Camp of the 11th N.B
Battery, Fort Wheaton
January 15th
1865

Dear mother

I received your very kind letter of the 8th in due season and was happy to hear from you.

"The stamps and money you put in it arrived all safe."

I was sorry to learn that my dear mother was unwell I hope that ere this reaches you that she will have regained her health, you will please let me know how she is getting along in your next letter."

You need not send

me a box at present — I expect they will ~~pay~~ pay the soldiers off in the course of next week and then I will send some Some money so that you will have something to pay expenses — If ~~we~~ we are not paid off within the next week I presume we will not be paid untill the middle of March

We fare much better heer than ~~we~~ I did on Hart Island — We draw potatoes coldfish, mackerel, Beans, Onions, Posk, fresh-feef — desicated vegetables and ~~va~~ various other things. We have Soft Bread about half of the time and the rest of the time we have hard tack — Posk and hard tack is about the best part of a soldiers

living — We ~~take~~ have first rate posk as a general thing — We take that ~~the~~ and fry it and then take the ~~grease~~ grease and fry hard tack in it — After the hard tack is fryed we put it in cold water and let it stand for a a few minutes we then take it out and it is ready ~~for~~ for eating ~~it making~~ It makes first living — Before I left home I thought that hard tack was the ~~worst~~ worst thing that a soldier got to live on I have found myself entirely mistaken — A Couple of my tent mates received boxes last night and I can assure you that we had a big feast — We divide with each other — What one has we all have — I ~~do~~ not wish to tent any better ~~yourself~~ men than those that I am

living with at present
There is not much news to write
at present. You asked me if
I had to do picket duty ~~do~~ I do
not. All that I have to do is to
help guard the caissons and teams
I have to stand guard one day
out of a week. I have it very
easy and take much more
comfort than I expected to
when I left home. If I
have it as easy the rest of my
time as I have had it for the
past five months I cannot
complain. It is very warm
and pleasant here at present
I have just come in from ~~a~~
Sunday morning inspection
As I have nothing more to
write I will close hoping to
hear from you soon.
Give respects to all inquiring
friends and direct as before

You Son
Geo. L. Barringer