

CIVIL WAR CORRESPONDENCE FROM AND TO JAMES DUNLAP

Envelope: SOLDIER'S LETTER

 3d Battery Wis. Artillery
 -----Reg.----- Volunteers.
 Mr. William Dunlap
 Aurorahville
 Waushara Co
 Wis

Tuesday January 28, 1862

Kind ones at home i again take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you and endeavor to give a small description of my journey. We left Racine Thursday morning – afternoon I should say at 2 o'clock and went to Kenosha and there the Cavalry came down to bid us good by we staid there i guess ½ an hour and then we went on to Chicago got there past dark then we got off the cars and marched through town to the other side to the depot a distance of 1 ½ miles so they say where we got on the cars again so we stayed there while the freight cars with the cannon went around on another track some way to where we were and while we staid there we got our supper of coffee and crackers the coffee was made there at a tavern or eating house i guess i don't know for we was put right in the cars and a guard put at the door so we could not get out to see what kind of a place we were in but i know the coffee was hot and strong so we stayed there till 9 o'clock then we started for michigan city run very slow for it was 12 o'clock when we got there a distance of only 40 miles staid there i guess ½ an hour and then started on for New Albany a distance of somewhere about 300 miles as near as i can come at it,, passed through Layfaette which is quite a place here we got some more hot coffee i gessed they must have telegraphed through for we stoped at a number of places along the road and got coffee and they had it all ready for us and i should think it would take some time to make from a dozen to 20 pails of coffee so we kept going. passing Stations and junctions to numerous to mention waving our caps,, hankerchiefs,, or any thing we had hold of and yeling at every man woman or child we passed on the road some of the boys would get so hoarse before night that they could not speak loud so they would rest till morning and begin again and the folks in return would waive their bonnets,, aprons,, snotrags,, dish cloths,, spades, shovels,, pitch forks,, and every thing els but what pleased us the most was the old women that came running out with a dish rag in one hand and the wiping cloth in the other and they would get so excited they would jump up and down and make both hands go the way the dish rags would flip ? was a caution then we would give to cheers and goodness you would think the women were going into histerics so we kept going raising Ned all day and passing through small towns like Aurorahville in the night just often enough to keep us awake so we could not sleep any although some of the boys did sleep in spite of all the noise we could make Well, Friday night some time in the night or i guess it was only 10 or 11 o'clock we came to Bloomington and there we had quite a time A host of the Ladies came out with baskets full of buiscuits,, pies,, cakes,, apples,, and one thing and another so we were bountifully supplied so we had to take all we wanted and more to and then they want satisfied they wanted us to take more and they would shake hands and feel as tea kettle as though we were old friends just come back from a long journey and some of the boys climed out of the windows on the platform and they said first thing they know they were covered with kisses and nearly squeased to death. i tell you such patriotism i never see they gave us lots of good advice to so they did. They told us

to be brave boys to stand by our guns and never give up and if we ever came back to be sure and stop there and they would treat us the best they knew how and so we started on that was the only place where we were treated on the whole road. The next morning we got to New Albany and staid there all day as i have already wrote went into Louisville stayed all night in an old tobacco house slept on the floor what little we did sleep for it was pretty cold the coldest night we have had yet. Well in the morning we marched through town in a good many directions giving 3 cheers for every flag we saw and for every Lady that swung a hankerchief so after while we got pretty hoarse Well after while we came along where there was a certain niger wench and when she saw us she came to the door bare footed bare headed and her feet so big they would hardly stand in the door and there she danced and swung her hands and laughed and she said O you are all my boys you are worth all the world, clean em all out, and a good eal more that i could not hear and so we went up in camp Good by

I believe i can write a little more you said you had bought me a pocket hankerchief and if i understood your letter you said you had sent it with your letter i hope you have not for i did not get it with the letters and as it is nothing but a paper perhaps it wont be sent on and if you have not sent it yet i guess you had not better for i can get along. Your chopping bee came out rather slim what was the reason they did not more come i don't think Joe and Nate would of left if there had any more come and i think they might have stayed any how and if ever i write to Joe i will tell him so they need not be so fraid of doing a little for their neighbors i think Mother had not better go in the woods to get up wood for it would be money out of your own pockets if you only new it so I would advise her to stay in the house and tend to her own work and if the boys cant get wood enough get some body to chop some for you,, You had better pay \$1.00 a cord for getting stone wood chopped than for mother to go in the woods and work ½ day so you have got my mind on the subject,, I want the boys to write when they can but not to neglect their lessons to write. Deloraine appeared to be some what discouraged about his lessons but you see that will never do if you do get a whipping you know it wont last long and it will make grow as folks used to tell me when i was small like you now **tole (Cole?)** you study hard and be a good boy and you will come out all right and if you do well just let me know and I will see what i can send you,, You may have this song to start on that i send in this letter My bible came all right. as soon as i heard that Will and Mort had the measels I thought what a good time the folks would have with them for i know that the boys had been all over and if they had not given them to every one that had not had them it was not their fault. Although the boys were not to blame for they did not know that they had been exposed to the measels i believe there is 2 at the hospital at Racine with the measels They were pretty sick when we left and that is all only 2 in the hospital here i don't know what ailes them perhaps the measels but i have wrote most enough. it is summer weather here sunday when we came here it was so warm we could hardly stand it Monday it rained all day and to Day it is clear and warm the ground is not froze a bit it is as warm as i care a bout Tell Mina i like to see her hand writing i don't care in whose letter it comes or if it comes in nobodys but her own

