

Albert Corey Letters

Private, 44th Illinois Infantry

Letter Informing of Albert's Death

February 9, 1863

Murfreesboro Tenn [sic]

Feb 9th 1863

Miss Mary Cory,

Undoubetly [sic] your Father has received a letter from me before this telling the particulars of your brothers [sic] death, I wrote a day or two later then the Lieutenant, I would have answered yours of the 22 befor [sic] this, but I have been on active duty every sinse[sic] I have received it untill [sic] at present, of which I have a few moments of leasure [sic] in the letter that I wrote your Father, I sent a lock of your Brothers [sic] hair, he was killed on the mornings of the 31st of Dec and was not buered untill [sic] the 6th of Jan his bodie [sic] was in a good state of presevation [sic] when he was laid in the grave, I laid him in the grave and had him with five others, he lays in on the out side, so he can be taken up with out disturbing any of the others, [crossed out: he was buried as deacent [sic] as we co] we buered him as well as we could, he did not have any coffin or even a blanket to folde [sic] him in, he had on an overcoat, I wraped [sic] him in that as mush [sic] as I culd [sic], if your Parent should eathe [sic] come or send some one, I would be very happy in doing all in my power in helping removing him, there is no chanc [sic] of me sending him home, for there is no coffins any nigher then Louisville suitable for the purpas [sic], if any one comes after him befor [sic] the Army moves from here I can help in removing him, if the Army should move from here I will have to go with it and there would not be much of a chance of me helping in taking him up, there for I will tell where he was buered [sic], in going to Murfreesboro from Nashville within 2 miles of Murfreesboro there is a learge [sic] cedar forest on the right of the road of the south end of the forest there is a learge [sic] brick house that has been burned, to go to Alberts [sic] grave, turn to the right to the brick house and pass over to the right in a south east direction on to a road called the Nolensville pike after getting on this road turn to the left at the first house it stands quite a piece from the road, at the back of the house there is a piece of woods and a lain [sic] leading from the house he lays at the end on the left,, most any man that lives there can tell where we was driven back, you must excuse me for this short and dull letter I have got to go on duty and must close, I will be very happy to do all [rest is missing]

Letter Fragment

[illegible first line on next sheet of paper] by express and we have a receipt [sic] for the box if you have not received [sic] the box we will send the receipt [sic] to your father and it can be collected [sic] there as well as here, enclosed you will find a circular [sic] from Springfield telling how his back pay and bounty can be collected [sic], etc

your friend

Thomas W Travis

Co H 44th Ills Vol

Sheridans [sic] Divi

Murfreesboro Tenn [sic]

Letter Informing of Albert's Death

camp on stone [sic] creek

Murfreesboro Tenn [sic]

Jan 12th, 1863,

Dear sir

it is with regret that i [sic] take my pen in hand, to record the death of your son, he was beloved by the whole of the co, he was killed on the 31st of dec 1862, i [sic] was not more than ten feet from him when he was shot, the details are thus, the regt [sic] had charged in to a piece of woods, and drove the enemy out, they then called and came down on us again they then drove us back again Albert got behind [sic] one tree and i [sic] behind [sic] another, we fired several rounds, he loaded [rest is missing]

from you of which i [sic] inclose [sic] in the same envelop [sic] for return will all so [sic] inclose [sic] a lock of his hair of which i [sic] got when he was laid [sic] in this grave, my best respects to you, your obedient [sic] servant

Thomas W. Travis

Co H, 44th Ill Vols

Sheridans [sic] Div [sic]

Army of the Comberland [sic]

PS his things will be sent home as quick as an opportunity [sic] offered

Letter Fragment

then was gon[sic], he had a gold finger ring that was worth two dollars and a half that was gone all so [sic], it had his initials on the plate, he got it in Springfield Missouri [sic] after the evacuation of Murfreesboro i [sic] went and bueried [sic] him, and another of his messmates, there is six layes [sic] in one grave i [sic] had him layed [sic] so if you wished to take him home that he could be taken out without disturbing any [sic] of the others, he all so [sic] had a bayonet thrust through the right shoulder whether that killed him or not i [sic] do not know, he was a brave and a good soldier, when he had his health [rest of line is illegible]

of the [illegible] of stome [crossed out] stomich [sic], he fell then got up and run a few steps, and fell again he got up again and then run a few steps more and fell again he got up again, and then i [sic] got holde [sic] of his left arm a serge got holde [sic] of his right arm we run several rods part of the time we had to cary [sic] him the enemy at so close to us that the serge let go of his arm he then fell to the ground, i [sic] then asked him if he thought he would die, and he said that he did not know, those is the last words that i [sic] ever herd [sic] him say, his body [sic] fell in the hands of the enemy, they took every thing [sic] from him he had a pair of gloves sent him a few days days[sic] befor [sic] them

