Elmyra Apr 16th/65

Dear Father and Mother and Sisters

I am all right and hope that you are the same I like Soldiering first rate so far Ort Heill is here and Si Torry thare is a good many Soldiers here I dont know how long I shall stay here and I dont care Abe is dead all the Officers ware crape on thier left arm I dont have any duty to do as long as I stay here and I just as lives stay I will tell you how we live thare is roll call three times a day and after that we are marched off to get our grub which concists of apiece of bread and beef for beakfast and bean soup for dinner and pork and bread for supper I have to write standing up so I will not write any more

good by

J M Ames

Direct

Barracks First 11th Ward Elmira N.Y.