

Encamped Eight miles north of
Chaplain hights (Chaplin Heights, KY)

Oct 12th (1862)

Dear father

I now take this opportunity to let you know that I am well at preasant (present) and hope that these few lines may find you the same. We had a little scratch with the rebells (rebels) last Wednesday the 8th and beat him. The result you will get ere this reaches you so I won't tell you about it but only tell you that we am all safe. There was 5 kild (killed) out of our company. Their names are as follows Thomas T Hover Fredrick Smidth Emet Huston Joseph Ball Ira Nye. Ira was shot through the hart (heart). There was ten or twelve wounded. I came through without a scratch. Dock (Austin) was at Louisville (KY). His leg was sore so he could not come but I herd (heard) from him yesterday. He was getting better. Orland is there too so I am all of the one in our company that was in the engagement of our boys. The rebells (rebels) ar (are) skedadleing (skedaddling) as fast as they can. How far they will go I cannot tell but we ar (are) moving after them. We left Louisville the first day of Oct and the eight (eighth) we met the enemy at Chaplain hights (Chaplin Heights, KY). They say so some prisoners say if they can't hold Kentucky they shall give it up but how true it is you may judge for your self. I got a letter from Dan a while (while) ago and he said that he had spoke to you about sedllen (settling) but the note that he had you did not like so he said he should have to give you his note and I should tell you to trade notes with him. When he should gett (get) one that did suit you may do so if the note suits you. You must be the judge. Dan owes me \$63.23. Act as you think proper that is all. I want you to wright (write) and tell me about the money that I expressed. There will be \$20 dollars in the Geauga Bank for me and 20 for Dock (Austin) the 15th of next month to be drawn in your name. I owe you \$5. dollars and I want you to take it out of the money that I have sent home. Toni Dow owes me \$2 two dollars. You can get that if you can. Tell John I got his letter but I have not had time to answer it yet. Tell him to wright (write) agen (again) as I do not know when I can. Direct to Louisville (KY) as usuall (usual).

good by (bye) for the peasant (present)

Note: This letter was not signed but was written by Spencer Sober.

Munfordsville (KY)

Oct 28/62

Dear father and mother

I now take this opportunity to let you know that we ar (are) all well with the exception of a slight cold. Dock (Austin) came to the regiment day before yesterday the 26. He has not had the measles at all. His leg is all right again. I am glad that you have got our money and have let it in a good place. The review that you speak of it was a hard time but I went through. The black flag of the rebels (rebels) is nothing for all the boys that wer (were) taken at the battle was used well. They let them take all their private property away with them when they wer (were) parolled (paroled).

We left Louisville (KY) the first day of october. Dock started with us and marched about 10 miles and turned back. We went on for three days toard (toward) Bardstown (KY). The division on our right engaged the rebels (rebels) there about two oclock. We could here (hear) the cannon and the rebels (rebels) run. And then we went on toard (toward) Perrysville (Perryville, KY) which place we reached about two oclock P.M. the 8th which time we went into the battle. Here we stayed two days to attend to our wounded and burry (bury) the ded (dead). Then we went to Herriodsburg (Harrodsburg, KY) thence to Danville (KY) where we stayed five days thence we turned our steps toard (toward) Lebinon (Lebanon, KY) here we stayed two days thence to this place (Munfordsville, KY) which we reached on the 23rd. We have traveled in all about two hundred miles.

How long we shall stay here I cannot tell but it may be for weeks. The paymaster came here yesterday. It may be to pay us off and it may not. I cannot tell till it comes to pay. If we stay here any length of time some one of our company will come home after such things as the boys want. If they do come home I want you to send us some boots. Morse has our measure and you can get him to make us some good ones and some under shirts. Wouldn't come mys (myself) but if I cannot get a chance to send for them I shall by (buy) them here although it will cost me more than it would to have them sent to me. Orland is still in Louisville (KY) in the hospital but he is not very sick I guess. I think he will come here in a few days. ? is discharged and sent home. He has not done any thing since we came from Lexington (KY). That march used him up as for as duty is concerned. I got 5 good shots at the rebels (rebels) at the battle. That done me some good but I cannot tell what the affect (effect) was. Webster must feel good to think he is drafted. I cannot think of any more to wright (write) at this time. Wright (write) soon and tell me all the news. Tell Lu I am going to wright (write) to him in a few days and John and Dan and James and Cath all so (also). Direct to Louisville (KY) as usual. That is the safest place at preasant (present). That is the jeneral (general) distributing (distribution) office. Excuse hast.

