

EDITED TRANSCRIPTION – Original file: "Letter Nov. 23rd 1862.tif"
Edited to enhance readability. Added notes are *{italicized-bracketed}*.

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Col. W. C. WILSON, Major Fisher
23rd Michigan 6th INDIANA REGIMENT, KY
Bowling Green, Nov. 23rd 1862

Dear Brother Sant,

I received your of the 9th tonight and I was glad to hear that you and the rest of the folks were well and that Tucker was elected Chief Engineer. Well, Sant, I am well and comfortable and can eat my rations every day and I can safely say that I have done more duty than any other man in the company,

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and I find that by doing my duty promptly, that is the best way to get along in the army. I do the duties of Orderly and 2nd Lieutenant both and some of the time I have had command of the company for a day or so, and by acting Orderly I escape guard duty. I have only been Officer of the Guard twice and that is all of that kind of duty I have done since I left Saginaw *{M}*. You say that you don't hear from me. Well, it is not my fault, for I have wrote you three letters to one that I have got from you. You said you sent me some stamps. Well, they have not come to me yet. I guess that they have gone where a good many other letters have goine to that is due this regiment. You would be

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surprised to see the letters that this regiment sends out every day, from a peck to a half of a bushel every day, and then to see the mail come in, only a hat full and sometimes not half that. Last night only two letters for the whole regiment. I believe that I got the most of mine so I had not ought to complain. It is not much to be wondered at that a great many are lost by the way they are directed. You direct yours right and so does Susan. The main thing is to get the number of the regiment plain and the letter of the company. We have got a great many letters belonging to the 22nd and the 25th by they not making the figures plain.

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Tell Father that I have not heard from Rube Fairchilds and if he did send for money that I will not sent him any. I will send some home when I get my pay; when that will be I can't tell. I have nearly three months due me now and if I had some of it I would like it, for I have not got a red cent and I have run in debt to the sutler 3 dollars and have borrowed some postage stamps, so I manage to get along. If you will please send one stamp to answer your letters with every time it will be better than to send a great many to time. When I get my pay I guess I can

get some here. As I have filled this sheet of paper with nothing interesting I will put in another one and fill it likewise, so turn to page 5.

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As these pictures take up so much room I will have to take two sheets. You must excuse me if I get too much nonsense in them, for I cannot write as good a letter as Frank, for he beats all letter writers that I have seen yet. I suppose you would like to know what kind of country Kentucky is,

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Well, I can tell you a little about it. I like the country well enough for some of it is the most splendid country I have ever seen, and some of the most beautiful farms that any contry can produce is here in Kentucky. But the people, they beat all yet. Most every man owns a n----- and some of them a hundred and the n----- - know the most. If you ask a man how far it is to such a place, he will tell you it is a right smart piece, about five miles or so then. You ask a n----- and he will tell you five miles, sir. They make the n----- do the work and the look on and it is so with the

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ladies. They talk and act like the n----- and I don't believe you can find one woman in all Kentucky that can make a loaf of light bread or a pie fit to eat. I have had a chance to find out about their cooking for every day they are around the camp peddling pies and corn dodgers, and I have not seen a pie that was fit to eat yet. The boys go along by a pie peddler and stick their bayonets through a pile of them and confiscate them, or they take their coffee and boil it without gringing then dry it and trade it off for chickens, potatoes, pies, & so you see how a soldier often manages to live more ??? played than you can imagine,

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and when one sees another have something extra he never asks where did you get it, but let's have some, and I will divide when I draw some and he is sure to make a haul of something to eat if it is to be found. That is the way the country suffers through which an army passes. There is not a fence in sight of Bowling Green except occasionally a dooryard fence but what is burned up for wood and it is so the whole length of the road to Louisville *{KY}*. Wherever a regiment stops for dinner or at night they use the fences for wood and it makes the country look rather open without fences. When I get home I will tell you more and as nothing transpired here worthy of note I don't find much to write about. Answer soon and give my love to Lucy and Sarah and all inquiring friends.

From Your Brother, Deck



~~COL. W. C. WILSON~~ Major Fisher
23^d Mich ~~INFANTRY~~ REGIMENT 122^d
Bowling Green Nov 23^d 1862

Dear Brother Sant

I received yours of the
9th to night and I was glad to hear
that you and the rest of the folks
were well and that Tucker was
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every day from a peck to a half
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Col. W. C. WILSON,

~~INFANTRY~~ REGIMENT

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about it I like the country
well enough for some
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and some of the most beautiful
Garns that any country can
produce is here in Kentucky
But the People they beat
all yet most every man owns
a nigger and some own
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They make the niggers do
the work and they look on
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so you see how a Soldier often
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That is the way the country suffers
through which an army passes
There is not a fence in sight of
Bowling Green except occasionally
a poor yard fence but what is
burnt up for wood and it is
so the whole length of the
road to Louisville wherever
a Regt stops for dinner or at
night they use the fences
for wood and it makes the
country look rather open with
out fences when I get home I
will tell you more and as nothing
transpired here worthy of note I dont find
much to write about answer soon and
give my love to Lucy and Sarah and
all improving friends

From Your Brother Deak