New Lem Oh Will Co

Illinois Camp of 11th N.Y. Inft

Battery March 25th 62

Dear Mother

Upon this warm and pleasant Spring morning when all nature glows with ~~warm~~ warm Coolings and ~~beauty~~ beauty I am comfortably seated within our little cabin trying to write you a few lines to let you know how I am getting along. It rained very hard during yesterday but it has cleared off and is very pleasant to day. We have had ~~had~~ having some very warm weather during the past two weeks. It is nearly as warm here now it is in the month of June in Ohio Co.

Last Sunday this brigade was reviewed by Maj General Humphreys. We are expecting that there will

be another grand review with us in a few days. I visited the 15th Reg't last Sunday and saw Lieut Geo. Manchester. He was making preparations for to go out on review. He seemed to be enjoying very good health. I had an introduction to Capt. Holden of Co. K. He said that Alonzo Wellman belonged to his company but I did not see him. I presume that I should not know him if I should see him. There is but very few men in the regiment that I was acquainted with.

I see by the Sunday morning that there has been a heavy snow storm up in the state of N.Y. You will please let me know some of the particulars concerning it when you write to me again.

You would be surprised if you knew how much sport

the soldiers have well while in camp— We have several in the battery who can play upon the violin — and also two violins — We have a very smooth & nice park in front of our tents — The boys congregate upon this ground when there are bright and pleasant evenings and have a dance — We have several different kinds of musical instrument with in the battery — such as the Concertena — Accordian — Flute &c. — We have first rate times while in camp — But I suppose we shall see rather rougher times when the campaign commences — It is rumored that the sutlers are to be allowed to come back to the army but I can hardly believe it — I presume the fact the army will not lie still much longer if the weather continues

fair and the rebels have a good deal
good water." It is expected that
there will be a grand review of
the Second corps this afternoon &
to-morrow. Our battery will not
go out but will be used to hold the
position of two or three batteries along
line. About a half a mile
from here the lines of the two armies
are so near together that the pickets
can hear & converse with each
other. The rebels seem to be very
much disheartened and large num-
bers of deserters come into
our lines every night. When one
takes a close observation of the national affairs
it is plain to be seen that peace is near
at hand. A few more decisive battles
I feel sure must prove that this unnatural
rebellion is a failure. Not having
more to write I will close hoping I
may hear from you soon. Give my
respects to all enquiring friends and
write all of the news. There is nothing in
the army that seems to be good as to have
plenty of news from home.

Your friend Son

Geo. D. Swinger

71st N.J. Sep. Battery

Washington D.C.

it to your own use — You must use it as you in the way you think it will do you the most good — Last thursday our corps was out on review — Our battery was left to hold the line while the rest went out on review — But I got the liberty to go and see it — It was a review I Gen Meade Warren Humphrey Bartlett Griffin and several others — I had a good view of all these generals — I had also a good view of the troops for they all had to pass by where I stood — It took the line about two hours to pass by — there are about thirty thousand men in this corps — Say

Yesterday seven of aboard day night we were disturbed by hearing heavy

encamped in the direction of Petersburg. And while we were speculating as to what might be the cause of it an orderly came riding into camp in great haste — and we then received orders to get packed up immediately be ready to move at moments notice — We had scarcely got ready when we heard a volley of musketry along our front line — Skirmishing was kept up all day — During the day troops were marched forward and a battle line of battle were formed in front of our battery This line was moved forward through a small piece of woods which lies in front of our battery — part of our lines layed out in an open field — there in the field had to lay down with our guns

the rebels charged upon our
troops about four o'clock and
then charged upon our centre
line of battle. When the enemy
with [illegible] few rods of our line
the men rose upon their feet and
poured volley after volley into
the ranks of the enimies — again
and again they attacked our line
but were every time repulsed with
heavy loss. From four o'clock
until after dark our troops held the
same line and moved in neither direction
when they attacked the rebels
and drove them in to their works
our officers said the warning of wounded
[illegible] Our battery threw a few
rounds of shell over a piece of
woods into their lines — There was but
very little artillery used on account
of so much woods — We captured
six hundred prisoners in front of
this corps — They looked rugged and
care worn — some were bare foot one
of our boys gave one of the prisoner a pair
of boots — and the prisoners said that
such a pair would be worth seventy
dollars. I hear that they have been
the sixth and ninth corps. [illegible]
[illegible] incorrectly received all of the mail
[illegible] receive it's — I have lost my
[illegible] and all of my postage stamps
[illegible] letter. You will please send me
a dozen — and some stamps also
and [illegible] a few steel pens — the gold
[illegible] is good enough for me
It is hard to [illegible] anything we want
Yours &c [illegible]

Camp of the 11th
N.Y. 2nd Battery
March 26th 1862

Your very kind
and welcome letter of the
17th was received last eve-
ning — and I was very glad
to hear from you and to
learn that you are all enjoy-
ing good health — You stated
that you had not received
any letter from last week —
There has just been as week
in some time but I have set
the least calculation written two
letters home Weeks before
last wrote every day — You ask-
ed me what you should do with
the money I sent you — I
decided that you should apply