

FOREWORD

This document contains a list of personal letters written by and to Charles Loomis Eaton who was a soldier fighting for the union army during the US Civil war. Charles was the adopted son of one of my ancestors, Dr. Horace Eaton. Loomis was the last name of his biological father.

These letters were originally written in cursive and had a significant number of misspellings and bad grammar. They were transcribed AS-IS by Mary A. Hawkins (Aunt Mary). The grammar and spelling used was preserved for historical purposes. Any future caretakers of this document should respect that fact and ignore the temptation to correct everything.

Samples of the original handwriting are attached at the end. Seeing how difficult it is to read, it is easy to appreciate the work Aunt Mary did.

In addition, it may come as a surprise that certain words that are considered vulgar or offensive today were just ordinary words back then. This is especially true when describing people of other races. If such words offend you, consider yourself warned.

When I found Aunt Mary's original typed document among by father's (Amos E. Hawkins) belongings after he passed away on February 9, 2021, I scanned the pages into the computer, color corrected them, converted them to 1 bpp PNG monochrome images, and then fed those images into Tesseract OCR to convert the entire document into an Open Office file. The Open Office file was then hand edited and compared to the original scans for accuracy. With that done, the final document was converted into a PDF file.

Dennis Jay Hawkins, 7/12/2025

FOREWORD

Dr. Horace and his wife Hannah (Sacket) Eaton lived in Sheffield Twp., Ashtabula Co., Ohio and raised Charles Loomis from his first day of birth. They later adopted him and Charles used the Eaton name.

The collection of Civil War letters are from Charles to his adopted parents and from them and other relatives of the Eatons and Sackets, as well as one from his own sister.

They speak of Eddie and Minie (Minnie or Armenia) in the letters which are the doctors two children.

The letters are typed with few punctuation marks and few capital letters just as they wrote them. They were difficult to read and some of the spelling maybe my mistake in trying to read the writing.

Several original copies of the letters are at the back of the collection and have faded some, but you can see the original hand writing.

Copied and transcribed by:
Mary A. Hawkins
April 14, 1989

Columbus Sept.7,1864

Dear Father and Mother

It is with much pleasure that I take my pencil in hand to let you know how I like soldering. We staid in Warren untill Wensday when we took the morning train for Cleveland where we staid untill about 3 oclock and then we left for Columbus where we arrived about 9 oclock where we went into the Barracks and they wher all full so we bunked down on the floor.

While we were in Warren we lived with the Jailor we lived as well there as at home. When we came down there was a deserter came down with us he had been in Warren Jail ever since we have been there. I am well now I have had the bowel complaint but not bad some of them have it had we do not live so well here as at Warren. We had to be examined again here.

Friday 9th

I seat myself in an old bunk to let you know how I am to day I an well and enjoying myself first rate there is about 17 or 18 hundred of us here now I was examened here again and passed we draw our pay at 4 oclock and then we leave at 9 oclock I have seen a little of war last night here was negro shot by accident he was shot through the hand and breast it lodged in his lung he was taken to the hospital the substitutes have to drill twice a day they send enlisties where they are a mind to tell Armenia that I broke that comb some way but it did not break in the middle so I can comb the gray backs out with it yet. We draw our pay tonight and I shall send home 20 dollars by express. We are in the Barracks and I have not seen out side since I came in I must close now

Good Bye

You can not write again untill I write again Tell Ed to take care of himself and be a good lad You can get that money of Warren and use it

Good Bye

4 oclock

I have received my money and will send 20 dollars of it I had to use what I had so I will keep 13 dollars for it may be 3 or 4 months before I shall draw pay again and there is some things I want

Good Bye

I will send the receipt for the money the money will come to Dr. Horace Eaton Excuse bad writing

Envelope: Columbus-Sept.10 Dr. H. Eaton

Soldiers Lodge
Memphis Sept. 20th 64

Dear Parents

I take the opportunity to write you a few lines to let you know how I am and where I am I am well and enjoying myself first rate. I wrote you last on the 14th I expected to left on that day but we did not go untill Friday Friday we was called to gather and forty six Battery men called to leave and the Seargent said we were the best squad of men he ever called out then there was an officer made us a speech We left Friday noon for Indianopolas where we arived about 12 o'clock We marched out to the Soldiers home and staid till morning and got our breakfast and then we took the train for Terrahoute where we arrived about noon there we changed cars and proceeded on to Montoon where we arrived at 5 oclock I bought me a nice silk handkerchief for 90 cents and three quires and 25 envelopes of paper for 25 cents here we took the Illinoise Central for Cairra where we arived sunday morning at 7 oclock here we went to the soldiers home and got our breakfast we staid in Cairo all day it did not seem much like sunday there for business was going on just as much as any week day. We have a Lieutenant and guards along but it is not much guarding that they do we gained the confidence of the Lieutenant so when we stop we go where we are a mind to with out guards When at Cairo he was a going to send them back to Columbus but they wanted to go and we wanted they should so he let them go. We took the steamer Belle St. Louis Sunday night for Memphis where we arrived last night when at Cairo we could see three states illinois Missouri and Kentucky We through Arkansas and are in Tennesee and I have been through six states that I never was in before. We are in Memphis now but expect to leave today for Vicxburg I have not been sick any since I left home the most I miss is good water since we got onto the river we have to use river water and it is not good I shall not write again it aint likely until I get to the Battery But you can write to me and send it to the Battery I dont know how you must direct it but you can find out maybe Mr. Burrell will know for Charley wrote to them to send to the Battery I want you should write if you can for I wait to hear from home and if you wait till I get to the Battery and then write bout first it will be about three or four weeks yet before I should get it Write soon if you can get the address I must quit now

Good Bye

love to all and Eddie and Minnie and to Mrs. Wilkinsons folks excuse poor writing and bad spelling

Good Bye

Sept. 23rd, 1864

We left Memphis this morning in the steamer Minie Haha As we pass along the river we see the ruins of houses where the house has been burnt and the chimney left we stoped at Helena a little while but it was just after dark and I did not get off 23 moving along slowly passed the White river too day there is gun boats every five miles all along we have to stop at every one and report.

Vicksburg
Sept. 26 -

On board of the Dunleith We left Memphis on the 23rd and arrived in Vicksburg Sunday about 3 oclock We went to the Soldiers home and got our supper and stai over night. We slept in beds I did not sleep as well as on the floor. There is nothing but nigers and dogs here We can see the fortifications here and where the old bums (bombs) sruck (struck) the houses. There are not many white folks here nor white troops They are mostly nigs. we leave here at 1 oclock for New Orleans have drawed our rations here we got soft bread meat beans rice coffee sugar but and sow belly and onions this boat has been chartered by the Sanatary commission and we expect fare better than we have before I am well and hearty I can eat Uncle Sams rations and sleep on floor I am getting fat now Vicksburg is built on hills and in valleys it is hilley here there is only about 7 thousand troops here now I shall have to quit now for the boat will leave in about an hour and I have got to go quite a ways to Post office

Love to all

Good Bye

We did not get fired into comeing down there was a boat fired into a day or to and two men killed Write soon Good Bye

Charles Eaton

Envelope: Sept.27,1864- Miss. Mr. Dr. H. Eaton

Sept. 27, '64

Dear Boy,

We was glad to receive your letter dated the 20 and know that you are well but you must write just as it is when you do not feel well you must Say So we are lonsom without Charley Saturday nights and Sunday we want him here to tell us what to get for supper But we are glad to know that you are so cheerful and happy keep up good courage for lincon (Lincoln) will gain the day the copperheads look rather down dont say much I have been up to the vinyard a picking grapes two days and half have earned one dollar 16 cents

I have had a letter from Uncle Daniel and he says tell Charley to look well to his own interest and others would to but if you did not you would not fair so well and you would fair well enough I saw Aunt Rosa the other day and she said I must send her love to Charley

Now where is that paper that Emiline gave you take good care of it and bring it back to her take good care of yourself and be a good boy shun that wich is wicked and do good and love him that loves you and died for you my boy you must write one week and Charley the next if you cannot both write but if you can write every week do so and you shall have answer in return if we are well the children want to here all of Charleys letter so I have to do it and he talks about you every day something I must stop so Pa can have a spot to write so good night my boy from

Your Mother

10 oclock Tuesday evening 27th

Wall Charles how does a soldiers life go with you by this time I conclude that you think by this time that you have waided into it some But you will no doubt have to wade deeper before you get through But you have a consolation in a two fold sense 1st you have no more to incounter than thousands of others and 2 you are a defending your countrys cause you are engaged in a patriats War a fighting to establish a pure republic which will cause many generations after you to rise up and call you Blefsed (blessed) Tharefore my son stand up manfully to your task Let your superiors know that you are thare for your country's good By all means shun bad company and un-necessary habits let your associates discover that your mind soars above low mean contemptable acts I think our struggle is a coming to a close Sheridans victory in the Shanandoah Valley has produced a salutary effect through our country Gold has bell niney percent- and the Copperheads countenances toone hundred and thirty eight and still both on the down ward cost- The report is here that Sherman is sending fifty thousand troops to Grant- and I dont _see why Sheridan cant spare him the prindpal part of his- If that should be the case Richmond must fall If Grant takes Richmond before the election I have my doubts about the Copperheads trying to run a candidat at all

One thing is pretty certain in my mind that is Southern Confederacy

is short lived- We have had an abundance of rain a since you left corn is ripe and principally cut up on the ridges with a tollerable fair crop Potatoes area growing finily many are in the ? ? the crop will be far better than anticipated when you left- I get along very slow with my falls work I have cut up the corn and am a trying to build a shed in the road between the barn and house for my buggys and bobs - I got West here and thrashed out my hayseed had eleven bushels from the mill and think I shall about eight when sifted it is worth \$7.00 per bushel Things goes on here mutch as they did before you left I saw (Cross?) yesterday he enquired very particular after you I saw Shears when on his return to the army he said he saw you on the river as he was a coming up-Unckle (Amasa - Arnasa?) folks are usually well but Miss Sloan she is quite miserable yet does not gain mutch Tomorrow evening we have a general turn out to hear Esq. Sherman spout on politics they are in-tending to have the greatedst turn out that Ashtabula has ever witnessed It would do you good to see how jubilant the union men are here! over General's Sherman and Sheridan's victoriels- Whilst the Copperheads are a gasping for breath I must come to a close for this time So good by
 H.Eaton Write evry opportunity that we may know all about you
 H.E.

Good morning Charley it is a butiful morning and we are all well and Eddie says tell Charley that I have had the croope and we thought that he could not live two hours for he could not breath and lay down and: could not hardly when up though we got him easy in about half or three quarter of an hour now be a good boy from your
 Mother

Envelope: Ashtabula, Ohio
 Sep. 29
 Charles C. Eaton-New Orleans
 % Arthur Lynn

Headquarters
Camp Greenville
Sept .30,1864

Dear Parents –

I take the oppertunity to write you a few lines to let you know how I am and where I am I wrote to you last from Vicksburg we left there Tuesday morn we came down on the steamer Dunleith a Sanatary boat we arrived here yesterday. I am well stood it first rate coming down the river we were just to weeks coming from Columbus here We could not see much coming down the river till we got about 50 miles of New Orleans It had not been destroyed through that part of the country there was large plantation on both sides of the river each plantation had a large house on 20 or 30 niger huts a big suger house so it made quite a town on it. The musquietoes are as large as bumble bees and when they bite they draw blood. I found some here that I knew so I am not a stranger exactly My knapsack got wet coming down on the boat it wet my paper some and my other things some We are Camped about six miles frum the City thay do not have any thing to do here now for they have not got any guns or horses but they expect them soon. I must close now. Please excuse all mistakes and bad writing for I have a bad place to write I must close love to all –

Write soon Good Bye

2nd Ohio Battery New Orleans
La
Department of the Gulf

Envelope: Oct.1, '65 - New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

New Orleans, La
Sunday Oct. 9th, 1864

Dear Father and Mother

It is with much pleasure that I seat myself in my old tent to write you a few lines to let you know how I am and what I am about. I am well and tough and like it first rate for we have a very good time but we do not get quite full rations. we have to drill two hours in a day on foot for we have no guns or horses they turned over their horses and guns to the government but we shall have new guns and horses as soon as they get enough men and they are on the road now I expect I am on guard today I have to stand two hours on and four off I have to stand now about once in ten days The weather is cool now and nights are very cold. it has been very rainy here for about six weeks but it is over with now. I found quite a number here that I knew and am getting acquainted with a good many others. we go out nights foreging pumpkinns and oranges and whatever else we can find there is a great crop of oranges here this year the trees hang loaded they are not quite ripe yet but however they taste good they say here that they never knew the battery so healthy as it is now there is not any very sick none in the hospital there is none sick that come with us now I have not received any letter yet from you I have wrote four times but it is not quite time yet for it to come I should like to get a letter very well I should like to hear how you all get along up north there There is 7 or 8 Batterys in camp here the 7th Michigan has got orders to march for Mobile We expect now to stay here this winter if we do we shall go to the City in a cotton prefs (press) where we shall have dry warm place to stay- I made a mistake and skiped over this page on to the other You must write as soon as you get this and lit me know how you all get along and what you are all doing

I wrote to Warren Castle but have not received any answer

I must close and get my dinner when you write you may send me a few postage stamps

love to all
Good. Bye

Direct your letter to New Orleans, La.
2nd Ohio Battery
Light Artilry
in-care of Capt. Beach

Envelope: Oct. 10, '64 New Orleans
Dr. H.Eaton

Oct. 9, 1864

We received your letter from Vicksburg friday and we were truly thankfull 'to learn that you were well and hope you will take good care of yourself so as to remain so and if you keep the good side of the officers you will be all right I hope and Uncle Daniel says tell Charley to be true to himself and he will come out all right and I hope that you will be true to yourself and your God and your country and be spared to come home and tell us the news the copperheads look rather down hear Pa went and stayed to (Barneys?) till eleven o'clock a Saturday evening and he said that it was more mild than common I have picked grapes till I am about sick think that I shall not go any more your Pa has to work hard and has to be hacky for everyone I think that after Election that we had better buy us a farm and do for ourselves (that is if it is in our favour the election) what do you think about it for it is for you to say and as you say we have had a bad storm this morning got up found the ground covered with snow but now eleven o'clock it is plisenter but cold Pa has gone up to the widow Sweets and Eveline has gone with him and minie and Edie is here with me and are teasing my life out of me but they are well and so are the rest of us but colds Emeline came in our room the other day and spoke as though we eat her apples that was in the sullen last winter after her sister went away but I am clear of the crime how is it with you my boy are you guilty of taken that that was not your own I know if you are it was not brought into the room and I think you clear and I hope you will ever keep yourself clear from crime so that when you are called to die that you will not have it to think that you have done wrong I shall have to stop for I have not, left any for Pa and wants to write some now my Boy seek to be a good boy and a Christian

from your Mother

Envelope: Oct. 11 Ashtabula, O.
 Mr. Charles Eaton, New Orleans, L.A.
 In care of Aurther, L.Lynn

Oct. 11

Dear Boy

I thought as we have not sent this to you I would tell you how we do we are all so as to be about a little I have such a cold that I cannot speak a loud word the snow that we had come and went off with out frost We have not had eny frost yet this fall your father is a going over to the State Election this afternoon Now Charlie be a good boy for that is your mothers wish and constant prayer is for your welfare in this world and the world to come Keep out of bad compeny remember that evil communications corrupt good manners

Your Mother

No envelope with this letter.

New Orleans Oct.15, '64

Dear Parents

I take my pen in hand to let you know that I received your letter dated the 27th which was most thankfully received and read I was glad to hear that you was all well you say you are lonesome saturday nights and Sundays You want me there to tell you what to get for supper but I should like better to be there to eat it

I would not mind takeing supper with you if you had pancakes or biscuit toast Father you wanted to I like sogering by this time well to tell the truth I like it bully for I am well and tough as a bear I have not waded in much yet but I recon I will when I get where the rebs are no it is no worse for me than anyone else and I shall not complain I think as all the of them here that if Lincoln is elected and grant takes Richmond that rebellion is about played out the recent victories makes the soldiers well I am glad to hear that the crops are comeing in so. well I hope that you will raise potatoes enough for your self and Emeline You must not work to hard this fall I am glad you so much grass seed it will fetch you quite a little sum I hope you had a good time the night of the speech I should like to have been there. I glad to hear you feel so jubilant up there keep up good courage for the copperheads will soon breath their last they are all for old abe here and the Battery is a going to have a chance to vote I was sory to Eddie was so sick but am glad to know that he is better tell him he must take care of himself the paper that Emeline gave me is in my pocketbook I didnt see anything of Shears on the river tell Carl I am all right I should like to be up home a while long enough to all the apples I could eat and other things that are good but .if nothing happens I will be up there next year about this time

The weather is fine here now days midling warm and nights are very cool Tell Uncle Daniel that I will be sure to out fox number one

I must close give my love and respects to all enquiring friends you must write a good larg one like this one was I can read a letter from home once a week ill bet Charley is well

love to Emeline and the girls and to Eddie and Minnie tell minie she must write I must close Good Bye

Direct your letters 2nd Ohio Battery New Orleans,
La.

Envelope: Apparently none with this letter.