[James Dunlap]

Envelope:

SOLDIERS LETTER

From 3d Battery Wis Artillery

_____ Reg. _____ Volunteers

Mr. William Dunlap

Aurorahville

Waushara Co

Camp Smith, Sunday
Feb 23 - 62

Kind ones at home once more I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you. It is very pleasant here today but for the past 2 or 4 days it has been quite dreary and it has rained for the past 2 days and much goodness it is hardly a name for it. perhaps you think we have been traveling but we haint it is rather hard traveling now. We could not get very far in one day if we wanted to. We are going to stay here a little longer cause they cant spare us. Yet they want us to stay here for to ornament the old fair ground of Louisville and we do it pretty well to I got a letter from Harvey Campbells folks They have all been sick with the measles but was getting better when they wrote. And what news do you suppose they wrote Well nothing only parks Bronson is going to leave the State he has lived in it long enough and he is going into the State of matrimony with a Miss Foster but strange things will hapen some times for a strange thing has hapened right here to my own knowledge for we have got all of 48 horses already that is what is left of them and I have got 2 of them to take care of for I am wheel rider on the cassons and that does me very well We have to start at 5 in the morning and go see to our horse and ½ past 6 (no I am wrong get up at 5 and 5 minutes after is roll call and ½ 6 is stable call and ½ 7 is breakfast and at 8 water the horses and at 2 in the afternoon drill and at 4 stable call again 5 supper and about 6 is roll call again these orders was given out yes tarday and as it has been rainy all the time they have not been carried out so that I have hardly got the run of the thing yet. All the time before we would get up about 7 in the morning for roll call and eat breakfast when it was ready and drill on the guns from 10 til 11 eat dinner somewhere near noon and drill again from 2 till 3 and do what we were a mind to the rest of the time and roll call was at ½ past 8 at night then we did not have any horses to take care of and them Regulars that I have spoke about they have moved them selves into our camp now and that is why the orders are so much changed for they intend to boss the job themselves but I guess they will find it tough work but they hate the Vol, I tell you and why is more than I know I have heard the 9 months men say that every time they come acrost any Regulars they would curse them up hill and down The Regulars would. for they think the Vol. so far below them they think they know it all and Vol. dont know any thing so they will rule if they can but thank fortune they are ordered off to morrow morning at 5 oclock for Bowling green and I hope they will have to go to but I am afraid they wont have to go for 2 or 3 days yet there is nothing new going on about here only the sun shines once more and it is reported that 10,000 troops are to be disbanded in Ky. but I dont know as the report is true If it is you will hear of it before you get this I am just as dirty as ever and am likely to stay so till the mud dries up Our Officers* say they dont think we will ever see any service and I dont know as we will and I suppose you would rejoice with exceeding great joy if we were sent home with out seeing as much as a Rebel flag but I dont want to go home yet for as much as a month and I dont think I will have a chance and I am sure I dont want to for I have a little business I would like to settle before I went back if I could get a chance but I am most afraid I wont get the chance and I will tell you what it is I would like to give the Rebles a little cold iron for I think they will need some more of their bom proof boats by and by and they will want some iron to make them with so when they get drove to the gulf of mexico they will have some thing to float off on good by

*Our Officers say a good many things that ain't true

[James Dunlap]

Envelope:

SOLDIER'S LETTER

2 letters from James Dunlap
to his parents

From 3d Battery Wis. Artillery,
First Reg. Wis. Volunteers.
Mr William Dunlap
Aurorahville
Waushara Co
Wis

