

ALBERT E. BEARD TO MACK

indiana

Camp [name indecipherable]

october the 19 1861

Dear Friend Henry I take My pen in hand to write A few lines to you to let you know that I am well And hope that theses few lines may find you well and the rest of your folks perhaps you have heard that I am in the army that to fight and so defend my Country I enlisted in this State in Huntington County we went from there to Camp Anderson and we was there 6 weeks now we are in Clark County encamp on the Banks of Ohio river it is A very nice place we have Been here over A week And I can not tell how long we will stay here But I think not long as Soon as we get our guns we will have to go across the river into kentucky we can See lewisville from our camp and new albany and in sight of Jeffersonville I must tell you that we drill on the old Mexican Camp ground we expect to see the secesionist before long and I think that we have got A regiment that will fight like tigers we have got the praise of Being the Best that has went from this State we are the 34 regiment and Captain whiting is my Captain our kernels name is Steal and we all like him very well I have not been home sick since I left home we are clothed very well and have plenty to eat and our tents is of duck cloth put up like they put up cercus tents only not so large six of us sleep together and we do our own cooking and our washing they are regiments going through here every day in to kentucky I do not feel like coming home untill all of the secesion is killed I hear that Mishigan is turning out very well and I should like to hear that all the Boys around there has enlisted in the army to fight for the Star and Stripes I think more of our flag every day I see it and it soars over our heads our company carrys the flag and our intention is to fight for it as long as our life is spared please let me no how many has gone from there I Believe I have nomore to write at present as I have got A poor place to write and A poor pen I must tell you we have preaching here in our camp we have A prisbeterian preacher along with us when you write to Me direct to Me and to Company C 34 regiment indiana volinteers in the care of Captain Whiting from your truly Albert E Beard and Send my Best respects to you write soon to Henry Ewing So nomore at present

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Note: The letter is not signed. The envelope is addressed to Mr Henry Ewing/Cambria Mills/hillsdale/County Mishigan/A soldiers letter/J.G. Wilson Adjut/34 /Reg. The envelope has a color print of the bald eagle carrying a stars and stripes shield, sheaf of arrows, and olive branch with these words: "The Eagle proudly soars high,/Our Nation's Shield to guide./Shall Freeman falter, fear, or fly?--/Face danger with less pride?" Beard's camp was near Jeffersonville, Indiana, across the Ohio River from Louisville, Kentucky.

WKE 103196