Oct. 16, '64

Dear Son

Yesterday we received your letter written in New Orleans and you did not say as you had received any from us and I have written two letters to you hoping that you would receive them when you got to your journey's end we are well and I have been to a funeral today of old Mrs. Landon bled at the nose till it caused her death your father went to (Wm?) West wife last night and stayed all night he says that she has got the fever I asked you in my last if you did not think that we had better after the Election buy us a farm if the election went in our favour we hear the Mr. Matson is dead and Charles Dibble Died the 8 of this month and his wife is a going to sell there place there is an acre large apple trees what do you think of that Jesse Sweet is on his way home sick and Uncle Sam says that the sick soldiers may come home so if you are sick you can come on Uncle Sam's expense what have you done with the paper that Emeline gave you take good care of it and bring it home to her Uncle Daniel says that I must tell you to be true to yourself and you will come out all right I want you to be true to your self and country and your God shun evil communications for it corrupts good manners be a good boy this from your Mother

(Fathers writing)> I would say to you that Business (Business) Drags here with me--for the want of energy I have husked my corn and dug a part of my potatoes they are a Small Crop-Glory-Glory-Glory-Halaluyah for the Election Penns Ohio and Indiana have gone Union Penn 20,000 Ohio 40,000 Indiana 20,000 Maine and Vermont have gone Union there States Constitution -the bone of the North-Good for his Excellency Abraham Lincoln he is our Next President and the Rebellion will be crushed at once the Copperheads are as flat as the surface of Lake Erie in a Calm The trial of Mr. Dodd has been going on in Indianapolis the one that the Secreted arms and ammunition was found with but before they had got through with the Witnesses (witnesses) for the United States he made his escape by the aid of the copperheads he let him self down from the 3 story of a building and made his escape it is enough to make a patriots Blood boil to hear the testimony adduced against that order the confession of a Mr. Smith who was arrested at Chicago as a member of that order of Sons of Liberty as they call themselves is enough to astonish a barbarian Murder and Theft is a mere cypher in the catalogue of crimes compared to those atrocities of that Hells Band-But a fearful retribution awaits them It appears that every move that infamous band makes against our Government they get detected and is sure to bring a Lasting charge against them which will when posted up figure hard for their Banishment or hearts blood what facilities or chance have you for obtaining the News from

this quarter are those Newspaper that are printed in this section circulated there or could you get one from me now and then if I could send one Please speak of Charley Burrill in each of your letters for the future I request him to do the same of you in his Let us know about you often

Adiu H. Eaton

Envelope:Mr. Charles Eaton Dated Oct. 19
2nd Ohio Battery
Light Artillery
Department of the Gulf New Orleans, La.

New Orleans Oct. 23, '64

Dear Father and Mother

It is with much pleasure that I take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you how I am I can not say this morning that I am well I have had the bloody flu for two or three days back but I am better now I did not give up but have done duty I took a portion of physick and take a few along to keep my bowels lose you was acquainted with a Mr. Moses in Coneaut was you not his son is here in the battery he is in the same tent that I am he has been in over two years and he knows how and what to do and he tells me how to procede he is a first rate fellow they say here that every man has got to have one sick spel when climating and Charley that is Moses says the sooner the better that is what ales me now he says keep my bowels lose and I will come out all right I do not have any appetite and it is a good thing for one wants to diet for this disease I have told you now just as it is now dont be worried about me for I shall come out all right in a few days I was very glad to hear from you but was sorry to hear that you had such a cold and that (you?) and pa had to work so hard the weather is fine here now nights are pretty cool but in the day it is pleasant the report is here that Mclelen has with drew now how is it is it so or not If it is so it will be a hard blow for the Copperheads I rather guefs (guess) old abe is all right they will all vote for him here but about ten that will be 60 or 70 to ten About the-buying the farm you can do as you think best for you know better what to do than I do how did the state election go I suppose it went all right you must write and let me know how the thing is going we have no guns or horses now and dont know how long it will be before we shall get them maybe not before spring we shall stay here this winter I suppose you said that Eddie and Minie were teasing you so hard tell them they must be good children I was glad you are all well you must write once a week anyway and let me know all the news Pa must write in every letter Now dont be worried about me at all I will write to you again in a few days you spoke about the apples that Emeline though we eat them but I will assure you Mother that I never took one I write to you in my last letter for some postage stamps I spoke about it again for fear that you did not get the other- now you must write often and good big long ones Charley is well I must close now so good bye

Direct your letters to
2nd Ohio Battery New Orleans
Care of Capt. Beach

Envelope: Oct. 24, '64 New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton- Ashtabula, Ohio

Oct. 23, 1864

Dear Boy

We received your letters and we are glad to here from you so often and wish that you had herd from us for we have writen three good long letters to you and perhaps you have before this and Warren say that he wrote the next day after he received yours they are all well down to Uncle Ammasa Warren and Cate is not married yet as anyone knows of and we are all well only worn out with hard work and your father grows poor every day and fails but works hard for and old man I wish what was done was expresly for our own comfort and for yours when you come home again I have asked you in my two last what you thought of our taking the money after the Election and buying a place and going on to it in the spring and be doing what we can till you come tell me what you think O how I wish I could send you a good big ration I wonder if Mrs. Burrell and I should send you and Charley a box wether you would get it if we thought you would we should send with out delay be carful and not eat two many oreneges for it may make you sick I wish we could get some of your Oreneges and you could get some of our apples take good care of yourself and be a good boy shun bad company and do well perhaps your old shirts are gone if they are bad you not better let us no and we send you some cant we get them cheaper for you than you can but maybe that geting them to you it would cost as much as for you two get them write and let us know and we can find out what they would cost to send by exprefs (express) for you I must close so that your father can write when you write speak of Charley in your letters

My love to you and Charly Good by for this time from your Mother

As your father cannot write I will tell you that we are well and that Edwin Rood is married and so is Phebe Hutly to a soldier of Washington say what you think of our buying the Dibble Place in haste God blefs (bless) my boy Mother We send you 6 stamps and will send you more but for fear you wont get them we wont send eny more now Mother

Envelope: Ashtabula, O. Oct. 25
 Charles Eaton-Incare of Capt. Beach
 L.A.

This poem was with this letter:

A precious one from us has gone
A voice we loved is stilled
A place is vacant in our home which never can be filled
God in his wisdom has recalled the boon his love had given
And though the body slumbers here the soul is safe in heaven

Oct. 30, 1864

Dear Boy

We received your (letter) 13 and was glad to know that you had heard from home and hope you have received more of our letters for we have written every week sence you first asked us to write it dose me good to hear from 'you if I am a most sick it it doze me good to here from you do you have meetings in the army where you are or praye or the Bible to read if you do search the scripsturs for in them we have eternal life strive to be a christian shun evil communication for they corupt good humen you know not the anxiety for you my boy. I wish your money was laid out in a form some where so that it could be getting better or was where it was drawing interest Your father has to work hard but Edie is a pritty good boy he helpt Pa make him a shed for his wagons and bobs Charley I expect to see hard times for your father is not earning enything to bring in and I once and the while gets a small job to do but I know one thing I can go out washing or do eny thing that I can do of that kind work to get flour to eat we had a letter from Uncle Dan he says that he is a going to write to you he sent me quite a present a hoop skirt 15 pair of stocking 18 handkerchief

Your father will finish

Your Mother

Dear Boy

Nov. 2

We are well I wanted your father to write but thought he could not so I will say be a good boy. write often for we get your letters every time -

Good by
Hannah Your Mother

No envelope with this letter.

New Orleans
Nov. 3, 1864

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I take my pen in hand to let you know how I am and to let you know that I received your letter all safe today and was very glad to hear from you and to hear that you was well this is the 3rd letter I have received since I have been here I have written 9 letters home since I left- I was sorry to hear of the death of Mr. Landon and Dibble You spoke about the farm in your last you spoke about dibble place you and pa must do as you think best for you know better what would be best for you better than I do so you can act your own pleasure about it and do just as you think best and it will be all right. - You said that Jesse Sweet was comeing home sick and that Uncle Sam was a going to let sick soldiers go home but - I hope that I shall not be sick when I wrote to you last I had been unwell but I am getting all right now I had the flue pretty bad but I got something of a fellow in my tent that stoped it. I have the paper that Emeline gave me I will try to keep it all safe Tell Uncle Daniel I will try to be true to myself and my country and shun bad company there is no end to it here but I think I can keep out of it I will try anyway Now to Pa you say that buizness drags with you for want of energy 'I am glad you are getting along so well with your work but I wished crops turned out good I say Glory to hurrah for the Union she well be victorious next Tuesday tells the story dont it Pa old Abe will take the chair and I think if he does and Grant takes Richmond and Sherman goes on with his victories that the rebellion will soon play out now what do you think about it Pa it is a pity that that fellow escaped he ought to have been hung I think copperheads will look more like sheep dogs than anything else after Election they ought to be banished or their hearts blood pay for their Crimes You wanted to know how it was about papers there is a paper printed here but it is not of much account if you could send me a paper when you get one that has got lots of news in it it wont come amifs (amiss) I tell you I should like it if I could get one once a week I am out of money now but we was mustered monday last I shall get two months pay we shall get our money next week I guefs (guess) and then I can get some postage stamps and paper and envelops and then I will write to every one I know I write to you as often as once a week and sometimes more than that I will answer every letter you write ill bet you now write often for I like to hear from you if you dont get a letter once a week you may be sure they dont come through I must close now Charley is well he says tell our folks to write love to all Good Bye let me know all about election

from your son Charles

Envelope: Nov. 4, '64-New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Nov. 4, '64

My Dear Boy,

We received your dated 23 saying you was sick it is sorrowful news to us to know that your sick so far from home but glad you have one it tent with you that is wiling to tell you how to do but dont take the Blue Mose or Caneine but take your soda and cordial and stick write to it till you are well and if you want pills take them you have and when you want more let us know and we will send you more do not delay write twice a week till you are better and if you dont get better you had better come home if you can get furlow or discharge I was down to Nats yesterday and while I was there Horace Upherd come home and he looks aufful feel as bad as Job MacAdams did only more yellow and he said that he had not done two weeks work sence he had been there and he was taken just as you was and when he come in it made me feel bad to see him and thought of you my boy how it would make me feel to know that you was taken in that way and in the evening got your letter but you have got the medicin with for it and you must stick to it for it will help you follow the Direction that is on your bottle do you suppose that if I should send you enything and send it in the care of your Capt. that you would get it if you do write as soon as you get this and let me know Warren was married a wensday evening he and Kate had got there house furnish all right and got Elder Morton to come up and tie the not for them he asked his sister Lisa to go up and here the Elder Preach a while and he would give her some oysters for her supper and so she went they were married in there own house and the boys gave him a horning I must close for your Father I hope will write so be good a good boy good by for this time

from your Mother

Dear Son

I am sorry to learn that you are afflicted with that disease but I have no fears if you are careful controll your bowels with Soda and cordial if thare is signes of your bowels being (ras?) you must have your soda very weak dont (suffer your bowels?) to be (sostive?) or too mutch loose but keep them quiet Keep a good stiff upper lip Charles- For old Abe as they call him will ride triumphant next Tuesday Ohio Majority is estimated at from 40 to 60 thousand majority Penn y and Indiana too have handsome majorities Next Tuesday will be a day that will make some mens heart wiggle like a Sheaps tail It is rumored here that the Secech are about to burn Buffalo Erie Cleveland and Detroit and thare is many Stronge signs of it and that the Copperheads intend to flee to armer on that day or soon after I-sent a few stamps the other day and will send more after the election

Charles write often and I will I am in hopes that we shall be able to get our letters to you faster after this as we have larned how to direct In haste ,

Good By H. Eaton

Envelope: Ashtabula, O. Nov. 4
Mr. Charles Eaton
New Orleans, . La.

Ashtabula Sunday Eve.
Nov. 6th, 1864

Dear Charles

I thought that I would comence a short epistle to you tonight and Chronicle what few events that had of late transferred that I could think of we ware eceeding sorry to learn of your ill disposition and am over anxious to hear more from you my work drags slowly I have husked my corn dug my potatoes harvested my beets mowed the ravein? by the barn and fed my part to the old Mare secured my corn fodder and plowed two thirds of the ground that I raised corn on hired Taggot one day and sawed for cords of wood out of that Elm and Eddy drue up about one cord the same day I bought 8 hundred feet of Boards of Whitton got them home and built me a shed for my Buggy Bobs and Waggon by the garden fence between the house and barn that I feel proud of I have still got my Turnips and carrots to secure that greenword to break up the potatoe ground to plow Dung to get out and wood to get and it keeps me busy I met with an aciden this evening I (suck stuck?) an 8 in. nail into my foot and it is painfull indeed

Frank Harmond has made such an alteration at the corners you would scarce know the place has mooved the old Wagon shop of Kellogs down to the barn north covered it a new Converted it into a Waggon house Painted it in (stib side?) Built a board fence and painted it from the barn up to the corner and from thare to the old Tavern house torn down all of them old barn and sheds down and cleard them out and torn down all the back post and lean toes to the old tavern house Warren Castle was married Wednesday evening

Dariuses wife and Wilder Williams wife have ben down on a visit and gone back Hod Ufford got home Thursday and is verry feeble Horace Parker got home one day last weak he is sick Charles Sweet is at home on a furlow untill the fifteenth Asku and both the Phelps boys have returned Deb. Sweet is home and I cannot not think who els. Tomorrow afternoon General Garfield and Tobe Sherman Will address the inhabitants of Ashtabula Jefferson Plymouth Saybrook Kingsville Munroe and Conneaut in generall union meeting at Smiths Hall Asthabula If the weather admits we shall undoubtedely have the greatest assemblage that this town ever witnefsed Rochester Buffalo Erie Cleveland Sandusky and Detroit have been loudly threatened with a raid of the Cecech from Canada but we are prepared no stranger can enter any town on the shore without a strict and statisfaction of himself evry town and Depot is guarded War and Carnage threaten us on evry hand Tuesday next will be pretty likely to tell the story the Copperheads is Wanderfull still and sullen and it is generally beleived that they intend to rise not withstanding the reverses

they have met with in the experience of their secret acts in Indiana and their high handed swindle in the solders notes I suppose you know of that there as well as we, tell me what facilities you have for obtaining news Nov. 9th Yours of the 27th was recd this noon and glad to hear you was better Election is over I will send you the result as recd this noon by a Cleveland Daily How many letters have you received from us we have written every week asince you left Memphis I sent you a few stamps I shail send more in this I do not think it but to send many at a time least they should get lost- you was right with lizzy Brown addrefs Warren has written to immediately after receiving yours Adalines man has sold out and gone to Corunna DeKalke (DeKalb?) County Indiana is her addrefs how are your shirts and other clothes- our Majority was over two hundred in this town the coperheads look today like so many slunk calves and they ware as gentle and still as a Zephyr breeze all day yesterday- your Mother washed Monday forenoon I went to the biggest lecture you ever heard in the afternoon and has ben a trying to be sick ever since untill she received your letter she has perted up asince I hobble around upon my sore the rest are well except the old mare she is a running down with the Copperheads but I am a doctoring her so I will close

H.Eaton

It has done nothing but rain here over a month. 10th all well The news last night was not as favorable for Lincoln as at noon this morning it appears more favorable for Lincoln

Envelope: Ashtabula, O. Nov. 10 Charles Eaton
New Orleans, L.A.

