

## Seth Hill Collection Transcribed Letters

### Unknown Date:

\_\_\_\_DYHEHill\_Brother (only 1/2 a letter?) - also from 2 people

to wright to us whare (where) is fread (Fred) now and John to (too) i hope they will all git (get) home saft (safe) and sound

well i have just got home from the buringround (burying ground) whare (where) uor (our) little boy was barred (buried) it is anice (a nice) place up thair (there) but a lonson (lonesome?) place to me Hill is to Bachester (?) to day and wont come home till to morrow night it is a long day a Sunday then he ant to have pleas wright (write) soon to us and wee (we) remain your sister + Brother D..Y..H..E.. Hill

good by for this time

\_\_\_\_JohnKnickerbocker\_Seth

Saratoga Springs NY

Uncle Seth grandma is at our house + She is not Comeing (coming) home till Friday

From John Knickerbocker

\_\_\_\_NettieLatham\_Seth

To the women of our Country

To matron and maiden to children and all,  
 The country is pleading give heed to the call;  
 Our sons and our brothers be scattered around,  
 Like leaves by the tempest on the stern battle ground;  
 Each breeze as it passes now bear (?) onto breath (?)  
 A missive to loud (?) ner (?) of sorrow and death  
 At the collopour (?) country they join in the strife;  
 They sacrifice home and they sacrifice life.  
 Can one fold up our hands and calmly anymore  
 When the crimson tile floor from brother from son?  
 Will their groom and their tears poll by amheededy (?)  
 When they fight for our cause for our country che (?) ?

Has (?) fashion and pang a charm for thee now;  
 When battle dark real is stamped on the brow  
 Of thy suffering country whose banner still woser (?)  
 Where valiant ones sleep and unknown are their grave?  
 The syren (siren?) or pleasure before thee may rise,  
 To charm thee with song or to dazzle thine eye

But the country in tears more eloquent still,  
 Will rush to thy view and the broad vision fill.  
 Go when evening dark shade has gathered around,  
 In dreams child of wealth from they soft couch of down  
 To swamps and drear plains where the brave soldiers be,  
 With naught to protect them but the cold starry sky;

In prisons lone all (?) – they are long nights there  
 For the comforts of life – for kindness and care  
 For the sunlight home which around them once shone,  
 Sweet words of affection – a mothers fond tone.  
 For thy mission, O, woman, to sooth and to heal  
 The grief and the pangs that thy country may feel.

[Illegible line]

The mists and dark cloudy thefore (?) hovering cloudy (?):  
 Thou canst not take arms and join in the fight  
 Ye “what thy hand finds though canst do with the might.”  
 Though much thou has done there is much still to do;  
 Fresh wounds and sad hearts are yet waiting for you

Seth Hill [upside down]

Brave ones in death fallen! The din and the scar (?)  
 Of cannon will wake them to battle no more;  
 By mountain and valley where ‘ire they may sleep,  
 The angels above their bed will keep.  
 Then work, women wash while the conflict shall last  
 Till the dark angry storm from our country has past!

Set thy soul often rise on the sure wings of prayers  
 For god to protect those who now struggle there;  
 “God is our trust,” let our watch word still be;  
 With faith hail the triumph of sweet liberty,  
 When the foe shall be vanquished and victory won  
 And peace o’er our land shall beam forth as the sun

Written by  
 Miss Nettie.. H.. Latham

To Her Uncle Seth Hill  
153 Regiment Company H

[scribbled on back of page]

Blanket 1  
Drawers 1  
Pants 1  
Socks 2  
Shirt 1  
Shelter 1  
Blows

\_\_\_\_**SallyAnn\_Seth**

Saratoga Springs  
Suy the 8 (?)

Seth we ar (are) all well  
Mother will be home Saturday Night if nothing happens  
Boath (both) of your shirt buroms ar (are) cotten (cotton)

Sally Ann Knick

\_\_\_\_**StuartEarley\_MrsHill**

Mrs Hill

Will you please make Seth remember to bring with him in the morning, his Military  
Sash + (?) oblige

Yours Rispy  
S. Earley

\_\_\_\_**Oscar\_Seth (first version of the other letter from Oscar, he addressed this one incorrectly, but evidently it still got to Seth)**

Feeder Dam

Friend Seth

I did not received your letter untill (until) Saturday last about Sawing I have asked the Bosses if they wanted more hand they say when the commend (?) it saw nights that they will give you a chance if you are hired I tried to git (get) you a chance on our mill when it firsted (first) started but he said there wer (were) so many of his old hands coming back that he should have more than he should want at first they will start nights in 2 or 3 weeks he told John to be here if he can if not to come next

day Seth you come over with him and I should not wonder if you could git (get) a chance for heardely (hardly) ever do they all come on when the mill starts and if you are here if there a vacancy you will be here on hand at least it will not hurt you to come over I suppose you want to git (get) to work now I shall expect to see you and John here next Sunday or before if you should get this letter if John is not at home you see him so he he will be here Sarah sends her respects to your Mother  
Oscar

     **Seth\_Sally**

Also Our Lt G H Hodges Right Fore Finger Amputated He is a brave boy as Well as our Capt He is in comand (command) of our regt our Col is in comand (command) of the brigad (brigade) and our Lt Col wounded in the Arm we lost in kill and Wounded about 70 I aught Not Rite Home as long as I am in the Servis (Service) for i have Writen (Written) 5 or 6 letters Since i left the Hospital at Fredrick Citty (City) + i have received None From Home i have got one From Hellen I know it is bat (?) For you to write but i had Rather Pay Some buddy a good Price to write For you i think you like to Hear from you and i am as Anxious to hear how you get along as you are to hear how i am well Enough Enough of that but Something Els (Else) Now i See that Flower (flour?) is down Now shant it best For you too lay in a good Suply (Supply) while it is down i think it is best thing you can do

Well Dear Mother I took breakfast With E J Hill he came Out without a scratch i have not Seen C C Hill Since the battle but i hear he is all right We all three lay within a mile of one another i saw him the day before the fight he was Same better and he was Short of money and i lent him have a dollar

I am also short but i can get along Verry (very) well as long as i am well I Think We will get Paid Some time or rather and the longer we have to wait the more we will get when it does Come if you can Send Ward to J King Folks tell them J King is all rite Charley Masher was wounded in the arm so i hear from one of the 77 regt boys Well I Have got a ring that i took off Charles Thorntons Finger after he was shot and i am afraid that i will loose it So i will Put it in This letter and you can Send word to his wife and have her come and get it for it is all that I could Find about His person to send and She would like to get it I am shure (sure) and see that she gets it

Well Dear Mother Do Rite and let me Know how you get along + How things is a Prospering I will Close by biding (bidding) you good by

Seth Hill

To His Mother

Rite Soon

     **Seth\_Sally\_a (\*\*\*\*\*date must be from when the Regiment was in Louisiana, probably at the start of the war)**

Nay (May?)

Well it is most dress Parade time So I will have to Stop I Said the otherday (other day) that thear (there) was Seventy five thousand troops agoing (a going) with us but to day I heard thear (there) was Ninty (Ninety) thousand agoing (a going) So you can see we will have quite A force I Shall have t bring this to a close my coat and Pants Is to Mr Thomas O Riars (?) at Capitol Hill my Pants and coat has got Stripes on So if anything happens you will know how to write for them they are new no more at Present only rite soon and Direct to New Orleans L A This is from your Son S Hill

Florida Western Lousany (Louisiana?)

## Unknown Years:

\_\_7\_2\_Jate\_Seth (\*\*\*\*seems to be around the time that Seth first enlisted)  
 \*\*\*\*\*RESCAN 3<sup>rd</sup> PAGE – CUT OFF

July th. 2

My Dear friend

I now seat myself to answer your ever welcome letter which I received last week and should have answer it before this time but I have been real sick and have not felt able to write but I thought I could not wait any longer I am a good deal better to day so I have been over to your mother and wrote some for her but I was so tired that I could not write much I am to Charley Lathams again this week but I dont (don't) think I shall stay long unless I feel a good deal better than I do now your mother is not verry (very) well but I hope she will be better soon oh Seth I cant hardly give up that you have gone to far away I was in hopes you would be home by the fourth but that cant be now for the fourth comes next Tuesday and that is most here but perhaps it will not be long before you will be here a free man once more as Jack says John Harris is home again once more he expects to be musterd (mustered) out this week I am in hopes you will not have to stay your time out yet but I suppose you cant tell any thing about it all we can do is to hope for the best it cant be long at the longest (?) and then you can all come home to stay once more I had a letter from Marion last week he was at Petersburg again doing duty there he haves (has) to move around about as often as you do he says his Regiment has gone to be Musterd (mustered) out and they are put in with the 10 Heavy Artillery he thinks he shall be 21 years old before he gets back home again Mrs Rowley is expecting Jim home this new for week with a Dixie Lady it seems (\*\*\*\*RESCAN THIRD PAGE\*\*\*\*)

If you do you must say so and I will wait a little longer before I write again what do you do with all of my letters I want you should burn them all up wont you and then they will be gone so no one can see them you will wont you Seth when I write again I will tell you all about the time to Johns I wish you was here to go but I suppose you will have to wait until another fourth comes before you can go I guess I have writen (written) all the news and all you will want to read unless it is better I want you should write as often as you can for we are anxious to hear from you Jennie (?) and Beal sends their best respects to you and Jen wants to know if you live here now or

only stay she says she only stays here write as soon as you get this and write all the news good by from Jate to Seth Hill

### \_\_1\_16\_JosephGRowland\_Seth

Jan 16<sup>th</sup>

Friend Seth

I received your leter (letter) in due time and was glad to hear from you and was glad to hear that you was well I am well and hope these few lines will find you the same It has fell about Seven intches (inches) of snow last Saturday and it began to rain Tuesday and has rained ever since dud (?) the water is knee deep so they and much Stur (?) Mr Carpenter is agoing (a going) to hav (have) a vendar (vender?) to morrow I dont (don't) know wethe (wether) he will put Annie (?) up for sail or not if he does I think Fred will hav (have) to bid on her we locked them up in the school house to night and she was mader (madder) than hops (?) at us but I guess She will get over it if She dont I dont care I am going to school every day I am enjoying myself verry (very) much Henry Seatt comes to school every day now he went to the dance New Years they had 76 Couple they had A good dance I guess you will be glad when I finish my letter for I dont believe you can read it It will be an all days Job for you you must blame the pen and not blame me you said you was agoing to marry one of the girls down thair (there) I dont know what Jane will do if you dont marry her B has took Mary home with him to live Is Charles Meritt agoing (a going) to be sent home I want you to right (write) and tell me how you like to be a soldier and how you Stand if is it warm down whare (where) you be Mr rowling has had a leter (letter) from James and he says that he and John Holsaple has nothing to do nothing to do but to cook for the captain so I gues (guess) they aint of much use Joseph G Rowland I guess I hav (have) wrote all of th (the) news I cant think of any thing mor (more) now you must write as son (soon) as you get this leter (letter) if you Dont I shant write again you must excuse all bad spelling and mistakes I must clos (close) by bidding you Good by I send my best respects to you Joseph G Row

### \_\_2\_16\_HenryBlass\_Seth

Feb 16<sup>th</sup>

Cousin (?) Seth

I thought while having a spare moment I would rite (write) you a few lines to let you know that we are all well and in hopes this will find you the same father and mother will probaly (probably) not come to see you until we get moved and then it will be nearer and then they can come enough to make it all up you must excuse them for they have not made but one or two visits this winter and that was quite the forepart of winter I presume you would like to know where we are a going this spring we are a going to live in Lathams house at the springs and board him and frank what think you can we make anything of it if they pay \$7.00 a week for their board and we rent the house for 75 dollars a year I think they can do pretty well we shall move the last

week in this month and then we shall look for your mother down to see us and you to (too) we have lots of snow here and plenty of drifts I shall go to work on a farm some where if I can find a place if not to driving team how is your hip has it got better or is it worse I will enclose my photograph for you in return for your and this is your Valentine for the 14<sup>th</sup> of this month it is one that I had taken last fall in Albany it is not a very good one but the best I could get at that time do you know of any one that wants to buy a pair of sleighs up their (there) if you do please send them here this week and we will trade with them the price will be 20 dollars they are talking of putting up a \_\_\_\_\_ (CHECK PAGE, CORNER FOLDED) saw mill here in their place and go to sawing logs the have got about 75 logs there now to saw and then galway is quite a place I have some news to tell you Lucinda has gone to the mountain with us lay (?) to spend the winter and perhaps a year he gives her 2 dollars a week and boards Cli (?) she has rented her house to davis shepherds the finisher of paper in the mill in the city the farm we are on now is about four miles from rock city in the town of galway I cannot think of any more to write this time and you must excuse this poor writing and all mistakes I remain your cousin  
Henry Blass

### \_\_3\_\_Oscar\_Seth

Teeder Dam March

Friend Seth

I did not received your letter untill (until) Saturday last About rowing I tried to git (get) you a chance when the mill first started but the Boss said that so many of his old hands wer (were) comming (coming) back that it would be all he should want untill (until) they started nights they commence saw next Monday he told John he might have a chance if he was here when the mill started you will get a chance when they start nights with out doubt you had better come with John Sunday for we commence Monday if you cant com (come) Sunday come Monday perhaps you may git (get) a chance now his old hands may not all come let John see this so he will be here I have sent one letter to you to day but I forgot to put Poters (Porters) Corners on I put Greenfield on so I think it will go to North Greenfield now come over with John you will git (get) a chance I think if not you will see the man that I spoke to and hire out to come when they start nights which will be in 2 or 3 weeks  
Oscar

### \_\_3\_30\_Helen\_Sally

Saratoga Spa May 30<sup>th</sup>

Dear Grand Mother

It is with great pleasure that I now make an attempt to write you a few lines in answer to your letter which I received Saturday evening

It found us all well as usual and hope this will find you the same

Mother went to see Col Searing this morning he says they cannot give him any information about that business at albany and he says you will have to make out

your affidavit and have it signed by two persons acquainted with you and who know the circumstances to be so and send it to the secretary (secretary) of war and he thinks there can be no doubt but what it will be granted

We got a letter from Uncle C.C. Hill a few days ago but he had not been in the battle as yet when he wrote

I also received a letter from Uncle Erastus a short time ago

If you have heard from Fred Lately when you write I wish you would ask him why in the world he does not answer my letter

I will send your Photograph but you must come and have one taken for me again no more at present

Yours XC (?)

Helen A Latham

P.S. Aunt Ann is down in the country to Mrs Knickerbockers but we saw John down street Saturday night and he said he guessed that she had hired out to a man by the name of Mr Edwards of Albany

### \_\_3\_31\_Almira\_Sally

Philadelphia

March 31th

Dear aunt and cousin I take my pen in hand to write a few lines to you to let you know that we are well at present (present) i hope you are now better i had a letter from John last saterday (Saturday) he said you had not got a letter from esther yet so i thought I would write a few lines to you aunt peggy is sick and under the doctor care four weeks but she is better now i was there last Tuesday the doctor said she was better that day than she had been any other time that he had been ther (there) the rest are well harrison is thare (there) yet and has been all winter Pim (?) is at home yet and i guess will be for a spell sanford has taken a farm with 16 cows on it i shall have to make scheese (cheese) soon we have got 25 cows that givs (gives) milk now we shall have 31 soon wing says tell aunt Sally she is a learning to knit she tells a good deal about aunt Sally i should like to see you very much i could tell you more than i can write but i must tell you one thing esther says John might of come and made me a visit if he had wanted to she said they tryed (tried) to have him come but he would not you must excuse poor writing and speling (spelling) yours truly  
Almira write soon

### \_\_5\_14\_SallyAnn\_Sally

Monday 5 o'clock P.M.

Saratoga Spa

Dear Mother and Brother

I now sit down to write you a few lines to let you know that I arived (arrived) home save (safe) and sound about noon. you may jugd (?) of my surprise when I came in Sight of home to see the cirtens (curtains) up onely (only?) think that nouy-pod (?) of niyne (?) had been home since tuesday John left this morning he did not have time to write so I promist (promised) to write for him he has gon (gone) back to the falls to work he wanted me to write so you would get it by tuesday night he wants you to write so he can get it Saturday (Saturday) he sais (says) he cant let you have any Mony (Money) until the 10 of June as that is pay day he said (says) you must and then he will let you know what he can do I hav (have) no new to write my pen is poor and John is bothering he says I must tell you he has rubed (rubbed) part of it out - no more at presant (present)

Sally Ann

**\_\_5\_22\_NettieLatham\_Seth (\*\*\*\*\*AFTER HE GOT PROMOTED TO 1<sup>st</sup> SERGT)**

Saratoga Springs May 22

My Dear Uncle

I now seat myself to answer your very kind and welcome letter which I received some time ago but I had no time before to answer it on account of my being so buisy (busy) but now I hope I will have a chance of accomplishing this ever pleasant task

As I now sit I can look from the window and see the little folks out here at play for it is recess and I am their teacher and may be I dont feel a little big oh no I guess not a bit but who cares it is no bodies business as I know of

We are all well at present and hope this may find you the same I was over to Henry Carrs yesterday I went over Saturday evening with them and they brought me home yesterday afternoon I can tell you I enjoyed myself right along I did not wait for any ceremony They have got a very nice place indeed where they are now there are three fish ponds on the farm and a trout brook a hive killyn (?) a ridge of stone and 35-9 acers (acres) of land they have 10 cows and churn by water as you see that saves a great deal of hard work they have a nice stone milk house where they can keep their milk in warm weather and do their churning there also

How I wish you were safe at home once more where we could see you once in a while and talk with you some other way beside on paper but that does very well when a person can do no better

We are haveing (having) the queerest weather up here that I ever saw now for about a week it has done nothing but blow and rain the whole time Father and Mother intended to go up to Greenfield yesterday but it was so windy that they gave it up and they are going next Sunday if nothing turns up to prevent hem and I hope there will not for we have not heard from Grandmother since she went home from here and I do not know how she is any thing about it I do not think of anything more at present only I want you to write soon I will now wish you goodbye

Remaining as ever

Yours Very Truely (Truly)

From Nettie H Latham

To 1<sup>st</sup> Sergt Seth Hill

**\_5\_27\_Jate\_Seth (\*\*\*\*Seth mentions melons in his 1865 diary)**

Aug th 27

My Dear friend

I now seat myself to answer your verry (very) welcome letter which I received Thursday evening and was verry (very) glad indeed to hear from you once more it had been a long time since I heard from you but I suppose you will say that I am the one that is to blame but I did not wait so long time this for you said you would Scold (?) if I did and you know that I would not have you do that for all the world oh Seth it is so dry and warm here to day that we do no know what to do with ourselves it is verry (very) sickly here now there is six around the Corners that are sick or have been sick with fever Charley Latham and his little boy are both verry (very) sick and Sineth (?) Allen wife and Charley Rowland wife and Mr Angell are all sick now Frank Hewitt has been sick but he is getting so he goes out some oh Seth I wish you was here this week to go to Camp meeting they are expecting to have a great time I guess I shall no go I dont think it will be much fun for me to go and next week is the fair I thought Ceertainly (Certainly) you would be here to go to that but it seems you will not I think it is to bad to keep you down there where your times are so near out and others that have not been gone half so long can come home the 16 Regiment are on their way home they have only been gone 19 months I suppose you will think that paper is scarce with me and you will think right if you do I thought I had enough but when I come to look I did not have a bit but this bit you must excuse it this time I have some

I have found some more paper so I will try and finish my letter you Brother Theodore is home he has been here over a week they are going to Saratoga this week and your brother is going with them I was over there last week your Mother was about sick Theodore has his wife and a little boy with him he is a nice little fellow I can tell you he is smart as a whip they were looking for John and his wife last night I dont know weather (whether) they came or not John it to work on a mill up to the falls he has bought him a small place since he got home oh Seth I heard yesterday that Jennie Snyder was married but I dont believe it she has left Mrs Dennings a short time ago and Mrs Prior said some thought she was married but they did not know any thing about it

Seth I guess you must have a good time eating Mellons (Melons) I wish I could have a good piece tonight I think it would taste pretty good I think I could eat Conserable (Considerable) if it was good I dont think I should care much how you got them three weeks ago tonight you was writing to me and to night I am writing to you I hope 3 weeks from to night I hope you will be here with us oh how glad I would be if you could be here I dont think I should be so lonely as I am this evening I think this has been the longest day that ever saw oh Seth I am ashamed of this letter but next time I will have some more paper so you must excuse this and I will do better next time you must write as soon as you get this and write all the news if you scold this time I shall not blame you for I don't think any body ever saw such a letter as this is write as soon as you get this good by from Jate to Seth

One kiss

**\_\_6\_17\_HenryCarr\_Seth**

June 17<sup>th</sup>

Dear Cousin Seth,

As I wrote you one letter and did not direct right I will take the Opportunity to write you a few lines I am well and in hopes this will find you the same when are you a coming home do you think that you will be home on the fourth of July it has been some time since you and I have we toy eltier (?) how is your health this Warm weather it is very warm up here I saw hellen (Helen) last sabath (Sabbath) and she told me that you wrote to her to have me answer your letter Hellen (Helen) does not think much of me because I use tobacco I spose (suppose) that you use it Fodoyan (?) you mat Hellen (Helen) and I wer (were) both at the church last sabath (Sabbath) and meeting was out she saw another young man and he went home with her do you not think that was using me rather meane (mean) Seth she says that you think more of her than you do of me write to her and ask her if it is so and so what she will say now Seth I must close by bidding you Good Bye No More At Present Write Soon And Believe Me your Cousin H Carr

Think of me when far away  
 Think of me when you stray  
 Think of me when you say  
 Think of your cousin that's  
 Wrote to day Henry Carr

**\_\_7\_6\_FrankBrennan\_MrHill (\*\*\*\*\*Change file name to Seth)**

Ballston Spa

July 6<sup>th</sup>

Mr Hill

It is a very painful duty that causes me to write to you yet it is one that my character demands I heard very strange stories when I was at home and I did my best to investigate the matter and partly succeeded I did not and could not believe that you would tell such A Base Lie until I heard that you told it and that shook My faith I could not imagine what Your object could be have I not always treated you well Yes I know that I have well then what do you mean I want an explanation I do not think that you will blame me no I know that you cannot the idea of my staying at your house with you All night no I never did and you know it not one person can accuse me of such as that with one shadow of truth in it Seth you must hold me in very Low Estimate but as i told Aunt May if you did not say it I wanted to know it but I heard that you were heard to say it Seth did you say it and what did you say it for

write and tell me will you I will find out the truth if it is not in ten Years I would have seen you when I was up thare (there) but I did not hear of it in time

Direct  
Frank Brennan  
Ballston Spa  
Sar. Co.

Care G. West NY

**\_\_7\_6\_THGaughan\_Sally**

Confidential  
116 Broadway New York  
Dear Sir:

We take the liberty of forwarding our Circular of goods offering you at the same time a valuable premium on any sales that you may make for us.

