

Please don't let any body see this

1861

Washington Tuesday Dec 24th 1861

Dear parents

I have neglected to write what happened as it came along this week, and a part of last so I will tell you now, as near as I can recollect it last wednesday it was pleasant and we drilled in the manual of arms & the next day ^{we} drilled a skermish drill to deploy as skermishers it was a new thing to us consequently we had some fun over it some of the boys fell down and the rest ran over them the next day friday we drilled in the saber exercise & saturday we drilled in the saber exercise Mr Denton came up to our camp and made us a speech it was a grand thing I did not feel very well and did drill a part of the day but went to the surgeon and got some medison I did not sleep much saturday night sunday I grew worse and I did not get up sunday to get up any sunday night I was still worse monday morning I throwed away the sergeons medison and told the boys to tell him that I wanted to die a natural death one of my comrades gave me some coal and molasses and a little weak lye and to day I am out on duty again and feeling quite well for the day before christmas I will just wish you a merry christmas for the fun of it made you think

Excuse the name

that I won't have to a merry Christmas you may depend upon it I shall and some poultry to if I should be sent out with a party of skirmishers I am a going to beg over you a little for we have got a new stove in our tent and a frying pan a dripping pan and a boiler an the handsomest tea kettle I ever saw without any poking so you had better believe that we live grand we have fried steak and baked potatoes coffee rice shugar molass bread pork bacon and tea occasionally but no codfish since we tipped their tables over in Albany you know ~~so~~ some soldiers do not love their country enough to put up with every thing well I there have been out and chopped some wood and made up a fire and preperat prepared for supper and now I will finish this letter wedrilled to day with the saber the weather is pleasant now it snowed here a few flakes yesterday the roads are dusty here now the wind blew the dust in our eyes so this fore noon that we could not drill I have not time to write much more now. I want you to write as soon as you get this I believe it does me just as much good for more to hear from you as it does you to hear from me and you have more ^{convein} for writing than I have here when you writ you may if you are a mind to let I me know all the news and how the house is progrefing and all the news in general
I remain still your dutiful son
Cassimer