5-21-1864

James B. Safford Civil War Correspondence #04

James Broderick Safford

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In Camp near Lebanon
Junction Court of Rolling
Horse River 5-0-32
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 far this far one got on the Army Road twice
and went a good deal out of our way both times.
The Adjutant Marching Orders Wednesday last at 9 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 4th Regt. and Capt. MC Marshad until 12 O'N.,
and then went into Camp.

One day on the ground I got
up at 5 A.M. drank some coffee
and started again. Marched
back 5 miles and then one
went direct to Shepherd's mill
on the R.R. at half past Nine o'clock.

We arrived there 11 O'N., the rain
being to Abate to find one
went into Camp for the night.

In the Morning at 8 A.M. one

Ci was selected to go across
the river and catch some
 ammunition as one rode hard
until 8 O'N., but did not
find them as we felt pretty
tired and at dusk we
pitched tents and turned
in for the night.
to sleep good for the night but at 8 O'Clock, our order was to paddle up as quick as possible, as we had to march to Mindenville on Green River as quick 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. One day there until 5 A.M. next morning (Saturday) and started on the forced march again. We went 15 miles and then to Rolling Stone River but could not cross without crossing our horses. They tumbled as if our horses go up the river 7 miles to the Pike. We could ford it, we went up there
through the Woods and drink and find the Rain to Kernigh again one Carried one Saddle and Blankets across on the R.R. Bridge and drive one Horses in a Herd across and Caught them on the other side. It took us about 4 Hours to Cover it was then 2 A.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 A.M. one received orders to come back again and go 9 Miles back in the Country. For I don’t know what one not know waiting one to paddle out and I expect one will March all night again one are pretty well worn out and star Nothing to eat but hard tuck and coffee. That is what one have been living on since we left Linnville. I take this opportunity to write you as one may not get to Nashville for awhile.
days yet. We are wearing the same clothes that one left behind with us all of our things went on with the other Boys. It will not surprise one if one did not see Nashville for 15 days yet. We have heard nothing from the Boys that were left yet. I expect you know a great deal more about it than we do - Burgess says he will write you from Green River I may and write you again until I get to it. I will not hear from you until I get there. Write so I will get letters and them to 28th 10th Ind Car Nashville.

All the Boys are well and in good spirits. But very poor and worn out. Our Horses stand it very well. I am writing on the ground and you trust yourself this as I
Not but a few minutes to write all the boys send their last to their friends and they will write when we get to Garshill. It is beginning to rain and I must close as they are getting ready to leave.

I will write more fully at A when one all the news as one have not been a paper for 4 days. Good Bye.

Yer all por
Jammie Oatfield

“Love to Helen and Annie”
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
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
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. [[strikethrough]] drunk [[/strikethrough]] 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
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 recieved 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
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
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”