Jan. 28, 1862. (?)

Uncle Oviatt died ~~Dec 1861~~ (?)
Uncle Will (writer of this letter) died
Dec. 1862. killed at
Murfreesboro fight (Stone River Battle)
Buried National Cemetery
there. Uncle Oviatt
buried near West
Independence, Hancock
County, Ohio. ~~Thomas~~
Miranda had body sent [illegible]
(these facts prove my
father, W. J. Bradford,
a younger brother of William
signed — George W. Bradford
Nov. 29, 1925)

W. J. Bradford is Warren James Bradford
son of Moses Dunn Bradford

Also: Tip Oviatt (Lester) starved to death in either
Andersonville or Libby Prison and gnawed the
skin off his hands.

Roxy (recipient of this letter) burned to
death about the '70's. Sister of Cousin
Sarah Russell of Newton Falls, Ohio.

William H Bradford: 21st ~~19th~~ Ohio

Camp Jefferson Jan 10th: 62

Dear Cousin Roxy

it is with pleasure that
I write a few lines to let you
know we are well except Oviatt
he was driving Team a while
& he went to jump of from the
wagon one day when he was coming
through the Mountains & his feet
slipped and he lit on his back
it is so now that he can not
do any thing but I guess he
~~will get me it in a few weeks~~
his head pains him so that he cannot
write this time
but as for me I am well & hasty
& have been abel to preform all that
has been required of me so far
we have ~~been~~ hard times until lately
for about four weeks we have had

pretty easy times & we get better
grub than we have had up to
the 6th of this month
I calculated to have writen to you
before this time
we hear from our folks every week
or two they was well the last letter
we got give our respects to Granmother
& Uncle Will & Uncle Net & Aunt Mary
& Uncle Ury & Aunt Jane Uncle Harvey
& Lucretia & all the rest
& tell them we would like to have
them write write how Uncle Will
gets along & Granmother to
we have plenty to eat & to wear
we are 45 miles from Buckness force
& miles from Green River close by
the Railroad
there is a good many sick in our
Reg with the measles & some of them
home sick but thats all the good
it does them I have not been sick
two hours since I hired out to
Uncle Sam he is rich enoughf to
give us all a farm & he gives us some
money once in a while
Roxy if Mary Taylor is about tell
her to write
I had the pleasure of seeing F E Stone
& his Co
I have not seen Tip Oraitt
I cannot find out where they are
we would like to see you all
but we will have to make the rebbels
hunt the cat hole first
& that we will do be fore long
so Good bye for this time
we have 2 cooks in our mess &
I am one of them it is time
to get supper

yours from
O S B & Wm H Bradford

direct your letters to the 21st Ohio Reg
Co A in 1 care of Capt Stoughton

Page 1

Wm H Bradford
Went to Camp September
16 1861
and was mustered in the
U.S. service the 28th sep &
drew government Clothing
on saturday & sat. ev. we went
home & stayed over sunday
monday morning went to
Camp 21st Reg left Camp
Vance took Cars for Cary was
4 hours going 16 mi sunny
of the track twice in that
time then by the Cars to
Camp Dennison where
we arived about 3 o clock in
the morning at Kenton
the People showed their
generously by setting out
some pies & Cakes. & Fried

Beef of which the Boys helped
them selfs - Stayed at Camp
Dennison untill October the 2
Camp Dennison is a very neat situation
for a camp handy to water handy
to Railroad & other things &c
left Camp Dennison Oct. 2
took the Cars for Cincinnati
Crossed the Ohio Riv to Covington
took Cars went to Lexington
from there we took the Cars
for Nicklosville and encamped
on the 13 a battery passed
our Camp for Camp Dick
Robbison on the 10 nothing
of importance untill the
12th Oct Major General Anderson
Visitted our Camp which
is called Tom Letches he is
a noble looking man

he made a few remarks
& then came the hardy cheers
from our boys 12 a grand
rally in nicklosville for
soldiers for the union Oct
the 15. left Camp Tom Letches
Walked 15 mi to Lexington
& encamped on the old
Fairground which is a very
beautyful location for Camp
it is one mile from town of
Lexington Oct the 16th our
Reg visitted Henry Clays
monument it is ~~over~~ 80
feet square at the base &
is 128 feet high clear of
his statue. the 18 Packed
up & left Camp Duddly
marched 14 mi & encamped
for the night on the

