

(Patriotic stationery -embossed crest)

Camp Morehead
April 12 / 62

Miss Webb,

Your kind letter of the 17th came to hand a few days since, and with much pleasure I acquainted myself with its contents.

I am greatly at a loss at present for anything to write that would be of interest to you as there is nothing of note transpiring in our immediate vicinity. We left Nashville some three weeks since and made a stand of one week at Franklin since which time we rolled out for Columbia, near which places we are at present encamped, it appears that our lot is to move along slowly, and keep peace among Tennessee secesh. - of which we haven't met with any trouble.

We do not altogether like the idea of remaining behind but have to be content. After remaining six years from home, I ought to give an experimental answer to your question in so long a stay ever as six years one is apt to lose some of the charms of childhood. Lay, but what I had reference to, by remarking, "We have not lost all desires etc. - was merely this, that one, having been well and properly raised at home, would be, & think very fickle minded to give way to habits here that they would in after years look back at with regret, consequently self conquering would not be necessary, except, in a christian point of view.

There are many citizens here that seem loathe to give up their principles and are hard to reconcile to their former brotherhood, but with the most of them, one may reasonably hope that time will give light to their darkened and misled minds, but there are others who seem determined, and who, now - as the editor of the Nashville Union says "Deserve a cell in Fort Warren," and probably will soon have to take up quarters, there. It is about seventy five miles from this place to the late battle ground, we have great reasons to rejoice after the victories gained there notwithstanding like many other dearly bought. For the present I shall close. Please take no offense at my simplicity. Yours with much respect, please write again soon.

Thom H.-.-

and Please excuse my hasty letter.

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY. Webb Family Correspondence 1861-1878, #SC2639. Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

Patriotic stationery - Eagle perched on mountain summit overlooking sea.
Two flags crossed by eagle's perch, a tattered 13 colony or confederate flag
and a un-damaged American Flag.
Inscription - Majestic Monarch of the cloud defends the Banner of the free-
While lightning lances drives the traitors flag in shread is riven.

Camp Morehead
Columbia, Tenn.
Apr 13 / 62

Co. I. 38 Reg. Ind. Vol.

Dear Cousins-

To kill two birds with one stone is a good business, and as I am in debt to each of you a letter shall write you both in one and you will please excuse brevity as of late it seems I am compelled to be brief. All is excitement and anxiety in camp as we have not as yet received a full account of the late battle. The particulars of which we all will have received before this reaches you. As the 24th Reg. was in the battle and the brigade was cut to pieces being attached while at breakfast I dread to hear the detail especially on Bro Geo.'s account. I much fear that he as been slain and I have not heard from Will since the battle of Winchester in which his brigade I learn from the papers was engaged if either of both of them have fallen, my prayer is for an opportunity to avenge their death and should that opportunity offer, I will profit by it to the shedding of blood and laugh at the dieing groans of acursed traitors. I am sorrow that I was not by Geo. side or that bloody day that if he died I might have fallen by his side. Why after coming this far through Ky and most through Tenns. in the front of the army we are left to inactive service is something I do not exactly understand though it may be for the best yet without honor to the Reg. We are serving as military guard for Columbia and may be here for some time & we may be under marching orders at this moment.

My health is good an I am heavier than I ever was before weighing 144 lbs 136 being my usual weight, yet I am not the man I have been I think from the fact that I do not have exercise enough. Being of an active temperament, confining myself to the narrow limits of camp does not suit me.

his ho. there is the home for dry parade and I must be off farewell.

B. Webb.
Bro. Mary Webb
Saltilloville, Indiana

Camp Solomon, Tenn.
June 30th, 1862

Miss Webb,

With great pleasure I improve the present opportunity of replying to yours of June 7th, which came to hand a few days since while at Shelbyville having no line to remain there, I was unable to reply sooner than the present. We have been employing the most of our time for the last two months in marching. We took a wild goose chase to Chattanooga and back to Shelbyville and from there we went to Athens, took the cars and came up through Huntville to Stevenson.

We are now camped in Tennessee in the angle formed by the State line and the river, have not been in any engagement yet, but the prospect for the future is very good, and the Rebels are just across the river. There has been some little cannonading across the river, but none since we arrived.

We are so near out of the world down here that we get, no news that can be relied upon and what little we do get of any kind is of so unfavorable a nature that we are, glad of reasons to doubt its correctness.