July the 1st 1862

Dear Mother once more I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you but I do not know whether it will ever reach you or not but I write in hopes it may for I know you will be anxious to hear from me. I am well as usual and getting along finely. I hope you are doing as well as I. We have been marching most ever since I wrote last. Sometimes we would lay over a day or so at a time and where we are going is more than I can tell or any one else any more than we can tell when the world is coming to an end. We are stoping now about 4 miles south east or south of Athens in Alabama. I suppose we have been marching mostly south east for the past week and do not average over 10 miles a day. We get up at 1 at night, feed, eat our breakfast and harness and start at 3 or day light which is a little past 3 I guess and we march till 10 and sometimes till noon Then we stop till next morning and start again. That is the way to travel for it is so awful hot here in the middle of the day. that it would use up the horses and men as if we were to travel all day. Since I wrote last we have come through a number of small towns such as luka as I wrote when there I believe Tuscumbia, Florance, Athens and so on. The next place I suppose is Huntsville It is reported that Gen Mitchel is there. That is only about 70 miles from here. Then it is supposed we will move on to Chatanuga which is a hundred miles or more and if we march all the way it will take some time to get there but as there is a railroad from Huntsville there we may possibly go through on rails but then we may go there and we may not. We dont know anymore than the horses It seems as though the Generals here were waiting to see what the results of MClelans army at Richmond It is rumered in camp here that if he does not have good success that we will be shoved through on double quick but there is no foundation to such reports We have received no letters in our company now for more than a week The mail appears to come through for we occsionally see the mail carriers comeing in with bags full of mail but they have to take them to head quarters and I suppose the Generals do not think it best to give out the mail for some cause or other They are keeping us as blind as a bat to every thing that is going on but there is policy in it I suppose or they would not do so. I dont know whether our letters go or not Our lieutenant told us this morning that he would take our letters and get them mailed if he could do so. The most of us has set down and gone to writing home or some other good place The 4th of July is near at hand and what kind of forth it will be to the people of the United States is more than I know but I dont think I will trouble my self to go to Aurorah for I dont believe there will be anything going on there A sort of a dull time I think it will be but I have filled a sheet and have not wrote a pennys worth but I dont know as I will have time to write much more this time but this is enough to let you know that I am alive and doing well. Enjoy myself finely. Better than you do I am afraid (That is in worldly enjoyments I mean), Dear Mother do not worry about me and do not work to hard Make your self as comfortable as you can and believe me ever

Your unworthy son

Thursday July 3, 1862

Dear parents my letter did not start day before yesterday and as I have not had an opportunity of sending it since I still keep it and I thought I would lengthen it to a small extent. I am well yet and enjoy my self. Well black berries are ripe now and they are plenty to so we have all we want to eat. We harnessed our horses and moved about 2 miles yesterday after noon to an old campground, a place they used to hold camp meetings and was fixed up for that purpose The buildings aford us a good shade and in case of rain will make a good shelter and here we expect to spend the ~~forth~~ fourth or rather we will stay here untill after the fourth I dont expect there will be much going on except fireing a few guns and perhaps a small quantity of whiskey will find its way into camp which will make some of the boys feel good and may possibly make a little noise but that is what every one tries to do make as much noise as they can If I was home now and had the teem that I have now I recon I would take a ride before sunrise or after sundown just to suit convenience with Mother. I would satisfy her for once I know and I bet she would enjoy it to Indeed I know she would but then what is the use of talking It takes money to make the mare go and I have nothing but horses but they are good ones Dad if I had them home they would be worth 300 dollars but they are not there nor I either. Now I have wrote enough haint I

Now Mother I dont know whether this will ever reach you or not I hope it will but I get no letters from you There is no mail comes to our battery at all but I think if we can get letters started they will home if your letters dont reach us for I believe letters come as far as the mail comes then the Gens wont let them come any farther Papers are destroyed and I dont know whether letters are or not. I hope they will keep them for us so when they se fit to let us have any mail the back letters wont be lost but I must stop

Good by

This from your unworthy son
James Dunlap

Louisville September the 30 1862

Dear Parents Brothers and Sister Again I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you and as I wrote only day before yesterday you cannot expect much news this time and I would not write only I dont know how long we are a going to stay here and I want to send as much of my money home as I wish to spare before we leave Louisville. I am still well as usual and I realy hope you are the same. I have received no mail since I have been here although I have looked for it very anxiously. Mr. Bowen got one yesterday one was a late letter and the other was wrote in July sometime. Consequently there was not news in it I suppose you have heard of the Death of Gen. Nelson before this time for he was killed yesterday by Gen Davis You will of course hear all of the particulars long before you get this and as there are a good many different stories about it I shall decline writing them. We received orders this afternoon to draw 5 days provisions and be ready to start at a moments notice but where we are a going we cannot tell nor I am not particular about knowing for I don't care but I would like to be ordered to wisconsin to fight Indians as some of the Minnesota Regts are not to Wis but going home but I suppose there are no hopes of that. Dear how I want to hear from home it is so long since I got a letter that I hardly know what to write. I believe I could write this sheet full if I only had a letter to read first. Almينا wrote in her last that she thought of going to Berlin to school but was rather on the fence about it but if there is a good school there she had better go if she has the means. I would help her if I could but I send home all the money I can spare and of course intend for it to be used where it is the most needed but I suppose she has decided before this time whether she will go or not and also come to think about it the school must be commenced long ago for this is the last day of September and this is

also the last of this kind of paper but I have plenty of other kinds and if I had not I am in a place where I can get it and lots of money to get it with. So I guess I will send all of this and let you write the other ½ and send it back We have some new recruits in our battery but none direct from Auroraville but a bout ½ dozen from Sheds Island. Well I believe I must stop writing for this time for I can think of nothing more to write I never was bothered so for want of something to write since I inlisted