New Orleans Nov. 16th, '64

Dear Parents

I take my pen in hand to let you know how I do and that I received your of the 23 last night. I am pretty well able to eat my rations I suppose you have received my letter before now stating that I was unwell I was- sick with the flue but I got some medicine and stoped it I had it about 8 days and I tell you it takes ones strength away from them but I am all right now only I have not got my strength yet I was very glad to hear from you and glad to hear that you were all well but sorry you had to work to hard you and Pa must not work so hard its two weeks tomorrow since I heard from you This letter was 21 days coming through the rest have come through in 11 days I have received 4 letters from you but I did not get Warrens There is a fellow in the battery he got a letter stating that Warren and Cate was married last fourth of July I wished what was done was for your own interest and comfort you asked me what I thought about getting a place of our own and I wrote to do as you thought best If you think it best to buy a place and go on to it why do so you can tell better what is best for you than i can If you think it will be the best for you to do so use the money to the best of advantage and for that which will be most for your comfort now do just as you think will be the best for you I sent you \$20 from Columbus did you receive it you never have writen have you got the money of Warren you said you thought of buying a place after election I suppose you know North by this time how election has gone It has gone all right I guefs we have not heard yet here but this mornings papers stated how some of the states how they went they all went union but Kentucky there was some 10 or 12 different states Ohio I see went 35000 union Some think here that if Lincoln is elected that the war wont last longer than spring now what do you think about it Pa Write and let me know what you think about it the news is here that we have got old Price I hope it is true You said you wished you could send me a big ration I would like to be up home long enough to take supper with you if you had pancakes or buiscuits and butter you spoke about sending us a box I dont think there would be any danger but what it would come through there was a fellow got a box or a package the other day from Kingsville and I think it come through in 11 days Charley is a going to write home he says do as you think best if you should make up your minds to send us a box I want you should send me some of Pas ague medicine for a good many have the ague here and I think it would be good for a good many other diseases and a bottle of balsom I will find out where and how to direct it you told me to be careful and not eat to many oranges I do not care nothing about them now I dont

I dont eat one once in two weeks I wished you had some of them they are all ripe now and we can buy all we want for one cent a piece and I wished we had some of your apples I have not eat a apple in about two months if Orange are not all gone before we get our pay

Charley and me can send you a box You spoke about the shirts they was gone long ago but I draw government shirts they are a great deal cheapest you say Edwin Rood and Phebe Huntley are married who is Ed Rood married to you did not say tell me in your next but Phebe getting married that beats the whole you wanted to know what I thought about buying the Dibble place I dont know what to say about it I do no how much they ask for it write next time and let me know I got the stamp all right I got a letter from Lizzie Brown last week they were all well then I suppose it is getting to be pretty cold up north it is very nice weather here now we expect to stay here this winter we have got our quarters fixed for winter four in a tent we have them all borded up on the sides and every one has a nice little fire place in it so when it is cold and rainy we can stay in our tent and keep dry and worm we have got no guns or horses and do not expect to get them under two or three months so we shall stay till spring and maybe till our time is out we may not move from here at all If you do make your minds to send us a package or box you want to Direct the same as the letters to Charles Eaton or Burrell 2nd Ohio Battery New Orleans In care of Capt. Beach It will Cost 20 cents a pound to send it now do as you think best about sending anything We have a suttler here now he was cheif bugler in the Battery 3 years and his time was out and he went home and come back as suttler (settler?) he sells on trust he got potatoes and he sells them to the boys for \$7 a barrel our tent-four of us bought a barrel and I tell you what If they go good he has caned fruit of all kinds he has not got his shanty up yet but when he does he will have everything he sells cheap to the boys but I am not agoing to run in debt much I paid my share of the potatoes \$1.75 and I got some dishes which was a \$1.25 that is all. I bought me an over coat for \$6.00 if I drew one it would cost me \$12.00 or \$14.00 so I thought I had better buy it We mustered for pay the first of this month and expect to get pay some time this month but we may not for they have not been paid in 6 or 7 months I dont belive there is ten dollars in the Battery you ought to see the boys when we draw clothing sell their old cloths for mere nothing when I get my pay I will send you some if I can I must close now so you must excuse this short letter this is the kind I want should writ why dont Pa write now write me all the news

Love to Minie and Edie and to Emeline and the girls

how do you manage for wood dont work to hard write as soon as you
get this

I must close now

from Charles Good Day

Envelope: New Orleans, La. Nov. 18 Dr. H. Eaton Ashtabula, Ohio

New Orleans Nov.17,1864

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I seat myself in my old tent to write you a few lines to let you know how I do and that I received yours of the 30th and Nov. 4th on the night of the 16th I was very glad to hear from you I received a letter from you the night before I was sorry you and Pa have to work so hard but when you talk about going out to work that will do to talk about but you will never do it while I can work you can lay the money out in a farm or a place some where if you think best but dont suffer for nothing if it takes every cent of that money I will send all of my wages that I possibly can Uncle Daniel sent you a nise present sure.

You received my letter stating that I was sick but you must not be scared for you know you wanted I should tell you when I was sick and so I did I did not take any blue mafs or quinine I am all right now I am takeing Janes pills they all say here that they are the best for this country I tak 3 every night on going to bed I am takeing them to clense my blood and they are doing it now dont feel uneasy about me I am comeing home when my year is up.

You wrote Horace Ufford had come home sick. Now I will tell you about this and what I think feched? on to me and thats what others say we have bacon here and it is fried and there is lots of grease in it and when I first come I had a good appetite and I did not think anything and eat all I wanted and anything I wanted and I eat this bacon grease and it is gust the worst thing in the world for man when he first comes here now I do not touch it now I have explained it to you it has learnt me a lesson I shall be careful now I know now better how to do I have growed about 3 inches since I left home what do you think of that there is 5 or 6 that came down when I did that has had the flue and some have got now but the most got over it in about a week or ten days the same as I did I was down to town yesterday I went with the suttlar after some thing I was weighed and I weighed just two pounds lefs than I did when I left home that aint very bad is it You spoke about sending a box I wrote the answer my other that you could do as you thought best it will cost considerable 20 cents a pound I dont know as it would be best now but if you do make up your minds to send I wrot in my other how to direct and what to send and I would like a almanac

Then Warren and Cate are married at last are they how did the old folks like it I should like to been up there in the night To Pa- I will try and be careful after this for I think I understand the thing a little better

now I did not take soda or cordial when I was sick I took some of them pills

you got me and then one of the boys got me some medicine for the flue he said he never knew it to fail and I know it was just the thing that feched me out all right- I did keep up courage I would not give up nor I did not go to the Doctor,

I would get excused from drilling by my corporal but I stood my guard duty I was bound not to give up and I did not.

Hurah for old Abe and hurah for old Ohio this morning papers states that old Abe is elected and that he has called for more men if he has done that the war will soon play out for when the rebles hear old (abe) is elected and see 500,000 more men come marching down they will give up that is my opinion about it now whats your oppinion about it Pa bully for Ohio 100,000 majority that shows where Ohio is how do the Copperheads feel since election the Secesh didnt make much burning them places did they they wasent quite smart enough I received the stamps you sent and was very glad to get them for I had none nor no way to get them I will write often I will write every week any way I neglected writing before this a most two weeks but I had no stamps but I will not do it again You said you was in hopes to get your letters to me faster now you had learned how to direct there is no use of puting on 13 army Core for there is no 13 army Core now all you need put: on Mr. Charles Eaton 2nd Ohio Battery New Orleans La Care of Capt. Beach I must come to a close now by sending my love to all Write as soon as you get this let me know all the news

Charles Eaton

[Letters and envelopes mixed up on these last few letters. Address the same]

Ashtabula Nov. 20th 1864

Dear Sun

Yours of the 3d was received late last evening and found us well as common and was received with much pleasure we was made happy to learn that you was well and in good Spirits but sorry to learn that you was out of funds I fear to send you money unless absolutely necessary for fear it will never reach you I have sent you postage stamps twice but dont learn that you have received them nothing new has transpired here asince my last untill last evening they had a grattification meeting over the creek last evening with fire works firing of cannon speaches and Huzzabs for the election of Lincoln and Johnson I did not go I was so tiard when night came but could hear the cannon and Huzzabs and see the fire works - I think that I will send you a paper now and then as we have any quantity of them here I will send one this week and if you can get them I can send one or two evry week if they will keep you out of bad company Jessie Sweet with many others was home to vote but will return to their scriptive situations in the army tomorrow or next day the election went off smartly and quiet but the next day Doct John Hubbards and Editor Reed had a fight John felt so crofs(cross) to think that he lost his election that he got into the Streets and seeing Reed he jaunced upon him and paid \$5.00 for it you have likely heard of the Detection of the plot to burn Chicago I wont relate it but Charles Pattan of Sheffield was caught amongst the conspirators and is in chains in Camp Douglafs(Douglass) and will be pretty likely to get his neck streached

When you draw your pay keep it with you for you no doubt by this time see the necessity and convenience of having a little money now and then as a permanent friend in a strange land What are your Superiors are they kind and humane or has their promotion made them inselent and severe toward their subordinates put up with every thing you can untill you get their confidence and then you will be all right

You will see by the papers that the olive branch is about to be held out to the Rebels upon our own terms and if not excepted then extermination will be likely to follow! then comes the tug! but the hotter the battle the sooner over I for one believe that after one more desperate struggle with the Rebels they must breathe their last

Keep up good courage face the enemy with a dtermined purpose and that is the way to lick them

I trust our struggle is of short Duration We have had a severe storm on the lake and great many disasters have occurred Capt. Burrell is on the lake but he has with stood the storm and will get home next week the weather here has ben uncommon steady here ever since you left it rains stedily three times a day and twice nights the mud and water has united and adhears to evry thing it touches Roswell got a letter from Henry the other day he is back to his old department and Roswell thinks he is promoted Quarter Master Sergt. we have not heard from Henry Eaton in a long time amelia Sweet is here she tells Charles he must write me a letter when he gets paper and stamps school began last Monday the children go to school

All join in sending our warmest affections to you

Finis H. Eaton

Envelope: Ashtabula, O. Nov. 21

Charles Eaton

New Orleans, La.

Nov. 20, 1864

Dear Boy

We received your letter last evening and was glad to here from you and know that you was geting better hope you will continue to get better we are well here your father rather fails if eny thing but keeps around the old Horse has been sick and is runing down but your father thinks that she is better now the friend of Mr. Dibble is preached to day and I think that I shall go we cannot get over being lonesome with out you on Sunday but there is three months of the times almost past so there is only nine more and that wont be long not but a little while but how I wish you could our letters for we have writen every sunday since you left Columbus till last and why we did not then was that your father had sent one on Thursday telling of the election and hope you have got it before now yes my boy I hope that the copperheads ought to have there just deserts and they would have it if I was a man that is so there was a soldier brought home a few days ago that was kiled in battle on ship that went with when Henry Sweet and in the same company Charles Taylor perchance you knew him your father hase got Government notes for you or I expect he has but I wish he would get the Dibble place but he wount but I think it cheap for seven hundred and so do every one else and think it would be money at interest and if you wanted to sell it you wanted to and get a larger farm but I must close for your father has writen a long letter to you I am glad that you will shun bad company it dose me good to think that I have raised a boy that is wiling to try to shun bad company and hope that will always be your moto God Blefsing (Blessing) he with and rest on you my boy

From your Mother

Good night

No Envelope

New Orleans
Nov. 26th, '64

Dear Father and Mother

It is with the greatest pleasure that I seat myself to write you a few lines to let you know how I get along I am well now and doing well I received your very kind letter mailed the 10th last night and read it with the greatest of pleasure I was very glad to hear that you was all well for my part I think you are a getting along pretty well with your work how did your potatoes turn out and corn

You got a pretty good pile of wood out of that old tree and I think that Eddie done big buizness drawing wood thats right Ed help Pa all you can I think that is a good thing your shed for your things I am very sorry you hurt your foot so bad but I hope it will get well soon Frank Harmon has been fixing up around there surely I dont expect I shall know the place when I get back you are fixing up around there so nice' I expect you had a great time up there the 7th I should like to have been there I am glad election went off all right Lincoln is our Commander for 4 years longer I wonder how the rebels feel about it how do the copperheads feel since election the sesesh were foiled again in their plan to destroy those places as they always have been in all other such kind of things before it appears the Copperheads did not make much disturbance election day .

You wanted to know what the chances were to get the news there is a paper printed here and brought into camp by the news boy I am glad you received my letter stating that I was better I thank you very much for them papers you sent It showed me how election went that pyramid shows where Mc Lelen is I have received 7 er 8 letters from you I have received one pretty near every week I want to hear from you every week I am going to write to you every week I have received all the stamps you have sent I think it is best to send but a few at a time I never received Warrens letter that he wrote My old shirts that I had when left home are all gone up long ago but I drew a pair of nit shirts I am prety well off for clothes two shirts 1 pair drawers 2 pairs pants 1 cap 1 overcoat 1 jacket 1 blouse 2 blankets so I think I am pretty well riged out for winter Im sorry Mother was so near sick but was glad my letter done her so much good you must doctor up the old mare and cure her up the weather has been very cold here for a few days back but it is warmer now but we were prepared for it we have our tents fixed up good with a nice little fire place in each one so you see we are all right for winter but we may have to leave them at any time it is rumored that we are going to Vicksburg for our equipments if we do that will make us so much the near home Lieut Harper was in our tent about an hour the other night talking about one thing and another and he said we would have our guns in about two weeks we are a going to have new guns harnes horses and evrything

throughout and when we get them I shall have a team to take care of I
get very tired of laying here nothing to do but I expect we shall
have plenty to do when we get our equipment I am going to take a team
for I will be healthier to have more exercise I must close now by
sending my love to all you must write soon and often

Good Bye
Charles

New Orleans
Nov. 26th 64

There is nothing much going on in camp today it is pretty dull this afternoon we got a big mule wagon load of sanitary stores we got some potatoes onions and a barrell of sourkrout so we are liveing pretty well here now We had some sourkrout for supper it went very well it was the first I ever eat

Sunday the 27th It is rather dull in camp today we have no meetings here Sunday is just the same as a week day there is just as much going on and generly more This formoon I wrote a letter to Uncle Daniel and after dinner Charley and I went down to the river and then we went down to the womans that washes for us to get our clothes then we went back to Camp and we got there just in time for supper Just for the fun I will tell you what I had for supper I had a piece of bread a piece of sowbelly and a onion light supper Monday 28th There is considerable going on to day in Camp the boys are getting lumber to fix up our shantys better I am on guard today I got hold of a Cleveland paper of Nov. 9th It had the returns of most all the states so it showed me how election went It contained the history of how those secesh were a going to rise in Chicago and release the prisoners then burn the City and then with their force that they would go where they pleased but they were foiled agian It spoke of Sherman expedition as if it would be one of the most crowning victories of the war and one of the greatest things toward ending the war

Tuesday 29th There is considerable going on today we are all to work like nailors we found some old buildings that belongs to government and we got leave to use them I have been to work hard all day this forenoon I and one of my tent mates went after lumber we got a good lot of it and in the afternoon I went with the team after bread we have to go about a mile and half after it we draw everyday each man draws one loaf per day then when I came back I helped fix the shanty so by the time night came I was pretty tired

Wensday Nov. 30th There is pretty lively times here today I was on detail for water this morning we use river water have to draw it about three quarters of a mile and today is ration day we draw rations every ten days I will tell you what we drew we got sow belly what you call bacon salt pork beans salt peper candles soap sugar tea coffee dried apples and fresh beef from 3 to 5 times in the ten days we hire a cook to do our cooking so there is nothing divided among the men but the sugar It is very buizy times here just now fixing our quarters we hav ours all done we have it all boarded light sides and ends and have a good board roof so it cannot leak and then we have a nice fireplace so you see we are fixed up pretty comfortably for winter

I am well feeling first rate I have been to work pretty hard the last two days and am pretty tired but that nothing I suppose it pretty cold up your way now but here it is so nice weather as you ever saw it seems like summer garden sauce? of all kinds growing here its so warm we have to go in our shirt sleeves we have not got our pay yet and do not know when we shall get it I have nary a red cent to my name Uncle Sam owes me \$48 if we are not paid till we are mustered again it will be over a month yet I expect we shall stay here this winter but we cannot tell a week before hand what well do it was the talk that we are going to Vicksburg for equipment we have none yet Charley is well you must write as soon as you receive this I shall have to close for want of room I send my love to all

Good Bye from
Charles E.

Envelope: Dec. 2, '64
New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ashtabula Nov. 27th, '64

Dear Charles

I have no news in particular for you today We have not received any letter from you last week but hope to get one soon We are as well as usual together with the neighborhood it was rainy last night but this after noon it clear warm and pleasant they had a fine time over the creek for Thanksgiving thare came snow enough the day before to make excellent sleighing on that day and all went off the next so that mud is predominant here now

The copperheads look here as tho they wase a returning from the Burial of near relative their eyes cast upon their mother earth and they feel truely moarnful and well they might the hottest Copperheads here observed Thanksgiving but had it have ben appointed one week before election I will venture to say that not a solitary one would have observed the day but they turned out pretty generally and they received a good many side winders from the Methodist Speaker as I am told

I want you to bear in mind that you are now agoing to school whare you can learn mutch that you can turn to good advantage in after life if you should be so blest as to survive your school days Remember that the Wisest men of all nations unite in declaring that War is calculated to demoralize a Nation the greater number come out wors men than when they went in Probably the cause or one of the main causes is to be looked for upon those circumstances War generally call for the young and vigorous they are taken from the fostering care of their parents in their tender years before their minds become established and all those who have ben left to their own dictates or in other wards those who have never ben taught the necessity of self denial are the first to enter the army They have already learnt and perhaps practiced miss rules they those congregate together and if thare is anything bad that one does not know the next one does and it is immediately put into practice and hence it goes from one thing to another untill they know no bounds to their selfishnefs and soon bid defiance to Chrischanity or Sivilization this is why so many make shipwreck of their manlinefs (manliness?) on the other hand those that go into the war with a fixed determination to associate with none but the moral portion of the army and those that are able and qualified to instruct them and keep a strict adherence to them is pretty sure to come out a brighter Star than when he went in and it is my desire that you should Profit by your school.

Your wages and your Bounty would be but a very small compensation for your time your experience and your sufferings if you did not come out of your Perrils and man in stead of a knave or a fool Remember Daniels advise to you take care of yourself that is your morals and manliness never be behind

in either Use evry man with decency and I will venture you will come
out all right

from Your Father

Envelope:
Ashtabula, Ohio Nov. .28
Charles Faton~ La.

