1

~~19th~~ 21st 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 Ouaitt 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 sliped and he lid on his back it is so now that he can not do any thing but I guess he will get over it in a few weeks his head pains him so that he cannot write this time

but as for me I am well & harty I have been abel to preform all that has been required of me so far we have hard times until lately for about four weeks we have had pretty easy times & we get better grub than we have had in to the 6th of this month I calculated to have written 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 Grandmother & Uncle Will & Uncle Bret & Aunt Mary & Uncle ~~Ury~~ & Aunt Jane Uncle Harvey & Lucretia & all the rest

tell them we would like to have them write with how Uncle Will gets along & Grandmother to we have plenty to eat & to wear we are 45

miles from Bucknes _____ & 8 miles from
Grun River close by the Railroad
there is a good many sick in our Reg with the
meazles & some of them home sick but thats all
the good it does them I have not been sick
two hours since I _____ out to Uncle Sam
he is rich enough 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. Stowe & his Co.
I have not seen Tip Ovaitt I cannot find
out where they are me would like to see you all but
we will have to make the rebels hunt the eat hole first
& that we will do before 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

OSB Wm H Bradford

direct your letter to the 21st Reg
Co A in / 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 Sept
& drew Government Clothing on Saturday & Sat ev.
we went home & stayed over Sunday monday morning
went to Camp 21st Reg left camp _____ took Cars

for Gary was 4 hours going 16 mi sum up the
back twice in that time then by the Cars
to Camp Dennison where we arived about — o clock
in the morning at Kenton the people showed their
generosity by setting out some pies & cakes & dried
beef of which the boys helped themselfs & staged
at Camp Dennison until October the 2 Camp Den
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 River to _____ took Cars went
to Lexington from there we took the Cars for
Nichlosville and encamped ~~on the 9~~ a battery passed
our Camp for Camp Dick Robbison. on the 10 nothing
of importance until the 19th Oct Major General
Anderson visited our Camp which is called Tom
Letches he is a noble looking man he
made a few remarks & then camp ~~car~~ the harty
cheers from our boys — a ~~ground~~ grand rally in
Nicklosville for soldiers for the _____ Oct the 15
left camp Tom letches walked 15 mi to Lexington
& encamped on the old Fairground which is a
very beautiful location for Camp it is one
mile from town of Lexington Oct the 16th our
reg visited Henry Clays monument it is over 80
feet high _____ of his statue. On 18 packed
up & left camp _____ marched 14 mi & encamped
for the night on the Farm of siles Barkley

the land is rolling & of the best quality
19 struck tents & marched 6 mi for winchester
where we took dinner which the People set ready
for us Winchester is the County seat of Clark
County we then marched 7 miles and encamped
for the night the Country is more or less hilly &
Stony Oct 20 struck tents & forward marched
7 mi which brings us to mount sterling this
was Sunday we marched 7 mi from town Bunk
for the night in mount gunnery Co Oct 21
Continued our march through a very rough country
the timber is oak & Pine princeply & chestnut
While _____ Persimmons we marched 16 mi
to put up a _____ in _____ wet grassey
spot of ground 22 continued our march passed
through _____ Gap & camp it is high ledger
of Rocks 2 or 3 hundred feet high we
marched 6 mi & then stoped for the night
Our baggage did not get up with us till darke
The _____ was so bad here we came to the 22 Reg
Ohio marched all night & came to wes Liberty &
took the town and killed 7 and took 20 Prisoners
& eat their warm breakfast one wounded The
22 Co started the next morning for Hazel Green and
when we got there we had marched 22 mi then
The mud _____ & mountain, next day they had
possesion of the town & about 22 Pris. we got here
about 3 oclock Pm & encamped on a hill

we in ____ ____ it was very sickly ____ poor water 21 we started for ____ Burge and trailed 16 mi through mud & water encamped for night ____ the 7th traviled 12 mi over mountains & in the mud & water from shoe to boot to deep & then ____ for the night ____
we marched __ mi came to Licking River which ____ led to Bridge crossed the River went on __ mi & encamped for the night ____ ____ ____ we marched about 8 mi Came to the other branch had to make a ____ & stayed there that night Next day the 4 ____ 5 ____ started and marched to Prestons burge a distance of 22 miles & a miserable little town it is the county seat if ____ ____ we laid here until the 8th when we started for ____ ____ in their Pickets about 11 o clock AM and about 2 and about 2 clock PM we came ____ about five hundred of the Rebbles well fortified in among the rocks & after ____ hours and 20 min fighting we drove them in all directions killed over 40 of the Rebbles & took __ or __ Prisoners our loss was 7 killed 20 wounded we marched 4 miles & marched up a steep hill Pirgt. our supply & laid down to rest with out our
Novem the 9th Co A went out scouted in the

