

Camp near Falmouth Va. Feb. 4

A lass we have got our money or part of it at least and I must write another letter or part of one any way. I hate to write I do. We are all well at present. we got our pay up to the 1st of November our months advance taken out. I got a \$15 check \$5.80 in money. the check is inclose hoping it will reach you safely. Uncle D. says he will put his in with it his is a 20. as he did not get any advance pay. I suppose you will have to sign your name to the back of them before you can use them. I wrote to you two weeks ago and told you the Regt had gone up the river they were gone two days making roads and then came back and staid in camp 2 days and went up again. I had a bad cold and did not go with them

after they had been gone three days I thought I would go up to the Regt and see what they were about. one of the teams was going up with provisions and so I packed up and put my knapsack into the wagon and got most up to their camp and heard that the Regt was coming down the river to where the pontoons were so we waited till they came in sight turned back and and came down about 2 miles and stoped about 2 hours. and then it comenced raining and we comenced marching and kept up both the first all night the latter till after 12 oclock when the pontoons got stuck in mud and we had to stop but the rain dident. we built up Fires and staid till morning I sat down on my knapsack and slept a part of the time. in the morning we marched about a mile and put up our tents and built fires and dried out the next day we came down here within half a mile of our old Camp turned into the woods and stuck up a shelter rested one day and then went of up the river on picket 48 hours got back to Camp it began to snow and rain together the next morning the snow was 10 inches deep. if you had seen our situation that morning you would know something of the hardships of a soldiers life. but I have some hopes for our country yet although it looks rather dark at present. we have got a new house built and we are all right again. we hewed out pine plank and raised it about 4 feet and covered it with our canvass makes a pretty comfortable shanty. I supose you would think it would be rather tight squeezing for 5 men to get into a 12 feet by 8 shanty and cook eat drink and sleep but we do it and have plenty of room we have a good fire place in one end built of pine poles laid up like a cob house and plastered over with virginia mud. Eugene and uncle H. were over here the other day they were well and fat bothe of them, uncle Hiram especialy so Wills bunk mate was over here to day Will was detailed to go to aquia creek this morning he did not know what for he took 2 days rations I am going over to see him when he gets back. its most night and raining so good by till nextime. write soon

Wilber Moore to E. Moore

Oh say I wish you would send me a pair of suspenders by mail I could get them here by paying a Doller for them but I hate to do it. I got the mitens all right. They fit first rate here is Fredy and Emma some money

[February 4, 1863, continued]

P.S. uncle David wants me to write and tell warren to send his razor and a good brush says to get it honed if he can

Wilber Moore

[Wilber Moore, private, Co. H, 154th New York, *National Archives.*]

Camp near Warrenton Junction
July 20 [1863]

Mrs Thorpe

I will send you a line to let you know where your brother is
he was taken prisoner on the 1st of this month at Gettysburg
I have no place to keep his letters and I take the liberty open
them before the Co. and burning them it is the way we have had
to serve all the boys who were taken. John will probably be in
the paroled Camp at Indianapolis before long if not already there.
excuse this scribbling from your brothers friend and tent mate

W. Moore

Co H 154th Regt
N.Y. vols

[with John McPorter letters]

Alexandria Va. Sept 22d 1863

Mrs. Emeline Moore:

Madam:

Your Nephew Wilber Moore of our Company being now sick & unable to write, Desires me to do it for him; And send you this check of \$60.00 by mail.

Wilber has been sick two weeks, but is now getting better. He wants me to tell you that he will be well in a few days. He is a noble young man; and his sickness is deeply regreted by all who know him. His conduct has always been of that pure and innocent character, which is seldom found in the ranks of our army. I hope however that he will soon return in good health to the company. And hoping, Madam that I may soon hear from this check, I am, Respectfully Yrs.

J. M. Gallagher

P.S. You can address Jas. M. Gallagher Co. H 154th Regt. N.Y.S.V.
Washington D.C. J. M. Gallagher

[James M. Gallagher, corporal, Co. H, *National Archives*.]

Alexandria Va. Sept 25th, 1863

Mrs. Emeline Moore:

Madam:

The body of your son, Wilber Moore, I have seen embalmed and directed to you at Steamburg. He died last eve. at eleven o'clk P.M. in the division Hospital, of Typhoid Fever

Up to the 23d Wilber did not seem to be very dangerous, but of the morning of the 23d he began to grow weak, & fears were entertained for his safety. On the evening of the 24th at 5 P.M. they informed me that he was failing; I went to the Hosptl. to see him; He did not seem to think then that he was going to die, but told me if he did not get better in a week, to send his money home to you. This I promised to do; but I then feared could not be the case; Again at 8 o'clk I went to see him. He was then asleep but they told me he was not much worse. At 11 Oclock they came after me saying that he wanted to see me. That he was dieing. I immediately went to see him, & found him very weak & pale. I saw that he was dieing. He was perfectly sensible, and told me that he was going to die. He told me to send him home, to his mother. This I promised to do. He then told me to take hold of his hand which I did. He said no more, but died, in about half an hour. He died very easily; without a struggle. I then saw his body taken care of, and to day it has been embalmed & to morrow will go by express to Steamburg Station. If you wish to take the corpse from the coffin that it is in, you can do so with safety.

There was no ceremonies on the occasion; as his body had to be sent off hurriedly.

In regard to the expenses; You will see by the enclosed receipts that the embalming was \$25.00 The Express \$25.00 total \$50.00 I sent you a Telegram to day \$3.50 Total \$53.50

Wilber's wages, aside from his check which I sent you on the 22nd of 60.00 dollars & his Sutlers ticket of Two dollars, was \$16.00. \$16 from 53.50 leaves \$37.50 Which I have borrowed to send him home; If the company was large, I would not ask you to return this bill. but there is but a very few men in the company, and there wages is small. If you can send the money, you may do so, to my address. I will try and send you his pocket book & handkerchiefs. The rest of his clothing I shall have credited to his acct. on the books.

Mrs. Moore, concerning the character and private conduct of your son I might indeed say much, and everything to his praise and credit. He was always a noble boy with a true manly soul. Kind generous and affectionate. Strictly moral & upright in all his dealings. He was highly beloved and respected by all, He drew around him warm friends, and good associates. And his memory shall ever remain as a brilliant jewel at the bottom of every heart in his company. You may well feel proud of your son, & know that his memory is cherished here in the army where his noble & brave deeds have become familiar to all who knew him.

[James M. Gallagher, corporal, Co. H, *National Archives*.]