21
We do not believe this was written
by E. M. S. He must have enlisted after
the first of Aug. 62. Wounded at Perryville
marched from the first of Oct. to the 8th

New Albany Indiana

Oct. the 19th 62

Dear Brother and sister

I now sit down to write a few lines to
let you know how I get along. I have not
had any chance to write until now since
I received your kind letter and today George
Derochie came here and he gave me some paper
and I thought that I would try and write
a few lines although it is very hard work
for me to write. We took up our march
the first day of Oct. and marched until the
8th day and then we went into the Battle,
the battle of Perryville it is called and
here is the place I got my wound, it is not
very bad, the ball went in my hand about
one inch below the first joint of my fore finger
passing through and coming out of my
wrist under my thumb, it was on my right
hand and it is with that hand that I
am trying to write to you. I dont know
as you can read this but it is the best
that I can do. Franklin Everett was
wounded in the right hand, he will lose
the use of his four fingers and I guess

he will next one too. I am in the hospital at New Albany, Indiana, we are in tents here and we have good care took of but there is some that has got furlough to go home. If I had money I would get one too but I have not so I must be contented here. I would like to come home until I got well. Well I guess that I can not write any more for this time. I just wrote a few lines to you so you would know how and where I am.

You must not be scared about me at all for I ~~am~~ all right on the gain yet, although my arm is stiff, the ball just scratched my arm a little too, it happened to rake on the cord and it made my arm stiff. Give my love to Father and Mother, Brother and Sister and to all enquiring friends. Direct to

Gen Hospital No. Four
New Albany, Indiana
These few lines is from Edgar M. Dick
to Mr Asa Dick

Edgar is much worse, somebody
must write for him, Washburn,
Thurston, and Fowler killed

New Albany Ind.

Hospital No. 4, November 5, 1862

Dear Brother

My arm is a good deal worse than it was when I wrote you before, I have to get another man to write for me.

Mr Washburn was killed, Henry Johnson was badly wounded, Daniel Thurston died after the battle, also William Fowler.

I should like to have you send me a little money to buy some paper and stamps

I send my love to you all and all enquiring friends. I received your letter yesterday.

This is all I can think at present, you must excuse me for such a short letter

This is from Edgar M. Dick to
Asa Dick

New Albany, ^{Ind} Dec 3^d / 62

Dear Brother

I will send you a few lines to inform you of my present position and health. I am getting better all the time and my hand is healing faster than was expected. My health is improving. In the first place my hand was not hurt so very bad, but I got cold in it and that made it worse than it would have been. My fingers are stiff and my arm is stiff and I think that my wrist will be stiff but time will determine these things.

You wished me to get a Furlough but at this time the giving of furloughs is forbidden by our head officers and that way of coming home is impossible at the present time. The Gunboat Tuscumbia which was built at this city was launched on last Monday, it is one hundred and fifty feet long and seventy feet wide, the hull is plated with three inch iron, it is to carry three Eleven inch Dahlgren Guns, they weigh 15,860 apiece, the ball

Delgar wrote this letter. Very good
Gunboat Tuscumbia described
President Message awaited

weighs one hundred and twenty eight pounds

I received a letter from you the first of this month, it came to me all right.

I will not write you any news about the war but will send you a paper which contains all the news which we get here.

We are all looking anxiously for the Presidents Message but have not seen it yet.

I send my best respects to you all and hope that this will find you enjoying good health. Give my love to Grandmother Fowler and to all of Grandfather's folks

Your Brother

Edgar M. Sick

To

Asa Sick

New Albany, Ind Jan 6, 1863

Dear Brother,

~~times~~ I now sit down to write you a few lines to you to let you know how I am getting along here in this Hospital. Well my hand is about well, it is so that I am writing with it in this letter. I have had the measles. I have got pretty well over them now, they did not make me sick a bit and now I must be careful so to not catch cold. I wrote a letter to you the other day and I did not write but a short letter, I did not feel much alike writing that day, so I thought that I would write another today. Well Asa if nothing happens I shall be back there with you all again before long, all that I want is my Descriptive Roll from my Company and as soon I can get that I am all right, my Discharge papers went over to Louisville and I suppose that they are made out by this time but I don't know how soon I shall get my Descriptive Roll, in a week and I may not get it in a month. I have sent for it once and the Doctors have sent for it twice but it has not come yet.

They have had a awful battle in Tennessee
and to Vicksburg and we have lost lots of men
but our men whipped ~~whipped~~ them and
took Vicksburg and Ten Thousand prisoners
and lots of arms and 30 pieces of Artillery and
a lot of horses and Equipage. The Rebels
have gone towards Alabama and our men
is after them in hot haste. They are doing
the thing about right, if they will keep
it up, if they will let Old Rosecrans go he
will kill every one of them, he is giving it to
Old Bragg and Corby Smith and a lot more
of them Rebels just all they want.

Old Braggs Army is the one we had a Battle
with out to Perryville, where I was
wounded and now they are whaling them
good. I would "have" got a paper this morning
and sent it to you but they did not come around
with any paper this morning. I will get one as
soon as I can and that has got the news in.

Well I must bring this to a close and good bye
my love to you and Mother and all of the folks and
enginnering friends if there be any. This is from
Edgar M. Dick to Asa Dick

I M. f. must have asserted
Very discouraged and better
Dislikes the Negroes and Officers

Camp in Mountain Grove, Mo.

In the Field, March 13th / 63

Shall I say Friends Abba!

I dare not but however I am going to
write and run the risk of getting an answer.

I am not in the best of health nowadays
but one cannot expect to always be in good
health and neither can a person live the life
of a Soldier and not have some sickness.

He lives the nearest to the way of the swine
than any other Brute I can think of. Look
at him pitching his tent, just as likely to be in
the mud or on a stony hill. (which Missouri
is bountiful in) and when he is sick he has no
better Fare. If he is sick (no matter what
Disease) the Doctor doses him with Iuinine
and there is many a Dr. in the service that
never hardly saw medicine before this War
broke out. But I for one never go to a Dr
to find out whether I am sick or not and
another thing, look at him (the Soldier)
He has got to stand his Picket, rain or shine
and besides his Camp Guard too. Do his own
cooking, mending and washing and every
day or two take a sweet old Cursing

from some of our Cursed Officers, there is not half of them that knows how to make a muster and Pay Roll. I know that our 2nd Lieut cannot do it, I do not know but you will think I am complaining and by so doing have made it worse than it is, but not so, it is the truth that I have said. I thought when I enlisted I was doing so for some good but it has proved to contrary (not on account of my deserting) but I have other reasons. In the first place take the Army of the Frontier and wherever it has been it can be tracked by the Ruination of the Country by burning fences, Houses and Robbing Houses, Stealing Horses and Mules and such like and killing People, Hogs, Sheep and Cattle and many a time taking all a family dependence (wheat and corn) and by so doing make Rebels of good Union Men. I can tell why hogs and sheep are killed, because many a time we are on Half Rations and Soldiers wont starve.

Now I ask if you can blame the South for fighting. I do not, but

the North in the same condition that the South was in, would they not do something? of course they would and more yet, Look at Abe's Proclamation. thats enough to make a good Union man a Rebel. I ask who wants to see the Blacks spreading all over the U. S. I say we would have a pretty looking Race of People in the U. S. in a few years and another thing, who would cultivate the Southern Soil. The Whites would not or could not and the Indians would not nor neither could any Foreigners stand the heat and there is no race of people that can stand it but the Nigger and they are not good for anything else. Many a pretended Prophet has prophesied that this war will close within a year and by fighting too. I say such persons are fools. I dont believe that this war can be closed by fighting in 5 years and I think when it is settled it will be so done in the Halls of Congress.

We can see and have seen to our sorrow that the Nigger is better than the Soldier for Cap't nigger is dressed

well when some of our Company are not
fit to be seen on account of want of
clothing and another thing. I wanted
a hat the other day and I could
not get it because the Capt wanted
it for his Nigger.

I do not know but you will think
this letter a lie but it is not, it is the
solemn Truth for it does me no good to lie
about such things and besides we have
four months pay due from the last of Feb.
and we know nothing when we shall
be paid. But never mind, a person in the
Service has got to be as near like a dog
as he can and not be one. I thought I had
seen hard times before I enlisted but I never
did. Now its roll call. Hard Crackers is no
name for them for I have seen them laid
on a stone and struck with an axe and still
not broke, meat though tolerable good
and coffee and sugar plenty nowadays and
frequently tea. Coffee is our main stay.
But one good thing we draw half flour.
Titus is equal to any woman baking
biscuits and butter I believe would make

us sick, we have not seen any in so
long a time. I guess I have told you about
all that I can think of at present so
I will close by saying if I ever told the
truth as near as I could, it is here I
have told it

From your Friend
and Well wisher

L. M. Johnson

Write soon

To

Miss A. L. Fowler

27
Reply to Abby's letter concerning the
preceding letter.
He backs up his other letter

Camp on Lake Spring Mo.
Apr 4th / 863

Miss A. L. Fowler

I again seat myself to answer
your kind letter which came to hand a
few minutes ago and you may be assured
that I was happy to hear from you, although
you did come down on this Injun some.

