

Mr. Lyman Dunklee

Dundee Lane Co.,
Illinois

Gadfly Run Co. Mo. Apr 3^d

Dear Father

We have an opportunity
to send money the same as we did
last payday. I send \$20 twenty
dollars & Edward Nute sends \$10 ten
dollars & Milton sends \$25 twenty dollars
You may take mine into the common
stock to the best advantage according
to your & Charles judgement

Please forward Edwards to his
father & Miltons to Ansel & oblige
them

J. S. Dunklee

Camp Kolla. Oct 27,

Dear Father & Mother

How does aunt Sally
and folks get along

I am glad of the privilege
to address you this pleasant sabbath morning although
I am deprived of the pleasure of seeing you face
to face. I am enjoying good health and hope
this will find the friends in B. the same.
you must excuse my scribbling for I have been
favored with plenty of letters and ^{have} some half
a dozen to answer in a hurry. Milton is
well as are all the Barrington boys, he is writing
by my side now and Ed. Nute is in the
tent engaged the same way. I am sorry that
you (father) had to leave Harveys but I presume
you find as much to do as you are able to do,
at home; I would be glad to help do some of the
falls work, I recd. a letter from you and
Edmeda phursday and one from her & Elizabeth
last night, you wished to know if the correspond^{ance}

was liable to be cut off, I would; I think not
so long as we stay here but when we move. I
can not say any thing about it; still we may
not move this winter and we may go in 2
weeks. The cavalry of the Iowa 13 which brought
in the prisoners which I spoke of in Edwards
letter have started on another scout, Our cavly,
came in to camp yesterday morning; they were
left in St L. when we came, You wished to
know how I fared, and I know not what to say.
compared to some living I have had it is hard
and again compared some other it is tip top,
there is one thing sure if I never see harder
times than I do now I ^{will} never starve, We have
coffee ^{twice} a day, bread and pork or fresh beef for
breakfast, Bean soup & bread for dinner and
fresh beef or bacon and bread, some times flapjacks
and molasses for supper, this is when we stay in
camp but I have been up to the fort to work
for the last 4 days and am to work 5 days more, and
I take a loaf of bread a piece of meat and broil it
on the end of a stick for my dinner, it is a mile

from camp and I have to take my dinner.

You may think it strange that I work at the
point. I will explain. They wished 4 from our co.

To go and dig for which they draw extra pay (25 or
40 cts per day I don't know which) They detailed them

and one of the boys after working one day was
sick of his bargain and said if I would take
his place I should have his days worth, and as

I was in need of a pair of gloves for which I don't
wish to make a draw from my regular wages I thought
it was a good chance. We have to work 10 days, nothing

less and as much more as we please, I work as
fast as I please but I assure you that I don't heat
any picks or shovels. Yesterday they took the prisoners

out to work and I worked with two of them all day
they seemed willing to work and one seemed in good

spirits; the other was homesick he said if he owned
the state of South Carolina he would give it

to go home, I told him he should have staid
when he was there he said he was not to blame

for being a prisoner, I told him that old Bray
was caught in bad company and was punished
with them. They were a band of robbers going

around giving the men the choice to join their
ranks or die, helping themselves to property and
committing depredations upon the women of the darkest
dye. I will give you a list of our clothes, 1 cap, 1 hat,
black wool hat, turned upon one side with a plume, an
eagle, a bugle, and a letter A, on it. 2 woolen shirts, 1
blouse for fatigue. 1 dress coat cut like a small boys short
coat, of a deep blue, firm cloth, 1 overcoat, sky blue, cut with
a bright body, long tails reaching to the boots and a cape
commensurate to the elbows, it compares with fathers old
grey coat that I used to make so much fun of. 2 pairs pants
sky blue, 2 pairs drawers, 1 pair shoes, 2 pairs socks, 1 blanket
(double) and they say we are to have an indiarubber blanket. It is reported
that we will get and pay in a few days. if we do I will send it
home but I will write to home I send it. I write to Charles as soon
as I get time and give a description of the country and
fourth &c. Water is rather scarce, we have a spring about 1/2 a mile
from camp where we get our water, it is a barrel in the
ground and we dip it up with a dipper. We have messed off and
our mess of 23 give a cook 75 cts per month each and
furnish wood and water, he is a good cook & fixes up a number
of things which we would not have if we were together, we
have been in the habit of trading our surplus of coffee or meat
for potatoes, cabbage, or apples and have apple dumplings
but the Old Colonel has forbidden it so we have to eat what
we draw. Don spoke of Mothers thinking of me. Now Mother
don't give yourself any uneasiness about me for I weigh more now
than when I came to camp. The only fear I have is that I
will get so lazy that I can't stir. I thought I was sick until I went
up to the fourth to work and now I am all right.

We have a chaplain now and have two or three prayer meetings
through the week and preaching on sabbath, I would be
glad to meet with the friends of B. today but I can meet God
even here on the camp ground and commit my self to his care.
I beg an interest in your prayers that I may stand fast in
the good cause. I must close and will answer Elizabeth &

Elmeda's letter soon. If we stay here the boys talk of sending
home for a cag of butter, but we don't know yet. if we had butter we
could get along finely. Give my love to all friends. Good bye,

From your son J. S. Dunlap