

Columbia College Hospital Washington  
D. C. Feb 26<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Brother

I received yours with Mothers  
of the 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Feb; last Monday after having  
gone to N. News and sent from there <sup>just as</sup>  
but that made no difference I was glad  
to receive them and was glad to learn (as  
did from Mother the day previous) that you were  
regaining your health and <sup>were</sup> once more  
attending to the duties of your School  
I am so glad that you are all enjoying  
better health on your feet and I feared  
that Mother would get sick herself but you  
and all express so much sympathy for  
me that sometimes I am inclined to think  
that you do not think enough of your  
own health and after have I thought  
that it is all for the best that I am  
unable to get a furlow Home as it would  
only make an empty care and trouble while  
I could remain long enough to get my  
strength again using this kind of  
logic I feel quite content to remain  
and share the fortunes of war with the  
rest of the soldiers and if it should



no 31

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Dear Brother

I received yours with Mothers of the 7<sup>th</sup> + 9<sup>th</sup> of Feb: last Monday after having gone to N-  
[Nevers?] and sent from there here but that made no difference I was just as glad to receive them  
and was glad to learn (as did from Mother the day previous) that you were regaining your health  
and was once more attending to the duties of your School I am so glad that you are all enjoining  
better health on your act – and I feared that Mother would get sick herself but you and all express  
so much sympathy for me that sometimes I am inclined to think that you do not think enough of  
your own health And often have I thought that it is all for the best that I am unable to get a  
furlow Home as it would only make an [extry?] care and trouble which I could remain long  
enough to get my strength again Using this kind of logic I feel quite content to remain and share  
the fortunes of war with the rest of the soldiers and if it should



ful ~~to~~ to lose my life in this our  
Country's freedom so be it But many  
being killed and dying from disease while  
I am yet spared and according to the  
predictions of some the time is close  
at hand when we shall all return to our  
peaceful Homes They think as soon as  
the Rebs learn that the draft for men  
from the North proves a success  
they the Rebs will succumb But I do not  
see it in a strong light although I  
am sure of the success of the draft with  
the exception of some localities even  
~~if~~ if I am allowed to ~~fail~~ in my  
native State Vt. Many of the Soldiers  
whom I have conversed with before I left  
the Regt and since I came here have  
no faith and say there will be a rebellion  
in the North and I have been abused  
by officers for sticking to it that it  
would be a success What is your opinion  
and that of those in B & O of course I know  
but I want to hear of some of the radicals  
I could name several in B who I hope will  
have the good luck to be drafted if there is to  
be one One thing is sure this cursed rebellion  
has got to be put down and U.S. must  
and will have men to do it I am



fate to loose my life in this our Countrys freedom so be it But many being killed and dieing from disease which I am yet spaired and according to the predication of some the time is close at hand when we shall all return to our peaceful Homes They think as soon as the Rebs learn that the draft for more men from the North proves a success thy the Rebs will succumb But I do not see it in a strong alight although I am sure of the success of the draft with the exception of some [unknown word] even if I am allowed to express it in my native State VT

Many of the soldiers whom I have conversed with before I left the Regt and since I came here have no faith and say there will be a rebbelion in the North and I have been abused by officers for sticking to it that it would be a success Waht is your opinion and that of those in B + R of course I know but I want to learn of some of some of the [ruchichs?] I could name several in B who I hope will have the good luck to be drafted if there is to be one One thing is sure this cursed rebbelion has got to be put down and U.S. must and will have men to do it I am



glad they are putting the Blacks in to the fighting for their own liberty and from accounts I see they prove themselves good fighters; although many of our soldiers hate to arm it - and are bound not to fight with them I see by Nothurs letter that you have received \$15<sup>00</sup> for one months pay which we received at <sup>New</sup> Falmouth which was due us from Sept-16<sup>th</sup> but instead of paying 2 months they only paid for one and a half months thus paying up to the 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov paying us \$15<sup>00</sup> as they did not divide the allotment of the half month and now we have 4 months due us or will the 1<sup>st</sup> of March but will ~~draw~~ draw but for two months we are mustered here for Jan & Feb as we are now only now mustered for Nov & Dec In my second letter after arriving here I wished you to send me \$25<sup>00</sup> not thinking but you might hesitate and as I was sadly in need of and a vest also which I never have had since I have been in the army as to the coat I can draw one here but with my parish I thought I needed a little better one But as Mr. thinks it unnecessary I conclude to draw one but get me a cap and vest and to do this I shall need an



