

August 9
Ft Federal

Steve,

As I could not get any stamps to send my letter sooner I thought I would write another to day. You would be surprised at the amount of rumors prevalent in camp. Of course no one knows anything about it. But the boys like to talk about it. The seventh are going on friday. And we will leave soon after Doc Muse is with his co also John D Jones.

There has just been a large ship launched near here.

I saw Mr. Chambers here yesterday. He says Frank was very sick when he last heard from him. I am uneasy about him. And when you write tell me all about him. Mr. Chambers wanted to take Uri home with him but He could not get to. Uri is convalescent.

The mail has just come in. The Journals came as usual and I see that the first Ohio will be home about the time we will. There will be a general good time then.

We are kept rather close just now. There is not a single pass granted to anyone. And even Col Lowe had to send to Ft McHenry for one the other day. When he wanted to go to town.

But we can go out on patrol as often as we please. The other night Dutchy Marshall and I happened to be ordered to take a man to the Provost Marshals.

He was a soldier but a very mean one. We started off, but when we got about two squares the man jumped back and shot off a past me like a flash. I took after him with my gun in hand. And we had it nip and tuck for about two squares. The street was dark and we ran 2,40. I could almost reach him with my bayonet, I ordered halt, halt. But there was no halt. Dutch kept hollowing to me to get out of the way that he would shoot. He drew up two or three times. But I knew that as soon as I got out of the way he would fire so I kept after him. And finally he could not hold out any longer and he darted up another street and fell in under a pair of steps but I pulled him out. When Old Dutch came up he jerked the fellow out of his boots. But we had no more trouble afterwards. After we gave him up.

We went up to the theatre We got in as patrol and of course free. Well I wish you would write as soon as you get this. For I want to hear how Frank is.

Besure and write For we will not leave before the letter gets here anyhow.

Your Brother
John