

Cynthiana Ky Sept 16th 1863

Dear Mother & friends

When I wrote you last at Cincinnati, O. I had no idea that it would be so long a time before I should be able to write you again but I have been very busy since then I left Cin - on the next day (Sept 8th) and went to Lexington Ky. for the purpose of getting mustered and joining the Regt which was at Hickmans Bridge, Ky. I was informed there at L that the Regt was coming past L in a day or two so I remained but did not get mustered as my papers had to be sent back to Cin. O. to ~~get~~ be signed. I remained there until the 11th and then joined the Regt which is doing guard duty on the R.R. Road from Paris to Covington, Ky. The Companies being stationed at the different Bridges between these two places to prevent the Rebels from burning them. The Road has been guarded by our troops ever since the war broke out in Ky. 1st by Ky Union Cavalry, then by the 118th Ohio Vols. then by the 48th Penn Vol who are relieved. There are two large block Houses built of logs on either side of each Bridge affording very comfortable quarters for the men to live in much more so than the little shelter tent I assure you we have very little duty.

to do and the men were never so comfortably
off as at present, their only fear being that
we shall not be permitted to remain here through
the winter. There are two Companies at this
(Kimbroughs Bridge) Co A, and Co. F, this Child
being in command of F. Capt Stone having
been sent to N.H. to bring out the N.H. Conscripts
I expect he will be gone a month or two then we
shall have a nice time drilling the Conscripts
We have the pleasantest Post on the Road being
some 60 miles from Lexington & 30 from Covington
and Cynthiana is one of the prettiest places in Ky
but it is the worst as is the whole County of
(Harrison) of any in Ky: Paris, our H.Q. is in Bourbon
County and 18 miles from Lexington They are most
all Rebels in this County but what few Union
men there are Union to the back bone

I have not become acquainted with but a few of the
citizens yet ~~at~~ those I have are Union comprising
the Judge (I dont remember their names) Sheriff:
Provost, Marshal: & Dr Smith. Another Mr Smith
lives close by here who I am going to board with
when we get settled down. He is a good Union
man owns a large Farm (Has a fine daughter who
is a fine singer and performer on the piano)
They are having their Co Fair this week which
commenced yesterday I was in a short time
yesterday but it wasnt much like the Fairs East
apt they are not as they would be in other times

than the Present However they have the Stars
and Stripes floating in the breeze which would
be otherwise if we were not here; and the Community
voted by our majority to give us with our Co
free tickets to attend which we of course were very
thankful to receive There is a small band of
Guerillas about 10 miles from here and active prep-
arations are being made to clean them out; The
Citizens are daily expecting them in here to rob
the Bank and murder men women & children
who are in favor of the Union We are keeping a close
watch of them and also of some of the Citizens here
but I hardly think there will be any trouble at least I
hope not Soon after I mailed the letter to S.
at C. — I learned that our Major Everett had died
and had been sent Home He died at the Gibson
House and of the same disease that Sprague did
Our Regt is Commanded by Capt Edgerly now Col Titus
and ^{1st} Col Babbitt not having yet returned I hope the
Col will soon for I cannot get mustered out and in
until he does O dear there is so much red tape that
I am almost sick of being anywhere I have not found
those letters with the stud and picture yet nor any
of the others Co. I. is at Paris 40 miles from here but
I have seen them all that were there which was only
17 and only 9 of them for duty but there are now
in the Regt very sick the universal complaint
being chills & fever write soon and often and
all the news And remember me to all enquiring

friends and direct to Cynthiana. Ky. Co F. 9th V.H. Vol.
Much love to all hoping this may find you
all enjoying good health as myself I remain your
affectionate son and brother

C. W. Wilcox

Q. Lieut C. W. W.

Commanding Co F. 9th V.H. Vol.

Cynthiana

Ky