Our manufacturers and importations are the very neatest, handsomest, and most saleable of any now offered and are placed at the very lowest possible price. Upon imported goods, we pursue the only safe course in times like these and make our prices in gold or its equivalent in currency This gives the buyer a knowledge of the market at all times making him conversant with prices comparing the same with the quotations of gold, in which all imported goods are paid for together with duties and cost of transportation These facts render it peremptory that we should receive our pay in the Kind that we are obliged to give or its equivalent

The prices of any of our Watches can easily be ascertained by multiplying the price of fold by our price, thus if one of our Watches is worth \$20 in gold and gold is selling at \$200 per dollar you would multiply 20 by 200 giving the quotient of \$40, the price of the Watch in "greenback currency." The quotation of gold can be found in the monetary report of any New York, Philadelphia, Washington or any of the principal papers; or a bulletin of gold will be forwarded from this office at anytime upon application by mail or in person.

(We are particularly anxious that some capable man should introduce our Watches in your section, knowing that their merit will secure their complete success and prove initiatory to a large business. To secure this highly important aim we are willing to make you inducements more advantageous than those proposed in our Pamphlet.) We do this only with the hope that our liberality in price may be balanced in some degree by an effort on your part which will ensure the result we anticipate.

Upon every hundred dollars worth of Watches that you may sell, or cause to be sold we will give a premium of one of our very celebrated "Combination Timepieces" the price of which in gold is \$20, or with gold at 250 as it is upon the day we write the worth oat wholesale, is fifty dollars.

By a little exertion a hundred dollars worth of our goods can be sold and you pocket a handsome timepiece for your pains This premium is offered solely with the view

of having the sale of our Watches established as we know that when it is once done enormous demand must necessarily follow.

We hope that you will give our liberal proposition the consideration that we think it entitled to and commence efforts for the sale of a good bill of our articles at once.

Remember our Watches have received the most favorable notices of the Press and are all furnished in good running order and warranted in every respect, also that we have nothing in our Store but of the very latest style and of the most durable manufacture. If you are otherwise engaged and cannot accept our offer we will pay you liberally for any trade that you may bring us.

We hope to hear from you in a few days with a good order

We remain with regard

Very truly Yours

T + H Gaughan.

**\_9\_6\_Merey\_Seth (CHANGE FILE NAME TO (\_9\_6\*\*\*\*\*))**

Sept 6<sup>th</sup>

Dear friend I made up my mind to go this morning and I could not wate (wait) to see you I am going to start in a but an hour so good by

I will write when I get home

Merey Bennet

Seth Hill

**\_11\_2\_JaneHarris\_Seth**

November the 2

Dear Dear one it is aloansom (a lonesome) da (day) i wish you was here to go to prair (prayer?) meeting to the schoolhouse to night but you cannot it is til Sunda (Sunday) Muby (?) Martin funeral is to da (day) She has gone to a beter (better) world Seth I Want to see you but cannot you wanted me to send my likeness i will send it when I hear from you agan (again) this is the last weak (week) i shal Sts (?) to the Center Adhis (?) left i had a meeting (?) Carwde (?) mister Smith Has paid John miterel (?) be agoodboy (a good boy) and keepe good company shorte (short) is our life long and we rest god will take us home when he thinks beste (best) it is most Diner (Dinner) time and i must go Down mis kendel (?) wish to go home to Day lacy sed (said) she Cod (Could) not Stanit (Stand it) if She Did not Do beter (better) She Doesnot (Does not) no (know) paty (Patty) Seth Do not get to (too) Sledy (Sleepy?) on garde (guard) Dont (Don't) you think your mother wod (would) lke to see you i shod (should) i am sure What a pleasant mother you hav (have) got mother Mitchell Sent harhome (her home) Charles went is up here often henry goes to the store and has ben (been) in the bar room he wen (went) to funeral to Day with help this is all I can think of Seth rite often your friend Jane Harris Seth Hill Seth you can not read this to When I get home I shal (shall) go and se (see) your mother

Fool cloth

Lucy Jane sed (said) She wod (would) Lafter (?) me in three weakes (weeks) She  
 beter (better) not Come I wish (?) go to bed i wont Shallar (?) any more  
 Please Direct too (to) Porters Corners

### \_11\_14\_HenryandSarahCarr\_Seth

November 14<sup>th</sup>

Dear Cousin Seth

You must excuse me for not answering your letter for I never received it untill  
 (until) to day and when father handded (handed) it to me I was surprised to see a  
 letter from one that is far away from me we are now situated in the town of gohug  
 (?) on a farm called the Comstock farm we have 16 cows to take care of an it keeps  
 me all the time to see to them we have taken our milk to the cheese factory about a  
 half a mile from this place the farm consists of a 100 and 70 acers (acres) and about  
 12 acers (acres) of wood land when I heard of the death of your sister it struck me  
 like a flash of lighting (lightening) she has paid he debt of nature to her maker one  
 whom she loved and in whom she trusted for her life for he the maker of all things, I  
 have got to be fourth sergeant in the regiment in Company J the wilton company we  
 met on the second day of September for regimental drill and review and the General  
 and his staff was their (there) and we had a fine time I can tell you now Seth you  
 must excuse me this time and this short letter for mother wants to write a few lines  
 and when you are at home so that I can come and see you I will come and mak  
 (make) along (a long) visit I have cherished your aswer (answer?) and dear friend  
 and cousin to me and you will see by this that I have not forgotten you No more this  
 time I remain as ever your most insignificant long legged wide shouldered long  
 fingered cousin

No mor (more) this time

Good bye

Henry to Seth

NY

Direct to South Galway NY

the Post Office is only a few steps from us

P.S. Come and see me when you can

South Galway Friday Morning

My Dear Nephew

Henry received your letter last night and we are sorry that we could not have had it  
 the moment it came to the Office but we are 2 miles and a half from that place and  
 did not expect any news from that office and of course did not ask for any but he and  
 his father were at the store and Mr Spier handed him the letter. We are very glad to  
 hear from you and have thought of coming to your place almost every week since  
 the fair but my girl left me to get more wages and I had to do alone 4 or 5 weeks  
 before I could get another they have not made cheese at the Factory since the 17<sup>th</sup> of  
 October and we have had lots to do with so much milk churn every day and have  
 sometimes twice a day but the cows do not give so much now and I think as soon as

your Mother returns from Johns and gets rested if you will let us know we will come and visit you, do not wait for us but come the moment you can we love to think of the happy hours we have spent with you at our home and with your mother. We did not hear of Mariettes Death in 2 weeks after the funeral if we had known of it we should have been there, it was shocking to us and know of nothing in regards to her sickness, write soon and let us know how your lameness gets along and when you are coming and all - we have much to say which we will defer until we see you excuse this and remember me as your friend and aunt Sarah L. Carr  
P.S. Harvey sends his love he seldom writes a letter and wishes me to for him

### \_12\_1\_JaneHarris\_Seth

December the 1

respected friend i now take my pen in hand to let you know that i am well at present (present) and hope these few lines will find you the same morris sed (said) you most (almost?) cam (came) up and get a Drink of Cider he has got 2 Cards John Mitchell is agong (a going) to have a ball new years Clint (?) and morris is agoing (a going) i think frank Rowland and Dewit Porter had had a fight to the Springs but they Came home to gether they was like (?) they ar (are) all right now Mary harris is over here often frank harris had stole I (?) limes County money and had gon (gone) to the Springs he has got a lady there think She is not mutch (much) of a lady his wife has ben (been) down but did not Sta (Stay) long i do not know what this world is acomming (a coming) to i hav (have) not got any flowers to send to you i will send ascrap (a scrap) of my new dress fred is agoing (a going) to the ball and morris Carpenter Lucy Jane sed (said) i must com (come) back in the Spring who Do you think i saw yesterday i saw fred and morris Carpenter we bought anew (a new) roof on our shanty i hav (have) neglected writing i was awaiting (a waiting) to get the news there is not any nellis (?) Carnsede (?) is shipping his man for some place i wod like to see you and the boys again wish i was in Dixy (Dixie) ashorttime (short time?) long magt (?) to see the place will send the nulls (?) soon there is not any news in the papers if you can read this you will do Darn well rite soon from Jane Skilor (?) Jane Harris to Seth Hill

I will tell you mark harris goes to see Sarah Gose a sparking (?) what Do you think I Lucy Jane told me i will not tell for 3 cents it is nothing about me i hav (have) finish writing once and commenced again good boy a true friend

### \_12\_7\_TheWitt\_UncleAuntCousin

Philadelphia Dec the 7

Dear uncle and ant (aunt) and cosen (cousin)

I received your letter the 3 of decem with great pleasure we was glad to here (hear) from you all we was very sorrow to here (hear) that Tareasa is sick I hope that she will recover agan (again) but the lord knows best we expected to see her up hear (here) this winter father and mother is as wel (well) as can be expected the rest of them is wel (well) my helth (health) is not very good at present Lendfords famley

(family) is wel (well) and henrys (?) the last we herd (heard) from them tha (they) left hear (here) the first of august we hadent (hadn't) got threw (through) our haying then Clark Wilson and his family is wel (well) they have named their baby after its grandmother Lucinda Wilson Harriet is wel (well) she is to the settlment (settlement) yet

We mad (made) sixty hundred pounds of chese (cheese) and raised five hundred bushels of grain this year we was oferd (offered) nine cents a pound and woudent (wouldn't) take it and then the hard times com (come) on and then thear (there) wasnt (wasn't) no buyers and had to send it it meets us a little over seven cents a pound barley has ben (been) worth one dollar a bushel it is now 47 cents wheat is worth about one dollar a bushel oats to and six butter is worth 16 cents a pound i cant think of any think of every thing more we wold (would) be glad to have you write to us and tel (tell) us whare (where) ant (aunt) Elsa is write as often as soon you can so that we can here (hear) from Treasa give my love to all inquiring friends good night it is now bed time TB Hewit

The girls sends ther (their) love to you all lake (luck?) turns a round and write as often as you can we will answer all the letters we get excuse this bad writing and spelling

## 1855:

### 1855\_2\_27\_JohnMorris\_Cousin

Greenfield Feb the 27/55

Dear Cousin

I receved (received) you letter and was glad to hear from you we are all well and hope these few lines will find you the same we was glad to hear of your good luck and hope you will fare well and return Safe home we was sorry that you didnot (did not) get over to see us again It has been very pleasant for a few days but it is very cold to night all of the folks send thare respects to you and the rest of the boys Amanda sends her love And says you must be A good boy and take good care of your Self we heard to day that you was married when you was to home but we did not beleve (believe) it Frank says tell uncle Seth he wants to see him I hope this war will soon be ended so that children can return to thare (their) parents and husbands to thare (their) wives (wives) and peace reign through out our once happy land I hope we shall see you again but if we are not permetted (permitted) to meet again I hope we shall meet in heaven whare (where) sorrow never comes and ll is peace and love but it is A giting (getting) late so I will not write any more write as often as you can for we like to hear from you excuse all mistakes

Good By Yours

With Respect John F Morris

All tho we are some mills (miles) apart I wish you well with all my heart

## 1856:

**1856\_3\_23\_Erastus\_Seth**

Madison  
 March the 23th (23<sup>rd</sup>) 1856

Dear Brother

I now take my [pen] in hand to answer your letter of March the 14<sup>th</sup> which I received yesterday it found us all well and we still continue so to be and I wish you all the same blessing we have had some of the coldest weather this winter that I ever see and we have had a long tour of it to (too) it has been steady cold and it has not thawd (thawed) and any for three months and a half but for a few days past we have had verry (very) pleasent (pleasant) weather for the time of year and the prospect is now we shall have an early spring tell fred (Fred) I wish he was out here for I have got one cow and one yearling heifer and a youthe (youth?) of yearlings steers and the first of next month I am a going to get another yoak (?) cattle is verry (very) high here I am to give \$25.00 dollars for a yoak of yearlings my cow is worth forty dollars and yearlings is worth from ten to fifteen dollars if fred (Fred) was here we would have some of the times a youking (?) them up tell father and mother I would like to have them come out here this summer if they dont (don't) come to stay and if they cant come tell them to get thair (their) likeness taken and send them to me and I will pay for having them taken I am agoing (a going) to stay whare (where) I am another year for I cant do any better wages is high here and help is scarce boyle (?) says he would like to see Father (?) ground we have got his granmother (grandmother) grundeys (Grundey's?) likeness and when he see it he wants to see Father (?) ground (?) alida (?) has got so that she gets up by every thing she can come to and she can say some words quite plain but she has not got any teeth yet and she is almost eleven months old I dont now as I have any more to write this time write me another letter as soon as you get this

Wheat is worth from	1.00 to 1.12 ½ cts
Barley	1.05
Corn	.40
Oats	.40
Potatoes from	.75 to 1.00

Erastus T. Hill

**1858:****1858\_7\_6\_Maget\_Sally**

Philadelphia  
 July the 6 1858

Dear sister it is with plesure (pleasure) that i take this oppertunite (opportunity) to inform you that we got hom (home) safe we got to evens mills the sam (same) day that we started from the springs we staid (stayed) at the mills at night i found mi folks all wel (well) at present we was some tired the next day John eye begin to swel (swell) up a gin (again) Timothy went to the bay and cured lisabeth (Elizabeth?) 60 pounds of flower and 6 pounds of boutter (butter) and 1 bushel of potatoes but they cannot make us main tain (maintain) the (?) we air (?) a min to she has had 18 dollars in seven weaks (weeks) we shut (?) help her enamore (any more?) at present no more it present oneley (only?) remain your affectionate friend

Maget Hewit

## 1859:

### 1859\_12\_19\_Esther\_Sally

Philadelphia  
Dec the 19-1859

Dear aunt i now take my penn (pen) in to inform you that we our (are) all well at present and hoping these fewes (few) lines will find you enjoying the same blesing (blessing) cousin Dan came to Jefferson County the 23 august and went to st Larnce (St. Lawrence?) Co 3 of Sept and was maired (married) to Hariet Hewit Dan declaired (declared) wright (right) up an (and) down he was not goin to get maired (married) and when she came bache (back) he was not maired (married) but thay (they) went to Clark Willson to stay all knight and Clark Willson said (?) that thay slep (sleep) to gether (together) at our hous (house) Hariet feels as hehel (?) as little ciben with a little mous (mouse) be cause (because) she got dan hill it make a great the (?) hear about it hear about dan and hariet father and mother send thair (their) love to you and all the wrest (rest) of the familey (family) and we sould lihe (?) to have you come out hear (here) this fall and fred or seth and stay with us this winter Esther cant com (come) down this fall mother helth (health) is not vary (very) yol (?) at present the boys send thair (their) love to you all writ (write) to us as soon as you get get letter no more at present

Esther Hewit

## 1860:

### 1860\_4\_14\_JohnHill\_Seth

Glens Falls April the 14 1860

My dear brother

I now sit down to write you a few lines we are all well + hope these few lines will find you all the same – well brother I guess you begin to think we are all dead by this time I reasieved (received) your letter about too (two) weeks ago + was glad to hear from you + hear you was all well but you didnt (didn't) write what you was a doing this summer – well seth I am a farming again + I have just finnsned (finished) planting potatoes + I am agoing (a going) to the fall + I am most tiard (tired) to death – I have soald (sold) my hors (horse) but I didnt (didn't) get any money for it now brother you wanted me to send you the interest on the note Seth I cant tell anything about it I have a reaseat (receipt?) of that money I pade (paid) for inshurence (insurance) + I let mother have some + I cant tell how much nor anything so I will have to wait I am agoing (a going) to try + come over after I get done planting I have 18 acher (acre) of corn to plant next week – seth you wrote that you thought I hadent (hadn't) ough (?) to find falt (fault) with you seth I haven't found falt (fault) not a bit for you have wated (waited) a long time for your moeney +if I live till this fall you shal (shall) have your money – seth I want you to write + let us know if you have had a letter from carry + I want you to write if any of our foalks (folks) is alive down to Saratoga for I havent (haven't) hered (heard) a word from there since I was down there last fall onely (only) as you wrote – well seth fred must be prety (pretty) well off five hundred as a 1000 a year big thing he is a doing business for us both (both) – well seth I could set here + write a week + then not halp (help) I wanted to but I want you to write + tell me what fred is a doing + if he has got a horse but if he has I doant (don't) supose (suppose) live (?) will let him sell it now write as soon as you get this for I anxious to know if there is any of our foalks (folks) alive you tell them that that I am alive + if wish M (?) to write to me they can do so + direct to glens falls well I guess I will close note sayes (says) she wants to jenny + mother our love to all from your brother John Hill

### **1860\_9\_7\_Merey\_Seth**

Sep the 7/60

Dear Sir I take the present opportunity to write you a few lines but have nothing to rite only that I made no more mistakes a comeing (coming) home I wished that I was their yesterday to go to the fair Thare is a letter in the post office for me will you get it and you ma (may) read it if you are a mind to and then burn it up I have nothing to write because you dont care about any thing up here write as soon as you get this So good morning

From Merey Bennet  
To Seth Hill

### **1861:**

### **1861\_\_25\_Esther\_Aunt**

Philadelphia  
25-1861

Dear aunt and cusin (cousin)  
i now take mi (my) pen in han (hand) to in form you that mother and Timothy and  
Esther is not vary (very) well at present and i hope these fewes (few) lines will at  
present cousin (?) Daniel has out hear this sporting (?) to see us and we was yard (?)  
to se (see) him mother want (wants) to se (see) you and the childeren (children?)  
vary (very) mutch (much) mother want (wants) to see you all Mother waty (?) to  
come out hear (here) and stay with (?) here (?) this summer and say with her (?)  
and Bruy (?) feed ely (?) to Essther (Esther) is nont (not?) able to do mutch w o erhe  
(?) mother is famly (family) to it is lonesome hear (here) with us now send diffarit  
(different?) famley (family) is all well at present ame (?) write to us as soon as you  
get this letter no more at present one remain your affectionate friend Esther Hewit

### **1861\_1\_8\_Helen\_Sally**

Saratoga Springs  
Jan 8 18/65

Dear Grand Mother

I now send you by mail a letter from Fred which I recived (received) this  
afternoon. Father is getting better (?) dont (?) all the rist (rest) are well I get a letter  
from Henry Gore (?) to day and had to joy sitt (?) cents (?) Ive ? on it this Jacks (?)  
were all well no more at present

Yours Very Truely (Truly)  
Helen R. (?) Latham

Please save his letter so that I can have it again

### **1861\_3\_15\_RWBillings\_MrHill**

Mansin (?) House  
March 15/61  
Mr Hill

Drfi (?)

In accordance with Promise I write you relative to the proposal of  
engagement between us Owing to circumstances over which I have no control I am  
compelled to decline your proposition which was much as I entertain a very high  
opinion of you. I do with reluctance Presume you will not find it difficult to find  
another place at least I hope you will not if you should (?) not hire out for the entire

Summer. I may want you through the months of July + August I should certainly Prefer you to any Person I known in the even of my needing a man during those months. Hoping you will not be disappointed I remain your friend + well wisher RW Billings

### **1861\_3\_25\_Isaac\_Josiah**

Newport  
Mar 25 1861

Dear Uncle and Aunt Hill

About 5 years ago I received a letter from you and soon after receiving it I wrote you an answer and requested you to write to me again but I have not heard from you since. Several times I have thought of writing to you again but have neglected it until now Today I set myself to work looking over some old letters and found yours dated "Apr 22<sup>nd</sup> 1856."

The reading of your letter has wakened (?) in my bosom censations (sensations) of no ordinary kind. The find recollection of a Mother (once the protector of my body and the joy of my heart but now in Heaven) comes up before me with a freshness in my recollection unusually vivid. O how often have I heard that Dear Mother speak of her sister Sally and many a time I have thought some day I will go and see her but other cares and delays and various concerns (?) there have searced (?) to prevent it. But I have concluded to write to you once more and I hope you will write to me without delay. I wont make several enquires. I want to know when and where Grand Father and Grand Mother Karr died. We have never heard (heard) even whether they are living or not but conclude of course they are not living from what we know of their age. Also I want to know something of Uncle John Hewits family. (I am not sure I have spelt Uncle Johns name right for it is a longue (long) time since I saw it spelt.) Also Uncle James Myers (?) family. The last we knew of thare (their) 2 familys (families) they lived in Jefferson Co near Black River. Other and myself visited them in the fall of 1835. At that time Grandfather and Grandmother Karr lived there with them. Also I want to know something about those friends who I hear lived the las (last?) I heard of them in Seneca Co N.Y. I mean Uncle Brewer. Uncle John Johanthan Jacob Karr and their family. Also I recollects of hearing something about another brother of my Mother Also I think his name was And it seams (seems) to me Mother used to talk about a brother Isa (?) And of course want to know all about your own family Where is your son Erastus now. When you wrote to me he was in Madison Wisconsin. Is he there now and what is his occupation? My family are well WE have 3 children, 2 sons and a Daughter. Mary Amos and Alvin are their names.

Father died in 1851. My Brother Erastus lives in Litchfield Illinois. He was here last fall to see us. I had a letter from him a short time ago. He was well. Our climate here in Southern Ohio is quite different form yours in N.Y. I see by the papers you have had a great deal of snow the past winter. We have had but verry (very) little. None to make sleighing. The farmers here commenced plowing in

February and the ground was in good aide (?) for it. Some have made a goeden (garden?) a little puthing (?) in such as peas potatoes onions lettuce etc.

Please answer this without delay. I am anxious to hear from you. But I must draw this letter to a close And in doing so permit me to assure you of my kind regards for you as friends and relatives. Whom although I have never seen, yet I love and respect.

I remaine your sincer (sincere) friend and Nephew,  
Isaac K. Adkins.

N. B. Direct your letter to Newport, Washington Co. Ohio

### **1861\_4\_8\_RWBillings\_Seth**

Saratoga Springs  
April 8<sup>th</sup> 61

Lith Wie (?)