But never mind I have your sentiments
and I should judge by your writing that
you did not believe a word that I wrote
in my last but what I wrote in regard
to the Troops in this Command is the truth
and in regard to the Officers there is no
use of saying anything for I see that you
will not believe a word that I say, and
I must say that I do really believe what
I wrote in regard to the progress of this war
but I differ with you in regard to the
Slave but never mind. Difference of
Opinion need not hinder us from corresponding.

I notice that the Dread Messenger Death
visits your neighborhood as well as this
country but we have all got to die.

You need not feel alarmed about my

my expression of feeling and thoughts
getting me shot, No Sir! I find that a great
many Troops are like me or I am like them
rather. I am going to express my
feelings when and where I please in
regard to this war. I do not want you
to think I am complaining for I am not.
I knew or imagined I knew the
hardship Soldiers had to endure but
it is to see the way that this War is
carried on and it is Shoulder Straps that
is keeping the machine running.

I have not got to be a Secesh, but I do
believe that the Ruling Power of M. S.
(Southern States) are bound to ruin them.

I am just as good Union as ever I was
I care nothing for hardships if it was
doing any good and I am afraid Fighting
for Hooker now in command of the
Army of the Potomac is waiting to
make another Burnside Movement.
I ask you which is the most dishonorable
to Desert or Fight to free the Niggers
which will cause the ruination of the
U. S. if they are freed and in regard

to the lashing of Niggers, they are not used
half as bad as they will be if they are freed
but never mind I am bound to stay my
time out if I am permitted to live as long
but never do you see me returning to
that town and the reason why you
can tell as well as I. Friends to me are
scarse in that town just because I have
written them a few words of Truth but
I thank much for your words of
encouragement. I do not know as I need
write much more for I have confirmed
what I said in my last letter and so I
judge by your letter that I stand a slim
chance of getting ^{an} answer to this one

But if I wished I could get $\frac{2}{3}$ of the Co.
to swear to that letter to confirm it.

The Division is now about 12 miles
South of Rolla, Mo, a small town at
the termination of the Pacific R. R. and
we know nothing how long we shall
lay here. We may go down the Mississippi
and we may not. I am in good health
and so are the rest from town.

You must excuse me for writing

as I have, I must say I have said the
truth. We expect Gen Herron is going
to choose his Body Guard out of our
Battalion. I think of anything
more so I will, Yours with my
best wishes

L. M. Johnson
address as before and write soon

Received a box of food
Whole Co. In the Guard House
Expect to move

Dec 5/86 2 → The 20th this morn'g a head battle at Prairie Grove
They charged the Rebel Battery, took it but could not hold it - Pagers 39 - July

Camped, Lake Spring
Mo. June 15, 1863

Friend Abba,

I now take my pen in hand to write
you a few lines to let you know that
I am still in the land of the living and
enjoying good health at the present time as
well as all the rest of the boys from
Brotherloun. We received that box of
victuals last evening and you may be
assured that it was with great pleasure
that we received such a nice present
from our friends at home, the most of
the things was badly broken up but those
3 cakes that you sent me was not broken
at all but one mess of sugar was all
smashed to pieces, the bottom was split
off from the box. Hoels box of pepper broke
up and mixed up with the cakes and
bread. Tell Bessie that I thank her very
much for the sugar that she sent me
and I thank you a hundred times for those
things you were so kind to send me

Late (Latom) got back last evening all right
There is one of our boys in the fort at

Rolla, his name is Abram Pye, he is from Shawano, He went to town and got tight and lost his horse, saddle, bridle and everything else, so they took him and put him in the Fort. I dont know how long they will keep him there but I guess it will learn him to take a joke hereafter. I suppose that you heard that all of our Co. was in the Guard House but they did not keep them there but 3 or 4 days and then let them out. But our Captain and Lieutenant are under arrest yet.

General Orme has left us and gone down to Vicksburg and I came quite near going off with him. I went as far as Rolla and there he could not get transportation for my horse so I could not go. I guess it was not right for me to go for if I had I should not have got those things, so being Body Guard is played out again.

The report is that we are going to leave here tomorrow but I think that is not so, the 20th This went with General Orme and they will all get

killed if they go in as they did at Prairie Grove. Well I dont know as I have got any more to write this time so I will now close with my best respects to you all and all enquiring friends if any no more at present

From Your Friend

Sylvester Sheesuck

To Abb L. Fowler

Write soon

Transferred to Inspector General's Dept
Reg't has been transferred to Mrs.
Company at Rolla Mo but expected to follow Reg't
Likes his present position and City Life

Head Quarters, Dept of the Missouri
St Louis, Mo, Aug 13, 1863

Mrs Charlotte K.

For the first time in life I sit down to address you through medium of pen and ink hoping that you will think enough of an old schoolmate to answer his letter and I must ask you to excuse me for not dropping you a few lines ere this. I am in good health at present and enjoying myself first rate and I begin to like "City Life". I have been here since the first of July. I left the Company on the 20th of June. I am in the Inspector General's Department, my duty is not very hard, I am among strangers and yet I am content, well in fact I have got so that I can content myself almost anywhere since I got to be a loger and well might I be content at any place for all the home I have is just where night overtakes me. I have made up my mind that I and I never can return to that town to live, not by a jug full. I did think of trying to get a furlough

and returning to my native town to spend
a few days but I guess I will give it up,
I am certain that I could get one if I
tried, and I am perfectly contented here.
I cannot say how long I may stay here.
The Company is at Rolla, a small town
about 130 miles from here and expects soon
to go to the Regiment in Mississippi
and as for my part I do not care where
we do go for I believe that I can stand
as much hard duty and fatigue as the best
of Uncle Sam's Boys. I do not think that
I ever enjoyed better health than I do now
Charlotte should you take a notion to answer
this just give me the particulars and tell me
all you can about the changes in Brothertown
since I left. I have correspondents enough from there
but they do not tell me any thing. Being this is the first
letter I have written you I will not write a very long thing
one for maybe you will not answer it at all, well
I've said enough so I will close, my best respects to you
and enquiring Friends should there be any

From your old Schoolmate

Mrs Charlotte Keovil J. M. Johnson
Brothertown, Mo. In care of Gen Totten St Louis, Mo.

Believe he is homesick, wants to go home on a visit.
Thinks Loren M.J. has had the best time of any of the Co
Loren has had a few loughs. He must be fully B.L.

Camp on Big Pine, Mo.
Nov 9th A.D. 1863

Remembered Friend Abby

I now take the boldness and embrace
the opportunity of a few moments for the
purpose of writing a few lines to let you know
that I am yet numbered among the living.
I am well at present and I hope when
these few lines reach you they will find
you the same good blessing.

Well Abby I hardly know what to write
and that aint all, I am a very poor hand
to write a letter too but then I will try and
do the best that I can and that is all that
any one can ask. I dont know that I have
got any news to tell you, only all the boys
that left town with me are all well and
enjoying good health at present.

Well I would like to know if you have
forgot that ride that you and Abby Hart
took when when Jane and Jed run after you,
I dont think that you have. I know of
one that haint if you have. I long to see
the time when it will come again but I
dont know that I will get back there in

that good Old Brothertown again or not.
to have as good times as I have had there
but I live in hopes that I will see the
time once more. I hope that you will
have good times there this winter coming
and if there aint any thing hits me
any bigger than bullets I think that
I will be back there next winter.

Well I guess I will change the subject,
I will try and tell you about the times that
we have out here in Mo. We have pretty good
times here. Our Company is escorting the
Stage from Big Pine to a place called
Hainsville. It is about 12 miles that we
have to go and we have to go in the night
time, and then we have all day to run
around in and I think that we will stay
here all winter. We have got orders to
fix for winter and we are going to build
houses and set our tents on top of them.

Vet and Noel and Jim Cook and myself are
going to go housekeeping to gether this
winter. I think that we will make things
go pretty good for we have got a cook with
us. O! I like to forgot to tell you we are

going to have a dance out here this evening
and I will give you a polite invitation, Will
you come but mind you that they aint any
snow here so that you cant have a sleigh
ride. We have had two snow storms here
this fall but it is nice weather out here now.
The roads are quite dusty nowadays, it
seems just like spring to me here now.