Spencer Sober

Camp Near Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 4th / 62

Dear father and mother

I now take the presant (present) opportunity to let you know that I am well and all sound up to this date and hope that these few lines may find you enjoying the same great blessing. Dock (Austin) has the measles but is doing well they say. He was pretty smart this morning they sayed (said) but he eat (ate a) little to much so he did not feel quite so smart at noon. There is a man in the hospital that is lame out of our company that sees to him. I have not bin (been) thare (there) for I thought it was not best for me to go as he had just as good care as I could give his (him) and I don't like to expose my self any more than I can help unnecessary (unnecessarily) but if he don't get along well I shall go and see him. Orland is at louisville (KY) in the hospital. How he is I do not know. There is nothing new in camp. You must wright (write) soon and tell me all that is going on on Clay Street and else whare (where). I took it into my hed (head) to send you that awful picture you have harped about so long which I have enclose. Don't settle with Dan without he will do the thing that is right. So good by (bye). Direct to louisville (KY) as usual. No more at preasant (present). Wright (write) soon.

S. Sober

I should have written for
the things some time ago
but I did not know but
some one would go home or
else we should leave here.
S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 7th (1862)

Dear father

I now take the preasant (present) opportunity to let you know that we
ar (are) doing well. I am all right. Dock (Austin) is getting along
pretty fast and I think he will be well in a short time. He is in a
comfortable place and all things is in good shape and things to make
them comfort (comfortable). I want you to go to William Morse and get
each of us a pare (pair) of boots made. Have them made a little longer
than the measure and a little larger just a trifle. Have them made as
soon as you posibly (possibly) can and have a box made large enough to
hold them and express them to me at this place and if you have let all
our money go you must make him wate (wait) till you draw the money from
geauga bank which will be dne (done) by the time you get this. I want
also each of us a pair of mittens with one finger and send them in the
same box. Don't have to large a box made for it will only make charges
higher for nothing. Pay the express charges for we have not drawn any
money yet and I do not know when we shall. It is getting cold here.
It snows (snowed) some to day. The snow fell here the 25th of last
month about 2 inches the same time that it snowed up thare (there). The
105th was mustered the 1 (st) day of this month and it mustered 440 men.

So good by (bye) for the preasant (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 8th (1862)

Dear father and mother

I now sit down to let you know that Austin is very sick and I never was more surprised than I was when I entered the hospital yesterday. I have bin (been) a little afraid of the mesles (measles) but yesterday I came her (here) and am here to day 2 P.M. I had herd (heard) that he was doing well but when I saw him I hardly knew him. He was so poor nothing but skin and bone and so week (weak) that he can hardly stand up. I do not know what to do for him or with him, I don't kow (know) as we could move him if we could get a discharge. If we had a good nurse I think he might get along but as you all know that whare (where) thare (there) is so many thare (there) cannot be so much attention to each as they realy (really) need. So I am in a rather tight place. I do not know which way to turn. If we had our kind of docters (doctors) I could contrive some thing for him but as things is I can do nothing but look on. I got him up and washed him and changed his shirt that will help him. They lay it all to his eating a lot of chese (cheese) after his mesles (measles) came out and turned it into a fever.

You must take things cool. I shall try for a discharge for him and if I can get it I shall tellegraph (telegraph) to you and you must come after him with all hast.

No more at preasant (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov. 13th 1862

Mr. C. U. Frank

Sir

Dr. Seymour was here two days since and requested me to (write) you a line informing you of the state of Austin Sober's health. I am happy to inform you that he is better than when Dr. Seymour was here and that he will probably recover. Please inform his family of this favorable change in his condition.

Yours

J. G. Paulding
Ast. Surg. 105th O V I

Camp near Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 17 / 62

Benj. (Benjamine) Sober Esq.
Huntsburg Ohio

Dear Sir

I have just come from the hospital. Austin is better and I think will recover now if he does not have any relapse. Spencer is sick with measles (and) will get along without any serious trouble I think. I am well and enjoying myself finely.

Truly Yours in Hast (Haste)

J. A. Moffett

Note: J. A. Moffett was probably a member of the 105th Regiment and wrote to Spencer's and Austin's father for them since they were both sick.

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 19th (1862)

Dear father

I received your letter last evining (evening) and was glad to hear that you got the dispatch that I ordered and the letter also. I am happy to inform you that Austin is better and gaining slowly. The cause of my calling it the mesles (measles) was on the account of that being the first cause. He got better of them and then he eat (ate) a lot of cheese that set him into the fever but I think he will get along now if we can keep him from eating to much again. He is very ravinous (ravenous). I think he can get a discharge with out doubt. The docter (doctor) told him he would send him home as soon as he got able to ride. So I guess he will make out his papers for him as soon as he is able to come. I have bin (been) here with him some 12 days. I have had the mesles (measles) but I did not mind them. I have bin (been) out dores (doors) every day since I have bin (been) here. I shall stay here a while longer. Austin has (as) good care as I can wish for under the circomstances (circumstances) but I think he will come right along now if he has no pulbacks. If he gets worse I shall let you know. I will wright (write) again soon. Austin got some stamps some time ago some 10 I think it was about the first of this month I think so don't know but that is all right if you have not sent two lots.

