

Camp Randall

Madison, March 23^d 1861.

Dear Father

I thought I would
cause a few lines to be wrote to
you. We left the depot
to Staffs River Station the first
night the next we got to
Black River, then to Sparta
from Sparta we go to Madison
in the evening & on our arrival
there we were here marched
to the camp. This camp is an
enclosure of picket boards about
10 feet high & guarded all
around by sentinels. The camp
is about 14 1/2 miles from Iowa
In this camp is the necessary build-
ings for government purposes.
We can not go out of the camp
without a pass from some
officer. It is not always very

easy to get one So far I have
not been able to get one yet since
I have been here. There is about
4 or 5 thousand men in this
camp of a good many dif-
ferent Regiments. They are com-
ing & going every day. The next
day after I got here we learned
that Gibbs (our millers son in
law) had died in the city
a few days before we got here.
He is reported to have died of
Lung fever. Mrs Markum
is at present in town. Mr
M. Carr boys thought that
they saw Geo. Towne in
Town, but they are not cer-
tain. So far I am well &
am getting over a most
severe cold I contracted
in coming here. Everyone
of the whole company (1400) has
caught more or less cold.

and the second day after
we came here one young
man from "Mud creek" got sick
& was taken to the hospital. His
complaint was the Lung Fever
occasioned by a cold. There is
a great many sick people in the
hospital & a great many die
of the measles, fevers & other
disease. The general impression
of the soldiers here is that it is
almost certain death to go in
that hospital. If a person is car-
ried there his friends are not
allowed to go & see him. He may
die there for want of nursing.
It is a hard hole. There is
here a place in camp enclosed
with very high pickets & very strict-
ly guarded, which they call the
"Bull pen" in which is imprisoned
all grave offenders such as de-
serters &c. Dran Bingham is in
there now. He is in for desertion

We are in the 36th Regiment
C. K. Col. Hastell. Capt.
Graves, Lieutenant E. A.
Galloway. We do not know how
long we are to stay here or
where we will be ordered. There
appears to be no chance to get
a furlough very soon. At
present I am well. We were
all examined, stark naked
by two Surgeons & quite a
number were rejected as un-
fit for being Soldiers. I was
rejected from the European
crowd & 4 from ours. The
Yankees rejected from our num-
ber were Jim Brainard for
rupture, Benj. Sprague for
sore & Hodges for overage
& Cal. Rodgers for Rheuma-
tism. I am very well satis-
fied of my present position
& as far as I am personally
concerned I am glad that
I came. It appears that the

Drafted men have very hard times of it. The Substitutes for drafted men are also kept in the "Bull Pen" under guard & they are not allowed to go to town unless under guard. I have seen nothing yet, but I think I have seen more than I could in Chippewa for one whole year. All the Boys with me are well so far.

Mr William Richardson is here but he will soon go home & as soon as he gets home you will please go to him & draw me Iron Bounty \$105⁰⁰ I have told him to give it to you & he said he would. You will also apply to some one, say Mr Whipple or Mr Richardson, for your State money \$5⁰⁰

per month, which of
course you are intitled to,
If you meet any difficulty
in the matter all you have
to do is to go before any justice
of the Peace of your Town &
prove that I was your sup-
port &c. This matter is all
in your hands, We have
nothing to do about it here
But I hope you will not neg-
lect the thing & may it help
you some. I hope you
will write to me as often as
you can and at present
direct to - Charles,

Cornatiers - Company K
36th Regiment, Wis. Vols.
Camp Randall - Madison

Your affectionate W^m.

I am & your state fund will
commence from the
time of our muster -
Charles March 22nd 1864.