I suppose that you have seen Lo, I
heard that he had got a furlough and went
home. I have not seen him since last
Spring, in fact I haint been with him
much since we left that town. He was
gone from the Company all last winter
and he never come to the Company until
last spring. If I could of had as good time
as he has had since we left that town I
should think myself well off. I suppose
that he had great old times while he was
there. I would like well enough to come
home but I dont think that I will come
until my time is out and then I think
I will come back to a place called
Brothertown. If Noel and Vet and myself
could get a furlough together I dont know

but I would come home. I would like to be there on New Year but then they ain't no use of thinking anything about it for I know that I can't.

Well Abba I guess that you have got tired of reading such foolish letter as this so stop. Hoping to hear from you soon, you must excuse poor spelling and bad writing and consider where it came from.

This is from your firm Friend, so goodbye for this time.

V. H. Johnson
Direct to Rolla Mo.
Co A, First Battalion
2nd Wis Cav.

Has not received a reply from his last letter
Building winter camp
Hopes the draft gets Lolly Wile and Errol Bulman

Camp on Big Pine Mo.
Nov 21st 1863

Well Abba

As I could not think of anything else to do this evening I thought that I would write you a few lines although I believe that I wrote to you last. At least I never have received an answer to the last one I wrote you, which was soon after we received that box of things from Town. But then that has nothing to do with this. At present we, which means all of us, are well and having great old times here at work building our Winter Quarters. It don't seem much like winter here for we have had only two small snow storms one the 22nd of Oct. and one the 1st of this month and that soon melted away when the sun came out.

When this cruel war is over as they say, we will all know how to build a Snow House, Cook, Wash or do most anything else in the line of Housekeeping, so if we should be so unlucky as not to find any of the Fair Sex to do it for us we can do it ourselves, ha ha ha

Well the next thing is something else.
I heard that they was going to Draft
up there and if they do I hope that
they will take some of them little
Boys like Lolly (Nils) and Grisel Bulman
and a few more that never would come
if they could get out of it.

Well I dont know as I have got any
more to scribble this time so I guess
that I will now close with my best
wishes to you all, so no more at present.
Please excuse poor writing and spelling
as well as a short letter

Very Resp.

S. Sheesuck

To Miss Abba L. Fowler

Brothertown

Small Pox at Brothertown
Lolly has been drafted, he is glad of it
John W. Dick, drafted after serving and
getting an honorably discharge. Must have
been discharged after he was sick Aug 25, 62. (Pro 13)

Camp on Big Pine, Missouri
Dec 23^d, 1863

Well Abba

I now seat my self for the purpose
of writing you a few lines in answer to your
kind note of the 11th which came safe to
hand a day or two ago and which found
me enjoying my self first rate only that
I have been some lonesome since Billy and
Hock have been gone but I cant say that
I would like to be with them as you say
that you got the Small Pox there in town.

Well that is awful if all of those have it,
that have been exposed and it will be apt
to send quite a number to their last
resting place but it is so and it cant be
otherwise but I hope that Billy now Hock
will get it and bring it back here with
them for it would not go very well here,
where there is so many together.

Well what are you going to have for
Christmas and New Years, a big dance
though I suppose somewhere. I am
thinking we will have a rather dull
time as usual this year but we have

Very Resp.
S. Sheeruck
To Miss Abby Fowler
Brookstown Calumet County, Wisconsin

got only one more year to stay with
Uncle Sam, one year from today our time
will be out and then we will be our own
niggers again but then I dont mean
to say that I am sick of soldiering
for I think all is for the best because
if we had not come when we did we
might have went in some Regiment
where we would not have fared quite
so well as we have here or if we had been
there now we would been Drafted and
that must be hard on a fellow to be
Drafted when he dont want to go but
that is a big thing on Solly and I am glad when
I heard that he was drafted for he might be like
Great booby like him, staying around home and
doing nothing but I am sorry that John Dick
is drafted for he has shown his goodwill once
by enlisting and staying as long as he could or
until he was Discharged honorably. Well I dont
think that I have much more to write this time only
although the days have not arrived yet but they or one
of them will ere this reaches you, I will wish you all
a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and now I will
close with my best wishes to you all.

Difficult to Penmanship. He seems to
have changed a lot since he has a soft
birth. Wonder if he remembers the letters
he wrote to Abby in '44 and April
the old town looks different to him now

Head Quarters, Dept of Missouri
Office Provost Marshal General
St Louis, Mo. Dec 4, 1863

Well Ed -

Your Communication of Nov 30th came
duly to hand this morning and now I
proceed to answer it as duty requires.
I was pleased to learn that you was
in good health and the rest of the people
also. Your note found me in good health
and still in the Pro. Mar. Gen's Dept and
my duty since I last wrote has been made
much lighter and I see by your letter
that Uncle Samuel has started some of
those stay at homes at last. but I am
sorry for John Dick and Priville. One thing
certain, that is I am ~~only~~ out of the way
of the draft but as long as the Gov't allows
or gives them the privilege of paying
Three Hundred Dollars and being released
from the Draft we are not going to
enlarge our Army much and I think
it wants a considerable of reinforcements
yet before this war is closed. But we must
whip them and will whip them (the Rebs)

But Ed I'd like to be there to have
some nice sleighrides especially New
Years but I cannot so there is no
use of talking but Ed I just got, or
just received rather, an invitation
to a Grand Annual Ball to be given
by a Lodge known as the "Lily of the
Valley Lodge" and I imagine I shall
attend, its to be the 30th Dec but I could
enjoy myself a good deal better with my old
friends in Brothertown. Business here in the
City is lively nowadays and so it is in our
Department and we are like to have it a good
deal harder and we have had some dreadful
cold weather here, so much so that everything
froze solid here and I had a good time skating
with some of my "Office mates" and Ed I am
sorry to hear that anyone else reads that
letter but you but never mind it was only
talk but I will not talk so any more
and beg pardon for what I have said and
now my sheet is full I close remaining
as ever your sincere Friend

L. M. Johnson

34
Head Quarters, Dept of Missouri
Office Provost Marshal General
St Louis, Dec 17th 1863

Respected Friend
and Cousin,

Your Communication
bearing date Dec 10th came duly to hand
and I was pleased to hear from you again
and hear that you was enjoying health,
But I regret to hear that the Small Pox
is among you. I imagine that Billy is
having a hard time of it, But I do not
think that small Pox is so catching as
some imagine, for last Spring nearly our
Whole Company was exposed to it and not
one of us had it. I regret to learn that
Poor old Orville and John Dick have to
turn Soldiers, but then its men that we
want and men we must have at all
Hazards. You say it seems hard to be
set up for a mark just for the Migger.
I cannot look at it in that light
althought I admit that it was the
Migger that started the Miss, But
suppose that we (Northans) had made

no resistance I ask where would we have been now. The South would have made every state in the Union a Slave State and now the Nigger is a good deal of help to us. There has already been three Negro Regiments raised here in St. Louis and another nearly ready for the field. Although I am no lover of the Nigger, I do not want to see them slaves, neither do I want to see them spread all over the United States. I would like to see them Colonized somewhere in the Western or Southwestern Country.

The weather here is very cold at present. We had a hard snow storm on the night of the 13th and made very nice sleighing yesterday and last night it froze hard so today it is nice sleighing yet, But the snow cannot stay long. I expect we are going to have a new Department Commander here for the Papers tell us that General Schofield has been relieved and ordered to Washington, we know nothing who will fill his place here yet. I hope it may be "Rosy" (Rosecrans)
O. C. H.

34
Puts up an argument why the
North should fight.
General Schofield to be relieved
Expects to be returned to his Co.

But as we are going to have a new
Commander I expect to go to the Company
soon and then my good times are all played
out. But Brotherton must be a wonderful
lonely place now. But about next spring
it will begin to grow again and then
look out for breakers. Your Letter found
me enjoying myself and in good health.
As my sheet is full I must close and
be asking you to answer when convenient
and address as before, give my best respects
to all of the folks and remember yourself
Yours as ever from a

Friend and Cousin

Loren M. Johnson

Edgar M. Sick

Brotherton

His cousin

The first letter to Abba. Since April, 1863
Company are home on furlough, does not
expect any will see home again after they
come back into the service.
His brother is all in the Army. I was up in 18 months

Head Quarters, Dept of Missouri
Office of Provost Marshal General
St Louis, Mo. April 8, 1864

Distant Friend and Relative
Miss A.

