

I feel weak this after
noon i cannot write
much more it is so hot the
sun this new brackery backs
62 barrals of flour a day for
the soldiers 12 men work there
all the time Give my
love to mother and father
and all the folks and
abby shooner

J. H. Merrill
Benton barracks Ford &
post hospital Missouri

Missouri
send a stamp if you can
the next letter

Missouri June 12/1864
Dear Wife

I take this time
to set down and write a few lines
to you to tell you that i am
live yet i have been looking
for a letter from you this week
and just received one ^{to day} but it had
not eney stamp on it is been
comeing 6 days from brothertown
and that a long time i am
better if i live on bread watter
i feel better for it i am glad
you received that book safe
and them flags when i hear
news i will send you papers i have
been sick about 3 weeks ago with
the head ache but i am better
i expect to be sent to Jefferson
barracks to morrow the 13 of June
or the General Hospital and if
i do i will try and get a furs
and come and see you for a

littel wife I have not seen low
Johnson in St Lewis i do not want
you to ride or work in the hot
sun if you can help if no
more and you can possible help
dont loose your boy if you can
help it i have dreamt about
you and the girls mean, a
night since i been in the hospital
you ~~will~~ must not belived every
thing you hear i hant going to
port hudson yet and got the
small pox yet i wrote a letter
to Mrs Jamson the other day
and hant got a answer yet
i think this war will end this
fall or the spring tell nina hear
is five cents for her the last i have
got i will sent gary five cent
the next letter i received that
stamp only one i am glad rufus
is not dead thursday afternoon
1 regiment come in / 35 illonios

one hundred day men and satwaday
evening 139 regiment come in one
hundred day men going out
to smorrow to go south there is
a lot of men going with me if
i go to them places keep writing
the same plabe the sun is very
hot hear lot of nigers hear they
have to be in one Hospital buy
themself you have not told me
if Elizabeth Johnson is married or
not how is luther and all the
folks raise all you can i
think i shall come home
when i get to Jefson barracks
it will cost about 40 Dollars
on the state if i come but as
long as i stay in this hospital
i will never come home there
is two meny big bugs hear
i have got to be lassy nothing
to do hear but walk round
and sleep and talk