

Camp near Nolensville Williamson & Lewis
Dec. 1st 1862

Dear Wife

Having an opportunity of sending you a few lines by a friend and being rather a leisure time with [redacted] and a few more [redacted] there is nothing however of much importance to write at present. We are in close contact with the enemy and skirmish every day. The day after I arrived here (Monday) we had a sharp little engagement with them near Brentwood. The Yankees cut off our ~~own~~ ^{own} Squad as rather got between us and our camp - but we fought out without injury to man or horse - rather a mistake

[redacted] horse was killed under, but he saved him. The boys fought finely & done much honor to themselves. I have been uneasy about your health very since I left home. and am very anxious to hear of you. I hope that your health has fully recovered by this time. During my absence from the Company some right clever gentlemen reported me as sending or taking those boys of my Company that went [redacted]

[redacted] General has had me arrested - I have demanded a trial - but have had none yet. I suppose they will treat me as they did Col Murray Kepp. We are arrested about a month & then release me. We are about 18 miles from Nashville. I do not know when the Big fight will come off - but from all the signs it will not be long. If we lay siege to Nashville we may be here two or three months. If so I will come and see you again.

Camp near Nolensville Williamson Co. TN
Dec. 1st 1862

Dear Wife

Having an opportunity of sending you a few lines by a friend and being rather a leisure time with me I thought that I would spend a few moments in writing to you & the children. There is nothing however of much importance to write at present. We are in close contact with the enemy and skirmish every day-- the day after I arrived here-- (Wednesday) we had a sharp little engagement with them near Brentwood. The Yankees cut off our squad -- or rather got between us and our camps -- but we fought out without injury to man or horse rather a miracle. Yesterday we had another skirmish almost amounting to a battle but none of my boys were hurt. Matt Allards [Allands?] horse was killed under, but he saved himself. The boys fought finely and done much honor to themselves. I have been uneasy about your health every since I left home and am very anxious to hear from you I hope that your health has fully recovered by this time. During my absence from the command some right clever gentleman Reported me as sending or taking those boys of my company that went home with me and since my arrival the Brig General has had me arrested-- I have demanded a trial-- but have had none yet-- I suppose they will treat me as they did Col Murray Keep me arrested about a month & then release me We are about 18 miles from Nashville -- I do not know when the Big fight will come off -- but from all the signs it will not be long -- If we lay siege to Nashville we may be here two or three months. If so I will come and see you again.

If there is any body coming here with a waggon I want you to send me my trunk. I need it awfull bad. I can not keep any thing for the want of one I have lost now at least fifty dollars worth of clothing. But do not send it by any body that will loose it or sell it & keep the money & sware he lost it I have but little confidence in any body these days Give my love to all those who may be so curious as to enquire about me. Tell the children to be good children & learn their books & when I come home again I will bring them something pretty. Give my love to your mother & to Cousin Polly & also to all the black ones. tell Granny Violet that I am sorry that I did not get to see

her when I was at home but hope she may live until I come home again You must do the best you can for yourself and take care of your health -- Stay by the fire and not expose yourself -- We are living very well here get plenty to eat & feed on. As my friend is in a hurry I must close __ Write soon & every opportunity Tell FJG & Stickny to write also

Yours until Death

R.J.C. Gailbreath