

Camp Clear Creek Aug. the 9th/62

Dear parents

I seat my Self to let you know that I am in Extra good health at present and I hope you all enjoy good health. I have not Received letter from Either you or ame for Some 3 weeks and I would like to know the Reason for the other Boys gets letters every mail that was maild at Kimbalton I think if there was letters put in for abe or I we would get them. But I Suppose you all have forgot us. The reason I write today is that we are going to Start on a march about day after tomorrow and it may Be Some time Before I would have an oppertunity of writing. we are going Still further South how much further I dont know. Abe, E.R. Johnson, S. Dugan, John Furney is well. This is the hottest day I ever felt you know nothing about hot weather thats so. tell W-- and linder to have sence enough to keep out of the army never Come South any how.

I have 30 Dollars in my pocket and the first Chance i get I will Send it home. But I will keep it till I can See the other End of the hole or what the Boys Call Pay Day. I will send ame 5 Dollars the first one goes home, and Some Body is going Soon to Recruit.

if you write Direct to Corinth miss. 80 OVM in Care of Capt Anderson.

tell ame to write and let me all about how She is geting along Down there and take good care of the Children and I want you to See that they have plenty to Eat and ware. I will come home as Soon as I can.

Write Soon

John M. Furney  
Soloman Furney

Camp Forest Hill-15 Miles East of Memphis tenn Feby 3 1863

Dear Parents & wife

I write again to let you know that I am a great ale Better than I was though I Cant Speak out loud yet. the Dr Put a

Big fly blister on my Breast and it is very Sore yet. I got the Skin-rubbed off is what made it worse, I think I'll Soon Be all Right. Abe has gone to Memphis to get Some paper he says. But there is a little Rebel Girl 2 or 3 miles Below here. I think he Could Be found there, we just got the news that old Vandorn is Close here with a large force. if he Comes we will just halloo Corinth. I think that is all thats necessary - we will Soon get our pay then Abe & I will Send our Money home. we Can Send about \$150 this time. Abe was at Memphis went on a hand Car So we will have Plenty of Paper now - tell me how Cousin John's arm is. Did he loose it. tell Harrison Gibson to Stay at home and Raise Provisions for us. he can do more good there than here. Cap has got back and looks well. he tells me he Saw all the Kimbalton folks, he said John it would have Done you good to see how Shy them Rebels up there were When I was around. Ame I want you to use my money to get anything you Stand in need of thats what its for. we have had Some very Cold weather here for this Country the Snow has Been 3 or 10 inches Deep. the Citizens Say it was the yanks fetched the Snow. I find Some as good Union Men here as is any Place. they point out the Rebs to us, so we know where to forage. You know Some of the Guernsey Boys are good at that any how. well I had nothing to write when I commenced But to let you Know that I am getting Better So Ill Close hoping to hear from you soon.

John M. Furney

Paducah Ky May the 20th /02

this was the day we intended to leave for our Regt But the Doctor is Sick and it raining So I expect we will not go perhaps for some time. yet there is 18 of us here. 8 will go to the Regt. I am one of them thank goodness for I am tired of this place. they that are able to go will Be put in the general hospital. the news is here that they Commenced fighting at Corinth yesterday. our Company and two others are left at the River to load and unload Boats, So I will not have fur to go to the Company. I have not heard from Abe But once for the mail Does not Come Down the River nor will not till after the fight. it will be one month day after tomorrow Since I got a letter from home and I did not Bargen for that But I expect the letters goes on to the Regt. I rote ame a letter last Saturday I Sent my over Coat and

two Blankets to new cornerstown By express. they are in a Small Box directed to you. I want you to lift them immediately and pay the freight which is not more 150 cts they will Be at the Depot. tell ame I will write to her Soon. tell her to take good Care of the Children. write Soon.

John M. Furney to Sol

(Written on back of the letter)

Direct as Before and the letters will follow the Regt. when we go up the River I will tell you all about every thing. it is 250 miles to where we are going Direct South from here. Excuse my Scribling for this was rote in less than 2 minutes.

In the Rear of Vicksburg  
June the 6th AD 1863

Respected Parents and wife

I have an hour of leasure time, in which I Shall occupy in writing to you, in the first Place Abe & I are injoying the Best of health and we hope you are all the Same. I got two letters yesterday, one from you and one from ame. I was awful glad to hear of ame getting well for I had Been Putting in an uneasy time Since I first heard of her being Sick. But I hope this may find you all in good health. well now I will try and give you Some Idea of our travels and progress since the 1st of may, on that victorius Day (to us) our Division Crossed the miss. our Regt Crossed on the gunboat Crandolett. while on the boat we heard heavy cannonading in the Direction of Port gibson. in a Short time after we heard heavy volies of musketry which told us the work had commenced. By this time we was across the River and took up our line of march for the Scene of action. But luckily for us, logan had whipped them and was Preparing to Persue when we Came up, our looss 400, Rebel loss killed wounded and Prisoners 1000 about 600 Prisoners. we followed the enemy 11 Days Skirmishing every Day, takeing many Prisoners. So on the 11 Day we found him 4 miles from a town called Raymond, Prepared to fight as they had Been Reinforced heavily their number Being about 18,000. So in turn, logan opened the Ball again and fought them about 4 hours when they Proved too many for him, So our Division was Called on. now we Could hear on the Right left and Center the Commands forming in line of Battle. less than 15 minutes the whole Division was Pressing on the enemy with all