woods along near the road till about 11 AM when
we was call in to the Brigade nothing to eat but
fresh Porke no salk had no tents 10th marched 5
miles came to Piketon got there about noon found
the 2 ____ & Co B of the 21 Reg & two ____
of _____ battery & about 200 Ky Caval'y that
went _____ ____ & took Posession of the town
of Piketon they killed about _ & took some Prisoners
to not even lost one our side we staged there
& lived on fresh beef & meal till Novem 16th Co A
was all out on Pic _____ at 4 in the morning we
got orders that we was to go back to Prestons burge
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 ____ 18 packed up &
started for Lou _____ marched down to the River
2 miles from town & ceassed the Big Sandy
layed there all night in order to get the Bagsage
& provisions across the River
the next day Nov 18th we struck tents marched 12
mi to Pointsville
had nothing to eat that night the next morning we
had one cracker a piece 20th struck tents marched
near 24 mi & then encamped for night & killed
2 Beavers for the Brig & had 5 _____ of
Crackers for our Brigade Nov 21st marched
8 mi without our knap sack Came to _____ about
noon took boats for _____ wen down the river

about 5 miles & laid over for the night Co A was on the huricane deck it was rather cold _____ we spent a part of the night on old Virginia shore 22nd started early got to ____ burge about 10 A.M the town lays near the mouth of Big Sandy on the Banks of the Ohio River _____ corners therse & ky the 23rd laid there all day to the 24 until 8 oclock in the evening when the rest of the Brigade came up with 1/2 when we started for Cincinnattia a distance of 150 miles got there the morning of the 25 layd there 2 hours when the Boats started for Louisville a good many of our bogs got off the boat went up town to get some bread _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ _____ & a good many these was left the next day them that was left took Cabbin passage on the Major Anderson 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 Bevel here was over 12000 men ____ & more coming
Novem 27th the 2nd Ohio
Came into our Division 29th rainy and very mud in our quarter 30th got about one inch of snow December the 1 W.H.B got a pass from Capt to visit some friends in the 19 Reg.

____ was gone over 2 hours ___ had Preaching in the afternoon by our Chaplain Dec the 2 snowing in the mor struck our tents and marched about 2 mi to Camp Oakland near Louisville Dec 3rd weather clear + cold with about 2 inches of snow
Dec 5th pleasant
Dec the 6th we demand caps jackets weather a little snowy " " until the 8th got orders to drag 3 days ____ and cook them ready to march next morn for Lizabeth town December the 9 we marched aboul ___ mi + encamped for the night near the Ohio River Dec the 10 struck tents and marched about 19 mi Passed through west Point crossed ____ Riv Decem 11th marched about 12 miles by noon + encamped about one mi from Lizabeth town December 12th great excitement in Camp the Lay master came into camp that day we signed the payrolls was to get our pay Decem the 12 we got our pay $27.70 cts greate rejoice the 14 we had Battallion drill
Decem 15th we had Brigade inspection by General Mitchel Dec the 16th the weather pleasant we had a nice camp 16th Co A was on Picket 17th struck tents marched 14 mi + encamped 2 mi south of Camp ____ 18th struck Tents marched 14 mi + encamped one mile north of Bacon Creek Dec 18th Struck Tents + marched one mile on Bacon Creek where

a

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 ____ River while we was there ____ Tanner shot himself _____ - _____ - _____ was taken sick with the Feaver on the 28th Jan he died Feb 10th we got marching orders we struck tents & marched one mi south of ____ River where we stayed 2 days in the woods we had poor water the 13th we got orders to march that day we marched 18 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 or _____ in them
That day a _____ drove through our line when we was resting and the men killed his cattle for ____ when we had gone 8 mi we herd that our men a head of us was engaged in fight at Bowling Green we marched quick time for 15 mi without 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 16 we crossed barren river on same planks which we layed on the Bridge which the devils had tryed to burn & failed & then they pulled it down

it was the Raid road _____ & a very nice one to
we had to carry our baggage across the river
we put our Baggage on some wood ___ _ ____
then by ___ ones one mile then we struck tents
we got boards to put in our tents that night it
rained had not much to eat | 18th we got orders
to march 8 mi on the road we ran a mill 100 feet
under _____ it was very nice place ____ ____
encamped in a large meadow by the Railroad plenty
water not much to eat but slapjacks Feb 20th had
slapjacks for brek ___ ___ boy in our mess
_____ his cake with a piece of meat ___ _
_____ _ ___ ___ day 20th Camp Norton #
Feb the 27 nothing to eat but beef before breckfast
_ ___ _ _ ___ _ W H Bradford _ ___
___ ___ I got 4 Chickens fetched them
into camp dressed them 6 French & Zimriah
_____ got one Turkey _ Flour to put in them
yet pleasant today
22 at three in the morning to draw 2 days
rations to 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 & quartered in houses ...
not pitch tents it was a cold night as usual

