

Jan 7th/62  
Camp near Fredericksburg

Dear Sister

I take the present opportunity to answer your letter which I Recd. on the 5th. I was glad to hear from you and to hear that the folks were well. If you only knew how glad I am to get a letter I know you would write oftener than you have done. I should have written oftener than I have done if I had Postage Stamps or Money to buy any with I have had to \_\_\_\_\_ send to you. They are as scarce as hens teeth here Money Ditto Tell Edwin that I have not forgotten him yet. I am only writing for you to send me some money now so I can write some letters and buy some Tobacco & other necessaries of life. I have got so tired of eating hard bread and pork that I think if I had some money I would get something different I have just come off guard and I feel rather sleepy otherways I am in good health Your wish that I would be sick enough to be sent home is not likely to be gratified just yet I have not lost an hours duty since I enlisted on account of sickness I weigh 177 lbs. Avoirdupois. I hope I shall not be sick enough to be sent home for I should be put into a Hospital and I dont want to go there there has been 3 deaths since I wrote last in this Regt That is the way they discharge Soldiers down here with the exception they pay most of them off in Lead

I would like to go home better perhaps than you would like to have me. but I must see a little more of the Elephant than I have seen yet. I dont like our Captain as well as I did and the rest of the company are Ditto He is too cross and overbearing but I get along with him first rate I have obeyed orders so far to the letter He has never spoken a cross word to me yet nor have any of the officers. Tell Judah not to use up all of his Oak timber I may be at home next spring and I want a job of Sawing \_\_\_\_\_. I guess the war will be over by that time. We have just completed our Shanty. We have got a fire place in it and it is quite comfortable. the whole Brigade is fixing up for winter quarters Our Regt have just completed their Houses. We had to carry our timber about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile We are cooking a kettle full of bean Soup (Yorker Stile) quite a rarity to us. What are your Christmas & New Years dinners to be compared with such a dinner as ours will be? How I do pity you poor folks at home You dont know what good living is. But you must not fail to send me that money this time so I can buy a loaf of soft bread I am afraid I shall get accustomed to good living so I shall hate to break off if I keep on eating Hardbread. I dont know when we shall get our pay here Can you tell me where Wm. Andrews is? Give my love to Fannie & Frank & Little Arthur I have read this letter over and all the sense I can make out of it is that I want some money and am well hoping you are the same.

Good Day John N. Porter  
Co H. 154th Regt. N.Y.S.V.

I have not heard from Ed. Wilkins yet