Camp near Brandy Station Va.
Dec Jan 3rd 1864

Brother James

Your welcome letter was duly recd but at rather a late date. but it got along after a while and was a good long one and that will excuse you this time. My health is excelent I weigh 160 lbs & am hard to handle. Frank is in Washingtom yet. the balance of the Plover boys are well I hope your profesies in regard to the close of this was will prove true but the d-m Rebs will hold out as long as possible for spite if nothing else but time will fetch them to terms. I wish that Freemont could have command in this department next Spring. perhaps Grant may get through in his department in time to assist us a little here
It seems the draft did not amount to much but it made some of them come down with their 300 dollars
The veteran buisness had been quite brisk for a few weeks past 128 have sworn in out of our Regt but not one of the Plover boys so you see they have lost their patriotism. but 3 years will so for me until I have rested for a few days
Well Jim you have truly been blest with visitors I presume you had a good time visitint with them Still I guess that you did not regret their departure much especially some of them. I should like vary much to have seen Uncle Jo
Then you have got the Decota fever bully for you. I expect it is a fine country. Wisconsin especially the central partis to cold for farming purposes Henry Curran & my self have been talking of going to Oregan as soon as we serve our time out in the army
I will go with you next fall if you conclude to go. in your next letter give me Mitchels description of the country I think I could never be contented about Plover. I have been sick of the country for along time but said little about it on your account I think we know enough about a new country to get along better then we did in Portage Co.
I guess Frank would favor the plan. but you are boss & know your own buisness better then any body else. Could you sell your farm if you should conclude to go. how are times in Wisconsin this winter. how do you get along with your School you must leave the galls alone in Jerico. Good by for this time give my love to all our folks & except a share your self Write soon

Vary truly your brother

RWWalker

(1)

Camp near Brandy Station Va
Dec. Jan 2d 1864

Brother James

Your welcome letter was duly recd but at rather a late date. but it got along after awhile and was a good long one and that will excuse you this time. My health is excelent I weigh 160 lbs & am hard to handle. Frank is in Washington yet. the balance of the Clover boys are well I hope your prophesies in regard to the close of this war will prove true but the d—m Rebs will hold out as long as possible for spite if nothing else but time will fetch them to terms. I wish that Fremont could have command in this department next spring. perhaps Grant may get through in his department in time to assist us a little here

(4)

I will go with you next fall if you conclude to go. in your next letter give me Mitchels description of the country I think I could never be contented about Clover. I have been sick of the country for a long time but said but little about it on your account I think we know enough about a new country to get along better than we did in Portage Co. I guess Frank would favor the plan. but you are boss & know your own business better than any body else. Could you sell your farm if you should conclude to go. how are times in Wisconsin this winter. how do you get along with your School you must leave the gals alone in Quincy good by for this time give my love to all of our folks & except a share your self Write soon

Yours truly your brother
R W. Walker

Pvt W. Walker

(2)

It seems the draft did not amount to much but it made some of them come down with their 800 dollars
The veteran business has been quite brisk for a few weeks past 128 have sworn in out of our Regt but not one of the Plover boys so you see they have lost their patriotism. but 8 years will do for me untill I have rested for a few days

Well Jim you have truly been blest with visitors I presume you had a good time visiting with them Still I guess that you did not regret their departure much especially some of them. I should liked very much to have seen Uncle Jo.

Thus you have got the Decota fever bully for you. I expect it is a fine country Wisconsin especially the central part is to cold for farming purposes Henry Curran & my self have been talking of going to Oregon as soon as we serve our time out in the army

(3)

Coy Dwight has recruited to get 2nd Lieuts position

Cory Wright has resigned & got
the Lieut's position

Camp near Brandy Station Va
Dec. Dan'l 1864

Copy

Brother James

Your welcome letter was duly recd but at rather a late date. but it got along after awhile and was a good long one and that will excuse you this time. My health is excelent I weigh 160 lbs & am hard to handle. Frank is in Washington yet. the balance of the lower boys are well I hope your prophesies in regard to the close of this war will prove true but the d—m Rebs will hold out as long as possible for spite if nothing else but time will fetch them to terms. I wish that Fremont could have command in this department next spring. perhaps Grant may get through in his department in time to assist us a little here

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I will go with you next fall if you conclude to go. in your next letter give me Mitchels description of the country I think I could never be contented about Plover. I have been sick of the country for along time but said but little about it in your account I think we know enough about a new country to get along better than we did in Portage Co. I guess Frank would favor the plan but you are top off know you own business better than any body else. Could you sell your farm if you should conclude to go. how are times in Wisconsin this winter. how do you get along with your School you must leave the gals alone in Jerico good by for this time give my love to all of kin folks & except a share your self Write soon

Yours truly your brother

Jim W. Walker

R. W. Walker

Reise

Jan4th 1864

Camp near whiteoak Church

Dear Brother

Your letter came to hand yesterday and was read with interest. My health is good as ever the health of the Plover boys is good those that are here are H Curran R Beech Packard Dinsmore Johny Russell he came from the convelescant camp at Alexandria. his brother is there Frank and Myself are here not at Alexandria as this reads

There is no prospect of another attack on Fredericksburg at present. they occupy a very strong position. and as our first attempt was a complete failure we must wait for some thing to turn up though I donot think that is the true policy

Our last papers give account of hard fighting in the west but Rosencrans is hard to beat and I have no fears but he will clean old Bragg out

It seems you are engaged at your old business again. How do the young misses of the Prairie flourish How many months are you to teach have you called on Mrs Morton Does old Gile Upton preach. I think his sermons would be entertaining. What was done up there the first did you have a bender It was a dull day here there was no whiskey in the brigad it was the most lonesome day I have spent in the service but let her go what is a mans life worth without liberty if we are to fail in crushing this rebellion I care no to survive the disgrace for I shall consider the title of American soldier no honor. time alone can decid the fate of our country let us hope for the best and be prepaired for the worst but it is bedtime and I will close I have been acting orderly for the past 2 weeks our other Seargents are all sick I have not been on the sick list since we were before Yorktown last spring

Pleas write as often as convenient

Yours truly

J W Walker R W Walker

(4)

Lt Lt Lee John Kennon
is in the 16th Miss
Cadet Gates Williams also
Lt Oakwater is in the 28th
Louisiana

