

and when I was relieved
we all layed down out doors
and sleep we was guarding
our horses there is none of
us been on picket yet the
picket is but 5 or 6 miles
round from the camp.

O how I have sweet to day
jest walking round.
we shave jet drove our
Sabers and the Boys are
strutting round big enough
we expect our horses in a
day or to. what poor water
we have hear I dasent drink
any of it it makes the Wis
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 son
inquaring, friends from your
O Dick

Wm. Wells
Mrs. Boyds Butler
& Wm. H. H. H.



Forward to Victory!

St Louis Mo
Camp Benton
March 29 /62

Dear Father & Mother
I received your kind
letter yesterday and
was very glade to

hear from you all O how it
made me bound with joy it
was the first that I received
since I've ben hear you cant
tell how much good it did
me. The Boys ^{are} well and in good
spirits & I am well as usual
and injoying my self very well.
we had a tiresome old journey
but there was one man killed
he was a private in Company H.
There is 2300 union proof in camp
hear the 3rd Wis Cavalry rgt
corn in last night

They met with a sad accident
on the cars had a real smash
up there was 10 men killed
& 5 wounded. Stephen Nichols
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 don't like them so well
as I did the baray for there is
no place to hang up any thing
and no place to set down
only a right flat on the ground
O, what pleasant weather we have
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 makes the grass look
green. Tell Frank that we
couldn't get any money for
him all that was thrown out
out didn't get any pay

Tell Frances John says he will
do as she wanted but he says
he is not going to let the sces
kill him give my respect to
her quick as you can
There is a grate many sces
but they don't say a word
only there is once while a picked
shoot off his first thursday
night there was one shoot but
didn't kill ^{him} the other guard that
was with him detected the
rebel and he is in prison
here and I expect he will
pay dear for that shot
General Yaloe has had notice
put on every corner in City that
if they don't stop shooting
he will clean out the City
I have been on guard once
since I come in camp