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James B. Safford Civil War Correspondence #15

James Broderick Safford

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Dear Father

I have not received a letter from you since I have been in this office and that was on the 21st of July, I don't understand it, but I will write you again tonight at any rate. I wrote them a short letter this morning and sent it by morning mail. I like my place here very well better than in the company although I do more work here in a half of day than I did in the company in a week and I feel better for having something to do. I have better health than I did. Our office is crowded all day long with all kinds of persons and all have different complaints to make. If you have never had anything to do with a General Post Marshall's office, you have very little idea what their duties are. One cannot be in contact with every citizen for 50 miles around here, and of course makes a good many acquaintances also a good many friends and enemies. We have now in our Prison over 50 Citizens awaiting Trial for being Anarchists and Harboring arms. We shipped
Twenty n'th Nashville Yesterday (Sunday) In brief this Country is full of Coonhills and rebel spies.

I suppose you have heard that we are coming to Indiana to vote they say at 6 o'clock that we will go if they do not need me any more than they do now and there is a report now that we will go by Land to Kentucky to hunt Coonhills around Columbus and Iundore until election and then go over and vote in that way we will pass our Horses and that is just what one went to do.

I wish you could see my Horse he is real fast now and looks like another horse I intend to tote him home with me if it is possible.

I have a good prospect now of being promoted to First Major of the First a very good place. It is the best Non Commercial Office there is it is on the Col. Staff the duties are to assist the Adjut and take his place when absent the present First Major has been promoted to Adjut and he over to One to have the position of Sergeant Major it is a very hard place but then it is good in the line of promotion and I think I will take it if I can get it — I suppose Sam Rosely is as home and has to let you all
the news from the Knyt I was glad to see them get away and to may get his shoulder cured up at Madison but I fear not Uncle Dan's brother (as one boy callin) promised me he would call and see you I find a good friend in him in fact I have found several good friends in our Knyt and the 9th end Dr Cal Graham Maj McWallow and Maj Atkinson of our Knyt will all any thing for one that they love I only wish Cal Graham was Cal instead of Dace Dr Davis also is a good friend of Omni and I can get any thing I want from him. I suppose col 13 has arrived home by this time he stayed there some from or five days he made as a church the night before he left and it seems to me all times then his again col Robinson came here with him he looks well with the eagle perched on his shoulder I send you with here a list of the Officers of our Knty I don't suppose you will know many of them by the way I met a friend of mine at Madison by the name of Cameron last Wednesday night he left Milwaukee Monday might he said he was well accompanied with Bennett Coln
And the family he pays them are well when he left he seemed very glad to make any acquaintance and said he would tell them about us when he got back. I too, but I cannot close now. It is late.

God Bless you

C. H. Safford
17th United States Cadet Battalion Pennsylvania
Dear Father

I have not received a letter from you since I have been in this office and that was on the 24th of July. I don’t understand it but I will write you again to night at any rate –

I wrote Helen a short letter this morning and sent it by morning mail – I like my place here very well better than in the company although I do more work here in a half of day than I did in the company in a week and I feel better for having some thing to do I have better health than I did. Our office is crowed all day long with all kinds of persons and all have different complaints to make. If you have never had any thing to do with a General Provost Marshals Office you have very little idea what their duties are one comes in contact with every citizen for 211 miles around here and of course makes a good many Acquaintances also a good many friends and enemies. We have now in our prison over 311 citizens awaiting trial for being guerillas and Harboring same we shipped.
twenty to Nashville yesterday (Sunday) for trial there this county is full of Guerillas and rebel spies.

I suppose you have heard that we were coming to Indiana to vote they pay at [[two words]] that we will go if they do not need us any worse than they do now and there is a report now that we will go by Land to Kentucky to Hunt Guerillas around Columbus and Henders on until Election and then go over and vote in that way we will save our Horses and that is just what we went to do

I wish you could see my Horse he is real [[fit?] now and looks like another Horse I intend to take him Home with me if it is possible –

I have a good prospect now of being promoted to Sergt Major of the Regt a very good place it is the best Non commissioned office there is it is on the Col. Staff the duties are to assist the Adjt. And take his place when absent the present Sergt Major has been promoted to Adjt and he wants me to have the position of Sergeant Major it is a very hard place but then it is good in the line of promotion and I think I will take it if I can get it – I suppose Sam Comley is at Home and has told you all
the news from the Regt I was glad to see
sam get away and he may get his shoulder
cured up at Madison but I fear not Uncle
Dave McClune (as we Boys call him) promised me
he would call and see you I find a good
friend in him in fact I have found several
good friends in our Regt and the 9th Ind
Lt Col Graham Maj Swallow and Maj Williamson
of our Regt will do anything for me that
they can I only wish Col Graham was Col
instead of Pace – Dr Davis also is a good friend
of mine and I can get anything I want
from him. I suppose DL.B. has arrived home
by this time he stayed here some four or five
days he made us a [[skuch?]] the night before
he left and it seemed like old times to hear
him again Col Robinson came here with
him he looks well with the eagle perched on
his shoulders – I send you wish there a
list of the officers of our Regt I don’t suppose
you will know many of them by the way
I met a friend of [[two words]] by the
name of Cameron last Wednesday night
he left Milwaukee Monday night he said he
was well acquainted with Bosworth son
and the family he says they were well when he left he seemed very glad to make any acquaintance and said he would tell them about when he got back home but I must close now it is late

Good Bye

Your Off son

J. B. Safford

Co “H”, 10th Ind Cav

Pulaski Tenn