

From Lewis A. Waterman to Dear Mother

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Ft. Lev'th Kansas

Dear Mother[,]

I recd a letter from you to day, and not having anything to do I sit down to answer it. I am well and have been ever since I have been here. We have nothing to do but keep ourselves clean and neat and our clothes in order. We have to wash the barracks[,] dinning room and kitchen twice a week, sweep them out twice a day.

A few days ago the bush wackers gathered in [*text stricken through*] force of about 500 and captured several places under command of Gen[.] Quantrill of the rebel army. Col[.] Jennison of this post went across the river with about 700 men[,] killed about 150 of them loosing only 2 men[,] one of [*text stricken through*] which coul'n'd manage his horse[.] nothing more

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has been heard from them, but it is expected they will get together again.

How are the folks at home[.] You asked me what kind of a time a bully time was, it is a good time. I have writen two letters to Frank and have not rec'd an answer yet[.] I dont know whether he has got mine or not. In one of your letters you ask him[.] How long does it it take my letters to get to you? I cant think of any more to write so good by[.]

Affectionately

Your Son

Lewis A. Waterman

P.S. My bunk mates name is Edward Pinkham[.] He was in the 7th South Carolina regiment about 14 months when he deserted and came into our lines. His folks live in Augusta Maine[.] He is a shoe maker by trade[,] not on his own hooks but in a large manufactory in

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Natick Mass[.] He has seen a good deal of the world and is a very sensible fellow. As I have got several more letters to write I will close.

I want you to write often and I will do the same[.]

L.A. Waterman

July 22nd 1864

[P.S.] I sent a paper to Mr. Patt[.] did you receive it?