So good by this time from your unworthy son
James Dunlap

William Dunlap
P.S. Here in I will enclose 90 dollars Government scrip

In envelope with Sept 30 letter

November the 12 1862

Dear parents having had no opportunity of sending my letter off I have carried it with me untill now and it being a lowry, cloudy & rainy day I thought to put a little more to it We called up Monday morning at 1 oclock and ordered to harness immediately which we did and 2 sections ordered out leaving the caissons behind consequently I did not go then but the whole Battery started at day light, crossed the Cumberland river and 6 miles farther on we struck the Nashville Lebinon pike and turned toward Nashville but we only came 9 miles and camped. We heard nothing of the guns untill nearly 9 oclock in the evening when the came into camp they had been after Morgan but he had fled so they did not get to fire at him. Our boys went clear into Liebinon and had a fine time there. the place is all secesh so they had full sway they broke into 3 or 4 stores and helped themselves not our boys in particular but the whole of the 93^d Brigade and they brought back any amount of coats, ribons and artificials, nothing that is of any account here though but might be if they could be sent home which they intend to do as soon as an opportunity presents its self, they also captured 7 or 8 wagonloads of provisions and as many bbls of Whiskey and the boys also caught as many chickens, turkeys & geese as they could conveniently bring to camp and of course had them cooked the next day In the morning we had to get the guns around in position of camp, straighten things up, pitch tents and fix all up for the Capt said that we were going to stay here for several days so we settled down for a few days rest that was only yesterday and last night it begun to rain, and is raining yet –

We were ordered up this morning at 4 to harness and be ready to march at 6 There thinks I this looks like rest getting up this time of day in the rain to harness, well we got ready and stood waiting untill about noon then the order came to unharness which we did very gladly. So we are still in camp and a good show for a few days grace I am still alive and in good health Have all I want to eat, drink, and wear and if I knew you were are as well off as I am I would be as contented as a pig in the clover

There were two boys came into our camp that had just come from Morgan they had been captured with some 20 others and had lived with Morgan 9 days They were infantry boys that had been detailed for the 81 Wis, Battery for you know that when a Battery gets short of men the Capt. can go to the general and he will give him as many men as he needs out of any regt. that he sees fit. these boys said that he was an awful cunning chap and they did not believe we could ever catch him for it is not his game to fight. When we came to galliton Our Advance found some 400 of Morgans men there and they had quite a skermish which resulted in the defeat of Morgans men but they managed to take with them some 90 of our men I believe it was reported that they took 900 but it was a mistake Well while that

was going on Morgan and the rest of his men were in our rear following in our very tracks and as soon as his men were defeated at Gallatin one of them took around and came behind and told Morgan but he did not appear to pay any attention to it at first. But after while they came to a lane that led from the pike and he took it and marched his men 90 miles that to Laebanon which brought him ahead of us again so you see that when we are on a march he is sometimes ahead and sometimes behind us picking up stragglers from our army and there are lots of them and then he has such a cunning way of going to camp. These boys said that ½ an hour after they go into camp there is not 900 men to be found and Morgan has some 4000 men and the way they camp 3 & 4 and some-times 6 & 8 will start off together and go to some house, put up their horses and make themselves at home. So you see that in reality they do not camp at all while they live as well as any one. They go out in small squads some one way and some another. So they aint to be found. That is not all of them with in 10 miles square so it is impossible to surround their camp and take them prisoners. When they part Morgan tells them where and at what hour he wants them to gather and they are all there at the appointed time to a man and if they are attracted so they cannot meet there they are sure to meet somewhere else. Morgans men think the world of him there is not one but would die on his behalf. Why that very night after our boys came from Lebanon Morgan came this side of town and took quite a number of our infantry that had staid behind but I must stop Good by your unworthy son James Dunlap

Mon Feb 24 [1863?]

As I received your letters this morning before I had sent mine off I concluded to put in a little more. It is pleasant yet this morning and the mud is drying up very fast I was on guard last night and it only makes 9 times that I have stood guard since we have been here where if we had been at Racine I would have had to stood twice as much. Those regulars did not leave this morning as was expected they would. and when they are to go is more than I know but it is not likely they will stay here very long. A dispatch came last night about 10 oclock, or an order from Gen. Buell I should say, for us to start next Thursday for the mouth of the Cumberland river in Tennessee some where if we are ready but we wont be ready you see for we have not got ½ of our horses yet and it will be impossable to be ready this week I got 4 letters all at once this morning. I guess some thing is a going to happen for I never got so many at once before I believe i got 3 at one time when I was at Racine, but when I came up from the stable this morning and one of the boys told I had got 4 letters I told him to shut up it was no such a thing but when Will Bowen handed them to me I did not know what to think One was from Adison one from Sylvester one from Charlotte and the other was from home and I did not look for one from home quite so soon for I knew that you had not got my letters in time for an answer to get back here, but then I always am glad to here from home. I would not care if we did every other day so you may write as often as you please and I will answer every letter and more to. I thought I was writing pretty often but it seems that I don't for Father said that you was most tired of looking for a letter but I thought twice a week was as often as you would care about. You seem to think that I am getting extravagant because I am paying 50 cents a month to get my cooking done but I guess you would not think so if you were here to see how we manage. I know I would not do the cooking for 50 cents a month I tell you it is disagreeable cooking out of doors this stormy weather and besides we could not do our own cooking and tend to our horses to. Now I think we are doing pretty well besides it gives the cook pretty good wages. You said Miss Wyman told you that Mr Wyman could not help her much for he was sick all the while and had to spend his money to buy medicine. Now it is no such a thing I dont know what he may make his wife believe but 2 things is certain One is that he is not sick all the time and the other is that he does spend his money some way or another. I dont know how though but I know he aint sick much unless it is love sick. He is cook for one of the tents and gets the same as Mr. Bowen. All the tents has a cook. Dave Beadle is a cook to

