

CHATTANOOGA HISTORY CENTER

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2015.001.070 transcription

2015.001.070(1)

Chattanooga Tenn.

Tuesday Eve. Dec. 22nd/63

Dear Mother

I have not received any letters from you for several weeks. I know not why. I received one from Irene a few days ago she said that you had gone to Rising Sun to sell your house. I suppose [sic] if you sold it you received some money. Well how much did you get and how much could you let me have if I would give good security and pay a large interest. I want to get one thousand dollars some way. and then I will make some money or bust up "that's all".

I suppose [sic] you saw Reed Downey while in Rising Sun, if so tell me how he looked and what he had to ~~sell~~ say. Tommorrow [sic] is

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my eighteenth birthday and then I am liable to the draft. If I wanted to come home now ever so bad I could not do it. as there is an order issued by Comdg. of Gen. Thomas to give no more passes to any citizen or camp followers until they have been enrolled by men appointees for the purpose. It is rumored in camp that the remainder of our Regimental Camp equipage and men will move to the Regt. which is somewhere in the vacinity [sic] of Knoxville, Tenn. If they do I think -- Dunigan intends that I shall go along with the Books to note and collect on pay day. If it was not for this infernal order. I would come home and stay 8 or 10 days, but I cannot help myself. If I am drafted (In the second draft for the first will not touch me) I can raise two hundred dollars and borrow one hundred from Dunigan and pay the bill. That is if Congress does not knock that bill in the head. I never propose to be a soldier if I can help it unless I think it absolutely necisary [sic] . Some of the Boys who have enlisted in the 120th Regt. from Boonville will wish that they had remained under the care & protection of their parents instead of going "Sogering" [sic] and heartily wish it too. I have seen soldiers picking up grains of corn out of manuer [sic] after the mules had eat it then wash it, parch it and eat it. I have seen soldiers pay 25 cts for a knublin [sic] of corn to parch and eat. I have seen them pay 25 cts for an army cracker and I have seen them at the slaughter yard pay enormous prices for the entestines [sic] which before they could not have been paid enough [sic] to eat. And this day have I seen them comeing [sic] in from the front in their shirt sleeves without

eather [sic] shoes or stockings on their feet or blanket to wrap themselves in at nigh[t]. The ground is frose [sic] hard

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and their feet were bleeding from haveing [sic] to walk barefooted on it and more over they were sick and on their way to the hospitals and that is not half that I have seen (Nary Sogering [sic] go I) Well an order has come just now to be prepared to leave at a minutes warning. They are packing up in camp and loading the wagons. I do not supose [sic] that we will leave tonight as it is late now but think we will in the morning bright and early. I will have to go, and walk to, all the way and it is one hundred miles and more from here. I must close, Kiss Ida for me and tell her to be a good girl and write to me. You must write oftner

Direct to the Regt. as usual,

I still remain your

affectionate son

Eugene D. Rogers