

Camp Chase Ohio

Sept. 29th, 1863

Dear Elizabeth:

It is just four months today since I _____
_____ this one. _____ and during
_____ time I have done nothing new in closing this war, but there
has not a day passed but that I have felt _____ to return to the
Regt. and I hope it will not be many days before I shall at least
have the privilege of starting although many days must necessarily
have passed ere we can see the old 42nd.

It is the sabbath but it is very hard distinguishing sunday from
other day of the week by any appearance in camp. It is however very
pleasant, although we are troubled considerably by frosty nights.

There are five of us in a shanty by ourselves have a good stove
and are as comfortable as soldiers ought to ask for and if I was to be
placed on duty here should try and content myself, but find it impossible
to feel contented doing nothing.

I am anxious to hear from the army of the Cumberland by letter.
Our army has suffered an awful loss of life and limbs has been
defeated by superiority of numbers which will inspire the rebels
with new courage in their _____ scheme to overthrow our government.
However feeling as I do that we are in a just cause I shall ever hope
and feel confident that we shall succeed at last in spite of the mighty
efforts made by the rebels of the south and their groveling
sympathizers at the north to defeat our armies in the field as well
as to cause war here at home which they are certainly trying to do.

It is a singular fact which others have noticed as well as myself that the copperheads are very _____ to enter into conversation with a soldier. While the union citizen is anxious to greet and converse with us the rebel sympathizer turns from us when he thinks he is not noticed showing a guilty conscience and when by chance he does meet us he is very careful not to advance any other sentiments than a strong devotion to the union, showing a lack of courage to support the principles which at times he advocates.

Such was the case of a young gent of Mich. the gallant and dashing _____. He is as good a union citizen as _____ affords judging from the conversation I had with him while there. Others I have seen of the same _____, I hardly knew what _____ they well understand that there are but two sides to the question and they must be "for" or "against" the latter of which _____ they don't choose to take in the presence of those they well know have risked their lives in defense of what every sane man concedes to be right.

Elizabeth have you engaged a school for the winter, and if so where do you intend to teach? I hope you will have a good time _____ I have passed the happiest days in the old schoolhouse of anytime in my life. I spent a few moments of my liesure time during the feast week in copying a song, a portion of which you heard me try to sing. I will send it to you. The words are not entirely unexceptional but I think the sentiment is as good as any thing of the kind I ever saw. Have the girls succeeded in getting your letter box yet? I began to think judging from their No., size, and the

SECRET
18 78 8

determination in which they made for it that it would be impossible for us to resist-the attack, however two of us withstood the attack of _____, and the box was _____.

I am as ever your affectionate friend.

Leonard

Please direct Camp Chase Ohio, Co. C. 2nd Regt. Paroled Forces

I have filled this sheet and must close. If you should deem this worthy of reply