

8th I must tell you bout
a Meeting I was to since
I have been dead. I had all
I could do to keep from laughing
wright out loud. The Preacher was a
Colard Man and so was the Congregation
thare 4 or 5 of our boys went in to here
them talk we kept strate faces
while he was preaching and that's bout
all you didd laugh if you had
seen them perform.

I never have heard what
District you are Teaching in yet.
Our Co is getting small. Thare
is good many sick ones. Thare is
8 or 9 going to get thare discharge
Thare is some thare not doing
duty since we left Milwaukee
and some since we left St Louis.

I believe I have written all I can
this time it may bother you some
to find it all out you must excuse
poor writing and spelling, darn it
give my respect to all the inquiring
friends. Keeping enough for your self
from your Old
School mate Orlando

to it. how sorry I have ben made to
feel when I've seen him in that
Condition.

I rec^d your Letter
dated July 1st. I thought
I would probly get an answer to
the other one and so I waited to see
what under sun you are doing out thare with the
horses. I forgot to tell you what we had
hear the 4th. I think it would be
more of a sight for you to see the Soldiers
hear than it was to hear a go to London
lac. for thare was 3 Reg^t of Cavalry
2 of Infantry one Battery and our
Company peraded round Town
with a great Band of Music. but
I was on duty that day and I was
hardly glad off it to you know
for it was awful warm and dusty
O you cant-gess. Then poor Orrin has
has left this world has he

6th poor Man died away among
strangers. where he could not have
the care of a kind Mother or a beloved
Wife. it must be sad news to his
Wife and ^{his} other folks. Our Regt & 2
Battalions of it is in Arkansas. The
1st Battalion is at Caveville Mo
that's the one our Company belonged to
if we had not been the Body Guard
and kept hear all the while we
been with them. They have had several
little Battles with the Bushwhackers.
You must tell your Uncle John not
to get alarmed about the 2^d Wis Cav
for they don't trouble the Womens Clothes
for we don't go by that name. we go by
the name of Indian Body Guard and
the Captain is getting little civilized.
that the remark a Young Lady made
of Ben Browns Body Guard
Wal spos I must put on my
new jacket and go to dinner
I haint but 8 hard Crackers

7th
for my dinner or I'll send
you some — I will now
try and finish my letter after
a harty dinner. O! I tell you.
how Billy and me got to running
horse one night last week and
how we com out. Wal it com out
so Billy's horse run over a calf
and fell headlong and Billy found
him self laying in the middle of
the road. That was no harm done
and I have to laugh now bout it.
Yes I think you don very well picking
baries. we have had some Strawberry
They want very plenty hear though.
I dreamt the other night I saw
you. I thought I was to your house fully
and we was amusing our selves very chear
and with a number of our ground
accociates. and I woke up and
hear I was way down hear in Mo
in our Chibly tents no where near
Brother Lou

You ^{4th} must mind and not let the
horse run away when you get your
Saddle. for my horse run away the
other ^{day} and ruined the Saddle most
or I'd let you had it to take a
ride. Confound the flies how they bother me.
Now I didn't ^{intend} to say you was one of
Girls that took a shine to him.
its true every one has a right to
there opinion. rather hard
opinion. yes some likely some
thinks bout a Dollars a month
while others are blowing it.

I was sorry to hear Geo
patrol of the Intoxicating drink
its make me feel bad to hear of any
of our Brother town Boys get to using
them selves in that way and unnering
them selves to get accustume to the
intoxicating Cup. meny a times have
I talked to my Brothers and persuaded
them not to use that kind of drink
but still I have one brother that will
partake of the intoxicating drink and more than
that I have a dear father that accustums