Der (Dear) Sir I Have Concluded I lhat (?) want you help (?) say about four (?) months Comensing (Commencing?) the 14 of this month Perhaps longer for what I am willing to pay you \$12 Per month Pending you ar (are) not all ready in gaged (engaged) Plus eight me one the Recept (Receipt?) of this if you cane (can?) not come  
Respect yours  
RW Billings

### **1861\_5\_13\_James\_Sally**

Philadelphia  
May the 13 1861

Dear aunt and cousin

i now set down to writ (write) a fewes (few) lines to you to let you now (know) how we air (are) mother helth (health) is not vary (very) good at present Esther helth is not vary (very) good at present tim is the same Esther got your letter the 11 day I yohn (John?) that thair (there) is work enouf (enough) out hear (here) thair (there) is 3 new with in our miheal (?) us is no got embody to work. For them yet my buddy to war for them yet John you ned (need) not be afraid to com (come) out hear (here) because thear (there) is allways (always) a plenty of work out hear (here) the ares (?) run so that you start from the seven day cute (?) in to Evenes (?) Mills at Eight (?) o clock in the evening wit (?) to us is hat day you wil (will) come out hear (here) and we wil (will) met (meet) you to the mills

James Hewit

### **1861\_7\_11\_CC\_Sally**

Saratoga  
July 11 1861

Dear mother I Received your leter (letter) last night we ar (are) all well at present Fred was down Saturday and staid til Sunday he said every thing was all right home I have met Dan (?) Seth since weak (week) he is well I have got throw work to Benidict for present I have took a Jad (?) a haying (?) this weak (week) I saw Sally ann Saturday she is well i have not seen any thing of Latham folks lately but i ges (guess) they ar (are) well

Boarders are coming in quite fast a few days timey (?) ar (are) livening up I gope we shal (shall) have a good season after all we send our love to you all i must go to work so good by wright soon

                  this is from your  
                  son C. C. Hill

### **1861\_11\_13\_BHCarr\_Fredrick**

Saratoga Springs NY  
Nov 13<sup>th</sup>/61

Dear coson (cousin) I take this opertunity (opportunity) to send you a few lines to inform you that I am well and to send you four dolars (dollars) and thirty cts in this leter (letter) of cash for you which I trust will be vary (very) willingly receved (received) I sorry (?) that Peold (?) not pay you befre (before?) I hope these few ilnes will find you in the same great blesing (blessing) of helth (health) that I am in porethion (?) of at the present time which I am thankful (?) to god for give my love to your mother and Seth and all inquiring friends I wish you to write as soon as you get this with our fail and let me know if you receive the money the folks at home was all well when I was at home yesterday morning no more at present yours truly

                  B H Carr

### **1861\_11\_24\_Erastus\_Sally**

Wolcott  
Nov the 24<sup>th</sup> 1861

Dear

                  Mother I take this opportunity to let you know that we are all well at present and hope that you are all enjoying the same blessing I have herd from John once since he got back to glens falls but he did not say anything about you or the rest of the folks he said that Daniel was on the railroad and that he went through Clyde and I have been thare (there) once but I did not see him nor could I find that any one on the road that knew him but I am agoing (a going) to try once more and then if I cant find him I shall direct a few lines to him and try to see him since I wrote to you out to black river Erastus has gone to his rest he died about the first of September of the

tiphoïd (typhoid) fever he was sick four weeks Uncle brewer folks is well and so is all th rest of the folks as far as I know and they want to know if you know any thing about uncle Jonathan and whare (where) he is and how he is  
 Tell Seth and fred that I would like to see them and all of the folks and then I could tell you more in a few minits (minutes) then I can write in along (?) time but I don't know when that time will be but I trust it will be before long if the times is not to (too) hard so that I can spare time and money to come but I would like to have you come out here and see me if you could I think you would like it out here we have had a verry (very) plesent (pleasant) fall here and have not had but two squalls of snow yet I suppose you would like to know what I a doing my work is sawing wood in the vilage (village) this winter and I make pretty well at it to (too) tell Seth and fred that I would like to have been with them this fall when chesnuds (chestnuts) was ripe if thare (there) was many thare (there) for it has been along time since I have had my chesnuds (chestnuts) and I have almost forgot how they taste and if you will send me a half of a bushel if thare (there) is agood (a good) many I will pay you when I see you and if you do put them to Wolcott and send them by rail road to Clyde tell brit that I would to have him write to me and sally ann to (too) and maryeth to (too) and I will answer thair (their) letters

Now (No) More this time only have Seth or fred Write as soon as you get this  
 This is from your Affectionate son  
 Erastus J. Hill

### **1861\_11\_24\_Esther\_George**

Philadelphia  
 Nov the 24 1861

Dear Cousin

I now take mi (my) pen in hand to inform you that we are all well at present and hoping these fewes (few) lines may find you the same mother helth (health) is not vary (very) good at present she think of you vary (very) often Ceese (cheese) is worth 6 cents A pound we had fifty three hundred of cheese butter is worth 20 cents a pound we sold 8 tubes of butter we have one 11 (?) bushel of wheat we have raised 500 hundred bushel grain and 40 bushels nurfise (?) we sold 8 tube of butter at 20 cents a pound they was 60 weight tubes we got a long vary (very) well on day he filing (?) out wool a while that John did not care a dam (damn?) for us if he did not for us if he did you did you you could (?) a not writen (written?) to at niece (?) willson (?) I got your letter 6 of Nov i was you to know (?) that you was all well no more at present only remain your affection at friend write to use (us) soon as you get this letter

Esther Hewit

give mi (my) love to all in lace (?) to in quiren (inquiring) friends

**1861\_12\_15\_Harriet\_Sally**

Syracuse  
December the 15 1861

Dear Mother

As i have got a few Minets (Minutes) to spare i will imprace (impress?) this in writing to you wee ar (are) all well and hope that these few lines will find you the same wee was disapornted (disappointed) to here (hear) that you went hom (home) with out Coming this way i suppose you have hered (heard) that wee have got a baby boy here he was three Months old. Friady (Friday) Daniel is to Rochester to day he has wanted me to write to you ever since you went home but i have kept puting (putting) it of (off) till no (now) i supose (suppose) you hade (had) a good visit to Jeffson (Jefferson) Contry (County) this summer Uncle John has not gone to the ware (war) yet i herd (heard) that John was married Daniel Sends his love to all of you uncle is well and sends his love to you all and says he expect to go to the ware (war) before long if nothing happens to him ples (please) excus (excuse) poor writing and all mistakes and pleas (please) write soon to me nomore (no more) at presant (present) so good by

from Harriet Hill

**1862:****1862\_3\_2\_Esther\_George**

Philadelphia  
March the 2-1862

Dear aunt and Cousin i now take mi pen in hand to inform you of our sircumstance (circumstance) mother has ben (been) failing (?) it winter she had capt (kept?) her bed now for 4 weks (weeks) the wrest (rest) of us is well at present she send her love to aunt Sally and children the reason that we have not writen (written) to you be fore it was on the count of mother helth (health) we see sum (some?) lone some ours now but when she cume (come) to beavous (?) us for a nother world it will be still lone sume (lonesome) yet tel (tell) cus t phe (?) that we should b to se (see) him out heer (here) and Sally ann to (too) Mother is so low that we have to feed her remmbees (?) mi love to all inquiring friends  
Write me as soon as you get this letter

This is from your Cousin  
Esther Hewit

**1862\_3\_7\_Seth\_Sally (\*\*\*\*\*I believe date came from envelope??? Because there is no month on here...)**

New York Citty (City)  
The 20: 1862

Dear brother and mother i sit down this morning to write you a few lines to let you know that i am well we left fonda (Fonda) Saterdag (Saturday) night for new york we Stoped (Stopped) to albany (Albany) and got Supper then we took the boat acrost (across) the river then we took the cars we got in new york citty (city) at eigh (eight) o clock then we had to march 4 miles to the barricks (barracks) i didn't have time to write before we left fonda (Fonda) i dont (don't) know any thing more at present only we expect to leav (leave) for Washington too night you must be a good boy and take care of things till i come back i am a goigt (going) to Lend you 23 dolars (dollars) but i am not afraid you wont get it give my love to Jane and tell her whare (where) i am now for i cant rite to her now give my love to uncle Seshens (?) folks i shall hft (have) to stop now for i have to go and put then men on gard (guard) no more at present dont (don't) rite till you hear from me again  
From your Brother Seth Hill

i thought i would send 25 dolars (dollars)

**1862\_11\_2\_George\_Seth**

Porters Corners  
Nov the 2 1862

Dear Brother

I now sit down to answer your letter which I received Thursday I was glad to hear from you and to hear that you was well we are all well at present I had a letter from John last night and he was well and he said that he thought he should come home before long I received that money that you sent me when you was in new york they are a going to draft the 10 of this month I had a letter from Theodore two weeks a go last night and he is well mother sends her love to you and says that you must be a good boy and have the war to an end and come home as soon as you can Nancy martin is dead she is buryed (buried) to day no more this time only wright (write) as soon as you get this from your affectionate brother George F Hill

**1862\_11\_3\_LucyMitchell\_Seth**

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> 1862

Respectful friend

I now take this oppertunity (opportunity) to write you a few lines, we are all in usual health, I want to relate a little circumstance that took place here last eve, for some time people have been loosing their chickings (chickens), so last evening Jerry

and Bruce Davis concluded to watch so they took their guns and started, after a short time a man made his appearance with an emty (empty) bag on his shoulder they followed him down untill (until) he went into Mrs Willsey's or Father's gate they could not tell which and there they lost sight of him in about an hour and a half they found him down by Mr Martins with his bag full of chickens, they asked him where he was going he said he was going to carry some chickens that John Conry's wife had sent down to her Fathers they asked him to come back here and get something to drink when they got him to the stoop they fired off some of their guns to wake them up, so after one O clock they had a court and fined him 6 dollars and carried him to jail before daylight it was the Irishman that laid stone wall for Mr Martin lately has been to work for Mrs Conry, Adaline was married as expected, she was married with her bonnet and cloke (cloak) on, Angeline and Ella have gone to New York with them she did not have any wedding, old Mrs Mosher will be burried (buried) next Wednesday to morrow is election so may be we have not had any thing to do but or all that we are some tired so you must excuse all mistakes, Jane says she does not live here, last Saturday we thought that tanner was going to die, Mrs Bartlet put some poison on some bread and butter and put it out doors to kill rats to he and Charlie Smiths dog got it and Smiths dog died, we see that tanner acted as though he had been boisoned (poisoned) so John and Jane poured half a teacup full of lard down him and he soon got better I have not seen your Mother since you was here but I heard they were well, I do not think of any more to write at this time so I will draw this to a close hopeing (hoping) to here (hear) from you soon, from your [illegible] friend Lucy J Mitchell Seth Hill

### 1862\_11\_10\_George\_Seth

Porters Corners  
Nov the 10 1862

Dear Brother

I now sit down to answer your letter which I received last night it found us all well at present Mother has been sick a gain (again) but is better now I had a bout 25 bushels of potatoes i think i have got a bout hay enough to winter the cow the pig is getting pretty good i shall kill him in a few days Frank Hewitts baby is dead is is bared (burried) to morrow i am to work for John weaver this weak (week) i hav (have) had a letter from Crit and Theodore and they are all well i got that money it came through all right i have written to you before i guess it is about time for me to Close for i hav (have) got to write two more letters to night mother sends her love to you no more this time only write as soon as you get this this is from your brother George F Hill

We have had a quite a snow storm up here and it snowed under (?) a good many potatoes and there is a good deal of corn out yet

### 1862\_11\_17\_SadieEvans\_Seth

Gloversville Nov 17<sup>th</sup> 1862

Friend Seth

I received your letter on the 15<sup>th</sup> and was very happy to hear from you. I was almost in hopes that you would not receive (receive) Hats and any partnership letter but it seems you have and all we can do is to ask you to pardon us for our impudence in writing to you. I am quite well, but so lonesome it is as dull as can be in Gloversville there is scarcely a man in the place, but we ought to be glad of it because it is leap year all the time now—They are enlarging (enlarging) the barracks at Fonda for 3000 drafted men they are expected there in a week or two. I hope I shall be drafted for if I am not I shall volunteer if they will take me and you must meet me half way when you see me coming. don't you think it will be a good plan? Phebe (Phoebe) Haggart and I are going to be married won't she make a good husband for me wont you get a furlough for ten or fifteen minutes and run up and see us it wont take you long to come you know, it is so short a distance Miss (?) Haggart sends love to Mr Davis and would like to have him write to her, Mr Davis must take care or I shall be awful jealous of him. I believe C (?) but I am not certain that I caught a glimpse of him once myself and if he don't want his eyes scratched out he must not make me jealous. I had a delightful sleigh ride one evening last week on dry ground there was not a particle of snow on the ground in some places and you must know it was pleasant, I have not got over it yet—There is but a very litte snow here, but it is colder than Greenland—Won't you please send me your photography if you possibly can I would like it ever so much I am certain you will come home safe because the cause in which you have enlisted is a brave and fine one and you have done nobly for enlisting, every man who thinks anything of his country would have done as you have they could not do better, and wherever you go and whatever you do you have the true friendship and best wishes of Sadie Evans

P.S. You must remember and write to me as soon as you get this, as have time, I have written a very long letter to you—(almost a stranger)—and you must not forget to write to one

S.E.

**1862\_11\_24\_George\_Seth**

Porters Corner

Nov the 24 62

Dear Brother

I now sit down to answer your letter of the 24 which I received to night it found us all well and i hope this will find you the same i got a letter from John to night and he is in the hospital sick i got the order for your county but i cant get anything on them yet and i got your likeness i am a going to school next week i have sent you paper i dont know whether you have got it or not it is very nice wether (weather) up here now i should like come down there and see you mother sends her love to you and says that she shall be glad when this wicked war is over i shall have to stop for it is

bed time so good by write as soon as you get this this is from your brother George F Hill Captain Chip (?) Commander of Porters Corners

**1862\_12\_4\_George\_Seth**

Porters Corners Dec the 4 1862

Dear Brother

I now sit down to answer your letter which I received night before last it found us all well and i hope that these few lines will find you the same i am at school now it is pretty cold up here now and a bout a half an inch of snow if you want any thing you must send and we will send it to you i have answer all your letters Mother sends her love to you and says that she should like to see you first rate but she says that you must never skaladle (skedaddle?) i dont (don't) know of mutch (much) to write i have not seen Jane very lately I have not heard from Theodore in a good while I dont (don't) know where he is i have not heard from Crit very lately if you know where they are write to me no more this time only write as soon as you get this this is from your brother George F Hill

**1862\_12\_10\_JamesKested\_Seth (\*\*\*\*\*MISSING SECOND PAGE!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!)**

Greenfield  
Dec 10 1862

Dear friend

Seth i received your letter in due time and Was Very glad to hear from you that you Was Well i am Well at Presen (Present) and hope that these few lines Will find you the Same now Seth you must rite (write) and tell me how you get a long Out thare (there) tell me how you live Out there What you have to eat and Whether the Small Pox is Out in Camp Or not if it is in Camp if i was in your Place i Would Scedaddle (Skedaddle) i Would not Stay thare (there) if i was in your Place  
(MISSING SECOND PAGE)

**1862\_12\_21\_George\_Brother (\*\*\*\*\*IT IS TO SETH, CHANGE FILE NAME)**

Porters Corners  
Dec the 21. 62

Dear Brother

I now take my pen in hand to answer your letters which i received last night they found us all well and i hope that this will find you the same you said that you wanted to know who taught our school and how many scholars we had well i will tell you we have a school teacher a young lady by the name of Rogers and we have thirty scholars we have got a first rate teacher this winter and you said you wanted to know who i was agoing (a going) to take to the dance well Seth i rather guess that i shant (shan't) go to the dance nor i have not calculated to go but I may take a ride

and if i do i will write who i carry we have ben (been) trying to get up a singing school but we cant (can't) make a pitch (?) and you wanted to know what i thought of burnside a burning up fredricksburg (Fredericksburg) i think that he done right and well but if he had give (given) the rebels a good licking i think that he would have done better but i suppose that he done the best he could well Seth i will send that bak (back?) just as soon as i can i have got to get some body to knit the mittens and I will see lucy J. Mitchell and Jane harris and have them send you something we will send you a good lot of stuff and give some to John if he is eny whare (anywhere) whare (where) you can i think that i can get it ready in the corse (course) of the week write wheter you have got that bak (back?) yet or not ery (?) harris has got home and he says that the folks up here talk more like dam (damn) fools than any thing else about they not getting along eny faster down there the postage was pade (paid) for the dam (damn) thing stuck you talk pretty big words on the out side of you emdlaps (?) but i suppose you dont (don't) care and i am sure i dont it is very cold up ehre and no snow but i think that we shall have som (some) pretty soon i was down to the springs yesterday Salam has ben (been) sick but she is better now so that she sits up some mother is not so well as she was in the summer she send her love to you and says that you must take care of your self and not get sick and hury (hurry) the war over so that you can come home and you must comfort John all you can no more this time only write as soon as you get this good by (bye) for this time this is from your brother George F Hill

### **1862\_12\_28\_CC\_Sally**

Virginey Camp near white oak Church  
December 28 1862

Dear mother and brother this day finds me as well as usual I have not been vary (very) well for fore (four) or five weaks (weeks) but an on the gane (gain) now so I think I will get along I was excused from fiting (fighting?) duty one day I have done my duty except that I sopose (suppose) you know that we have been draged (dragged) from plase (place) to plase (place) we have travled (traveled) the ranfest (?) and poorest country that I was in virginey is worse than the mountains the land along the runahanie (?) river around fredericksburgh (Fredericksburg) as fair as I have seen is beautifull (beautiful) country fredericksburgh (Fredericksburg) was a beautifull (beautiful) city before we shile (?) it but now is a desolated plase (place) I sopose (suppose) you know we was in that fight the most of the fighting was arther (?) we Crost (crossed) the river Friday morning about on (one) mile below fredericksburgh (Fredericksburg) down in lone off battle we was in line all day Thursday on this side we had orders to Cross the river Thursday night but orders was Countermanded and we marched back in the woods that night in the morning we Crost (crossed) a P said before Saturday morning we was rushed in front to soport (support) batory (battery) the battery was on ab (?) [illegible word] hill we was about four rods thind (?) it under (?) the hill we (illegible) thare (there) until Saturday morning we was relieved and put back about eight as (?) in the road the

heavest (heaviest?) of the fitin (?) was on our right and left the slid plesant (?) around as other (?) arles (?) one bit (?) too (two) or three slitch (?) wonded (wounded?) in our rigment (regiment) Saturday about three [illegible] the rushed [many illegible words] but was above back by our skirmishers so we had no Whase (?) at then we lay in the road until Monday morning their (there) was but in the rear (?) at night we Crost (crossed) the river we was the first rigment (regiment) that Crost (Crossed) write as soon as you got this I want you to rite (write) the rigment (regiment) that the [illegible word] belong to and all so that I Can rite to him

## 1863:

### 1863\_1\_2\_George\_Sally

Willsons Wharfe (Wilsons Wharf)  
Jan 2 63

Dear Niece

It is with pleasure that I sit down to write you a few lines I am well and I hope this will find you the same I have ben (been) back to my company a bout four months I left the hospital soon after your father was there I want you to write where mother is and how she is a getting (getting) a long we are having some cold weather here now I not writen (written) before because I have not had the money to get the things to write with and and to pay the postage but I got paid off last weak (week) tell mother that I am a going to send her some money as soon as I find out where she is write when you have heard from the boys and where they are and send me their address so that I can write to them I think the war will be over by spring it may not looked so favorable since it break out as it does now write all a bout mr Rowlands folks write how all the news and how things are up there find out where marion Joseph Rowland is and clark wood to (too) we have gon (gone) in winter quarters and we are haveing (having) nice times oh I must tell you a bout our thanks giving (Thanksgiving) dinner in the morning it was how are you turkees (turkeys) and chckens but the sight of the comissary (commissary) sergeant soon eased the minds of the boys the turkees (turkeys) was equally divided a mong the boys eary (every) four men got a turkee (turkey) and a chicken then cam (came) the pies cakes and appels (apples) we are very thankful to you find sitesens (citizens) of the north to think that you think of the soldier news we had a can of sausage a can of peaches a bottle of jelly and crackers chees (chees) butter exc (etc) I dont know of any thing more this time so good by write as soon as you get this this is from your affectionate uncle George F Hill

Direct your letter to 16 Regt heavy artillery  
Battery E NYSV  
Willsons Wharfe (Wilsons Wharf) VA  
James River

**1863\_1\_14\_George\_Sally**

Willsons Wharfe (Wilson's Wharf)

Jan 14 63

Dear Mother

It is with the greatest of pleasure that I sit down to write to you I am well and I hope this will find you the same I am tough as a bear I weigh 15 pounds more than I ever did before I have been (been) paid off I thought I should send some home but I have bought clothing and other things that I needed (needed) so I guess I shan't (shan't) have any to spare (spare) this time I lost all my clothing to the hospital I was crazy as a bed bug I was an awful sick boy I imagined every (every) thing and I could not make it seem (seem) right in a good while we are having (having) good times here now only it is so muddy (muddy) that it is almost (almost) impossible to write you you used (used) to tell me about the western mud but I guess that the Virginia mud is a great deal worse it is up to our knees you must excuse me for not writing before and I will try and do better in future write all about the folks up there write all about Mr Rowlands folks write how things are up there I think the war is about to an end it has never looked so favorable since it broke out as it does (does) now we are in winter quarters they are barracks and we have got a stove in them send me a vest if you can conveniently (conveniently) I don't know of anything more this time so good by write soon and I will do the same give my love to all enquiring friends

George F Hill

Write soon and direct to

Battery E

16 Regt heavy artillery NYSV

Willsons Wharfe (Wilson's Wharf)

James River VA

Send me your photograph as I lost the one you sent me when to the hospital write how the watch gets along

**1863\_1\_26\_\_Seth**

Upon the calm blue sea;  
 But gentle smiles and loving hearts,  
 And hands to clasp my own,  
 Are better than the brightest flowers,  
 Or stars, that ever shone.  
 [The above is typed text cut out and pasted onto letter]

Jan the 26 1863

Dear friend Seth I received your letter last Thursday it found me well and I hope these few lines will find you the same I suppose (suppose) you think I have (have) forgot you but I have (have) not that can not be it is as pleasant as spring to day we have (have) had pleasant weather all winter how did those Socks (Socks) fit I was to

miss hills when the lox started for the springs that is your mother that was new years mister shall had ben (been) to our house to get me to leav (leave) with them but i shal (shall) not go lucy wants me to com (come) back in the spring but i think not i Dont See it i hav (have) found hur (her) out and that is all i want of hur (her) keep that ring as long as you breath (breathe) i hope [paper cut] home agan mariah Jane has ben (been) to see me or the boys i can not tell which and i dont care morris sed (said) tell Seth to remember ant (aunt) allive (alive?) was Sider (cider) has gonift (?) eyed Sed (Said) you must (?) pla (play?) Sick my Sister had ben (been) home on visit but has gon (gone) home Clint took Sharlot (Charlotte) Wilsey (?) out and ged (?) run away and Did not breake (break) any thing but the Cuter (?) fill and i was glad you Sed (said) Send you my likeness but thee (the) glass is broke i will get a new glass put in it before i send it i Dont want to send it it locks (looks) like thunder in the winter time Harris is Dead he was in the 77 regiment i m good by Seth i miss the soft Clasp of your hand and your breath warm on my cheak (cheek) i still keep listning (listening) for a word i wish I might hear you speak no more now rite soon from [name cut out] te  
Seth hill  
Remember me when this you see