arrangements a considerable taking these big guns we have only 4 of these guns and 10 horses on a gun and it takes 15 baggage wagons and before we had only 6 and of course it will take a good many more mules and drivers to Mort Clark says he is a going to be mule driver and I guess he is We got our mules and wagons last night and this morning they are a going to change some of our horses we will keep the same horses we had before only what few they change for some are not very good I expect we will not stay here long now Our guns are down at Louisville and they will stay there till we go down the river and then they will go with us We was to go Friday but we wont get ready Our Lieutenant said this morning we would start Sunday Morning so by the time you get this we will be at our destination or on the road, You will want to know where we are going we are going to Nashville at least there is where we expect to go Now how long we are to stay is not known Not long for we are going on the advance it is reported here Manasses is taken or Manasha which is it I dont know it is a place near bulls run any how it is one of the Rebles strong holds or was is not now Moreover it is rumored that Gen. Segel is taken with 500 men killed and 10,000 prisoners but i hope that is not true but you will know before you get this I expect your letters will be sent on if any should come here after we are gone but I guess you had better not write again till you hear from me again Mr Bowen is well tough as a knot he has cooked for us now just one month and I dont begrudge him my 50 cents William stood guard last night and I guess the took a little cold he dont feel very well today Louis Williams is well as ever there I guess I have wrote all the news I can think of No I haint neither Mr Bowen is writing beside me and writing home to,, some 2 or 3 of our boys are to have their discharge because they have been sickly ever since they enlisted and it is thought best not to keep them any longer, There I guess I have wrote all now so good by till next time
Yours truly James Dunlap
To Father, Mother, Brothers and Sister

In Margin: Please write me Uncle Abners directions I have not wrote to him yet

Envelope: Eugene Dunlap
Auroraville
Waushara Co
Wisconsin

APR 1 1863

Camp Near Murfreesboro Tenn
Sunday March 29/63

Dear Brother

I did not get time last week to write a letter you as I told you I would but will do it this after noon I am not very well to day for I was pretty sick last night had my old complaint you know what is I suppose. The Sick Headache but you know It dont last long I am about well now Well you wanted I should tell you if I would not join the army again if I was out of this and had no one depending on me I tell you what it is Nin I would and I am going to stay in the army as long as there are any rebels fight and if this war is not ended when my time of enlistment is out I shall enlist over again or if the rebels have come to time and things are all straighten up and there is a chance to pick a fuss with old Selfish England then I am in so now you have it and you need not keep this from our either but I shall not write any thing in here that I want hid I cannot blame you Nin if you should want to enlist but I was in hopes that you would not want to and I am really glad that you care as little about it as you do For I do not think you are needed for a Soldier for this Conscript law of ours will take all that is needed but if you were alone in the world I should tell you to come on and help kill rebels but as it is it certainly your duty to stay at home It is true that you do not know what Soldiering is but it would not take long for you to find

out though it is different in different branches of the service Now I dont really know what it is to be a cavalryman or an infantryman though I have a better idea of it than I did before I enlisted and probly I know what they are now as much as ever I will unless I attach my self to them which will not be very likely to happen. I do not doubt in the least but you would be glad to have me come on a furlough and if I thought I could do you any good by comeing home for a time I would do it I think it would be better for me to stay till my time is out or till this fall any how it is the general opinion here that things will come to a focus by that time and I pray to God that it may and then I will, if I live, come home to see you all so good by

Yours in Love
James Dunlap

IN TOP MARGIN: Peach trees are all blowed out here.