C. H. Walker

(1)

Camp Church
Camp near Whitoak

Dear Brother

Your letter came to hand yesterday and was read with interest. My health is good as ever the health of the regiment is good since that we have been Church Brock Pickard Thomas John Kupel have come from the convalescent camp at Alexandria. Your letter is the Frank and Byard are here and all there are as his friends

There is no prospect of another attack on Fredericksburg at present. They occupy a very strong position, and as our first attemp was a complete failure we must wait possibly to turn up though I don't think that is the best policy

(2)

Our last paper gave account of hard fighting in the west but Rosecrans is hard to beat and I have no fears but he will clean old Bragg out

It seems you are engaged at your old business again. How do the young Misses of the Prairie flourish How many months are you to teach have you called on Mrs Morton Does old Gile preach? Gile Upton Preach. I think his sermons would be entertaining What was done yesterday the first day you had a leader It was a dull day here there was no whisky in the origal it was the most lonesome day I have spent in the service but let her go what is a mans life worth without liberty if we are to be in crushing this rebellion I care not to survive the disgrace for I shall consider the life of American soldier no honor. time alone can decid the fate of our country let us hope for the best and be prepared for the worst but it is bedtime and I will close I have been acting orderly for the past 2 weeks our Sutler Sergeants are all sick I have not been on the sick list since we were befor Yorktown last spring

Pleas write as often as convenient

Yours truly

J H Walker

(3)

K P Wagner

Copy

Camp near Chicago
Camp near Hillsboro
Dec 28th 1862

Dear Brother

Your letter came to hand yesterday and was read with interest. My health is good, as are the health of the Regiment, so good that we have left the Hillsboro Rebel Regiment behind, Johnny Reb's Regiment from the Confederacy, and camp at Alexandria. This letter is from Frank and Ross are well as are all the rest of us.

There is no prospect of another attack on Fredericksburg at present. They occupy a very strong position, and as our first attempt was a complete failure we must wait for some time to turn up through Pelham's that is the best hope.

(2)

Our last papers gave account of hard fighting in the west but Rosencrans is hard to beat and I have no fears but he will clean old Bragg out

It seems you are engaged at your old business again. How do the young Misses of the Prairie flourish How many months are you to teach have you called on Mrs Thurston Does old ~~Pitchfork~~ Gil. Upton teach. I think his sermons would be entertaining What was done upon the 1st did you have a tender 22 was a bad day here there was no whisky in the organ It was the most tiresome day I have spent in the service but let her go what is a man's life worth without liberty if we are to yield in crushing this rebellion I care not to survive the disgrace for I shall consider the life of American soldier no honor. Time alone can decide the fate of our country let us hope for the best and be prepared for the worst but it is darkness and I write close I have been acting orders for the past 2 weeks our Lieutenants are all sick I have not been on the sick list since we were before Yorktown last spring.

Please write as often as convenient

Yours truly

J Walker

R. P. Walker

note: from Reese

Brandy Station Va.
Feb. 22nd, 1864

Dear Mother

Your kind letter came to hand after a short delay and as I am a lesuire I will try to write a few lines. though I have but little to write that will be entertaining.

I was sorry indeed to hear of the death of Grand Mother for I had hoped she would have lived untill I got home but as devine providence has willed--------other wise we must not murmer at his decree. It must have been quite a consulation to you to be near her in her last hour. I trust and hope that she is better off. Your have my heart felt sympathy. It must indeed seem lonely to you

I have concluded not to reinlist at present I think I will serve out my time and think if I am inclined I can go again James Young has gone home he has reinlisted I guess he is the only Plover boy that has or that will at present perhaps it does not speak very well for the patriotism of the plover boys but I feel for my part that if others had done as well as the Plover boys this war would have been really wiped out. We undoubtly will have a hard campaign in the spring but let it come I guess I can stand it. we had some sport last week one of the men at Rappahannock run to the rear he was court marshaled and found guilty he was sentenced to have his (head) shaved to be branded with the letter C on his right hand and drumed out of camp to the tune of the rouges March. thats the way to serve cowards

Brother Frank is not as well as he was before his last sickness but is gaining I read a letter from cousin Oliver Towle

they were well. Aunt Mary Ann wrote me a good long letter a few days since. I read one also from cuz Ellen Walker folks all well. Uncle Hirams widow lives in Addison I do not know Ems husbands name. Marions husband was very sick at Elvira he had enlisted but they were afraid he would never be any better his disease was the Inflamitory Rheumatism. Newton wrote that his parents were vary feeble also that his health was not very good. Mother we have got a chaplain and also a vary good chapel. it is built of logs he is a Unitarian and seems to be a vary good man. I hope we shall all be benefited by him there was a very good discourse delivered by a Vermont chaplain at the dedication of our log church. It was quite a treat for a lone soldier. I will write to Susan in a few says I hope this will find you in good health and all the rest of the family hopeing to hear from you again vary soon I remain

your affectionate son

Reese W. Walker

to his mother
Gratia K. Walker

P.S. I fear you will find this a vary uninteresting letter but I will try and so better next time.

Brandy Station Va
Feb 22nd 1864

Dear Mother

Your kind letter came to hand after a short delay and as I am at leisure I will try to write a few lines. though I have but little to write that will be entertaining.

I was sorry indeed to hear of the death of Grand Mother for I had hoped she would have lived until I got home but as divine providence has willed — otherwise we must not murmer at his decree. It must have been quite a consolation to you to be near her in her last hours. I trust and hope she is better off. you have my heartfelt sympathy. it must indeed seem lonely. to you

to a lone soldier. I will write to Susan in a few days I hope this will find you in good health and all the rest of the family hoping to hear from you again very soon I remain

Your affectionate son

Reese W. Walker

To his Mother
Martha H Walker

PS I fear you will find this a very uninteresting letter but I will try and do better next time

I have concluded (2) not to reenlist
at present I think I will
serve out my time and then
if I am inclined I can go again
James Young has gone home he has
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perhaps it does not speak very well
for the patriotism of the Plover boys
but I feel for my part that if they
had done as well as the Plover boys
this war would have been nearly
wiped out. We undoubtedly will
have a hard campaign in the spring
but let it come I guess I can stand
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(3)

