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8-14-1865

1865-08-14, James B. to James M.

James Broderick Safford

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1865-08-14, James B. to James M.

Keywords

U.S.A., U.S. Soldiers, Columbus, IN, correspondence, army, troops, postal service, family, father, son, cavalry, comradery, morale, self-determination, company, military police, rank, brother, discharge, Wellsville, MO, Vicksburg, MS, promotion, clothing: money, funds, government, trains

Identifier

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Camp 10th Ind Vol Cavalry
Near Athens Ala Jan 4th 1865

My Dear Father

When I last wrote you it was about a week ago when we were on Blue Water. We received orders to march to Huntsville Ala and rest for a week or so and then be ready for another raid. We started and got this far 21 miles from Huntsville and were ordered to halt and now the probability is that we will go back across the River and go to Eastport Ala near the Mississippi line we are camped six miles from Athens and are waiting for Rations we have been out now for seven days - We kill Hogs and chickens and parch corn and make coffee out of parched corn in fact we live off of the country - I tell you we have suffered I have heard Boys offer 50¢ + 1.00 for a single cracker and I heard one man say he would give \$5.00 for a Hard Tack (cracker) but we manage to get along by taking every thing we can find it leaves citizens in an awful situation often taking the last bit of meat and corn that they have - but I think such a policy will tend to end the war a year sooner than to prohibit these rebel citizens as we have been doing - It makes

Union men of this town say they don't want
any more War or any more Southern Ammis
coming up here - The Order has been
since I left Franklin Tenn to every
Command to forgo and yet every thing
they can a command that had it been
issued Two Years ago the Officer would
have been relieved immediately, but the
policy has changed now and I am
glad of it - I am almost destitute
of clothing for such weather as we have
had - Part of the time we are in
mud belly deep to our horses and
then it will be froze hard for a day
or two and then it will rain for a
day or two such weather is awful

I have lost my gloves and have been
wearing socks ever since My Boots are
fast giving out with such weather as
I have been through wet and muddy
and frozen all at once - When we
get to some place and stop I will
need some Boots Socks and a pair
of gloves - He men in hopes to see
our Boys in a day or so but if we go
back and go down the Tenn I don't
know when we will see them - I have had
no letters or papers yet - Keep writing I will
get them some time - I write every time
we stop - You aff are I 13 Sept

[[Safford Correspondence #29]]

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[[Page 2- Letter]]

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