

CHATTANOOGA HISTORY CENTER

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2015.001.074 transcription

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Camp of the 13th Ind. Batt.

Jan 28/65

Chattanooga Tenn.

Dear Parents

As we have been moving I thought I had Better write you a few lines to let you know how we are getting along down in dixie. we reached here on the 26th we got in our Quarters yesterday. we drew pup tents & buttended them together & stretched them over a log Cabbin. we haft to lay on the ground now but we expect to make Bunks in a few days & Build our Cabbins some higher. the health of the Battery is not so good as it was. I feel well enough except my eyes are very near smoked out. we had fire in the cars comeing down & we had a smoky time of it.

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I Believe no 6 still holds there own. All well except one boy that was at home with the sore eyes he cant see well enough to tell one person from another his health is good otherways. The Boys are just starting out on missionary Ridge to cut some wood. it is tolerable cool here. no snow but a very sharp wind. we left Gallatin on the 23rd. we was 3 days on the road. we come through Murfreesboro, Triune & several other places in Tenn. ~~Come~~ Come through Bridgeport Ala. we are 176 miles from Gallatin by Rail. Our camp is about 300 yds from the tenn. R.[iver] the Boats runs [?] here. the tenn R[iver] is about one third as large as the Ohio at Louisville. it is only 12 mls from here to the Chicamauga Battle ground where albert was wounded.

we can see lookout mountain from here Also Missionary Ridge. You kned not send that box of provission. I dont think it would ever get here. I sent you \$6.50 to pay the expressage on that box. the money belongs to no 6 you gist keep the money & when I draw I will pay it back. Send me some stamps if you havent already. sent them as I am out of stamps & money. I Recd a letter from Terrence this morning dated the 20th he is at Huntsville Ala. he is well & has been Promoted to Brig. Quartermaster Sergt. there is some 20 Batterys here everything is covered with troops. there is about 20,000 men here the place is well fortified. I dont know what we will do here we tirmed over our guns & every thing ~~we~~

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we had. I think we will draw horses in the Spring. you cant look no way here without seeing a fort but we didnt happen to get in one. we draw dried beef here. dried before it is killed. it is the hardest looking beef ever I seen. just eat Dinner & feel Bully! I hope to hear from you soon.

Respectfully

O Cantwell

To John & Re Cantwell

Direct to Chattanooga Tenn.

P.S. I will send you a Chattanooga Paper in a few days ~~every~~ everything is full of Peace sumons [sermons?]. the general belief here is that we will have peace in a short time.

O.C.

I will write Terrence a letter this evening.