

Murfreesboro, Tennessee

January the 17th 1863

Mr. Henry Cline Jr.

Dear Sir, I take this opportunity to inform you that I am still enjoying good health and hope these few lines will find you all the same. Mr. Cline, I will tell you what a good time we had a cracking butternuts (Confederate soldiers) Christmas and New Years. We went out a foraging on Christmas and did not crack any that day but the next morning old Rosy's army pulled up and started for Murfreesboro and you had better believe the butternuts had to (align?), We drove them until we came into Lavergue, a small search (?) town. The citizens had all left and the buildings was full of rebels and they give us fits out of the windows but we had orders to charge with bayonets, and double quick into the town and you had better believe the butternuts had to leave in a hurry. They wounded a good many of our boys. One from our company, William Wade, a ball entered just under his right eye and came out under his left ear. We went on until we came to Stone River, about three miles of Murfreesboro, when the rebels brought us to a halt. We lay there until the thirty first when the ball opened. We were on the left center. We were in range of one of the rebels batteries all day. The shells made the boys lay down so quick that they split their pants all to pieces. In the afternoon, the butternuts came at us and we came up in plain sight of each other. Our regiment was under musket fire for three hours. We shot sixty rounds apiece and I know we killed a pile of them. At least they got enough of us and backed up. We got all we wanted too. They wounded a good many of us. I do not know how many was wounded in the regiment that day. There was ~~three~~ four wounded out of our company that day, all pretty bad. Ashburn caught two bullets through the right leg and is doing well now. John Sherwood, in the breast. He died a couple of days ago. Aaron from a bullet went into his bones. He is pretty bad off. I don't think he will get over it. A ball hit me in the right side and went just through the skin and stopped and fell out into my boot. We spent the balance of New Years Eve a laying in a line of battle on picket. There we lay and watched the old year out and new year in. We had lost our overcoats and blankets and we froze almost to death. So you

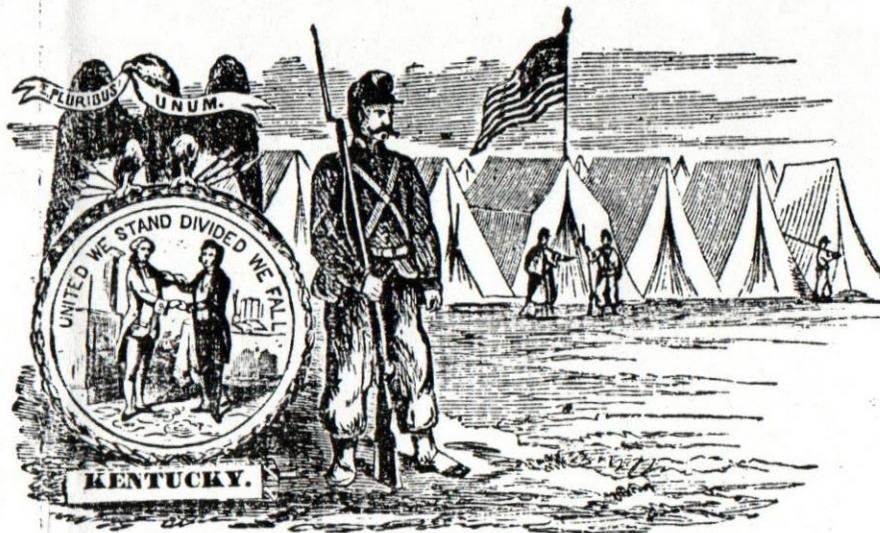
may think what a nice time we had on New Years day. Our regiment lay on the reserve. On the second, we went out in advance again and the rebel battery played on us all day. In the afternoon, a twelve pound cannon ball hit John Goodhue in the --- and killed him dead. Just before sundown, the rebels pushed into our men on our left in double column and drove them back for awhile when our men turned on them and made them fly for the cat hole. Our men took three pieces of artillery and a good many prisoners that night and on the next night they had even invaded Murfreesboro. So we came on here and camped. Where they have gone we do not know. They killed and wounded a good many of us but I think they got the worst of it. All we know about it is what we see for we get no newspapers. Our regiment reports one hundred and twelve killed and wounded and eight killed. We have pretty cold weather here now. We have about one inch of snow, the most snow we have had here this winter. The boys are all well that is left. There was three or four of our company that did not stand up to the task very well in the fight. Mr. Cline, I want you to write as soon as you get this and tell me how you all enjoyed Christmas and New Years and how you all get along. Oh, I forgot to wish you all a happy New Year.

Goodbye for this time .