glad they are putting the Blacks in to the fighting for their own liberty and from account I see they prove themselves good fighters: although many of our soldiers hate to own it and are bound not to fight with them I see by Mothers letter that you have received \$15.00 for our months pay which we received at New Falmouth which was due us from Sept 16<sup>th</sup> but instead of paying 2 months they only paid for # one and a half months this paing up to the 1<sup>st</sup> of Nov paing me \$15.00 as they did not divide the allotment of the half month And now we have 4 months due us or will the # 1<sup>st</sup> of March but will draw but for two unless we are mustered here for Jan + Feb as we are now only now mustered for Nov + Dec In my second letter after arriving here I wished you to send me \$25.00 not thinking but you might have it at hand and as I was sadly in need of and a vest also which I never have had since I have been in the army As to the coat I can draw one here but with my [pasish?] I thought I needed a little better one But as Me thinks it unnecessary I conclude to draw one but get me a cap and vest and to do this I shal need an



another \$500 as I won a pretty good  
hole into the \$1000 which I received before  
leaving Oalmonth Va for here most of  
it has gone for apples and milk since  
I came here I would not send for this  
but we are not sure of being paid  
off for three months to come and I  
wish to get to get them so as to have my  
picture taken before leaving.  
I have written thus far without speaking  
of my own health which I am sorry to  
say has not been so well the past week as  
when I first came here having had a slight  
turn of the bilious Colic but I am better now  
and feel round as usual except that I do not  
go out of doors I feel as well as I ever did but  
so weakly which is caused by indigestion  
and some times I go two or three days without  
food phisic and is no help for it - being  
composed of <sup>good</sup> wheat bread and poor coffee three  
a day although we have a small allowance of  
and vegetable for dinner this is so much better  
than we got when in the front that I cannot  
complain but it does not suit my present state  
of health and I do wish I could get some of Mr  
jenny Cakes or graham bread my throat  
and lungs are as well as ever I do not think  
of any thing that I could have sent from  
home that would add to my comfort we  
have everything here to make our comfortable  
and contented but the presence of Home and  
the diet - A Lady from N.H. has just been in  
and left us a bottle of Currant wine and some preserves.  
But I must close I hope to be better when I write  
you next and do better justice to pen ink & paper  
Hoping this may find you and all in good  
health I remain as ever your affectionate  
brother & son Chas W. Wilcox



Received, a, paper, from, this A.M.[upside down on top line of this page]

another \$5.00 as I worn a pretty good hole into the \$1000 which I received before leaving Falmouth VA for here most of it has gone for apples and milk since I came here I would not spend for this but we are not sure of being paid off for three months to come and I wish to get to get them so as to have my picture taken before leaving

I have written thus far without speaking of my own health which I am sorry to say has not been as well the past week as when I first came here having had a slight turn of the billious colic but I am better now and up round as usual except I do not go out of doors I feel as well as I ever did but for [weaknys?] which is caused by indjestion and sometimes I go two or three days unless I [illegible] phisic and is no help for it being [unknown word] of good wheat bread and poor coffee thru [illegible] a day although we have a small alloweance of [illegible] and vegitable for dinner this so much better than we got when in the front that I cant complain but it dont suit my present state of health and I do wish I could get some of Mothers joney cakes or graham bread My throat and lungs are as well as ever I do not think of any thing that I could have sent from home that would ad to my comfort we have everything here to make our comfortable and contended but the presence of Home and the diet – A Lady from N.H. has just been in and left us a bottle of current wine and some preserves but I must close I hope to be better when I write you next and do better justice to pen ink + paper Hoping this may find you and all in good health I remain as ever your eflectionate brother + son Chas W Wilcox