

Camp Taylor Oct. 21st/62

Dear Parents,

I am well this morning & the boys are enjoy good health generally. Sunday I was out on picket. I enjoyed it much it was a very pleasant day it rained a little in the night but not much. we come in yesterday. it is a very pleasant day to day the rains hold off well this fall. it is favorable for the army. the 4th reg. Was on picket yesterday last night 4 co's were sent out to strengthen it out of the 2d reg. the reason because McClellan is a fighting the enemy some where I do not know where. the Rebels might make a dash on us so they wanted to be ready for them, but they were not troubled. we have a battalion drill now. I will finish to night. noon I have just got through eating diner had sweat potatoes, salt-horse, bread, chees & butter for diner. Norman Servoss & myself buy stuff between us so that it does not cost but little to get enough to last us quite a while. yesterday morning I got some potatoes & brought them into camp. had to pay 15 cts. for a haversack full hold most a peck I had some onions for dinner to. I like any thing beans, onions &c. I think that I feel enough better since I commenced eating vegetables to pay the cost. they act favorable for the bowels. I do not know as I ever felt better than now. if I always am as well I will do. Capt. Bliss said last night that they had been out to find a good place for us to move to the officers thought of having us move but he thought that we would stay here this winter and not move into the woods or nearer them. we cannot tell till next spring where our winter quarters are. I would like to be near some woods where we could get wood handy. the Brigade is not any where near full yet it will take a good while to have it as large as it use to be before the new recruits come. the boys say that the 3d reg. was as large a year ago as the whole brigade was then (some 4 months ago) the 3d reg. needs a good many boys to fill her up as large as she once was. Major Stevans has got his papers, so he is a Col. now the boys like him first rate they say that he is a brave & good officer. he got his papers yesterday. he told the boys last night that he would not ask his men to go where he would not go himself, nor ask of them what he would not do himself the boys all say that he goes in front of his men. the only falt they see in him is that he exposes him self to much. he will jump upon stumps & swing his sword for the boys to follow & fight. there are some recruits coming into camp. the boys make some noise over a negros wagon there were a lot of 4th reg. boys got in & drove the horses down street as fast as they could go there is a large fire in Alexandria now. some will have to go with out their house.

Electus W. Jones, October 21, 1862, continued

when at the Island I had to or did borrow \$45 of Lyman Fuller to by an injaruber Ponco. he wants his pay now. I have not much money now, if convenient to you, I would be pleased if you could send me \$5 or \$5.00 then I would have enough to pay him & some for me till I get paid. probily I will be paid about the 10th of next month. then I hope to send you \$25 or \$30.00 I do not care if you send me a box of stuff such as butter & dryed fruit, cheese if convenient. send by express it will cost 5 cts a pound put it in to a solid box, & pay there & it will get here. you need not send but a few pounds of butter. if you think that you can save a half firkin of butter for me & send it bamby, I can sell it for 30 or 35 a lb, so that I could pay you 20 a pound for it & pay transportation & have enough for myself left free I will tell you when to send the tub if you think best to send it. send the money as quick as convenient for Lyman is in a hurry

Your son

E. W. Jones

Give my love to all enquiring friends if I have any there that enquire about me. tell me how you get along & do you have fodder enough to winter the stock. if you can sell me [a] fat sheep and take or buy as many good ewes, I think it would be well, but you can tell better than I.