

I received what you directed
much obliged. Henry

Camped in the woods March 25th - 64

My Dear Father

I received your letter
a short time since and was glad to hear
that you were all getting along so well.
This leaves me in good health and fine
spirits and in a flourishing condition
general. we are still guarding the workmen
that are taking up the railroad here.
we have just heard that the balance of
our regt. are ordered out on another scout
after guerillas, its a fine thing for them
but a finer thing for us, for we shall
get rid of going on this Tramp. we have
had fine weather for some days. but it
has now been raining since last night.
I came pretty near getting into a little scrape last
night, perhaps you like to hear something about it.
I took my gun towards night yesterday and ^{went} out
for a stroll through the woods, I got sight of a
flock of wild Red Turkeys and followed them

a long ways, and the first thing I knew I
didn't know much of anything "as the fellow said"
for I could not tell which way I came or
which way to go, woods in every direction as
far as I could walk in three hours, I made
a start and at last found a small clearing with
a log house upon it, the folks told me that it
was three miles to the railroad, it was nearly
dark and to add to the pleasure of my excursion
it commenced raining, I should certainly have
staid all night but I knew there was now and
then a bushwhacker about, so I must find my
way to camp if possible. I started on a path
but soon it grew so dark that I lost the path
and after walking in the darkness about two
hours through brush and briars I found
another clearing I went to the house and
sure enough it was the same one I had
left two hours before, the man this time
acted a little suspicious, I thought he was
telling me the wrong road to get me in
a dangerous country, I told him that as
he was acquainted through the woods he
had better show me the way for a piece

he said he wasent going out in the rain. but I told him he must he looked at my guns, and I made him believe I was in earnest, so he concluded to go, he took a path nearly opposite from what he had told me, I kept him along untill I got in sight of the boys camp fires then dismissed him, the boys thought some reb had got me shure, it was almost midnight when I got to camp my walk was anything but pleasant I assure you, I did not tell the boys that I had to have press a guide to take me to camp and I dont mean they shall know it either, I think the next time I go hunting I shall take some note which way I am going. I hear no war news now days. everything seems quiet both in front here and in Virginia. the old Col. is working to get a commission for Dave Rogers in our Co, the boys are all trying to prevent it. we are going to send a remonstrance to the General, if he gets one Co. K will kick up a row and we will have a big time

I think Wood and Rube Ely done well
 I suppose they think that the soldiers
 if allowed to vote would not support
 the copperhead party very strongly.
 I hardly think they would. I would
 like to ask them if the soldiers who are
 fighting to sustain the government
 had not ought to vote who had. Thanks
 that such men do not rule this country
 their days of reign are over old. I
 Buchanan does not sit in the President's
 chair now, and may such a vile traitor
 never sit there again and I think there
^{will} not in the next four years anyway if
 the soldiers have a chance to vote. Give my
 respects to all old friends my best wishes
 to Uncle Frank and Aunt Polly my
 love to yourself and all the family
 write soon no more this time Good bye
 from your Son
 Henry Welch.



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