Nov. 27, 1864

Dear Boy

We seat ourselves to let you know how we get along for we have not received no letter from you this week but I hope that you are not sick that we have not received one we are useal well your father drages around but is not able to do what he has to do and he grows old verry fast and looks bad but so it is with man they grow old and fade away and go to the grave and the young may die but if we have jesus in the heart it is good to live by and a sure foundation to die by and are resting place in time of distrefs I went over the creek to meeting on Thanksgiving day and I herd a good sermon on the situation of our country and there was all of the ministers there and Gillett with the rest of them and you know that he is one of the stronges of Copperheads and he sot and nudged his shoulders and looked as though he wanted to bite some body and he took a dish and past for the collection of the sanatory Mishion (sanitary mission?) for the soldiers and looked mad all of the time but he could not get out of it deasant for all of the ministers done the same I want to know weather your Battery got any terkey for Thanksgiving supper Lette me know how you fair down there Marion Brumley is a going to come to help your father next week you remember him he was john Glasons? wifes boy and she is Dead and died las April while he was sick in the hospitle in the army and he did not know that she was dead till he got home for they would not let him have the letters that spoke of her death for fear of making him worse but his Aunt took care of him till he got well we herd from you. by the way of Charleys letter of the 7 he said that you was well and on gard that day we are ancious when we know that they have a letter and Mrs. Burrell brings up here when I get one from you I go down to see if she has got one and read it to her so you see that it makes it first rate to have you say aword of Charly and he speaks of you you thought that the Copperheads would look like sheep dogs and so they do and go with there heads down between there knees or some of them that know enough to know anything Barny and jet Armsder dont know enough to do only as they tell them I think that your Pa thinks that our war is almost over what do they think there now charley it done me good to here that you was agoing to try to shun bad company and be good boy for I alway thought you a good boy I only thought you lact the one thing needful and that is religion but I trust you will seak and find I must come to a close for I want to write a letter to Aunt Brown this evening the children often speak of Charly and wish him here

Now Good night my Boy this from
your Mother

Elizabeth says that she wishes you a mery Christmas and a happy
newyear and so do the rest of us

No envelope

New Orleans Thursday
Dec. 1st, '64

Today is the first day of winter I suppose but it does not seem much like winter here we are having very fine weather here now it is very busy times here now fixing our quarters there I must give you a little description of how they do here there some old houses down to the river about half a mile from Camp we got permission to tear them down there was a woman living in one part of one of them but they commenced tearing it down and she had to leave last night I went with a team to get an old house to make stables for the mules when we got there there was some niggers moved in to it but we commenced on one end of it and in less than an hour the old house was on the wagons ready for camp the old niggers took on and cried but that did not make any difference it had to come down

New Orleans
Dec. 4th 1864

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I seat myself in my old tent or rather "house to let you know how I am and that I had received your letter dated the 20th I am well and in good spirits I received your letter the 1st but neglected writing immediately for I sent one the 30th I was very glad that you were all well You said you sorry I was out of funds but feared to send me any I do not want you should for I can stand it as well as the rest of them we muster for pay every two months I have mustered once a month ago if we dont get paid till we muster again I shall have four months pay coming and I shall send home two months but if we get paid before I shall not be able to send any I received all the postage stamps you have sent me I should like to have been up there to the rattification meeting I wished you could went over to heard the speeches I received the papers you sent me all right and read them with interest I have not got the Tribune near read yet there is a good many that have papers sent them if you have spare papers I should like them I think they will help to keep me out of bad company send me the Telegraph once in a while and I like the Tribune as well as any it has so much reading and so much good information You did not say wether Jefse Sweet was sick or not I should like to seen the fight I wished Hubbard had to pay \$50 I had heard of the plot to burn Chicago but I did not think of Charles Patton being one of them but if it be so he ought to be hung. You wanted to know about our officers they are very kind and good to us the first Lieut. Harper the one that enlisted me is a firstrate fellow he is around fooling with the boys about as much as if he held no office the 2nd Lieuts name is Eatone I see by the paper that peace is offered them-the 8th of Jan. on our terms and then if they dont except it take what follows but let it come I want to

see something done Gen. Grant says he is not a 90 day man but he says we will see what can be done in six months I will keep up good courage and I will fight them if they will give me a chance I do not know but I think it will not last long for every thing seems to be in our favor now It is a good thing to have steady weather but I do not exzactly like such as you have up there in America I suppose it is getting to be pretty cold up in Ohio but the weather is very nice here now we have not got our equipment yet but we expect them soon then we will be ready for the rebs how do you manage about wood I expect that bothers you most

Charles Eaton

Dec. 4th

Dear Mother

I must answer your letter I was very glad to hear you were all well I am well now and shall try to take care of myself so as to keep so I was sorry the old Mare is sick but glad she is better you say you cannot get over being lonesome Sundays I would like to be there to take supper with you tonight there is three months gone it seems but a short time since I left home I think I received all your letters I receive one every week when they come straight through I think I get them all I wrote to you to do what you thought best with the money I was very glad to get them papers I read them with much interest I have not got the Tribune read yet but I am going to finish it this afternoon I like the tribune it has so much valuable information in it when I am reading it I am growing wiser it is doing me some good while if I was playing cards or some such thing it would be no use to me I do not know anything more about playing cards than I did when I left home but they are playing cards here all the time I think I can get the papers Pa said school had commenced and the children were going to school they must go to school and learn all they can who are the teachers now you must write often I shall write once a week any way I must close I send my love to all

Good day
Charles

Envelope: Nov. 19, '64
New Orleans, La
Dr. H. Eaton

Dec. 1, 1864

Dear Boy

We received yours of the 16 and 17 and was glad to hear from you and know that you are well it is as good as a dose of medisen to here from you we are well as common though tired all of the time the children have got a bad cold and cough and good deal we talk of having a singing school here this winter taught by Luce of Kingsville and if he dose I shall let Minie go you wanted to know how much they asked for the Dibble plase I have heard that it was 700 and I persume that is it for Mrs. Sweet told me and Mrs. Dibble told her we sent you along letter this week and two papers and two last week and have writen to you every week sence you left Columbus we have received the money that you sent from there to us and we have had that from Woren (Warren) I do not know as yet whether we shall send you a box or no but I think that after a little we shall but I have only seen Mrs. Burrell a few minutes since I received your letter but thought that I should see her today but I dont know whether I shall or not Marion Bromley is here helping your Pa to get some wood and Edie is a drawing it up and I have to back the horse out for him You must keep all of the money that you will need for your own comfort and if you send eny be careful how you send so that it wont get lost by the way but be sure to keep enough for yourself your Father and I were both glad to know that was not going to run in Debt for your things and so you must keep enough to help yourself with your father agoing to send you a tribune the last and you will find the news in the papers that he sends you if you get them I was glad to have you let us know when you are sick for we love to know all about you for we feel ancous for you the children talk about you every day ask me how long before Charly is a coming home and count the month and I must say it is so with me to for time seams long but it will soon role away your Pa has sent you stamps in two letters and I gues we will send three or four more we send a few at a time so if they get lost that it will not be much to loose. I will come to close and you must write as often as you can and we shall write every week and perhapse oftener

So good by for this time from
your Mother

Pa has got up from the woods he say tell Charley that it is as muddy as thunder through the lain where he draws wood it has not rained since Monday last it is pleasant for this time of year

I wish you a Mery Christmas and a Happy newyear
Your Mother

Envelope: Dec.11
Mr, Charles Eaton
New Orleans, La.

Dec. 1st, 1864

Remembered Cousin

I wrote you a letter the other day but I wanted to write again to you about a farm that joins our farm on the South it is a very nice farm I have written to the Gentleman that owns it to see what his lowest prices are there are ten large apple trees on it and about twenty acres that is fit for the plow and there is a good large pasture that have only a few logs on it it is very easily cleared and if it is such a place as suits you it would be near us

Pa wishes me to ask you how much of your wages you save for to buy a home with he is quite anxious about your getting the place

I had a letter from Aunt Hannah today they are well then but Uncle Horace is a growing old fast Aunty is a waiting with patience for the time to come when she and family can move here by us Charly

Write soon and let us know your mind about this affair

Pa, Ma and Lizzie send their love to Charley Write soon and often

From your Cousin
Lizzie Brown

Envelope: Smith Creek, Mich. Dec. 5
Charles Eaton
New Orleans, La.

New Orleans Dec.5th, '64

Dear Parents

I seat myself this evening to write you a few lines to let you know the proceedings of things we got orders to leave here today and packed up our things got our horses hiched up and ready to start and the order was counter manded untill tomorrow morning We have got to start tomorrow morning at 8 oclock we are agoing to Ship Island to guard prisensors so they say but some think we will report there and then be sent to Mobele if we go to Ship Island we shall probably stay there the rest of my time I have been to the city today along with Flin? McAdams Joe McAdams too so I was not in camp when they packed up if they had went we would have been left = I guefs we will have a pretty bad time to start in for it is raining very hard here now we are having a regular thunder storm we are going by the way of boat down through the Gulf I received a letter from you yesterday and answered it last night but I thought I would write you a few lines tonight to let you know what was going on I have to write with a pencil for our ink is all packed up I am well and feeling firstrate Charley is well You must not write again untill I write

Charles

Friday Morn Dec. 6th

It is not raining this morning so we shall not start in the rain I will write again as soon as we get there

I must close
Charles

New Orleans Dec. 9th, '64

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I take my pen in hand to let you know how I am I am well now and enjoying my self firstrate I received your very kind letter of the 27th yesterday and was very glad to learn that you were all well You said you had not received any last week I write every week and sometimes twice They must had a nice Thanksgiving I should like to have been there to took a sleigh ride I guefs the Copperheads do have found out the Union men are not all gone yet I dont wonder that they look so shamed and mournful

It is about time they began to see their evil ways and what they have been about for the last-4 years it is a wonder I'll bet if they went to hear a Methodist preach they took it You say in your letter that I am going to school and you are right there it is a great school I have found that out what little I have been in the service there is hardly two alike I learn some thing new every day it is a great school for studying human nature I know that I have always heard it said that war was to demoralize a nation and it does the greater part of the army I think you give a very fair explanation of the cause but I am of the oppinion what little I nave seen of the opperation that a man can if he is a mind to come out better off than when he went in but he has got to have a fixed determination to do it.

But now Father I think that I can profit by this school there is one thing about it I can try and I can try never failed yet when used with a fixed determination Now Father I must thank you for your kind and I hope useful instructions and I will try and profit by them for I have found out to take the advice of your Father and you will come out all right I can see that now but I never could before but when I enlisted I found it out not because I am sorry that I enlisted but in the first place I wanted to go for \$300 but you told me to wait then for \$400 then for \$500 then \$550

I wanted to go as a substitute and had it not been for you I should been carrying a musket for 3 or 4 hundred dollars and I have heard others say since I have been here if I had only taken the old mans advice I should been better off but a boy thinks he knows it all I remember Daniels advice

I wrote Daniel a letter but have not received any answer yet it is not time yet I received the papers you sent all right and was very glad to get them for I have no means to procure any and hope you send me some more

I received the postage stamps you sent me I have no money to buy any with and if I did they cost 25 cents for 4 if you can send me some more along so I shall not get out I will be glad of them

I sent a record of the Battery home today you must keep it close and when I get home I will get a frame for it

I shall have to close now and write to Mother
take care of your self and dont work to hard

so Good Bye
C.E.

Envelope: New Orleans, La.

Dec. 10

Dr. H.Eaton-Ashtabula

Ashtabula Co. ,Ohio

New Orleans Dec. 9th, 1864

Dear Mother

As I have got Pas letter written now I must anser yours I was very glad to get your and Pas good long letter thats just the kind I like I dont like these letters with 3 or 4 lines I want one with something in it I was sorry Pa had to work so hard but was glad he had got someone to help him Tis true that old have to die and so do the young You said went over the creek Thanksgiving I hope you had a good time I rember Gille(tt) was a Cop (copperhead?) I'll bet he had to take it what did you have good for Thanksgiving super I should liked to been there I'll bet I could got something good for supper we did not get any Turkey down here I read in the paper about their sending it but all we had was Uncle Sams grub I wrote in my others what we had to live on I get what I want to eat You say that the Copperheads look rather sheepish them that know enough but there is not many of them that know enough if they did they would not belong to that gang

Some think the war will end before long and others do not but I think six months from now will show I received a letter from Lizzie brown yesterday She wrote they were all well she said they had not heard from you in a long time she said that Uncle was going to write me a letter about some land We have got a new Commanding officer of the reserve Artillery he is a mean old pup he has (was) Colonal of a niger regement so we call him a niger Colonal there is four Batterys here and he keeps a camp guard around it which feches us on guard once in 4 days we have to stand two hours on and four off making 4 hours in the day time and 4 in the night and when we aint on guard we have to sleep out doors Two Batterys leave here to morrow we have not got any equipment yet but expect to get the whole of them next week and then we can not tell how soon we may be sent away The sixteenth Ohio Battery is one that is going to leave it has just fixed up good for winter I thank you all your mery Christnas and happy New Years and I wish you all the same and hope you will all have a good time It is pretty cold here now some days it is to warm to be comfortable and the next it will be right to the reverse

I will have to close now by asking you to write soon and often as you have done and good long letters I send my love to all

Fron your son Charles

Ashtabula Dec.9th,1864

Dear Charles

Yours of the 26th of last month is at hand and was red with much pleasure I am not enjoying very good health my limbs almost refuse to obey me my legs and right arm are a considerable worse than they were last summer and I find that I tire out with much less exertion. Your Mother to is quit feeble but we keep about I should think I was tollerably healthy in these parts. We had fine sleighing here Thanksgiving day but none asince yesterday was a cold blustering day almost equal to the first day of January last there was snow enough fell to make sleighing but this morning it was not over one inch deep the wind blew it away

This afternoon it has ben clear but cold tonight it thickens up and like getting sleighing before morning.

I have got my falls work done up quit snug only I intended to have broken up some (sod?) for corn but could not get a team at any rate they charge \$5.00 per day here for team \$2.00 per day for husking or chopping \$3.00 per cord for stove was \$5.00 per cord for 4 feet wood seasoned and all things in proportion but hay seed and young colt I have' not been able to sell a bit of hay seed nor the colt and if I cant sell him it will be a hard care on me for I hint half fodder enough for the mare and cow I would like to keep the colt if I could for we should stand in kneed of him by the time he comes to maturity But if I get a chance to sell him I must you inquired how the corn and potatoes come in I had for store about 8 bushels each or perhaps a little more

I have not bought any wood yet I hired Mr. Taggot to help me saw the elm and Marian Bromley has helped me saw and chop three days for which I paid him a dollar a day and we have got what we chopped almost burnt up etc.

Mrs. Sloans health has got quite good she started home yesterday Warren and Cate accompanied her as far as Cleveland Warren received a letter from you last week and answered it the copperheads are as whist as lees I dont hear them a sailing against the "President" as they used to they have been detected in every little nasty plot that they have lain and every gigantic scheme that they have plotted in secret and in the dark has ben proclaimed upon the house tops untill they begin to see that they begin to see that some- boddy knows something besides a Democrat

Saturday 10th I have got started for the Post office and cannot write any more we got a little more snow last night but hardly enough to make sleighing

I close H, Eaton

Your Mother says she will write a long letter next week.

[There was a newspaper clipping enclosed entitled "The Latest Phase of Treason"]

Envelope: Ashtabula, Ohio Dec. 10
Charles Eaton
New Orleans, L.A.

"Home" Sunday
Rochester Dec. 11th (1864)

Dear Charlie

We were very much surprised and vastly pleased when your Uncle William brought us your long nice letter this morning

I have been promising myself to write you ever since your good Mother sent me your address but business and many unmentionable things have prevented I am very glad to know you are well and extremely gratified to learn from you that you think you are doing your duty and that you have made up your mind philasophically to take things as they come, good bad or indifferent You will never find a hero springing out of that numerous class of grumblers and fault finders who have enlisted in our armies to shun the responsibilities of home or for a large bounty or expecting to lead a life of indolence never having the noble inspiration of free patriotism for a moment into their hearts- Charlie take my advice and always be true to yourself- and if you are the world will have been better for your having lived in it- Imitate the good and always by strict attention to duty energy and perseverance strive for advancement-While in the army study military tactics it will be such a splended discipline to your mind-Be neat and tidy in your habits-Cultivate taste as far as practible under the circumstances and don't let events pass without you being benefitted by taking note of them.

I have quit the dry goods trade-have just returned from a trip to the oil region in Penna. and I now think of trying my hand at speculation- When I left home I intended to go to Ash. to see your Father and Mother but I could not get around in time.

I hope to visit them sometime this winter-It is quite sleighing here now and prospects of more-Aunt Mary, Minnie and Willie and your Uncle William are all very well-I read your letter to William and he was very glad to hear from you I called at Uncle Sullivan Dorns when in Penna. and I am sorry to say found them all opposed to the administration- They don't keep up with the times there in the woods if they are all getting rich out of the oil excitement Write me soon again Charlie and I will answer it immediately Good Bye

Your Uncle

Daniel E. Sackett

Dear Charlie

I said I would write you as soon as your Uncle had finished reading your letter. Charlie I do not wish to flatter you but it was a very interesting manly letter with just the right spirit for a soldier or indeed for a man anywhere. I think our soldier boys with all their privations have many privileges. just think of boys who have never been forty miles from home seeing all parts of our country with no expenses or loss of time this is a privilege and the

(sweet?) conscioussenss that we are doing our duty----any----- ! I hope you may visit us on your return We think we have a very happy home. I wish your mother could come and see us. Take good care of yourself for her sake. Charlie she is greatly bound up in you.

I guess I will not write much to-night little Willie will soon want to be put to bed. I'd like you to see your little Cousins Minnie and Willie and think you will sometime.