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Olive Tuesday they were well. Aunt Mary
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since. I recd one also from cuz Ellen Walker
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husbands name. Marions husband
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family hoping to hear from you
again very soon I remain
your affectionate son

Reese W. Walker

to his Mother
Geetha H Walker

P.S. I fear you will find this a very
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(4)

COPY
(1)

Brandy Station Va
Feb 22nd 1864

Dear Mother

Your kind letter came
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his decree. It must have been quite
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(3)

Brother Frank is not as well as he was before his last sickness but is gaining I rec'd a letter from cousin Olive Towle they were well. Aunt Mary Ann wrote me a good long letter a few days since. I rec'd one also from cos Ellen Walker folks all well. Uncle Hiams widow lives in Addison I do not know Emo husbands name. Marions husband was very sick at Elmira he had enlisted but they were afraid he would never be any better his disease was the Inflamitory Rheumatism Newton wrote that his parents were very feeble also that his health was not very good. Mother we have got a chaplain and also a very good chapel. it is built of logs he is a Unitarian and seems to be a very good man. I hope we shall all be benefited by him there was a very good discourse delivered by a Vermont Chaplain at the dedication of our log church It was quite a treat

Note: from Frank

Camp near Brandy Station
March 5th 1864

Dear Mother and Sister

Today is rather lowery and it is not verry pleasant outdoors I will employ it replying to your letter which I read last night. We are in the enjoyment of tolerable good health and have just got rested after being out on an expedition of 5 days duration. the march was some what fatigueing but we have no reason to complain. The cavalry that went out with us went as far as Charlottesville which is beyond Gordonsville they captured 50 prisioners, 300 horses, burned 5 large grist mills and brought in quite a number of contrabands.

Mr. Lamereaux was up to visit us last week was in good spirits and intended to start for home soon. he spoke of trying to get me detailed in his place or some other equally good. I think it is doubtful wether it can be dome and if it should. I might not fill the bill our old col. Cobb and N S McDoe staid with our colonel last night McDoe called round to see us fellows from Portage co. I supose he will want our votes and he thinks us worth noticeing.

I got a letter from Ada last night for once she did not complain of my not writing often enough and I will try and not give her nor any of the rest of you cause to complain here after

I did not have the diptheria verry severly as I commenced doctoring as soon as the first symptoms made their apearance.

I was over to the 7th and saw Capt Warner and his company they were will. Fred showed me the picture of his bride. I am glad th hear the you Mother are visiting and taking some time to yourself and hope you will continue to do so. I wish that Sylvanus could attend school more regular he diserves to if any boy does. Is Idahoe fever raging in our part of the country. Reese and some of the other Plover boys are discussing the matter and think some of going there when they get our of the service. I do not favor the prospect much. still I may change my mind. The time allowed for the old soldiers to veteranize themselves is past it may be extended but it matters not to me. I shall not reinlist. 200 men have went in from our regt. for another 3 years. We got the box that you were so kind as to send us all right. it was quite a surprise as well as a treat for we were not expecting it. Reese read several letters from Bath last night. one was from Aunt Mary Ann. she said that sister Mary was over to see her not long since. O. Towle has been home on a leave of absence. he has got the appointment as Assistant Paymaster in the Navy. pay $2,000 a year. As the sheet is nearly full I will close for this time. Excuse all mistakes Write soon

Love to all

Frank R. Walker

(1)

Camp Near Brandy Station
March 5th/1864

Dear Mother & Sister

To day is rather lowery & it is not very pleasant out door I will employ it replying to your letters which I read last night, We are in the enjoyment of tolerable good health & have just got rested after being out on an expedition of 5 days duration the march was somewhat fatigueing but we have no reason to complain, The cavalry that went out with us went as far as Charlottesville which is beyond Gordonsville they captured 50 prisoners 300 horses burned 5 large grist

(4)

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Frank R Walker

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(1)

Camp near Brandy Station
March 5th/1864

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I got a letter from Ida last night for once she did not complain of

my not writing often enough I will try & not give her nor any the rest of you cause to complain hereafter

I did not have the diphtheria very severly as I commenced doctoring as soon as the first symptoms made their appearance, I was over to the 7th & saw Capt. Warner & his company they were well, Fred showed me the picture of his bride. I am glad to hear that you mother are visiting & taking some time to yourself & hope you will continue to do so. I wish that Sylvanus Boyd attend school more Regular he diserves to if any boy does, Is the Idaho fever raging in our part of the country, Reese & some of the other Plover boys are discussing the matter & think

Camp near Brandy Station Va
March 20, 1864

Brother James

Your welcone letter was recd a few days since & as I am at leisure I will reply though I have but little news to write we are all well and are having fime wether at present. I am willing to remain where we are until july next. I was glad to learn that Plover had filled her quota for the last call. I recd. a letter from brother Bill a few days since stating he had sold his farm & that he should start west next month he did not write what he got. I hope he will not be disappointed in the country. he thought he should not buy this spring has the Dacota fever abated any but as you always write short letters I will adopt the same rule Give my love to all & write soon your Brother

RWWalker

Camp near Brandy Station Va.
March 20th 1864

Brother James

Your welcome letter was recd a few days since & as I am at liberty I will reply though I have but little news to write. We are all well and are having fine weather at present. There is no prospect of moving at present. I am willing to remain where we are until July next. I was glad to learn that Flower had filled his quota for the last call. I recd a letter from brother Bill a few days since stating he had sold his farm & that he should start west next month he did not write what he got. I hope he will not be disappointed in the country. He thought he should not buy this spring has the Dacota fever abated any. But as you always write short letters I will adopt the same rule give my love to all & write soon your Brother

R W Wally

Camp near Brandy Station Va
March 20th 1864

Brother James

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C W Wells

Camp near Brandy Station Va
March 29th 1864

Brother James

Your letter was recd. last night I was glad to hear of your being in good healthe but sorry that you are to have a draft But do not feel desposed to reenlist to save you from it if you were subject to the draft I would willingly go in your stead as you are not I shall not reenlist at present I have sent one man to our town his name is Lee he starts to day I hope you will see that he gets his formty for he is a good soldier as regards the commissions I doubt vary much about being forwarded. I think it no great object Wages are vary high here in the army civilians get from 25 to 75 dollars per month I amy conclude to stop down here untill fall. you are laying out considerable labor on that plantation of mine do you think you will ever get your money back.