Letter to his Father

December 6, 1862

Camp Near Nashville

Dec 6th 1862

[hand drawn picture of a bird with USA written above it]

Mrs I. Corey Galesburg, Mich

Dear Father

I take my pen in hand to wrig [sic] you a few lines this evening Old [missing] frost is pepping in to every hole [illegible] Clouth [sic] hous [sic] which is getting [illegible] rotten we have lived in at all [illegible] sixteen [sic] mo i [sic] am righting [sic] on my surt [sic] by a few coles [sic] that we have in a mes [sic] pan but it is about as cold for Jim spicer [sic] is sitting in front of Our regt [sic] went out on picket [illegible] yestrday [sic] morning

it Commenced when we was a going out and sno[missing] The forenoon it was a little cold we ware [sic] all up when the Es[missing] was on the moon it was a [illegible] interesting to watch it i [sic] saw it it commenced and watched it it became natcherll [sic] agane [sic][illegible] about two ours [sic] it is so cold that it [rest is missing]

Letter to his Father

June 20, 1862

Camp Rosie

Mais

June 20th 1862

Dear Father

it is with plesure [sic] that i [sic] take my pen in hand to write you a few not very intresting [sic] lines the letter that you recieved [sic] from me was a letter that i [sic] rote [sic] to you in mo [sic] it was about one of the boys that i [sic] inlested [sic] in the [illegible] his name was John Galigon when i [sic] rote [sic] that he could be your better we expected that he would go home and i [sic] told him to go to our hous [sic] for he had no home except whear [sic] he uest [sic] to work till his hand got well but the last i [sic] heard from him he was sick in rolla [sic] mo [sic] you [crossed out] it is your wish that i [sic] would write oftenr [sic] thar [sic] aha [sic] ben [sic] times that i [sic] could wrot [sic] that i [sic] have [crossed out word] neglected but thar [sic] ar [sic] seavel [sic] we have so much duty to purforme [sic] the Co hafto [sic] go on picket gard [sic] every 4 dayes [sic] and sum [sic] time sum [sic] of us haft [sic] to go on Poleas [sic]guard other the next day we my [sic] be orderd [sic] out in the nite [sic] to work a [illegible] the breast work to work thay [sic] has aben [sic] prettey [sic] fory [sic] way of a fite [sic] hear [sic] the other nite [sic] thay [sic] expect an atact [sic] on the [illegible] rode [sic] we had no brestworks [sic] on the rod [sic] but in [illegible] than an our the battery was orderd [sic] out on the rod [sic] thay [sic] flanked too [sic] peaces [sic] thar [sic] i [sic] was on town guard that nite [sic] the Generl [sic] [illegible] down [sic] to the stashon [sic] looked at sum [sic] bales of cotton that had bin [sic] down thar [sic] so he sed [sic] boys why cant [sic] we do as old Jackson did

left smeared Springfield mo [si] you rote [sic] that wihele [sic] [illegible] Chad had ben [sic] out hom [sic] i [sic] should like to tell him very much is his health [illegible] better than it ust [sic] to be Dear pearents [sic] i [sic] am a getting so i [sic] like the serives [sic] better every day i [sic] simes [sic] like a home to me Capt [sic] Barret has ben [sic] disarnobly [sic] discharged from the sirvies [sic] our first lutannent [sic] was put up to Capt [sic] Charles T. Dake was put in capt [sic] and [illegible] yesterday we ar [sic] all swell satisfied now the rest of our Co has com [sic] up from Carouy [sic] so we are all

together once more tell [illegible] that i [sic] could not fill up the blank for Barret has I got the Co [sic] book with him an he had better see him for he is out of the sirves [sic] now i [sic] have sen [sic] Leut [sic] chages [sic] and [illegible] brown [illegible] and bill Stanerd the rest was out on a scout the next morning

nite [sic] thare [sic] is not so much danger now as thar [sic] for we have ben [sic] enforced three Divishons [crossed out] bragdes [sic] we as under Gen Daves [sic] and in Gen Asborith [sic] brigade we as under L Gen Popes [sic] Divishans [sic] but under Daves [sic] in his absence for i [sic] hear that pat is gone to washington [sic] i [sic] went out and picked a fine lot of blackberies [sic] and Jim Spiels ha [sic] com [sic] in with sum [sic] mor [sic] thay [sic] are plenty out hear [sic] i [sic] would like very much to be to home a mounthy [sic] now a wounder [sic] if i [sic] would have anney [sic] strawberies [sic] and no it is a mistaek [sic] yo say that the frute [sic] is all drid i [sic] never see so much frute [sic] in my life as thare [sic] is out hear [sic] thare [sic] is in frunt [sic] of our tent a peach tree the limbs breacking [sic] down withh the fruite [sic] Dear father i [sic] am happy to tell you that i [sic] never injoy [sic] such good helth [sic] in my life i [sic] have not sean [sic] a sick day since i [sic] [rest is missing]