Write us again and will reply. With much love I am
Mary. Your Aunt

Envelope: Rochester Dec. 12
Charles Eaton Esqr.
New Orleans, La.
c/o Capt.Beach

Dec. 11, 1864

Dear Boy

I was so hurried the day your father wrote that I could not write but I thought I could write on Sunday Evening and it would do just as well we are just about the same as when your father wrote it is a bad snowy day today and the snow flies like fury in fact it is perfect hurricane and cold enough to freeze a young indian I was down Mrs. Castles last tuesday and Warren said that he had a letter from you and he should answer it right off Aunt Roas said if I sent a box to you she should send you some apples Mr. Burrel will see the express agent and then we shall make up our minds what to do We had a letter Lizzie and she said that they had got a farm for us and would let us know the price in her next we had a letter from Uncle Daniel he has closed Business in his store and has put money in to Oil works I do not know what part of it but said it had doubled since he had done it your father has the blues so that it fairly looks Dark all round him the most of the time Edwin Rood married one of Haynes girls of Sheffield they are all going up west in about two week Henry and all he thinks himself some he was here the other day had two of his pictures and one was a nice one the thought it looked better than original and guesses it did I told him that it must be for some of the girls but he said that there was not any girls in Sheffield that he would pay two dollars for but you know the fox cried sour grapes when he could not get any

We have had a family of 8 this last week which made it rather hard for us and I guess your father wont have the blues so hard now they are gone it was sister Tom Whaples wife and her three children but they were very good children Emeline has the blues to you take her face and your fathers and put the two together and they are very long we have all got bad colds and getting more all of the time your father has sat down to write some to you and says that is going to begin and finish when he gets one from you but mine is a going tomorrow if I can get it to the office be a good boy my son give my love to Charles and respects to Mr. Moses Amelia Sweet wants to know if you know Jesse Brumly she says that is a fine fellow good night

from Mother

I wish you a Merry Christmas happy New Year

Envelope: Ashtabula, O. Dec. 13
 Charles Eaton
 New Orleans, La.

Ashtabula Dec.12, 1864

Dear Son

I thought that I would commence a few lines to you tonight and finish it by the time that I received your next

It appears by the Presidents message that he is determined to stand square and firm up on his emancipation proclamation and if he does the influence it will have with the result of our last election grants Sherman Thomas and Farrigats expected successes will disharten the rebel soldiers to that extent that their leaders will not be able to make them stand much of a battle before our men the officers too begin to get their eyes opened and they too begin to quite All but the head leaders they know that they must fight or hang and they will not give up until compelled It appears that Grant is nearly ready to make a strike on Richmond and Petersburg and when he does he will be pretty certain to fetch them this time Butlers Canall is about complete and you may look out for something to happen to either Grant or Lee about those days If Sherman reaches the coast he will be likely to make sad work in Georgia and South Carolina for his winter amusement If Thomas is able to take care of Hood which he most likely is your destination will be most likely Arkansas and that will be a pretty hard task unless they are able to put a larger army in that section it appears to be a hard field to fight in but it must be conquered sooner or later I think more men will soon be called out to strengthen the Army and I expect to see the thing progress faster than it has done So I'll go to bed

Thursday evening 9 o'clock

the folks have all gone to bed and I thought that I would finish this letter so as to send it out tomorrow

It commenced blowing and snowing and a growing cold last Sunday morning and continued until Monday noon with out any abatement it has been the longer spell of very cold weather that I about ever experienced in this country

I have Drown fore loads of wood from the other place today and suffered every load I had to stop and warm every load I thought that I had frozen my feet one load I think it is not as cold now as it was at Sundawn nor it does not snow as hard sleighing is tip top here only where the wind has blow the snow off the wind has not been as hard today and the snow has pored rite down all the afternoon I have been a reading the Cleveland Daily this evening and find that every thing goes well with Grant and Sherman he is at Savanah and has probably taken it or nearly so by this time I have been a sending you the news papers for fore or five weeks past 2 a week do you get them

I have sent 2 of the Cleveland Dailies and the Tribune the dollars Times The

Ashtabula Telegraph and one or two of the rochester papers that the boys send me I generally send two each week in one wrapper - if you get them I will continue to send them, but if not I will stop them Harvy (Parvish?) gave me a pig about two months old about 3 months ago I shut him up and gave him the slop and bought one hundred and fifty pounds of meal and fed to him it cost me \$4.50 last Tuesday I killed him and drefsed him in the wood house he weighed 83 pounds besides the Lard if I had of had to Bought him it cost me nearly \$12.00 pork is selling over the creek for \$13.00 per hundred in the hog I send you sometimes a Back number of the papers if I find a good piece in one I send it along I think that I will send you a Telegraph tomorrow with a speach of Governmant Bought which I think is Good for the occasian it was a made before the election I must close more next time
 Adieu H. Eaton

We reed one from you Tuesday Stateing that you had get a comfortable Camp

H.E.

Envelope: Ashtabula, Ohio
 Dec. 16
 Charles Eaton
 New Orleans, L.A.

New Orleans Dec. 13th, '64

Dear Mother

Your very kind and welcome letter dated the 1st was received and read with the greatest pleasure last night I was very glad to hear that you were all well I am well with the exception of a light cold I am sorry the children have such a bad cold if there is a singing school you must let minie go who teaches your every day school you said the Dibble place was \$700 that is cheap enough as things are now I received your long letter and have received all the papers you sent the last two the same time of the letter but I did not get them till the next day I am very glad to get the papers I want you should send some every week if you have them to spare I see Pas is taking the times it is a very good paper I think I receive all your letters I guefs I am glad you received the money all safe You said you did not know wether you should send a box as not as I said before you must do as you think best I am very glad Pa has got someone to help him to get some wood I think Eddie must be getting to be quite a boy to draw wood I am afraid he will take me down when I get home We have not got any pay yet nor dont know when we shall I received the tribune that Pa sent me and I found lots of news in it I shall let you know how I am every time I write but you must not worry about me I'll come out all right tell the children I am coming home when the war is over if not before I received the stamps Pa sent and the four that you sent and I must tell how near I came losing them I read the letter and found no stamps and made up my mind you forgot to put them in I laid down and I felt something in my coat sleeve and behold it was the stamps I had got out of stamps and sold my sugar to get some I have no money so I cannot buy I am glad you are going to write so often I shall answer everyone and you must do the same we might just as well hear from each other often as not I have plenty time to write and I am going to write once a week any way

Tell Pa I am sorry it is so muddy up there but it cant be helped I suppose where are you getting wood from and how much does it cost you I noticeing some of the regiments that voted one of which was the 105 Ohio they give Mac 1 and Lincoln 275 there was not a Mc lelen vote cast in the Battery what does Pa think of Shermans apperations The weather is pretty cold here now but it growing warme Is Mr. Tallmadge going to have writeing school this winter who did Ed Rood marry is it anyone I know

Tell Warren I dont think kept his promise very well I have writen him twice and he has not answered I must come to a close now Send my love to all I thank you for your mery Christmas and happy New Years and wish you the same from Your son

C.E.

Envelope: Dec.15, '64-New Orleans, La.
Mrs. H.B.Eaton, Ashtabula, O.

Ashtabula Dec.16th, '64

Dear Charles

Yours of the 1st and 4th was received today and red with much pleasure we was happy to hear that you was still enjoying the blessings of health and enjoying yourself so well We have this day received the glad Tidings that Sherman has taken Savannah and that Thomas has thrashed Hood nicely so that he will be likely to stay thrashed for a while he has taken a large amount of Prisoners besides a member of ordinance I have not seen the official account and I could not tell the exact amount I tell you what! Charley Things are agoing on about right now for the glorious old union I think I can see the old Traitor a peaking about for the last ditch to die in I was over town today the copperheads ware all congregated in little groups of from three to five all about town and didn't they look salim if they had have just buried their Grandmothers they could not have looked more salim and dejected We are not (assailed?) evry day now with the unconstitutenality of every act of the presidin and Legislature let what will be said or done they are mute Thare is Weldon of Indiana and Garsett Davis of Kentucky have commenced their old strain Weldon in the house and Davis in the Senate If you have any chance to follow them through the Clerrian you will observe that they will offare all (contestent?) measures that are gotten up for the real benefit of the War, or our Country And on the other hand you will never find them Preventing any bills or __(?unreadable?)__ that can be of the least use to our Country in its present situation But let them work, the more buzzing they make the surer their distruction! Like the fly in the web the more the buzzing he makes the sooner he calls his adversary to his utter distruction so with the copperheads Every move they make in opposition to the government serves to hasten their eternal distruction but it is a choice of their own and alone they must abide it allowing me to be a prophit you may look soon for Grant to make one of the Biggest mooves and will accomplish one of the greatest ends that has ever ben achieved asince this war commenced he will make a general swoop of the whole Confederacy

Everything appears to me like bringing things to a close with a rush Sherman with his hand forces and Dahlgreen with his immense fleet will join Grant and then Look-out for the Confederacy when Sherman Started on his campaign through Georgia the Rebs profisied that he would get gobbled up before he got half through the State but after he left Millayville they then said he might reach Savannah but thare he would find something that he never thought of but it appears that thare was hardly a breakfast spell to encounter and he has nothing now to obstruct his passage to the James river Adieu H.Eaton

Keep yourself aloof from every low and degrading act always associate. with your superiors as ~much as possible Imitate the virtues as we are creatures of Habit we are susceptible of improvements by associating with those that are qualified to teach us we are a working ourselves into a habit to improve our minds and improve our department and our addresses and our habits will improve our virtues and that is what makes the man on the other hand if you only associate only with the low and vulgar you will soon contract their habits and practice them and every well informed man will detect them when you can't and that will always make you appear awkward in society Remember That from this time on untill you are twenty five is your time to establish your character and course through life man was put here that he may make his mark either for good or evil and mans whole life is but short for him to accomplish the good that he may do to himself and fellow mortals Let your light shine

Adieu H.Eaton

Friday Eve. 16th

The weather has moderated asince noon it is a thawing smartly Luce of Kingsville is teaching the children in East and West Ashtabula to sing tonight is his first night here your Mother and Minie went to hear them She wants Minia to attend but I think it unwise whilst attending a District school I saw Unckle Amary over town today they wase all well I see Willy Atwater they ware all well but Chauncy he is something sick he said with a fever, Jesse Sweet has returned to the army his health is mutch improved Give yourself unesiness (uneasiness?) about my getting wood I am a cutting up or sawing up them old sickamore trees that we thought was to rotten for summer wood but does very well for winter only it takes two hands to cut it and three to put it into the stove etc I have the most trouble about fodder of anything I am acutting all the corn fodder and hay and straw with that confounded old machine? put a little brand on it and let them eat it I got the Brand for \$1.50 per hundred and bought one hundred bundles of stalks of Frank Harmon and fifty bundles of Buckwheat straw and when they are gone I dont know what to do. But when I get the blues right hard I think that Lincoln is president and our country will be save and it matters but little what becomes of me and I become chearfull again I dont know that we have told you that Osker Fowler is married He married some buddy in Conneaut I dont know who it is Said here that old Mr. Johnson the grave digger has run off with a woman that lived in the west village he has disappeared very misteriously Warren and Kate is a taking all the comfort immaginable cooped up in their little snug dwelling It is a wonderfull healthy time here I must close I will send this with a paper or two, if you are so situated that you can save your papers for refferences it would be a good Idea
H.Eaton

Dec. 18, '64

Dear Boy

Sunday evening I seat myself to let you know that I have not forgotten you and to let you know that we are well or rather so as to be about your father fails all of the time and if he fails as fast for two months to come as he has for two past he will not be able to be off the bed and if he gets there he will never get up again but we hope for the best we have had slaying for the last week but it rains tonight and perhaps by tomorrow we shall not have eny snow-but I wish it would stay Mr. Burrell and lady was here last evening to here your letter for they had not had any from there Charley this last week

My son you know not how it cheered my heart to know you was desirous to shun bad company and other vices that lead to gambling drinking and from that to stealing my prayer to almighty God is that you maybe kept from them all O if I knew that you put your trust in the God and rock of our salvation and looked to him for protection that would be better yet my son Minie and I talk of attending sing school what do you think of that my boy Mr. Luce of Kingsville is the teacher Elizabeth and Eliga is agoing I shall pay for myself and Minie and I talk of going to Rochester by the first of April if I can get the means myself to go with if they do not come here for Mary say that there has not been eny of Daniels friends there to see them sence they were movied and that I shall not be sorrow if I come what do you think of it I have got half enought to go with but if I go to the sing it will take about all of it the talk here is that Hary Sweet has got Licence to get married to Liga Marcum she is twenty eight and he is sixty eight and now what do you think of that Warren was here yesterday he said that that he had answered your letter and hoped you would get it I wint to meeting today the Coperheads do not like our minister because he is so strong a for our Country I have got two write to Aunt Lucie Brown so I will come to a close by sending you my love my boy

from your
Mother

Monday noon your father has been on the bed two times this fornoon he looks poorly Marion is here today but we do not know how long he will be here

goodafter noon
your Mother

Envelope: Dec. 19, Asthabula, O.
To Charles Eaton, New Orleans, La.

Dec. 18, '64

Dear Charley

I have not Writen to you not once But I am agoing to now I am going to Singing School Ma is to I have lernt some of the nots just one night (lib?)is to and (lid?)is I wish you could be here on Christmas and new years to I must Close-

Write Soon

Armenia Eaton

My teachers name is Mr. Brewster there is 25 scholars and there 10 that is 18 years old, we have lots of fun, when we go to our class in geography he will take a book and go and sit down and we will laugh and he will not mind anny thing about it how do you like your new home we are all well but mother you must write as mutch to me now
good-by

R.H.E.Wilkinson

[Armenia Eaton is Minie but I don't know who R.H.E.Wilkinson could be. It was found in the same envelope as the Dear Boy written Dec. 18th, '64].

[R.H.E. Wilkinson may have been Emeline (Stevens) Wilkinson. b. 1812-d.1876. Her husband, George, died in 1858 and she had a daughter b.1855.-djh]

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., Dec.19
To Charles Eaton, New Orleans, L.A.

Dec. 25th, 1864

Dear Charles

Your of 9th with your register is at hand, the reading and perusal gave us much pleasure

The snow went off after Thanksgiving but it has returned again the last week has been severe cold weather here, sleighing is fine here for Christmas and yesterday Christmas was held here and the streets filled with the chime of Bells Sleighs Cutters and sleds of all description and a merry time it was I went over to town in the afternoon, the toy shops were filled with customers I will venture to say that not withstanding the oppression and ravages of a desperate War there has been more money expended and with greater alacrity in the United States than was ever expended before on the same occasion since the declaration of Independence Toys and presents of every description have been purchased I too found two bushels of ears of corn deposited in the wood house the children had a few notions of small value Marian staid here last night he found his boots stuffed with cord wood and other sweet meats I sent you yesterday the dollar times and the Telegraph you will find some good reading in the times I also sent you one of Websters abridged Dictionaries thinking it would be of much value to you in your new school Be careful perusal of the fore part of the work you will obtain in brief the first rudiments of the English language further along you will be able to ascertain correct spelling and pronunciation of our common words also their definition of words in conversation would be like one listening for information from a lecturer who was deciphering a speech in German French Latin or Hebrew or any other unknown tongue in which you was totally ignorant of Hence you will see the importance of attending to that branch of information if you wish to obtain knowledge etc etc

The papers I sent are full of cheering news they bespeak a speedy termination of the war I intend sending you the Tribune that I received last evening that too is full of good news only what is copied from Sesech papers, Sherman marched an army of over 40,000 through the entire length of the heart of Georgia and the State and whole confederacy did not raise so large an army to oppose him as they did when they hung John Brown and not a single Northern man opposed them You recollect that I said to you that I thought there would soon be another call Father Abraham must have heard of my view for I see he has called for 300,000 more men I long to hear the result of that big fleet Last night's paper stated that they were off Wilmington that detestable Blackade runners hole I hope they will soon be able to give it the fate of Vicksburgh and many others- You will see by the Rebel papers that they are like the northern copperheads before election they begin to back up every

tree that they come to whether green or dry like a pack of wearied hounds

Adaline came down Thursday to spend the hollidays she is well and her family Yesterday marion took Steeve Daniels team and took Hannah and children Emiline and her children up to the widow Sweets and then went and got Malifsa (Melissa?) and Ellen and they spent Christmas thare I guefs they had a good visit they brought me a sumptious supper which I was well prepared to devour I wish you could have stood in my tracks about Thursday I should have delighted to seen the chicken bones a running out of one corner of your mouth whilst the chicken was being crammed into the other the pumpkin pie too without a bone in it sufficiently rich and spiced to have melted in the mouth and besmeared your vest with its feathers Christmas was a great day here yesterday

They have commeced operations on the Ashtabula and New Lisbeen R.R. they are at work at the gulf near the cemetary and so along down back of the village they have stopped drawing gravel for the Bridge on the lake shore road untill Spring Rice has got his Brick foundry in operation and a doing a heavy businefs Haskel has nearly completed his Block near the post office and will moove his goods in soon

Mr. Chase has received the apointment of Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court so you see the Supreme Court has slipped out of the hands of Southern malides and returned to the loyalty of the United States

