Kelle, Missouri Oct. 15, 1861

Dear Wife,

I received your letter last night. It was dated the 13th, and mailed the 15th. I was glad to hear from you. I am sorry to hear that you are not well. If you are not well, I don't think that I would ever have heard that.

There has been a good deal of rain. There has not been much heat, but there has been good weather—most of the time. There have been two or three rainy days here. It is not very cold weather yet. I wrote in my last letter about the 20 boys leaving this place. Their company got into a skirmish last Sunday morning, and they killed 25 and took 24 of the Sesw prisoners. There was 31 of the boys that were wounded at the battle of Springfield. There was Thursday night. They were in sight of the battle. There was one of our men killed and one wounded. So that he died, our men
took 7 horses from them and several guns. There was about 500 hundred
of the Sesec, and there was only about 150 of our men. This is all the news
of this kind. I believe food is very high about here. I will give you the prices
of some of the things. Butter is 50 cents. Eggs 15 for 100. Apples from
30 cts to one dollar. Potatoes 40 to 50. There is lots of people peddling all the time.
Cheese is 15 cents per pound. If you go on horse
with your cow you could make lots of money
selling milk. And I expect that you
are doing better where you are. There
is several women here but I am no
place for a decent woman. I tell
you this is a bad place. Place, but it
is always the case where there is so many
men. There is always some that is wild.
There was an officer of the 36 Ill. died
last night and the was put on the cars
this morning to be sent home. If
she was a Mason and this. Regiment
was took out. You and the Masons was all.
I never saw. I wish they could of seen them. I expect that there were more men than you ever saw at one time. They had two of the finest flags that I ever saw. I expect they would be interesting to you to know how much we drill. We drill in the morning from half past 8 till half past 10. This is all we drill in the forenoon in the afternoon we drill from one till half past 3. This is Company drill. Battalion Drill from 3 till half past 4. And then there is Dress Parade. This is every night. It might generally last about a half hour. You can see night we have to do we don't have to work as hard here as we do at home but it is harder than it is at home you were a long time that you were afraid that we would have to stay the whole of our three years.
I may be that you will have to stay our time out but I don't think that we will have to stay that long. I think that we will be at home again next spring. If I have to stay three years I will do my best. I can for my country I hear that George Banks wrote the Select wet ticket. I am hopes that they will do. I want you to tell all the knew how you get along with your things. Tell how you get along with the wagon. Has he made your shoes yet? How does he get along with the waggon? Tell Mary to be a good girl and take care of him and Charley. I alone that you are getting lots of horses and sheep and do everything. I have not herd whether that money has been or not. We herd that have the men that we sent it by has sent.

The boys are all well. I will have to close for this time. Tell the folks that I am very well and in pretty good spirit.

To Mrs. Catharine Davis: Write soon.