### **1863\_2\_8\_George\_Sally**

Fort Schuyler Feb 8<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Mother

I now sit down to answer you kind letter which I received Friday night it found me in the best of health and I hope this will find you the same I like soldiering first rate we have good quarters and enough to eat if I live to come home I shall never settle down in old Greenfield now I will you A little history of our place the fort is situated between long island sound and the east river it mounts over two hundred guns and then to the west is our quarters I dont know how long we shall stay here but I think not long the soldiers are coming in here so fast there is over two thousand here now and they are coming in every day there is one thousand coming to day yesterday we had to strap on our knapsacks and go out for inspection who would not be a soldier there is over two hundred of the sixteenth boys here you said you wanted to know whether I was in the artilery (artillery) or not I am in the artilery (artillery) and I am a going to stay in it they past a resolution last night to stick to the sixteenth til we are all shot down the boys is all well and in the best of spirits dont write untill (until) you hear from me again I dont (don't) know of any thing more to write this time so good by this is from your son  
George F Hill

### **1863\_2\_27\_George\_Sally**

Glouster Point  
Feb 27 1863

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and whear (wher) I am I am in on old battle field of york town I was a crost (across) the river yesterday and picked up a lot of balls that was throwed at the rebs now I will give you a little history of our voiyage (voyage) here we embarked a week ago last Friday in the tram part t.a. seatt and sailed up to new york and east anchor and took on some provision and then we started for alexandria (Alexandria) I went to bed that knigh (night) and in the morning I when I got up we were out of sight of land we came in sight of land a gain that afternoon and past fortres (fortress) monroe (Monroe) Sunday morning a bout three o clock we can to point look out about eleven o clock there we anchord (anchored) and the captain went a shore for further orders then we went on til about dark when we anchord (anchored) in sight of a rebble (rebel) camp fire they loaded their big guns it was not there long when there was a rebble (rebel) gun boat playing around us and the captain orderd (ordered) us to heav (heave) the anchor I helped them heave it and we run away from hur (her) we got to alexandria (Alexandria) Monday about two o clock and there we took the tram part cumbria (?) an old blockade runer (runner) that we took from the English and started for fortress monroe (Monroe) we got there wednesday about four o clock then we took the steam boat George Washington for york town where we arrived at nine o clock we laid on the boat until morning then we went a shore and then we got on the fery (ferry) boat and went acrost (across) the river to our regiment so you see I have had a quite a sea voyage and was not sea sick I want you to write wether (whether) you had got my three hundred dolars (dollars) or not I am a going to send home seventy five more write how to direct to John I dont know of anything more to write so good by from your son G F Hill

**1863\_3\_7\_Seth\_Sally**

[print of the US Capitol]

[typed] United States Capitol  
 Company H  
 153d Regiment New York Volunteers  
 Washington, D.C. March 7 [handwritten date] 1863

P.S. I got a letter from you while I was in algear (?) + I got a letter from John he was in the huspital (hospital) yet but was better + I got a letter from hellen (Helen) Lathem (Latham) this State is cleaned out pretty much + this Spring will clean them all out in my opinion well i dont think of any thing more at this time

We will stay here a week or 2 give my Love too all give my love too (to) Jane + tell her I guess she has forgotten (forgotten) S Hill tell Sam Canes that I am well + kicking + hope he is the (to?) My Respects too (to) all of my old comrads (comrades) +

friends if i have any and i trust i have tell Lucy Jane i would like too (to) write too  
 (to) her but it is quite a Job too (to) write here in this country our Leats (?) is Scarce  
 + it is hard work too (to) sit down too (to) write we have enough too (to) eat + drink  
 we have good coffee but our watter (water) is not verry (very) Good I would like a  
 canteen out of our old well when we get in texax (Texas?) then we will the best of  
 watter (water) My Love Too All

So Good By

I Remain your Affectionate Son

Seth Hill

H Co 153d Regt NYSV

Direct To Washington DC + the letters will be forwarded too (to) us write soon

S Hill

To His (?)

Dear Mother Good by Hope I will See you before long

You cant expect too (to) hear very often from me Mom (?)

**1863\_3\_30\_George\_Sally (\*\*\*\*\*CHANGE TO 1865?? The drawing might go with  
 this letter!!!!!!!)**

[Print of a soldier sitting on a dock watching a boat in the distance]

[typed]

To my Mother

Entered according to Act of Congress in the year 1864, by R.B. Nicol, in the Clerk's  
 Office of the District Court for the District of Columbia

I am sitting here,  
 My mother dear,  
 As oft I sit—alone,  
 With memory cast  
 Upon the past—  
 The happy days now flown.

I am thinking now,  
 My mother, how  
 I've oft sat by your side  
 And listened to  
 The Tales which you  
 Have told to be my guide.

I drop a tear,  
 My mother dear,  
 While musing thus alone,  
 For something says

Those happy days  
Are now forever flown!

But memory still,  
My mother, will  
Cling to those lessons given,  
Which, as a spark  
Shines in the dark,  
May light my soul to Heaven.

Packages

Sent by mail, post paid, to any part of the Army or United States  
Address -- R. B. Nicol, care Gibson Brothers, Printers,  
271 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D.C.

[handwritten]

Fort Pochontas (Pochahontas) VA  
March 30/1863

Dear Mother

I now sit down to write you a few lines I am well and I hope this will find you the same I received a letter from Henry Carr last night stating that you was there I guess you have forgotten (forgotten) me I have written (written) five letters to you and have had no answer from you I have written to Hellen (Helen) and have had no answer I got a letter from Sarah last night dated the 12 of February I dont know what is the matter I dont expect to get paid a gain till May and maybe not then but when I do get paid I shall send it home I shall be a little more careful (careful) than I was before I lost over a hundred dollars but never mind it will come all right yet I wish you would send me your photograph (photograph) and a pin cushion I think the war will not last two months longer old Grant Sherman and Sheridan has got the rebels in a bag and they kick and squirm to get out last night they opened on our lines with their battery and it was the heaviest (heaviest) canon aduing (?) I ever heard they thought to break through our lines as that is their only hope write how the stores come out this spring you may send me a couple (couple) pairs of socks send them by mail one pair at a time we have had no snow this winter it has ben (been) over a year since I have seen any snow but I have seen enough mud to make it all up I dont know of anything more to write this time so good by write soon this is from your son

George F Hill

To his Mother Sally V Hill

I will send you one of our pickets past it was drawn when we was in picket

**1863\_4\_2\_RosettaBukoe\_Seth**

Saratoga Springs April 2 1863

Dear friend Seth

I now seat my Self to answer your kind and welcom (welcome) leter (letter) which I resived (received) to day it found me well and I hope this (these) few lines will find you the same it snows to day hear (here) I was in hopse (hopes) that it woldent (wouldn't) snow eny (any) more I saw Johney (Johnny) freman (Freeman?) the other day and he sed (said) that all the foolks (folks) was well then well seth I resived (received) at mother yesterday for me to get redey (ready) to go to minasota (Minnesota) I think that I will go before long O Seth how I wish I could see you be fore I got but I dont suppose that I cant for you cant come home John Rose tride (tried) to make A disturbuncce (disturbance) betwene (between) you and I but I gess (guess) that he cant make it out yet a while he will halfto (have to) wate (wait) tile (til) he grows older then (than) he is now

Seth I was glad to get a lock of your hare (hair) it looks very naturel (natural) I gess (guess) that that woman pooled (pulled) out that lock of hare (hair) that you sent me I hope that she dident (didn't) Seth I dident (didn't) write a bout my picture so that you wold (would) ceepe (keep) it for I dident (didn't) care a sent (cent) a bout it no way or nother

I hope that the ware (war) will soon be al (all) over so all of the poor solgers (soldiers) can come home wonce (once) more and see all of there (their) folks wonce (once) more

Well Seth I suppose (suppose) that you blived (believed) sum (some) of them sooreys (stories) that you herd (heard) but if I could see you I would tel (tell) you how things went

My pen is poor my ink is pail my love to shall never fail

I cant think of eny (any) more at present write as soon as you get this

Heare (here) is my eart (heart?) Ill give you part so good by Dear

This from Rosetta Bukoe to Seth Hill

### **1863\_4\_12\_Seth\_Sally**

Near Natchitoches Apr the 12<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Mother I now take my pen in and to rite you a few lines to let you know that I am well + hope thes (these) few lines will find you the Same we left Natchitoches on the 6 + on the 7 we reached Pleasant Hill whare (where) the cavelry (cavalry) had a little brush + on the 9 at 2 o clock in the morning the 12 Corps started n + they went 15 miles + the rebs came upon them + gave them a flagging the 19 corps reached the field at 5 o clock the firing was left until dash (?) when they started started back to pleasant Hill Co H + G made read guard + when we got witin (within) 2 miles of pleasant hill the rebs got pretty clost (closs) to us + i there was some tall Double Quicking the knap Sacks was on Hangin double pinch time it was fun to see the boys catch hold of the horses tails but enough of that we reached the hill all hafe (half) found + there we was Reinforced by the 16 Corps + the rebs cam (came) on + intended to flag us out but we held our position the brave 153d Regt NY SV Was under a heavy fire 3 hours we was in from half Past 4 o clock until half past 7 we got the praise of doing well + you will See in the papers before this Reaches you long

enough + i wish you would send me A paper of the fight the 13 corps was cut up bad I do not [know] how many men have lost our regt had 38 (3?) wounded + 2 killed our co had 4 (?) wounded + one mising (missing) thear (there) names are Sargeant Wetherwax (?) in the bed Slightly Corporal West has his finger Shot So he had it taken off Private Conklin in the thigh the bullets flew thick but the most went to (too) high we shot 4 rounds of cartridges when it got ot be dark + the fireing (firing) Least it was a hard shigt (sight) to see the dead + hear the wounded we was 2 days + 2nights without Sleep after the last days fight +we got things Straitend (Straightened) we was ordrd (ordered) back so we Started at 3 o clock marched abut (about) 22 miles whare (where) we Stopped (Stopped) + Stayed all night and yesterday we got back hear (here) whare (where) we are Encamped in the pine woods Near the Reed River the distance ware (where) the battle was on Friday was 50 miles we was in the woods from Wednesday the 6 until Monday the 11 + we are in the woods yet but we See out our regt was lucky on Friday we was guarding a wagon train we was some what wore out when we got back the Rebs charged on our front Several time but we repulst (repulsed) them Evry (every) time and they got all they baraind (bargained) for and I guess a little to bout what we came back hear (here) for is more then I know but I hear we was out of Rations + i guess that is so for there was one day we only drewd half rations how long we shall remain hear (here) i don't know

We have taken quite a lot of prisoners but I am not able to say how many we Just fired a volley when there came to (two) grey back came in our Co + throwed down thear (their) arms well I must rite (write) a little about Something Els (Else) that is important + that is about what you rote (wrote) before you say that the People says that you can get one of us clear + i think so to (too) for thear (there) is 5 of us in + i think that is one to (too) many + you have some good man to work for you + I think James Marvin would be a good man he is one of the Congressmen + tell him how you are situated + I dont (don't) care wat (what) it costs if you can do it \$50 dollars will be no object if i can get out of this Scrape + dont (don't) wait + write + let me knw wat (what) the Prospect (?) is of getting me out of this but i shall fight like a good fellow (fellow) do any dutty (duty) as long as i am in the servis (service) we will lick them out yet the boys is in good spirits the Rebs Captured Sam Pilcreaes (?) of the mule batry (battery?) but we must have them back there was a ball glazed my blows but if i come out Evry (every) time as well as i did this time and dont (don't) come any closter (closer) then to hit my blows i shall be verry (very) glad Indead (Indeed) We Had a Right Smart Battle + that is enough I hear Since I have been riting (writing) that we took 1700 Rebs they are Fighting out the red river to day with the gun boats well you must Give m (my) love to all + tell them i am around like a duck in a game bug (?) not more at this time only do what you can This Is From your affectionate Son Seth Hill To His Dear Mother  
Direct as before Good by S. Hill

**1863\_4\_18\_AnnaDavis\_Seth (\*\*\*\*\*CHANGE DATE TO APRIL 12!!!!!!!!!!!!)**

April 12<sup>th</sup> 1863

Friend Seth

I now set myself down to Answer your very kind Letter wich (which) I recived (received) A Few days since + was very glad to here (hear) that You was well + hope that You will remain So You must excuse me for not answering your Letter before I am very glad That you answer my letters so soon after you had received myne (mine). I have herd (heard) that Your Regiment was going to be broken up + Put with other Regiments I hope that Is not so if it is I should not stay if I wer (were) you You must come to Fonda we wil (will) assisst (assist) you I hope that You will be here before long we long to See you. My Sister Libbie has ben (been) very sick she has had fits for three days we have ben (been) up for three nights she is some beter (better) now

I saw Liutenant (Lieutenant) Stewart from your Regiment he has Brigned (?) I tink it is ridaclows (ridiculous) that they acan all come home + you must stay I wish that they would all skedadel (skedaddle) for Canaday (Canada). When Mastin was to that Plcae in Fonda he said That You was a Married Man I could not believe it for I no that you would not be guilty of such a thing as that and be writing to a young Lady when they told me I told them It was false it may be so but I can not believe it. We Atended (attended) that festival that I spoke of It was not very Pleasant we did not enjoy our selves as much as we did when you was her (here) we had every thing very nice and I wished at the same time for you. It is a splendid day + it reminds me of last fall when you was here I wish that you was here now to walk with us. Seth You Remember where you used to get bread and milk she said I must give here Leave to You and ask you if You had as much as you wanted now I told her that she must send you a coupel (couple) of pales she said she would rather see you than to send it to you I have a compliment For the Captian (Captain) My Brother said he was one of the best men in that Regiment For he was good to all. Seth do you remember when the Capt came to our house that Night of the Festival and wanted to know if there was any straid (strayed?) soldiers and shortly after you came I did not think he was looking for you it was for Cate I guess I hope Seth before you go to battle (battle) that you will have your Photography Taken I hope that you will not have to Fight I hope there will be Peace before long That Soldiers can return to there (their) homes There will be a great day when the word comes Peace

I hardly no (know) what to write this time but I shall do beter (better) next time give one your address the next time where ever you are when you write again I hope these few lines will find you enjoying yourself

Good Buy (Bye) Sethy

No more at Presant (Present)

From Your True Friend

Anna Davis Fonda

To Seth Hill Montgomery NY

When you write Seth I wish You would call me Anna ensted (instead) of Deb that is a horrid name I dont like to be called so the most of folks calls me Anna I should like to have you to (too) you may direct My letters Mifs. D. A. Davis

My love to you will never fail

Good buy (bye)

**1863\_5\_3\_AnnaDavis\_Seth**

May the 3 863

Dear + Absent Friend Seth

I now set This morning wich I received Yesterday + was very glad to here (hear) from you + was glad to here (here) that you was well + I hope that you will remain so while you are at the South it would be hard for you to be sick there where you could not have good care as at home I Presume Your Mother Longs to see you As a Mother Always does + if I could have My Mother to see how pleasant it would be for me. Seth I wish that you was here now to spend the Sabeth (Sabbath) with me Caty and I are all alone to day + it is quite lonely for us we have fine wether (weather) here now although it is very dusty it is almost as dusty as it was when you was here Seth I often think of that old Camp groung (ground) when we used to come up there to see you not many others O Seth that Mastin when I think of him it makes me to (too) mad I dont no (know) what to do. Havent you herd (heard) any thing of him since he left Mifs. Burt thinks he is dead Perhaps it would be good thing Seth I saw the Cornel (Coronel) of your Regiment Passing by a Thursday I then wished that some of the rest could come home but no the best ones cant do that they must stay I hope that you wont have to move a great ways I have herd (heard) the 115 Regiment was coming to Alaxandria (Alexandria) there was a man come home Yesterday form that Regiment. Seth I send you in this Letter My Photograps (Photographs) + hope that you will exsept (accept) this + I shall now be looking for yours I long to see you or your Likeness this is not very good although it is beter (better) than the one you have If you new (knew) Seth how bad I wanted yours You would have it taken right off I had six taken + have gave them all away + this is the last and the best Send it to me before long

Seth Dan Rises Great Show is coming along it is going to be here Two weaks (weeks) from to morrow there will be a great time here we shall not go we would if it was not as it is. write soo (soon) + Let me no (know) if you get this

No more at present I shall do beter (better) next time My Love to You Seth

From Your Absent + Affectionate Friend

Anna Davis Fonda

To her Friend Seth Hill [floral outline around his name]

Seth one Night Last weak (week) I dreamed of you + Pleasant dreams I dreamed you was at Fonda I can not tell you the rest now Perhaps I will at some future time.

My Sisters thinks I write to (too) often to you I do not think so do you If I do tell me I should like to here (hear) from you every weak

**1863\_5\_4\_George\_Seth (\*\*\*\*\*CHANGE DATE?????)**

Greenfield Cemetery

May 4 1863

Dear Brother

I now sit down to answer your letter which (which) we received Thursday it [found] us well and I hope that this will find you the same I should have written before but I did not go home till yesterday and then got your letter I dont know how long I shall stay here he gives me the same that he did you it is a raining here to day John weaver has got his house up Chaly (Charlie) lathams wife has got a boy old granny latham is sick and they don't expect she will live Jane is with Mother yet I will take a gun and shoot all that is in favor of the war in stead of them that oppose it Mother sends hur (her) love to you and says that you must be a good boy I not got time to write any thing more fore (for) it is a bout mail time so good by you must not wit (wait) for me to write for I dont go home only once a week write soon this is from your brother  
George F Hill to Seth Hill

Fred says I may say 3 words so good morning Seth I have taken Janes place you see but I do not fill it very well let me hear from you Seth I am afraid I have ben (been) forgotten I wish you was here but be true to your God and your Country good by  
Annie Austin

**1863\_6\_2\_\_Brother (\*\*\*\*\*CHANGE FROM BROTHER TO GEORGE TO SETH!!!!!!!!!!)**

Greenfield Center June 2 1863

Dear Brother

I now sit down to answer your letter which (which) I received night before last it found us all well and I hope that this will find you the same it is rather cold up here this morning get a furlough (furlough) and come home if you can I want you to direct to greenfield Center for them g-d-n black republicans has got so they open evry (every) thing that comes there for Mo oren (?) peaclch (?) says it come from the dam copperhead he calls me a dam copper head and a dam secesh [paper torn] I shall get at him by and by and give him a g-d-n licing (licking) as I did one fellow he called me a dam secesh and I hanted (?) off and let him alone twice and I knocked him down both times and the last time I give him a good one I went off and left him a laing (laying) whare (where) I knocked him dear bruther (brother) can I have some of your money to get me a wa [paper torn - watch?] to remember you by Mother health is not very good this spring she sends hur (her) love to you we have got Peters lady (?) we got it a weak ago yesterday no more this time write soon this is from your B [paper torn]

**1863\_6\_3\_JaneHarris\_Seth**

June the 3 1863

Dear friend Seth i resieved (received) a letter from you one week ago to Day it found

me well i hope these few lines will find you the Same Seth John harris has ben (been) home on a furlough but has gon (gone) back he sed (said) Cristopher (Christopher) Hill was cook and washwomman (wash woman) John went to see Cristopher (Christopher) wife before he home he saw your mother to the Springs John Mitchell is agoing to have A Call the 3 of July zra (?) but his foot this morning Seth there is lots of girles (girls) in greenfield and A Slite (Slight) Sprinkling of boys next week i think I shall go to the Center and stay 2 Days Saturday Morris and i is A going to Cady (?) hill if we Dont miss if it when i go to the Center i think i shant go to see the landlord Mariah Jane Rowland is to work for Lucy Jane now i told fred to look out for ann for the first he wood (would) know She wood (would) sleeve (?) him John wood (would) not like that what has become of Dan level (?) your mother has got home so morris Sed (said) hav (have) you hurd (heard) from John Hill lately Seth Angeal (Angel?) Sect heel Rowland mary harris Miss earley Miss willsey Miss tirtlot Betsey Rowland was to our house last week morris is alulhiating (?) corn to Day greenfield is the place for me i wood (would) like to be Down to your place and look around and see the City but you have so menny (many) yellow girls Down to your place we shod (should) not Stand anny (any) Site atall (at all) ant (ain't) that so Seth ann Austin has Just Come home with Mother So i must hide this Seth ann is to our hous (house) yet i rite one moment and then go to the kitchen So She wont know that i am writing Ann Sed John and lucy was snappih (snappish?) to fred but Dont say anny (any) thing will you i will bet he will not Stay long they want him to Stay there all the time they Dont want him to bee (be) in the Siting (Sitting) room or in the kitchen they want him to bee (be) a Slave for them they dont say meny (many) things ann Sed (Said) So Dont tell fred ann Sed (Said) so Dont let him know that you know it pleas (please) Dont Say anny (any) thing about it it will make Disturbance So goo (good) by (bye) excuse all mistakes  
From Jane rite soon  
To Seth

### **1863\_6\_14\_AnnaDavis\_Seth**

Fonda June 16<sup>th</sup> 63

Dear and absent Friend

I now seat myself down to answer your kind letter of late + was glad to here (hear) that you was well + I am the Same at present Seth the 4<sup>th</sup> is near at hand + we are going to have a selabration (celebration) here then I presume we shall have a plesant (pleasant) time that day I wish all Soldiers Could be home to spend the fourth of July but dont suppose (suppose) that Can be so dont you wish it Could I am shure (sure) I do fore I have a great many friends and relitives (relatives) in the army and I should like to see them all O Seth it makes me so angry when i think of this war but that does not do any good but I wish that I had a rope around old Abes neck I would give him a choke I wish that some one could get hold of him that did not like him and pound him good the old retch that he is Seth it is very quiet here

You would think there was no trouble down South I do not see much difference than there used to be for the people here are the same as always there are just as proud as ever some day this weak (week) Caty and I are going to take a fine ride in the Car we are going to Albany to stay a few days I hope we shall have a nise (nice) time we are going to start Tuesday + stay untill (until) Friday if anything hapens (happens) I wish that you could meet us there.

There was a Regimint (Regiment) of Soldiers past through here yesterday abought (about) 10 o clock they where (were) invited to Little Falls they had A Grand reseption (reception) for them when they got there they went back last night to New York to get musterd (mustered) ought (out) of service + they will return to there homes next weak (week).

P.S. we have delightful wether (weather) here now And enjoying our Selves we atended (attended) A Concert Thursday night it was not very Good they where (were) the Glee Club of Fonda. We had Plenty of Ice Cream that was Splendid I wish you could had some too I presume you have every thing good down South or your would not stay so Long

I Can not rite much more now You must excuse this bad looking sheet of paper it is all I had in the house to day + being Sunday I could not send and get others I shall have beter (better) next time I am going over to see Mother Cross a little while she sais (says) I must give her love to you and she says she hopes you will soon return home give Catys + my respects to Capt ShC (?)

