1-29-1865

James B. Safford Civil War Correspondence #31

James Broderick Safford

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My Dear Father:

Your welcome letters of Dec. 17, 29, and Jan. 10 and 15 reached here a day or two ago. You cannot imagine my joy at receiving them. The first I had received for so long a time. I have been as papers from you since last fall, but the stamps came through all right, and were very acceptable indeed. There must be a great many papers and letters on the road for me, I don't see why we don't get mail regular. He is only a few miles from St. Louis, and Thomas has 50 or 60 at Eastport, Penna. miles from here. We received his congratulations, order to the Golders of his command yesterday. I suppose you have been as long as this. It shows what this army has done. We have gone into Viniti Quarters here and you should see the cabins all through our Brigade. It is like a little town. Mr. Lawther and I have a wall tent fixed up with a floor in it.
and a day and we live fine as Princes but we will not be here long as we are making every preparation to come forward as soon as the weather will permit – All I can find out about your son is that the Rebels turned them beyond. Cornet – that is the last we can hear from them. I suppose they then went to Richmond. I hope they will be pardoned or exchanged very soon – The Boys say he was in good health and was very well clad he had boots that he had worn but one pair was a little done but Doc Lewis says not enough to hurt him. I hope you will hear from them before long – Our Boys here all doing well and in fine spirits – I am still acting Adjut of the Regiment and Smith is acting Sergeant – Major I get along fine but I talk of it Adjut be promoted to Captain and no doubt he will and then I will be made Adjut as the whole Regiment want me to take that place and the Major says I must have it if the Adjut is not made Captain I will get a Commission as Lieutenant in some other Company I can do
Nothing in "H" as Baker Smith and the others all come in by night before me and as I do not belong to the Company but am on the Staff I can be put in any Company but I believe I ought much rather be a part of a Regiment than be in the line it is much nicer work and no troublesome report of Ordinances to make out & such matters as line officers are continually troubled with but I think certain I will have a commission in less than three months at first, but they are going to send home recruiting Officers Smith & Baker are going from A to Z the Major would not let me go as he said he on one street could like any place as I will not get home this winter but you can get all the news from Baker and Smith if you have not sent my things you can send them they are brought here by Vouls from Lonville or Cairo when Smith comes he will tell you what I want and how to send things to me. I wish you would enclose 0 or
in your next as I want a little money to get washing done and I have not the least bit and then seems to be no chance of getting any here for several months so I need a pair of good shoes more than any thing else they can come by mail Brant born got a pair last mail in sending things by mail I tie them up in as string a package as possible so they will not tear the paper off when they see what is in a package they are generally stolen I am afraid I will have to send packs again but I will close now I don't know yet when these Recruiting officers will start probably in a week or so Remember me to your Cousin I would like to see him very much love to all the folks and friends I would like to see them all Very affectionately

James H. Safford
My Dear Father

Your Welcome letters of Dec 17. 29. And January 1\textsuperscript{st} 1865 reached here a day or two ago You can not imagine my joy at recieving them.

The first I had recieved for so long a time – I have seen no papers from you yet and the socks you say you sent me have not yet come to hand but the stamps came through all right and were very acceptable indeed there must be a great many papers and letters on the road for me I don’t see why we don’t get mail regular We are only a few miles from the River. Gnrl Thomas has HQ at Eastport seven miles from here -- We received his congratulatory order to the soldiers of his command yesterday I suppose you have seen it long before this It shows what this army has done – We have gone into Winter quarters here and you should see the Cabins all through our Brigade it is like a little town. Alex Smitha and I have a wall tent fixed up with a floor in it.
and a store and we line it fine as Princes but we will not be here long as we are making every preparation to move forward as soon as the Weather will permit – all I can find out about poor [[Glen?]] is that the Rebels took them beyond Corinth that is the last We can hear from them I suppose they have gone to Richmond I hope they will be paroled or Exchanged very soon – the Boys say he was in good health and was very well clad he had Boots that he had drawn but one foot was a little sore but Doc Lewis says not Enough to hurt him. I hope you will hear from [[one word]] before long – Our Boys here all doing well and in fine spirits – I am still acting Adjt of the Regiment and Smitha is acting Sergeant Major I get along fine there is talk of the Adjt be promoted to Captain and no doubt he will and then I will be made Adjt as the whole Reg iment want me to take that place and the Major says I must have it if the Adjt is not made Captain I will get a commission as Lieut in some other Company I can do
nothing in "H" as Baker Smitha and Tim[?]
B[---]esly all come in by right before me
and as I do not belong to the Company
but am on the staff I can be put in
any company but I believe I would much
rather be Adjt of a Regiment than be
in the line of it is much nicer work and
no troublesome reports of ordinances to make
out + such matters as line officers are
Continually troubled with but I thing
certain I will have a commission in less
than three months at farthest – They are
going to send home recruiting officers
Smitha + Baker are going from Co “H”
the Major would not let me go as
he said he no one that could take my place
so I will not get home this winter but you
can get all the news from Baker and Smitha
if you have not sent my things you can
send them they are brought here by
Boats from Louisville or Cairo when
Smitha comes he will tell you what
I want and how to send things to
me – I wish you would Enclose 10$
in your next as I want a little money 
to get washing done and I have not 
the least bit and there seems to be no chance 
of getting any here for several months 
I need a pair of good gloves worse than 
any thing Else they can come by mail 

Branham got a pair last mail-
in sending things by mail tie them up in 
as strong a package as possible so they will 
not tear the paper off when they see 
what is in a package they are generally 
stolen – I am afraid I will never see those 
socks again – but I will close now – 
I don’t know yet when those Recruiting 
oficers will start probably in a week 
or so – Remember me to your cousin I 
would like to see him very much 

Love to all the folks and friends I would 
like to see them all – Write often 

Your Off son 

James B. Safford