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5-21-1864

1864-05-21, James B. to James M.

James Broderick Safford

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1864-05-21, James B. to James M.

Keywords

U.S.A., U.S. Soldiers, Columbus, IN, correspondence, army, troops, postal service, postal stamp, family, father, son, cavalry, Bolwing Green, KY, Nashville, TN, money, funds, animals, health and sickness, comradery, morale, self-determination, company, mustering out, medical personnel, ambulance, medical treatment, medicine, Guerilla Warfare

Identifier

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In Camp near Lebanon
Knox Co. Tenn. south of Rolling
Fork River. 5 P.M.
May 14th 1864

Dear Father

I thought I would
write you a few lines
as this is the first opportunity
I have had for several days
and I may not have another
for some time. I will tell you
something about our march from
Louisville to this place it is
about 32 miles from Louisville
but we have marched almost
as if we got this far we got
on the wrong road twice
and went a good deal out
of our way both times.

The Recruit Marching Orders
Wednesday last at 3 P.M. but
did not get started until
9 P.M. There was the 9th Car
then the 10th 11th + 12th all under

the Command of Col Anderson
of the 12th Me made quite a
Brigade the 4 Regts of Ind Cav.
We marched until 12 P.M.
and then went into Camp
one lay on the ground I got
up at 5 drank some Coffee
and started again. Marched
back 5 miles and then we
went south to Shepherd'sville
on the R.R. at Salt River we
arrived there 4 P.M. the river
being too high to ford we
went into Camp for the night.

In the morning at 8 a.m. one
Co was selected to go across
the river and catch some
Gambellias we rode hard
until 3 P.M. but did not
find them we felt pretty
tired and at dusk we
pitched tents and turned
in for the night expecting

to sleep good for the night
but at 8 O'Clock we received
orders to saddle up as quick
as possible as we had to march
to Mounfordsville on Green River
as such as possible we got
in line with a good deal
of Grumbling at having to
start on a march of 60 miles
at that time of the day - We got
a Cross Salt River and marched
until 12.30 and then lay down
on the side of the road to rest
we lay there until 5 A.M. ~~drunk~~
next morning (Saturday) and
started on the forced march
again - we went 15 miles and
came to Rolling Fork River
but could ^{not} cross without drowning
our horses They told us if
we would go up the river 7
miles to the R.R. we could
ford it, we went up there

through the Woods and Mud
and found the River to be high
again we carried our Saddles
and Blankets across on the
R.R. Bridge and drove
our Horses in a herd across
and caught them on the other
side it took us about 4 hours
to cross it was then 2 P.M.
we tied up for dinner and then
we concluded to stay until
about 5 P.M. and march
part of the night about 4 P.M.
we received orders to cross back
again and go 9 miles back
in the Country for I don't know
what we are now waiting
orders to saddle up and I expect
we will march all night again
we are pretty well worn out and
have nothing to eat but hard
tack and Coffee that is what we
have been living on since we left
Levensville - I took this opportunity
to write you as we may not
get to Nashville for several

days yet, We are wearing the
same clothes that we left Columbus
with as all of our things went
on with the other Boys - It would
not surprise me if we did
not see Barkhill for 15 days
yet - We have heard nothing
from the Boys that were Harsh
yet. I expect you know a
good deal more about it
than we do - Gury says he
will write you from Green
River. I may not write you
again until I get to it -

I will not hear from you
until I get there write so I
will get letters send them to
A 76 10th Ind Cav Barkhill -

All the Boys are well and
in good spirits but very sore
and worn out Our Horses
stand it very well - I am
writing on the ground and
you must excuse this as I

Not but a fine minute to
write all the Boys send their
best to their friends and
they will write when we get
to Nashville - It is beginning
to Rain and I must close as
they are getting ready to leave

I will write more fully at
N- write me all the news
as we have not seen a paper
for 4 days Good Bye

Yours Aff Dear

James B Cafford

"Love to Helen and Annie"

[[Safford Correspondence #5]]

[[Page 1- Letter]]

[[embossing print: HOLYOKE, CO.]]

In Camp near Lebanonon
Junction south of Rolling
Fork River 50 mi.
May 14th 1864

Dear Father

I thought I would
write you a [[one or two words]]
as this is the first opportunity
I have had for several days
and I may not have another
for some time. I will tell you
something about our march from
Louisville to this place it is
about 32 miles from Louisville
but we have marched almost
100 to get this far and[[?]] got
on the wrong road twice
and went a good deal out
of our way both times.

We received marching orders
Wednesday last at 3 P.M. but
did not get started until
9 P.M. There was the 9th Cav
then the 10th 11th + 12th all under

[[Page 2- Letter]]

the Command of Col Anderson
of the 12th we made quite a
Brigade thru 4 Rights of [[one word]] Car.
We marched until 12 P.M.
and then went into Camp
we lay on the ground got
up at 5 drank some coffee
and started again. Marched
back 5 miles and then we
went south to shepherds ville
on the R.R. at salt River we
arrived there 4 P.M. the river
being to High to ford we
went into Camp for the night

 In the Morning at 8 A.M. we
[[Co war?]] selected to go across
the river and catch some
gurillas we rode hard
until 3 P.M. but did not
find them we felt pretty
tired and at dark we
pitched tents and turned
in for the night expecting

[[Page 3- Letter]]

to sleep good for the night
but at 8 P.M. we [[Received?]]
orders to saddle up as quick
as possible. As we had to march
to Munfords ville on Green River
as much as possible we got
in line with a good deal
of Grumbling at haveing to
start on a march of 60 miles
at that time of the day – We got
a cross salt River and marched
until 12:30 and then lay down
on the side of the road to rest
we lay there until 5 A.M. ~~drunk~~
next morning (Saturday) and
started on the forward march
again – we went 15 mile and
came to Rolling Fork River
but could not cross without swimming
our horses They told us if
we would go up the river 7
mile to the R.R. we could
ford it, we went up there

[[Page 4- Letter]]

through the woods and mud
and found the River to High
again we carried our saddles
and Blankets across on the
R.R. Bridge and drove
our Horses in a heerd across
and caught them in the other
side it took us about 4 Hours
to cross it was then 2 P.M.
we tied up for dinner and then
we concluded to stay until
about 5 P.M. and march
part of the night about 4 P.M.
we ricieved orders to cross back
again and go 9 miles back
in the country for I don't know
what we and now waiting
orders to saddle up and I Expect
we will march all night again
we are pretty well worn out and
store nothing to Eat but Hard
tack and coffee that is what we
have been living on since we left
Louisville – I took this opportunity
to write you as we may not
get to Nashville for several

[[Page 5- Letter]]

days yet. We are wearing the
same clothes that we left Columbus
with. As all of our things went
on with the other Boys - It will
not surprise me if we did
not see Nashville for 15 days
yet – we have heard nothing
From the Boys that were [[First?]]
yet. I Expect you know a
good deal more about it
than we do. George says he
will write you from Green
River I may not write you
again until I yet to N–

I will not hear from you
until I get there Write so I
will get letters send them to
A N 10th Ind Cav Nashville

All the Boys are well and
in good spirits but very sore
and worn out Our Horses
stand it very well – I am
writing on the ground and
you must Excuse this as I

[[Page 6- Letter]]

not but a few minutes to
write all the Boys send their
best to their friends and
they will write when we get
to Nashville – It is beginning
to rain and I must close as
they are getting ready to leave

I will write more fully at
N- write me all the news
as we have not seen a paper
for 4 days Good Bye
Your Off Son
James Safford
“Love to Hellen and Annie”