After quite a lengthy
period of silence I again find myself seated
addressing you through medium of pen
and ink, hoping that my few lines may not
be considered an intrusion, and hoping too
that you will have the goodness to answer
my few broken remarks and overlook all past
misunderstandings but a part of my
predictions of last Spring in regard to our
Lieut. has come true, he had to resign or
be "Dishonorably Dismissed" so I have
learned. I am still in my old position
here in the office of Provost Marshal Genl.
and nowadays am having a tolerable easy
time, am in good health and enjoying
myself as well as I can expect to as long as
I remain a Soldier, but I have not much
longer to remain in Uncle Sam's Employ
as a Soldier. Just six months from the
16th of this month

I shall I think be free again, I came
near going along with the Company when
they went home but resisted the temptation
and there is no telling but what I
may Reenlist yet. I have said that
I would not and I hardly dare to trust
myself again for I have made such
poor work trying to serve my first three
years and then I think it my duty to
return and stay with the family for its
most to much to have the whole family
in the Service at once, at any rate
I am going to return and try my luck
at home once more but I presume
Brothertown is or must be nearly destitute
of men but lots of women. I think it
must be very lonely there, but I suppose
as long as the Company is at home that your
people in Brothertown are having a pleasant
time, at any rate I hope that the
Boys may enjoy themselves while at home
for their chances are slim for ever seeing
home again, But I have heard that
Oscar (Johnson) and I was dreadful proud
while we were home, But not so. It

O. J. my kind regards to your friends and remember yourself. J. O.

was all on account of the Dance at "Foster's"

I suppose it was because we did not
invite everyone to the Dance, But I care
not what people think as long as I have
a clear Conscience. But I would be
pleased if I could only be there for about
2 or 3 weeks just about these times.

They are having very disagreeable
weather here nowadays, it seems as
though we were never going to have
Spring. Abba tell me who is teaching
all of the schools and all about Brothertown
in general, who is married and who is
likely to be and how the widow gets along
she went back on me. I suppose that its
because the story was that I was
going to be married but I cant see the
"Merry" it is entirely out of my line of
business, well I guess that I have
worried you long enough with my
nonsense so I will close remaining as ever

Your Grey Eyed Cousin

Miss Abba Fowler
Brothertown
Calumet Co. Wis.

L. M. Johnson
Offic. Provost Marshal General
St Louis, Mo

Whites Station, Tenn

"H" Battery, Mar 8 /63

C. A. Fowler, Esquire,

Dear friend, my respect for you and the memory of the kindness which I have received from you and your family prompt me once more to the task of writing you a few short lines in acknowledgement of the debt of gratitude which I so dearly owe to you and the ever ready and kind welcome received under your hospitable roof shall ever be remembered to my dying day and may the day be not far distant when we may meet face to face to recount the memory of the past but my dear friend believe me to be sincere in my acknowledgment of being disappointed after repeatedly writing to you, not to receive any answer, whether it was your fault or if not I did not know so I let the matter rest. The last received from you was while at school at Twinstburgh, Ohio, for which was the object of my not writing again but as we are upon the eve of marching I improve this opportunity of sending you a few lines not knowing

a very unusual letter, Backhand writing very fine. Ready to march to Vicksburg from Memphis

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when another chance may offer to do so.

It is needless for me to describe past events which have come to my notice of late, so I shall skip over them, last summer I was in the Army of the Ohio but going to Chicago last fall I joined the Waterhouse Battery, 1st Ill. Artillery which is in the Army of the Mississippi. It is at Bates Station is nine miles from the City of Memphis.

Already marching orders have been received to be ready at a moments warning and undoubtedly long before you receive this I shall be on the way to Vicksburg. You must excuse this letter of mine. It is a rainy, stormy day which is not very pleasant in a camp life but when I arrive at our destination perhaps there will be something more interesting to write about. I hope you will not forget to send me a few lines for I am anxious to hear from you and the people in general of your town, believe me I should like to see you all once more but it is impossible for me to do so as it would be to attempt to fly but let it be when we have the Union

as it was and the Constitution as it was, that the Stars and Stripes may float once more over every town and hamlet throughout the South, then and not till then will I be proud to return once more to my friends to extend my hand to receive the manly grasp of those who may welcome its return but I must bring this to a close

Give my compliments to Simon Hart and family also all others who may enquire after H. S. W. I would like to know the regiments that the boys from your town belong to at the present time.

I am enjoying very good health indeed.

Last summer I was hurt quite — but am entirely over it now. I saw a Capt Somebody in Chicago from Manchester last spring and last fall also, a few words more, Waterhouse Battery is composed of as fine a lot of men as any in field who are very sociable and friendly towards one another, they pass the time in games of Ball Chess, Crickets, draughts, Whicket and many others. Accept of my sincere wishes to

yourself and family and your Mother and
family also, friend Fowler Adieu
Hiram S. Higgins

Address

Waterhouse Battery,
1st Ill. Artillery,
Cicero, Ill.

Written to E. M. Vick
Many sick, wounded and prisoners
Co E and F, 2^d at Ft. V. Ind.

Camp Senison, Ohio
March the 10th of /63

Dear sir.

I now take the old pen in my old
hand to let your old self know how my old
self is getting along and hoping these few lines
will find your old self the same.

I was wounded at Murfreesboro Fight
but the old rebels cant kill my old self yet,
can they? They tried your old self but could not
do it. Oh we are to much for the old gray
backs yet arn't we, Charlie Boutumond got
his old finger shot off and old Douglas is
buggade ammunition teamster, he has a
good birth and old Jacob is sergeant of the
Colors. Bill Welch sergeant of the sharpshooters

There was so many detailed out of every
company. Now I am going to tell you old self
how many was taken prisoners out of our company

Old Foman Phillips, Old Frank Louis,
Old Lot Holland and shot.

Old John Smith, Old George Smith
Old Gamire Smith, Old Wilcocks
Old Walter M. Bills, Old Sterling Ross
Old Sergeant Tallmadge

Old Bedy is sick, Old Charley Sabins is sick, Old Walter Mc Night is dead, he is the one that barked so much like a dog and old Charley is sick. He is the one that could play on everything so well, the one that slept with Walter and Old little Charley Brown, that drum for our Co. is discharged. Old squire Carr is sick Old Tracy is sick and Old Potter is orderly and our old is First Lieutenant and old Milt is Capt. Charley Soudermont was Corporal. Oh, things have changed. Old Henry Shelly sends his best respects to all Enquiry and so do I. Tell Frank of our Co. when you see him that I wished you back with me, so no more news now. Answer this letter as soon as received if you can.

Direct your letters to
Mr George A. Denison
Camp Denison, Ohio
10 Division
46th Ward

Excuse my bad writing, there is a great many Olds in this letter ha ha what

Camp near Murfreesboro, Tenn
May the 10th of 1863

Far distant mesemate,

I now sit down to let you know that I am now in the Reg't unfit for service. I cant wear a shoe and travel around with it. So I do not do any duty but I hope these few lines will find you ~~one~~ the gain. Douglas is in the Hospital and oh he is very poor, also C. Soudermont is in a hospital with his fore finger shot off on his right hand and Jacob Petrie has got the same finger shot off.

Gen Samson and E. Schooner dont expect to live to get home. The boys all send their best respects to you and inquiry.

Edgar do you remember that letter I wrote to Caroline Pangborn with all that stuff in it and I wrote it with a different hand writing so she would not know who twas. I am going to write another one to her and you keeps cool and see if she gets one of that description or not. So no more at present, my best Respects to all inquiry

Everitt, Dick, Soudermont, Petrie, Schooner
all of the 21 Reg't have been shot in the hand

To direct to me now

Mr Geo A. Smockie,
Co F, 21st Wis. Vol. Inf.,
Second Brigade,
1st Division,
Camp near
Murfreesboro, Tennessee

Two Richels shot
saw a traitor shot
went on a raid
was been ill since last Nov.
his crabs

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Nashville Tenn, May 22/863

Mr Edgar Dick

Dear Sir

I hope you will excuse me
for writing to you for the first time in life
at so late an hour of the day, altho it
may be injurious to the normal functions
of the brain, so I shall fix my attention to
Mr Dick and watch my pen for half an
hour and tell you how I am getting along.

Well Edgar I am quite smart for the schooner
to day and after I get a little more strength
added to my ^{old} frame I shall be able to go to
my Reg't again but I must say I might
consider myself well off from the time you
left me at Louisville in Ky. I was very sick
until the first of January, from there I was
sent to Cincinnati, so on to Camp Dennison
Ohio. I reached my Reg't the 11th of Feb.