You must take good care of my pet the old rifle. Don't let it get rusty. Use it once in a while so to keep it in good order.

So good by (bye) for the preason (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 23rd (1862)

Dear father and mother

I thought I would wright (write) you a few lines to you to let you know how Austin is as I thought you would want to hear how he is. I think he is doing well. He is a great deal better than he was when I first went into the hospital. He is in good spirits and has a good appetite and is gaining strength every day. If we can keep him from eating to much and he has no relapse he will recover. He is perfickly (perfectly) rationally (rational). Deloss Canfield brought me two pair of socks and a chunk of sugar in one of them. I borrowed two dollars of him for I was getting rather close and I did not know when we should get any pay so I thought it best to get a little wen (when) I could. I have to use a little occationly (occasionally) for Austin and I want to have you hand it to him for it was a great accommodation to me and tak (take) the same out of my money when you get hold of some.

I guess that is all at preasant (present). So good by (bye).

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Nov 27th (1862)

Dear father and mother

I thought that you would like to hear how Dock (Austin) is getting along so I thought I would drop a line to you to day. He is doing first rate. He has sit (sat) up a little while for to (two) or three days past. He feels good and has a good appetite. The regiment has orders to march. They will go soon and they seem to think that all the sickest ones those that ar (are) not likely to be able for duty soon will be sent to louisville (KY). There they will stand a good chance to get a discharge. Austin and Philo Bonton and the blacksmith Web will go there if any of them goes. I think that Austin will get his discharge after a while. I am still at the hospital yet. I am going to stay here till I am perfictly (perfectly) well. I shant try to march with the regiment for I should stand a good chance to catch cold. I ant (ain't) going to fret the cattle much after this. You may bet high on that. I may go to louisville (KY) with the rest when they go. I can't tell any thing about it now. If the regiment leaves they will move the hospital I guess.

You need not answer this till you hear from me again.

Good by (bye) for the preasant (present)

S. Sober

Munfordsville (KY)

Dec 18th (1862)

Dear father and mother

I now sit down to let you know how we ar (are) getting along. I am all right. Austin is coming to his appetite again. They have sent off all of the sick that is able to go to the regiment and all of the rest that is able to be moved to louisville (KY). Austin will be sent there as soon as he is able to be moved with safty (safety). Philo Bonton (and) Sylvester Web has gone to louisville. There is but 8 eight left here. As soon as Austin is able to go to louisville I shall go to the regiment. I might just as well go now as any other way for he has all the care and just as good care as I can give him. All the difference is he will feel a little better to have me here I suppose. If it had not bin (been) for that I should went this morning. I think that if he goes to louisville he will get a discharge or a furlow (furlough). He won't never have to march any more I think. I believe we all will be home in the Spring or before by the way things move off now. The troops ar (are) poring (pouring) in toard (toward) nashville (Tenn) in perfect streems (streams). I am glad that you sent the box just as you did for if you had waited a week I might never have seen it. My boots is just a fit. I wouldn't take ten dollars for them no mans money. The cakes tast (taste) first rate. The berries is good to. I am much pleased with them all. All though Austin don't enjoy it much but it is dinner time and I must close. I talked to the docter (doctor) about getting a furlow (furlough) for Austin and he said the best thing was to have him go to louisville. There he would stand a better chance than here. You need not answer this for I don't know whether it would fine me if you should wright (write).

So good by (bye) for the preasant (present)

Spencer Sober

Louisville (KY)
Dec 25th (1862)

Hospital No. 8th
Ward No. 1

(Dear father)