1 st
Springfield Mo
July 18th / 62
Phil. Aba

I received yours of
the 11th yesterday. I was read
with the greatest pleasure in the
world. it is grate pleasure to me
to read letters from friends, especia^{ly}
those that I've met in the capacity
of School to spend the long winter
days. how well I enjoyed my self
in there society in days that's gon by.
I trust and hope that in some future
day we will be blessed with the opportunity
of meeting and joining in each others
society. as in days that's past.
how fresh in memory dos the time appear
to me when we and a grate meny more
of our School mates, reckoned so much
on having exhibitions or going to Spelling
Schools and Singing Schools &c.
I now change my subject lest I weary
you with the past

^{2. no}
The Boys are all well except Louis
Walby. he is afflicted with the
Rheumatism and has been ever since
we came to Springfield. he is going home
I believe, as soon as they get his discha^{ge}
made out. I don't know how soon that
will be though. John Dick & Billy sends
their best respects to you. I'm the same
old siffence. still as usual. for you
know I was always still and may
be you'll think I'm gassing some.

I was glad to hear you are well, and
prospering in your School. I wish
you good luck in the duties that are layed
up on you in the School room, and else
where. I know it must be a difficult
task to perform. for I've seen enough
what the School Teachers have to go
through with. too know that they have
a tiresome task to perform.

The Wether here is warm as usual
we have had plenty rain here for
the last week. but none to much

You said you had a dull 4th 5th 12th

I thought they would have lively
times there. at any rate in the evening
I'm sorry you got so disappointed in the
Dance & Circus too. I should ^{think} I should
think more of his word than that
I don't know what ails Jarvis. The ^{last} word
he said to me that Sunday Night was
to write to him and he would do the same
in return. I've fulfilled my promise.
but still get no answer. if I have done
any thing wrong or heart-enz ^{want} ~~any~~ its
beyond my knowledge. its not my
disposition to heart-enz ones feelings
About that Circus it was rather a
dry joke that's fact. I should thought
more of that then I would all the rest
but there is a better time coming, we
all hope. oh Abba we have grate
times here now with the Blackbirds
they are dreadful thick and we can
go out and get all we can eat in
little while. they are just a few steps
from our camp

"DARN IT."

Breathes there a man with soul so dead,
If he should tumble out of bed,
Who, never, to himself has said,
Darn it.

Or who, when shaving in morning cold,
Has gashed his chin with razor old,
Who could these powerful words withhold,
Darn it.

Or when dancing at a ball,
The boots he wore were mighty small,
Who could not these words let fall,
Darn it.

When bowing at some lady gay,
His suspender buttons both give way,
Where is the man who would not say,
Darn it.

Or when one's notes or bills fall due,
And banks are hard and won't renew,
In these two words there's comfort true,
Darn it.

Or if a fellow with love is smitten,
And letters to his love has written,
And after all should get the mitten,
Darn it.

To young ladies we appeal,
If these two words are not genteel,
And if you've a hole in your stocking heel,
Darn it.

In short, when things have gone past bearing
All into threads, one's patience wearing,
These words are better far than swearing,
Darn it.

...houses, and slight conflagrations, being
in numerous places.

...are also informed, on indisputable
authority, that five thousand negroes have
been ordered by General Butler to work on
the canal across the bend on which Vicks-
burg are now situated.

The bed of the Mississippi being thus
raised, Vicksburg becomes an island city
ever—more, seven hundred shells have
been sent for to New Orleans, to reduce
the remains of Vicksburg to ashes, and the
work is fast progressing to completion.

NEW MADRID, July 5.

Vicksburg is ours. No particulars.

BEFORE RICHMOND !

INSIDE TO CO-OPERATE WITH McCLELLAN.

The Rebels Fallen Back—Gen.
McClellan Intrenched—Rebels
acknowledge their Loss Larger
than Nationals—Enemy's Loss
Estimated at 75,000.

Fresh Troops Going Forward—Another
Skirmish—The Rebels Defeated and
1,000 Prisoners Taken.

FORT MONROE, July 5.

Fresh troops arrived here from Wash-
ington yesterday during the day, and
went up James river on the evening of
the 4th,

...with four barges in