

Camp Griffin Va
February 17-1862

My dear Sister -

I received your letter in good time but as I wrote to Father the next day I thought I would hold on a day or two. This is a wet rainy miserable kind of a day for us poor boys - it has rained all day - the ground is frozen and it continues to freeze - we have a little snow in some places - we do not drill to day for a wonder it is the first day we have "postponed" on account of the weather but we are drilling in the Bayonet exercise and I know that we ought to improve all of our time - Colonel Bidwell says that when we learn that we will be complete as he thinks we understand the rest of

the Mills - To day we have an
addition of one Regiment to our
Brigade the 77th New York they are
about 950 strong and look like
a good Regiment, they have been
on the Road since 8 o'clock this
morning but have carried no
Knapsacks or Blankets - they had
100 wagons each drawn by six
mules and brought even the boards
which they had for tent floors -
which is against special orders we were
only allowed 20 wagons and only
had our tents & camp equipage carried
each man had to carry his Knapsack
& Blanket. Lieut. Stevens does not
feel very bright to day, was quite
sick last night, but is better to day
I dont know whether he would care
about my reporting him sick but
you must not say that he is -

I wish you would send me some stamps -

I do not hear from George yet
I have written to him & sent him
a Paper - do you ever get Papers
from me I have sent 3 or 4 - and
send one to Father with this - let me
know if it is received - Do the girls
have got the skating fever have
they and Het Carlisle is a proficient
you say - give her my best respects
and tell her I believe I could
catch her in going 40 rods - I have
written to her once about two months
ago but never heard from her -

I have just read Dr Spencers letter
in the Republican of the 12th inst -
it is a "big thing" and I can see it
I guess W. Bliss will say no more about
the Stoneman Cavalry, ^{not} being in the
field - his views in regard to the 49th
are my sentiments exactly. John
has done a bully thing the first
time - did he ever write one before?

do so more
farther -
The Com. -
I would
I expect to go on Picquet again
about tomorrow - but dont know yet
They just make me skedaddle. I
can promise you but I am young
& tough & hearty & can stand it -
I guess we will all be home by
July or August - what do the folks
north say about it - Please write
soon A - You

If so I never saw it Tell Mother
that I cant see the Photographs she
said she would send - I should like
one of you as you spoke of getting
and if Melvins can take good ones
they are as cheap as you can get
them in New York - after Pay-day
I want to get a picture taken full
length - without my overcoat, I
should like some in my Jacket
with my belts & sword - I am
still in the Company doing all
kinds of duty - & sometimes that of
Orderly - & the other 4 things together
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Truly

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I wish you would send me
a Paper of Needles coarse
enough to carry Linen Thread
small needles are of no kind of
use to me here. also a hank
of course black Linen Thread
I would also like another pair
of light Buckskin Gloves like
the ones Geo. sent me as
some miserable ~~has~~ stolen
those - they were just out ones
which in addition to the Knife
I spoke of to Father & some
Butter (if Possible) completes
my list of wants for the
present - Hoping that you
can send some or all of these
things

I am ever
Your aff brother
Ond