Camp Near Chattanooga Tenn November 21st, 63

My Dear Father and Mother

I received your kind Letter that was dated November 3d an you cant think how glad I was to hear that you were all well as a Family an I stil hope that those few lines will find you the same I am in furstrate good Health thank the all mity for his cares and mercis twards us poor mortals of the dust I was guite glad to hear that Thomas Jones that got his Discharge an also that Sam Williams had got back from Richmond. I hope that the other Boys will be relieved from there before long I know by axperience that Richmond hant a very pleasant place to be for my part I dont care mutch about going there again if I can help it I supose that Ben Morgan Dick Lewis do keep themselves pretty sly I dont think that they can anjoy themselves very good at Home there after Diserting I think that it will go pretty hard with them if they will be caught Diserting is a thing that I wont do let it come as it will we had orders last night to be redy to march this morning but it rained all the night long an it has been raining all the morning an that is the reason I think that we did not leave but I do not know how soon we shall go the report is here that the Rebels are falling back from the Lookout Mountain they used to chell us most every day but they have not chelld us now for a few days they are quite still the Rebel Deserters says that they are most starving up there there is quite many of them coming in to our lines every day they seem to be pretty hard up We had our pay here the other Day I had four Months Pay I did not get the Enlotment the Pay Master said that he would send it Home as soon as he would get back to Nashville he thought that would be the safer way pleas to let me know wather you have had it or not an I want you Mother to keep it for your own use but pleas to give one Dollar tward Mr Williams Donation because I dont think that I can get there in time and one Dollar twars the Bible Cymdithus an one twards paying the Debt of the Meeting House an the rest Mother you keep to buy things for your own use

I Learn from your Letter that you are pretty well supplied with Beef this Winter if you have got plenty Potatos I think that you will get a long pretty well I would like to get a letter from sister Margret an also from John back I was glad to hear that Father had erned so mutch through the summer an that you had a new suit of clothes now Mother you can buy another suit I want Mary or Margret to send me their likeness well I must bring my Letter to a close pleas to give my Best Respects to Mr Williams and his Family an also to Thomas Jones an Sam Williams an to all of my Friends William Davis an Bill James an William Charles sends their best respects to you good by this time those few lines from your Affectionate Son

Lewis Jones

excuse all mistakes

[Lewis L. Jones, private, Co. F, 154th New York, National Archives.]