The reorganization of the army is going on. I expect we will have a hard campaign this spring & hope we may be sucess but I am not sanquine if I get out alive I shall be glad still it will matter but little I judge by your letter that we have not reenlisted perhaps it was our duty but as I have seldom done that you scarsely wonder that I did not reenlist

I think the proper way to fill our armies is to draft and I am not in favor of large bounties.. with love to all I am vary respectfully

Your Brother
Reese Walker

Write soon & often & excuse this dull letter for it is a cold rainy day and we are all on the blue list to day will undoubtedly feel better soon

Reese

(1)

Camp near Brandy Station Va
March 29th 1864

Brother James

Your letter was rec'd last night I was glad to hear of your being in good health but ~~sorry~~ that you are to have a draft but doesn't feel disposed to reenlist to save you from it if you were subject to the draft I would willingly go in your stead as you are not I shall not reenlist at present I have sent one man to our town his name is Lee he starts to day I hope you will see that he gets his bounty for he is a good soldier as regards the commissions I doubt very much about any being forwarded I think it no great object

(2)

Wages are very high here in the army civilians get from 25 to 75 dollars per month I may conclude to stop down here until fall. you are laying out considerable labor on that plantation & mine do you think you will ever get your money back.

The reorganization of the army is going on. I expect we will have a hard campaign this spring & hope we may be successful but I am not sanguine if I get out alive I shall be glad still it will matter but little I judge by your letter that you think rather strange that we have not reenlisted perhaps it was our duty but as I have seldom done that you will scarcely wonder that I did not reenlist

(3)

I think the proper way to fill our armies is to draft and I am not in favor of large bounties. With love to all I am very respectfully

Your Brother

Rene W. Walker

Write soon & ~~often~~ excuse this dull letter for it is a cold rainy day and we are all on the Blue List to day will undoubtedly feel better soon

Rene

Copy

(1)

Camp near Brandy Station Va
March 29th 1864

Brother James

Your letter was rec'd last night I was glad to hear of your being in good health but sorry that you are to have a draft but do not feel disposed to reenlist to save you from it if you were subject to the draft I would willingly go in your stead as you are not I shall not reenlist at present I have sent one man to our town his name is Lee he starts to day I hope you will see that he gets his bounty for he is a good soldier as regards the commissions I doubt very much about any being forwarded I think it no great object

(2)

wages are very high here in the army civilians get from 25 to 75 dollars per month I may conclude to stop down here until fall. you are laying out considerable labor on that plantation of mine do you think you will ever get your money back

The reorganization of the army is going on. I expect we will have a hard campaign this Spring & hope we may be successful but I am not sanguine if I get out alive I shall be glad tho' it will matter but little I judge by your letter that you think rather strange that we have not reenlisted perhaps it was our duty but as I have seldom done that you will scarcely wonder that I did not reenlist

(3)

I think the proper way to fill our army is to draft and I am not in favor of large bounties. With love to all I am Lazy respectfully

Your Brother

Rene W. Walker

Write soon & excuse this dull letter for it is a cold rainy day and we are all on the Blue List to day will undoubtedly feel better soon

Reis

note: from Reese

Camp near Brandy Station Va.
April 9 1864

Dear Mother

Your welcome letter was duly read and read with great interest. I suppose the spring campaign will soon open. We have orders to pack up all of our extra bagage and send it to the rear. should the wether continue as it has been for the past 15 days we will not be able to move untill May. it has rained or snowed nearly all of the time for 3 weeks past. you must not borrow any trouble about us we will not probably see more than one battle before our time expires I think no thought of being killed. we have faced the storm of lead to often to be disturbed by the expectation of a battle there is something about a fight that is really facinating the wild excitment deafning roar of artillery and musketry a person almost perfeers it to the inactivity of camp life. as for General Grants leading us on to Richmond I have but little faith. I think he will find his hands full if he attempts to take Richmond by this rout. still we must hope for the best. We have been trying so long to get there and have met with such poor success that I have but little faith in any one. God Grant that we may be more sucessful in futur

Our Chaplain preaches every sabbath and holds prayer meetings. still each week he is a working man has dome more than all the others we have had. he has started a lyceum Spelling school, the Union league and also distributes

quite an amount of reading matter. He does not possess a great amount of talent still he does the best he knows I think. As regards my morals I presume they have not improved greatly. it would be strange if they had for we are surrounded by many Temptations. brother Frank is on piquit today it is a vary wet and disagreeable time for him but his health is pretty good he will not mind it much. Dear mother I suppose you will have the pleasure of seeing sister Mary in a short time. I hope they will not be disappointed with the country. Still I fear they will not find it as they expect. perhaps we had all better emigrate farther west. There is some talk of our regt being mustered out the tenth of May. all those that did not reinlist still I have not much hopes of it if it should be the case it would nake almost a year difference with us. as I have no news to write I will close hopeing this may find you in good health and spirits. I remain your affectionate son.

Gratia K Walker Reese W.Walker

My love to all Pleas write soon

(1)

Camp near Brandy Station Va
April 9th 1864

Dear Mother

Your welcome letter was duly rec'd and read with great interest. I suppose the spring campaign will soon open. We have orders to pack up all of our extra baggage and send it to the rear. Should the weather continue as it has been for the past 15 days we will not be able to move until May. It has rained nearly all of the time for 8 weeks past you must not borrow any trouble about us we will not probably see more than one battle before our time expires I think nothing of being killed

(4)

Dear Mother I suppose you will have the pleasure of seeing Sister Mary in a short time I hope they will not be disappointed with the country. Still I fear they will not find it as they expect perhaps we had all better emigrate farther west There is some talk of our regt being mustered out the tenth of May all those hardships venture still I have not much hopes of it if it should be the case it would make almost a year difference with us. as I have no news to write I will close hoping this may find you in good health & spirits I remain your affectionate

Your Son Reese W. Walker

Reese W. Walker

My love to all

Please write soon

(2)

We have faced the storm of lead so often to be disturbed by the expectation of a battle there is something about it that is really fascinating the wild excitement & deafening roar of artillery & musketry a person almost prefers it to the inactivity of camp life. As for general Grants leading us on to Richmond I have but little faith & think he will find his hands full if he attempts to take Richmond by this route. Still we must hope for the best. We have been trying so long to get there and have met with such poor success that I have but little faith in any one. God grant that we may be more

(3)

successful in future.

