

J.T. Snider Letter

Camp at "Stone [sic] River Ford"

April 28th 1863

Friend Lyme,

I am happy to say your long looked for letter came to hand a few days ago. You forget when you was in the service of U Sam how eagerly and anxiously yourself as well as the rest of us would seek the mail no matter how often it came and with what pleasure and joy would [crossed out] peruse the contents of the letters and papers from the friends at home: the news contained therein, whether old or fresh, sad or gay, or of whatever nature always relieved to a great degree a certain monotonous, and dull pail [crossed out] state of mind.

Since the 18th or 19th of March the 13th and 59th Regt O.V.I. have been 6 miles from Murfreesboro and a pleasant and most agreeable Spring we have had of it. So far, Fishing and Visiting our Neighbors (of the latter we have many) are the principle [sic] amusements, while for the inner man we get Eggs, Butter, Milk and many other little rarities in which Soldiers do not often indulge. Lt Col Mast and I live and mess together and our "Shebang" is always considered by the "gay and festive" of this Army, to be the "Hd [sic] Qrs [sic]" for all games of amusements, deviltry, and good living "drinks" not excepted.

I enclose you our advertisement in the Commercial which is one of our latest. The result you may be assured was "decidedly rich"

Our loss at the Battle of Stones River was 178 Killed, wounded and missing. Col Hawkins, Lieuts [sic] Murphy, Whitacre and Fox were killed. Capt [sic] Mast, Lieuts [sic] Ray, Gold and Stone were wounded. 33 men were killed, and over one hundred wounded, and several taken prisoners. We were in two general engagements, the first and most disastrous on Wednesday 31st Dec. and the 2nd on Friday 2nd January. Our regiment has been very small since have been recruiting some by men returning from different places. We number now 325 Guns, and as good a set of men to carry them as ever fought for Uncle Sam. We have been making some effort to get to Ohio on some duty their [sic] and at the same time get rest and recruit our decimated ranks which I think could be done without much difficulty. I will send you Duplicate account of clothing soon and write you at greater length do not fail to write at your convenience.

Give my kindest regards to your father and if you visit Brownsville again do not fail to call and see my Aunt and Cousins who [crossed out] If not improper what did you leave A for? Dixie is behind on the [2 illegible words] between two and three hundred only!

Very Truly

J.T. Snider

Major 13th Reg OVI

Direct to

Murfreesboro

2nd Brig. 3d Division

21st Army Corps