We have had so much marching today that we came to the conclusion that it was our unhappy way of serving our county. The time has been when we hailed marching orders with cheers of gladness but that time is certainly past, and instead we are glad to hail the welcome camp. Being very tired of marching a railroad ride was a considerable treat, much better than walking the same distance. But was not so pleasant after all as one might have anticipated as we rode on the tops of the cars immediately under a burning sun and whose of fire from the smoke stack rendering it anything but pleasant.

We are all enjoying a very good health at present. Ben had been sick, but wanting so as to be about when I said him lost, but not able to come with us so he remained at Shelbyville,-----

As to slavery, in the south, I find my sentiments very beautifully expressed in the Huntsville "Reveille" in an earnest appeal to the Traitorous citizens of surrounding country "to return to their allegiance." It contains the following,_____ "Or in more plain language, if it becomes apparent, to the eye, of the Federal government, that negro slavery prevents your return, with the constitutional guarantees of such property in your favor and that the peace, happiness and future prosperity of the nation depends upon the same. Slavery must fall, in those states that refuse to accept of the conditions of return. ---he further adds--We do not desire it. We are not fighting for the Abolition of Slavery. Your domestic institution concerns us not. Then do not force us in the brink of the dread Rubican if you do, we will cross it; and if and crossed Slave and master must both fall."

I would gladly hail once more, the Industrial Shores of Dear old Indiana, the very name Strikes a thrill of pleasure, to the heart, and this industrious people . Glorious thoughts carries the souls away, and wings of wonder, hope and anxiety.

O! bear, me away to my child hood home. Where my early friends are dwelling, Oh! bear me away, ere death shall come. With grief my bozom swelling, but I must stop, the sounding bugle, the rattling drum, and hum of a busy camp, all day, this is not the the place for solitary reflections. This evening is a muster, the preparations for which limit my time, so must close. Please write again from M.J.W. Very respectfully yours.

T.S.W.H.

Rec'd not until the 12 July.

Collumbia, Tennessee
May 25th, 1862

Yours of May 12th came to hand 21st. Having been on the march for the last ten or twelve days rubbing up guns and clothing has kept us so busy since being started that I am improving my earliest names to favorable for answering.

During our lengthy march, we visited Florence, Alabama via Pulaski and Rodgersville, and from Florence we came back through Pulaski to Collumbia, near which place we are making a temporary stay, but shall make a short move soon. We did not personally encounter any rebels, but our approach, frightened them, away from Florence and Rodgersville. they were not in much force at either place. the most of our journey was through accounting that offers little inducement to agriculture and seemingly less to civilization. in fact it appeared on reaching this place, that we had emerged from a pagan to a christian land, what few people we have found in a great portion of our travel had not seen a newspaper. ____ I believe since the Rebellion broke out, they were entirely ignorant of many battles, that has been fought, and had they not heard the commons at Pittsburg Landings, they would have known little of affairs there.

But I must turn attention to your letter, which met with a hearty reception, and struck pleasure to an anxious heart. It found me well and in good spirits, but not seeing as fine times as we have experienced.

Still, as good as circumstances make it reasonable to know that you have so pleasant a time in old Hoosier, and could drink deep of the same cup if permitted to join your class under such circumstances.

But I am of the opinion that we shall never have peace, as in days gone by, for I am inclined to think that we may ever look on the Southern People as our enemies. And to be ready for them shall have to keep our weapons of war close at hand.

I sincerely hope it may not be so, but the People are so embittered against us that it looks like an utter impossibility to ever reconcile them to a brother - Hood that alone, can ensure happiness to Americans.

Well, without I could write something of some importance it would be impudent to detain you longer, so I must close.

Remaining as ever, your sincere friend,

T.S.W.H

Please excuse defects and Write soon, again.

Camp Negley, Tenn.
May 1 / 62

Much Esteemed,

Yours of the 26th, April came to hand and was gladly received the 29th, being on guard at that time. I had not an opportunity to write sooner than this morning it does seem strange that my letters are so long on the way whilst yours can come in a short time as there days and perhaps is only accounted for by the irregularity with which our mail leaves camp. I think. It should like very much a transfer to the regiment you mentioned. And was I at liberty to visit Oakland, on any of your singing days, all the means of modern locomotion could not move me toward that place with speed sufficient to make me content. But as such a thing is impracticable at present with me, I must say that I wish you apology. Time and (myself) wait patiently in hope of better days.