I was with the Reg't one month and 7
days and then I was taken sick again.
I was sent to General Field Hospital
Tenn. On the 9th of April on my way to the
State of Wis. but was halted here and
reled to Hospital No 2, myself and George Lamson

and this is as far as we have got towards this.
but we have come up like a gal horseback
and now we can step off pretty smart, it
is true I know not much about Camp
Life although I can handle my rifle to
perfection and I have had a right smart
share of fun when I was with my Reg't
out foraging and on picket but since I left
home I have been reduced down to one
hundred and twenty three lbs. I did weigh
168 when I was taken sick at Murfreesboro
and now I only weigh 145. The hardship of
the hospital I have long been — to but
I am contented with my lot and live in
hopes of meeting you all again in this life,
knowing life is uncertain to the soldier
but I must haster for I am sleepy. Well
I have no news to tell you. Two of our
Picket men got shot here last night and
the other day I saw a Traitor shot,
belonging to the 10th Michigan. It looked
hard, he had 5 bullets through his breast.
He had enlisted three times and got his
pay, then tried to join the Rebel Army.

Well George is with me and so is

David Luck and Charley Goudmont.

Well Edgar, I and George Samson is
detailed here in this City on guard and we
have some fun but today has capped it all

I and George, this morning was chosen
to go out in the country, about 12 miles,
6 miles beyond our picket lines as sharpshooters
on a Stealing or pleasure ride, we was right
in the middle of the he makes and she makes
rebels, we took almost everything we came
to, strawberries and milk, sheep and hogs, geese
and chickens, Onions, beets, potatoes, mules and
horses, You should ought to seen the slaves
run and hide and if their master said a
word we would bring his character and
almost every house we came to we would
make them get us something to eat. The
women would get mad, want to fight
but we kept them down with our bayonets.
We eat with our guns in one hand.

I asked one young lady for some milk,
when she asked me if we Northern soldiers
could suck, I told her I thought I could
if she gave milk and would ^{try} kick, I would
try her tit. She asked me if I was

an Indian. I told her I was one of
Adam and Eve's stray calves, so she gave
me some milk. So give my respects
to your folks and tell your father I
planted that peach stone he gave me
at Oshkosh in Kentucky. My love to you
and friends if I have any there. So please
to excuse my poor writing and bad
spelling and beg that you will write
to me and tell me all the news. Please direct

Nashville, Tennessee

Hospital No 2

Give my love to my folks

From your friend

E. (Elisha) W. Schooner

37
He writes a lot of letters but receives no
replies. Wonder what Abba he means - Abba "shug 9 in"
Declared to us by night.

Prisoners coming in
He had married Abba Higgins. She ran away with Jerry Chasoff's
the man

Nashville Tennessee, June 3, 1863

My dear Sister,

It was with pleasure that I
received (your) very kind affectionate and ever
welcome letter and now I steal a few
moments from the business of the day, for I
must tell you, your letter came in my hands
this morning while on guard, brought to
me friend George, he is pretty tough and
good looking too for a Wisconsin boy but I
think I am just as smart, good looking and
as smart as the next boy and my dear
sister your letter found me all right
and almost well. I feel as well now as
when I enlisted.

Abba has forgotten me, she is young and
I fear there is something wrong with
somebody, perhaps I am foolish but I have
sent her several letters and have not
received any from her but I hope she is a
good woman but then it makes no
difference to me only I would like to hear
from her and if she comes home I wish
you would tell her to write to me as a
man and a husband. I love Abba but

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my love can be turned. I love a friend
but I have learned since I left home to
despise a fool. Well have written to
Melva and to Lib. but perhaps I have
but a few friends in old Brothertown and
they are short and sweet. Well I did not
get Irene's until a few days ago and I
have written to her last week. I hope
she will get it. I have also written
to Elizabeth too. I do wish Lib. would write
and I wrote to Lute also. I get no letters from
them. They say they love to hear from me
but forget to write to me. Well tell father
I will send him another book. I will put it
in the post office tomorrow if I can find
one to suit me and I will also send him
a few lines to ask him if he has got that
ring on his finger I gave him. I will
send Abba a ring too if I ever get a
letter from her. Well dear sister I was
ordered to use my bayonet yesterday on a
soldier for the first time in my life.
I charged with the bayonet, it looked
hard but I will do my duty if I fall
They are fighting here all the time.

I saw sixty Rebel prisoners come in here
last night. If they expect trouble here I
am called to be there. I never expect to see
you more. I am angry and quick tempered
and I expect to fall doing my duty.

Tell Uncle Orrin I am going to send
him my likeness within two or three
days from today. Did you give my love to
all. I told you to give my love to Lute,
to mother. Tell them I am doing well, to
Melva, to Wilda, to Lura Hart, tell her her
son is here and I will bring him home again.

A brother's love to you and Tom and the
little family. If Ham. comes home tell him
to write to a friend, please to write soon
to me and excuse me this time for so short
a letter, my love to Father. So I must bid
you good day and be moving. Richmond
will soon be taken. Please write
Nashville Tennessee.

Hospital No 2

From your absent but faithful
brother

Elisha (Elisha) M. Schooner

Elizabeth or Letty was his sister, she
never did marry. Isabelle Pemberton
was her niece
Believe Rosecrans cow wins war
Curry of Potomac has been whipped so often don't think they can
win a battle

Kashville Tenn. July 5th / 863

My Dear Father.

I received your letter this morning and I was happy to hear from you so I put my ever faithful pen in hand a few lines, after the fourth of July to let you know that I am still alive and quite smart and I am very glad you got them books and I have you some papers since then went and Uncle Orrin got my likeness. I suppose it looks handsome for so. Well I have no news to tell, we soldiers had a good time celebrating the Fourth of our Independence in Tennessee. Here was some talk speaking on the behalf of our country. Everything went off quiet and in good order for the people here have learned to respect soldiers in Nashville and there was some belching away from the Cannons jaw, 4 brass bands to cheer a soldiers and plenty to eat, it was a soldiers table and a soldiers picnic but it was far from home in old Tennessee in a different country to what it is in Wisconsin.

Well old Rose (Rosecrans) is doing first
rate in East Tennessee, he is sending Rebs
by the hundred, You can see them come
in by the carload almost every day,
it is nothing to see three and four
hundred buttoned prisoners walking
our streets but they are saucy dogs,
pluck it is.

All quiet on the Potomac, our men
have been whipped so often there, they
think they never can win a battle, It
is the talk ~~here~~ that General Rosecrans
will have to clean out Tennessee and
Kentucky, then go and clean them in
the East for he is a fighting man, I
think he likes his Country and Liberty.

So I must bring this thing to a close
hoping you will write ^{as} soon as you get
this and tell me if Abba has got
around yet and how is the pony and
old Lute is he married yet or hain't
never going to be. My best respects to
you and Mother. Alwilda says she
is cross, she had better behave or I will
come home. Tell Wilda not to have a

battle in the family. My love to old maid
Lib, she had better get some kind of a man
before I get in Wisconsin or there will be
bombs shells flying in the shanty or some
pretty smart skirmishing. So no more
from E. N. this time. I have the
American flag on my arm and the
United States and my name to back it
over the Rebel soil

Nashville Tennessee

Hospital No 2

George is well, write soon. Good day
from your son

E. N. Schomer

Wiggins, after

He must be married to Abby, I think the war nearly the war she sloped with another man. Rosecrans should have taken the men. Perhaps Chickamauga would not have turned out as it did to be supported by the thousands

1941

Marshall Tennessee July 29, 1863

My Dear Sister,

I thought I would take an easy chair with a comfortable seat and shake the pen of Friendship with a Sister and tell you that I am blessed with sweet life and tolerable good health for a fighting boy and now I would like to know how you and family is getting along in this world of disappointments, strife and sorrow. Cheer up there is hope after a storm of shell and Ball, there comes Sunshine for everything is in our favor. Old Rebel Morgan is now a prisoner, Three cheers for the Red, White and Blue, Vicksburg has fallen into our hands, three cheers for the Union. Charleston must soon fall also, three cheers for your brave boys and there is a big and good General going round to Richmond soon very soon, old black guard, old Jeff will hear our Cannon balls knocking at the bolted doors of doomed Richmond.

Three cheers for our brave Commander, General Mead can take care of Rebel Lee's army, General Blount has whipped

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Rebel Gen Cooper and he thrashed him most handsomely. Rebel Johnston is trying to find a hiding place, may the Southern bloodhounds suck his blood, four legged ones. Our bully boys brought in one hundred and sixty Rebel Officers night before last, Fourteen hundred more of Morgans men arrived here last night. The Commander of the Cumberland General Rosecrans does not want any more men sent to him, he has plenty. I call to the Doctors day before yesterday to go to my Regt and he would not let me go, it made my blood boil with wrath. I thought I was able, I am almost alone here.