Our Chaplain preaches every Sabbath & holds prayer meetings twice each week he is a working man has done more than all the others we have had. he has started a lyceum spelling school the Union League & also distributed quite an amount of reading matter. he does not possess a great amount of talent still he does the best he knows I think. as regards my morals I presume they have not improved greatly it would be strange if they had for we are surrounded by many temptations. brother Frank is on picquet to day it is a very wet & disagreeable time for him but his health is pretty good he will not mind it much

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April 9th 1864

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(3)

Camp near Brandy Station Va. Apr 17th (1864)

Brother James

Your kind letter was recd last night & as I am unengaged I will reply. We are enjoying good health. & are in as good spirits as usual. the wether is rather dubious roads are in bad condition so that we will not be likely to move for some days. I was pleased to learn that you have your quota filled. Plover has done well during this war. hope she will not have to furnish more men but who can tell It seems that the rebs are going in on the blackflag policy you have undoubtedly seen the account of the masacree of fort Pillow it will tend to arouse the slumbering fires in the boosoms of the Norther men & I vairily hope that retatiatory measures will be enforced I say for one let us give them the black flag to their hearts content. Were that policy adopted those Southern brutes of boasted chivalry would soon yeald & the leadrs would fly from the wrath to come. God help those who come in my way for I will end their career in a twinkling we must have a more vigarous policy. I have some hopes Grant may acomplish something time can alone tell. but it looks rather discourageing when men can talk their treason in the halls of congress but enough of this strain

Sad joke on Bachelder a craft that has carried such sale should not founder on a shoal of a couple thousand. perhaps he will be obliged to greas and slide out as he did a few years since or play checkers with his nose through the grates of the blue Eagle

James Young returned a few days since in good health he gave us a history of affairs in Plover it was a sad catastrophy the upsetting the cart and the IMMERSION of the fair maidens to the --- extrene depth I wonder if a sigh is caped them like it seems that Lute was as sensible as ever faint away & save her self a great deal of trouble or to not realize what was going on. I am sorry to learn that she is not married for I was in hopes she would get Campbell & have a good home. I am glad to hear that your grain looks well hope no frost will trouble you this year. is there a going to be any sale for property in Portage Co this year or is the country good enough to spend the remainder of our days in if the hell born Rebs let me alone I shall be ther between this and next fall with love to all I remain your brother

Reese W.W

Jas WWalker

(1)

Camp near Sandy
Station Va Apr 17th

Brother James

Your kind letter was rec'd last night & as I am disengaged I will reply. We are enjoying good health & are in good spirits as usual. The weather is rather dubious roads are in bad condition so that we will not be likely to move for some days. I was pleased to learn that you have your quota filled. Blowce has done well during this war. hope she will not have to furnish more men but who can tell. I seem that the rebs are going in on the black flag policy

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Alex B. M

Jas H Walker

(2)

you have undoubtedly seen the account of the massacre of Fort Pillow it will tend to arouse the slumbering fires in the bosoms of the North men & I sincerely hope that retaliatory measures will be enforced I say for one let us give them the black flag to their heart content. Were that policy — adopted those Southern brutes & foaster chivalry would soon yield & the leaders would fly from the wrath to come. God help those who come in my way for I will end their career in a twinkling but must have a more vigorous policy. I have some hopes — Grant may accomplish something time can alone tell. but it looks rather discouraging when men can talk their treason in

(3)

the halls of congress but enough of this strain

Sad news from Rochester. A craft that has carried such sail should not founder on a shoal of a couple thousand. perhaps he will be obliged to grease and slide out as he did a few years since or play checkers with his nose thru the gates of the blue Eagle

James Young returned a few days since in good health he gave us a history of affairs in Flower it was a sad catastrophy the upsetting the cast adrift the immersion of the fair maidens to the extreme depth I wonder if sigh so dear then life it seems that fate was

Copy

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Camp near Sandy
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(2)

Sensible as ever & faint-hearted. Save her self a great deal of trouble, or to not realize what was going on. I am sorry to learn that she is not married for I was in hopes she would get Campbell & have a good home. I am glad ~~to hear the grass is coming so fine~~ Well hope no frost will trouble you this year. is there a going to be any sale for property in Portage co this year or is the country good enough to spend the remainder of our days in. If the hell born Rebs let me alone I shall be thru between this and ~~next fall~~ with love to all I remain your brother

Calvin P.M.

Jas W Walker

(2)

You have undoubtedly seen the account of the massacre at Colfax it will tend to rouse the slumbering fires in the bosoms of the Patriots men & I daily hope that retaliatory measures will be enforced I say for one let us give them the black flag & then have no content. Were that policy — adopted those Southern Brutes of boasted chivalry would soon yield & the leaders would fly from the wrath to come. God help those who come in my way for I will end this career in a tumbling or must have a more vigorous policy. I have some hopes — Grant may accomplish something time can alone tell. but it looks rather discouraging when men can talk their treason in

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Camp near Brandy Station
May 3rd 1864

Brother James

Your favor was duly reced. & as we are to march in the morning & I amy not have another opertunity for some days (I will improve tho) the wether is favorable & the roads in good condition I wish I had more faith in old Mead. a few more days will develop his ability. I anticipate a hard campaign. but we are accustomed to it & I am prepared for the worst so let it come. the boys are in good health. but not as the papers would infer spoiling for a fight

I was disappointed vary much in the failure of general Banks. I think he is a tru & loyal man but I fear he lack ability as a military chief. Still I do not know but his subordinate officers may be at fault they were schooled under McClellan especially Franklin & Stone Ithink but little of either. but it is easy to critacise and we should be careful not to judge hastily. But hurrah for the comeing fights my watchword is fort Pillow I think I could not concienceously spare one of the chivalrous brutes of the South. Were I in power the south should have the black Flag to their hearts content I hope Grant will either feed out his whole army to the Rebs or capture & despense Lee & his whole command. a short time will reveal much let us hope & pray hopeing to hear soom from you and with much love to my dear Mother and all of the family. I remain your affectionate brother good night