No more at Presant (present)

Only write soon

From your True + Affectionate Friend Anna

To Mr Seth Hill

This letter looks so bat (bad) am almost ashamed to send it it is almost dark and you must excuse it

### **1863\_6\_23\_JaneHarris\_Seth**

June the 23 1863

Friend Seth i know have a few lesure (leisure) moments i will try to answer your letter which i received one week ago last Saturday it found me well i hope those few lines will find you the same eli latham was married last Wednesday i suppose they had a grand rush your mother Sent word to me last evening and sed (said) She wanted to see me So i must go up and See whot (what) She wants of me i shodent think she wood (would) ever want to See me again for we laught (laughed) all the time when i was up to your house the last time whot (what) is the use of living if we cant have a little fun but we dont always feel like having fun Seth i wil tell you whot (what) i think of the landlady i think She is a hippacrit (hypocrite) and so is John Mitchell mariah Jane Rowland is wors (worse) than a hippacrit (hypocrite) and so is hur (her) mother Seth i wish you cod (could) come home the landlady wood (would) bee (be) glad to see you but when your back was turnd (turned) She wood (would) give you a kick Seth pleas (please) dont say nothing a bout this will you well i must Stop and go to hunt the eggs for it is geting (getting) dark i will Commence agane

(again) i had a dream last night i dreamed of seeing John hill i think he will Soon be hurd (heard) from i don't know whot (what) made me dream of him i have not ben (been) to the Center yet now i shant go till after i go to your house i wood (would) like to see fred but i shant go to the tavern when i go to the center ann Sed (Said) she wood (would) not Stade to the tavern as long as she did if fred hadent (hadn't) ben (been) there Ann has ben (been) to see me we had a grand visit i tell you it seem like old times

Seth i have got that 10 cent bill yet that you gave me and that Cow with a Shed on hur (her) back and your photography and that tress of hair that I ask you for yes all of them Lucy Jane told ann Austin She Shodent (Shouldn't) think Jane wood (would) want to work for miss hill if she and mariah Rowland will pleas (please) and mind there (their) lisness (likeness?) i will take care of my lisness i dont know it to bee (be) so but ann Sed so dont Say anny (any) thing John Mitchell has got a harde name but I think I better not say whot (what) name he has got there is lots strawdurrrys (strawberries) in greenfield and lots of girls to pick them come home when you can bee (be) a good boy and keep your nose clean dont get in a fluster if you do oph (off) gose (goes) your head and on gose (goes) a wooden one I dont sleeve (?) them yellow girles (girls) excuse all mistakes for the next time will be wors (worse) from Jane Skuyler

To Seth Mitchell Rowland

Do not get Rowland Hill and that girl that lives to the Springs the one that was to the fair

Good by rite (write) soon

now i will make a grand rush for ded (dead)

[pencil drawing of a bird]

this ust (used) to bee (be) a Methodist exorie (?) I that now ha is (?)

### **1863\_7\_3\_SamuelJones\_Seth**

Porters Corners July 3 1863

Well Sith (Seth)

I received your letter and was glad to hear from you though unexpected as you you have not rote we are all well and hope this will find you the same Eli Latham is Marraid (Married) to Vin Midbery this took place last week Charles Lathams wife has got a Boy and So has Charles Rowland wife got a Boy Charles Rowland has bilt (built) a clover mill where the old Yates Saw Mill was and John Weaver has built rite acrost (across) the way from John Jacks Shauty Charles Latham is Bilden (Building) a house Between me and George Lathams angell has bilt (built) the tanary (tannery) over SO you see Porters Corners is on the gain Your mother is well She was at our house last night we have had no rain here in four weeks so it is vary (very) dry I have Ben (been) west to Ohio and Pennsylvania I was at Williams port in June when the Stir was about the rebs coming in to pettsburg (Petersburg) and there was a wild confusion You had beter (better) Bet I have not ben (been) home long So I cant tell you all the news this time tell Dan Lovel and Reasterd that I send my best

respects to them and tell Dan no such good times as he and I usto (used to) at uncle Jo Bosworths tell him ant (aunt) olive is the same as when he left and Last of all tell Dan I am much obliged for the news that I have had from home this letter was writen (written) with ink that was made out of gunpowder and Vinegra this is all this time so good By Sith (Seth) this time write soon and often as you can Yours Truly Samuel Jones

O the mountain girls is well and Jane Harris is well  
 She was with Your mother when I got your Letter I suppose (suppose) you have this all before all rite  
 S Jones

### **1863\_7\_8\_JaneHarris\_Seth**

July the 8 1863

respected friend i now take this present oportunity (opportunity) to answer your letter which i received last thursday it found me well and when you get this i hope it will find yo (you) well and happy Seth i have been up to your house your mother watned me to put the Carpet down and So i did she sed (said) fred had a letter from you and you did not say anny (any) thing about hur (her) always Speak of your mother and tell fred to tell hur (her) your mother wants to hear all she can from your dont for get Send your love to hur (her) evry (every) time you write to fred She thinks you have forgot hur (her) mary harris Sed (said) give hur (her) love to you so i put it in this rag so it cant get out now if it is not in the rag it has crep (crept) out so dont think harde (hard) of me for i dun (done) the best I cod (could)

Seth i can not tell whare (where) ann is now she was to ant (aunt) ollives (olive's) rowlands last week i went up and mad (made) them a visit morris sed (said) tell you they had Sixty numbers the 3 of July what ever do you think of old Jo hookker now well Seth i think I Shod (should) like to see you on Dress parade but i wood (would) rather come in the morning then i wood (would) have time to get home before dinner if i was a bird i wood (would) soon be all over this world do not get home sick will you you sed (said) you dont live here but you cant fool your pap on that why didnt you say a dead bad girl i hope i never shall have that name there is a man in greenfield that makes a grand rush for the woods when he sees a wagon a comming (coming) we have very warm weather now you have warm weather down to your haus (house) dont you do you have a plenty to eat well i cant write anny (any) more now So be a good boy write soon

From Jane Harris to  
 Seth what shal (shall) i say  
 i will say Seth Hill

what a fool i am

dont be mad Seth

you have hurd (heard) about love in the tul (?) havent you well this is love in a rag good by

### **1863\_7\_19\_CC\_Sally**

Maryland July the 19 1863

my Dear wife I received your letter last night I was glad to get the picturs (pictures) before i Crost (Crossed) the river we lay about four miles from the river expict (expect) to Cross to day we have been hear (here) two days the reds have Crost (Crossed) we ar (are) after them I Cant rite (right) much i am well i have had the runities (?) vary (very) bad a few days but am beter (better) now i am sory (sorry) that loueisa (Louisa's) pictur (picture) is not good she don't look natural she is Crian (Crying) isnt (isn't) she I would give five dollars if she looked as she did when i left i dont think yours is taken vary (very) good either but geore (George?) B us a beautifull pictur (picture) he looks like a little man give my love to all tel louisea (Louisa) pa is glad she is a good little girl i must get my coffee for the boys is geting (getting) ready to move  
rite soon give my respects to Miss Shurman  
From your husband C.C. Hill  
I will rite again when we get in regimint (regiment)

### **1863\_10\_15\_SallyAnn\_Brother**

Saratoga  
Oct the 15 1863

My Dear Brother  
Mother is some better and will be home to Morrow Wednesday if it is plesent (pleasant) and she is no worse She will come on the cars we (?) think it will be best for her as the grouds (grounds) ar (are) rough and there is one here to take her I may Come with her She wants you or some one to meet her at the cars  
Your sister  
S.A. Knickerbocker

### **1863\_12\_8\_Albert-Adaline\_Sally (\*\*\*\*\*NOT TO SALLY HILL??, Another Sally???)**

Wolcott Dec 8<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Aunt it is with pleasure that we sit down to write you a few lines to let you know how we are getting along As I was here Adaline wished me to write a few lines to you and your folks  
We are as well as common I believe those that are left

Father Karr is no more is has gone the way of all the earth and where the wicked cease from troubling and where the weary are at rest where their is nomore (no more) sorrow and no more parting with friends but where all is peace and love we hope this is his happy lot and hope also that it will be ours when called to follow him he died Oct 21<sup>st</sup> -63 Also Uncle John Karr died the 15<sup>th</sup> of September so they wrote to us they both died with the same complaint the inflammation of the bladder Father Karrs sufferings was very severe he was only sick about 3 days then pased (passed) away from the suffering scene

I left my house in Michigan 2 weeks ago yesterday we heard from my family last or a week ago last Sunday they was well then He left the farm with out any inch- mberence (?) or debts against it and wished it to remain as it does as long as mother Karr lives

John Karrs folks are as well as usual they are here on the place and are working the place

Erasmus Karrs wife and folks are as well as common

Joll (?) Karrs folks are well I believe

One think I had forgotten to write that is about the stock on the place thay (they) have one horse two cows one yearling and one pig

After you read this please send to Aunt Sally Hill

Adaline says that she weote to you last Summer and has had no answer She says she would like to have you answer this one

From Mrs Adaline Karr

Written by Albert Stringham

### **1863\_12\_13\_SallyAnn\_MotherBrother**

Philadelphia Dec the 13 1863

My Dear Mother and Brother

Acording (According) to promis (promise) I now sit down to write you a few lines I left Schenecady (Schenectady) last Wensday (Wednesday) morning and got to Rome at one o clock and Staid there untill (until) dark when we took eats for Wafterown and from there to the Mills where we arived (arrived) two o clokc at night tired as a dog and with a long face I can tel (tell) you for it was so late I expected to have to Stay there all night but the first one I saw when the cars Stopt (stopped) was Esther and Jim and after a very cold ride arived (arrived) al save (safe) and sound about eleven o clock at cousin Jim Hewits found every thing about as you told me Sandfords folks livs (lives) in one part of the house and they don't agree very well I tell you they move out in march Jim has rented the went (?) gear to Morge Shimble and Walter Hewit Aunt is not very well She dont do eny (any) think Jim is almost blind and they are rather a slim lot eny (any) how aunt sends hur (her) love to you and sais (says) she would like to see you once more if it was only for an hower (hour) but dont know as she ever shall for she cant come down there poor old woman has not long to stay in this world I guess George Hewit is dead he died last

summer I think now I shall go to see Dan Hill before I come home tell me when you write if you think of going out there this winter I dont know how long I shall stay out here prehaps (perhaps) not long for it is a very lonsom (lonesome) place I think tell me how the Boys are when you write I went to see Liby while I was in Schenectady I think she is misused (?) like a fog (?) if she was my child she would not stay there an other (another) day if erik comes home I hope he will take hur (her) away when he (?) coms (comes?) for they make a little slave of hur (her) mary Jane went home the day befor (before) I started for the west it is raining here to day there is no snow here when there coms (comes) snow we ar (are) going to uncle Daniels to make a visit it is getting late and I shall have to draw my letter to a close write as soon as you get this and tell me all the news

good By for this time

from your affectionate Sister and daughter Sally Ann Knickerbocker

## 1864:

### 1864\_1\_28\_George\_Sally

For Schuyler Jan 28<sup>th</sup> 1864

My Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I take this opportunity of writing to you I arrived here all safe and sound a bout 1 o clock to day we started from Schenectady last night about seven o clock we got to Albany and there we marched a crost (crossed) the river and took the cars for new york where we arrived about seven o clock this morning and the we marched down to the river and there we had to stayed (stay) until half past ten then we took the steam boat for fort schuyler (Schuyler) where we arived (arrived) at on as before mentouned (mentioned?) it is quite a sight to see the ships a long the harbor we have got a very nice place here it is warm and nice here as it is up in old greenfield in May we found Harvey wood and John combs (?) here and Clark come with us we expect to stay here some time we are all well I don't know of anything more to write this time write as soon as you get this and let me know how your (you) are a getting a long this is from your son

George F Hill

Ps direct to fort schuyler (Schuyler) post office (office) N.Y.

### 1864\_2\_9\_Seth\_Sally

Dear Mother I dont know much news to write perhaps you would like to know whare (where) we are doing dutty (duty) we guard the old Capitol Prison the Carall Prison + at the Baltimore Depot + to the Central guard House + at the dock Now mother dont worry the boys for it will do no good I am in hopes of Seeing you before long Give my love to Mr Seshing (?) + wife also to all of my friends if I have any I dont know as i have any friends in greenfield but I know I have in the Citty (City) of Washington DC

Well I Had better Stop for i dont think you can read what I Have rote (wrote) So  
 Good By For This time rite Soon  
 This is from your Son Seth Hill To His Dear Mother  
 S Hill  
 H Co 153d Regt NY  
 [drawings of hands?]

**1864\_2\_15\_George\_Sally**

Mc Dougall Barracks  
 Fort Schuyler  
 Feb 15 1864

Dear Mother

As we have got marching orders I thought I would write you A few lines to lett (let) you know that I am well and I hope that this will find you the same we leave here to morrow but where for I do not know we have ben (been) musterd (mustered) for pay to day we have got a bully lot of boys in the sixteenth when I get to our regiment (regiment) I will write a gain (again) the boys are all well give my love to Mr Sheshings folks and all the rest of the of the folks I dont know of any thing more to write this time so good by this is from your son  
 George F Hill

**1864\_2\_18\_Seth\_Sally**

Washington DC  
 Feb 18<sup>th</sup>/1864

Dear Mother

We are going away to day + in a few moments so I will drop a line I dont know whare (where) we are a going I will send you a check of 35 dolars (dollars) directed to you you will find it to Saratoga Springs  
 I hope you will hear from me soon

**1864\_2\_19\_Seth\_Sally**

Head Quarters 153<sup>rd</sup> Regt Ny Vols  
 Stephens Depot V.A.  
 Feb the 19<sup>th</sup> 1854

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to rite (write) you a few lines to let you know that I am well + I Hope this will find you the Same I rote (wrote) to you the next day after i got back to my Regt + directed it to Balston (Ballston) Spa I Have been Promoted to Orderley (Orderly) Seargeant (Sergeant) Since I came back + Now I man those Dimonds (Diamonds?) that is in one of those books that I left at home give my

Respects to uncle Seshins + wife + tell them I am all right (alright) thear (there) was about 6 inches of snow when i got back we have had about As much more Since i got back but is agoing (going) off verry (very) fast the weather is mild hear (here) to what it is was in Saratoga a week ago to day we Have had inspection to day as it is a Military rule to have inspection Every Sunday the boys all thought that I would get my Discharge while I was gone Well Every thing is quiet hear (here) + i dont know of any news to rite (write) So i will close by Bidding you Good By Hoping to hear From you Soon

This is From your absent Son Seth Hill

My Respects to Mr Milses People + to all who may Inquire

### **1864\_2\_19\_Seth\_Sally\_a**

Alexandria VA

Febuary (February) the 19/1864

Dear Mother I now take my Pencil in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that i am well + I hoe this will find you're the Same I rote (wrote) you a line yesterday \_ Lent a check in it I Lent you 35 dollars we are at the rest of Alexandria we expect to go to Texas but we dont know whare (where) we will go yet you will find at Abams (Abrhams?) Espress office to Saratoga I don't think well go from here in a day or to (two) I left Some things to Mr Priors in Washington I left a dress coat a pair of pants + Some hooks So you will know whare (where) they are if any thing happens no more at present only rite (write) and direct as before Washington DC This is from your Son Seth Hill

To his Mother

Now rite (write) and let me know how you get along

### **1864\_2\_25\_Helen\_Sally**

Saratoga Springs Feb 25<sup>th</sup> 1864

My Dear GrandMother

I now seat myself to address a few lines to you we are all well and hope you are the same we have been looking for you down evry (every) day but we do not see you yet we have not heard any thing from you since you was down here

The reason we have not written to you before is that we waited to get a letter from Aunt Ann we received a letter from her the night before last she was well and she is coming home the last of next week come down as quick as you can

No more at present so goodbye

From Hellen A Latham

### **1864\_3\_6\_Seth\_Sally**

Franking LA  
March 6<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear mother as we have Stoped (Stopped) I will try + write you a few lines to let you know that I am well + I hope when this reaches you it will find you the [same] we left Washington DC on the 18 of Feb marched to alexandria (Alexandria) VA Stayed there until the 20 of feb when we took Transport over the bring deep i Stood it first rate we Landed at Algear on the 29 Algear is acrost (across) the rivver (river) from Newerleans (New Orleans) it is a large place we Stayed in Algear until Thursday night when We took the cars for brashear (?) citty (city) we got thear (there) at 7 o clock the next morning then we took the steam boat acrost (across) the bay and then we marched a mile or too (two) then we Stoped (Stopped) + cooked Some grub we have marched to franklin (Franklin) it is a verry (very) nice country here+ healthy we have got our tents up but will be on the moove (move) in the course of a few days they have torn the country all too (to) Pieces from brashear (?) citty (city) too (to) Franklin Plantations all destroyed I hant (haven't) seen a Hill Since wee came in the Mississippi River it a Level country and we have See Lents (?) of arangers (?) Growing peach tress is all in blosom (blossom) grass is Six inches high + it is pretty warm i expect we Shall go through too (to) Texas but i dont (don't) know we will clean the rebs out if we can this Spring So we can go home this winter there was a man in our company went over to newerleans (New Orleans) too see his cousin + he wouldnt (wouldn't) Shake hands with him he didnt (didn't) like the union uniform my feet is Some Sore + will have too (to) Stop writing and get Something too (to) eat So good by

P.S. March 7<sup>th</sup> 1864 [drawing of a hand]

Dear Mother

I take my pen in hand this morning too (to) let you know that I am well now I will tell you whare (where) I left Some things i Left a new dress coat + a Pair of pants too Mr Oscar Priors J Washington I tell you whare (where) they are So if any thing happens you wil know whare (where) they are if any buddy (body) can read this they will do for lawyers i heard last night that the 115 regt was coming too (to) go with us also the second vetren (veteran) cavelry (cavalry) they was in Newerleans (New Orleans) when we got there tell Jane that Clint is well but Morris is sick

### **1864\_3\_7\_Isaac\_Sally**

Newport Mar. 7 - 64

Dear Aunt

I find myself once more safely at home after an absence of about 3 weeks. I found my family all well and evrything (everything) in a good order about the farm as I could expect. I arrived at New York munday (Monday) evening at about 5 o clock. On Tuesday it snowed all day and Wednesday morning the snow was 4 inches deep. I stayed in New York until Wendesday evening at 6 o clock when I took the cars for Philadelphia and arrived there at 10 oclock PM I stayed there until Thursday noon

and then started for home where I arrived safe on Friday evening at about 8 o'clock. Im thinking over my trip and visit at Saratoga it seams (seems) almost like a dream. How stangely (strangely) we can fly through the world in these days of railroads. I shall always look back to my visit at Porters Corners and Saratoga with a great deal of interest I have for many years felt a strong inclination to visit Old Saratoga and especially to see you and I feel amply rewarded for my time and expense. As I told you I prize your picture very highly both in your own account and on mothers account. My wife thinks your picture resembles Mother verry (very) much we all regard it as a choice treasure I felt rather loth to leave you all when I did it seamed (seemed) as if we had just began to get acquainted and ready to visit when I left. I think if I live a few years I shall try to give you all another call. The weather is pleasant here the ground was frozen a little this morning but this afternoon it is in good order for plowing. As I was coming home on Friday last I saw one man plowing between here and Wheeling as I was coming down on the boat. There is a great difference between our climate and yours. I hope you will write to me soon. Tell me how you own health is and when you heard from your Sons. And whether cousin Sally Ann has returned yet. I am verry (very) Sorry I couldent (couldn't) see her. Please remember me to her and tell her I am in hopes we will et be permitted to see each other. I intended to have written today to Mr Latham but business called me from home all day today and this evening I returned home with the sick headache and will only attempt to write to you. I will try to write to cousin Lathams by the next mail.

We are all as well as usual exapt (except) my spell of sick headache and I think I shall get clear of that when I get some sleep. So for the present I add no more. From your affectionate Newpnew

Isaac K. Adkins

Direct your letter to Newport Washington Co. Ohio

My wife says she would have been verry (very) glad if you could have come home with me. She would be verry (very) glad to see you. She wishes me to give you her kind regards. And hopes someday to make you a visit. Our daughter Mary was quite young when Mother died but she says she can see that your likeness looks like her. I enclose to you Alvins likeness. I will send you the rest of the family as soon as we can get them take we have no artist nearer than Marietta (10 miles)

We are all well

J.K.A.

### **1864\_3\_10\_George\_Sally**

Glouster (Gloucester) Point Mar 10<sup>th</sup> 64

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and I hope that this will find you the same I have had the mumps but am all right now fat and hearty as a bear I went over the river Monday and saw a man shot all the soldiers were drawn up in line and he road (rode) through on his coffin he got out and sit down on his coffin and there were twelve men drawn up in front of

him with loaded guns the signal was given and they fired and there was ten balls went through him it was rather a hard sight then I went out on McClellans battle field after a load of wood we cut down a tree and balls in it ive (I've) found shell and cannon balls and when we came back we saw whare (where) some of the men was burried (buried) the boys are all well we have enough to eat and that that is good enough it is raining now I want you to write when you have heard from Seth and whear (where) he is and how to direct to John and whear (where) ann is and if Mr rowlands folks has not sent the box (?) yet I want you to send me som (some) fried cakes and a bottle of magnetic balm and what else you are a mind to I dont know of any thing more to write this time so good by this is from your son  
George F Hill

### **1864\_3\_11\_Seth\_Sally**

Franklin LA  
March 11<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to rite (write) you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope when these few lines reaches you it will find you the Same but it will be some days before it reaches you Mother i am Some ways from home but I like itt hear (here) verry (very) well it is 1840 miles from new York Citty (city) to New Orleans + it is 125 miles from New Orleans to Franklin we have had a heavy thunder Shower Since we came hear (here) Sweet Potatoes is ripe hear (here) we can buy them for 60 cts Per bushel good Shuger (suger) for 10 cts Per LB beef Seak (Steak) for 7 cts Per pound apples 10 cts a piece cheese cheese for 50 cys Lb butter for 60 cys Lb when we was on the baot we had to pay 25 cts for a Lemmon (Lemon) \$1.00 for a pie 50 cts for a loaf of bread well I guess i have rote (wrote) enough of that now I will rite (write) something els (else) I don't supose (suppose) the bullfrogs bother you any up in old Greenfield yet the frogs + crickets + birs (birds) Makes musick (music) for us it is like July in Greenfield Since I have been writing there has 2 Reft of Colard (colored) men past I supose (suppose) they will go on our Expedition i think we will Start in a few days I hear thear (there) will be Seventy five thousand men Start from this place the 2<sup>nd</sup> vetrens (veterans) will go with us give my Love Jane + tell hur (her) to write to me we are in the first brigade first Division + 19 army corpse (corps.) give my love to all + Save a Share for yourself I want you to write I f you got that money I Sent before I left Washington DC I Sent 35 dollars + wrote a letter + sent the receite (receipt) for it

This is From your affectionate Son

Seth Hill

To His Beloved Mother

Direct to Neworleans (New Orleans) LA

**1864\_3\_12\_\_Sally (\*\*\*\*\*CHANGE FILE NAME TO SETH\_SALLY!!!!!!!!!!!!)**

Florida LA  
Mar 12 1864

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to rite (write) a few lines to let you know that I am well I rote (wrote) 2 days ago + I hant (haven't) put it in the office yet and it being Sunday I though I would rite a few more lines we have had Brigade Inspection to day It is warm here to day We have brigade drill from 9 am until 12 Am we have lost one man Since we have been hear (here) his name was James Radford he was out of Co A it will be Sad news for his Wife I was a little acquainted with hur (her) She was down to Alexandria VA She was a very good Woman she is now thinking that he is alive but he is gone he was burried (buried) on Saturday (Saturday) at 2 o clock the 12 well My Dear other I dont want you to worry (worry) anything about me for if I am to be Shot I will be Shot and if I am to be Spared it will be to (too) I am agointo (a going to) do my dutty (duty) as well as i can and if it is my lot to Lay my hanes (?) in LA or texas (Texas) it will be all right but I think I will See you and all my old friends in Greenfield

### **1864\_3\_26\_George\_Sally**

[typed]

16<sup>th</sup> Regiment NY Vol. Artillery  
Battery E.