H. Eaton

Eddy says tell Charly that has a whiz top that will runn all over the floor and Rooster that runns all over the table-miny has an album and a Negro doll and a file? on its but so that it wont set down at all at all, Lida has a flat iron and dust pan with a pair of rubbers that are nice Minnie and Elizabeth have each a pin (?) the above are Christmas presents

Last night when your mother got home she went out to milk one quarter of her bag was sore and swollen this morning it is worse and she appears to be very lame in her hind parts and acks very sluggish But I hope she will soon get over it her milk in that teat was very bloody and she gave but verry little milk this morning the old mare is not well yet - She has spells with her eyes swelling and is almost blind for a day or so and then appears to get over it measureably she is not near as fleshy as she was in the summer but I do my little choaring with her as yet I must close

Adeu H.Eaton

My Dear Boy

As your father has not fild the sheet I will though he has told you all of the news it has just comnect (commenced?) raining to take off our snow but I hope it will turn around and frees before it all goes I expect all of the Sweet family here on Saturday next and Malisa and Elen and Natt if nothing hapens they all had Christmas Presents but me maybe my will come New Years but I do not look for it if you had a been here I guess that old crist (Christ)? would a put so much as a rasen or candy plum in your stocking your father is failing all of the time and I do not know what will become of him for it gives him the blues and I dont blame him though it dose no good but it cost us so much to live and no money coming in but we shall get allong someway I think but it looks dark but it is alway the Darkest just before day your father is keeping the colt for you when you come home you can have a team if the old mare lives and colt we are all going to singing school and hope when winter is out that we can Sing what ever we set our eyes on I told you in my last who is the teacher it is Mr. Luce he is takeing a good deal of pains to learn us the rules I will close for you have all of the news the copperheads cannot look you in the face from your Mother

I have nothing to write on this side it being Monday morning Mrs. Bidwell is here a helping your Ma to make a coat for Marion The talk is here that Harry sweet is agoing to get married at New Years and Stephen Newell intends too if he can get anyone to have him

I must close and go over the creek to get the old mare shod (shoed?) for [she is] (her horseshoes are?) so smooth that she can scarcely get over to the shop So I remain

Yours affectionately

H, Eaton

I have just heard that Sherman presented the President with the City of Savannah as a Christmas present with thirty three thousand Bails of cotton and one hundred and fifty Cannon

Yours Truely H.Eaton

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., Jan.5
To Charles H. Burrill, New Orleans, La.
c/o Capt. Beach

New Orleans Dec.25th,1864

Dear Father

It is with much pleasure that I take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and I received yours of the 10th last night and was read with much pleasure But I was sorry to learn your limbs were worse than when I left 'and that Mother was unwell I should like to have been up that way Thanksgiving to had a sleigh ride It appears then you are haveing some pretty cold weather if it is as cold as New Years last The weather is pretty cold here for a few days back but we have seen our coldest weather here this year probably but I have seen no snow here I am glad you have got your falls work done up so well they dont charge much I sholdent think for work and other things but it is war times now

I am glad you have got along so far without buying any wood it is so high I am glad Mrs. Sloan has got well but I have not received Warrens letter yet You say the copperheads are whist I think it is about time yes it is true they have been detected in every thing they have undertaken all through I think that we must be in the right or else it would not be so I hope you will get snow enough to make good sleighing Tell Mother she must write me a good long one and let me know all the news I received a couple papers last week and have read them all through but I have not seen any later paper so I have not heard any war news since I should like to know how Shearman is progrefsing they are all anxious here to know how he comes out but I have no fear but what he will come out all right I received the postage stamps you sent me We got our Battery yesterday four guns but we have not got the horses but we shall get them this week probably and then no knowing how soon we have to go There is two regiments of Cavelry came here last week and there is more comeing there is some comeing every day It is the oppinion of the most here that that they are concentrateing forces here for a march but we cannot tell if it is not knowing how soon we shall have to leave but I dont think before spring I got a letter from Lizzie Brown the 15th they were all well she wrote something about a farm joining theirs but did not write how large it was how much an acre Today is Christmas I wish you all a merry Christmas and hope you will have a good time I should like to be there to enjoy it with you but that cant be this year What did old Santa put in Eddies and Minnies stocking last night lefs see today is Eddies birthday if I was up there I would lick him if I could We got some more Sanatary the other day 3 barrels potatoes 2 onions and 1 barrel of sourkrout we drawed potatoes and onions with our rations last ration day for the first time since I have been here so we are living pretty well now I will not complain of anything if I can be well I must come to a close now so

Good Bye From Charles

Mifs Lizzie Brown
Smith Creek Station
St.Clair Co., Mich.
Dec. 27th, 1864

Affectionate Cousin

I received your welcome letter a few days ago and glad to hear that you were well and enjoying yourself as a soldier you said that you had not got your guns nor horses yet so I think by that that you have not been in battle I hope that you will never hafta we have not had a letter from Ohio in a long time I dont know whether they are sick or what is the matter I wish that you had come and see us before you enlisted but I suppose of course that you will come when you return home you will come then the country is rather hard looking in some parts of the south the British or the run aways on Canada shores are a getting up a war vessels to come on this side of the river to fight and take American boats the Americans are agetting up Companies to guard the shores it seems as if the war was near at hand here at home is this agoing to be another Revolution or is it agoing to ever end I am glad that you like soldering.

It is very muddy and wet here and very disagreeable apetting about Mother and myself talk of going to see a soldier that returned home from the South the Doct has given him up to die.

Pa says that he is agoing to write you a letter and tell you about some land and he will tell you more news than I can as I have written two letters before this and my mind is confused a great deal

Pa and Ma send their love to you and so do I

Write soon and often -
From your Cousin
Lizzie Brown

Envelope: Smith Creek, Mich., Nov. 29
Mr. Charles Eaton, New Orleans, La.

New Orleans Dec.29th, '64

Dear Father and Mother

I received your very kind and welcome letter mailed the 13th and 16th both yesterday and was very glad to hear from you and that you were all well I am well and able to eat my rations I was on guard last night it was pretty cold part of the time I guefs I should freeze if I was up north now if it is so cold as you say it is for we complain with the cold here and it is just about such weather as it is in the latter part of September when it first begins to get cold I have not received any letter from Warren yet I should like some of Aunt Rosas apples firstrate I tell you I had a letter from Lizzie: but she did not state the price of the place

I received a good big long letter from Uncle Daniel yesterday and from Aunt Mary Uncle said he calculated to have come to Ashtabula but he was hurried so he could not but he thought he should make you a visit sometime this winter He said he went to Uncle Sulivans and was sorry to say that they were apposed to the administration he wrote me a whole sheet giving me good advice Aunt Mary said as soon as uncle read my letter she said she should write to me she said she did not wish to flatter me but it was an interesting letter and of the right spirit for a soldire or a man any where Pa must not get the blues You are about right about Henry Rood it is about the same with him as with the box but I suppose he thinks he can catch some of them when he gets West and maybe he can you have had quite a family thats the fact It may be that it is the cold weather up there that gives Pa and Emeline the blues cold weather makes me blue I hope you will all soon get over your colds I have not had only one slight cold since I left home I received Pas letter I am glad you write so often for it does me good to hear from home I know Jut? Brumly he is Seargent of one squad of men Father I have been answering Mothers letter now I will write to you I see the Presidents Mefstage is in the Telegraph but I have not had time to read it yet but I shall soon I am glad he is a going to stand firm to his word I would be willing to help fight it out I do not think there is much danger but we shall be succesful and gain the victories in the different places if Grant and Sherman are victorious in their battles and expeditions I think it will dishearten them so much that they will give up within a year All without is is the head leaders I hope Grant will do it this time for I want to see Richmond fall I should like to be with Sherman on his expedition You seem to think that we shall have to go to Arkansas and I should not be surprised for that is the department where this Battery belongs But it is thought by some here that the Battery will not leave here at all for there has got to be some Artillery here and we are an independent Battery and the last one being equiped we have got four guns but we are going

to have two more and 27 men from two other Batterys so we are going to hav six gun battery It appears you are having some cold weather up there about now I should like to be up there to take a sleigh ride but I dont care about the cold weather I have not read the daily yet but I am glad to hear that Grant and Sherman are Progrefsing so well I do recieve your papers and am glad to get them I got four yesterday two Telegraphs the tribune and the daily I am glad you done so well with your pig I think you made a pretty good speck did you have a good time Christmas I must close love to all good day

Write soon

Charles Eaton

Envelope: Dec. 31, '64, New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ashtabula Jan.1st,1865

Dear Charles

Your very kind letter is at hand and read with much pleasure We are quite proud of your mode of writing you give us an idea of the incidences that are a passing in so brief a manner that we almost think that we are pretty well posted on matters and things in New Orleans That is the way to do it when expressing your views on paper do it with as few words as possible and give a clear and concise view of your meaning Brevity is the beauty of expressing the thoughts on paper

We are all well enough here but all complaining The weather is very cold here but no sleighing we held New Years here yesterday on Adalines account but she was not with us I understand the reason was the ill health of Malissa your Mother has gone down there today to see what the matter is we had nearly 20 to set down to a well got up supper and all with good appetites which made it relish first rate times are hard here in the extreme but no one holds back as I can see business of all kinds are advancing at a double quick and still one hundred Dollars dont go as far in improvements or in the support of a family now as twenty dollars would 4 years ago and here I am unable to earn the first red cent all that I can possibly do is to take care of the choars and get wood and that I cant do alone Marian has drawn two or three loads of old wood from Newels such as old pine and hemlock timber and old trash picked up your Mother has ben making him a coat I have taken the children out of school and we think likely that Armenia will go to Rochester Daniel will be here in a few days and then we shall know

Daniel has embarked in the oil speculation and says that he has doubled his money already the oil speculation is a sieging here in these Northern States to a greater degree than ever before you will see by the papers that about as much space is occupied in describing the oil panack as does the war news you ask me what I think of Shermans operations I think they are great but I should have thought much more of him had he a made his Christmas present to me in stead of Lincoln when he refused it to me he made his next best choice Augusta will most likely be his next drive and then Charleston Thomas has riddled Hood to admination and Porter and butler will have Wilmington soon Richmond and Petersburg in all probability is short lived then you Boys will have to shoot at a dead mark for you will have no live one Mr. Tallmadge is haidin a writing school over the creek they are pushing the New Rail Road over the creek write ahead

We expect Adaline here today to start home in the morning your mother

went up to Malissas (Melissa's?) yesterday and found her with a young daughter there is a great many here both young and old that talk Strong of marrying but none has began yet your Mother is so ingaged in washing and scolding that she cant get one moments time to write But says she will as soon as she gets good natured So I must close so that Eddy can take it to the office Write often your Truely H. Eaton

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., Jan. 2
Charles Eaton, L.A.

Happy New Years
Sunday Afternoon
New Orleans
Jan. 1st, 1865

Dear Father

Your letter of the 16th was received and read with much pleasure last evening and was glad to learn that you were all well I am well and like the buiznefs very well so far I take things as they come and never complain for you know a good soldier never finds fault nor grumbles but does his duty like a man I had not heard the good news and so you see I was much rejoiced the camp was all rejoicing to day at some good news as late a Dec.31st it was Sherman had captured Savanah 150 guns 25000 bales of cotton 20,000 prisoners 30 Engines 192 cars that was glorious for us the first late news we have heard in a good while I hope Hood has got enough to satisfy him for awhile yes Pa I think things are a going on about right I dont wonder that the copperheads look solemn it is about time they begun to see and repent I hope you are a true profit for I want to see old Richmond fall and Sherman take Charleston and then were are you rebs I think Sherman is a great General he thinks before he acts and when he does act he goes it with a rush I thank you for your kind and good advice and will try and act and improve from it I am glad to hear that Uncle Amasas folks are well I am glad you are getting your wood so well but hope you wont have to work to hard getting it as for the fodder it will come from some point I dont wonder that you get out of paitence with that old straw cutter I know about how it goes you must not get the blues for thats no use for we are comeing out allright I did not know that Oscar Fowler was at home nor married I am glad Warren and Cate are takeing so much comfort This foremoon me and one of my comrads went out to the womans that does my washing and got some pancakes for New Years but they was not Mothers pancakes no I guefs not then I got my clothes and we went to camp and I cooked me some dinner some potatoes and onions that what I had for New Years this afternoon I went to meeting the first I have attended since I left home for it is the first chance I have had We drawed rations yesterday we draw every ten days we drawed ten barrels of potatoes part of them was as nice potatoes as I ever saw and onions corned beef bacon sourkrout vinegar suger coffe tea peper salt candles etc so you see we are living pretty well now for soldiers we mustered yesterday for pay but I dont know when we shall get paid some think pretty soon There is troops comeing and going here all the time we have got a four guns and are going to have two more we are a going to have a six gun Battery some of them here are drunk as fools they think it is pretty smart but Pa I do not touch it I could get along with out it at home and I can here all I have got to do is to say no and stick to it It is warm and pleasant here today but there was a heavy frost here

this morning it has been pretty cool along back you left the blank sheet just as I like to have it left give me a good long letter I did not get the two papers but they will be along in a day or two they never come as soon as the letter I must close now excuse all mistakes I send my love to all write soon and often

Good Bye
from Charles Eaton

New Orleans Jan.4th,1865

Dear Mother

It is with much pleasure that I seat myself this evening to write a few lines I received your very kind letter of the 19/17th this afternoon and was glad to hear that you was so as to be about I am sorry to hear that Pa fails so fast I am well and getting fat I should like to be up home to enjoy a few good sleigh rides but I shall have to wait till next winter for that You say you and Minnie talk of going to singing school I think Mr. Luce is a very good teacher then you and Minnie talk of going to Rochester I thinks likely you would get enough to pay you for going I got a letter from Uncle Daniel and Aunt Mary a few days ago do they have to get lisenca up in America now days to get married I think they will make a pretty good match they are so near of an age Tell Warren that I have not heard from him but the letter may come yet The old soldiers got 4/14th months pay today but the recruits did not get any so I did not get any but I dont care I can stand it if the rest can only 8 month longer for this time we are having very good times here now we have four guns and are going to have two more we got 27 men from two other Batterys I received 4 papers from home day before yesterday and have got them most read the report is here that there is another call for 300,000 more I hope so I want they should draft the first thing so as to fetch some of them Copperheads down here to try it awhile I am glad if it is so that I enlisted when I did for if I hadn't I should wanted to come now if I had been old enough I should been here long ago we got 8 barrels of potatoes and two barrels of sourkrout today from the sanatory commission they need not tell me that sanatory does not help the soldiers we have got a nice camp here we keep it swept and clean all the time and we have got all our shantys painted white white washed to purify the camp I must answer Minnies and Elizabeths letters I was very glad to have you write to me I hope you will learn a great deal so as to be able to sing me a song when I get home I should like to have been home Christmas and New Years but thats past now and I am well enough satisfied I am glad you have got such a good teacher I should like to be going to school but had rather be here you wanted to know how I like my new home I like it firstrate I would not come north now if I could for I should freeze Today has been a nice warm day there is not any pretty girls here though I have not seen a good looking woman since I left home there is nothing but nigers here anyway hardly and what are white are dutch or French I shall have to close you must write again soon as soon as you get this Good evening C.E.

Envelope: New Orleans,La, Jan. 5
 Dr. H. Eaton, Ashtabula,O.

Smith Creek
Jan. 5th, 1864 ?

Dear Cousin

I received your kind letter a few days ago but as I go to school I cannot answer my letters as promptly as I use to Now for the farm the farm that I wrote you about can be bought for one thousand dollars your hundred dollars down pay the remainder in five years but Pa has another farm in seen it is a much better farm and Pa will find out about the farm and then I will write you again

Do you like the army as well as ever I hope you do I have not heard from Aunt Hannah in a long time but she was well and all the rest of the family

I go to school and I am enjoying a studying first rate do you have any fighting to do have you got your guns and horses yet

We are all well and enjoying life well do you hear from home very often some letters that I receive from the south are more than a month acoming, there is very good sleighing now

Please excuse this short and poor writen but next time I will endovour to do better

We all send love
from your Cousin
Lizzie Brown

Envelope: St.Claire, Mich., Jan.6
Charles Eaton, New Orleans, La.