Reese W. Walker

Brother James WW
Pleas write often

(1)

Camp near Brandy Station
May 8th 1864

Brother James

Your favor was duly recd & as we are to march in the morning & I may not have another opportunity for some days. I will improve the time. the weather is favorable & the roads in good condition I wish I had more faith in old Mead. A few more days will develop his ability. I anticipate a hard campaign but we are accustomed to it & I am prepaied for the worst so let it come. the boys are in good health but not as the paper would infer spoiling

for a fight. (2)

I was disappointed very much in the failure of general Banks. I think he is a true & loyal man but I fear he lacks ability as a military chief. Still I do not know but his subordinate officers may be at fault they were schooled under Mc Clellan especially Franklin & Stone I think but little of either. but it is easy to criticise and we should be careful not to judge hastily! But hurah for the coming fight my watchword is fort Pillow I think I could not consciously spare one of the chivalrous brutes of the South. were I in power the south should have the black flag (3) to their hearts content I hope Grant will either feed out his whole army to the rebs or capture & dispose of his whole command. A short time will reveal much let us hope & pray hoping to hear soon from you and with much love to my dear mother and all of the family I remain your affectionate brother - good night

Rese G. Walker

Brother James W.P.

Please write often

(1)

Copy

Camp near Brandy Station
May 8th 1864.

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(3)

Yours W. Walker

Brother James W.P.

Please write often

note: from Frank - death of Reese May 5th (1864)
suspect it was in the wilderness Campaign

Dear Mother

I have the most heart-rendering news to communicate, but overwhelming as it has been to me and will be for you it must be told.

My Dear Brother Reese your noblest and bravest son was shot dead while urging and cheering his comrades on on the 5th of this month. He was buried near where he fell by rough but noble and kind hearted men. The fatal shot struck his neck and severed the juglar vein. he spoke not a word. his suffering was short. I trust his soul is at rest. May god give you all strength to bear up in this sad hour is my prayer. H Curran was wounded but I believe not seriously. S. Glover has a dangerous flesh would. James Young was wounded in the neck. I think he will soon recover. Chas Packard was wounded in the breast. I did not see him but I believe his wound is not dangerous.

We have had the greatest battle of modern times it is not yet decided. We have taken 20 pieces of artillery/, and 8 or 10 thousand prisioners. But still the result is doubtful. It has been raging 9 days. I have been in none of it being detailed to guard the trains I can write no more at present . May god bless and sustain you is the prayer of your son

Frank

/. Spotsylvania

(1)

Dear Mother

I have the most heartrending news to communicate, but overwhelming as it

[illegible]

yet it must be told. My dear Brother Reese your noblest bravest son was shot dead while encouraging his comrades on the 6th of this month. He was buried near where he fell by rough but noble & kind [illegible]. The fatal shot struck his neck & severed the jugular & in he spoke not a word. His suffering was short. & O how his soul is at rest. May God give you all strength to

(2)

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ded we have taken 20
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7 days, I have been in
more of it being detailed
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(3)

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prayer of your son
Frank

(1)

COPY

Dear Mother

I have the most heartrending news to communicate but overwhelming as it is to me it must be told you. Our dear Brother Reese your noblest bravest son was shot dead while urging his comrades on the 6th of this month. He was buried near where he fell by rough but noble hands. The rebels were in force. They had shot struck his weather-eyed the jugular vein he spoke not a word. His suffering was short & I trust his soul is at rest. May God give you all strength to

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Frank

Lincoln General Hospital
Washington City
June 25th / 64

Friend James

Yours of the 19th just reached me. and as I have news that will relieve your suspese I will make no delay in answering. I received a letter from Charlie Dinsmore date June 21st. He said that Frank was at the Regt. a few days before a short time. to see the boys, he is still with the train & will remain there until his time expires. I think it was a very lucky detail for Frank as the Co. suffered more than any in the Reg. And Rese being killed the first day would have made him rash & he probably would have been numbered with the killed or wounded. It would have been a great consolation if Frank could have been present at his burial or visited his grave. But it was impossible for him to get there on account of being detailed away two or three miles he would have to procure a pass from the Provost Martial to get to the Reg. there being a Patroll & strong guard arresting ever soldier found out of his place. & that would be impossible at that particular time. I have Peses pocket knife a white cotton hankerchief and nine rounds of cartidges. That Joe Pierson took out of his Box after he fell. Pierson was mortally wounded shortly after & came to the Hospital where I was & I got them from him, He belonged to our Co. He has gone to his long home, only lived two or three days. Charlie Dinsmore is detailed as Brigade Head Ins as clerk. O.T.Packard is in Philla. the same hospital that Rese was at last summer, he is getting along finely. Mer Anson is the only one in the ranks at the present time of the Plover squad. Tell his family that he was safe & well on the 21st. The Regt. at that time where in reserve, within sight of the stepples of Peterbroug. & are confident of taking the place ere long. Steuart Glover when L left Fredericksburg thought he would recover. This campaign has cost berg many lives & the much wished for decisive victory had not yet been gained. Patience & perserverance accomplishes every thing & it only remains for us to trust in God & fight on until this unhappy rebellion is put down. I dont think I will do any more fighting durning this enlistment. But I intend to cast one vote for Abe for President. If he is reelected it will dishearten rebels more than a great victory. I will close this letter. try & bear your loss. Dont give way to despondency. the time is short only 17 days. Give my regards to all your folks & inquering friends & believe me your friend

Henry Curran

(1)

Lincoln General Hospital
Washington City
June 25th/64.