George Samsom has gone and David Luck too, The convalescence camp, I could not go there. I wish the doctor did not like me, so, they think there is nothing like me. For a guard is this place I do my duty and am strict if there is anything to be done, bad man or a drunken one I have got to handle him. If there is a team going beyond the picket lines I have got to go with

it. I believe I am doing my Country some good if I am not able to march with my Regt. I am exposed to all the dangers with which this City abounds with, and that is not a few to fool with either, although I am blessed and have come out all right so far and may I live to see the day when my foes shall be whipped and happiness and peace and free liberty shall be restored to my Native Land and once happy Country.

Hope on Sister, I have no reason to fear for I verily believe you and your brother will meet again after a few more rising and setting suns when war shall have ceased and then the brothers can return home to meet dearest ones they left behind Brothers, Sisters, Wives, Fathers and Mothers. Three cheers for the Wild Cats.

I must tell you the Wisconsin agent came here today to see me, he was very polite to me, used me as if I was some big man, he found out I was not able to march but he said I could do good here. I would like to introduce him to my Sloger Boots. There ain't a man

woman, friend or child in this City but
what is a friend to me.

Well I sent 10 Dollars home to Abba
the other day, I hope she has got it.
I expect she will write. Give my love
to Brother Tom and Joel and Little Nancy
and her aunt and to everybody and do not
forget my wife for me, perhaps she don't
thank me. Remember Uncle Orion and
Uncle Elisha for me. I will not forget
Lute. Please write soon so goodbye for
this time.

E. N. Schooner
Hospital No 2
Nashville
Tennessee

Rosecrans was crossing the Tennessee
river on this date. Greeley Page 410

Camp Dawson, Alabama.

Aug 20th 1863

My dear Sister: I once more grab
my faithful pen in my powerful paw
to drop you a few lines in haste to
let you know that your brother is
still alive and tough as a buck and fat
as a doe right in the land of picks
once more, near the battle field, which
has been my greatest wish, since I left
home to be in a battle, it is true I
would have seen you long ago before this
if it had not been for sickness but
I have been blessed and now I am in
Alabama with my regiment and we
expect to march towards the foe
tomorrow bringing our whole army
against the rebel forces at Chattanooga.
I am not used to marching but if I
live I expect to help storm the rebel
fort and perhaps the next time I write
to you I may be in Georgia, that is if
I have good luck, may my God watch
over me and our army and bring us
off our field victorious, which I believe

2
he will for I do believe that this ~~cruel~~ cruel
war is flitering in its socket for the
cannons mouth has almost snuffed it out.
Three cheers for the Northern rights.

Well Charlotte, Alabama is a tough
looking place, we are now in the
mountains, here is caves of all descriptions,
springs that you can hear roar perhaps
for miles in the earth. The water is nice
and very cold, we are surrounded by all kinds
of snakes, such as the blue racer, about
16 ft long, the copperhead and the black
snake and the rattlesnake. We killed
one the other day with 16 rattles and
7 1/2 feet long. Last night we boys went
down to the river ~~in~~ swimming and I
put my hand within half a foot of one
laying by a big root of a tree. Now and
then some of the boys will wake up in
the night and find a snake on their
breast or face, not only that, we are
surrounded by all kinds of game, such as
the bear, the deer, the wild turkey and
all kinds of game but the worst of all
is the Rebel game. We have fought

them from Murfreesboro all the way
through East Tennessee almost inch
for inch. at one time they had their guns
planted on a big hill so as to sweep the
pikes that we was on. They could cut our
army all up but our men went right up
to them, within 15 feet of them before they
open fire on us, then they had to run
for massas sake, the rebs I mean.
They left hundreds of blankets.

Well how is Abba nowadays, did she get
her money. Did Luty get my likeness. Did
Mother get 5 Dollars I sent in a letter to
Luty to give her for me and now she will
draw some more money soon for me. Tell her
to work it and buy them 7 acres of land for
me. Give my love to Mother and tell her I
have only 2 years more to stay in the army
and then I will come but perhaps I shall
enlist again next month in a heavy
artillery. I have the chance if I like it
and if I do I can get a chance to
come home on a furlough. So give my love to
all and write soon, Elisha M. Schooner
Murfreesboro, Tenn. 21 Reg His Vol.

Camp Dawson, Alabama,
Sept 1st 1863

My Dear Cousin,

I thought I would set my self down
and drop you a few lines to let you
know that I have not forgotten you
and to inform you that my health
is very good and that I am still alive
and doing well for a soldier boy and
I hope these few lines will find you
well and enjoying good health with the
rest of your folks, Well how is all the
girls in Brothertown. I would (like) to
know for we boys are coming home to
Marie one of these sparking times, we cannot
waste time now we (have) something more
important just now but I do not know
how long it will last for they tell me
that Old Jeff is coming (a) half million
of niggers to fight us in the field.
We are now ⁱⁿ the Chattanooga Mountains
but if I had anything to say about
it I should call it the Rocky Mountains
Well it is warm enough here in day
time to broil beefsteak by sun shine

A few days before the battle of
Chickamauga. Greeley - Page 417
Rosecrans and Bragg

and cold enough to freeze us by moonlight.

How does Uncle Sammie getting along with his harvesting, I suppose he is most over with harvesting. Please give my best respects to him and I would like to have him write to me when he has some leisure time. Do you know who is going to be drafted in our county for we expect to have our regiment filled with conscript. I am hoping that Grim Johnson, Alvin as he man, I hear that Grim had cut late out, it is a big thing but I cant see it in that light but must hasten. I suppose you have heard that Fort Sumter has fell and Charlestown and Fort ^(Wagner) Wagner is in our hands with Mobile but I cannot tell how long this cruel war will last, sometimes I think the Rebs has are done gone but it is hard telling when they will be done gone but there is right smart of them here yet, that is the Rebs talk. Well as long as there is life there is hope and I am hoping that this rebellion will soon come to a close

and I for me be permitted to return home and shake the glad hand of friendship with friends at home, The boys are all well from town and hearty. I never saw them look better since we left old Wis.

I heard that Jed Hammer had throwed him self away. I think he would done about as well to be a comrade with us boys and Bill Peatnd(?) I heard was married too

So on this I will bring my scribblings to a close, you will excuse my poor writing and bad spelling this time, hoping to hear from you soon, my best respect to you all, so I have no more to write this time, Please direct to
Murfreesboro, Tenn. 21 Regt Wis Vol
From George Samson

Must have had his thumb shot off
at the Battle of Chickamauga.
Wants to go home badly

Convalescence Hospital

40
Nashville Tennessee, Oct 25, 63

My Dear Sister,

I thought I would write you a few lines to let you know that I am still alive and well, although I have seen some hard times long back but I know how it goes, tell me not I know nothing about war. I have been (in) just as hard a battle as was ever fought on the continent. I have been in two battles and you can see the effect of war by looking at this writing.

I have no thumb to hold my pen while I write to you. I think I write first rate with 4 fingers for the first time, dont you.

Give my love to all of my people and tell them I am thankful that I am yet alive while I have seen a thousand fall by my side on the battle field. I was in hopes I could get a furlough to come home and see you but I cant, I was too late in sending in my papers and now they have got their number, so I cannot see you yet but never mind I ain't no baby, I cant cry. I live in

40
hopes I shall see you all yet.

I was in hopes I could surprise you with my presence or I should write sooner to you. So give my love to Abba and (tell) her to write often to me for I cant write very well myself. She must wait for nothing for I so want to hear from her, has she got her bounty yet, tell me. Tell Lib to write to me and Lute.

I do want to hear from them and send me some postage stamps. Did you get my likeness last July I sent you. Tell me. I have not had a letter from home in a long time, it is very pleasant weather here, no snow yet. Tell me all the news you can think of, how is Uncle Orrin and his folks, how is Aunt Ester and her folks, how is my Colt, how is Father and my Mother, my love to them all, Tell (them) I have never forgotten them. My love to Tom and your little family and O! dont wait a minute when you read this but write to your brother.

So I must bid you good day this time hoping to hear from you soon

Please direct Convalescent Camp
I avis Division, Nashville Tenn.

Elisha N. Schomer, Company E. 21 Regt Wis. Inf.

Tell me how Abba is getting along and what is Lib Schomer doing nowadays and what is Lute up to, my love to Alwilda and little Jose and young Nancy. Who keeps school. I am so tired I must quit, dont forget to write, who is married.

Charly this is the way you can get me home on a furlough, write to me that my wife is very sick, expected not to live and if it was for me to come home and see her, come as soon as you can

Burnside Barracks,
Indianapolis Ind.

Dec 30, 1863

To His Excellency
Friend Sir.

Yours was
rec'd a long time ago. Altho I did
not dare to write before this present
time for we did not know at what
moment our company would get
marching orders to some other place.

