

Camp on the March
Nov 4th [1862]

Direct as before

Dear Mother

We left Fairfax on Sunday the 2nd about noon we marched about 10 miles and encamped for the night between Centerville and Bull Run we started the next morning at 8 and passed the Bull Run battle field about noon We halted about an hour and looked over the field and ate our diner The ground was strewn with shot and shell of all sorts and sizes there is a good many muskets there yet We marched until 4 PM and halted by a little brook and pitched our tents. We carried our tents and blankets and left our knapsacks with the quarter master.

Well now to finish we had got our tents up and a few rebel cattle made their appearance. Oh if you had been there to see the fun well it is enough to say we had beef enough that night. Next morning that is to day Jim & Alic Bird and _____ and my self were sent out for forage we went to a farm house the owner said he was a sothern man and with sothern feelings so we went in. (he told me this him self) you may bet honey did not go bad to say nothing of the chickens aples Walnuts and he had some very fine sheep and our orders were to get any thing that was good to eat

You may bet the boys enjoyed them selves to day.

late We have not marched any to day and it is now dark I have just had a cup of coffee and a good cup it was, out of the little bag you and Mary made me. I have a little pail which holds about a quart with a cover which I use on the march for making coffe and last night I boiled some rebel beef in it. I had a good mess of chicken for diner I tell you I have lived like a fighting cock to day.

There was two nice girls where we got the chickens this is rather dirty as I am writing it on my plate botom side up and it is not very clean for I have not washed it to day And the writing is not very good as I am lying flat on my belly My bayonet serves as a candle stick.

I do not know where we will march to morrow or knot if we do not you may bet we will live high

You would laugh to see us make our selves to home with this Reb upstars and down selor Alic went up stars and got a keg of Aples while Jim and me was eating honey.

Write and tell me where Billey is I want you to take money enough and live well this winter buy a good hog one that will weigh 200 at least and keep the keg full of molasses you can make butter enough I suppose be shure and live well buy a good lot of apples tel me if Billey bought that keg of fish and all the news

Dick [McCadden]

[Courtesy of Eugene Buelow, Vernon Center, Minnesota]

Camp John Manley May 23"/63

Dear Sister

I rec'd your letter of the 17" last night and was very glad to hear from you and to hear that Mother is well for I had a letter from Jane which said Mother was sick, which made me very uneasy until I recd a letter from Mother and Billy which was only a few days a go. You wanted to know how I felt when I went into the field of battle. Wal I can tell you I must say I was a little tiard for I had marched between 20 & 25 miles that day and it being about midnight then. But hold on, we had bin in the field two days on the same ground before the fight began, and I must say I never saw the boys feel better than they did Saturday before the fight began they were as musical as an old tin fiddle and as for my self I never felt better in my life and after the fight began you wanted to know if I did not think of Mother and some others No for I knew they were safe; but I can tell you who I did think of I thought of Dick and I thought if I could fetch him out all right he would be the finest trophy that I could bring off that memoriabl field, and shure a nough I brought him out all right.

You spoke about naming the baby I can tell you what to name him. Call him Dare. Devil. Dick. And be shure and get the Devil before the Dick, if you dont the Devil will be after after Dick. You say it is an awful name I guess you are mistakin it is one of the finest names in the world but aneough of this.

Enclosed you will find one Dolar which I wish you would give to Billey and tell him to buy me a Portfolio and some paper & Envelops and send it to me by Lieut. Biron Johnson buy a flat Portfolio if you can find one cheep and if not you need not send any dont pay more than 40 or 50 cts for one.

6 Oclock PM

I have just recd Billeys letter along with paper & envelops & stamps tell Billey he may send another quire of paper & a bunch of buf envelops along with By Johnson if he can and if he cannot bring it tell him he need not send it. he did not say

[Richard J. McCadden]

[Courtesy of Eugene Buelow, Vernon Center, Minnesota]

I wish you a happy New Year

Camp of the 154th N.Y. Vols
Lookout Valley, Tenn.
January 1st, 1863 [1864]

Dear Mother & Brother

I rec'd a letter from you last night and I was well pleased to hear from home as it had bin some time since I had heard from you We still remain in our new quarters and the prospect is that we will remain here all winter I have bin verry buisy for the last week. we have bin drawing cloathing &c Yesterday we were mustered for two months pay but I dont know when we will be payed perhaps not untill March but I dont care as far as I am concerned I have money enough to last me untill then. I rec'd a letter from Deforst last night he told me Billey was sick why did you not tell me of it I want to know when any of you are sick.

Wall I suppose the boys about home are thinking of the draft about this time. I hope this call will bring more than the last one did. I am glad I enlisted when I did for now my time is almost half out, and if I had stayed at home and bin drafted it would have only just begun. But I dont think the war will last my time out. I hope not. Not because I am sick of soldering, but because I like peace instead of war. I am well sadisfied with my new position it keeps me buisy but I do not have to leave camp. I do not have to go on fatigue or picket which is not verry plesant in the winter.

Deforest telles me he expects to be drafted and come down here to help us wipe out the Rebellion. I should like to see him down here if it was not for his family but they need him at home.

Billy whare are you keeping a Saloon. you never have told me. You once spoke of going to church & your Saloon at the same time, so I concluded you was keeping a saloon in some church. Next time you write let me know more about it. You spok about working at your traid I hardly think you would have time to do much shoemaking. - - - I wish you would send me the Freeman with the New Years address in. I am agoing to send my watch home. you may tell Geo Buck it has never run worth a sent since he fixed it. The hair spring is good for nothing. I will send it home by Lucious Ball. you may get it fixed and I am not particular whare you send it back or not dont send it unless she runs well. I wish you would send me one quire of writing papor & one quire of fools cap papor & two bunches of envelops, one white, one buf if you can send them by Lute Ball if not you need not send them. As to the weather it is plesant — but quite cold this morning it snowed a little last night just enough to make the ground white. but I am quite comfortable in my new shanty.

Billy I suppose you will have a fine time to night I wish I could be thare but I will a few days with patience but I must close or get a new sheet of papor which I save no room to do. No more at presant

Yours Truely

Dick

Billy write and let me know who is drafted

[Courtesy of Eugene Buelow, Vernon Center, Minnesota]

Headquarters A A Provost Marshal
General and superintendent of
Vol. Recruiting service.
Western Div. State of New York

Elmira March 30th 1864

Special Order{
No 300

Extract + + + +

4. The following named officers and enlisted men, now on Recruiting Service in this Div of the state, are hereby relieved from such duty, and will report to the commanding officer of their Regiment in the field without delay.

Capt. C P Vedder, Sergt. R J. McCadden Corpl Earles E Bacon, Corpl. Theodore Loveless,
Corpl. Samuel Hogg, Pvt Chas. R Wilbur, Pvt Henry C Gould 154 N Y Vols

+ + + + +

The Quarter Master Department will furnish transportation

A S Diven
Act. Ass't Pro Mar Gen'l and Sup't Vol. R. Service
W. D. NY

Capt C P Vedder
154th NY Vols
Ellicottville Cattaraugus Co NY

I certify that the above is a true copy of the original order.

Com P Vedder
Capt 154 NY Vol

Ellicottville Catt Co NY
April 6 1864

Q M Dunkirk NY

Please send me transportation according to the within order from G.T. Valley NY. to Cincinnati Ohio. If anything is needed aside from this order, I will stop and see you. Please send immediately.

Com P Vedder
Capt 154

[Courtesy of Eugene Buelow, Vernon Center, Minnesota]