Jan.8, 1865

Dear Boy

How do you do this evening I would like to know we are so as to be about your father is failing but I think it is worry of mind about geting along for a liveing for the family and horses and cow but I guess he will get along but I don't know how but there will be some way I think but it looks dark but it is always the darkest just before day so day light will come some time but I don't know when with out it is when we get started for missuria for there is where your father says he is a going there and when you come home that will be the first thing that we will do will be to get us a home so you can enjoy it and that will be where you want to go keep strict acount of all you have so as to know what belongs to you when you get through so as to come home you must let me know how your stockings are and wither you want eny more or not we expect Armenia Adams here on Tuesday and Uncie Daniel sometime before long and then I shall let Minia go home with him for she will have better oppertunitys for school and to become refined in her maners we are going to singing school have been four nights and have got so as to read nots Minia can read them some as well as myself we are having a good time but not so good as if you was here to go with us but you can go when you get home we have had company every week this winter and expect it the rest of the time without I clear out myself and that I would do if I could get chance they have great times here in school for the Master when 'hereing the girls lessons will turn up one side and crach his behind and then his toes then head and behind again and the other part it is worse than that so you may guess what for a school they have the masters name is Brewster and they call him rooster the female teacher is Miss Buel Mrs. Whitmans Sister your father said that I mustant write but half a sheet but you see how good I am to mind it dose me good to know that you are trying to get good from your school so you will have nothing to regret when out of it be careful and save all of the papers that they give and some time they may do you a good I must close by saying to you to be a good boy have you got eny testament or Bible let me know or wether you ever have eny meetings Now good by my boy and son from your Mother

Ashtabula Jan.8th,1865

We have not received a letter from you asince my last or in other words none last week we are a looking anxiously for one your last stated you had a slight cold I am in hopes this will find you in good health and properity We are all usually well here old age is fast creaping upon me I can scarcely get about to do what necessity compels me to had I sufficient feed for my mare colt and cow it would take off a heavy task from my exercise I have

to look up my fead and git it home and feed with the greatest diligence and care Hay is worth \$30.00 per ton and that is out of my reach I bought 100 bundles of cornstalks at \$5.00 per hundred Brand at \$150 p CWE corn meal at \$3.00 p CWI corn in the ear at 5 shillings per bushel flour at \$11.00 per barrel Tea \$2.00 per lb. So you will see it costs to live in these times I have to pay \$2.00 per day for choppers if I get any and I have no time to earn the five red cent But I think that I shall get along some how I have got to get wood this week for ware almost out I hired one of them large sicamore trees chopped down in Emilines pasture I am a going to get someone to help me saw it up -I have to give her half but I think it will be cheaper than to by drywood at twenty shillings per cord for stove wood things are all on the rise here and will continue to do so if England and France ecknowledges the Southern Confederacy Independent which I think they will not do altho the copperheads and Rebbels talk strongly of it If not already you will probably have soon marching orders for some more unpleasant quarters Probably into Arkansas when ever you leave be careful what water you drink let your meals be as regular as possible never nibble between meals if it can be avoided whilst on the march Never set down upon the ground with out some thing under you avoid exposure as mutch as you can for it cannot fail of producing a Revolution in your cistem and by carefully avoiding exposure you may save yourself mutch pain and distrefs Remember that health is worth taking some pains for expecially for one situated as you are so far from the necefsary comeforts attending a sick one If you leave thare please let us know as soon as convenient and inform us of your whare abouts as often as practicable that we may keep up our corispondence .I have sent you two news- papers every week asince I commenced sending do you get them and from fore to six stamps evry other week I shall send two papers this week with fore or six stamps etc. we have cold winter weather here sleighing is very thin but runners is used about as mutch as wheels it is a fair pleasant winter day today last night the coldest night that we have had this winter except one-the thermometer stood this morning ten degrees above zero Jesse Sweet has ben home again went back yesterday he says he is marked for dimissal Edwin Rood has gone to Michigan and Jonathan and all the family will go next week Henry with the rest Armenia talks of going to Rochester she and Eddie is a going to school again Luce is a teaching a singing school. Your mother mends with Armenia and such a hawling of Do Ra Me you never see as they keep up here you never heard the like in that southern clime

Adaline has gone home and next Tuesday we expect Armenia Adams here for a visit- our folks have just returned from meating and anounced the Death of Timothy Smiths wife She died with dyphtheria I believe it is generally healthy in the neyhbor hood-I heard this evening by the Way of Mr. Stephens that Henry Eaton got home last night from the Navy none of the particulars heard from as he did not stop long to talk only that he said that he would enlist again if he could get bounty enough Bounty with many is paramount to patriotism I must come to a close by subscribing myself

Your affectionate Father H. Eaton

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., Jan. 9
Charles Eaton, L.A.

Ships Island
Jan.13th,1865

Dear Parents

I take the oppertunity to write you a few lines to let you know how I am and where I am I am well and all right with the ecceptions of a sore foot on the 5th the battery was ordered to this place but the order was counter- manded and we did not leave untill Saturday we left camp about 10 o'clock and arrived at the boat landing 4 o'clock the order was to make our selves as comfortable as possible for we would not load till morning we eat our supper hard tack and ram sow belly there about 40 or 50 of the boys went off to the city and the rest of us turned in we had just comfortably turned in when the Bugle blew for to fall in so we had to turn out when we got orders to load that night the Captain was not there no one but the second Lieutenant he told us to take hold and load with a will and them that were gone would do our duty for awhile we went to work about 8 oclock and we worked all night long till half past six Sunday morning we got loaded and soon started leaving all those that went to the city we arrived here about 5 oclock Sunday eve went to work unloading got unloaded about 9 to 10 oclock when we was carrying out the last thing forge it is called here it is a blacksmiths shop it is . very heavy we had picked it up but could not carry it and let it down and it fell upon my foot and hurt it pretty bad but it is getting along well now It is said to be very healthy here it is an Island about 14 miles long and not over as mile wide anywhere and where we are camped it not more than a third of a mile the water is cold but we dig down 6 or 8 feet and get fresh water it is barren not a spere of grass to be seen any where there is about 500 hundred rebel prisoners here and about 100 of our men that have been scent here some for during life there is 5 companys of the 74 colored regiment to guard them I have not been around much on the account of my foot we dont any of us know what we are sent here for nor how long we shall stay here but I tell you what it is its a rough old place I dont wonder they send men here for a punishment

We cannot get mail here so regular as before we have not got any since we have been here we can get Oysters here all we want and fish as soon as it gets a little warmer

Charley is well you must direct the same as before only to Ship Island instead of New Orleans I must close now you must excuse mistakes and poor writing for I have a bad place to write I send my best love to all. So Good Bye from you son

Charles Eaton

Envelope: Jan.25th '65, New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ship Island Jan. 15th, '65

Dear Parents

Yours of the 5th was received yesterday and read with the greatest of pleasure I was very glad to hear that you were all well and had such a good time Christmas I should like to have been there to enjoyed it with you and had a good sleigh ride but I am contented where I am you received quite a present I received the tribune and the Dictionary and almanac but the times and Telegraph did not get along yet I have got the paper most read I find some very good and cheering news in it I see that Abe has called out 300,000 more men to fill the vacant ranks and I think it a very wise plan by the paper it seems they think if the quoto is filled at the proper time that the war would end by the last of march and that they would not have to go to the front and did not think they would be called out at all but I suppose that is to encourage men to enlist more than anything else but I think myself if the rebs should see we should raise 300,000 more men to send against them they would give up I do not think they could hold out much longer anyway if our army continues on to be as succesful as it has for the last 3 or 4 months I see by the paper that Thomas gained a most splended victory over Hood You said Adaline had come down to spend Holydays with you I was glad to hear that she was well and family I am glad you had such a nice time Christ- mas I should like very well to have been up there about supper time I recon I could eat a pretty hearty supper I am glad to hear that buiznefs is going on so fine I think old Santa was pretty liberal with his presents I suppose eddy feels pretty big with his presents and minnys doll beats all a doll with file on it I am sorry to hear the cow was sick but I hope she will get over it Mother says she will write seeing you did not fill the sheet I hope you had as good a time on New Years as Christmas I guefs if I had been there Santa would give as much as a stick of candy You say Harry Sweet is a going to be married New Years and that Steve Newell intends to if he can get anyone to have him I guefs that the if is well put in in this case for I guefs he cant get anyone to have him I had heard the news of Shermans making the President a Christmas present of Savanah I wrote you from this place on the 18th telling you of our coming to this place

The negroe troops got paid off here yesterday there is about 500 hundred here a good many of them are pretty smart intelegent fellows time passes off very fast here to me it said to be very healthy here there is about 500 hundred rebel prisoners on the Island there is no one but soldiers on the Island I have not seen but one white woman since I have been here and that was a niger wench there is a good many of our boys got hard colds I have

a very hard cold it is a bad place to catch cold when you first come
here I must close now

so Good Bye
From your Son Charles Eaton

Envelope: Jan.25, '65, New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ship Island Jan. 31st, '65

Dear Parents

I have just received your very kind letter of the 2nd and 9th and was very glad to hear that you were all well I did not think that there was anything about my letters to be very proud of when I write I try to write the news and inform you of what is going on as much as possible I am glad you had such a good time New Years but sorry Adaline could not been with you I write you every week tell we come here we have to have a mail boy to take and bring us our mail from New Orleans so we do not get our mail regular but after we get agoing we calculate to get it every week Things are very high up there sure but I hope times will be better soon As I have written before dont you never suffer for anything but use that money of mine I think that Sicamore will make good wood I do not think there is much danger of England and France interfering as long as we are whipping the rebs as we are now

Yes we have already left our comfortable quarters in New Orleans and come to Ship Island we were only about 36 hours after we left camp before we were here we come on a boat I got my foot hurt unloading but it is most well I caught a hard cold when we first come here but it is most well now I have received all the papers and stamps I guefs I received 4 papers and 6 stamps today it appears then that you are haveing very cold weather up north we are haveing the coldest winter here that has been known for a good many years so them that knows say then the Roods have at last gone West have they They have been talking about it ever since I knew them Armenia talks of going to be a City Belle when does she I hope you will have a good visit with Mrs. Adams I was sorry to hear the death of Mrs. Smith glad to hear Henry got home all right Mother you want to know how I do I am pretty well with the exceptions of a cold but am getting over it I like soldering first rate so far tell Pa he must make himself sick a borrowing trouble when I come home we will have a home somewhere you want to have my stockings are they are pretty well used up but I drewed a couple pair the other day

They must have lots of fun in school you have such a nice teacher I am glad you are so good to mind Pa about writing you wanted to know wether I had any testament I have none we have no meetings here tell Pa to send some more of them extracts as I call them for they make something to laugh about I received a letter from Lizzie Brown today they are all well There was about 150 rebel prisinors came here last week and they were a rough looking set I tell you I shall have to else you must excuse this poor letter for I have a very bad place write write soon and often

I send my love to all I do not know how long we shall have to stay here

Charles Eaton

Ship Island

Ashtabula Feb. 9, '65

Dear Charles

We received 2 letters from you day before yesterday and I come to the conclusion that you must be gettin rather weak if you cant lift a Black Smiths Forge and kit of tools without letting it fall on your toes - How bad did it hurt you or in other words to what extent was you injured and what is likely to be the result in the end We were glad to hear that you feel contented with your lot and we will commence again to keep you apprised of what is a going on here in Ashtabula as long as we can keep track of you Things continue here about the same There is a great deal of sickness and some deaths Billy Blakesleys wife has died since we wrote last none other that I can recollect of your acquaintances Robert Smith has ben verry sick I went and Staid with - him Two weeks and did not have my clothes off to sleep in 16 nights but once I reckon that will do something towards paying for the wine plants Your Mother had the choars to do which proved rather hard for her The cow hooked the colt so that he had to be helped up which made a double task-- We have the coldest weather here you ever see We are all either froze up or froze down for we have the verry best of sleighing here ever since the first week in January snow has fell eight or ten inches asince Tuesday noon and the Snow is not drifted as bad as common for this country the roads are filled with Sleighs sleds, bob, and cutters from for oclock in the morning untill 10 and 12 at night

We git along first rate here but how I cant tell for I have the feed to by for hors colt and cow wood flour to ad sugar and lights to by for the family and how I do it I cant tell but when my mony is gone more comes some way as yet I haint sold the grass seed yet I think I shall get \$6.00 per bushell for it that will help me some I hope I have ben down to the depot today and got 3 evt of coal it cost \$1.80 it will last a week or more - That is cheaper than stove wood at \$3.00 a cord--Harry Sweet was married last Sunday night to Eliza Markham Bill West went to Vicksburgh after his brother Charles that was sick and his wife packed up took the cars and gone to parts unknown they are tearing the gulf over by the cemetery all into a Railroad They are determind to put on the Roaling Stock next fall Haskell has completed his store on the corner by the Post office and is a mooving his good into it today Warren and Kate was well a monday Unckle amasa is quite poorly Nathaniel Ufford is quite sick I got a letter from Roswell day before yesterday they have not heard from Henry in over two months They are fearfull that he is not a live Henry Eaton had not enlisted at the last account, there is but little doing in this town about enlisting it is thought

they will have to stand a draft many towns in the County have filed their Cota (filled their quota) The States Legislations are generally Ratifying the amendment of the Constitution to abolish slavery through out the United States the peace prospects have flashed in the pan we shall have to take Charleston and Richmond and Mobile and then they are handsomely plaid out then all we will have to do will be to hang the poor miserable scunks on the first tree and peace will be ratified then at once

I hope you will take good care of your health and your morals also keep aloaf from all low disireable acts and let your oppertunities improve your manliness

Adeu H. Eaton

Keep us posted of your whereabouts

Ashtabula Feb. 17th, '65

Dear Charles

We received yours of the 31st of Jan. today we have received two before dated at Ship Island I forwarded you one immediately on the reception of them with a few stamps and a couple of News papers If you need more stamps than I am a sending you must say so I drew the interest on your Bonds today \$14.50 which I shall be obliged to use it costs me about \$25 a month to keep the old mare colt and cow and furnish us four pounds of sugar per month for ourselves I have got past chopping wood I went down today and tried to chop but my back and bowels pained me so that I had to give it up and come up without a quarter of a load my stalls are fed out and not as much hay as would last this month out of I fed them what they would eat I feed them corn meal and Brand which costs now a days. they look very well and feel nice the colt has got nearly over his injury he has not been out of the stable in nearly three weeks he is very anxious for a play spell one school has closed today the children have learned very well Mr. Tallmadge has closed his schools here and is engaged in Westfield, N.Y. The Ashtabulians are in hot water about these days they would not offer up a bounty sufficient to induce any man to enlist consequently every able bodied man has gone elsewhere and enlisted and the time for drafting come and here they are with their britches down at this late hour and a running too and fro offering from 6 to 900 dollars for men and cant find them at that Henry Eaton has enlisted again he gets \$600 Bounty in a new regiment Debb Sweet is under contract to go for nine hundred Sc\$ (dollars?) Mrs. Kellogg is down on a visit and after Rachael I went to Kingsville yesterday and your Mother rode up to Uncle Amasa with me and they all went to the aid Society in the afternoon and tea time found me with the Ladies at Uncle Wintropes? Such sleighing as we have you never see it has been now over five weeks the nicest sleighing you can imagine on the morning of the 13th and 14th the thermometer stood in the wood house at from 6 to 12 degrees below today it has thawed a little in the middle of the day

I have not sold my grafs seed yet it is worth 6 dollars per bushel

I think that we have encouraging news from the south the talk is here that Sherman has got Branchville and his troops occupies Orangeville? and Kingsville and Kilpatrick occupies Blackville if so you will see by the map that all communication is cut off from Charleston and Richmond and there supplies must soon dry up it is also said that they are evacuating Charleston It is very evident to me that their (? abbin?) is pretty much wound up Besides it is said by our officers who wore eye witnesses and by the deserters likewise the rebel officers could not rally there men nor urge them to fight half as well as they did six months ago in a battle fought a short time ago on

Hatches Runn not far from Petersburg they are getting dishartuned and sick of their cause

Remember the climate that you are in Take special car of yourself the changing scene is coming an that climate is so different from the one you have ben acostamed to if you dont keep your eye skinned you will be pretty sure to fall sick but I dont aprehend mutch danger if you take care of yourself in seasons avoid all unnecessary exposure

I must close-

Adeu

I shall continue to send you papers occasionally I am a taking the Dollar times The Ashtabula Telegraph and the Washington National Republican the two last dont cost me anything for I pay for them in my work and the other I paid for in cordial so you see I can furnish you papers for a cent a piece and if you spend your leisur time in gleaning what knowledge you can it will be very acepable to me

R-? Smith has been very sick but is better he is agoing to moove to Indianna this spring

It is said that old Doct. Webster is not likely to live

Nat Ufford has been quite sick and all his Fathers family Your Mother and Armenia has gone to singing school whilst I write Eddie is asleep on the floor They are a pushing the new R.R. write ahead

We expect Aunt R-? and Mrs. Kellogg here on a visit next week

Old Harry I mean Sweet is married and brought his wife home. Betsy Stephens nor any of the family has not darkened our dores asince Darius wife came down

Daniel Sackett has not visited us yet Our potatoes are all most gone the pork barrel begins to squeal for a little more hog the old cow gives from 4 to 5 quarts at a milking The Banties dont lay any yet the water spout is all froze up I have to carry water for the creatures and it is a darned job I tell you

I must come to a close I suppose

Adieu Horace Eaton

Tuesday Morning 21st

I went to Kingsville last Sunday your Mother went over to meeting and the children rode over so as to have a sleigh ride it was a fine day for a ride A monday morning the air was full of frost and fog the air was filled with flakes of frost as large as flakes of snow and the air as keen as a two edged sword-I got old Mr. Tagget and Isaac Sweet to chop wood for me we went down on Emilines and cut down one of them large oak trees they went to notching and sawing three feet long and I went to splitting and Eddie to drawing which constituted a big team

we got up the biggest wood pile we have had this winter and the best this morning I am agoing to Kingville to see Mr. Smith and your Mother is a going with me to learn to make Ladies silk hats for that is all the toast here now Yesterday was a clear day this morning is also clear and by night sleighing will be pretty mutch done upon the north ridge I will send you a couple of papers in the course of the week

The clock strikes six and I must close

Write often H. Eaton

[On the edge of the paper next to the first part of this letter, was written "My time has expired with the Tribune I shant take it anymore"]

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., Feb.22
Charles Eaton, Ship Island. New Orleans, La.

