

[undated fragment, October 1862]

We get good water here and we lead as happy lives as possible and that is not saying too much when I say that we live contented and happy for we are. Our Lieut Col. H. C. Loomis is one of the best men in the whole army he is with us all the time and acts like one of us he does not have that proud overbearing way that some have but is kind and quite a Boy you might say Col Rice is about played out and the man that is to take command of the Regt I believe his name is Jones and they say that he is full as good as our Lieut Col if so we wont ask the Government to change our officers I assure you

Tell Stella and Leroy to be good children and study and learn all they can and learn to write so that they can both beat me in arithmetic and writing and help you all they can Tell Frank not to get his neck into the yoke if he can possibly help it to be a good Boy to help Father till I come home to spell him and tell Mary to grow a foot while I am gone and not forget me this time

Tell Father how I enjoy myself that we have had some prayer meetings in our Lieuts tent and that it was good for me to wait upon God for I felt that he was with me to bless me and protect me give the children a kiss for me (Frankie) among the rest for I cant do it myself and answer this letter certainly in two weeks and I remain ever yours

Truly and affectionately
Charley Abell

do not send any packages to me yet by express yet but if you can send me a pair of stout Buckskin gloves by mail I think you can do not forget to send postage stamps with your letters till I say stop send two or 3 extra at a time enclosed you will find 75 cts to be placed at your disposal

give my best respects to Katie & Ella also to all who may enquire about me direct all to Washington as you have done