

To:
[Mary A. Thomas
Marshfield
Mass.]



In camp near Newbern Jan 22^d 1863

Dear Mother

In my last letter I wrote that we were going on another expedition we left here last Saturday and arrived back to camp last night as the mail leaves here to night I will write to you as I suppose you will want to hear from me.

We left here Saturday morning there was three regts four pieces of artillery and eight co of cavalry we marched thirteen miles and camped at night in Pollockville it was quite a cold night but we tore down a hen house and yard and made a pretty good place to sleep. Pollockville is a small place like most of the all the cities there was but

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two or three good looking houses in the place
sunday morning we started on again and
at two o'clock we marched into Trenton it
was a poor looking place something like New
bern but a much smaller place we marched
through
the city and camped in a corn field there
was two Co. of rebels in Trenton but the
cavalry drove them out before we got there
monday we started back to Pollockville and
arrived there about noon we stayed there
untill next morning and marched eight
miles to the right of Pollockville it rained
some that forenoon but in the afternoon
it looked like clearing off but towards
night it commenced raining again and
that night we had a wet time of it it rain
ed hard from five untill about twelve it
then cleared off and was pleasant the rest of
the night we felt glad enough to see the stars
come out we fixed up our rubber blankets
and put some small pine trees under them
and crawled under them out of the rain but
the water on the ground soon drove us out

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and then we had to get out of the rain
the best way we could after it stoped rain-
ing we went to bed again and slept until
morning I suppose you would think we would
catch our death to sleep on the ~~ground~~ ground
anytime much more when it was so wet
as it was then in the morning ^{we} dried
ourselves and blankets and at nine we
started for camp we arrived here at five
after a march of twenty one miles over
the went ahead all the way home we had
the road all to ourselves and come just
as fast as we wanted to we wanted to get
into camp before night and the regts
behind had all they wanted to do to
keep up with us the regt that goes
ahead can get along the best as
the other regts have to wait for them
to get over the bad places the
45th have called the 43rd the
creepers when they have gone ahead
we were ahead all the way yester-
day I guess they thought we could

creep fast as they wanted as
to. we saw no fighting this
time all of us are well we
had a easy time of it wanted
yesterday three days we got into
camp about noon I have writte
this in a hurry it is most dark
and the mail goes in a little
whill I made a mistake and got
on to the wrong page but guess
you can find out how it goes
if I had time I should writte
a longer letter we have had our
guns to fire off and clean up to
keep from rusting and the mud
to brush off of our clothes I got
the paper today that you sent
me

From Lucas