Sunday Mar the 2

My Dear Soldier boy

As another week has rooled around & I am still _____ & able to write I will spend a few moments conversing with you answer all letters i receiving This forenoon Mr Campbell preached it is a beautiful day have had nice weather for several days the snow is all gone & the ground is quite dry the frost is all out & some of the ground is ready to plow Sugar **harvesting** is about done I guess has been but very little asside as have most only about 100 & 50 but it only holds _____ **reglation** carries on I should care if we dont make no more sugar last ~~week~~ has bin a very pleasant week & passed very quick as it always does when we get pleny of letters & we have got 7 from you & Eugene this last week so I cant complain this time but I have so little time to write that is I cant answer all your letters the I feel that I aught to for I no you all like to hear from home often & I try to write as often as I can I was real glad to get your letter the other day & and have you talk just what you think its a thing I have thought of much but about my young to **just** to live I did not think you wanted to get rid of me not at all but I knew it it was no place for my boys & tho I do love your sweet face better all the others yet my children are sweet **call** Still to me and I would not want to live where my children could not do well nor I dont think any of you would want to have me for I think you all like Mother to well for that but I dont expect I can have you all live at home with me always & I dont expect it would be best for you tho I never expect to take as much comfort with my children again as when you all lived at home but Eugene dont intend to be a farmer I dont think it will ever suit him I think one great thing then made him so anxious to go into the army was to get money to go to school with he is quite determined to have an education if possible & I hope he will not get disappointed for it wont be to bad & he just as much intends to have you go to school with him as he intends to go himself but you have done far more to get out home than any of the others & I no of no reason why you should not enjoy the good of it but if you want to make a shack for a home of your own I would not object nor stand in your way of any thing that was best for you but dont want you to go soldiering again for I dont think that is best for you but as you say we can talk these things over best when we meet but I have thought some times it might be best for you to accept of the homestead bill but that would take you so far away but I want you to do what suits you the best & our heavenly Father will give us grace to carry us all through this world if we put our trust in him & may he guide our steps aright in all things it want some good stout man to straighten up the farm for a year or to but I dont no who it will be Eugene has never bin very strong and I am afraid never will be Deloraine bids far more to be the stoutest of the 3 if he dont hurt himself now

while he is young but he is very hasty and head strong every thing has to get when he gets out of patience which is to often he has brought the cattle all through this winter looking pretty well for he has tended them all through the winter & James Ruth Nin staid here last friday & stayed over night she told me Lu was going to try to get a furlow next fall & come home home & get her some wood for she can hardly get any one to chope a stick now if you could get to come to it would make your time seems much shorter beside it would help Deloraine & encourage him very much you can see if you think it will pay but I hope there will be no war before then that were to call our dear ones away for every thing looks very encouraging just now but its hard teling the fate of war but may we all be ever prepared when the Savior comes & found waiting for thebrides coming but I am so sleeping I cannot write & must stope & go to bed Monday morning still pleasant all well Jane spoke to me about lending her money to go to Wy. with what do you think about it please tel me if you think it would be safe & James I cant help but think this wicked war is most over & he help us through Mother

To Eugene

Tuesday March the 28

My Dear absent boy

I just recieved a letter from you today stating that you have recieved no letter from home since you left Madison I did not write til I heard you were at Nash for you told me not to write til I heard from you but since then I think we have sent you nearly 2 a week & dont see why they dont reach you we are all well here up to our elbows making sugar have made abou 60po & have enough gathered in to make up a 100 good have about a 10020 trees opened you wanted to no if I got your likeness I did the mony likeness box & and all came safe there was a cap in the box that no one claims its left here do you no who it belongs to Mr Cate got a box from Louisville with your name on it had you any thing in thebox if so what pleas tel me about that likeness I dont think it looks just like yet I can see its Eugene tho that blouse dont look as well as a coat would I dont think but perhaps it will do Jane wants one & if you could get another one handy you may if not I will let her get one taken from this I was in Mis Strangs the other day & Emma told me to be shure & write to you to send her your pockograph she wants yours Beadleys & John M to put in her album things go on here about as usual Masthy & Lydia Cate are making sugar with Bronsons girls I expect they will drive a full team at it the cattle all are doing quite well I guess they will all come out safe if they dont nothing happen them in the spring we haint let out any of the place yet Deloraine dont want we should I dont no whether he will or not I am afraid it wont be half tended if they dont but I dont no I will try & not kill myself if I can help it while you are gone so dont worry about me but try & take good care of your self & its all you will want to do without worrying about me I will send this in James letter & he can send it to you may be you will get it in that way may God bless & keep you Mother

Envelope:

Eugene Dunlap
Co B. 47th Regt Wis. Vol. Inf.
Tullahoma Tenn

(MURFREESBORO

APR

1865

TEN)

Murfreesboro Tenn
April the 23rd [1865]

Dear Brother

Your letter of the 13th has just arrived and I will at once return the compliment. I am happy to learn that you are well and also to know that you received that Package all right. It is very windy to day and it was quite cool last night and also night before last I think it is more windy this spring than it generally is. I know we had pleasanter weather than this 2 years ago when we were here and the same at Chattanooga last Spring. But it is all in a Soldiers life so of course its all right I am sorry you are not going to get to come and see me for I should so like to have you. I am sure I would not have to go to the Doctor to get excused from drill so I could visit with my Brother but then it is different with you than it is with me and the great secret lies in your being one years men.