I would say that we now are in
our winter quarters, guarding Rebel
Prisoners, here in Camp Morton,
Indianapolis, Ind. I believe that when
I last rec'd a letter from you I was nurse
in Hosp't No 16 Jeffersonville, Indiana
ward 6 but I did not like that birth
so I came to my company, it is now
108 miles north of the Ohio River, where
we was before encamped. I have come
across H. T. Shelly. He is invalid too.

Please excuse me for not writing to
you sooner. I am well at present And I
do sincerely hope that these few lines may

Has been a nurse in the Hospital
Guarding Prisoners now
The song, The Battle Cry of Freedom just out

discover you all the same. I wish
you had a Merry Christmas. And I wish
you all a Happy New Year.

No snow here yet but rain in
abundance.

I played a sharp trick on you in
my last letter, did I not. With that
locket. Ha. ha. I fixed that Secesh
script so you would see that first
and so any body else could see the lock
on the other side. Ha. Did anybody see it

Oh! by the way, I had a gay old dinner last
Christmas and what do you suppose it was.
Why it was old coffee and crackers or hard tack
as we soldiers call it and fat bacon or sow
belly as we call it. Now I will bring my
few lines to a close by bidding you write soon
Give my best respects to all inquiring, so no
more at present, Hope I remain Yours Truly

Respectfully G. B. Surochi
Direct Thos Mrs G. B. Surochi Esq, 26th Co.
Burnside Barracks

If you want the
song called The battle
cry of Freedom I will
send it to you.
Let me know if you
want it

Indianapolis, Ind

Digging Rifle Pits
The only letter from the Army of the Potomac Jan 1863

Camp near Fredericksburg Va.
June 12th A. D. 1863

Dear Sir,

Yours of the 5th it found us boys in
good spirits and enjoying good health and I
hope this will find you same.

We have pretty lively times down this
way for the last week, our Regt has not
had any sleep of any amount for the 8 days,
7 Companies of us was across the Rappahannock
last night digging Rifle Pits all night.

I tell you Ed I am about played out
today, so if I make any mistake you
must not say anything. I expect that we
will have to get up some of these fine
mornings and go over and have a picnic.

Hooker has took little Macs (McClellan)
plans. He has been turning the river
bottom upside down, for my part I think
its a good plan. Well I cant think of any
more to write this time. So I will bid you
good bye, hoping to hear from soon,
from John Simons

Rolla, Mo.
Feb'y 21th 1864

Well Abba,

I now take up my pen for the purpose of trying to write you a few lines to let you know that I am or have not gone up the spout yet and am enjoying good health at the present time and we are having good times, our Company has moved in Town again, so we have a chance to put on all the City Aids that we have a mind to and as a matter of course we will improve the opportunity to the best of our abilities.

The weather is warm and nice down here and has been all the time since I came back and there was not any snow here when I got back and it looked odd enough after coming from where there was so much.

The Officers try to put on a good deal of Style here in Town. We have to be at "Roll Call" 3 times a day or suffer the consequence. But that is Military, so there is no use of finding fault and the best way is to take everything just as it comes be it good or bad.

Have to put on lots of style
Wael Crowell has recruited
stabbing affair at Brotherhood must
have happened while the soldiers were here
on furlough

Well Abba has there been any more
stabbing affairs in "Town" since I left
and how are those fellows getting along
that was stabbed but I suppose that
they will make a live of it as a matter
of course for I don't think that any
thing short of a Bullet through the
heart would kill them or they would
have died then. They would make
bully soldiers for they would be so hard
to kill but then I don't think that
there is any danger of their being
soldiers for I don't think that they can
see it in the "Illumination".

I heard the other day that Deville
had Enlisted, is that so. I guess that
everybody is going to leave that place. I think
that it will be rather lonesome town next
summer after all the soldiers leave. How he
sits here eating Dried Beef and hard tack.

I guess that I'll stop and join him

Well I will now close with my best respects
to you all, From a friend and well wisher

S. Sheeuck to
Direct to Rolla, Mo. A. L. Fowler

of M. Dick speaks of the spelling school
likes the army, many deaths in Brother's
Oscar Johnson, former brother in the Army of the Potomac
the first letter in 's years
was drafted also O. A. Hart,

Camp Randall
Madison, Wis March 29, 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 someone
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. Your 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 I 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 much
a little less than two feet deep, and
fair prospects of it getting deeper. But
mud day as it is the boys are out drilling,
but "thank goodness" I knew just enough to
get out of it today, 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 Orville 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 Sostator left here yesterday
for the army of the Potomac. Well Abba since
I wrote to you before we have lost one of our
best boys, he was from Sheboygan Falls,
his name was W^m Skinner, he lived only
about 24 hours after he went into the
hospital. Lee Jackson and Frank
Pleasant are in the hospital, both sick I
believe with the measles. I would like
very well to go and see them but I cannot
on 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 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 the boys are well
as usual. I send you enclosed a song which
I heard sung here in camp. Please write
som as convenient,

I remain as ever your

Friend

John W. Dick
Co B, 36th Wis Inf Vol

Camp Randall, Wisconsin
Wisconsin

A. L. Fowler
Brooktown
Wis

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 to be home.
When you write again, write all the news
J. W. Dick

The first letter of A. L. Fowler
told us have their pockets picked at
Madison
36th, 37th and 38th Regt and Invalid Corps will at me,

Camp Randall
April 28, 64

Affectionate Cousin

This being a beautiful morning I thought
I would sit down and enjoy myself by
writing you a few lines for the purpose of
letting you know that I haven't forgotten
you. Well Abba I am stuck up here in the
old barracks with the mumps, it isn't very
agreeable to be stuck up here with them
when it is such nice weather. Oh Abba
I wish you and Sarah was here to see
the men out nowadays, they are all out at
once, our regiment has to come out on battalion
drill every day now, The Thirty six, Thirty
seventh, Thirty eighth and the Invalid
Corps and drafted men are all out at once.

Oh! it looks nice, I wish you could see them.
We are going to get our guns before long,
then we will be all rigged for the South.

The boys said yesterday when they come
in that the Colonel told them when he
got them up in a line to break ranks, that
we was good enough drilled to go to the
Potomac Army soon as we got our arms

so I don't expect we will stay here much longer. I would like very well to see you all before we leave the state but I guess the chance is slim for there was some lucky enough to get home and I suppose they are having good times. It'll come some time if it aint till the three years is up. If it want for the mumps I could get up to town and then I would have a good mess of oysters. Oh! when we do get up there we have big times eating ham and eggs and oysters. Abby we have another pay day, the first of May then money will be plenty again. We got seventy two before and lots of them lost their money, they had it taken out of their pockets up in town. They are not smart like me, I know just enough to leave my money in John Dick's care when I go out, only what little I want to use and when he goes I keep his, so you see we don't lose much money. Well Abba I don't know as I have any more this time, so give my respects to your father, give my love to Sarah. Oh Abba, Charlie Dick and Leroy Ferguson was here in my bunk

with me yesterday, they both look tough and rugged. They are coming home. My best respects to all enquiring friends if you ever find any such

So I stop with my love to you and looking for an answer from you

This from old
O. A.

do you know the old scamp Abby
Address Camp Randall
Co. G. 36th Wis Vol, Madison, Wis

An old Brother from School Teacher
 Henry Chase has left the country to escape
 the draft

Camp Starkweather
 Lookout Mt, March 11th/64

Friend Edgar;

As our friend Gay has been writing to you and asked me to write, I improve a few minutes although it is against my principle to write to any body who is at home blessed with all the conveniences for writing until after they have written to me.

You was in the army long enough to know something of the inconveniences under which a soldier writes.

We ^{are} up here upon the mountain top where news seldom comes but we are blessed with excellent water and a pure atmosphere which keeps us all healthy. The weather is as warm and pleasant as is often seen in your boreal region in the month of May. The little birds are flying around as happily as in times of peace. Now as I write the sweet notes of the meadow lark are borne upon the soft breeze.

Friend Edgar; as I write to you

many pleasing reminiscences of by gone days are recalled to mind and I am with you again (in imagination) teaching the "young idea how to shoot" or enjoying myself in a social capacity to the full satisfaction of my fun-loving nature.

I have heard but little from Brother town since we left there, but I have often thought of the "Happy hours we once enjoyed." I heard that Henry Pease and family had eloped for the purpose of evading the draft poor coward - he is not fit to enjoy the blessing of free government. Please give my best wishes to all old friends especially those who used to be my pupils and their parents. My compliments to John and Adelaide and tell them I hope that they may live long in the enjoyment of married life to its fullest extent and die happy leaving a good posterity.

Please ask all the friends to write to me, I will gladly answer all letters as soon as possible. Hoping to hear from you soon, I remain
Yours in Friendship
Geo. W. Fenno

Another School Teachers letter
Daily routine. Only 200 left of the Regt.
Also, Edgar's brother-in-law died at Memphis

Lookout Mountain
Penn, Apr 18th 1864

Friend Edgar:

Your kind favor come to hand some time ago but I have been so busy I could not write before.