for a week had not much to eat 25th started
for Nashville a distance of ten mi we had
marched 7 mi & was ordered to right about march
we marched about 2 mi on our back track & encamped
we now are running water close by 26th _____
27 we got orders to strick Tents at noon we
marched 3 miles to the Cumberland River we
Crossed the River in steam boats we was in the
city about one hour then we marched 5mi &
Camped where we now are we stayed out without
Tents 1 day of March warm & pleasant 2 rainy
3rd cold & snowy nothing much going on the 4
quite cold ~~Camp~~ Andrew Jackson the 4th 27th Reg pay d
of money gladly recivd by all March the 5th ___
winds nothing much going in Camp 6 cold
7th pleasant & warm the 8th _____ our Camp
The Rebbel cavalry captured 30 of our wagons
& 60 horse Our cavalry an ___ ___ was called
out double quick got on train men back
~~pleasant but windy~~ 9th pleasant but windy
10 rainy & cold the 11th pleasant 12th 27th Reg
went on picket guard the 13th rainy the 14th
rainy and ~~he~~ had a wet time in our tent laying
in the mud & water 15th rainy 16th cold & rainy
17th plesant 18th ___ 19th left camp & drew packs
it was warm day we marched 17 miles 20th rainy
in the morning marched 18 mi 21st marched 7 mi
rain in the morning _____

22nd cold & windy 10 fatigued men out of _____ to get timber for a bridge Wm B is one of them 23rd cold & windy draw soft bread 24th cold & cloudy 25th warm 26th warm & pleasant 27th warm 28th warm 29th + 30th warm 31st warm April 1st, 2nd, 3rd 4th (part of) warm 4th struck tents marched 15 miles a part of the _____ 5th struck tents marched 12 miles & pitched tents 6th we struck tents marched 15 mi struck tents Co A guarded the General 2 days 9th got orders to march 26 miles & encamped next day marched 10 miles 10th marched 24 miles to _____ pitched tents Camp Taylor is the name of _____ _____ 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24 not much going on 25, 26, 27 pleasant nothing new 28, 29 nothing new 30th struck Tents took Cars for Bell _____ marched 12 mi a foot further down the Railroad to Stevenson 1st day of may Co A was ordered 11 mi down the Nashville R. Road loaded 4 Cars with Corn & Hay 2nd pushed them within 1½ of _____ & then we marched to Stevenson the rest of the Reg had left the 1st for Huntsville 3rd Co A left for Huntsville reached Hunts 10 AM slept in the wave house in the morning went to Camp & pitched Tents we have the nicest camp we ever had 4+5 some rain 6th pleasant 7, 8, 9 pleasant 9 pm 21st 15 Ky reg was ordered to draw 2 _____ rations

ready to take the cars for athens we reached
the town at day brake put up in the ____
ground ate breakfast stayed until the 11th
rode back to Huntsville 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18,
19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26 ____ ____ every
other day 27 we ____ new ____ _ ____
ordered to athens Co A _ marched through
with the ____ a distance of 25 miles it was
a very hot day 28 went into the ____ the camp
C A Philips ____ ____ to my self killed a ____

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 has
fallen some of its prominent citizens (Murfreesboro) ~~they~~
have fallen, their army scattered their plans
frustrated and their army demoralized
but why mourn for a traitor rather ____ him to
~~to~~ the heart and let him go as suitable fuel
for the consumed fire
but have undisputed sway in the entire vicinity -
our ~~spirits~~ spoils you will have learned before this reaches you -

But alas we are called to mourn for some of our most worthy comrads. The fatal roll you will have seen ere you see this. For that roll will be found Some near connections by friendships and old aquaintanc hard to part with but it had to be, and we should not complain their hearts blood to be ____ has been spilt to enrich the soil owned by traitors but this we must expect

but I must come to what must at this time interest you and your family William is no more in our midst he fell in the early post of the fight on Wednesday after the first hand fight for the morning was over he with his comrads 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 ____ 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

Williams clothing were this morning inventoried and I took them at the appraisment. Amounting to $ 3.50 consisting of one shirt 1pr drawers and some paper and envelopes besides a small blanket the ballance were last with mine - I lost everything 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 thrown away in battle Some ____ and some sesh the ($ 3.50) three fifty - will be sent to you in due time

I shall be happy to hear from you at any time and will ensure your letters with pleasure don't 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 occassionaly if so write accordingly

Yours in sympathy and respect

W _____