I think your singing exercise anything but "tiresome" - nay - could I when done with this world momentarily waken up before being handed down to my long resting place my last moments would be ripe with Joy could I hear the Ladies sing some familiar air to which I oft lent a listening ear, in days that I would but can't recall. I heartily join with you in wishing this war to cease, but have come to the conclusion that we shall have to stand another winter campaign and from the experience I have had in the same just passed. I cannot look forward with pleasure at the approach of another still -- every bitter has its sweet is the old adage. -- So spring, has come with, all of its attendant beauties and loveliness which is wearing away the dread picture wrought upon our minds by the privations of winter warfare and again a spirit of Life and cheerfulness is taking the place of a kind of a downcast I wish it wasn't my disposition and lastly we are a pretty lively, Set!

We have a beautiful camping ground to which we have lately come. we started from Columbia, last thursday morning for this place a distance of forty miles. The first day was a beautiful sunshine and we had a pleasant march. The road heading somewhat rough we out travelled ourselves and when night came we had nothing but the tree tops for as shelter between us and the clouds that were fast gathering over us, consequently we lay down with the expectation of being startled by torrents of falling water sometime during the night, but it held up till morning when it set in a slow but steady rain lasting till about three in the evening, when it commenced getting colder and met us no more. The thought of camping out without tents was anything but pleasant.

As I make such a desperate attempt at writing, at present, I shall come to a close. by subscribing myself yours very respectfully.

Thom H.

Please write soon. Direct to camp Negley. 38th
and the letters will come direct.

T.S.W.H.

Patriotic Stationery - Blue Ink

A Roman Dressed Figure in a waiving his wreath over his head.
American Flag in background. Embossed Union Insignia.

Camp at Battle Creek, Tennessee
August 10th 1862

Ladie Friend,

Quite happy was I to receive your kind letter of July 19th which came to hand, August 7th.

We are still occupying the same camp as before. Every thing seems to move long with a monotonous gloom and we kill time (or time kills us) by drilling four hours a day, as hot as the sun shines, there are no movements indicating a fight soon. The Rebels still occupy the opposite bank of the River, and appear very friendly indeed. it looks like if was not for officers the men would come together and make friends yet, and despite of officers they are deserting the Rebel Ranks and coming into our camp every day.

The cars have got to running through to Nashville and we feel again connected with the world. You can only imagine the contrast, between that feelings and the one prevailing previous to their running through, for we have been here near two months, and your letter was the first to greet me, since.

As to your letter not interesting, I can't do better, than, to assert, that they are, of the utmost interest to me. And, when they fail to reach me at the exacted hour, I find myself enduring a suspense. I often think only experienced and endurable by a soldier. I am sorry, that I can't write something this morning worth sending to you. But we here, almost give way and curse destiny and think ourselves no more elligible to a state of free agency, we once enjoyed, for here, we are hemmed in by gard lines so ignorant of what is going on a half a mile from us, as we are of what is going on in christendom. Well as for all I can write this morning, I think it would be more interesting to stop at present than to continue. I am thankful to be permitted to remain your sincere friend.

T.S.H.

M. A. W.

Received August 25

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Webb Family Correspondence, 1861-1868, SC#2639, August 11, 1862, sides 1 & 2. Reproductions smaller than actual size. Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

that we here, almost give up, and cease
 waiting, and think our selves no more
 eligible to a state of free agency, we
 once engaged for here, we are humbled
 in by good times as ignorant of what
 is going on a half mile from us as
 we are of what is going on in christen
 dom. Well as for all been with this
 morning I think it would be more in
 tending to stop at present, than
 to continue. I am happy to
 be permitted to remain your
 sincere friend.

J. S. H.

M. S. H.

^{camp}
 west of and 30th



Camp at, Battle Creek, in
 August 10th 1862

Lucie Friend quite
 happy and I, to receive your kind
 letter of July 18th which came to hand
 August 7th

We are still occupying
 the same camp as before. Every
 thing seems to move along with
 an anomalous glow, and we
 still live (as time kills us) by
 mulling four hours a day, as
 hot as the sun shines. There
 are no movements indicating

a fight soon. The Rebels still oc-
 cupy the opposite bank of the
 river, and appear very friendly
 by indeed it looks like if it was
 not for officers the men would come
 together and make friends yet.
 And despite of officers they are de-
 serting the Rebel banks and coming
 into our camp every day.