[written]

Glouster (Gloucester) Point  
Mar 26 64

Dear Mother

It is with the greatest pleasure that [I] sit down to write you a few lines I am well and I hope that this will find you the same I like a soldiers life first rate and as for the one cracker a day it is not so we have enough to eat and that that's good enough I am a getting as fat as a hog and never was healthier in the world and as for being home sick I dont think I shall all the rest of the boys is well withe (with) the exception of Eugene Masher he has got a very bad cold and I think he is home sick now I am a going to send you sixty five dollars and I want you to furnish the room and have a picket fence build (built) and have it leveled off around there I think that you had better get Mr Seshion to see to it I want some stones drawn in the ditch a long the road and that leveled up and then I want you to get that chair that I picked out for you write wether (whether) Seth has sent you any money or not if he has take part of his to fix up with now I want your to fi it up nice so that when I get home that I can see what you have done I want you to use my money for wat (what) ever you want we have had a quite a snow storm down here it commenced snowing on the 22 a bout noon and stoped (stopped) the next morning the snow fell a bout one foot and drifted as it came give my love to mr Seshions folks writ (write) how the

porters corners folks take a bout the others call for men I dont know of any thing more to write this time so good by this is from your son

GFH

### **1864\_3\_26\_Seth\_Sally**

Alexandria LA  
March 26<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother

It is with Pleasure that i now take my pencil in hand to write you a few ilnes to let you know that i am well + i hope this will find you the Same we got hear (here) yesterday after a hard march we was on the road 10 days from Franklin which is about a 180 (18?) miles we found lots of Shuger (Sugar) on the way we have Seen thousands of hogsheads of nice as you ever see we made the hens + hogs suffer i tell you we expected to have a brush with the rebs before we got hear (here) but they all Skedadddled they had taken Alexandria they took it on the 16 ins (?) now one (no one) expect to go to Shrevesport (?) whare (where) we shall have some fighting but we have got force enough to kick them out I expect a letter from you to day i hope i shall get one So i can hear from that money if you have not rite (write) about it rite (write) in your next one expect the rebs is about 25000 strong we have about a 190 miles before we get to Shrevesport well as i have made Sutch (such) work a writing gues (guess) I had better Stop the most I care about is to let you know that I am well I saw Clint harris this morning he is well give my love to all no more at Present only rite (write) soon This is from your Son Seth Hill  
To His Dear Mother Direct to the 153<sup>rd</sup> Regt NYSV Co H first Brigade First Division  
19 army corps Neworleans (New Orleans) LA  
So good By

### **1864\_3\_27\_George\_ (\*\*\*\*Probably to Sally because he sent money)**

Mar 27 1864

As I have expressed my money I thought I would write a few more lines I have just had my supper and I have eaten so mutch (much) that I can hardly stir now I will tell you what we have to eat we have fresh bread evry (every) day coffee twice a day fresh beef three times a week and pork the rest of the time and potatoes once a week and soup evry (every) day noon so I think that there is not mutch (much) danger of our starving yet we have easy times now and as for our sleeping we sleep as comfortable as we would to home the name of our fort is fort keys  
I have seen several rebble (rebel) prisoners since we have ben (been) here and they are a had (hard) looking set I tell you I would like to have a chance at them you must keep lookout for that money write how the times is up there no more write soon

GFH

**1864\_4\_4\_Seth\_Sally**

Natchitoches

Apr 4st (4<sup>th</sup>) 1864

Dear Mother

I now Seat myself to rite a few lines to let you know that i am well + whare (where) i am we got hear on the 2d if you look on the map you can See whare (where) we are the Cavelry (Cavalry) have the rebs out from hear (here) we Started from Alexandria a week ago to day we marched 90 miles last week we was detained Some we had to lay Pontoons acrost (across) the hane river before we could cross I think we can clear the rebs out in this section of Country in the course of the Summer this State you know is in the union but there is lots of rebs hear (here) yet i Supose (Suppose) we will go into texas I Supose (Suppose) we will leave hear (here) in the morning the gun boats has come + our rations Dear Mother we have lived well we have had fresh Pork mutton chickens Pancakes honey + Shuger (Sugar) a plenty they go into houses + take any thing they can find well I hope i shall get a letter from you in the next mail i want to hear from that money i sent when in Washington DC there is a place called Washington in this State + a place called Alexandria you look on the map and you can see the rout (route) we have come form Franklin to Natchitoches our boys has Stood the march verry (very) well I have Eat to much + it makes me lazy + i guess you will think so by this riting (writing) we have men to pick up beef Cattle for us + then the boys pickes (picks) up Chickens + pork + mutton for themselves So we have lived on the top Shelf we marched some 15 days + never saw a Stone nor a Hill now we can find a some Stone + some hills I have Just Received 2 letters From you + Hellen so I will rite on on and other (another) Piece of paper

Give my Love to ann + all the rest of my Friend

Dear Mother

I was glad indeed to get that Potograph (Photograph) + to hear from that money My Dear Mother I Should Have tride (tried) to got off if we had Stayed in Washington and other (another) week now I think that you can get one of us clear if get Som (Some) good man to work for you + State the Curcumstance (Circumstance) if it is me you want I Shall except the chance for I cant bear the thought of your being left alone if you want me to come + can get me clear do it right off it will do no hurt to try it at least rite in your next and let me know what the Prospect is we shall leave hear (here) in the morning I will have to close By Bidding you good By This is from your Affectionate friend

Seth Hill

To His Dear Mother

Rite soon + direct as before Tell Hellen that i will rite to hur (her) as soon as i can but when we are on the move all the time i cant have much time to rite

[newspaper clipping of a poem called "Rainy Day in Camp"] \*\*\*\*TRANSCRIBE?

**1864\_4\_7\_George\_Sally**

[typed]

16<sup>th</sup> Regiment NY Vol. Artillery  
Battery E.

[written]

Glouster (Gloucester) Point  
Apr 7<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to answer your kind letter which I received last night it found me well and I hope that this will find you the same I had not thought of getting my discharge for I do not want it if I had it today I should enlist over over a gain I should like to know where you hear sitch (such) stuff I guess it comes from sam Jones you may tell him if he know so mutch (much) a bout our not being in a fort he had better come down here tell him that I know that we are in a fort and in the heavy artillery the name of our fort is fort keys and there is annother (another) large fort a crost (across) the river from us to yorktown I have not ben (been) homesick a bit I want you to build a picket fence and to have some trees sit out I want you to have two sit out in the door year a bout half way from the hous (house) down to the road opisite (opposite) each corner of the hous (house) like Charley Lathams I have got your picture it is just as natural as life I will send you mine as soon as I get the rest of my uniform and gun and I think that will be before many days now I think yall (?) had better buy something and put on the garden and write what you are a going to do with it this summer I don't know of anything to write this time so good by (bye) this is from your son George F Hill  
Send me some postage stamps

**1864\_4\_16\_Seth\_Sally**

Grandecore (Grand Ecore) Apr 16/1864

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that i am well i rote a few days ago but i dident (didn't) know the name of the place i rote in my other letter about the fight i have heard that the rebs fell back 20 miles but not from any reliable Source thear (there) hant quite So much musick (music) hear (here) to day as thear (there) was at pleasant hill a week ago to day you could hear the old bumshells (?) go wiz wiz but it wasent (wasn't) very pleasant musick (music) after All I Had wrather (rather) hear a Piano 2 to one i hear we killed 4 of thear (their) men thear (there) one of ours well now I will tell you what we had for dinner we had Pork + beens (beans) i have East to much + we have got Some flower + butter +

Shiger (Sugar) + to nigt (night) we will have Some Pancakes well Dear Mother I dont (don't) know much news to write but i will rite (write) as often as i can but Since we Left Franklin we have been on the go all the time we have laid hear (here) most a week we was out on picket day before yesterday That Is all that I know of at present So Good by (bye) Rite we Soon This Is From your Son Seth Hill  
To His Dear Mother

### **1864\_4\_23\_NettieLatham\_Seth**

Saratoga Springs April 23d 1864

Dear Uncle Seth

It is with great pleasure I now seat my self to answer your ever kind and welcome letter which I received last Wednesday the 19<sup>th</sup> it found us all enjoying our wual (?) good health but we did not feel very cheerful on account of our great national calamity and the day I got your letter our little village looked very gloomy and mournful dressed up it was in somber mourning drapery there was service at every church and a very great many were dressed in black and every one had some badge of mourning about them

Mother went to greenfield Wednesday and came home yesterday afternoon Grandmother is not very well but is some better than she was some time ago she thinks she will come down here week after next if she is well enough Fred wrote to her that he thought of enlisting in the regular service and that almost killed her Oh how I do hope you may be spared to see the end of your enlistment for Grandmother is not safe to stay there alone I do not think

I have not seen Carrie since I wrote to you but I got a letter from her the other day she was well then I got a letter from Minnie Avery the other day she was well and sent her best respects to you she says she saves all of her love for one in particular a certain young gent whose initials are E.C. so it seems your coke (?) is all dough but I guess you do not care much do you Uncle

I got a letter from Uncle Theodore Friday the 21<sup>st</sup> he was well and he had seen Uncle Christopher and he was well also

I had a letter from Uncle John the 14<sup>th</sup> he was well two (too) but had seen some pretty tough things as well as the rest of you

We are having rather disagreeable weather up at Saratoga no it rains half of the time and the wind flows like soky (?) the other half and when the wind does not blow and it does not rain it is cold as green land to day the wind blows and I is rather cold I wish it would be pleasant part of the time so I can have a bean (?) but things always did go against me and I guess they always will but I do not care very much any way well I guess I have written foolishness enough for this time don't you

I will now close by bidding you an affectionate goodbye hoping to hear from you soon

I Remain as Ever

Yours Very Truly

Nettie H Latham

Write soon Box 585

**1864\_5\_8\_Seth\_Sally**

Number one

Alexandria LA  
May the 8<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother I once more take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that i am well + hope when this reaches you it will find you the Same if it ever reaches you i have got most tired of writing for i don't get no mail but i Suppose (Suppose) thear (there) is mail in neworleans (New Orleans) for us but they are afraid to Send it I Suppose (Suppose) i heard that the rebs had taken one of our mail boats that started from hear (here) to Neworleans (New Orleans) but we hear so many camp lies we cant tell what to believe we are building fortications (fortifications) hear (here) it looks as Sow (though) we was agoingto (a going to) stay hear (here) but I cant tell ant thing about it only what i guess at we may not Stay hear (here) 12 hours and we may Stay hear (here) a long time I Saw clint Harris a day or to (two) ago he is well + to day 2 of the Demmon boys hear (here) they belong to the Same Company that Clint does I rote (wrote) twice last week + now I will Comence (Commence) + Number my letters and then you can tell when one is gone I dont Suppose (Suppose) that blackeries (blackberries) is geting (getting) ripe hear (here) but they are Some of our boys got Some in april Peaches is not verry (very) plenty hear (here) but they will be ripe by the first of next month things is verry (very) high hear (here) bread is 20 cts a loaf and a man can Eat 2 loafs a day butter 75 cts and cheesse (cheese) 60 cts Per Pound well I have 6 or 7 times about you trying to get me out of the army So i think you have got Some of them but if you have not i hope you will get this and do what you can and dont wait thear (there) is Some talk of our going back to Neworleans (New Orleans) but we cant tell whare (where) we will go nor when thear (there) is Some Skermishing (Skirmishing) along the lines most evry (every) day Evry thing is quiet hear (here) whare (where) we are well well I will Close Hoping to Hear from you Soon This is From your Son Seth Hill

To His Dear Mother  
Rite Soon

And let me know if you can get me out of the Army So Good By  
S Hill

Give my love to my Sisters and to my Niece Hellen and tell them I would like to write to them but it is as much as i can do is to write home

**1864\_5\_10\_Almira\_Cousin**

Malory Town  
May 10<sup>th</sup> 1864

My Dear Cousin after along (a long) time I Set me down to write a few lines to you to let you know how we all are I have been sick but I have got so I can work now and I hope these poor written (written) lines will find you well again George Hewitt is dead Loren Hewitt is dead he died in the army and was brot (brought) home and buried Amelia Mcree is Married to a Soldier I dont know of any more news from the other side of the river I have not been over since last fall I will I will write more next time O Cousin this war will it ever Come to a Close or not I hope it will Soon So the poor soldiers can return home O Dear Cousin would not that be good luck for you all I think it would there is lots of deserters here in Canada all over they are coming every day Some of them better stay where they belong in the army I think I have not heard from your folks since you went away from home Dear Cousin I would be glad to see you and your wife very much  
 I cannot think of any thing more to write  
 So good by (bye) from your Cousin Almira  
 Alexandria Bay Jefferson Co NY  
 Rockport Box C W

### **1864\_5\_11\_George\_Sally**

Yorktown VA  
 May 11<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother

I received your kind letter last night it found me well and I hope that this will find you the same I have come off guard this morning I am not home sick a bit we have moved acrost (across) the river we have more duty to do here than we did on the other side we fair first rate we have as good bread as ever I eat we have good barracks here I want you to furnish the room for I think that I shall be home before a great many months I am a comming (coming) up and eat green corn with you I have not got a cent of money and have not had for a long time you may send me a five dollar greenback if you pleas (please) I dont know when we will get any pay but I hope we shall before long we musterd (mustered) for pay the first of the month now I will try to finish my letter we hear good news from our armys we have been drawing cloths this morning and now when I get some money I will have some potographs (photographs) taken I dont know how mutch (much) it will cost to build the fence but I should think from 20 to 30 dollars I think you done pretty well in getting the tomb stones Joseph is here he is well Eugene is in the hospital I have not had time to go and see him since I cam a crost the river I like it here first rate but I dont know how long we shall stay here I have got in with some good fellows I dont know of any thing more to write this time so good by this is from your son  
 George F Hill

### **1864\_5\_23\_\_Sally**

[original letter missing, this is a reprint]

Dear Mother

We got here yesterday at 12 o'clock and went into camp on the bank of the Mississippi we left Alexandria on the 12<sup>th</sup> and got to Simpsport on the 17<sup>th</sup> and stayed there until the 19<sup>th</sup> and we marched 25 miles down the river where we are now encamped

The weather is very very warm here we have new potatoes peas lettuce beets and all kinds of garden goods we have marched 600 miles since the 15<sup>th</sup> of march and have done some fighting in the bargain we have had a pretty hard march One day coming from Grandecore (Grand Ecore) to Alexandria we marched 40 miles our fighting is over for the present there is no force of rebels very near here

### **1864\_5\_25\_George\_Sally**

Yorktown VA

May 25 64

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to answer your kind letter which I received night before last I have been sick but am better now excused from duty to day by the doctor if you said that you was better of than I was you must not worry about me for I am well enough off I have got good cloths (clothes) and I can run a round Yorktown with my white gloves on the money came through all right but I was not in need of it just now as I had just drawn the rest of my state bounty and now I will send you thirty

Joseph and I have expressed thirty a piece now I will tell you what we have to go we have to drill heavy artillery from seven till nine in the morning and then we have target shooting a bout a hour and a half and in the after noon we have battallion (battalion) drill from three till five and then dress parade I am a going to send you my likeness so you can judge how I look in my new clothes my pants are just like the others but I drew a dress coat I do not hear from anny (any) of the boys have written to Seth but I have not had any answer from him I don't know of any more news to write no more this time so good by write soon from your son

George F Hill

Dont worry a bout me for I shall be all right in a day or two

### **1864\_5\_30\_Seth\_Sally**

Alexandria LA

May the 3d 1864

Dear Mother I now take the Present oportunety (opportunity) to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and hope these few lines will find you the Same I

Supose (Suppose) you would like to know what is agoing (going) on in this department well yesterday our brigade went out about 10 miles a foraging and we got near the Shuger (Sugar) Mill whare (where) we was to load up + the rebs gave us a little dash dash and Scart (scared) us out So we didnt (didn't) get nuthing (nothing) 16 corps has gone out to day and I expect they will give the rebs rats I cant tell how long we will Stay hear (here) well I had Some ripe blackberies (blackberries) yesterday SO you can tell Something about what sort of a country we are in and I Saw Some corn that was nearly three feet high Evry (every) thing is quiet around thear (there) is lots of rebs in this department and thear (there) is lots of Yankees to (too) but i am am one that would like to be in greenfield to Spend the rest of my time but it goes of verry (very) fast I guess if you get all of my letters you will get tired of reading them now i wish you would Send me a paper that has the account of those battles at Sabine Cross road + at Pleasant Hill i would like to see the report of these 2 Battles first rate now i have rote Several times about trying to get my out of this but wether (whether) you have got them or not i don't know but i think you have got some of them + if thear (there) is any chance of So doing dont wait and Rite what the Prospect is I think it can be done and if it can i want it done right off well if you See any of Mr Harris's folks tell them that Clint + morris is well I Don't Know of any thing more this morning so good by (bye) rite Soon From S Hill to His Mother

### **1864\_5\_31\_Seth\_Sally**

Margazies (?) Bend LA  
May the 31<sup>st</sup>/1864

Dear Mother

I now take the Present Oportunety (Opportunity) to write you a few lines to let you know that i am well and i hope these few lines will find you the Same thear (there) is no news of importance to write our cavelry (cavalry) went out on a Scout yesterday and they baged (bagged) 200 rebs and 300 horses i See by the papers that Grant is having quite a time in Virginia we are getting our camp fixt (fixed) up bully but we may have to leave it before we have any good of it you know that a Soulgier (Soldier) dont Stay long in a place or we hant (haven't) for the last three months we have travled (traveled) Some I recon I Heard yesterday that the 10 Army Corps Was to be kept along the Mississippi River to keep it open from Neworleans (New Orleans) to Vixburgh (Vicksburg) I got a letter from Hellen the other day She Said my Business was going out as well as it can She Said they thought thear (there) would be no dout (doubt) about it i hope there will be no dout (doubt) of it i think it will be a Shure (Sure) thing if it is done Right and i think I have got friends Enough to See it through i hope my papers will come before we move again but i hant agointo (a going to) make to (too) much caculation (calculation) on if for it may all fall through but i hope not i don't have much of any thing to do when we are in camp i dont have no guard Dutty (Duty) to do we have inspection at Sundown Evry (every) the Weather Is no (not) Quite So warm to day the blackberies (blackberries) is about all gone you

rote (wrote) to me about A Pair of Drawers + 2 Pair of Socks and Some cake but you didnt (didn't) rite (write) how you Sent them but however i didnt (didn't) get them FA Marchouse and Ed West has gone home on a furlough of 60 days I dont know of any thing more at present only Hurry up that Thing as fast as you can i have Seen Enough of Soulgiring (Soldiering) So I will close By bidding you Good by Rite Soon

From your Affectionate Son Seth Hill  
 To His Dear Mother  
 S Hill H Co 153d R.  
 Western Lousania (Louisiana) May the 31/1864

1864\_6\_12\_George\_Sally

Williams Wharf VA  
 June 12 64

Dear Mother

I now sit down to let you know where I am and how I am getting a long I am well and I hope this will find you the same I left yorktown on the 7<sup>th</sup> and started for the front I had ben (been) out on a raid a bout thirty miles we found some very clever people we came a crost some union folks I and another fellow went to one house and they would not let us come away until we had dinner and when we got back the company was all packed up ready to start we took the steamer and went to fortress Monroe we staid (stayed) there all night and in the morning we took the steam boat for Bermuda hundred where we arived (arrived) a bout six o clock we went a shore and was orderd (ordered) to the front we could could hear the cannons roar and see the smoke rise but the order was countermanded and we came back a twenty miles they had a fight here on the twenty eighth (eighth) and they drove them back we expect they will attack us every hour but let them come if they want to we will give them a warm reception with grape and canisters we are a throwing up breast works you heard that I was wounded but I am not you must not wory (worry) a bout me for I have got the same protector here that I have at home Eugene was quiet smart when I left there I have not mutch (much) time to write now I wil write to hellen as soon as I get time I have not got my watch yet but I think I shall get it back it is a first rate watch you will have [multiple words crossed out] write how the store came out this spring I think I shall be at home as soon as this fall any way you may send me some postage stamps as I can not get any up here I dont know of any thing more to write this time and it is most time to go on fatigue I have received your letter since I have been writing this have you paid Mitchell yet I am a going on picket this morning no more this time so good by from you son

George F Hill  
 Direct to the 16 Regiment  
 NYSV  
 Heavy Artillery  
 Battery E Willsons  
 James River Wharfe (Wharf)

**1864\_6\_12\_Seth\_Sally**

Marganzia (?) Bend LA  
June the 16<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother I now take my pen in hand too (to) write a few lines too (to) let you know that I am well and i hope these few lines will find you the Same Thear (there) is something the matter with the mailing of your letters or Els (else) you dont rite (write) I hant (haven't) hand (had) no mail for the three last mails but i guess I will get one in a few days too (to) day is Sunday and I have been too (to) work all day a cleaning up my gun and Straps we had a General review yesterday and it Showerd (Showered) before we got back and So you See we got our Guns wet and So we have too (to) work too (to) day too (to) clean them up thear (there) is no news of Importance too Write the rebs dont bother us mutch (much) now we have got our camp fixt up bully I have got a good bunk and good blanket and a good fether (feather) Pilow (Pillow) it is a rebble piler but it lays verry (very) good indeed I am acting Sargent (Sergeant) now and as soon as thear (there) is a vacency (vacancy) I will be Promoted i will Put 10 dollars in this letter and if you get it i will Send Some more when i hear from this we was Paid last Thursday well Dear Mother I dont know of any thing more at Present only rite as Soon as you get this So Good by (bye) This From your affectionate Son Seth Hill  
Direct as before too Neworleans (New Orleans) first brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division  
19 Army Corps