I have noticed that in particular here in Murfreesboro I tell you Nin I don't begrudge the one years men their big bounties I think they will earn it all before they get out of the Service But enough of this for I fear such talk is not very cheering to you and I do not wish to make you lot seem any harder as the hours pass more slowly away. No Nin, make up your mind to be content with your Situation whatever it may be, be determined you will be satisfied any how and as much as possible make your self believe you was never so happy and you will find the time will slip away much faster.

There is no prospect of our getting any pay yet and the first of next month Uncle Sam will be owing me 8 months pay and 2 bounties, in fact 2 bounties are due now and was 2 months ago. I have sent home for a little money Perhaps I shall get 10 dollars if I do I dont know but I can spare you some if you want it or send you some paper, envelops, Stamps &c, you can let me know what you want in your next. I am sorry to inform you Nin that we do not expect to stay here much longer Perhaps not a month Captain Stiles has been ordered to turn over every thing to the Ordinance department. Such as guns, gun carriages, limbers, ammunition &c. &c. But where we will go is more than I can tell. I hope we will go to Texas, for then I will get a chance to Stay my time out. Gen Van Cleve says all us veterians need not worry for we have got a sure thing of staying our time out. Nin what do you think of that I think he knows as much about it as the rest of the privates in the army. But I must close

Your Effectionate Brother
James Dunlap

Murfreesboro Tenn
April the 10/65

Dear Brother

I have just got a letter from home and I will at once write to you it is now just a week since I started to find you and it hardly seems 3 days you know I promised to tell you what Mother said about my going West and so I will and I dont see as I can do any better than to send her letter She also sent a note for you in it so I will Send them all together. Well I declare I hardly know what to write now as I have made up mind to send Mothers letter I will tell Mother to let Jane have money to go to Yg State I did not know before that Mother had any of my money on hand I dont know but I will have to send for some myself yet for there is no prospect of our getting any pay yet. I think I will concede to another request and get a furlough next fall "that is" if there is no likilihood of our getting out of the Service some time durring the coming winter,, But I think I must go West any how when my time is out and you shall have a farm beside of mine if you want it.

But it is Reation day and I must close. Be a good boy Nin take care of your health and look well to your habits in genera Good by, Your Brother, James

Envelope: Eugene Dunlap
C o B. 47D Wis. Vol. Inft
Tullahome Tenn

Postmark Apr 1865

Murfreesboro Tenn
May the 19 / 65

My Dear Brother

Your letter of the 11th has just arrived and I will at once reply though I do not know where you are. I had ought to have had your letter 6 days ago certain but through the carlessness of the P.M. it went to Nashville and lay there 5 days or more however your letter found me well and in good health and I am glad you feel so well. I sincerely hope your prospects will not be darkened in regard to going home but I fear your hopes are not well founded. I am afraid you will be sadly disapointed But I hope not. But be careful Nin, about raise your hops to high least they be dashed to the ground and you become disheartened and homesick. You said it was in the papers that all the troops but the regulars were to be discharged by the first of June. Are you sure of that? We have a Nashville Union in our Camp every day and I have neither seen or heard any thing of the kind. There is a report that all soldiers whose times expire prior to the 1st of Oct next are to be discharged as soon as possible I do not know as this is official. But to tell the truth Nin I am satisfied that you will be home before I am I do believe the one years men will be sent home within 2 or 3 months but I have no proof of my getting out this summer I do not believe all the troops are to be discharged except the Regulars not by any means Some Volunteers has got stay a while longer but what class they are is more than I can tell though I guess it will be the Vetrians. and even if it is we may be discharged as we are simply a detachment, not an organization I can not get you that pen **Herd** does not want to sell it and even if I could I should not want to send it untill I knew where you were and for the same reason I will not send you any paper & envelops. I have not heard from Almina Since I wrote to you and sent her letter I wish I had some money I would Send it to her Poor girl, she surely makes herself worlds of trouble, When we get Paid off I think I must send her money to come home with, for if we go to school Next winter I wont be able to spare enough to go after her myself. So I will first send her money enough to Come home with. An awful big storm is coming so I must close

From your Loving Brother
James

Envelope: Eugene Dunlap
C6 B. 47th Wis. Vol Infty
Tullahoma, Tenn

Postmark May 1865

Murfreesboro Tenn
May the 30th

[Page 1]

Dear Brother

Your kind letter of the 27 came to hand day before yesterday and as I had just written to you I thought I would not answer yours for a day or so. nevertheless I sent you a quire and a half of paper and a bunch of envelopes on the receipt of your letter and now I will forward you one dollar so you can get something to eat besides corn meal. I am very sorry you are so troubled with the disentary. You must be very careful about your diet as long as you are troubled that way

[Page 2]

And as you are not going home as fast as you was well that really is to bad Still it is no more than I expected I was afraid you were calculating on rather more than was allowed by law at the present time There is not much prospect of our getting out of the Service right away Still I am not discouraged I have not expected to get out until next fall none of the time and I have as much hopes as I had a month ago although we have been going to Texas so fast. I do not see as we have made much progress that way yet and am not much afraid we will

[Page 3]

The news to night is that the veterians of the 4 Corps are to be reorganized and as there are only 2 Vetrian Batter in the corps a telegram was sent to Major Schultz inquiring how may Vetrian organized Batteries there were here,. This news seems to be quite reliable yet it may be fals after all. But however that may be the 8th Battery is the only Vetrian Battery there is at this post.. "I know that" The rumor is that we are going to get paid soon. I really hope we will for we have been without Pay most long enough for comfort. and besides I would like to send you more than one Dollar.