The cars have got to running through
 to Nashville and we feel again con-

ected with the world. And you
 can quite imagine the contrast, be-
 tween that feelings and the one
 prevailing previous to their run-
 ing through, for we have been

here near two months, and your letter
 was the first to greet me. Since
 as to your letter not interesting. I can
 do better, than to assert, that they
 are of the utmost interest to me, but
 when they fail to reach me at the ex-
 pected hour, I find myself enduring
 a sharp pain. I often think only experi-
 enced, and endurable, by soldiers;

I am sorry, that I can't write some thing
 this morning, worth sending to you.

Bowling Green, Ky
September 11th, 1862

Dear Friend,

Your kind letter came to hand the 7th inst. was gladly received; but owing to our being on the march, at the time and since I improve the few present moments in replying.

We left Battle Creek about three weeks ago, came over the mountain about forty miles this side, and went into camp, camped there two weeks or better. took the line of march, for Nashville, where we arrived Saturday morning last, remained there one day and proceeded, to this place, making one hundred and sixty miles or over in the last week; the last march has been quite an interesting one, the road which is covered with dust two inches deep or over,-- was lined for miles with wagons, troops, contrabands, beef cattle, and mules, which raised a cloud of dust that almost defied human existence and it being so very dry, that water was an object of particular consideration. So scarce it was that, for miles the road would be strown with straggling wretches searching every spot, where there were the faintest hopes of finding a drop of water and what seemed to be the most cruel of all, cruel inhumanity our General, rode long before and places guards at citizens wells to keep men from taking their water, -- this may be right if so, there are many that will hardly, get forgiveness for cursing him for it; but to take it all round, we did well after all. We were not kept so close but what, we had opportunities to forget as the Boys call it. And we swept all the fruit and vegetables generally that were in our reach. -- I was diverted at an old Lady -as we were marching along this side of Nashville ---throwing rocks at the Boys for killing her chicken. She appeared to be in a raging fit of anger, at which the boys merely laughed and went on with their chicken catching, on stopping at this camp, there colonel gave the men the privilege of going into the cornfield just by, but didn't say keep out of the Sweet potato patch just over there but however it was but a little time till the potato patch was over in camp. So it is soldiering, it's a life that might all be bitter, if we would suffer to be so.

I hear of the lame table fate of many of the new recruits just into Kentucky. I had no detailed account of it, and don't know that the report I got is true. - hope its not. - if tis, its truly a lamentable affairs. As its getting late, I must stop, I do not offer this indifferent thing as an answer to your letter but merely to keep coming your ever redeemed and anxiously expected letters. Taking circumstances into consideration, I hope you will excuse indifference for in no other case could I expect it ---)

Please, write again soon to your humblest of all, Friend,

T.S.W.H.

Patriotic Stationery

Eagle Perched on a summit with "THE CONSTITUTION" draped over the rock.

September 30, 1862
Louisville, Ky

Much Esteemed Friend

Your kind letter came to hand just now and being under order tomorrow at 7 ' in the morning and not knowing where I might have another opportunity, I shall send you a few lines though hasty, and unsatisfactory will serve to let you know I am still able to act my part in camp.

I hope this will find you surrounded by more pleasant circumstances than those of which you spoke. I have a heart too full of sympathy to give you any idea of my feelings for one in your circumstances.

We have the pleasure here of announcing the death of, old Nelson, the old, wretch that managed the affairs at Richmond, Ky. with which you are better acquainted than I (was killed by Davis of Indiana.) I shall send you my picture the first opportunity with great pleasure. we stopped here with the hopes of getting to rest, but tonight gives strength to the old maxim (no rest for the wicked), I have been hard at work making out payrolls, to get our money while here, and just got them done today, so you see, we are sold in that score. I can assure you that, we have had a hard time since I wrote before, we were moveing along at the Heels of Braggs army, had them as we, thought nicely surrounded, and considered them ours - but to down so bright hopes, we more, all led, round the first path that would permit, and were part through day and night, to get to Louisville to before Bragg might get whiped by the army there at this place now a general's business is that which I have no business medling with, but find the American that would take under consideration, the generalship that has been displayed in the Ohio department of late and call, into question the Loyalty of the day, and we find one that certainly aren't deeply interested in the affairs of troubled, America.

There are, a great many troops here, both new and old. I believe they are all leaving about as fast as practicable, yesterday our (Rosencrans) Divison had a great review through the streets of Louisville. Some of the boys have taken fine furloughs, and gone home. Since we came here with that exception there are but few got to go. I did hope to get a few days to see a few of my closest friends, but I didn't so much as get, to cross the river as to what we may do yet depends on this march.--- I do not know, where or how far we will go, before stopping again, this evening we elected Capt. John B. Glover, Maj. of our Regt. in place of Griffin promoted. Please excuse haste and inproprieties, and write again soon.-----

With great pleasure, I am as ever your friend. -

Lieut. Thos. S. W. H.