Farm of Siles Barkley the
land is rooling & of the best
quality 19 struck Tents &
marched 6 mi for winchester
where we took dinne which
the Pepple sad ready for us
winchester is the County sect
of Clark County we then
marched 7 mi and encamped
for the night the Country
is more or less hilly & stony
Oct 20 struck Tents & forward
marched 7 mi which brought
us to mount sterling this
was Sunday we marched 7 mi
from town & enc for the night
in mount gunnery Co Oct
21 Continued our march
through a very rough
Country the timber is Oak

& Pine principly & Chestnut
White seeder Persimmons we
marched 16 mi & put up a
usual in a wet quagy
spot of Ground 22 continued
our marche Passed through
macornies Gap & Camp
it is high ledges of Rocks
2 or 3 hundred feet high
we marched 6 mi & then
stoped for the night
our laggage did not get
up with us till darke the roads
was so bad here we came to
the 23 Reg Ohio & the 2 Ohio Reg
that night 2 Ohio marched all
night & came to west Liberty
& took the town and killed
7 and took 20 Prisoners & eat
their Breckfast one wounded
warm

the 33 C" started the next
morning for Hazel Green
and when we got there we
had marched 23 mi thru
the mud & mire & mountains
next day they had possession
of the town & about 20 Rio
we got here about 2 clock P.m
& encamped on a hill
we in wolf co ~~#~~ it was
very sickly place poor water
31 we started for Prestons
Burge and traviled 16
mi through mud & water
& encamped for the night
Sovem the 1st traviled 12
mi over mountains & in
the mud & water from shoe
to boot to deep & then encam
for the night the 2 we

we marched 5 mi came
to Licking River which
we had to Bridge crossed
the Rio went on 2 mi &
encamped for the night
the 3 we we marched about
8 mi came to the other
branch had to make a bird
& stayed there that night
next day the 4 the 5 we
started and marched
to Prestons burge a distance
of 23 miles & a miserable
little town it is the
County seat of Floid Co
we laid here untill the
8th when we started for
Piketon Grove in their
Pickets about 11 o clock
A.m and about 2

and about 2 clock P.M
we came one about five
hundred of the Rebbles
well fortified in among
the rocks & after an
hour & 20 min fighting
we drove them in all
Directions killed over 40
of the Rebbles & took 30 Pr
Prisoners our loss was 7 kill
20 wounded we marched
4 miles & marched up a
steep hill eat our suppy
& laid down to rest with
out our tents in the bus
Co C was on Picket
guard that night & the
the next day it rained
most all day and night
& the next day allso

Novem the 5th ~~had to~~
~~Stomb~~ Co A went
out a scouts in the
woods along near the road
till about 10 A.M when
we was call in to the
Brigade nothing to eat
but fresh Poke no salt
had no tents 10th marched
5 miles came to Pike
ton got there about noon
found the 2 Chio & Co
Bof 21 Reg & two Prices
of Conclins battery
& about 200 Ky Cabalry
that went another sout
& took Possession of the
town of Pike ton they
killed about 30 & took
some Prisoners

