

THOMAS C. RADABAUGH AND ANDY EWING TO MACK

In front of Petersburg Va March 10th 1865

Dear Cousin Mack

Again I seat me to write a few lines to you. I am here in a hole in the ground, the same one in which you were wounded. I have got no hole in my own yet, and am Just boarding out or rather I am helping to occupy this hole till DC gets back. Then I must either make a hole for myself or go without a hole. In fact mack I have got to be so dirty that I hardly know myself from a hole in the ground. and if it comes to the worst I can Just creep in and say I am at home. It's a bully place to pass away time here. One day and night we eat and Sleep, and the next day and night we Sleep and eat, So you see we have a change of seens each day. And the weather also, one day it rains and the next day it pores down. One day we have lots to eat, and the next day we have enough. One day we have hard tack and the next day Soft bread. One day we get beef and the next Sowbelly. Bulley for the Sowbelly. And was on picket yesterday, and Sam is on picket today I have not been on picket yet, neither do I want to go on if I can help it Well Mack I havent got a letter since I have been here and I am beginning to get almost wrathly about it. Andy gets one most every day, and sometimes two. Well I guess Ile Stop now and let Adam finish this letter. I am not very well yet Please write as soon as you get this. Dont fall in love with one of them Sisters there. Now goodbye Mack. Keep your nose clean. T C Radabaugh

Dear Brother Mc Jus[t] now Larkins has baked our beans so I will have to wait till we get them ate and write he said for me to set the tabel so I will stop Well Now Mc Now I have ate My Baked beans our cooks you [k]now brings them up in Soop so then we put them in the spider and bakes them so they go good Mc I Received your Cind letter and I was glad to here you was well I still feal uneasy for feare that you will have the Smallpox My health is first rate good now and has bin for Some time Sam is well and on picket to day I was Night before last O how hard it did rain. there was only one Johnney Com in that Night the Nights is to light now for them to come in Much Now I got aletter last Night from Emily she is getting quite smart they was all well in Mich when she wrote that was 2nd of March. D.C. got his furlow extended 20 days so he has agood long furlow of it his time will be up 19th of this Mon. I hope he will get back on time there is no excitement here now I dont get to se apaper oftenner than once in 3 or 4 days so you can or do [k]now more what is going on than what I do I have sent for one to day but it has not come yet Corpel Beard is here now there is I think now 15 Priv in Co D for Duty and about the same in Co H be Sides the Sarg and Cor [Colonel] Well Mc We got our pay up to the first of Jan on the first day of March I do not get any Clothing Money I dont expect that I ever will on the past Neither I drawed 2 months pay and 2 installments 49 dollars each they had only \$5.71 cts of Transportation down against me so I got some of my Clothing monny that way or I Call it that way I got \$200.0315 cts so I expressed \$200 of it home Baits paid me 75 cts that he owed you so good for that Well Mc Emily said that they had got aletter from Comadore Writen the 22 of feb he was well I think he will soon get exchanged James Beard and Daniels is exchanged Bill cool is dead he died in Danvill prison in Dec Well Mc it is now raining and sleetting and it comes in on my paper and wets it Sams Sister that lived in ohio is dead Sam is not going to Send any of his pay home he sais he Spends it very fast he paid \$35.00 for a watch Well that is Just the way with lots of the boys Now I will Close write soon I hope this will find you well and Most redy to go home to se the baby and wife Andy to Brother Mc

Note: Thomas C. Radabaugh wrote to father with this letter that he was living in the same "hole in the ground in which father was wounded. That as soon as D.C. Cherington returned, he would have to get a hole of his own or do without one. Radabaugh called Andy by his middle name, Adam. The "Sam" referred to was Sam Helsel.

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Note: Charles Daniels enlisted at age 23 in Company D at Hillsdale and was mustered in on April 8, 1864, along with the others. He was missing in action near Petersburg on July 30, 1864, and was mustered out on July 28, 1865. The details for James Beard are the same, except that he was mustered out 10 days earlier. Andy probably meant \$203.15 in the figures he quotes.

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