Will you please send me your miniature -- I will send you mine as soon as I hve an opportunity to get it taken, time will not admit of it, at this place.

Stationery

Embossed Crest with "Harrison" in the center

Camp near Crab Orchard, Ky

October 19th 1862

Much Esteemed Friend.

I am truly hapy of this privalege once more, also hapy, to hear, that you were enjoying health, and passing cheer-fully times weary hours.

We are as ever being draged out of one day into another and enjoying ourselves well under the circumstances however unfavorable, we, may have to consider them, have been on a prety steady march. Since we left Louisville, stoped two days ago, at this palce, but have been under marching orders since yesterday morning and expect, to leave at any moment. On the 8th inst. we went into the Battle with fifty men, now our little Band (company) num-bers but about thirty, after thirteen months hard soldiering in Tennessee and Alabama, we come nearly home, to fight our first Battle, it was our first, worst, and hope twill be our last, out of fifty men men, we had five killed and twenty two wounded, during our engagement, we did not change position were lying down behind the crest of a ridge. would raise to our feet, fire and ly down again, in this position we fought till all our ammuniton was expended, when we were called off. For three or four hours, the scened was terrific, the elements above us seemed tearing to pieces with bursting shells. The old Flag at the head of our company was well riddled with Balls.

Though I was aware of there being two or more Regts. against ours. I was satisfied that we were giving them half, for there couldn't be more coolness displayed in times of Battle, than was by our Regt. and the dead Rebels found next day was evidence enought of the fact that our shots told well.

But, I must turn attention to other things and bring to a close. If I could only wield the pen to copy what I have witnessed in the last few weeks, I could give you an interesting letter, but this is impossible so I can but trust to time for an oppportunity to give them verbally.

Owing to circumstances under which I am bound to labor, I fear it will be some time before I can get a picture taken, though shall not looose any opportunity and will forward immediately.

When we were at Louisville, I had not time to do any thing, was busy working on Pay Rolls, expected our pay there but got the Rolls Ready and had to leave.

As I am so very poorly situated to write for the present, I shall add no more except, it is only through the medium of circumstances that I would ask you to receive this indifferent letter.

and

Hoping to hear from you, soon again,

I am as ever your.-----

Lt. T. S. W. H.

Mary A. Webb

Edgefield Junction Tennessee

December 1st, 1862

Miss Mary,

With great pleasure I embrace the present opportunity of replying to yours of Oct. ---- which came to hand a few days since. I was indeed hapy to hear from you, again.--

As by the long interval between our letters, I was induced to believe that they had failed to reach their destination. The picture came about a week before. we are, at present camped at the junction of the railroads running from Louisville and Memphis to Nashville-- at least ten miles from any place --Nashville being the closest. --- and there has been no possible chance to get to get a picture taken and you may be ashamed that I feel, somewhat embarrassed at present to inform you that I am not yet able to send it to you. --- and if --- when I send, it. I could hope it might be a compensation for the one I got.

We have had very pleasant weather. Splendid time to be in camp or on the march, its true it has been getting cold, and the raw winds make themselves noticed. But a supply of good overcoats make ample moderation and too me. Sent for Gloves, -- have not come on yet, but are looking for them, when we get them we can consider ourselves fit up for a winter campaign.

And there is but one thing thus makes Soldiering unpleasant, now; that is we can't enjoy the presence or our friends and relatives; that once obviated, and, a military life for me. Though again when I look back at, -- and reflect over the many weary miles and craggy mountains over which we have been dragged, after the heartless Rebels, it makes one think of home, peaceful home.

We are all enjoying good health, also, being very few sick in the Regt. but while all is going on well, in camp, we too often get the mournful news of the Sad fate of many of our Perryville Boys. Out of twenty two wounded, five have since died. ---And others we think will hardly get well. ---making now a loss of ten men, we sustain from the Battle of Chaplain Hills.

I believe I have written all, that's worth your notice, please, excuse Bad penmanship, and foolishness. and write soon to your Humble Servt.,

Lieut. T. S. W. H.

To, Mary A. Webb
Washington Co, Ind.

