

No 53

Kellers Bridge near

Cynthiana Nov 8th 1863

Dear Mother

Yours with Harris of the 25th Oct- was duly received and I was pleased to learn that you were all in usual health and had been having a pleasant time occasioned by a visit from Uncle & Aunt Glendinning. My wish is the same as was yours - that I might of been there to enjoy it with you but - am happy to know that I was thought of and spoken of. This is a day of all others ~~which~~ that seems most dear to me and on which brings back fresh to my memory the scenes at Home and I am reminded more than usual on such a day as the present, it being a very unpleasant day to be out, the coldest - that we as yet have experienced and the wind blows a perfect gale shaking my Tent and all there is in it as though there was nothing af it although it is a new well T- and I have now good comfortable and well furnished Quarters Capt J B Laisdell of Co. H. is here with me having returned from V. H. some 10 days ago so that I am now in command of only Co. K. and expect soon to receive orders to return to my own Co. ~~A. H.~~ F. at Bimborough B-g. Neither the Capt- or myself have been out today except to go to our meals although I should have gone to Church if I had not felt quite ill with a cold which I caught night before last at a fire which was near by. A Dwelling House close by and belonging

To a brother of the man (Mr Cook) who we board with
It caught in the garret over the kitchen about 11 o'clock P.M.
The Guard on the Bridge was about the first of us to discover
it but it being constructed of wood it was impossible to save it
but we all turned out and was in season to save everything
that was movable Mr C had just completed (with the exception
of paint & paper) a thorough repair of the inn. And to cause
him to ~~was~~ feel a deeper sense of his misfortune. Capt B was
obliged to read an order to him the next morning forbidding
him to make any more whiskey of corn which was issued
to all Distillers the same day as the Gov wants all the Corn that
is to be sold in this section of the Country. Yesterday we received
a order to inspect all Distilleries in this (Harrison Co) and if
any ~~to~~ were found to be disobeying the order of making Corn
whiskey to confiscate the same and also the Corn on hand
So tomorrow we expect to have a little fun beside a nice
ride through the Country as we are authorised to press such and
as many Horses as we may need for carrying out the same
There are about a dozen Distilleries in this Co. which consume
yearly more corn than is raised in the same
Cook & Co paid \$17000.00 Tax to the Gov on what they made
last year and this is not the largest Establishment in the Co
They are now feeding over seven hundred hogs which on account of
the order will be their heaviest loss as they have not been
running but a short time and the hogs are not fat enough for
market. We have not ~~been~~ been into the distillery since the
order but hope they have not violated it as if we are obliged to
enforce it by obeying the last order we most likely shall be
informed that we can find ourselves a new boarding place which

will only cost us more travel, we are paying 10 cts per meal
or \$2.10 per week. quite reasonable but all it is worth for
corn cake and bacon

I attended a funeral of a deceased officer of the 6th Reg Inf. Regt.
day before yesterday he (Lieut Kimbrough) was wounded at Chatanooga
in the lungs and came home a fine days ago and was considered
out of danger and doing well untill the day he died Thursday
I was well acquainted with his ~~family~~ folks who are the strongest
Union people in town his sister was the first young lady
who I was introduced to after my arrival here There are two other
brothers in the Union Army and one in the Rebel the one in
the Rebel Army was at the same battle at Chatanooga

He was buried under 'our' the escort being made up from
this and Kimbroughs Bridge Commanded by Lieut Little same rank of
deceased I understand that the Copperhead portion of the community have
since made some very sneering remarks but perhaps they dont know that
it was not the direct request of his friends but by the Union Citizens
and ^{near} as much for the purpose of plaguing them as to show ^{due} respect to
gallant officer who died in the defence of his Country Although he
was a young man of many friends previous to the war

We are all feeling in unusual good spirits at the present time as we
have been informed that we are to remain here through the winter and
have been furnished boards tools &c to make the B Houses comfortable
for winter quarters and we are also to be paid off this week which
is quite an item with a soldier I must close now and go to bed
hoping this may find you and all in good health and to hear
from you again soon I am as ever your affectionate son

C. M. Wilcox

Lieut-Co F. 9th Vol
Paris Reg