& not oven lost on our side
we stayd there & lived
on fresh beef & meal
Till noon 16th Co A was
all out on Picked at 4 in
the morning we got orders
that we was to go back
to Prestonsburg Co A
had nothing to eat but
4 Crackers we marched
32 mi some of the Reg
went down the River on
the Boat roads were
awful 13 Packed up
& started for Louwisa
marched down to the Riv
2 miles from town & Crossed
the Big Sandy layd there
all night in order to get
the Baggage & provisions

a cross the River
the next day nov 18th we
struck Tents marched 13
mi to Paints Ville
had nothing to eat that
night the next morning
we had one Crackers
a piece 20th struck Tents
marched near 26 mi &
then encamped for night
& killed 2 Beevs for the Brig
& had 5 barles of Crackers
for our Brigade nov 21st
marched 8 mi with out
our knap sack Came
to Louwisa about noon
tok boats for Catletsburg
went down the River
about 5 miles & laid over
for the night Co A was

on the huricane deck
it was rather cold a windy
we spent a part of the
night on old Verginia
shore 22th started early
got to Cattets burge about
10 A.m the Town lays
near the mouth of Big sandy
on the Banks of the Ohio
River verginnia corners there
& Ky. the 23 laid there all day
& the 24 untill the 8 o'clock
in the evening when the rest
of the Brigad came up with
us when we started for
Cincinnattia a distance of
150 miles got there the
morning of the 25 layd there
two hours when the Boats
started for Louisville

a good many of our
boys got of the boat went
up town to get some bread
Welker & Fits & 45 ft Bread
& a good many thrs was
left the next day them
that was left took Cabbin
passge on Major and son
for Louisville to get up
with our Reg a distance of
150 mi down the Ohio it was
the 26th when we came up
with our Reg which was 5 mi
from town at Camp Bewel
here was over 12000 men encamp
& more comming
Novem 27th the 3rd Ohio
came into our Division
29th rainy and very mud
in our quarters 30th got

about one inch of snow
Decem the 1 W.A.B got a
pass from Capt to visit
some friends in the 15 Reg
Ohio was gone over 2 hours
we had Preaching in the
after noon by our Chaplain
Dec the 2 snowing in the mor
struck our tents and marched
about 2 mi to ~~another~~ Cam
Oakland near Louisville
Dec 3th weather Clear & Cold
with about 2 inches of snow
Dec 5th ~~very~~ windy pleasant
Decem the 6th we drawed
Caps jackets weather a little
snowy " " untill the 8th
got orders to dray 8 days
rations and cook them
ready to march next mon

for Lizabath Town Decem
the 8 we marched about
14 mi & encamped for the
night near the Ohio River
Dec the 10 struck Tents & marched
about 15 mi Passed through
west Point cossed salt Riv
Decem 11th marched about
12 miles by noon & encamped
about one mi from Lizbath
Town December 12th great
excitement in camp the
Pay master came into
camp that day we signed
the pay rolls so as to get our
pay Decem the 12 we got
our pay $27.70 cts greate rejoice
in camp the 13th pleasant weather
the 14 we had Battallion drill
Decem 15th we had

Brigade in spection by
General Mitchel Dec the 16 the
weather pleasant we had
a nice camp 16th CA was
on Picket 17th struck Tents
marched 14 mi & encamped
2 mi south of Camp
nearing 18th struck Tents
marched 14 mi & encamped
one mile north of Bacon
creek Dec 15th struck Tents
& marched one mile on Bacon
Creek where we stayed
58 days The name of our
camp is camp Jefferson
it is a very neat Camp
situated on the Railroad
8 mi north of Green River
while we was there Elias
Tanner shot himself

Accidentally my Brother Cwait
was taken sick with
the ~~[illegible]~~ Fever on the 28th Jan
he died. Feb 10th we got
marching orders we struck
tents & marched one mi
south of Green River where
we stayed 2 days in the
woods we had poor water
the 13th we got orders to
march that day we march
13 mi & put up our Tents
in the darke 14 we struck
tents it was very cold
and snowy the snow was
3 in deep that day we
marched 23 miles
not much to eat nor to
drink every water hole
along by the road had

from one to 4 dead horses
as cows in them
that day a darkey ~~men~~ drove
through our line when
we was resting and the
men killed his cattle for
beef when we had gone
5 mi we herd that our
men a head of us was
engaged in fight at
Bowling Green we march
quick time for 15 mi
with out stopping when
we got to our camp
we herd that the rebbles
had left we was a
sore set of boys &
not much to eat the
next day was cold
a good deal going on