Camp Andy Johnson Tennessee
December 16, 1862

Esteemed Lady,

In my last, I said I was short for unable to get, a picture taken. Since then I have fallen in with an opportunity of getting some photographs, but owing to the dark snowing day on which I had the negative taken, they turned out to be very poor things. And having waited so long, for them and seeing no chance, soon to better the case, I shall send you one of these and beg that you may only keep it till I can send you a better one which will be the first opportunity I have for having it taken.

When I wrote last, we were camped only about a mile from town. Since then we have moved to the opposite side and about five miles from town, thus lessening our chances for going to Town, and our old General (Rosecrans) has come down so hard on both officers and soldiers that, we dare venture outside our camp line without written authority thereby rendering it difficult getting away from camp at any time. At this time we are under marching orders, whether they are executed soon or not is more than I can ever guess at. A report has been current a day or two since that the Rebels were massing their forces, about six miles south and on our right evidently with the intention of attacking Rosecrans's Division.

Thus stirring great excitement and causing many precautions against surprise, yesterday morning the whole division was out and under arms, two hours before day, this morning it was dispersed with, as the cause of excitement had probably, disappeared, but still we are under orders to march a moments warning. There was an expedition, west, of a battalion of Cavalry two or three pieces of Artillery and some Infantry, went down the Columbia Pike as far as Franklin a few days since, found a few Rebels at the latter place. And from the Best I can learn, run them out and returned to camp.

We have a beautiful camp, here and, could be enjoying the advantage were it not, that, we are held in suspense, with marching orders.

But this we are likely to get used to for it is probable this will be our condition long here after, as it well tends to keeps all parties on the watch. Therefore making such a thing as a surprise, less likely. But summing the whole, there is no peace for soldiers. Since it does not belong to that branch of human science, hence, we can account, for the, intolerable surprises and capture of portions of our army.

No more at present, except am looking anxiously for a letter from you, shall receive it with usual gladness, and as a high source of pleasure.

Respectfully submitted,

Lt. Thos. S. W. Hawkins

Mary A. Webb
Saltilloville, Ind.

Patriotic Letterhead

Crest - United WE STAND DIVIDED WE FALL - KENTUCKY - red, blue, ink.
Looks like George Washington shaking the hand of another gentleman inside the crest

Camp Andy Johnson, Tennessee

December 19, 1862

Lady:

Yours of Dec. is at hand, it came yesterday found me as usual well and devilish. I sent you a letter a few days since, containing a photograph, which you will have received before this comes to hand.

There is nothing new news here relative to military affairs. Camp has grown quiet and all seems to be persuing their daily avocations. Such for instance as, drawing rations, policeing quarters, hauling wood, writing letters, cooking, eating, etc; and maong others Battallion Drill in the after part of the day.

I could extensively, Glory in being a member of your School. But as its is, there seems to be quite a contrast, between the school I attend and yours, I admire your plan of studying very much, for I always could learn better to sit down by my own fireside, than I could in the crowded school house. -- That is the kind of School I attend now; here housed up in my little military pavillion. I spend many hours prying into Col. Hardee's different modes of forming line of Battle, and dispositions against Calvalry. -- a dull and dificult study I assure you. Though probably, more interesting. Just now than other studies. But could I but leave my schoolroom, and form yours. Then I, would think I was attaining to a degree of hapiness that my most Sanguine hopes seldom aspire to. -- I don't wish you to understand by this that I have so little hope of returning home, for even while on the field at Chaplain Hills, and the atmosphere all around, seemed burning and falling to pieces, the thought never crossed my mind that I was in danger. --- But rather to look forward, to where peace, Liberty, union and they days in which the American people, may again be as hapy as they once, were. -- can be found, or numbered; is to me like attempting to comprehend the Broad expanse of the mighty world, therefore, the present -- I am glad --occupies my time and I, seldom wander for hence.

But if our old General would only slacken his grinding despotism, Then I would hope -- probably soon to clasp glad hands with you? within the threshold of your peaceful, mansion.

No More. Just now, only remains as ever your Truly,
Please write again soon as you can.

T.S.W.H. comd company
I 38th Regt. Ind. Vol.

Mary A. Webb
Washington County, Ind.

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Webb Family Correspondence, 1861-1868, SC#2639, December 19, 1862, sides 1 & 2. Reproductions smaller than actual size. Permission to reproduce or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana Historical Society.

