

Camp Mitchell  
Aug 17/69

Dear wife I sit down this  
~~after noon~~ to let you  
know that I am well  
and hope that these  
lines may find you all  
well, I have not received  
~~you~~ an answer for my  
last letter but we got  
orders to march tomorrow  
morning and I that I will  
write before we get  
March and Swearingen is  
well I have tried to  
get to Covington to get  
my likeness taken  
but could not, the  
officers could not go

Esther I want you to  
get me a pair of woolen  
gloves knit send them and  
my boots to me  
M H Sney is home on  
parlow and will bring  
them to me

I want you to get a small  
box that will just hold  
the boots and fix it so  
that a man can carry it  
in his hand  
get them to perret as soon  
as you can and leave them  
at the postoffice and  
write my name on the  
box We dont know  
when we are going

but we think we  
will go to Lexington  
by I will have to  
quit writing for we  
will have to march  
in 15 minutes  
so good by  
the present

Kate Garrison  
of ten

Camp Meitchel  
Aug 17/62

Dear wife, I sit down this after noon to let you know that I am well and hope that these lines may find you all well. I have not received an answer for my last letter but we got orders to march tomorrow morning and that I (want) to write before we left. Farsh and Swearingen is well. I have tryed to get to Covington to get my likenefs taken but could not, the officer could not go.

Esther I want you to get me a pare of wolen gloves knit. Send them and my boots to me. Lucy is home on furrow and will bring them to me. I want you to get a small box that will just hold the boots and fix it so that a man can carry it in his hand. Get them to Forest as soon as you can and leave them at the post office and write my name on the box. We don't know where we are going but think we might go to Lexington, Ky. I will have to quit writing for we will have to march in 15 miutes. So good by for the present. Write soon and often.

(This is the first of seven letters that Elijah wrote to Esther. There may be a few minor errors in transcribing, but the main thought is there. I took the liberty of adding periods to make the meaning clearer, but kept the spelling the same.)