preparing to march
Feb the 6 we crossed barren
Rivers on some planks
which was layd on
the Bridge which the
devils had tryd to burn
& failed & then they pulled
it down it was the Rail
road Bridg & a very nice
one to we had to carry
our baggage across the river
we put our Baggage
on some wood cars &
drawed them by rope
ones one mile then we
struck Tents we got
boards to put in our
Tents that night it
rained had not much
to eat it 18th we got orders

to march 8 mi one the
road we saw a mill
100 feet under Ground
it was very nice place
wear now encamped
in a large meadow
by the Railroad plenty
water not much to eat
but slapjacks Feb 20th
had slapjacks for breks
& Tea one boy in our
mess greasing his cake
with a piece of meat
cold & disagreeable & sweet
to day 20th # Camp
norton # Feb the 21 nothing
to eat but beef before Breckfast
A Saeten & G Rosenberger &
11 # 41 Bradford went 2 mi
from Camp & got 4 Chick

fetched them into Camp
dressed them G French
& Zimriah warner got
one Turkey no Flour
to put in them yet
pleasant to day
22 at three in the morning
to draw 2 days raitions
& cook them by 7 oclock
at 7 oclock we struck
tents & it was raining
it had rained all night
& all day we marched to
Franklin a distance of 15
miles & quarterd in houses
23 next morning clear sky
but muddy roads we
marched 14 mi & pitched
Tents 24 struck Tents
we marched 23 mi

& stoped for the night
we did not pitch Tents
it was a cold night as
usual for a week we had
not much to eat 25th
started for nashville
a distance of ten mi
we had marched 4 mi
& was orderd to right about
march we marched 2 mi
on our back track &
incamped whare we now
are running water close
by 26th rayning & 22 we
got orders to strick Tents
at noon we marched
3 miles to the Cumberland
River we crossed the Riv in
steem boats we was in
the citty about one hour

then we marched 5 mi
& Camped whare we now
are we stayd out
with out Tents
1 day of march warm &
pleasant 2 rainy 3th cold
& snowy nothing much
going on the 4 quite
cold Camp Jackson
the 4th 21st Reg payd of
money gladly received by
all [illegible]
[illegible] nothing much going
in Camp [illegible]
7th [illegible] cedsent & warm
[illegible]
[illegible] our Camp [illegible]
[illegible] secel cavalry [illegible]
30 of our wagons [illegible]
our cavalry [illegible]
was called out double
[illegible]

quick got on train & men
back pleasant but windy
9th pleasant but windy
10 rainy & cold the 11th pleas
12th 21st Regt went on
picket guard the 13th
rainy the 14th [illegible]
had a wet time in our
tent laying in the mud
& water 15th [illegible]
16th cold & [illegible] 17th [illegible]
18th [illegible] 19th [illegible]
[illegible] it was
warm day we marched
17 miles 2[illegible] rainy in
morning [illegible] [illegible]
18 m[illegible] 21st marched
[illegible] in the
morning
[illegible]
Martin Vanburen

22th cold & windy 10 fatigue
men out of every co to get
timber for a bridge [illegible]
is one of them 23th cold &
windy draw soft bread
24th cold & cloudy 25th warm
26th warm & pleasant 27th
warm 28th warm 29th & 30th
warm 31st warm April
1st 2d 3d 4th [illegible]
4th struck tents marched
15 miles a part of the [illegible]
5th struck tents marched 12
miles [illegible] 6th
we struck tents [illegible]
15 m struck tents [illegible]
guarded the [illegible] 2 days
9th got orders to [illegible]
26 miles & encamped next
day marched 10 miles

(26)

10TH marched 24 miles

[illegible]

