

Lookout Valley Tenn Dec 31, 1863

My Dear Parents Brothers & Sisters

I thought I would write one more letter while 1863 was good and I concluded I would have to be about it if I did it

I am feeling pretty well except a little head ache but that wont last long We are having good times in our winter Quarters and are quite prepared for the rain that has fallen pretty freely during the past week

The temperature of the weather here now is about that of May at home perhaps a little colder. Some nights we have a white frost but it disappears very early in the morning. The Glorious Stars & Stripes float from the highest point of Old Lookout that so lately was frowning with rebel cannon

Did you recieve a letter with a piece of paper wrapped up small tucked in it containing a request for more paper and Envelopes That was my doing, & please send a doz or more sheets and some Envelopes for mine are about played out

I recieved your letter of Dec 6 & 7 in good time and was glad to hear you were all doing so well, all but Mother now Mother please dont work so hard and be careful of your Dear health for my sake and I will do all I can to help you I expect to be mustered at two o'clock P.M. to day and next month I would not be surprised to see the Green backs coming. Then instead of trying to do all the work your self just Hire the work done if it takes all my paltry \$13. for to have my choice I would like to see you instead of that when I get home and if you dont require it just Father use what would lighten his burden of work Tell the children to be good Frankie among the rest My Dear Parents dont worry about me with respect to my wants. If I should write all the little notions that come into my head that I wanted I would not have much room for any thing else but you know some Poet has written "man wants but little here below nor wants that little long" I mean my wants are very few here and are supplied as well as they can be at present (ie) enough to eat, wear, and a good place to sleep. Tell Father I would like to have him write occasionally for I like to read his kind words of advice and proffit by them too

I hear they have commenced giving Furloughs for 20 days how would you like to see me for 6 or 8 days at the expence of \$30 or \$40 I hardly think it would pay me or any one else and be an agravation that it would be hard to get over. I hope you will have a happy New Year and I would like to have Peace come to the nation with the New Year but the Lord reigneth may his will be ours for he it is that treads down our enemies Please give my best respects to all and I remain

Your Affectionate Son
Charley

P.S. We have just came in from being mustered and now we wait for something else. it has rained quite steady so far all day and bids fair to keep it up all day John Wilson is well Perry Wheelock is very sick of Typhoid fever but I

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think now that he will recover as he has a strong constitution Well my sheet is about full and as I do not think of any thing to write of importance except one thing I almost forgot That is a description of the We passed through on our march it was lovely Fair fields and lovely woods and pleasant villages adorned the road on both sides The soil is very fertile and but little exertions would raise abundant crops and is quite level between the Mountains Lookout is a large Peak and very long There is a cave that runs in the mountain and it is said to have been explored for a distance of 23 miles. if you could see the country you could form a better idea of it than you can by any description of mine so I must close

Yours Truly Charley

Please send some stamps when you write