

Mo Saint Louis

Benton Baray March
28th 1862

Friend A L F

I received yours this after noon

and was very much pleased to hear from you

The Boys are well and in good spirits I am well as can be expected and the same old siffence as ever

and I trust these will find you well so as to be eating Oysters I suppose as usual that is if they low folks and I gess if they dont to.

Its very diferent hear to what I expected to find it but I am well satisfied and injuring my self very well. We left Milwaukee the 24th and O what tiresome old journey it was to you know we went on the Cars Monday noon and the old horse didnt stop only to wood up wonce while but the Soldiers wosent allowed to go out then jst on account of some drunken felows what fools whisky will make of some men I hope that if get is such habit as using intoxicating drinks the folks in Broth^{ns} will never see me back there again.

We got in St Louis Wednesday night bout 12 oclock but we didnt get of untill Thursday morning At Tuesday the Cars was all day going through Illris I jinge thats the place to farm it now I think I would like to live there very well

how the folks did wave hats & handkerchiefs when
we was on our way but in the City of St Louis
they didnt wave much they say there is a great
many rebels in the city but they dont say a word
for it would take the Soldiers hear long to destroy
the whole city for there is bout 2400 union troops
in camp hear Infantry Cavalry & Artillery lots of them
its bout 2 miles cross the camp ground our old camp
in milwaukee is nothing to these hear its like a city
bout its seems like some great day hear all the
while fourth july or some other hollow day
we are living in tents now 17 men to a tent
each ~~to~~^{unit} has to furnish there one Cook or we take
turns in cooking I dont like the tents as well as ^{the}
Barack for there is no chance to hangy any thing up
but they are plenty warm we have very nice wether
hear had a little shower this after noon but its
cleared off and the sun has come out warm
the grass looks green and I seen a man plowing
yestarday the Bards are singing round lively enough
I have jess com off guard last night the guard when
they was relieved would lay down wright out doors on
some hay that lay close by and I sleep good as
though I was in our tent may be you ll think I
am bragging up this place wonderfully because I can hear
but you must not think so if I want in the army
I shouldnt stay hear I would make my way ~~to~~
back to Wis what lots of peddlers there is hear
all the while they say hear some of the Soldiers

got fascined by lying, from the peddlers but our
Boys don't buy much from them and I am
glad of it. Our camp ground is 6 miles
N W of the City of St Louis on a grate fare
ground that the rebels held last Spring but
they had to leave it it was a very nice place
then I guess by the looks of things but the union
Soldiers have used it hard. What poor water we
have here I miss the water that we had in
Wis this is mississippi water we have and it
looks like mud we have one well ~~to~~ on our camp
ground but it is bout a mile and half from
where we are camped but Billy & Louis & me has been
down and filled our canteens this afternoon
Soren has got better so he is on duty now days
and John sets here writing. ~~It is not~~ playing
~~is not~~ Ball Noel is riding horses round
There was one man killed when we come out here
fell off the Cars and they run over him
we didnt have to go without our pay they payed
us Sunday night bout 9 o'clock and Monday we
sarted give my respect to all inquiring friends
if there be such its geting late and I must quit
hurrah there comes the other Wis Cavalry now all the
wis Cavalry is here now I must Close with
my respect & best wishes to you A L F
Direct to C A 2^d Regt } from your Friend
This Volunteer Cavalry } O Dick
St. Louis Mo



A. M. Lean Lith.

VIEW OF THE FAIR GROUNDS,
ST. LOUIS, MO.

Cor. Third & Pine Sts.

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