I now sit dow (down) to let you know how we ar (are). We arrived here tuesday evening (Dec. 23rd). Austin stood the journey first rate so far but the rest of the journey I cannot tell the result. He is very week (weak) and the diareaa (diarrhea) still hangs to him. The docter (doctor) of this hospital has made out papers of reccommendation (recommmendation) for a discharge for to take before the medical bord (board). I think there (will be) no trouble about his getting a discharge for him. He will be examined today. Pomeroy has done first rate. He worked hard and has affected every thing so far to the entire satisfaction of my self. If Austin dies on the road do not lay any blame on Pomeroy for he cannot do more than he has. There (is) no chance for me to come attall (at all) for I am to near fit for service. They don't give any furlows (furloughs) to any one and I have no chance for a discharge but all I care for is to get him off for home that will take a great burthen (burden) of (off) my shoulders then I can go along with out any more trouble. I can get along with out any trouble. This is a nice place. It is a nice as any parlor. Nice beds and every thing to eat. The ladies bring in all kinds of nice things to eat. The ladies ar (are) going to give a Christmas dinner to day to the hospital. I don't think of any thing of any importance. Pomeroy had to work hard to get me to accompany him this far. If it had not bin (been) for his being a mason and the commander of Munfordsville also or else I should have to have stayed there. I am not sick but I am going to stick to this place as long as I can. I can stay here and get my pay for it.

I shall keep five dollars of the money you sent by him. I have one dollar left yet. They (are) going to pay off all the hospitals the first of next month but I have no discriptive roll so I cannot draw mine till next time.

No more at preasant (present)
Direct to Louisville Hospital
No. 8 Ward No. 1st.

Wright (write) as soon as you get this.

S. Sober

Nashville (Tenn)

Jan 29th (1863)

Dear father and mother

I now sit down to let you know that I am well at preasant (present) and hope that these few lines may find you the same. I left louisville (KY) the 16th on bord (board) the Atlantic. 17th crossed to New Albany (Ind.) took on 5,000 bushels (of) coal then along down stoping (stopping) at various places. Arived (arrived) at Smithland (KY) the 21st taking on here and on the way here 20,000 butials (bushels) of corn. 22nd started up the Cumberland (River) reached fort donnelson (Fort Donelson, Tenn) the 23rd then to Clarksville (Tenn) on the 24th. Here we lay till the 28th on account of some rebell (rebel) batteries up the river which had to be dislodged before our fleet of transports dare start. Our fleet consists of twenty transports and four gunboats. We came through safe. We had two shots fired at us by the enemies pickets. We returned the fire and they run (ran). So much for my trip to this place (Nashville, Tenn). I don't know whare (where) my regiment is. You will hear from me again as soon as I find it. I am heavyer (heavier) that when I left home. I weigh 160 pounds now. The snow was 1½ feet deep when I left louisville (KY). It is fine weather here. No more at preasant (present). Direct to nashvill tenn (Nashville, Tenn.).

Good by (bye) Write soon.

S. Sober

Murfreesboro (Tenn.)

Feb 2nd (1863)

Dear father and mother

I now sit dow (down) to let you know that I found my regiment the very day I reached this place (Murfreesboro, Tenn.). We are encamped about one mile south of the town (Camp Stanley). I reached here the 31st. I found the boys all feeling well. There was 130 of our men taken prisoner the other day. They wer (were) out forriaging (foraging). I suppose that all of you have written to me but they came to the regiment and they sent them back to me but they wer (were) lost. The last letter I received was from Sylvia of Dec 2nd (1862). I want you to write to me as soon as you get this. I suppose that there has bin (been) several letters sent to me and wer (were) lost for the lieutenant told me that he had remailed some 8 or 10 letters to me but I never got one of them. I have answered all that I have received. I would like to be there to hunt mink a little while. It is nice wether (weather) down here. All kinds of spring birds ar (are) singing in the trees about us. I think we will stay here some time yet. Ther (there) is nothing of importance to write so I will close. Good by (bye) for the preasant (present). Write soon.

Yours as ever

S. Sober

Camp (Stanley) Near Murfreesboro (Tenn)

Feb 24th 63

Mr Sober

Dear Sir

It is hard but I must write you the painful news that Spencer is dead. He died this morning at three O clock at Hospital No. eight Murfreesboro (Tenn). Spencer came to the Regt (Regiment) about the first of this month (Feb). He was not well. He should not have come here until Spring. He was taken with a diarhea (diarrhea) about the 16th but got some better. I went on a scout the 17th (and) did not consider him dangerous. He went to the Hospi (Hospital) the 22nd. When I got back he was in the Hospi (Hospital). I should have went an seen him the 23 (23rd) but was sick. I intended to go the next day but he died. We buried him at the brigade head quarters. He had the lung fever.

I have got his things an (and) if it is posible (possible) will express them home.

I will write again soon

Orlando Dimmick

Note: Spencer died probably never knowing that his brother Austin had preceded him in death on January 2, 1863, after returning home from the hospital in Louisville, Ky. Spencer mentioned in his last letter of February 2, 1863, that he had not heard from home since receiving a letter written on December 2, 1862, however, he could have received a letter between the date of his last letter and his death on February 24, 1863, which might have informed him of Austin's death.