

Nelson Parker Letter

This letter was written by Nelson Parker, a Civil War soldier, (Fighting on the side of the north). It was written to his sister, Louisa Parker, on March 8, 1863.

Camp Gill

Near Murfreesboro, Tennessee

March 8, 1863

Dear Sister,

I once more embrace this opportunity to inform you that I am still on the land and amongst the living and when these few lines come to hand, I hope you will be enjoying the same great blessing.

There has been noting of interest transpired since the battle to disturb the monotony of camp life except a slight skirmish once in a while with these roving bands of guerrillas of which this part of the state is full of. There will be a foraging party start out and they will not be gone more than an hour until we hear the booming of cannon. But we have got used to it and it does not startle us any more than a squirrel gun would in Ohio.

I should like to be at your wedding, but as it is, I shall have to wish you much joy on this piece of paper. I hope you will get a good husband and be successful through life. You must not be too despondent about my never getting home. If it is the Lord's will, I will pass safely through. May it be the Lord's will and not mine be done. If I ever get home, I will be sure to come and see my new brother-in-law.

If the people resist the Conscription Act in the North, I hope they will have the war transferred to their own firesides, for I think they are no better than the allies of Jeff Davis, himself. As long as they can have a guard at their door, they are well satisfied, but when they have to be the guard, they remonstrate right away.

Henry Reichards and Morgan are still with us, but Arthur was shot in the hand about the middle of last November and has not seen duty since then.

I will have to send this letter without a stamp, for we have never been paid as yet and we cannot get stamps here. I will address this letter in the old way although I expect that when this letter comes to hand, you will be Parker no more. Direct your letters to Co. F, 93 O.P.G., 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division, McCook's Corps, Murfreesboro, Tennessee. With these remarks, I close. From your brother,

N. Parker