

Staffords Station Feb 24th

Dear Parents

your letter of the 15th was duly recieved last Evening and I seat myself to let you know that I am well and enjoying myself well. I recieved my Diary last Saturday night I think it is a very fine one but it cost altogether to much. I have got it all drawn off and I am going to send my old one home today or tomorrow. Enclosed you will find \$2.50 which I want you to use to the best advantage and I want you to send me a postage stamp in your letter every time if you can get them for we can not get them here you had better keep some money by you I have got some more that I shall send home but I thought I would not send it all at once for fear of it getting lost on the way. well I must tell you the news the same day that I wrote my last in the afternoon we were called out to go out on Gen Review well we went out our guns and and every thing in the best of order went out about 1 mile on an open clear flat and formed in a line our whole Division we had not been there a great while before we saw Gen's. Hooker and Seigel and their body guard of about 100 horseman I would think although we had seen them before they went past our camp before we went out. Gen Hooker was mounted on a beautiful Silver Grey and Gen Seigel was on a dark bay and trimmed their horses were you cannot imagine finely. they rode around us twice on a full gallop the last time they came around in front the whole Division cheered him. they came in front and stopped then we all wheeled in companies and marched past him and came into camp our officers told us that we done the best that day that we ever did and I think so my self for we had good music and we were pleased to see our comander it was as fine a time as we have had since we came in Old Virginia the sunny South as they call it I dont think it very Sunny where it is mud the most of the time knee deep if you hear any one tell any thing of the sort any more you tell them it is false. you wanted to know how my cloths wear I have worn out two pair of pants and got another new pair they are not made of the best of cloth any of the clothes we get I have the same shirts that I got first them wear very well. you wanted to know how I get my washing done I do it my self how do you think O mother if I ever have the luck to get home I can live by myself and do my own cooking and washing. I want you some of you to find out and let me know who the town officers are that you are Electing to day. I suppose they are having pretty warm times about now we have had a hard snow storm Sunday it snowed all day steady and snowed about 1 foot but it has cleared up and is pleasant now but it looks very much like Old Catt co. well I have wrote about all that I think of this time. Wesley is sick yet I do not know what is the matter with him he does not gain any nor get any worse. I want you to get me about two midling sized pegging awls you can tell what I want pa I want them for tapping boots put them in the next letter. good buy for the presant. from your Son

J W Washburn.

[James W. Washburn, private, Co. C, 154th New York, *National Archives*.]