

April 10th, 62

Dear Brother and Sister

I avail myself of the present opportunity to inform you of my health. I am improving very fast considering the weather and the condition of our quarters. It has been raining here for 3 days to day at least or has the appearance of fair weather. We are stationed 5 miles below Kingston - we are expecting to advance every day we are going out on picket to morrow at 11 o'clock, a.m. we have to go 8 miles to wards Newbern. (our pickets brought in 9 of the Yankees yesterday killed 3. we lost one man. This was the Coverley & Spruals Regt.). This is a very rough country down here. Nothing but swamps and thickets. We are pressing into service all the horses they can get and some mules and waggons and teams you have heard so much about the Battle at Newbern I want say any thing about it. Only I am of the impression that a man is harder to kill than I thought they were but I saw so many a good fellow fall and never breathe but it never had no more effect on me than if they were dumb brutes. I have been highly complimented by our Col. and Major since the Battle and White Head the same that is our ordery. We are under Gen. Ransom now or in his Brigade. he is a very strict disciplinarian he makes us to the mark every time we have to drill 6 hours every day and double quick 1/4 of the time and only 30 minutes of the time to rest it is pretty tight but our Boys suffer at it they all look better than I have seen them look since we first came into camp and our sick list is less now than it has ever been. We have got some few tents but not a bear a muffle. There is or appears to be a great deal of dissatisfaction about our Col. but I won't say any thing myself about it at present nor give any opinion on the matter. you will please except my grateful acknowledgements for the provisions I recd from you at a very needfull hour. and I hope you will continue the good work. and bring your knitting and come and see me some time. and see how a Soldier lives give my warmest affectionate to all inquiring friends and recd the desired patience intended by your affectionate Brother to your selves

Write soon Direct to Kingston N.C., 35 Regt

Dinson, A. Caldwell

J. R. C. and M. J. Caldwell