

Camp Near Knoxville Tenn  
 April the 29 1865

Dear companion I now  
 embrace the opportunity of dropping you a  
 few lines to inform you that I am well  
 hoping that these few lines may reach you  
 and find you well and hearty  
 well I will now tell you about my  
 trip. I taken the train at Bowling Green  
 at 2 PM in the evening Monday for Paducah  
 reached there at about 4 o'clock and reported  
 at the Soldiers home and staid all night  
 Tuesday morning I went to the transportation  
 office and got a pass from there to  
 Knoxville take train for Chattanooga 2 o'clock  
 PM reached there on Wednesday at 11 o'clock  
 AM reported at the Soldiers home and  
 eat my dinner & supper and staid all night and  
 taken breakfast there the next morning. Taken  
 train for Knoxville at 7 AM and reached  
 there at about 2 PM the same day and  
 reported at head quarters and got an order  
 to go to the exchange camp for quarters and  
 rations where I learned that there was a  
 Squad of dismounted cavalry from 8th  
 regiments so I got a pass to report out  
 at the dismounted camp on Friday the 18

where I reported and found several  
 of our regiment and company I found  
 Wm E. O. H. Wills Jesse Chastain and  
 Newton Miller Thomas Bratche & William Bond  
 and Capt. Adam Plims They are all  
 well as common but the Capt. he is some  
 what complaining they were all very  
 proud to see me and said that they had  
 lost all hope of ever seeing me again  
 General Sherman is back at Knoxville  
 he is commanding the post now & rather the  
 department the cavalry has not returned yet  
 rumor say that they are at Knoxville and  
 Greenville Tenn. If that is so I am in  
 hopes to see Nathaniel and Ole and Jacob  
 and James Kesinger and all of the rest of  
 the Boys in a few days they are along  
 with the mounted men William E.  
 was there at Bovin court house in Wataga  
 County North Carolina about the 10<sup>th</sup> of this  
 month and they was all well then I also  
 was sent back with some prisoners  
 which was captured there I have nothing  
 more than Thomas is moving the powder  
 core to Nashvill Tenn. I did not enjoy  
 my trip as well as I would if I had not  
 have had the head ache till which rendered  
 me very uneasy

every thing looks very pretty and nice  
 I saw some corn near Sweetwater that  
 was sowed the first time. The woods is all  
 put out and looks beautiful. I saw folk stally  
 here at Knotville that was nice high. Every  
 thing is aheap better earlier here than there.  
 The soldiers and officers say that they think  
 that this rebellion is played out that we  
 will have peace soon. I am in hopes so my  
 self. I would be very glad to get home and  
 help pan to tend his crop. St. Swift  
 has resigned and St. Baker is first. St. and  
 Jim J. Flora second. Sient so I now come in  
 order. Sergeant of the company. I have  
 nothing new to write at present. Let all  
 read this and tell them that it must de par  
 all that I would write to all separate  
 but money is two scarce and paper two  
 high to write to them all asepate. Better  
 give my respects to all inquiring friends  
 and accept the same your selves.

Yours mital Death  
 Sergt Jas W Howard  
 to Nancy J Howard

50

When it means



*[Faint background stamp: RECEIVED JUL 10 1896]*

W. H. CLEMENT  
Rylands, L.

From ye, That Wm. M. Howard  
 Sergeant of Captain Edwin E. Smith  
 Company, (T.) 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment of Reactive Cavalry  
 VOLUNTEERS who was enrolled on the Twelfth Day of August  
 one thousand eight hundred and Sixty-two to serve Three years or  
 during the war, is hereby **Discharged** from the service of the United States,  
 this Twenty-third day of August, 1865, and is eligible  
 to Re-enlist by reason of Special Order, No. 11, War Dept. July 10, 1865  
 (No objection to his being re-enlisted is shown on record.)

Said Harold W. Harper was born in Quillman  
in the State of Massachusetts, is thirty-four years of age,  
five feet seven inches high, dark complexion, blue eyes,  
dark hair, and by occupation, when enrolled, Dr. Surgeon.

Given at Louisville Ky this 27th day of October  
C. H. Frost 1856.

*then enrolled*

*this Town*

*J. Smith.*

*Captain of Militia*

*Commanding the Regt.*

537- This sentence will be changed should there be anything }  
in the conduct or physical condition of this soldier }  
rendering him unfit for the Army }

Ms. A. 1. 1  
Wm. E. Clark  
Capt. J. H. Co  
Cromwell, Conn.