

Washington Dec 18th 61

Dear Sister

Received your kind

letter of the 9th in due time it is well for me to tell you how glad I was to get a letter from you it was the first letter that I received since I left Albany, and I must say that it done me good to read it I received yours saturday and Sunday I got one from home they they are all well at home Elunice talks of enlisting as soon as she gets her her regiments do you think she would be accepted after she was sworn in Iaph I do not feel very bright to day I was on picket duty last night and have a very hard cold to boot you wrote that you felt very bad about my going to war you was not the only one I do not expect to see any harder times than it was for me to leave the

dear ones at home last night when
standing alone my mind wandered back
to the loved home

Tis midnight and the night wind
float softly through the trees
And the moonbeams falling gently
seem playing with the breeze
And the streamlet sound is mournful
As it ripples slowly on
And the willow waunder seems to say
That the loved ones are far away

You wanted to

know if it seemed as though I should
come back home again I think that
I shall help Pa plant corn next spring
if Charlie buys a farm I will come
and help him farm if you will not
cry any more if they would let us we
would wipe out every rebel in a short
time but it is not policy to shed any
more blood than can be helped there is
some important movement being
made now they will not let us have

papers now to get the news from
but this one thing we know that they
have moved about 20000 men over the
river within a very short time If you
get any important news when you write
let me know it is the policy of war not
to let the soldiers know what is a going on
in the war department You want to know
who my comrads are that tent with me
the Targent is in and John Ellis of Sherman
McCollum and myself occupy one tent
this morning I swept our house and washed
our dishes and hung out our beds &c don't
you think that I am quite a house maid
for a soldier If you are a mind to send
me your likeness I will keep them next
my heart I will get mine for you as soon
as I can get a pass to go to the citad
Dark I am the heaviest man on the job
I weigh 225 lbs I do not know as they
can take my likeness at once without breaking
this apparatus I can hear some heavy
firing down the river I think that

there will be a battle at New Orleans
before a great while if not already
so send me a picture of our camp
I would send you one but there is none
here to day I will send you some verses
that one of our buglers composed on our
trip to Washington I have not time to
write any more at present you must
consider the convenience I have for writing
and over look according tell Charlie to
write when you do if he has time I should
like to go into his shop and see how
he gets along in there give my respects
to Aunt Daphne and uncle Chas and my
love to all of the girls in general
Yours in haste

From your affectionate brother

Garrison

P.S write soon Directions same as before