Then I could hope probably soon
 to clasp glad hands with you
 within the thresholds of your peace-
 ful Mansion.
 no more but soon only remains
 as ever yours truly
 please write again as soon
 as you can.
 J. M. H. comd compy
 38th Regt Ind Inf

Mary A. Webb
 Washington County Ind



Camp Andy Johnson
 Tennessee
 December 17/1862

Lady:
 yours of Dec. -
 is at hand it came yesterday, found
 me as usual well and desirous.
 I sent you a letter a few days since con-
 taining a photograph, which you will
 have received before this comes to hand
 There is nothing new new or relative
 to military affairs. Camp has grown
 quiet and all seems to be pursuing their
 daily avocations. Such for instance
 as drawing Nations, policing
 quarters, hauling wood, writing
 letters, cooking eating etc; and
 among others Battalion Drill in the
 after part of the day.
 I could extensively glory in being
 a member of your school

to a degree of happiness that my
 most sanguine hopes seldom
 aspire to. I don't wish you to un-
 derstand by this that I have a little
 hope of returning home for some
 time. between the school I attend on the field at Chaplain Hill, and
 tend and yours, I admire you find the atmosphere all around, seemed
 studying very much, for I always could burning and falling to pieces. the
 I never felt to hit down by my own fire thought never crossed my mind that I
 while than I could in the crowded school was in danger, - but rather to look
 home. That the kind of school I attend forward to where peace liberty and
 now, here housed up in my little tent and the days in which the American
 story prevailed. I spend many hours people, may again be as happy as
 playing out Col. Hardee's different men they once were. can't be found or
 of forming lines of battle, and dispo- numbered: is to me like attempting to
 tions against Cavalry - a dull and comprehend the broad expanse of the
 difficult study I assure you, though mighty world therefore the present
 probably more interesting. just now than I am glad occupies my time and
 other studies, but could I what leave seldom wander far hence.
 my school-room, and join you. But if our old general would only
 then I would think I was attaining. I believe his grandeur disputation

Signal Corps 21st Army Corps
Murfreesboro, Tennessee
January 24th / 63

Miss Mary A. Webb
Saltilloville, Ind.

Dear Madam

I feel it a duty incumbent upon me to write you a hasty note, however I do so with considerable embarrassment having never heard your name until today. You doubtless have heard of the desperate battle fought near this place three weeks ago and perhaps have heard a partial report of killed and wounded but death and suffering is not completed on the field of battle; but many a noble form is mangled to waste away and fall weeks months or perhaps years afterward.

And O! what a bitter cup for Mother, Sister or perhaps a loved friend who has to mourn the loss of some doted one thus sacrificed on the altar of his country.

I have the painful task to perform of announcing that you have thus lost a friend in the person of Lieut T. S. W. Hawkins. In the battle of Dec 31st the Lieut had his left arm shattered so badly that it had to be amputated and for some time seemed to be doing well, but a week ago he took the Typhoid fever which he sunk under rapidly and last night at 8 o'clock he expired.

Lieut. Hawkins was an efficient Officer and a gentleman highly esteemed by his fellow Officers and Solders; so we all deeply sympathize with you in this his untimely death. I telegraphed to his relatives this morning. I have been all day making preparations for his interment but owing to constant rain and the Regt. being absent I have postponed it until 9 A.M. Tomorrow. The Lieut. requested his waiter to present his gold watch to the Lady whose miniature would be found in his valise. I knew not who the Lady was until informed by Sargt. Benjamin Webb. When an inventory of his effects is made, I shall try to have the watch put in your possession.

For fear you should not know who I am or where I belong I will just say that I belong to company "I" 38th Ind Vol. but have been on detached service twelve months. I am now attached to Maj. General Crittenden's Staff. Any information you may wish which I am in possession of I will be most happy to serve you.

My address is Signal corps 21st Army Corps
Tennessee

I close by offering you my heart felt sympathy in this your day of sorrow.

Believe me Madam, your most sincere friend,

Lieut. Wm. Leonard

Signal Corps 21st Army Corps
 Murfreesboro Tennessee
 January 24/63
 Miss Mary J. Webb
 Sallieville Ind
 Dear Madam

I feel it a duty even
 had you ever to write you a body who
 however I do so with considerable embarrassment
 most having ever heard your name until
 today you doubtless have heard of the
 signal battle fought near this place three
 weeks ago and perhaps has heard a faint
 report of killed and wounded but death
 and suffering is not completed on the field
 of battle but many a noble form is enough
 to waste away and fall weeks months or
 perhaps years afterwards. Ours is what
 a bitter cup for Mother Sister or perhaps
 a loved friend who has to witness the loss
 of some detail or those sacrificed on the altar
 of his country.

