

Post, Hospital Lexington, Ky
June, 7th 1863,

Dear Mother

When I wrote you last, I had (which was at Lancaster) no idea that my next opportunity would be in a Hospital, but thus it has proved and although I have been ailing for some little time I had little idea of getting unserviceable and obliged to be left in a Hospital. And it is with sadness that I take my pen in hand to inform you of it but I can only hope that you will look on the bright side as you always do. We left Lancaster the 28th May and marched 12 miles to Crab Orchard. I did not feel well at all and had my things put on board the Teams and thought I would try and walk having nothing to carry and the Ambulance was already loaded down with the sick but I was fortunate enough to get the Dr Horse to ride so that made out to get thru Regt but feeling like anything but well and as soon as the boys got their Tents pitched I turned in and laid untill about 8 P.M. when I was taken a violent pain in my chest and could not take a long breath without most killing me the

Capt went after the Dr immediately but found him also sick and the other two Drs were kept in the Hospital at L-r and so I had ~~stan~~ lay all night and could only lay on my right side the side where the pain was. It was a long night I assure you but the Dr came early in the morning and I was taken to the Hospital Tent and had a blister applied at once and some cough medicine for it almost took my life to cough but I was relieved of the pain and felt much better by M. For the first time since I have been in the service I was taken with a bad diarrhoea which made me feel much worse but everything was done for me that could be done under the circumstances and the Dr ordered the Colo to send in for a leave of absence of 30 days for me but that was which he would have done had he not said orders to move. I had not set up but very little and did not feel much like riding in an Ambulance but I find one can endure a great deal when they are obliged to. So at 4 o'clock, A.M. on the 4th June we started back to the Hospital at Lancaster but when we arrived there they were breaking up to move on with us to this place making a ride of 44 miles. We arrived here about 9 P.M. and was glad to find a good cup of tea and a good bed to turn into. I felt much better the next morning than I could have expected. I am much better now so that

I am up round my diarrhoea is much better as is my cough I shall get a furlough from here if possible but if I cannot I shall remain untill I get well again but I think I shall be able to get a furlough I should of been sure of it by this time if the Regt had not been ordered to move The whole Division was ordered back to Covington Our Regt with the rest of the Brigade passed through here yesterday on the Cars for that place I dont know what is to be done but I expect they are to go to Vicksburg I only wish that I was able to be with them The 2^d M. Sargent & Chas. P. Hill is with me so I am not altogether alone Write as soon as you get this and dont forget to give me Uncle Stephen Browns Address

Much love to all hoping this may find you all in usual health I remain
As ever your affct son & brother

Chas. W. Wilcox

P.S.

Also give me Uncle Franks & Jels address
Answer this immediately if not but a few lines
and direct to Post Hospital

Lexington
Ky

You will hear from me again soon

June