**1864\_6\_14\_Seth\_Sally**

No 6

Marganzia Bend LA  
June the 14 1864

Dear Mother I take my pen in hand this morning too (to) rite (write) a few lines too (to) let you know that i am well and i hope when this reaches you it will find you in good health I rote (wrote) too (to) you on the 12 and put \$10.00 dollars in the letter and yesterday i Sent \$25.00 dollars by adams Express you will Send too (to) Saratoga for it the Charges is all paid and i want you too (to) rite (write) as Soon as you get this and let me know weather (whether) you get the \$10 dollars that i Sent in the letter Hiram Masher got a letter in the last mail and he Said that they had heard that I was killed in Some of the battles but you can tell them i am alive and kicking i wish you would Send me a few Postage Stamps they are Scarce hear (here) and rite (write) what luck you have about that Matter i am anxious too (to) hear the weather is verry (very) nice hear (here) now it has been verry (very) dry hear (here) until this month and this month it has rained Every day until yesterday I guess i wont Send this until the mail comes in it will come in a day or too (two) June

the 16<sup>th</sup> 1864 I now take my pen in hand too Try and finish this as the mail has not come in yet i Still Remain well and too day am quite busy as i am acting orderly but want this too (to) go out too (to) day for the mail leaves Neworleans (New Orleans) on Saterdag (Saturday) and i want this too (to) get thear (there) in time too (to) go out as you will get it Some days Sooner we Expect the mail Every day now i think you will get the letter that i rote the 12 and this one at the Same time I hope you will get the money all Safe thear (there) has three men died Since we left Washington and too (two) go thear (there) Discharge well i don't know of any thing more at present So I will bid you good by hoping i will get a letter in a day or too (two) Rite Soon as you get this From your Affectionate Son Seth Hill  
 We Have Enough too (to) Eat and that is good as Soulgiers (Soldiers) can Expect Was was out on a forage Train the other day and we got a 101 Loads of corn the old reb dident (didn't) like it much but all he will have too (to) do is too (to) take the Less of it  
 Seth Hill

### **1864\_6\_28\_George\_Sally**

Willsons Wharfe (Wharf) VA June 28 64

Dear Mother

I now sit down to write you a few lines I am well and I hope this will find you the same there is very heavy Commonadeing (?) up to the front to day old grant is a playing rats with the rebs up before Richmond has John got home yet and how is he a getting a long you said the Seth had received a letter from me where is he I think he is a smart one I wrote to him the last of march or the first of april and I have not heard any thing from him I have heard that our rement (regiment) was orderd (ordered) to Norfolk but I don't know how true it is is there any body drafted there and how has the weather ben (been) up there it has ben (been) very hot and dry here the thermometor (thermometer) has ben (been) up to a 112 in the shade write all the news write how things is up there in general you may send me a dollars worth of stamps as I cannot get any here I can get paper enough we have got our fortifycations (fortifications) done so we are haveing (having) a good time I am a getting so lazy that I can hardly stir I don't know of any thing more to write so good by from your son

George F Hill

I guess you have forgot you have got a boy in the army by the name of fred

Direct to willsons wharfe

James River

### **1864\_7\_11\_George\_Sally**

Willsons Wharfe (Wharf)

July 11<sup>th</sup> 64

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to answer your kind letter which I received Friday it found me well and I hope this will find you the same we are haveing (having) good times here we have nothing to do now and enough to eat sick as bean soup poark (pork) bacon potatoes onions pickels (pickles) dried apels (apples) rice tea coffee and hard tack I cant eat all of my rations I have got my haver sack a most full now I sold my watch I got twenty five dolars for it and now (?) he asks forty for it but I made a bargain that if I should want to buy it back I could have it for the same as he gave for it I don't know when we shall get our pay we musterd (mustered) for pay the last day of June again they ow (owe) me a 164 dollars we are getting sixteen dollars a month now there is not but two in the ten now a young fellow bt the name of Joseph L Bolster there was two men shot on picket last night they are a going to run old Abe for president a gain but I think he will not be elected for the soldiers are all down on him that I heard say any thing a bout him you may send me a dollars worth of stamps paper I can get here but it is not very good I dont know how long we shall stay here I think Morris has got to hugging his granmothers (grandmothers) in right good earnest has Harvy (Harvey) Wood got home I don't know of any thing more to write so good by (bye) form your son

GFH

write soon

### **1864\_7\_18\_George\_Sally**

Willsons Wharfe (Wharf)

July 18<sup>th</sup>/64

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to answer your kind letter which I received last night it found me well and I hope this will fid you the same we are haveing (having) good times here and we live first rate now I will tell you what we have to eat fresh beef pork bacon bean soup rice and potato soup rice and molasses dried apples pickels (pickles) onions new potatoes cabbage coffee tea and hard tack who would no be a soldier the prospect looks pretty fair for us to come home for good this fall but I don't want to come home with out fighting the rebs but I guess I shall have to I should like to see what the 16<sup>th</sup> weighty can do it is not only about twenty or three hundred strong our company only musters one hundred and seventy odd there has never ben (been) a regment (regiment) that has done the duty that we have done we have done the duty of four infantry regments (regiments) but enough a bout that you may tell Seth that he can think it hard or not Just as he is a mind to I shant write to him until he writes to me I wrote to him in March and have not had any answer from him yet so you see I am not to blame write when you have heard from Cristopher (Christopher) and Theadore (Theodore) and where they are and their directions have writen (written) to ann I have not seen the boys but I suppose they have seen some hard fighting I don't know how long we shall stay here but I hope not long don't know of anything more to write this time so good by (bye) from your

son  
 GF Hill  
 Write soon

**1864\_7\_30\_Seth\_Sally (\*\*\*\*\*DELETE PHOTOCOPY OF ORIGINAL LETTER  
 DATED 7/8/64!!!!!!!)**

[typed]  
 U.S. Sanitary Commission  
 Central Office, 224 F Street

Harpers Ferry (Ferry) VA  
 July the 30/1864

Dear Mother

We Have Arived (Arrived) at Harpers Ferry after a hard march We Left Chain brige (Bridge) the 26 and got hear (here) at 8 o clock last night I am well Excepting Some Scars (Scares?) that has broke out and the doctor thinks it is Poison but i think it is the Skurvy other ways I am as well as can be I had very bad luck yesterday I lost my Pocket book and Every cent of money i had \$8.25 cents WE have Went through Some very Nice Country since we left Camp at Chain Brige (Bridge) We Are Encamped on Boliver Heights in sight of Maryland (?) Heights and in Sight of Blue Rige (Ridge) Mountains Harper Ferry is the Backyest (?) Place i Ever Saw I got those Stamps all right but they are all gone they went with my Pocket book SO I would like a few more you needent send me any money For I can boroweh (borrow) Some until we get paid off I want too (to) Know if you got that money that i Sent by Express and i want you too (to) use what you want of my money too (to) make you cofortable (comfortable) i felt Some what bad when i mist (missed) my Pocket book but there is no use of Whining for Spilt milk the 77 is Clost (Close) by us they have been Paid off Christopher Was let too (to) Washington Sick WE don't know whare (where) we will go too (to) from hear (here) we have bee (been) on the go every day this Month but 2 days we laid at chain bige (?) and i have felt beter (better) since i got back then i did all the time in Lousiana (Lousiana) I am in hopes i will get my Discharge but if i don't get it i think i will be home on a furlough after the fall Campaign is over + we go into winter quarters but i am in hopes Every Mail that comes in that my Papers will Come thear (there) is one good thing we have got A good Captain as Ever one was he is very good too (to) his men Well Mother i Want too (to) get home if i don't Stay more than 2 days and if we get into winter quarters I will be the first one for a Furlough Well I don't think of any thing more at Present only Rite as soon as you get this and direct too (to) Washington Dc you wanted too (to) know What you would do thins Winter if [I] didnt get home I am Shure (Sure) i do not know but if i don't come home i will try and Send you money Enough too (to) make you Comfortable I will close by biding you good by (bye) Hoping too hear from you Soon This is From your Son Seth Hill  
 Too (To) His Dear Mother  
 Sallie V Hill

**1864\_8\_4\_Seth\_Sally**

Camp three miles from Fredrick Citty (City)  
Aug the 4 1864

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand too (to) rite (write) you a few liens too (to) let you know that I am well + i hope this will find you the Same We left Harpers Fery (Ferry) on the 31 of July and got hear (here) on the 2d of august and now i dont (don't) know whare (where) we will go next last month we was on the go Every day and we marched 2 nights in the bargain Last month we went as near as i can come at it 2.500 miles i dont (don't) think we will go as far this month unless they Send s back too (to) LA Well Mother I rote (wrote) you when at chain brige (bridge) and when at Harpers Ferry and i dont (don't) know hardly what too (to) write Well Dear Mother i will tell you what Luint (Lieutenant) Hades and my Self done the other night we fell out and Shot a hog and cut him into and Slung him acrost my gun + took him 4 miles whare (where) they Stoped (Stopped) for the night we got at 12 o clock then we put over the coffee Kettle and put the Stake and we had a good Supper Well i am in hopes of getting a letter the next time the mail comes in i wish I could get to Washington i would go and See Abraham Lincoln and i think if you cant make that other thing Work i think we had better go too Washington and see him and he would Order my Discharge he would talk with as soon and he would with any buddy (body) but i hope that other way will work write as soon as you get this and let me know what the prospect is if thear (there) is any or not Well i kant (can't) got but a little over a year to stay if i have too (to) stay my time out and that will Soon roll around we have been chasing around Mounted rebs and we couldent (couldn't) get in 4 miles of them but we can go as fast as Common Horses I will Close by bidding good by for the Present

Rite Soon

This is from your Son

Seth Hill

To His Mother

Sallie V Hill

Aug the 4/1864

**1864\_8\_6\_George\_Sally**

Willsons Wharfe

Aug 6<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to write you a few lines I hope this will find you well I am not very well just now I have not ben (been) able to do duty for a fortnight I guess you have all forgotten (forgotten) me I have ben (been) to the post office

(office) evry (every) day for the last five weeks but I have ben (been) disappointed evry (every) time oh if you knew with what Joy a soldier received a letter and with what sorrow he returns to his tent when he is answered in the negative that little word no I have writen (written) you three or four letters but have not received an answer I have writen (written) one to Sally ann but have received no answer I have writen (written) one to hellen but have not received answers writen (written) one to Sarah have received no answer I must lie down for a few minutes they had a pretty sharp fight up the river day before yesterday the rebs had a batery (battery) planted there was a gun boat a going up She discoverd (discovered) it and she opened on it we could see the smoke from the guns and so the bombs bells burid (buried) in the air it lasted a bout an hour when the fun boat drove them back you need not worry (worry) a bout me because if I am any worse I will let you know I dont know but you had wrote to me but it is curious that I dont get any of them for all the rest gets their letters I don't know how long we shall stay there is six company of the 16<sup>th</sup> up to the front they went up by here the other day there is four companys (companies) to Williamsburgh (Williamsburg) and two here Yorktown is evacuated I want you to write the price of things up there and write all a bout the boys where they are I heard by the way that Moris (Morris) was a going to get married and the stay to home brigade was a going to be burned out on the cration (?) and Adellert was a going to be in command I dont know of any thing more to write so god (good) by from your son George F Hill  
To his Mother S. V. Hill

I have had a blouse stolen that i paid six dollars for but I found the thief he is the man I bought it [from?]

### **1864\_8\_14\_Seth\_Sally**

We have had lots of Blackberries in Maryland  
They was all gone long before we left LA and when we got up in Maryland + VA they was ripe and lots of them

Head Quarters 153d Regt NYSV  
Boliver Heights Sunday Aug the 7

Dear Mother I take the present time For Answering your most welcom (welcome) letter which i received last night i was glad indeed to hear from you i am well + i hope this will find you the Same we left hear (here) on the 30 of last month we went 3 miles north west from Fredrick City (City) in a piece of oak Woods we got thear (there) on the 31 + laid thear (there) until the 2d when we Pulled up + marched to Manucay (?) we Staid ther (there) until the 4 then WE took the cars + came too (to) Harpers Ferry then we Went uppon (upon) Maryland Heights + Stayed thear (there) all night then we Crost the Potomac and got hear (here) at 10 o clock yesterday i cant tell how long we will Stay hear (here) but i dont think we will stay any longer then (than) morning the 77 lays about a 100 rods from us I was up to see the boys last night I saw Lieu Rowland John Harris Jack Cely and a lot of the boys they are all

well Christopher Played Sharp I guess and stayed in Washington John says he has been looking for us down thear (there) well I would like to run across him but I don't care to go down where (where) he is Hiram Masher tents with me we live verry (very) well we had for breakfast green corn fresh beef Coffee + hard bread + we got a mess of Potatoes when we can find them and milk when we can get it i rote (wrote) about my losing my pocket book with \$87.25 cents in it was quite a loss these hard times but thear (there) is no use of Whining for Spilt milk I would had Enough to Stood by until we got Paid off First rate but i can Get Along you Say you don't know What you will do if I don't get home this winter well Dear Mother i hope i will get home to Stay with you i want to com as bad as you want me to I guess But if don't get home to stay I will get home on a furlough if I live to get into winter quarters + I guess I will it is most 2 years Since I left home it will be the 30 of this month i am Acting Orderly yet and i don't like it mutch (much) for i only draw Corporals Pay and i have Every thing to see to we have got 22 men absent sick Ed West I hear has Started back to the Regt I wish you had seen him and Sent me a couple Pair of Socks if you get a chance to Send me the Socks you may + if you don't it is all the same for i can wear government socks altho (although) they are not so good as yours I rote (wrote) to have you send me a few more Stamps for i lost Those that you send me with my Money we muster for Pay the Last of this month but when we will get it is an other thing Well If you Want me to come home you must make them give you my Discharge + I will come Double Quick  
 Give my Love to John Wood and Wife + all Who inquire of Seth Hill  
 I Will Close By bidding you good by (bye) rite (write) as often as you can for it does me good to hear from you Henry Wood is not verry (very) well i shouldnt (shouldn't) Wonder if we had to go up into Pennsylvania to see the rebs is making traks that way  
 This is from your son Seth Hill  
 To His Dear Mother Don't Wait for me to rite (write) for I cant rite (write) every day but I rite (write) as often as I can I think there is some around Porters Corners that will have to come down in dixy yet I hope so

### **1864\_8\_20\_Seth\_Sally**

Head Quarters 153d

Regt NYSV

Near Charlestown VA

Aug. the 20<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mother i [sic] take my pencil in hand to answear [sic] your most welcome letter which i received last Evening and i was very glad to hear from you and was glad to hear you was well as for myself i am well i can eat any thing [sic] but i am all break out with something and what it is i dont know i we left boliver [sic] heights on the 10 and went up as far as Middletown near the aligana [sic] mountains we got thear [sic] the night of the 12 & stade thear [sic] until the night of the 15 when at 11 o'clock at night we (page) started back we got to Winchester at 8 o'clock where we staid [sic] until the 17 then we pulled out again on the 18 we got hear [sic]

we have but little fighting the 6 & 8 corps has been with is they have had more fighting then we have yesterday morning Charles Thornton went out side of the picket when a Band of Gurilles [sic] came upon him and shot him dead he was cook for the cal and he was going to get some butter and milk thear [sic] was a man with him that cooks for our chalain [sic] and doctor he was taken prisoner i have a ring that i took off of his finger that is all that he had left i shall write to his wife and send (page) her the ring the Caplain [sic] will also rite [sic] to her and rite the whole the Col liked him very much Well Mother i dont know as the capt or myself can do any thing about my discharge if that don't work have James Smith make out the papers that you have 5 sons in the servis [sic] and send them to Abe and he will order my discharge i am shure [sick] of it and you can go to Washington yourself and Marvin would go with you to see Abe and he will Grant my discharge in one Minit [sic] i am anxious to get home but i have about give up getting home on discharge but i am in hopes of getting home on a furlough this winter if can get to the hospital i think i could get (page) A Furlough Well Mother you may send me a couple dollars in your next letter as money is scarce in our co and i need a little for i am out of paper and envelopes.

I will close by bidding [sic] you good by [sic]

Rite soon

This is from your son seth [sic] Hill to his mother

Sallie V  
Hill

This is a roughf [sic] sheet of paper but it is the i have got

### **1864\_8\_21\_Hatt\_Sally**

Syracuse August the 21 1864

My Dear Mother

Wee [sic] arived [sic] home Thursday after noon all safe wee are all well And hope thos [sic] few lines will find you the same Daniel went and seen serrengs and Wee seyde [sic] Maraen had heard from thare [sic] and he wold [sic] go and see him that day he syde [sic] he thought you wold [sic] git [sic] him thinks locked very (unknown) but it couldnot [sic] be dun [sic] in A (page) (unknown) and i hope you will git [sic] him for you nee [sic] him with your And if nothing happens [sic] wee want you to come hear [sic] this fall have Sith come with your Martha wants you to [sic] wright [sic] to her when you can and she will beeto [sic] the depot for you and she want you to go home with her and make hear (unknown) you came hear give our love to all of the boys when you wright [sic] and tel them to wright to us (unknown) this time (unknown) wright [sic] soon to us and let us now [sic] how you gets along (page) and if you git [sic] Seth back home tell Charles if he comes before

you (unknown) tell him he want hafta [sic] change cares [sic] but once before he  
gits [sic] here wright [sic] soon from your daughters

Hatt  
Hill

Detrect to Daniel J Hill  
Syracuse NY

84 Almond St.

**1864\_8\_23\_Seth\_Sally**

Head Quarters 153d  
Regt NYSV

Boliver Heights

VA August the 23d 1864

Dear Mother i now take my pencil in hand to rite [sic] you a few lines to let  
you know whare [sic] i am i cant say that i am well i am broke out with the scurvy  
we left Charlestown on the 21 and got hear [sic] on the 22 at 3 o'clock in the  
morning i got a letter from you a few days ago and i answered it and said i would  
like to have you send me (page) A Couple of dollars for my deseas [sic] wont let me  
eat salt pork he says i must eat Raw potatoes and onion and in order to do that i will  
have to have money i borrowed some but the boys is all out of money as well as my  
self [sic] we have been hear [sic] one day and a little over that is as long as stay in  
one place so you see we have to keep on the move about every day if they go i will  
have a ride so i will gain so (page) much i got those stamps Well Dear Mother I Have  
rote [sic] about my discharge until you have got tired of hearing it but it seems to me  
as so i aught [sic] to have My Discharge and i think the only way is to let Abe know  
the circumstance and i would get it Right off but i have about give up a getting home  
until my time is out that is if i have the good luck to live until then well mother i  
don't think you can read this for my pencil is gone up you may not get that letter  
that i rote [sic] for the money so I will say send it as soon as you can

No More at Present only Rite soon this is from your son seth [sic] Hill

Do What you can about those Papers For i am anxious About them so good by

**1864\_9\_5\_Seth\_Sally**

United-States Sanitary Commission  
N. E. Women's Auxiliary Association  
No. 18, West Street,  
Boston.

Sept. 5. 1864

M S General Hospital  
Fredrick Citty [sic] MD

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to rite you a few lines to let you know how i get along i am on the gain i have had a touch of the fever ager but i am quite smart now i dont know how long i will Stay hear [sic] it is A nice place and they take good care of the sick the wimen [sic] is also very [sic] good they come up every night and bring up stuff for the sick and wounded soulgers [sic] you need not worry about me (page) For i am getting along First rate the wether [sic] is getting some cool hear [sic] Dear Mother What about those Pappers [sic] fo you hear any think more about them i guess they wont amount to much what do you think about it rite [sic] & let me know i got a letter from Dan to day [sic] with 5 dollars in it i will get that you sent some time or other I don't think of any thing [sic] more at present only rite [sic] as soon as you get this I will close by bidding you good by [sic]

this is from your absent Son Seth Hill direct to M S General Hospital

### **1864\_9\_13\_Seth\_Sally**

United States Christian Commission  
*Individual Relief Department.*

The United States Christian Commission seeks to afford a sure and effective medium of communication between the wounded or sick soldier – whether in the Camp or in Field or General Hospitals – and his home friends. This is done by furnishing facilities for writing and by writing for those who are not themselves able. Soldiers, for whom special inquiries are made of us, will be sought out if possible and relieved and their condition made known to those asking. All letters of this character should give the Corps, Division, Regiment, and Company of the soldier, as also the Hospital in which he is supposed to be. Address, UNITED STATES CHRISTIAN COMMISSION, 500 H Street, Washington, D. C.

M S General Hospital Fredrick Citty [sic] Sept. 13 1864

Dear Mother i now take my pen in hand to let you know how i am getting along i am quite well i rote you A week ago yesterday and i have been to the office twice for 2 days but i hant [sic] got no letter yet but i think i will have one to day i wont finish this until i see i hant [sic] heard a word from my regt since i left it i suppose [sic] i will go to my regt before long So i guess you hadent [sic] better rite [sic] me until you hear from me again I dont hear any thing about those papers is it all gone through if it is so rite [sic] and let me know and if you can get me home i should like to come first but if it cant be done i Shall be contented and do the best i can of course Dan thinks that November will tell the story but i think the war wont be over as soon Some thinks it will bit the sooner the better for i am for my part i have got enough of soulgering [sic] it is 2 weeks ago yesterday since i came hear [sic] i have had good rest it is the first time i have been away from the regt (page) The Weather to day is quite cold it seems like fall wether [sick] well i will wait until after dinner and see if i wont get a letter

sept. the 14 1864

Well i dont get no letter yet so i will finnish [sic] up it is cold & rainy to day well i think i will have a letter in the course of a day or to [sic] now if you don't get my discharge i wish you would Rite to Abe and State the case Just Say that you have five sons and they are all in the army (unknown) well dont Rite [sic] until you hear from me again for i dont know whare [sic] i will be i will close by Biding [sic] you good by [sic] this is from your absent Seth Hill to his Dear Mother.

### **1864\_9\_23\_George\_Sally**

Grant Gen. Hospital  
Willetts Point, LA  
Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> 1864

Dear Mother

As I am about to pack up and leave this lonely [sic] hospital for the busy news of the front I thought I would drop you a line;

I did intend to come home on furlough and that is (unknown) and (unknown) have to content myself with the idea that you are ever thinking of your youngest son. (unknown) hoping that some day we can meet when this crewel [sic] war is over and I can return to my mothers fire-side.

I am somewhat better than I was but not well yet.

I have not received a cent of pay yet and shall not now until I get to the front.

I wish you would write to Seth and tell him I want to hear from him. You need not write until you hear from me again.