25. 26. 27 pleasant

nothing new 28. 29

nothing new 30th struck Tents

took Cars for Bell fontee

marched 12 mi a foot further

down the Railroad to Stevenson

1st day of May Co A was ordered

11 and down the Nashville

R Road loaded 4 Cars

with Cars & Hay 2nd

pushed them within 1½

of Stevenson & then we

marched to Stevenson

(27)

the rest of the Reg had

left the 1st for Huntsville

3rd Co A left for Huntsville

reached Hunts 10 A In

slept in the wase house

in the morning went

to Camp & pitched

Tents we have the nicest

Camp we ever had

4 & 5 some rain 6th pleas

7. 8. 9 pleasant 1 p m 21st

15 Ky seg was ordered to

draw 2 days rations

ready to take the Cars

for [illegible] we [illegible]

the [illegible] at day brake

put up in the [illegible]

[illegible] ate [illegible]

Stayd untill the 11th

[illegible]

HMF to —

10TH marched 24 miles to _____ to pitched tents Camp Taylors is the name of _____

_____ 11, 12, 13, 14, 15

16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23

24 not much going on →

Jan 11, 1863

(28) [illegible]

12..13..14..15..16..17..18
19..20..21..22..23..24
25..26.. stood guard
every other day 27
we drawed new clots
& was ordered to
athens Co A & C
marched through with
the teems a distance
of 25 miles it was
a very hot day
28 went into the
woods to camp
E A Philips Pipes French
Rosenbarger & my self
killed a hog

Jan 11th A.D. 1863
Mr. M. D. Bradford
Dear Sir
I write to you
under a pressure of sorrow.
The battle of Murfreesboro is fought
and in it dead fallen some of its
prominent citizens (Murfreesboro)
they have fallen, their army [illegible]
their plans frustrated and their
army demoralized
but why mourn for a traitor
rather strike him to the [illegible]
and let him go as suitable
fuel for the consumer [illegible]
Tis all they are fit for
we captured nothing in the
way of Stones worth speaking
of (in the way of commissary
Stones)
(Stones)

scattered

but have undisputed sway
in the entire vicinity —
our spoils you will have learned
before this reaches you —
But alas we are called to
mourn for some of our most
worthy comrades, the fatal roll
you will have seen ere you see
this. In that roll will be found
some near connections ~~of~~ by friendship
and old acquaintance hard to part
with but it had to be, and we
should not complain their hearts
blood to be sure has been spilt to
enrich the soil owned by traitors —
but this we must expect.
but I must come to what
most at this time interests you
and your family.

Wm is no more in our
midst he fell in the early
part of the on wednesday fight after the
first hand fight for the morning
was over he with his comrades sat
down by a fence to refill his
cartridge box when a ball struck
him in the region of the heart
he died allmost instantly
without uttering a word
Thus he has fallen
much beloved by his mess
loved by his company
and respected by his
regiment — May he rest
in peace is the prayer of all
his associates. So may it be
Wesley Bradford

* and old aquantance hard to part

William is no more in our
midst he fell in his early
post of the on wednesday fight after
the first hand fight for the
morning was over he with his
comrades sat down by a fence
to refill his cartridge box when a
ball struck him in the region of
the heart

(32)

Wm's clothing were this morning inventoried and I took them at the appraisement. Amounting to $3.50 consisting of one Shirt, 1 pr drawers and some paper and envelops besides a small blanket the ballance were lost with mine - I lost every thing but what I had on at the time - but blankets were plenty after the fight and the most of the boys supplied themselves on the field of those throne away in battle some ours, and some Sesh ← !

the $3,50 three fifty will be sent to you in due time

(33)

I shall be happy to hear from you at any time and will answer your letters with pleasure dont forget to write any satisfaction I can give you will be cheerfully done —

As Wm is no more you will perhaps wish to hear from us accordingly if so write accordingly.

Yours in simpathy and respect. W. P[illegible]

9.

[illegible]	~~8~~ 5
David X Beard [illegible]	X 10
[illegible]	X 50
David X Beard [illegible]	X 100
Jo Kampff [illegible]	X 10
Jo Kampff	~~8~~ 5
David Beard [illegible]	60
[illegible]	X 40
[illegible]	X 10
	5
[illegible] X	X 50
[illegible]	~~20~~
[illegible]	15
[illegible] X	X 10
[illegible] X	1 ~~10~~
[illegible]	25