[Page 4]

O Nin I can not get that pen for you Loran has broke his now what shall I do, dont you want I should return your 5,00 or shall I keep it or do you want I should get you a pen from the manufacturers and run the risk of its being a good one, Tonights Paper states that Kirby Smith has surrendered if that is so I think there is a very poor show of our going to Texas, dont you? It also says that Gen Sherman is going to command this Department and Gen Thomas is going to take charge of the Army of Virgin I am still well and hearty and hoping these few lines will find you the same I close

Ever Your Loving Brother

James

[written upside down on the top of pages 2, 3, and 4]

I have seen a circular from Bryants, Straters & Co College in Milwaukee which holds out very good inducements Perhaps that would be as good a place as we could go to I can not learn the Proprietors name of the Eastmans College in Poughkeepsie, do you know?

Envelope: Postmark Auroraville Wis Aug 14 (no year)

Address: Eugene Dunlap
Co. B. 47. Wis. Vol. Infy
Nashville Tenn.

Auroraville Wis
Aug the 13 / 65

Dear Brother

Another week has rolled around and brought another letter from you. it came yesterday bringing the glorious intelligence that you were well once more and you may be sure we were all glad to hear it I think you must have been very careless indeed to have left your pocket-book lying out on your bunk when you had gone out of your tent I should hardly thought you would have done so and I dont hardly think you will again We are all well here. and have got our harvesting nearly done The wheat is cut and stacked and the oats are all ready to stack I think we will get them stacked to morrow in some shape and then next week I think we will have to try the marsh. I shant go on the marsh this week for it is so wet and then I want to get some of the grubs and sprouts cut out of the meadow if I can. This is just the time to do it too. Mr Clark is home now on furlough. He is only going to stay a week I believe. You see he was sent to Madison on some business (I have not learned what) and got a furlough from there. There is no telling when the 30 reg't will get home any more than when you will get home. But I just wish you were all here now so I do. You wrote that it was reported you were going to Nashville. Have you any Idea that pertains in any way to your comeing home? or what do you think it is for. We are haveing a very good lodge here now. Who do you think is our W.V. have you guessed yet? I guess I will tell you any how though perhaps you have guessed already it is Miss Ann Clark. You can write to her now can you not? I a must tell you what a nice time I and Deloraine had comeing home from the Lodge last evening. we got into Will Bronsons waggon to ride and as it was crowded full I and Deloraine stood up in the hind end and just as he was turnning the corner comeing toward our house the horses jumped very sudden and upset Deloraine and my self out of the waggon O! "so nicely" "without injury" I presumed we looked very docile just about then as we were picking ourselves up out of the middle of the road all dust

Perhaps now you dont think that was fun

But I must bring my long letter to a close by wishing you good health and a speedy return home

Your Effectionate Brother
James

Auroraville Aug 17

Dear Brother

Once more i take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you for i haint wrote to you in a good while i hope that you will please me for next week i go to **guess sorries** i dont have some although i hope to write ___ ___ About we are all well hire and I hope you are enjoying the same blessing as us we ate melons is wrip now but they dont move on by as though she is lost i guess you awarded to heaven if passing ~~wanted to give~~ give any ___ yet i would say that it does She gives as much as any body that we have got but i must close Deloraine

Auroraville Wis
Aug the 27 / 65

Dear Brother

Your ever welcome letter was rec'd yesterday and of course were as ever glad to hear from you and to learn that you were still well Mother has written a good long letter to you to day so of course you will not care if I don't write as much I would not have written to you at all this evening but I must answer a question or two of yours which you were pleased to ask

You wanted to know how I was going to school here and at Poughkeepsie this winter as that we were to go to gather and if you do not get home untill your time expires I should like to know what is the reason I should not attend School here untill you do get home that is if we have a good one I am sure I cant see any thing puzeling in it at all I think I shall go to School this fall I believe it begins in about 2 weeks from this and if you were only here to go too so as to get a good start before we went to Poughkeepsie it would be a grand thing for you I should not be much surprised if Theodore would go too. he has been calculating on going to Milwaukee to School but thinks maybe he will go with me but he wants to start off as soon as this Select School closes but you see you will not be home by that time it is not likely and of course I am not going till you do.

Mother, Deloraine, myself and Mr Bronsons folks went a black berrying last ~~Tuesda~~ Thursday & Friday and I tell you we had a right good old time we got over a bushel I think and had lots of fun but I must close

Your Ever Loving Brother
James Dunlap