Yours truly,
Lyman A. Cook



*Hi - I will address on envelope.
Back was blank.*



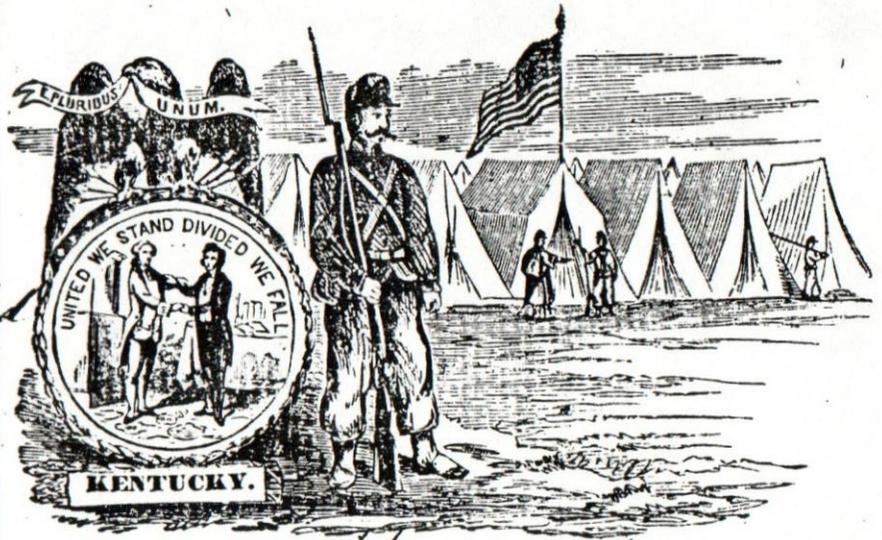
we spent the balance of
~~the~~ new year eve a laying
in a line of battle on picket
there we lay and watched
the old year out and new
year in we had our over
coats and blankets and we
from all most to death
so you may think what a nice
time we had on new year
day our regiment lay on the
reserve on the second we went
out in advance a gain and
the rebel battery played on us

all day in the afternoon a twelve
pound cannon ball hit john goodhue
in the and killed him dead just
before sundown the rebels pushed
into our men on our left in double
column and drove them back
for a while when our men turned
on them and made them fly.
for the whole our men took
three pieces of artillery and a
good many prisoners that night
and on the next night they
had evacuated missouri some
came on here and camped where
they have gone we do not know
they killed and wounded a good
many of us but i think they got
the worst of it all we know about
it is what we see for we get no
newspapers our regiment reports
one hundred and twelve killed
and wounded eight killed

we have pretty cold weather here
now we have about one inch of snow
the most snow we have had here
this winter the boys are all well
that is left there was three or four
of our company that did not stand
up to the work very well in the fight
well i want you to write as
soon as soon as you get this
and tell me how you all enjoyed
christmas and new years and you
all get a long & i forgot to wish
you all a happy new years.
goodbye for this time yours truly

Lyman A. Cook

they wounded a good many of
us i do not now how many
was wounded in the regiment
that day there was ^{four} three wounded
out of our company that day
all pretty bad ashburn
two bullets, thru the right leg
and is doing well now charles
mont one bullet thru his
right leg and is doing well
now john shernood in the
breast he died a couple of
days ago was bron a bullet
went into his bones he is pretty
bad off i dont think he
will get over it a ball
hit me in the right side
and went just thru
the skin and stopped and
fell out into my boot



Newfreesboro Tenn
January the 17th 1862
Mr Henry Cline Dr
Dear sir i take this opportunity
to inform you that i am
still enjoying good health
and hope these few lines
will find you all the same
next i will tell you
what a good time we had
a cracking butternuts
chickens and new years we
went out a foraging on christmas
and did not crack many that,

day, but the next morning
Arling's army pulled up and
started for Murfreesboro and
you had better believe the
butternuts had to cline we
drove them untill we came
into Laverne a small creek
town the citizens had all
left and the buildings was
full of rebels and they give
us fitts out of the windows
but we had orders to
charge lajuncts and double
quick into the town and
you had better believe the
butternuts had to have in a
hurry they wounded a good many
of our boys one from our company
William made a ball entered
just under his right eye and
came out under his left ear
we went on untill we came

to Stone river about three miles
of Murfreesboro when the rebels
brought us to a halt we
we lay there untill the thirty
first when the ball opened
we were on the left center
we were in range of one of
the rebels batteries all day
the shells mad the boys lay
down so quick that they
split their pants all to
pieces in the after noon the
butternuts came at us and
we came up in plane sight
of each other our regiment was
under musket fire for three
ours we shot sixty rounds apiece
and i now we killed a pile of
them at least they got a
a nuff of us and backed up
we got all we wanted too