the fury of a victorious army, when he Broke and fled in great haste and Disorder at the Sight at-the-Sight of our heavy Collums. So we marched 4 miles in line of Battle to town, the enemy Retreating towards jackson, our loss in killed wounded and prisoners 300 Enemy 200 killed 350 wounded and 400 prisoners. from here we marched for Clinton a little town on the Railroad 10 miles west of Jackson. here we Expected to find them again as we had no Idea of Reaching the Railroad at this point without oposition. But had no trouble in takeing posetion of the Road here. next morning we Started for Jackson moveing very Slow and Careful till within 3 miles of town. now our Brigade was in front of the Division. our Brigade at this time was Composed of the 80th OVI 10th mo 17 Ioa So we formed the first line of Battle Each one apparently Eager to try their luck on the victorious Georgeans under Joe Johnson. But we Didnot wait long for that time for after a Short But Severe artillery Duel at a Distance of  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile we was ordert to Charge. now the Rebels was in Solid line of Battle 300 yds in front awaiting for us to The fatal Distance where they expected to Bow us Down. now O God to hear us Rase the yell at the Same time Pour a volley in there Ranks which the Earth (----) the Bullets are hissing around us fearfully from the Rebels lines which is not more than 40 yds Distance. But the Closer we got the harder we fired till at length the Butternuts Showed us there Backs Close at the Points of the Bayonets. now it comes their turn to tumble Down for we Poured a Continued fire in their Retreating Ranks for Some 15 minutes when we was no longer able to follow Being intirly give out. Our Regt lost 52 Killed & wounded. our Company, John McNatt killed, John Cook wounded, tom Stewart Badly wounded, John (---) wounded. Now Comes the nice time, See us marching victoriously in line of Battle up to there works that they had just left without firing a Shot from them and also into the Capitol of there State. they left everything Behind. in fact 250 of the Rear guard Stade with us as they could not help it. now our little Brigade Stacked arms and went in on everything. the Bursting of the Doors was like a little ingagement and in a few minutes the army was Suplied with Provisions tobacco Clothing and any amount of Confederate money. this was a very Rich City, Population about 40,000. So for our Bravery we have been kept from the field till now (giveing fresh troops a Chance to try there hands) But we have Been on Details ever since guarding Prisoners. we took 6000 to memphis tenn. I will tell the Balance in my next letter leaveing off at Jackson also Something about our present place Direct to Vicksburg. give my Best wishes to all. I must go to Supper she is waiting.

Your Son John M Furney

Ruhama write often      Care of the Children

## Rear of Vicksburg

June th 7 /63

as I Didnot finish my letter yesterday I Shall Proseed this morning, I left off at Jackson, we left Jackson next morning after the Battle for Vicksburg though we was Detaild as Rear guards of the whole army we Reached Clinton where we first Struck the Railroad about 3 oclock where we lay till next morning when we heard the Ball open at Champion Hill. By this time we was on the march for the Sene of action (I speak of our Regt alone as the Brigade was in front). By 2 oclock we was within 3 miles of the field when we had to stop as the train Dare not go Closter for fear of a flanking movement By the Rebels. about 8 p.m. the awful Roar of Battle Seased and Soon now we Didnot know what to look for, Either our men Retreating or the Enemy, and our men Persuing, in a Short time we See (while eagerly gazeing in front) an orderly comeing in haste that told the Day was ours also to bring up the train. in  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hours our whole train was on the field the enemy Retreating to Big Black River and our men following, we Staid here 2 or 3 Days Burying the Dead or overSeeing the work, Rather when we was orderd to take the prisoners in charge. our loss, 1,200. 300 killed 600 wounded and near 300 missing and prisoners. Enemys loss 500 killed 1000 wounded 4000 prisoners. Well now for Big Black, here they are fortified at the Railroad Bridge our men Charged on the works killing 250 wounding a Corresponding number Besides 3000 prisoners. our loss about 150 in killed and wounded about 30 killed. the Balance of our Confederate friends are makeing for there Den, Vicksburg where we have them completely Surrounded. well now it falls on our Regt to take 6000 prisoners to memphis which we did, and Delivered them to other troops, and I hear Since they was taken to Cleveland ohio, on the 30th of may we Started for vicksburg again and landed at Chickasaw Bayou on the 3rd of june we marched from there and joined our Brigade in the front and center 2 miles in the Rear of town and are north of the Railroad. we lay about 600 yds from the Rebels works under protection of a high Steep Bluff. Shells are Exploding in all Directions. we Can Bring 100 Cannon to Bare on there works from this point and 1000 on the hole line. There has 10,000 Shells Been thrown in to there works in  $\frac{1}{2}$  hour. this makes a Bigger noise than Bill Sheeleys whole family. our Sharp Shooters are Busy at work from there Pits. they keep the Batteries on the forts nearly Silenced, yesterday one of the Rebels hallowed, ho yankee got Plenty to eat Down there yet (?) Come over, will Come to night, and did. I must Stop and write to ame. Write Soon. Wm Peoples is With us and perfectly well Oliver atherton is here also. the last letter I got from home was the 25th of may. I am Still well Abe too.

John M. Furney