

Camp of 11th N.H. V.
Near Knoxville Tenn.
Oct 31st 1863

Dear Father & Mother

Doubtless you have
received my letter written Oct 17th just
as we were starting on our long march

We have now accomplished our
journey and are now in the heart of
East Tennessee about half a miles from
the city of Knoxville. We made the
trip in ten days three of which were
very rainy and as the roads were very
muddy it was not the pleasantest thing
in the world to march 10 miles with
a knapsack on ones back, however we
got through in good spirits and not
so tired as we were hungry.

Marching ~~in the~~ in the mud or
camping during a rain storm is
what we have got used too and we
only laugh at our hardships and
make fun of our ill luck

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Marching in the mud or camping during a rain storm is what we have got used too and we only laugh at our hardships and make fun of our ill luck

We were rather short of rations on the march, but were passing through a country where the rebels had not got everything eatable for we found quite a quantity of apples of the most delicious sort. We got out of hard tack on the last day have had none since, it don't pay to bring bread 200 miles over such a rough road.

The Quartersmasters have confiscated a lot of wheat, which is ground and there is a government bakery in town where nice soft bread is made. We, each man, gets one loaf each day. Bread is the only article we get full ration off. Coffee sugar rice &c we only get one quarter ration.

But we don't complain as it is impossible to get full rations they have to be hauled so far. I hope soon the rail-road will be completed through to Lewisville then we shall see better times.

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But we don't complain as its is impossible to get full rations they have to be handled so far. I hope soon the rail-road will be completed through to Louisville then we shall see better times

*I have not a word to you may
I have not been into the city yet but given
I have not a word to you may*

Alden Farrar is going to send home
for his shirts and I have concluded
to have you put in any shirts the
pr. of drawers and one pr. of stockings
if you have them, if not send the
things without I guess you had better
not put in anything except what I
write ~~for~~ because the risk of bringing it
so far is great, it will cost a good deal
if it reaches us. I have got government
shirts now they are rather thin but
will do for undershirts Mrs. Spould-
ing will send her things to our house
and Mr. Farrar will call and get
them there You may put in the pocket
a little vial full of good ginger and if
you can perhaps a table spoon full of
cayenne pepper If I want anything else
I will write and have it sent by mail
If you have not sent the gloves you
can send them in the bundle
I got a pr. of good boots of Uncle Sam

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Alden Farrar is going to send home for his shirts and I have concluded to have you put in my shirts the pr of drawers and one pr. of stockings if you have them, if not send the things without I guess you had better not put in anything except what I write because the risk of bringing it so far is great, & it will cost a good deal if it reaches us. I have got government shirts now they are rather thin but will do for undershirts Mrs. Spaulding will send her things to our house and Mr. Farrar will call and get them there You may put in the pocket a little vial full of good ginger and if you can perhaps a tablespoons full of cayenne pepper If I want anything else I will write and have it sent by mail

If you have not sent the gloves you can send them in the bundle I got a pr. of good boots of Uncle Sam

write to me & shall certainly write to her soon
to receive a letter from her and if I don't
well I know James & should be pleased
he gave me a good bargain so I shall
not need any from home.

I received a letter from Anna the
night we got here written Sept 28th
and received it Oct 28th the pins and
thread were all right I also got the
line by Cogswell these are the only
two letters I have got yet. I suppose you
got the \$5 by Mr C. and the bundle
by express

You will find a line enclosed
for Mark Spaulding please hand it to
him the first opportunity, and make
up the bundle soon after receiving this
so as to have the things on the way as
soon as possible that they may get
to Nicholasville so as to meet our
Gutler who will bring them to us
The 28th I got a letter from James M
Langer and last night one from Fannie
Choate. I suppose Mary will send my last
letter to you. I have A. write often
From your Soldier boy W. L. Tompkins

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You will find a line enclosed for Mark Spaulding please hand it to him the first opportunity, and make up the bundle soon after receiving this so as to have the things on the way as soon as possible that they may get to Nickolsville so as to meet our Sutler who will bring them to us The 28th I got a letter from James M Sawyer and last night one from Fannie Choate. I suppose Mary will send my last letter to you Have A- write often

From your Soldier boy W.J. Templeton

Tell Francis Sawyer I should be pleased to receive a letter from her and if she don't write to me I shall certainly write to her soon

I have not been into the city yet but guess I shall go to-night Parson Brownlow paper I have not seen yet