

[Letter from V. W. Sargent outside of Jackson, Tennessee to his parents in Iowa]

No 11 [in left hand corner]

1863

Camp Clear Spring

On the Railroad 17 ms [miles] from Jackson

May 14

Dear Father I recieved [received] your letter No 7 dated May 7th and was glad to hear from you for I had not heard [heard] you since I was at Corinth your letter No 6 must be lost for I have not got it there has ben [been] a boat burnt between Memphis and Cairo laity [lately] and it must have been lost on that boat if you get your likenesses taken you had better get them all put into one case and wrap a piece of paper around it and put on 3 or 4 stamps and put it [damaged area] the Post Office and it will come through aright [all right] I reckon I have sent two minatures [miniatures] in No 11 and when we get back to Jackson I will get it taken agan [again] I have not heard from that yet but I suppose [suppose] it all aright [all right] I don't expect it will be as long as it was before, before will get pay agan [again]

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We have ben [been] here on the railroad a little more than a week and shal [shall] be here about three weeks more troops are not allowed to stay on the railroad more than a month at a time we have a verry [very] good place here I will send a sketch of it that I took to day it will do for Herbert to look look at I and one of our boys went out a squirel [squirrel] hunting I shot 5 times and killed 5 squirels [squirrels] and he shot twiste [twice] and did not kill any thing. My old Endfield takes them in the head every time.

Let me know where the boys are and what they are a doing and tell that I stand guard here every other night gorillies [guerillas} are about and sometimes prowl around our camp and noises are herd [heard] every night

Several times they have caused me to rais [raise] the hammer of my old gun but they never show themselves

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I can get a furlough I expect for 30 days if I want it but I shall have to pay my own fair [fare] which will be abut \$30 there and back but I don't care about it untill [until] I can go for good but if you want me to come I will

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I shall have to close now for want of news. Wright [write] as soon as you get this if I wan I want annything [anything] I will let you know

Good by

From you son

V. W. Sargent Co F 27 reg

Concluded [written on the side of the page]