

Barringer

Camp of the 11<sup>th</sup> NR  
Battery,, Fort Wheaton  
January 15<sup>th</sup>  
1865

Dear mother,

I received your very kind letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> 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 grandmother 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 ~~be paid pay of~~ pay the sold-irs  
off in the course of next week and then I will send home Some money so that you will have everethingto  
pay expenses -If ~~A we~~ we are not paid off within the next week I presume we will not be paid until the  
middle of march

We fare much better heer than ~~we~~ I did on art Island-We draw potatoes codfish, mackerel, ,  
Beans, onions, Pork,, fresh feef-Desicated vegetables and ~~v~~ various other things,, We have Soft Bread  
about half of the time and the rest of the time we have hard tack-Pork and hard tack is about the best  
part of a soldiers living-We have firstrate pork as a general thing -We take that ~~the~~ and fry it and  
then take the ~~greese~~ 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 ~~f~~ for eating ~~it~~ makingIt 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 my self entirely mistaken,, -A Couple of my tent mates received boxes last night and I  
can assure you that one had a big feast,, We \_\_\_\_\_ with each other-What one has we all have-I do not  
wish to lend any better ~~^y~~ yy ~~men~~ than those that living with at present-There is not much news  
to write at present,, You asked me if I had to do picket duty ~~I~~ I do not-All that I have to do is to help  
guard the caisons and \_\_\_\_\_ I have to stand guard one day one of a week,, I have it very easy and take  
much more comfort then I expected to when I left home-If I have it as easy as 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 \_\_\_\_\_ 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

Your son

Geo D. Barringer