

Headquarters 2^d Division, 1st Brigade, 9th Regt. N. H. Vols.
In Camp near Richmond Ky. April 30th 1863

Dear Mother & friends

How long looked for and welcome letter of the 21st April (Mailed) came to hand last night and was received with much pleasure as all letters are from Home yet this last one seemed doubly more dear than usual 1st as it had been a long long time since I have heard any one from Home 2^d it contained a nice little lock of hair from the head of my little Niece Minnie, C. Pick which I shall keep as a treasure untill I can see its owner which I hope will be in a short time I was sorry to learn of your suffering from your old complaint although I could not expect it otherwise at this time of the year and it gave me great pleasure to learn that you were better I had not heard from Home since I left Washington and I confess I had become somewhat uneasy as I had heard several times from Keene since leaving W- nothing more than a month ago I have often wished since I have been in Ky. that you could live in such a climate as this God know that you would enjoy much better health and I too I don't know how it is with other Regts that out here but our men never have also to M. H. M. and the Baby

been so hardy ~~to~~ and ready for anything that is asked I think the wind has something to do with our health. When we were at Falmouth, Va, the men were discouraged and disheartened and there was nothing but continual murmurings against their situation and the Government and its proceedings. And in this respect as with the health there has been a great change and a good one too.

Today is Fast day here as I suppose it is with you but I imagine that we ~~are~~ are spending it very differently from what you are. It is a beautiful day and warm although there is an occasional cool breeze from the North and as I sit here under the shade of an ^{old} Oak Tree, I can but help think how different ~~it~~ ^{very} everything looks from what it does in Vt. Everything is green as I have been used to seeing it in June and the Farmers in our vicinity have finished planting their corn. This A.M. was spent in getting ready for inspection ~~from~~ by our Col. H. B. Titus and were also mustered for the last 2 months pay taking up all of the time of the A.M. This P.M. we have been sitting ~~on~~ in the shed and listening to a short discourse from our Chaplain after reading to us the Proclamation (and is but a short time (half past 5 o'clock) when we shall have to rig up for dress parade so you see it doesn't make much difference whether it be Fast or Sabbath day to us for although we have no regular drill there is

you can send the cap as you wish and as the Enrich of Reg's are

in which make the day seem like I
of the work.
received orders night before last to be ready
at a moments notice taking with us
but our blankets leaving our Tents
and knapsacks packed a detail being
to guard them when our destination
all but it is thought we are going towards
and Gapp The men all feel delighted
have nothing more to carry although
do not have their Knapsacks & Tents
any account - We are probably going
of to return on a few
as I am writing this I learn that
received orders to march at 7 tomorrow
My feet are all healed up and I feel
could march any distance that
will feel able to ride on his horse
had so poor rations dealt out as we
have been out here bringing nothing
of pork & hard bread with once in a great while
it had not been for the plentiful of
among the farmers I don't know what
of some Eggs Butter Ham & Chickens
a good substitute When we first came
ston we could buy eggs for 10 cts per Doz
soon got to asking as high as 40 & 50 cts
eggs in proportion when Gen. Nagle
an order with stated prices for the soldiers

Cash. 10
to direct - Cash. 10
know it
they are on the
but suppose they are on the
to travel through
of but suppose they are on the
I don't know what
and W. Wells & Co.

to pay for each article, 15 cts per Day for eggs 20 cts per lb
for butter (there is no cheese made here as I have seen) and
other things in proportion and if the Citizens or soldiers
asked more than the above sums their stuff whatever
it was, was subject to confiscation I have bott com-
-sederable milk which makes a good dish with hardtack.
I dont know what I should of done if I had been out of
money for I dont relish the pork (which is we boil)
and I dont believe it is healthy for any one to eat in
warm weather I have got my 4 months pay which
I received at Washington with the \$5.00 that I sent me
making \$85.00 in all I dont know why it is but
they dont pay any regard to the allotment Roll at
any of the Hospitals so I will not receive any more
from Concord untill we are paid off again which will
be 4 months from the 1st of March I having been paid
up to that time March 1st (I will write you more
particular about my affairs in my next which will be
the first opportunity as I intended to when I commenced
this) I feel that I shall need what I have got unless
we are provided with better rations than fat salt pork
I wish that it were otherwise so that I could have the use
of it I am glad to hear that Sis is enjoying such good
health and spirits and hope he & I will make the
trade you spoke of so that he can go ahead I think
it best for all concerned ~~your sake~~ I hope to draw
my pay soon time but I dont know when it will be
I am a Volunteer in a N. H. Regt and have got some very
jealous enemies But I will not pay anything for a commis-
sion as some have in this and other Regts (as high as \$2000)
Report says that our Regt is to be filled up to its
original number 970, we have 664 now The regts that have
less than 500 men are to be consolidated into a Battalion
of 5 Companies Commanded by Lieut Col the Colo being
mustered out of service with the other officers. The 1st and
2nd Regts in our Brigade to be consolidated. The 6th N. H. and
2nd Md. I must close now hope this will find
all well as I am happy to say I am myself well as
as you can and dont fail to send News Papers as many
as you choose As ever your affectionate son & brother Chas W. Wiley
Please remember me to the neighbors and all enquiring friends & Sophia