

generally the kinds of bread placed
on the table. Hard tack being issued only
in small quantities. The privates in ranks
were on one or two occasions "hard up" but never
suffered greatly. You will observe from the
heading of this letter that I have again
changed my location, "holding forth" at present
from Head-Quarters 2^d Division 15th A. C. where
you will please hereafter direct letters
leaving off the Co and Regt. This will save
me the trouble of going there for my mail
which is quite an inconvenience it being situated
nearly a mile distant. I was detailed here some
days ago in the office of Capt. C. A. Earnest, Inspector
Gen. 12^d Div. 15th A. C. as clerk, and find it to be a very
agreeable situation having many ~~advantages~~ advantages of a
similar position in a Regiment.

Well I believe that the advice contained in your last
was superfluous, as you said, but I thank you for it
nevertheless. I fear that you entertain too high an
estimate of my talents. But although I do not look to
see the time when I shall reflect with great honor
on myself or family, I think the day far distant
when I will dishonor myself or them. Foolish
predictions of morbid fancies to the contrary
notwithstanding. Now it is that you or others
ever came to entertain the idea that I was destined
at some future day to render myself "notorious".
I cannot say certain it that I never for a
moment harbored the thought that ~~my~~ ~~own~~ ~~talents~~ ~~possessed~~ ~~uncommon~~ ~~talents~~ and
do not consider it essential to happiness to be
their possessors. When those clothes spoken of
arrive I will inform you of the fact. What was
sent? I did not wish for anything except a
coat, pocket handkerchief and pair of ~~trousers~~ ^{suspenders}.
Should anything else however come they will come
in play some time. When you write tell me when
you hear from Elote what he is doing, etc.

Yours Truly
Orville D. Rice

Elizabeth & Aes

Head-Quarters 2d Div., 15th A. C.

ARMY OF THE TENNESSEE,

Colchester Va. C. March 27th 1865

Dear Mother

Your most welcome letter
leaving date Feb. 11th was received yesterday
evening by the first mail that has come to
this point. Since the receipt of which two
more mails have arrived but not having
since been to the regiment. I am unable
to say whether I am to be the recipient
of further communication. As soon as this
is finished I will go and see.

Well we have at last arrived after
marching something like, four hundred and
seventy (470) miles through a hostile country
at a permanent base, with the likelihood
of remaining several weeks.

We have the promise of Gen. Sherman
himself of rest, who has just issued a
congratulatory order to his brave command

on the successful issue of the campaign
"whipping the enemy on his chosen ground
and compelling him to flee leaving all
his dead and wounded in our possession"

Plenty of food and clothing are furnished
the 'brave boys' and the latter article they
are especially in need of, many of them
during the latter end of the Campaign
having rivalled the heroes of the revolu-
tion in "marching over frozen ground
with bare and bleeding feet." I never
examined the footprints but have no
doubt but that blood was often left
to mark the spot they trod upon.
nearly a third of the command were
shocked and some even Bocheless.

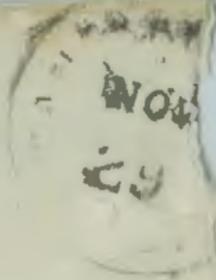
A few days since while the 2^d Divⁿ
was being overhauled in passing through
Goldsboro, Gen. P. Lorgan called one of the
Staff Officers to him promising to show him
a sight which he perhaps had not seen
Pointing to the passing column he wished
the Officer to notice that very many of the

men in addition to being barefooted
were marching along with nothing
to cover their lower extremities but
old drawers; their pants having long since
been cast aside as unwearable.

Notwithstanding these and other priv-
ations every man is just as cheerful as
if he were at home surrounded by every
comfort he could wish for.

I have during the entire trip been
well fed and well clothed. Indeed the
atables were in some respects more extra-
agant than are generally indulged in
in "Gods Country; Turkeys for instance were
seldom cooked though they could have been
easily captured every day they being con-
sidered unworthy of the trouble of preparing
for the table. Nothing short of good old
ham would answer in the meat line
while Sweet Potatoes which would have
been considered quite a curiosity at this
season in the North were plenty up to the
time. Hot Biscuits or Corn meal Buns were

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Ms Elizabeth S. Bliss.
Camden,
Bible Co.,
Ohio