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(4)

Ere long, Stuart Glover when I left Fredericksburg thought he would recover, his leg was not amputated at that time, This Campaign has cost very many lives & the much wished for decisive victory has not yet been gained, Patience & perseverance accomplishes every thing & it only remains for us to trust in God & fight on until this unhappy rebellion is put down. I dont think I will do any more fighting during this enlistment. But I intend to cast one vote for Abe, for President. If he is reelected it will dishearten rebels more than a ~~the~~ great victory. I will close this letter, ~~that you~~ hoping try & bear your lot, dont give way to despondency, the time is short only 17 days. Give my regards to all your folks & enquiring friends & believe me your friend

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(3)

and nine rounds of ~~cotton~~ cartridges, That Jos. Pierson took out of his Box after he fell, Pierson was mortally wounded shortly after & came to the Hospital where I was, & I got them from him, He belongs to our Co" He has gone to his long home, only lived two or three days, Charlie Dinsmore is detailed at Brigade Head Qrs. as clerk, O.T. Packard is in Phila. the same Hospital that Rese was at last summer, he is getting along finely, Mr Anom is the only one in the ranks at the present time of the Plover Squad. Tell his family that he was safe & well on the 21st", The Regt. at that time where in reserve, within sight of the steeples of Petersburg & are confident of taking the place

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Washington City
June 25th/64.

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note: from Chs. M. Dunsmore

Camp about four miles South West of Petersburg V July 3rd. 1864.

Friend Walker

Your letter of June 19 was very thankfully recieved and I was in no small degree surprised on recieving it to find that information was wanted of Franks whereabouts. and more so that he had not written home before. it may be that he has good reasons for not writing. I suppose you are aware that it is very difficult some times to procure the materials for writing at least I have found it so sometimes. Perhaps this is the case with Frank. more over he seems an entire different being since the death of Reese and maybe his feelings are such that he does not wish to do much of anything. I have seen him several times lately and have had long season of conversations with him, one in regard to the war and the loss of so many brave Boys. In this he remarked that the death of his brother was a deep loss to him but he did not know as he had any reason to complain as thousands of parents have lost their sons during this terrible Rebellion and I should have written to you immediately after the "battle if I had had the opportunity but the army was making quick movement that time, and we had to move night and day. Consequently as Curran was slightly wounded made it right with him to write home to you ?

There is nothing worthy of note transpiring here now excepting continuing squirmishing along the whole line but no general engagements. There is now no advance movements to be made by this army for a few days on account of the extreme warm meather. Thermometer ranging from 90 to 110 in shade Perhaps you do not

call that warm and besides it is very dusty.

Great confidence is had of Gen Grant now in this army and I am confident he will succeed to be sure he has a great work before him, but he is the General that can do it. He has now cut every RR that runs into Richmond both North and South and they have soon got to fight or climb.

The army is now being fed well by the aid of the Sanitary Comission who are doing a good work in this army now in forwarding extras such as Potatoes Onions Lemons and all kinds of Canned fruit. as my allotted time for writing has nearly expired I shall have to close this miserable scribbling. Hoping that I may meet you in less than three weeks and then we will have a good old shake of the hand.

Yours most respectfully

Chas M. Dunsmore

Co. E 5th Wis Vols
Washingtom D.C.

James W Walker

(1)

Camp about four miles Southwest
of Petersburg Va July 31st 1864

Friend Walker

Your letter of June
19th was very thankfully received
and I was in no small degree
surprised on receiving it to find
that information was wanted of
Franks whereabouts. and more so
that he had not written home
before. ~~They~~ It may be that he has good reasons
for not writing. I suppose you are
aware that it is very difficult
sometimes to procure the materials
for writing at least I have found
it so sometimes. Perhaps this is the
case with Frank. Moreover he feels

(4)

The army is now being fed
well by the aid of the Sanitary
Commission who are doing a good
work in this army now in
forwarding efforts such as Potatoes
Onions Lemons and all kinds
of canned fruit &c As my allotted time
for writing has nearly expired I shall
have to close this miserable scribbling
Hoping that I may meet you in less
than three weeks and then we will
have a good old shake of the hand

Yours most Respectfully
Chas H Dimmick
Co "E" 8th Mich Vols
Washington D C

James R Walker

an entire different being since the death of Reece and may be his feelings are such that he does not wish to do much of anything. I have seen him several times lately, and have had long season of conversations with him, one in regard to the war, - and the loss of so many brave Boys. On this he remarked that the death of his brother was a deep loss to him, but he did not know as he had any reason to complain as thousands of parents had lost their sons during this terrible Rebellion. I should have written to you immediately after the battle if I had had the opportunity but the army was making quick movements that time, and we had to move night and day. Consequently as Cameron was slightly wounded made it right

with him to write home to you.

There is nothing worthy of note transpiring here now excepting continual skirmishing along the whole line - but no general engagements. There is now no advancing movements to be made by this army ~~now~~ for a few days on account of the extreme warm weather. Thermometer ranging from 90° to 110° in shade perhaps you do not call that warm, and besides it is very dusty

Great confidence is had of Gen Grant now in this army and I am confident he will succeed to be sure he has got a great work before him, but he is the General that can do it. He has now cut every R R ~~R~~ that runs into Richmond both North and South. and they have soon got to fight or climb

(1)

Copy

Camp about four miles Southwest
of Petersburg Va July 3d 1864

Friend Walker

Your letter of June
19th was very thankfully received
and I was in no small degree
surprised on receiving it to find
that information was wanted of
Franks whereabouts and more so
that he had not written home
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Chas H Dynamond
Co "E" 5th Mis Vols
Washington D C

James R Walker "

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note: from cousin C. S. Warren

Camp 12th Wis Infty
Atlanta, Ga.
Plover Sept 14th (1864)
Portage Co.

Cousin Frank

As I have been writing today I thought I would write you a few lines We have at last taken the "Gate City" of the south and sent the Johnnies some where else to fortify, and make another stand, where it will be is more than I can say probably it will be at Macon We have had one of the gayest companys of the war. Since the 5th of May we have had a squirmish or fight most every day, but Old Sherman beat them at every point. We will probably stay here untill the fall campaign and I think if we get another whack at the Rebs we will scoop out the army in the west. Luke Warren is in the 102nd N.Y. they are camped some four miles from here, and I have seen him once also John Sutherland Geo. Saroges. There is lots of Bath boys in the 20th corps Jim Gould was in the 102nd. he was killed on the 20th of July.

There is some prospect of pay but I dont know what good it will do as you can buy nothing here . give my respects to all of your folks Truly Yours

C.S. Warren

co. G 12th Wis Vet Infty
3rd Div 1st Brig 17th A.C.