I have the painful task to perform
 of announcing that you have lost a
 friend in the person of this J. S. Stanton
 In the battle of Dec 31st the shot had his left
 arm shattered so badly that it had to be
 amputated and for some time seemed to be
 doing well but a week ago he took the
 typhoid fever which he sunk under rapidly and
 last night at 8 o'clock he expired.

Just Stanton was an efficient officer and a
 gentleman highly respected by his fellow officers
 and soldiers, so we all deeply sympathize with
 you in this his untimely death. I telegraphed
 to his relatives this morning. I have been
 all day making preparations for his interment
 but owing to constant rain and the fog
 being about I have postponed it until
 7 O'Clock tomorrow. The last request
 he wanted to present his gold watch to the lady
 whose initials would be found in his notes.
 I know not who the lady was until informed by
 Capt Benjamin Webb. When an executor of
 his affairs is made I shall try to have the
 watch put in your possession.

You fear you should not know who I am
 or where I belong. I will just say that I belong
 to Company F. 21st Signal Corps but have been on
 detached service twelve months. I am now attached
 to Regt. Artillery (Artillery Staff). Any information
 you may wish which I am in possession of
 I will be most happy to send you.
 My address is Signal Corps 21st Army Corps
 Tennessee. I close by offering you
 my heart full sympathy in this your day
 of sorrow.

Believe me Madam your most
 sincere friend
 Capt W. Howard

Singal Corps 21st Army Corps.
Murfreesboro, Tenn
January 29th, 63

Miss M. A. Webb
Saltillville, Ind.

Madam

By the politeness of Sargt. Ben Webb, I forward to you a watch in compliance with a request of Lieut. Hawkins late of 38th Ind. Vol. I have so reported it to his heirs at Law and feel confident that it will be satisfactorily to all parties concerned.

As I will be held responsible for the proper disposition of the effects of Lieut. Hawkins it will be necessary for me to have a receipt fo the watch. Will you be so kind as to forward the same.

Yours with kind regards,

Lieut. W. Leonard

Washington County, Ind
Feb 22nd 1863

Received of Lieut. Wm. Leonard
of the estate of Thos. S.W. Hawkins

one gold watch valued at fifty dollars

Mary A Webb

INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY, Webb Family Correspondence,
1861-1868, SC#2639, January 25, 1863, side 1. February 23, 1863
side. Reproductions smaller than actual size. Permission to reproduce
or publish material in this collection must be obtained from the Indiana
Historical Society.

Washington County Ind Feb 23rd 1863
Received of Lieut Wm Leonard
of the estate of Geo W Hawkins
one gold watch valued at fifty dollars
Chas A Webb

Signal Corps 21st Army Corps
Murfreesboro Tenn
January 29th 63
Miss M. A. Webb
Saltville Ind
Madam

By the politeness
of Sargt Ben Webb I forward
to you a watch in compliance
with a request of Lieut Hawkins
late of 38th Ind Inf. I have so
reported it to his heirs at Law
and feel confident that it will
be satisfactory to all parties concerned
I will be held responsible
for the proper disposition of the
effects of Lieut Hawkins it will
be necessary for me to have a
receipt for the watch. Will you be
so kind as to forward the same
Yours with kind regards
Lieut W Leonard

Washington County, D.C.
Feb. 24, 1862

Dear Cousin;

For the present, please except this very short letter I am about to write as I cannot do better for the present as I have just arrived here in the midst of a snow storm and have what I have seen and experienced. I arrived at the Cty, Sunday morning the snow was about eight inches deep and falling as fast as I ever witnessed in my life. On haste, I hurried off to a hotell and I'd not set foot upon the pavement until next morning and then sallied forth to see some of the principal scenes of the great Capitol adn the first of course was the capitol building its self and I need not tell you that I was interested you who know me and know what it there to see. I stood where the great men of the nation have stood, before me stood their pictures as natural as life and life size. Washington, Jackson and all those who were great, are looking down upon you what could a man's feelings be, you know and I shall not endeavor to explain. We had a fine trip up here by cars and boat, we go in camp near Georgetown and promise ourselves a prety nice time.

I expressed a watch to Mary Ann from Louisville, please tell her to acknowledge the receipt if it has come to hand. My undying love to all the family. Write both of you immediately,

Affectionately, Ben Webb