

Lee Springs Near Jones
Cross Roads 20 miles
North East of Knoxville
Dec. 21st 1863

Dear Sister:

The mail goes out
tomorrow morning and I will
write you a few lines to send
We have retreated back towards
Knoxville 12 miles the rebels
close to our heels here the army
made a stand and after sharp
skirmishing along our whole
front and a severe fight over
the mountains on the Harriston
road in which our folks
took 1000 prisoners the rebels retreated
and I hope they will not be
foolish enough to trouble us
again. I write this on a rather
soiled sheet but it is all I could
obtain for we all left our knapsacks
at H. expecting to be gone only a
day or two and knapsacks are now

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Lee Springs Near Lane's
Cross Roads 20 miles
North east of Knoxville
Dec. 21, 1863

Dear Sister:

The mail goes out tomorrow morning and I will write you a few lines to send We have skedadled back toward Knoxville 12 miles the rebs close to our heels here the army made a stand and after sharp skirmishing along our whole front and a severe fight over the mountains on the Morristown road in which our folks took 600 prisoners the rebs retreated and I hope they will not be foolish enough to trouble us again. I write this on a rather soiled sheet but it is all I could obtain for we all left our knapsacks at K. expecting to be gone only a day or two our knapsacks are now

on the way and will be up tomorrow
then I shall write you on account
of the siege of H. I am writing
this by the light of the moon and
fire so if I get off the line you
can lay it to a smacking file
It is rather cold weather now
but we have not seen a flake of
snow. The nights are pretty cold
but we keep burning big fires
night and day at the expense of
all the rail fence in the neighbor-
hood and are very comfortable
I am well supplied with
clothing having bartered a
pr. of gloves of Alden I shall be
glad to get my shirts for they will
be so much warmer than these
I have If the cutter took the bundle
at Nicholasville if he was not
captured by the rebels if he could
possibly haul his load over the
awful road via Gap which no
New-England Farmer would dare to
drive

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on the way and will be up tomorrow then I shall write you an account of the siege of K. I am writing this by the light of the moon and fire so if I get off the line you can lay it to a smoking fire

It is rather cold weather now but we have not seen a flake of snow. The nights are pretty cold but we keep burning big fires night and day at the expense of the rail fence in the neighborhood and are very comfortable having borrowed a pr. of gloves of Alden I shll be glad to get my shirts for they will be so much warmer than these I have If the sutler took the bundle at Nicholasville, if he wan not captured by the rebels, if he could possibly have his load over the awful road via Gap (which no New-England Farmer would dare to drive

his cows over unless they were
insured) if he comes to the Reg.
and if we dont make and some
one dont steal the box I shall get
some dried blueberries. I received to-day
your letter of Novth containing 3
stamps I sent you a little
last week diled near Pentledge
I also wrote you a few lines
just after the raising of the siege
Doted at W. both of which I hope
you have received I sent Father a
Conoville Bulletin and
Brownlows Ventilator did he get
them? Our speck of Cornma is
growing tall and of Frankys
beginning to talk I am picturing
in my mind how Cornma
would look trotting home from
school and Franky just beginning to
so Papa. I hope to get their picture
soon. I will tell you how I spent
Thanksgiving in my next letter
I received your letter of Nov 24th & 25th

his cows over unless they were insured) if he comes to the Reg. and if we don't move and some one don't steal the box I shall get some dried blueberries. I received to-day your letter of Nov. 1st containing stamps I sent you a letter last week dated near Rutledge I also wrote you a few lines just after the raising of the siege Dated at K. both of which I hope you have received I sent father a Knoxville Bulletin and Brownlows Ventilator did he get them? You speak of Emma's growing tall and of Franky's beginning to talk I am picturing in my mind how Emma would look trolling home from school and Franky just beginning to sa Papa. I hope to get their pictures soon. I will tell you how I spent Thanksgiving in my next letter I received your letter of Nov 24th & Dec 1st

last Tuesday The spin ball is a
nice one and I am greatly obliged
~~Monday morning~~
I suppose this letter will reach you
about the first of Jan. so I will enclose
\$2 thinking you may wish to buy
something with it before you go
home I would send more but don't
want to risk it now. I was paid
off last Friday received \$48 & go to
Concord I shall write Father about
it. You need not be surprised to
hear of my being 800 miles nearer
home in the course of two months
Yesterday I got a Cincinnati
Commercial of Dec 10th containing the
President's message and account of
the battle of Mission ridge. I see
the army of Bragg has been routed
and Longstreet didn't take us or
Burnside to rechange for Morgan
as the rebel pickets told us they
were going to. I can't see how it
is possible for the rebels to hold
out another year the prisoners we
took at it ^{What is your plan to get home} were dreadful sick of the

last Tuesday The pin ball is a nice one and I am greatly obliged

Monday morning

I suppose this letter will reach you about the first of Jan. so I will enclose \$2 thinking you may wish to buy something with it before you go home I would send more but don't want to risk it now I was paid off last Friday received \$8 \$18 go to Concord I shall write Father about it. You need not be surprised to hear of my being 800 miles nearer home in the course of two months

Yesterday I got a Cincinnati Commercial of Dec 10th containing the Presidents message and rebel account of the battle of Mission ridge. I seems the army of Bragg has been routed and Longstreet didn't take us or Burnside to exchange for Morgan as the rebel pickets told us they were going to. I can't see how it is possible for the Rebels to hold out another year the prisoners we took at K were dreadful sick of the war

Good buy WJT

Write as soon as you get home

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Tuesday the 23rd of Dec. Am on picket to-day expect to stay till tomorrow morning We have nothing to do but sit & watch the Rebel pickets Evrything is quiet here to-day A baloon is going up now & then from Gen Sumner's headquarters. It is real warm & pleasant this weather reminds me of May in NE. I received a letter from you just after the battle. It seems you have not so received all my letters. I sent you a letter with a gold dollar & a one dollar bill in it. Have you received it I sent it because I had more than I thought I needed at the time. I received your letter with 75 cts in it just after the battle I also received your letter with the other money (75 cts) Am writing this on some paper I got out of a house in Fredericksburg. I have got almost out of paper & envelopes when you write if you can slip in a sheet of paper & envelopes should like it the sutlers will be round by & by & I will try to get some You speak of sending me a box Our folks talk of sending one Please not send when they do. I am well enough with the living we have I don't want to be to too much expense in sending me stuff Don't sent anything that will spoil by keeping Wednesday the 24th Have got back to camp to-day is warm & pleasant Some boxes came to-day for the boys those that had in them turkeys apples breads &c were all spoiled. I have not received any papers since the battle Would like to have you send me the papers after the battle With the "Carlton's" letters describing the battle. Please write just as soon as you get this & send the papers A can of preserved oysters would be very acceptable when you send the box, don't hurry it. From your brother WJT

Third Permit would be as safe as anything such as Days 30

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Dried Fruit would be as safe as anything such as figs &c