Cam

(1)

Camp 19th Wis Infty
Atlanta Ga
Sept 14th

Flora
Portage Co

Cousin Frank

As I have been writing to day I thought I would write you a few lines. We have at last taken the "Gate City" of the South and sent the Johnnies somewhere else to fortify, and make another stand, where it will be is more than I can say probably it will be at Macon. We have had one of the gayest Campaigns of the war, since the fifth of May we have had a Skirmish or fight most every day, but Old Sherman beat them

at every point. We will
Probably stay here until the
fall campaign, and I think
if we get another check at
the Rebs we will scoop
out the army in the West
Lieut Warren is in the 102d N.Y.
they are camped some four miles
from here. I have seen him once
also John Sutherland & Geo Sawyer
Kem is late of Beth Pry in
the 20th Corps Jim Gorell
was in the 102d he was killed
at on the 20th of July

There is
some prospect of Pay but I
dont know what good it will do
as you can buy nothing here
give my respects to all of
your folks Family Yours

C. S. Warren
Co G 102d
Pris Vet Infty
3d Div 1st Brig 1st Corps

Copy

Camp 12th Wis Infty
Atlanta Ga
Sept 14th

Home
Portage Co

Cousin Frank

As I have been writing to day I thought I would write you a few lines. We have at last taken the "Gate City" of the South and sent the Johnnies somewhere else to fortify, and make another stand, where it will be is more than I can say probably it will be at Macon. We have had one of the largest Campaigns of the war, since the fifth of May we have had a skirmish or fight most every day, but Old Sherman beat them

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the 20th Corps Jim Connell
was in the 102d he was killed
at on the 21st of July

There is
some prospect of Pay but I
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us as you can buy nothing here
give my respects to all of
your folks Truly Yours

C. S. Warren
Co G 12th
Pris Oct 27th
3d Div 1st Brig 1st Corps

Washington D.C. Oct 13, 1864

To James Walker I will improve the present opertunity to wright a few lines to you to let you know that I am well and Enjoying my self first rate- H Willard is well Capt Bremer has ben quite sick with the plureycy- but he is all Right Now- alle of the Boys is well- and seme to enjoy themselves well- we started from Washington the 7-after dark. we Expect to leve Every minit- it Everadges about 100 a Day of Deserter from Richmon that come in heer thay all say that they are wipt and cant hold out much longer. thay say that Jeff Davis and all the prnciple men have gone south and that all think crant grant will take Richmon in a fue Days.

the State Elections of Ohio & Indiana & Pensylvania make the boys feele well- the all think if Lincon is Elected the war will End soone.

alle thes Deserters say that and if Mclenon is elected they Expect to game thare Indipendiance. thate hanges all thare hopes James-

I want you to take good care of almon and if thare is Any Extra to pay I will pay and make some inqurers about the other two boys let almon go and see them ofton- wright all about them- give my Respects to all Enquiren frends - and wright ofton Direct to John Eggleston Co. F 5 wis volunteers, Washington D.C. and thay will follow as ware Ever er go- I wish you would send lots of tickits to us - all of the Right kind - union all over from

John Eggleston

Washington D. C. Oct. 13. 1864

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thare hanges allso thare hopes
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care of Almon and if thare
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about the other two boys let Almon
go and see them ofton wright all
about them I got 330 Dollars
local Bounty give my Respects
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wright ofton Direct to
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and thay will follow us ware
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of the Right Kind union
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Copy

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all over from John Eggleston

Lance Herdegen

From: Becky Steffes [bsteffes@cscexchange.cc.edu]
Sent: Friday, June 29, 2001 9:30 AM
To: 'herdegen@cc.edu'
Cc: Sharon Vipond (E-mail)
Subject: homepage

You now must go to marian.cc.edu/library/civil_war_institute/home
page/home
page.htm

svipond book1 or bsteffes book

Dixies Land

Composed by D. D. Emmett

I wish I was in de land of cotton
Cinnamon Seed & Sandy bottom
Chorus. Look away - Look away away Dixie
In Dixies Land where I was born in
Early on one frosty morning
Chorus Look away - Look away - away Dixie Land
Chorus Den I wish I was in Dixie
Hooray - Hooray
In Dixies Land will took our Stand
To lib and die in Dixie
Away - away away down South in Dixie (Repeat
Old missus Mary Wile de weaber
William was a gay deceiber
Look away &c.
~~Chorus~~ When he put his arms around her
He looked as fierce as a forty pounder
Look away &c
Chorus Den I wish I was in Dixie. &c.
His face was sharp as a butchers Cleaver
But that did not seem to grieve her
Look away &c.
Will ran away missus took a decline ah
Her face was the color of de bacon & hine ah
Look away &c
Den I wish I was in Dixie &c.

While Missus lived she bibbed in Caber
When she died she died all over
Look away &c.
How could she act such a foolish part
As to marry a man dat would break her heart
Look away &c.
Chorus Den I wish I was in Dixie &c.
Here's a health to the next old Missus
And all de galls dat wants to kiss us
Look away &c
Now if you want to drive away sorrow
Come and hear this song to morrow
Look away &c
Chorus Den I wish I was in Dixie &c.
Sugar in de gourd and Stony batter
De whites grow fat and de niggas grow fatter
Look away &c
Den hoe it down and Scratch your grabble
To Dixies land I'm bound to trabble
Look away &c.
Den I wish I was in Dixie &c.

John Browns soul is marching on

John Brown's body lies mouldering in the grave
John Browns body &c &c
~~John Browns body &c &c &c~~
His soul is marching on

Chorus

Glory Glory Hallelujah! Glory Glory Hallelujah
Glory Glory Hallelujah. His Soul is marching on

He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord
He's gone to be a soldier in the army of the Lord
He's gone to be &c
His soul is marching on
Glory Glory Hallelujah! Glory Glory Hallelujah!
Glory Glory Hallelujah! His soul is marching on!

John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back
John Brown's knapsack is strapped upon his back
John Brown's &c
His soul is marching on
Glory Glory Hallelujah &c &c

His pet lambs will meet him on the way
He's [illegible] will meet him in the sky
[illegible]

Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!

They will hang Jeff. Davis to a palmetto tree

They will hang Jeff. Davis to a palmetto tree

They will do it As they march along, Glory, &c.

Now three rousing cheers for the Union

Now three rousing cheers for the Union

Now three rousing cheers for the Union

So we are marching on! Glory, Glory, Hallelujah!