

Camp Sawell

Wednesday Jan 25<sup>th</sup> 1865

Dear Father &amp; Mother

I take this opportunity <sup>of writing</sup> of you a few lines in answer to your letter which I received in due time. Edwin and I are both well at present and hope these lines will find you and all the rest at home enjoying the same blessing we are still in camp where we was when I wrote before you must not worry about us if you do not hear from us very often for if either of us are sick the other will write and let you know we do not get much time to write here and when we do it is rather disagreeable for there is 16 in the tent and there is always so much noise in the evening and that is the only time we have to write.



We have had some quite cold weather  
this winter for this part of the country  
but I have not suffered any or felt it  
much either we have been out on three  
scouts since I wrote to you the two  
first two we was out three days each  
time and the last one two days we  
build up good fires in the woods  
and sleep by them as warm as if we  
were in our tent our boots fit first  
rate and they are very comfortable when  
we are riding we have an hour and half  
drill in the forenoon now sometimes  
~~in~~ mounted and sometimes dismounted  
Swan I told Swan to let you have  
my county bond I think there is one  
payment of one hundred dollars and  
interest due the first of March if  
there is I would like to have you  
see about it if you can and if not  
get Hosea to do it. Let Mary have  
what money she wants of it and if



she does not want it all she you can  
 keep the rest or let Hosea have it if  
 he wants it we have not had any pay  
 yet and do not know when we shall get  
 it. Edwin is a going to write some  
 so I will close by wishing you good bye  
 for the present. From your affectionate  
 son

Henry Dove

Thursday afternoon Jan 26<sup>th</sup> - 65

Dear Father & Mother

It is quite a while since  
 we wrote to you, for we have been very  
 busy and do not get a great deal of  
 time. We have been building stables  
 for our horses and fixing up our camp.  
 Our stables are 240 ft long with a double  
 roof or a roof the same as any building.  
 They are stockaded down through the middle  
 and one company has one side of the stock  
 ade and another company the other.  
 There is twelve companies in the regiment.



and they are in three battallions, four  
 companies in a battallion and each  
 battallion has two squadrons, and each  
 squadron is composed of two companies.  
 We are in the 2<sup>d</sup> battallion and in  
 the fourth squadron. The regiment is in  
 command of Colonel Gainsworth, Lieut  
 Colonel Coles. The first battallion is in  
 command of Major Terrier, the 2<sup>d</sup> Major  
 Green, the 3<sup>d</sup> Major Birdsell. Our company  
 was commanded by Capt. Castle but he  
 has resigned, and we are now commanded  
 by 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. Povel, and we all like  
 him very ~~well~~ well for he is a very  
 pleasant man. I have not any news  
 to write for you get the papers and we do  
 not get papers very often. We do not have  
 a great deal of picket duty to do this  
 winter but considerable camp guard.  
 We have 110 men detailed every day for  
 guard and picket and then we have  
 details for fatigue. We have a very pleasant  
 camp and are fortifying it for a regular  
 post, but do not know how long we  
 shall stay here but should like it if  
 we could stay here till our time is out.  
 I think I feel the best I ever did in  
 my life and weight the most, I weight  
 183 lbs, and I think you would hardly know  
 me. I have not much more room to write  
 on this sheet and we will try and write often.  
 Julia was well the 12<sup>th</sup> of the month. Tell Rich  
 he must write to us, and you must write and  
 let us know how you get along. Our love to you all  
 From your dear son, Edwin