



November 2, 1864

Mississippi River 50 miles above Fort Hudson.
May the 23rd / 1864

Dear Mother I now take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well we got here yesterday at 12 a clock & went into camp on the bank of the Mississippi we left Alexandria on the 13 & got to Simsport on the 17 stayed there until the 19 and then we cross the Catholic River and so on to the Mississippi Mississippi River and we marched 25 miles down the river where we are now now Encamped Encamped how long we shall stay here if we stay here a week we shall do well but we may stay 3 months but I think we will go back to New Orleans we had some sharp fighting coming back the rebels tried to stop us at Marksville but we soon made them skedaddle the next morning we started at day light & we marched about a mile & then we formed a line of battle & our battery opened fire on the Rebels there was some loud cannonading for something like 4 hours the rebels shot mighty close to us with their shells but we didnt have a man hurt in our Regiment but we soon made them skedaddle again it was fun to see the gray backs run they went faster than Double Deuce time so we marched 7 miles in line of battle we throwed down some rail fence for the rebels when we come to a fence it was



Not long before it lay flat when the
 16th corp got within 5 miles of Simsport the Rebels came
 up in their Rear & General Smith turned
 around & give them a flogging and drove them back and
 quite a lot of Prisoners but I dont know how many
 there was 10 day that we only got 2 thirds Rations
 but we got along first rate for there was lots
 of Hogs & Sheep Hens & Turkeys & Plenty of
 onions and some eggs I went into one house and got
 a dozen of eggs and took a hen so me & Dad had
 a good supper and I got a nice fat Sheep and I
 got Honey &c oh yes and I got a nice Palm leaf
 Hat and a five dollar confederate bill & a clean
 shirt mine being somewhat dirty I will send
 you the bill & some needles Well you will see
 in the Papers of our fighting long before this reaches
 you so there is no use of my writing any thing more
 about it so I will write about blackberries I have been
 to day and got three quarts & if I can get some
 inger meal I will have Dad & a bag feeding to
 morrow the weather is very warm here they have new
 Red Potatoes, Pars, lettuce beets and all kind of
 garden sauce is fit for use we have marched
 Six Hundred miles since the 15th of March and have
 done some fighting in the bargain we have had a pretty
 hard march one day coming from Grandcove
 to Alexandria we marched 40 miles we started
 at 2 o'clock in the morning and marched until
 half past 10 eleven I may be we wasent tired
 no I guess not but we wasent long before we was
 into bed but our beds wasent like a feather bed
 but we sleep first rate as well as I ever did

In A Good bed I Got a letter ^{from} you
yesterday morning dated the 11th of Apr & one from
Hellen dated the 26 of April and one from
Fred dated the 6 of April I have Post & quite
a number of letters that you have not got
for the Rebs, Captured one of or to of our
mails on the Reed River while going and
Destroyed the boats Jonas Heesters brother has
Enlisted into our Company He got to the Reg yesterday
Write & let Me know what luck you
have about what you wrote me I have Comenced
to number my letters so you will know
when there is one missing our fighting
is over for the Present there is no force
of Rebs very near here there is some Quiles
I will try & write as often as I can but when
we are all the time on the go I dont have much
chance to write Well I dont know as I can write
any more for it is hard work & guess you
will think so by the writing tell Annie that
she had better wait until the old
Solgers gets home for they understand cooking
and washing first rate Give My love to
uncle Shens & wife and what inquire
I will close by bidding you good by Write soon
From your Affectionate Son Seth Hill

To His Dear mother

Send me a Paper

We draw full Rations now

Seth Hill Direct as before