I (unknown) ever your dear son  
George F. Hill

### **1864\_9\_27\_Seth\_Sally**

Harrisons Burgh

Sept. the 27 1864

Dear Mother

As i have got to my regt Again i will embrace the first Oportunity [sic] to rite and let you know how i get along i am well and hope this will find you the Same i left the hospital on the 19 and got up too my Regt on the 27 our boys is cut up pretty bad thear [sic] was 70 killed and wounded out of our regt i will tell you who was wounded out of our co Corpl Darman in the foot Corpl Lanehart in the Neck Heritage in the arm Adam Niles in the cheek Peter Mcree leg amputated George E Hutchens in the thigh Edward Vanransler (page) in the side and none killed they have give the rebs Rats i can tell you we have taken any (unknown) of prisoners and Canons and they Still are bringing in prisoners they was all demoralized and run any to get away well Mother i dont suppose [sic] we will Stay hear [sic] long and i am anxious to hear from fred and all the rest and if you can do any thing [sic] to hurry up those papers do it and dont delay no time i got that letter with the \$2 dollars in i dont think of any

more at present only rite [sic] down we are 96 miles from Harpers Ferry i will by  
biding [sic] you good by

Seth Hill

**1864\_10\_15\_Seth\_Sally**

Ceder [sic] Creek

October the 15 1864

Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to writ [sic] you a few lines to let you know that i am well  
i hant [sic] got no letter from you since i left Fredrick Citty [sic] i Started on the 19 of  
last month and Joined my regt on the 27 they were at Harrisonsburg [sic] that is 96  
miles from Harpers ferry and on the 29 we advanced to Mount Crawford that is 7  
miles from Harrisonsburg [sic] and on the 30 we came back too [sic] Harrisonsburg  
[sic] and Stayed thear [sic] until the 6 of this month when we broke camp and  
Started on our way back we got hear [sic] on the 10 on our way back (page) we Run  
on Some Rebs that was in the Mountains awaiting for a chance at our Wagon train  
but they didnt [sic] acomplish [sic] much we took 11 Pieces of canon and 300  
Prisoners And on the 13 i had got my dinner and had laid down to take a nap when i  
heard the Roar of cannons when i got out i could See the cannons working very [sic]  
plain But we thought it was our own but come to find out it was the rebs they kept  
up about all the afternoon we took 4 pieces of thear [sic] cannon and some prisoners  
but i dont known how many our command was not engaged too [sic] day we have  
(unknown) out too [sic] see whare [sic] they wer [sic] and found them about 5 miles  
from our camp (page) we didnt [sic] have no fighting i dont think we will have  
much more fighting hear [sic] very [sic] soon on our way back we burnt all the barns  
and grain from Mt Crawford too [sic] our place whare [sic] we now are.  
Merrion Rowland and walons Green was over too [sic] see me last Evening they wer  
[sic] well i Saw Christopher on the 31 of last month he was not very [sic] well Well i  
dont think of any thing more at present so i will close by biding [sic] you an  
affectionate Good By [sic]

From your

Son Seth Hill

To His Mother

I have heard that Hannah Lathem was married rite and Let me know if it is so.

S. Hill

(page) (unknown) I want you too [sic] write about those Papers and let me know if  
thear [sic] is Any Prospect or not and then i will (be esy ?)

Seth Hill

Ceder [sic] Creek

Oct 15 64

**1864\_10\_22\_Seth\_Sally**

Head Quarters 153d

Regt NYSV  
 Ceder [sic] Creek VA  
 Oct the 22 1864  
 Dear Mother

As we have got quiet Again i will try and rite [sic] A few lines to let you know that i am all right we have had a very [sic] heavy battly Again I didnt [sic] get a scratch altho [sic] i was not in the heavyes [sic] of the fight on the Morning Of the 19 at about 4 o'clock to our surprise the Rebs had got us flanked on our left we was waked with the report of the Enemy muskets they Fired in the 8 corps camps before they wer [sic] up General Early Started with his command the night before the fight and (page) Marched them Along A Foot Path Along the Blue Ridge Mountains and he marked it So as to Relieve the 8 corps Pickets and took them Prisoners and at 4 o'clock to our surprise they comenced [sic] with thear [sic] hellish yell & a charge and the rebs drove the 8 corps and the biggest [sic] part of the (19 ?) corps in wild confusion the rebs taking prisoners cannons waggons [sic] & (unknown) but they turned their base of musick [sic] before the yanks was After the rebs driving them Pel Mel through ceder [sic] creek takin [sic] cannons wagons with out number we have taken From the Enemy upwards of 50 pieces of thear [sic] cannon & i dont know how many Prisoners we lost a good (page) many Prisoners In the Fore part of the day but the latter Part it was on the other hand we Scattered them in wild confusion driving them out of hearing General PH Sherden [sic] was not hear [sic] when the fight Comenced [sic] but as soon as he heard that thear [sic] was a battle in Progress he Mounted his horse and to the top of his speed he soon reached the place whare [sic] we wer [sic] fighting General Sherden [sic] rode up to General Right [sic] and Gen Right [sic] says to PH Sherden [sic] we are licked when Sherden [sic] says to right yes dam [sic] you you are licked but the men are not he says we will have our old camp before night & Shure enough we did get our (page) Old Camp and Drove the rebs out of Hearing our loss is heavy in Killed & wounded It is a hard Sight to Pass over a battle Field to see our comrads [sic] laying as far as the eye can see Sutch [sic] is the fate of battle you know we cant expect Nuthing [sic] else I Will Give you a list of our Wounded Raber Kelly In the Cheek Otis King in thigh Henry Mcintosh in thigh Enoch Gurney in the Knee Hested Slight wound in thigh James Webb Slight Wound the 3 last is with the Company (end)

### **1864\_10\_27\_Seth\_Sally**

Ceder [sic] Creek VA  
 October the 27 1864  
 Dear Mother

I now take my pen in hand to answear [sic] the long looked for letter which i recieved [sic] last Evening and was very [sic] glad to hear from you once more but was sorry to hear that you had been Sick i had Almost given up on Ever hearring [sic] from you it is the first that i have heard Since i left the hospital i have rote [sic] quite a Number of letters to you Since I got back to my regt. it is Rainy to day [sic] So i hant [sic] got much to do only to rite [sic] well i rote [sic] the other day & gave a Description what Shape we were in on the morning of the 19 so thear [sic] will be no

use of my (page) Saying any thing more About the fight all i have to say is that PH Sherden [sic] is a brick

Well Now you Wanted to know what it was best for you to do this winter well Mother i hardly know How to answer [sic] that question But you must do what you think is the best for you i dont want you to stay thear [sic] at home alone and you wanted to know What i think about coming home on a furlough well i will tell you i think if thear [sic] is any chance i will be the first one that will get a furlough but you Need Not make any Caculations [sic] on my coming for I thought that i would get home last winter but i got sliped [sic] up on it and it may be so (page)

This time I expect my Lt will be home before a great while he has lost one of his fingers Now if he comes home i will have him come and see you and you can talk to him and dont be afraid to talk dutch to him and See if he wont help get me out of this but dont let him know that i know any thing about it for i hant [sic] said a word about it and i (missing)

So That you can Send them to me dont Send them until i Send for them well dear mother i dont Thin of any thing more at Present only Rite [sic] Soon and dont wait So long

This is from your (missing)

(missing) want a good pair of gloves So if we get into winter quarters (missing)

### **1864\_11\_2\_Seth\_Sally**

November 2 1864

Mississippi River 50 Miles Above Port Hudson

May the 23 1864

Dear Mother I now take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well we got hear [sic] yesterday at 12 o'clock & went into camp on the bank of the Mississippi we left Alexandria on the 12 and got to Simsport [sic] on the 17 stayed thear [sic] until the 19 and then we crost [sic] the Cathalile [sic] (?) River and So on to the Mississippi River and we marched 25 miles down the river whare [sic] we are now encamped how long we Shall Stay hear [sic] if we Stay hear [sic] a week we Shall do well but we may Stay hear [sic] 3 months but I think we will go back to Neworleans [sic] we had Some Sharp fighting coming back the rebs tride [sic] to Stop us at Marksville but we Soon made them Skedaddle the next morning we Started at day light and marched about a mile & then we formed a line of battle & our Batry [sic] opened on the Rebs there was Some loud Canonading for Something like 4 hours the rebs shot mighty clost [sic] to us with thear [sic] Shells but we didnt [sic] have a man hurt in our Regiment but we Soon made them Skedadle [sic] again it was fun to See the gray backs run they went faster than double quick time We marched 7 miles in line of battle we throwed [sic] down some rail fence for the rebs when we come to a fence it was (page) not long before it lay flat when the 10 (?) core [sic] got within 5 miles of Simsport [sic] the Rebs came up in thear [sic] Rear

& General Smith turnd [sic] around & give [sic] them a flogging [sic] and drove them back and quite a lot of prisoners but I dont know how many thear [sic] was 10 days that we only got 2 thirds Rations but we got along first rate for thear [sic] was lots of Hogs & sheep Hens & turkeys & plenty of onions and some eggs I went into one house and got a dozen of eggs and took a hen So we had a good Supper and I got a nice fat Sheep and I got honey & oh yes and I got a nice Palm leaf Hat and a five dollar confederate bill & a clean Shirt mine being Somewhat dirty I will send you the bill & some needles Well you will see in the Papers of our fighting long before this reaches you So thear is no use of my riting [sic] any thing more about it So i will rite about Blackberes [sic] I have been to day and got three quarts & if i can get Some inger [sic] meal i will have a bag finding to morrow the weather is very warm hear [sic] they have new Potatoes Peas lettice [sic] beets and all kinds of garden Sauce is fit for use we have marched six hundred miles Since the 15 of March and have done Some fighting in the bargain we have had a Pretty Hard march one day coming from Grandecore to Alexandria we marched 40 miles we Started at 2 o'clock in the morning and marched until half past Eleven I maby [sic] we wasent [sic] tired no I guess not but we wasent [sic] long before we was into bed but our beds wasent [sic] like a fether [sic] bed but we Sleep first rate as well as i ever did (page) In A Good bed I got a letter From you yesterday morning dated the 11 of apr [sic] & one from Hellen dated the 26 of April and one from fred dated the 6 of April I Have Rote [sic] quite a number of letters that you have not got for the Rebs Captured one or two of our mails on the Red River while Going and Destroyed the boats Jonas Keesteds brother Has Enlisted in our Compan [sic] He got to the Reg yesterday Rite & let me know what luck you hav [sic] about what you rote [sic] me i have comenced [sic] to number my letters So you will know when thear [sic] is one missing our fighting is over for the Present thear [sic] is no force of Rebs verry [sic] near hear thear [sic] is Some guriles [sic] I will try & rite [sic] as often as i can but when we are all the time on the go I dont have much chance to rite [sic] Well I dont know as i can rite [sic] any more for it is hard work & guess you will think So by the riting [sic] tell annie that She Had better wait until the old solgers [sic] gets home for they understand cooking and washing first rate Give My Love to uncle Shens & wife and who inquires I will close by bidding you good by Rite Soon

From your Affectionate Son Seth Hill To His Dear mother

Send me a Paper

We draw full Rations now

Seth Hill Direct as before

### **1864\_11\_14\_Seth\_Sally**

Near Winchester VA

7 o'clock Pm Nov the 14 64

Dear Mother

I now seat myself down in the Ketchen [sic] to answeare [sic] your most welcome letter which I Received to day [sic] It found me well and Building a Fire Place So my

Old Woman and my Boy Can take Cofort [sic] I Have Got a Pretty good House But How long we Shall Stay to have the good of them I dont Know But if we Stay 3 days we will do well Well Dear Mother we moved from Ceder [sic] Creek on the 9 And on the 10 the dam rebs was Just mean Enough (page) to folow [sic] us up and they Kept up a Steady Fireing [sic] until the 11 about Noon when our Brigade Went out to See what they was trying to do we went about a mile when we could See the rascals and we Halted to send out Skermishers [sic] and we Hadent [sic] Stoped [sic] more then [sic] 2 minets [sic] when one of our corpl [sic] was cracked over I though he was dead when he fell but i got off his knapsack and found that he was not verry [sic] bad but it was a Narrow Escape he was one of my tent mates and Stood Next to me on the right His Name is John McCallum of Greenfield Well I am verry [sic] Sorry to hear that you are Sick but I am (page)

### **1864\_11\_15\_Seth\_Sally**

Nov. the 15, 64

Dear Mother

the mail has gone out again So that I cant [sic] Send my letter to day [sic] So I will rite [sic] a few lines more as my Old woman is washing to day [sic] but i supose [sic] i will have to Stop and and [sic] get Dinner or i will get Rats I supose [sic] that Sgt Hodges will Biring [sic] my Dress Coat to you I left them to Mr Priors I [sic] washington DC well the Rebs Comes into our lines and give themselves [sic] up Every day I dont [sic] think of any thing [sic] more at present So i will (page) close i hav got 2 letters that had a stamp on as for the papers i hant [sic] got None

Good By

Give my love to all who may inquire this is from your absent Son Seth Hill

Oh i forgotten [sic] to say that i hant [sic] heard a word from Fred or John

My Directions

Sergt. S. H Hill Co H

153d Regt NYSV

1<sup>st</sup> Brigade 1<sup>st</sup> Division

19 Army [sic] Corps (unknown)

### **1864\_11\_29\_Seth\_Sally**

Camp Rusel VA

7 O clock Pm Nov the 29 . 64

Dear Mother

I Now take my pen in hand to rite [sic] a few lines to let you know that i am well and hope these few lines Will find you the Same I will tell you the reason that I have not rote [sic] Before one Reason is i have been Verry [sic] Busy to work Preparing For winter I have got me up a good house and a nice Fireplace & well that is not the worst trouble the Stamps has played out So that is the (crossed out) is what is the matter with the horse you me hant [sic] no mail since the 20 of (page) this month by i think we will get mail in the course of a day or too [sic] but if i dont get a letter with

Some Stamps in i cnt [sic] sent it out I dont know as we will Ever get Paid Off again But i am In hopes of getting it before long and I hope we will stay hear [sic] during the winter For we have got up Verry [sic] good quarters and thearfore [sic] i hope we will Stay well I will tell you what i have been up to to day [sic] i have washed & got my close [sic] dride [sic] and Put up in my Knapsack and worked a little on my house & done my other Dutty [sic] and as i expect the mail in i thought I would Start A Letter I Never was in (page)

Nov the 30

Well the mail has come in but I did not get none from home but i got one from John he was well Theadore [sic] was over hear to see me a week ago Sunday he was well Now the mail is agoing [sic] out in a few minets [sic] So I must hurrah [sic] up my cakes I rote about Some gloves but if you hant [sic] Sent them you Needent [sic] for one of our boys came from home and he brought Some gloves with him So I have got A Pair but you may send the Socks and if GH Hodges can bring me a pair of boots I would like it verry [sic] much (page) All The Damming Well I will close for To Night by Bidding you good Night Sergt Hill

Dec the 1<sup>st</sup> 1864

Dear Mother I guess i will try to finish this the mail has come in and I gets none you must excuse me for not riting [sic] before for I have been out of Stamps and the boys is all out of of [sic] Stamps but thear [sic] is a man tents with me that has just come from home So I can get a stamp or to [sic] So I will close and rite to John So good Night Rite Soon  
Seth Hill

### **1864\_12\_15\_Seth\_Sally**

Camp Rusell VA

Dec the 15<sup>th</sup> 64

Dear Mother

I now Seat myself to reply to you my thanks of those things that you Sent by Lt Hodges they all fit me verry [sic] well & my boots I wouldent [sic] part with for 4 times what they cost I am well and I hope these few lines will find you improving we have about 6 inches of Snow but yesterday the sun came out and took the most of it off but it has came off cold again to day [sic] but it is quite comfortable in our quarters and we have got Clothing Enough to keep us warm I have been making Oyster Soup and we have had a verry [sic] good Supper For Soulgiers [sic] but we have (page) to eat Such as it is and we get a verry [sic] good quality I Dont See and Sight for getting home yet you Needent [sic] make any Calculations on my comming [sic] and then if do not come thear [sic] will be No Disapointment [sic] and if I do come it will be a disappointment [sic] I will come as soon as thear [sic] is any chance Lt Hodges says as Soon as thear [sic] is any chance he will get me off I think thear [sic] will be a chance before a great While I am acting Orderly yet doing guard dutty [sic] for i am in my quarters Every Night I dont think I will Send this out until I get a letter from Hellen Again for I dont know wether [sic] you are at home or at the

Vileg ~~Vilege~~ Villige [sic] of Saratoga we have had some cold weather hear [sic] in the ~~Shendand~~ Shenandoah (page) Valley But we are Pretty well Prepared for it So let it whicker it hant [sic] only 10 months more then the Small Number that is left of the old stock (?) will be at liberty as it is about time for me to call the Roll and Repast I will close by Bidding you good Night and rite [sic] more before I send this out Good Morning as thear [sic] was Some good news Rumord [sic] around camp last Evening the was that US Grant had taken Richmond But we hardly Credit the story but we hope that it is so and now I think the only way for me to get home is for to have somebody telegraph to me that you are verry [sic] Sick if we Should ~~stay~~ Stay hear [sic] I think that i could get home in the course of the winter (page) But as things Stands [sic] now they wont grant no well Furloughs I have got some money that i wish you had but thear [sic] is no express that i can Send it by and dont like the Plan of Sending In letters for it is not Safe I will close by Bidding you good Night This is From your Absent Seth Hill To His Mother

As Soon as Receive This Packege [sic] I Speak of Rite [sic] And let me know For I Shall Ben Some what [sic] uneasy until I From it Seth Hill H Co

### **1864\_12\_18\_Seth\_Sally**

Camp Rusell VA

Dec the 18<sup>th</sup> 64

Dear Mother I wil now Try and See if i can finish this welter which I Started Several days ago i Dont feel verry [sic] Smart to Night [sic] For I have got a bad cold but I think will work it off in a day or too [sic] the News Reached us yesterday of the Sucess [sic] of General Thomas and Sherman of we will bring them to thear [sic] milk after a while So that Peace Reign throughout the united States of Am [sic] I Dont know as i am again to get Home this winter or not but if thear [sic] is any Furloughs granted i am all Sound in the goose I wish (page) That Some of my money was at Home I Dont like To carry So much in my Pocket Hear [sic] In the Field well I will Close Bidding you Good Night Hoping To Hear [sic] From you Soon This is from your Son Seth

Dec the 19. 1864

I Have Started \$11 Dollars To you To Day [sic] I Sent By Adams Express and the Express will Be Paid out of it you will get this letter Some Days Before you get the Packege [sic]

### **1864\_12\_23\_Carter\_Seth**

Camp Russell VA

Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 1864

Sergt Hill Sir

Your boy has been to my quarters raising the devil sticking pins into me when asleep etc I would suggest that he have his ass slapped

Yours etc  
Carter

### **1864\_12\_29\_George\_Brother**

Syracuse Dec 29 64

Dear Brother

I sit down to write you a few lines to you how we are a getting a long [sic] Mother was a getting quite smart but yesterday she was taken with the spasms and she is very sick now the snow that we had when you was here all went off and it commenced to snow day before yesterday and it has fell over three feet and is a snowing yet the (page) cars is stuck in the snow we have not had any cider since you was here no more this time so good by -

George F Hill

write what you are a going to do this winter

## **1865:**

### **1865\_\_George\_Sally**

Fort Williams  
Near Alexandria  
VA

Dear Mother

I now sit down to write you a few lines I am well and I hope this will find you the same I wrote you a letter when I was at Randolph Macon College and have not had any answer I suppose seth and all the rest of the boys is at home I dont know when will get home but I guess not very soon we are a going to be payed [sic] on monday [sic] I saw Marion in Petersburg a week a go [sic] last monday [sic] he is well it is very warm weather down here now I expect \$170 this pay day and then I should like to have a fourlough [sic] to come home I dont know of any thing [sic] more this time so good by [sic] writ without delay from your son

George F Hill  
direct

Battery E 16<sup>th</sup>  
 NY Vol. Artillery  
 Alexandria  
 VA

**1865\_4\_17\_George\_Sally** Fort Pocohontas (Pocahontas) Va  
 April 17/65

Dear Mother

It is with pleasure that I sit down to answer you kind letter which I received last night it found me in the best of health and I hope this will find you the same we received the bad news of Lincolns death yesterday the flag was lowerd to half mast and it is at half mast to day mand (manned) the gun boat fires a gun evry (every) half hour it is to (too) bad that he should be murderd (murdered) when the rebellion (rebellion) is so near at an end we have got old lee and his whole army and ere this reaches you I hope we will have Jonson and beureguard it is a very fine morning and evry (every) thing looks very nice the war is a bout over I guess I shall enlist in the regular I was a little surprised to hear that morris had got to be such a hard boy but I must close so good by

George F Hill

dont send but one pair of socks at a time

GFH

GF Hill

**1865\_5\_4\_George\_Sally**

Wilsons Wharfe (Willsons Wharf)

May 4<sup>th</sup> 1863

Dear Mother

it is with pleasure that I sit down to write you a few lines I am well and I hope that this will find you the same you may look for a bok (book? Box?) of things which I am a going to start tomorrow morning there is is two blankets that belongs to my bunk mate you will find a paper with his name on them take care of them till we get home which will not be long the most of the men thinks we will be home by the first of June we are expecting orders to go to Washington but it may be three weeks and it may not be three days

if you have not sent that other pair of socks you need not send them for I have got enough to last me while I am in the servis (service) the horses and wagons and all the tools such as shovels picks axes and all government property on this post it to be turned in to the quarter master tomorrow I don't know of any thing to write this time so good by from your son George F Hill

# 1868:

## 1868\_2\_2\_Erastus\_Sally

Galen

February (February) the 2<sup>nd</sup> 1868

Dear Mother

I have been waiting a long time to have some one to write to me but as I have not heard any thing from you in a long time I will write you a few liens I have written to Seth + Fred since I have heard from them but perhaps they did not get the letter We are all well but Arethusy (?) she has got sore eyes this winter the children are all well + going to school this winter they have to go a mile + a half to school Loyal has been every day Leroy +Lida have staid (stayed) out some the boys but all of the fire wood + see to two cows only one of them is outs Lida is almost as big as her mother Now I will tell you about our little girl she is ten months old + she climbs up by the chairs + in her cradle she is not bigger than a pint of cider half dranked up we call her Sally Rowend after Cath of her granmas (grandmas) they all say that she is the best + smartest child they ever see We brought her up on the bottle she would not nurse the breast all that we could do + she weaned herself from that when she was seven months old she drinks her cup of milk when we go to bed + that is the last we hear from her until morning

I have not seen Dan only once since Margetta was buried oh how I wanted to come down but I did not get word until Saturday night at seven o clock if I had only got the word three hours sooner I should have started but Dan said that I could not have got through Since her death I have been waiting for some one to write but as they have not I will break the spell + see if they will all keep silent so long again We are about one mile from Whare (where) we lived when you was here we have a larg (large) frame house + I work by the year I have twenty five dollars a month the year round but have to board myself + he lets the boys boy What they could + he alowed (allowed) them the same wages he did me they worked over a month besides taking care of the garden + an acre + a half of corn + potatoes I would like to see you all once more but don't know as that will ever be but we must hope for the best + put our trust in him Who bring all things around as he sees best  
Now I dont know as I have any thing more to write this time so I will close my letter  
Give my love to all of the friends + tell them to write + I will do the same  
Good Night Mother

This is from your ever loving son if I dont Write I think about you often

Erastus J. Hill