

Selden H. Payne to Mary Hills, 18 January 1863

Camp Nelson Ky.

Jan. 18, 1863

Sister Mary I have not heard from
 you in some time but it may be
 that there are some on the rode for
 me we left Camp at Munfordville
 we struck our tents last Wednesday
 morning and left at 10 in the even-
 ing the cars were Hog cars without
 any seats in them and it was
 verry cold and we couldnt sleep
 any we arrived at Louisville at
 daylight in the morning and there
 we met with a verry sad axident
 while in the Depo one of our boys
 fell under the cars and they run
 ove him and broke both legs and
 cut his head all to peaces he was
 a first rate Soldier but he has
 got his discharge I suppose he
 lived through the day but since
 we heard he is dead it was an
 awful sight I stood close by and
 se him rool out from under the car

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the first words he spoke were
I am gone up now we caried
his to the Hospital he came to
and talked rational for a spell
we staid in Louisville that day and
that night we went to the theater
in the evening and then laid down
in the Depo until morning but
didnt sleep much for it was cold
and our blankets were in with the
Baggage the next morning we left
about ten oclock and went to Lexington
and that night staid in a Negro
Prison it was rather hard but the
best we could do we staid there
untill 2 oclock the Cap let us go
and see the Cemetry and Henry
Clays Monument it was the nicest
Place I ever saw in my life the
Monument is 120 feet high of
sollid marble we took the cars
for Nicholasville and staid in the
court house that night and
Sunday morning started for
Camp which was seven miles
that we had to march it was

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some muddy and when we got
here and were Putting up
our tents it began to rain and
there was nothing to sleep
on and half the boys didnt
bring their stoves and they
have suffered a great deal the
Camp is verry large and there
is 10,000 troops here besides some
Rebbel Prisoners, as far as we
can see there is Forts and Camps
and tents on every hill. They
say it is healthy here but I
believe it is verry for they
draw of about 15 or 20 every day
but some are the wounded and
sick that are brought here from
the front there are more hospitals
here than a few but I must
close for the boys are all a bed
we are all well except head
colds. It is snowing some
and is verry disagreeable
weather we have not drawn
any Pay but once and my stamps are gone

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Direct to Camp Nelson Ky

Care of Capt Crowell Co M 20 H A

Write soon Selden