We have had nothing very exciting or interesting lately and I am poorly prepared to give you anything very entertaining, therefore I will give you an account of our daily routine of duty. We get up at day break, have a dish of coffee, then have battalion drill one hour after which we take breakfast. Company drill from 9 to 11 o'clock, Battalion drill from 2 to 4 and Dress parade at 5, therefore we have but little time for homesickness or borrowing trouble.

I enjoy soldiering first rate, my health is excellent and I think the Confederacy will receive a blow within the next 2 mths. from which it will never recover.

We expect to move to the front in a few days where there is greater activity, when I am in hopes to be able to write

you something much more interesting.

We have remained here much longer than we expected to when we came, probably on account of our weakness and the want of officers.

When we came here we did not have 200 men but now we have 412, some of them are recruits but they are learning the drill fast and will soon be prepared to do good execution in action.

We have seen considerable service and are ready for more should our Country demand it.

I am heartily glad I came out with the 21st and should I be lucky enough to return north to enjoy the fruits of my labor I shall be proud to say I served in the 21st.

I was sorry to hear of Asa's death so soon after his enlistment but God knoweth best what is for our greatest good and we must submit to the dispensations of His providence with patience.

Hoping to be able to write you something better next time

and begging to be excused for sending this disconnected scrap, I close hoping to hear from you again soon,

Most Respectfully

Your friend and well wisher

Geo. W. Fenn

Co "E" 21st Reg't. N. V.

Camp Starbweather
Lookout Mt, Tenn.

April 22, 1864

Dear Friend Edgar;

I received a kind and welcome ^{letter} from
you a while ago dated March 20th and
will now try and answer it. Should have
written before this if my time had not
been so much occupied. I am still
blessed with good health and kind friends
for which I am very thankful. I often
think if any soldier has cause to be
contented and cheerful it is myself for
I have so many kind friends at home to
encourage me. What do you think
Edgar, when I tell you that I have
fifteen regular correspondents and
nearly as many occasional ones. For the
last two months I have written and
received nearly an average of one letter
per day. I have no news of interest to write
this time. We are still continuing to
receive new recruits every once in a
while. Co. E. has got but four yet. Most
of the other Co's have received a great

Has 15 regular correspondents
Sorry about Cass death

deal more, some Co's. have nearly or quite doubled their number. I am sorry Edgar, your health is so poor. You will probably never have good enough health to go a soldiering.

O, Edgar since receiving your letter I have received one from Eunice informing me of your brother Asa's death. This must be a sad, sad blow indeed. How uncertain is life especially the life of a soldier. How many are thus called to mourn for loved ones who have given their lives for the cause of right. Asa was a good boy and I used to think a great deal of him, as a scholar, in school, always so clever, so good natured, and beloved by all. Let his death be the means of pointing us to the instability of life and the shortness of time and O, may you and I, Edgar be prepared to die whether called sooner or later. May God bless you and all your folks and enable you all to put your trust in Him.

We are having fine weather here now.

49
I enjoy standing out in picket such pleasant nights. Uncle Sam is doing well by the old 21st in letting them stay on this Mountain. I hope we will remain here all summer, it is so healthy.

So your school is out and you have had a pleasant one the past winter. Well I am glad for your sake and all the scholars. I would liked to have been at your closing exercises and taken a part. I would be willing to try and speak that "Mad" piece, though I don't think I should make out very well now with it.

If you see Henry Fowler tell him that I will write to him soon.

My best respects to all schoolmates and old friends and especially to your folks. Don't forget me to Grace. Tell her I have not yet forgotten that poetry I composed about her once. Now I close wishing you health prosperity and happiness. I remain as ever, your sincere friend and well wisher

Philip T. Gay

Mr Edgar Dick

Baton Rouge Louisiana
March 9th, 1864

Distant Cousin

I now take my pen in hand to write, I mean scribble a few lines to let you know that I am well, hoping these few lines may find you enjoying the same. Well Ed I have seen Charles Sick and some other boys from Co K. I tell you we have first rate times here, we have to stand guard one day in four and we don't have to drill, so the rest of the time we can go where we are a mind to, we can go anywhere inside of the pickets line and all over the City of Baton Rouge. We are camped on the north side of the city, about 50 rods, so you see we can run into the City anytime. There was some scouts went out yesterday morning from our Reg't and they was fired into and Lieutenant killed and five others wounded and as soon as they came into camp, all them that had horses and arms was ordered out and they went out and was gone about 7 hours and two boys from our Company

Another brother of Loren M Johnson
Scouts had a fight. Whiskers shot off
a salomon keeper shot
No horses or equipment. Type of equipment
Left Madison Feb 2 arrived the 27th

Good

50
had their horses shot from under them but they took two other horses from the Rebs, so they was all right again and there was a man from Co. H had some of his whiskers cut off from his upper lip and he had some hair shot off from the back of his neck and he had a hole shot through his clothes on his shoulder clear to the hide and he had the hide shot off from his forehead but they did not kill him after all. He took a prisoner and came into camp with him and there was four or five other prisoners taken and there was two Regiments of Infantry went out but they never took any prisoners, they had ambulances along with them but they did not have any use for them, we have nice weather here, it is warm and the grass has started and it looks green but today it is not very nice weather for it is raining. It commenced raining this morning about 2:50 o'clock and it has rained ever since. I tell you it is raining now like fun. it is a regular

thunder shower and it sound natural to hear it thunder. The other day one of the fourth Wis. boys was down town and he got into a fuss with a saloon keeper about something and hauled out his revolver and shot him twice and he killed him dead and the saloon keepers friends came over to the Regiment and tried to find out who it was but they could not, the boys that come down last have not got any horses nor any arms yet. The arms that the 4th uses is Colts Revolvers and Burnside Carbine and a very nice sword, I have forgot whose make it is. Well it is time to draw rations so I shall have to quit and go and get them and eat my dinner. Well I have got done eating my dinner so I will scribble a little more. I will tell you what we had for dinner. we had pork and beef and baked peas and coffee and bread. Well Edgar I have not heard from home since I left Madison and we left there the second of Feb. but we did not get here to our Regt

until the morning of the 27th because
we was stopped at Memphis and stayed
there about two weeks and then our
Lieutenant Colonel, ^{who} had been home
and was coming back to the Regiment
and he heard we was there and he
stopped and took us on the boat and the
boat fetched us down here.

I guess I have written all the news,
give my love and best respects to all your
folks and remember yourself and all of the
pretty girls and all my friends if I have
got any. So good bye, write soon as
possible and write all of the particulars

This is from Melville Johnson to
Edgar M. Dick

Direct to Melville Johnson
Co. "B" 4th Wis Cav.

New Orleans
Louisiana
via N. Y.

Reverly folks lived at 104 Pucival Building
East Mount St., White Chapel Road, London, England 1857
His wife was Charlotte Schoner

St Louis Mo, June 23, 1864
Marine Hospital

Dear Wife

I set down and write a few lines
to you hoping that you are well, this letter
is the second one that I wrote to you
since I left Benton Barracks, Charlotte
I had a letter from Mrs Samson on the
22nd of June at last and answered it the
same day and sent a soldiers letter in it
and here is one for you and keep it till I
come home, this letter is true as the
bible. My doctor has gone home on a
furlough and will be back next week
and then I will try and get a furlough
before I go to my Reg't, it is at New
Orleans. I am better then I was
two weeks ago, one thing I dont
get enough to eat in this Hospital,

We have no rain here yet, it is all
dry, crops look bad what few I have seen.

I have been on the Small Pox Island,
the river is very low, the boats do not
^{run} on one side of the river it is so low.

The Hospital is on the Island

I dreamed about you last night and the girls. How is father and mother and all the family.

The order has come today that we boys have to leave here and go to Memphis on Saturday morning so I thought that I would write to you before I go and if we don't go I will write on Sunday that will be the 26th of June 1864.

I would rather be in my Reg't than in the Hospital, I see too much blood, to suit me, arms off and legs off of the Soldiers. It looks bad going around with crutches.

My dear if you want me to come home before I go to my Reg't write to me right off at Marine Hospital, St. Louis and here is a stamp to put on the letter, the letter will follow me if I am away from here. For my part I would like to see you one more in this world and the girls and all the folks too. I am better than I was, the Doctor said I have the heart burn and the liver complaint too, he don't think

that I will stand it many years in this hot weather. I will try and come and see you any how if it do cost a few dollars after I get my pay. I expect my pay about the 5 or 6 of July

Write soon from

Thos G. Keever

Marine Hospital

St Louis, Mo.

I am well for me