Ship Island Feb. 18th '65

Dear Parents

I take the oppertunity to write you a few lines to let you know how I get along I am very well at present and am enjoying myself firstrate I have not had a letter from you in about 4 weeks and I begin to want to hear from you I thought I would write you a few lines we have to have a mailboy to carry the mail from New Orleans here so we get our mail about once a week but I have not had any for the last four times Ship Island is about 70 or 80 miles from New Orleans the Island is about 10 miles long and not over half a mile wide in the widest place and it is all sand there is about 7 or 8 hundred reb prisinors here the mail just come but I did not get anything Our first Lieutenant came on the same boat he has not been with the Battery for the last 10 or 12 weeks he has been sick with the small pox and he had very hard but he is all right now we got two more guns the other day they were twelve pound brass pieces rebel guns that we had captured we have got our harnefses and amunition but no horses I do not think we will get our horses while we stay here I do not know how long we shall stay here but I guefs we shall leave as soon as our officers can get us off for they do not like the old colonel in command now he dont like us any better he calles us land pirates the report here is that Gen Burnside is dead and the flag is half mast the talk here is that Mobile is soon to be attacted in a few days and we may be sent there they have been transporting there for the last week or two right smart they have to pass by here and some days 3 or 4 boats pass loaded with troops It is very healthy here now with the exception of bad colds but they say it is very hot here in the summer last summer there was lots of nigers went blind for 3 or 4 months it was so hot and the sand that it made them blind I should like to stay here till about the last of march till the roads get good and then go on a march the first Lieut. that came today says that we will be out of this before long he has been in the city 3 or 4 weeks longer than he need to have been and I should not wonder if he had been trying to get us off from here and when he undertakes a thing he generally goes through with it there is great talk about peace here how is it up north I suppose that you know by this time who is drafted Charles Burrill is well and stands it first rate now you must write as soon as you get this and write often and all the news I must close now I send my love and respects to all

this from you son

Charles Eaton

Envelope: -(9)'65

Dr. H. Eaton

No 1st

Paper grows scarce here and economy is highly called for here I cut my hay stalks and straw in that old machine and it makes the sweat come very time Quack H.E.

The old mare coughs badly I made a quarter batch of Balsom yesterday filled 12 bottles and I am agoing to feed the rest to the old Mare to stop her cough H.E.

No 2

The people in these Northern States have got the oil fever on the Brain and it rages to that extent they are all running to Titusville to get rich Old Unckle Willard Sweet has got a raft of girls and they all desperately want to get married and so many Boys about here wants to to but durst not

H. Eaton

No 3.

The last that we heard from Henry Adams he was well we are a looking for Daniel Sackett here soon but he may not come we hear but little from William H.E.

Write us good long letters for the whool neighborhood runn into hear your letters they are good long ones my Boy and tells the whole story tell us how you like the country down in Dixie
H.E.

No 4

I think I shall go to Missouri and get a farm if you dont find a good one in Dixie I intend to have fifteen or twenty families go along and settle together and form a society of our selves and be at home thare as well as here H.E.

I am constantly building castles in the air to keep me cheerfull some times I am away down in the oil diggings a splattering in oil up to my chin Next I am away in Mifsouri a carrying on farming in splended stile then I find myself at work with the old straw cutter H.E.

[Paper was scarce and they used edges of newspapers and little scraps of paper which made it very difficult to read. In some cases, it was not readable. This is what I could obtain from the scraps.]

March 4, '65

Dear Boy

I suppose that Mr. Lincoln goes in today as president for the next four years and I expect a glorious time a coming for us I hope that you wont have to stay there this summer and I hope that you will not have to go into a battle how glad I be that your time half gone for time seams long to me that you are gone the young folks have had a good time this winter sleigh riding and partys almost every night the singing school goes of firstrate we have had eleven nights and we expect nine more Uncle Daniel said he should come here this winter if he was not sick or dead but he has not been here yet so I think that he must be sick but I do not know I have not herd from the Browns in a long time your father talks of making bolsom for Mr. Hendry and if he dose he will make from 6 to 7 dollars a day so that-will help us to a living and I hope that we can get a little ahead but I tell you we see pretty heard times that is so but I gues that we will come out all right I will write more next time

Your mother

Ashtabula March 3, 1865

Wall Charley

Our folks have gone to singing school again and I thought that I would seat myself again to let you know that we had received three letters from you asince at Ship Island We got one last night and happy to learn of your contentednefs and boyant spirits- hold out my sun a little longer keep a stiff upper lip for a short time longer Rebeldom will be knocked into a crocked hat Sherman is a knocking the carolinas into a cypher he has taken Savannah Blackville Aiken Kingsville and Columbia and Charleston all in South Carolina Columbia is burned to the ground then he pushes straight to Fayetteville in North Carolina on the cape fear River whare he can have communications from Beaufort or Wilmington and the gun boats are a going up from Wilmington to reinforce him Last fishin port anderson and Wilmington are ones today we here that Petersburg is ours that the rebs are leaving Richmond the army of the Patomac receive over a hundred deserters a day the south are like a (pis? mires?) bed in a hot sunshine with out order or cystem or a swarm of bees with- out a queen or a lost dog looking for his master or a lovesick boy a trying to find someboddy the thing is a realing too and from and must soon fall to rise no more I sent you a map today of the southern states which you will find convenient to refer to when reading the papers tomorrow his exclancy Abraham Lincoln takes his second oath as president of the United States it will be a great day in the history of our country I long to see his inaugural addrefs for I expect him to strike the death blow to Secepian Slavery and

coperheadism

Saturday Morn.4th

We have had a (cairtereus?-continuous?) winter here this winter we had snow the most of the time through January and February the first day of March there was good sleighing on each side of the roads on both ridges and good whealing in the middle of the roads this morning the snow has fell some inches and still comes from the North East No sugar making commenced here yet but expect a heavy runn whenever it begins

I sold my hayseed yesterday for \$39 half of it is mine that will just about carry the family and stock through this month with what we have Businefs was never more (jamed?) along than its here now main street in Ashtabula is crowded with teams from Monday morning untill Saturday night Merchants businefs increases farmers businefs increases and so does teamsters and mechanics is fine evry boddy and every thing is a putting in their best (jumps?) to do something big Businefs was never performed with greater energy and alacrity than now everything has the appearance of chearfulnefs and determination

We are all as well as common I must come to a Close
H. Eaton

8 oclock the snow is a coming in double quick time H.E.

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., March 6
Charles Eaton, New Orleans

Ship Island
 March 6th, '64?(65)

Dear Parents

I take my pen in hand this morning to let you know how I get along I am well at present and like soldering first rate I received a letter from you last evening the first I have got in 4 or 5 weeks I was afraid you were sick but I was very glad to hear you were all well You thought I was getting rather weak if I could not lift a black smith forge well I was rather weak at that time you wanted to know how bad I was hurt it fell acrofs my toes and I think it smashed the bone in my big toe I was off duty 3 weeks just could not wear my boot but it is all right now I am glad you are going to write me all the news for I like to hear the news you say there is a great deal of sicknefs there it is very healthy here now

I think Mr. Smith must been a pretty sick man I should like to be up home long enough to have a few good sleigh rides and some apples and cider I am glad you have such nice sleighing it so much nicer getting around I am glad you get along so well I told you when you had the blues that it was no use for there would be someway provided if you can get six dollars for grafs seed that will be doing pretty well you must be haveing great times up north Harry sweet got married and Bill West wife run away that is two things I never thought of happening I don't suppose I shall know the place when I get home they are tearing up things so you say that you got a letter from Mr. Adams I hope it is not as you think about Henry I do not know how long we shall stay here but I think till my time is out I must close for this time just going to leave and I must close so it will go

I send my best love to all

So good bye

Write soon and often and all the news I will write again in a few days

From your Son Charles Eaton

Envelope: New Orleans, La., Feb. 21, '65
 Dr. H. Eaton, Ashtabula, O.

Ashtabula, March 9th, '65

Dear Charles

We are usually well at present The colt was sick last night with either Botts or belly ache which causes me to be up at this hour in the morning 4 oclock but he appears better the sleighing is about leaving us I went Sunday to Kingsville with the Bobs and there was never better Bobbing and amonday your Mother and I went over the creek with them and I think that will be our last sleighride this spring it commenced raining and freezing yesterday about 4 oclock and rained all night the ground was as slippery all night as the glare ice the weather is growing more moderate but the rain keeps coming .

There was a poor soldier died over the creek yesterday morning with the putrid erysipelas (foul smelling Streptococcus bacteria skin infection that can lead to gangrene) his name was David Comp we have not had much sugar weather here yet

No draft here yet their cotas(quotas) will be generally made out through Ohio with out a draft Men enlist and start for the front within a half an hour there is two to three thousand recruits pafs through Washington daily- Richmond, Petersburg and Mobile is not evacuated yet tis believed that Sherman and Sheridan are about to form a junction some where in North Carolina- and then with Grant in Virginia and then the story will be soon told I think-

Friday Evening 10th

You know I said yesterday morning it was araining after Breakfast it stopd and I had to go to Kingsville Your Mother went with me she stayed and is there yet a helping Mrs. Smith pack her goods to moove I got home just at night and it rained hard the wind changed into the west and began to snow about dark - Snowd all night and untill 10 oclock this morning and we have good sleighing again it is a real cold snap but it is clear again tonight I settled with Smith yesterday and took up my note for the wine plants \$112.50 I owed him for 11 gallons of wine \$22.00 I also settled that up so we are square he gave me the whole debt for attending him and family in their late sichnefs Your Mother owed her 8 or 10 dollars for Bounet fixings that she got last summer if she does as well in her settlement with her I shall think it not bad Smith has sold all of his wine excep two barrells he keeps for his own use for from \$2.00 to \$5.00 he got and says he could have sold 10 more if he had of had them

He has Bought a farm of one hundred and thirty acres with 13 acres broke up and fenced and thirty acres of timbered land the remainder black sand (paraira? pereira?) with a (?) soil and paid for it in wine plants and has got a deed for it he sold his place in Kingsville and bought a house and lot at the county seat of the county where he is agoing which is one and a half miles

from his farm he is going to put up a mileners shop when he gets thare David VanSlykes daughter is married to John E. Hammond of Kingsville old Mrs. March is dead we have not heard from Henry Eaton asince he left nor from Henry Adams in a long time.

I may possibly make Balsom and Cordial for Hendry this spring our potatoes are gone the pork eat up the creatures look well but the hens dont lay yet

So Adeu
that we may hear from (us)all
H. Eaton

I will send you the Telegraph and Dollar times tomorrow

Saturday morning 11th

I told you last night it-was clear this morning wind south west cold enough to freeze one and the snow flies as merily as it has any time through the winter thare is a great deal of sicknefs throughout this county I saw Warren the other day they was well

Gold is on the decline and so is all other things But hay and labour thare is a great excitement in the oil speculations Ed Bracks? has bought the Charles Dibble place for seven hundred and fifty and moved into it yesterday you will see by the Telegraph that George Willard has bought the Widow Hendrys place Haskel has mooved into his store

Businefs was more prosperous than now

I think that I shall go after your Mother today or tomorrow We dont hear anything from Wade Brown or the Sacketts I sent you a map did you get it News continues to be chearing from the front I must close and carry it to the office I would say gard against the vicisitudes of the weather

Your Truly
H.Eaton

Envelope:
Ashtabula, Ohio, March 11
To Charles Eaton, New Orleans

Ship Island
March 12th, '65

Dear Parents

Our mail come last night but I did not get any letter but I though I would write anyway I am going to write everytime the mail comes wether I get a letter or not Charley got a letter from home with his folks photographs and Henry Eatons they said Henry had enlisted I received a letter from you last mail and partialy answered it but the mail was going to leave so I had to cut it off short Mother sayes in her letter you can not sell any medicine with out being liable to a fine that is rather hard but I hope that times will be better soon You thought we had a pretty hard place to stay here we would all be glad to get away from here but in all probability we will stay here my time out it is said to be a very healthy here but it is very hot in the summer and bad for the eyes the nigers here last summer a good many were blind for 3 or 4 months it is beginning to get hot weather here bit we have a good cool sea breeze here all the time and when it rains we do not have any mud to paddle in we have a easy time here we only have to stand guard once about ten days and we have no horses to take care of and it aint likely we shall have any while we stay here there was two hundred rebs left here last week to be exchanged there is about 300 here now they have been laying the Telegraph from New Orleans here and now they are running it on to Mobile I suppose that the last call for men is filled before now either by enlisting or a draft I should like to know who was drafted in Ashtabula if any I do not suppose that I shall know the place when I get home I suppose that railroad will be in opperation by next fall It is getting to be about time to comence ploughing up north cold weather is all over here for this year I am well at present but I have not got over my cold yet but I am takeing some medicine that I got of a darkey doctor and it is cureing it up They are paying pretty big for subs in New Orleans as high as 26 hundred dollars in gold I would like to be out of this and have a man offer me that for a year One half of my time is gone Im up the hill now am going down it will soon pass off I like soldiering first rate it is pretty good business if a man can have his health I shall have to close now write soon and often

I send my love to all

So Good Bye from Charles

Envelope: March 18, '65, New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ship Island
March 24th, '65

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know that I am well and enjoying myself first rate upon Ship Island Our mail came from the city today and I received two letters dated the 6th and 11th and 4 papers and the maps I am very glad you sent me the maps for I want one every little while and the papers I have not had any before but once since I have been on the Island and it seems good again to hear the news for I have not heard the news in a long time I was very glad to hear you were all well I hope it will be as you think about Rebeldom and I think it will for we are working hard for it now it surforth here that Mobile has fallen we could hear the fireing here for two or three days when the wind was in the right direction Mobile is 50 miles from here they have been transporting troops to Mobile for the last 4 weeks I was sorry to learn that the colt was sick but glad he is better I would like to have been up in Ashtabula to have enjoyed a few good sleigh rides but I suppose there this winter but I had rather be there about now to get some warm sugar I think if Sherman and Sheridan join Grant that Richmond will soon have to come under and if Mobile is ours as reported which I think is true for we are so close that it comes pretty quick and only Richmond to take now I think the thing will soon play out

Saturday morning 25th

It is pleasant here this morning but rather cool We have a fresh sea breeze here most of the time I think you done pretty well with your wine plants and Mr. Smith done a big thing for you I am glad you had so good luck It appears that you are a going to have some more sleighing by the way you write the 11th I think you sold your hay seed pretty well If you examined that map you could see where we are We have got two new officers our Orderly Seargeant and Quarter master Seargeant were promoted to First Lieut. and 2nd Lieut Eaton to first we have 1 Capt. and four Lieutenants We had a boat to unload yesterday and day before loaded with Commasary stores such as beef pork flour corn meal hard bread onion potatoes and so forth there was 6 or 8 rebel officers brought here yesterday prisoners of war we have been here now almost 8? months and probably shall stay here till my time is out I have not had any pay yet I shall have to close I send my love to all

Good Bye
Charles

Envelope- 2, '65, New Orleans
Dr. H. Eaton

Jefferson
March 28th, 1864

My Dear brother Charles

I now seat myself to pen you a few lines hoping that they will be welcome I have been looking for a letter from you since you went into the army but have received none and so I thought I would write to you. I was over to your folks last week They said if I would write you would answer my letter they were all well I believe I think they have a very pleasant place where they live Your Mother misses you very much she says she does not know what she should do without you I think you must be a pretty good boy from what I have heard of you I don't know but you will think I am speaking rather light to call you a boy for you are a young man grown or nearly as I should have said

Wall Charley how do you like the Soldiers life write and tell me all about it do you expect to stay where you are now all summer Your time will be up in the fall I suppose your Mother told me you intded to get you a farm when you come home that will be doing pretty well for anyone of your age to get sutch a start in the world your father is getting old and it will be pleasant for him to have a home in his old age I don't know as you can read this it is written so poorly but I am rather tired and so have hurried I shall have to close for I think you will be glad there is no more when you have read this I shall look for a letter from you Please write as soon as you get this so goodby for this time Laura

Please direct your letter to
Laura C. Loomis Jefferson
Care of A. Kellogs

Envelope: April 1, Jeff., O.
Mr. Charles C. Eaton, 2nd Ohio Battery, 3rd Division,
Ship Island, New Orleans, La.
c/o Capt. Beach

Ashtabula, March 29, '65

Wall Charles we got another letter from you yesterday dated 6th and was highly gratefied to learn of your health and contentednefs that must concede greatly to your hapinefs and it will do mutch towards securing health spare no pains to secure your health if disease should find you its victim have your concience clear that it was beyond your ability to have prevented it remember this is the time for acclimating you to a Southern climate and all it needs is care and attention to preserve your health I have known many within fifty years that have been south and with care avoided the diseases of that country Disease is quite prevelent here but not many Deaths young Mr. Strong here in the last village died with the consumption the other day Barney Bars has ben quite sick but is better We have runn out of potatoes beef pork and butter in house and out of hay straw and stalks in the barn and all most out of money in my purs but I consider myself mutch better off than Lee is with his whole army for Sheridan has cut off evry possible means of supplies by R. or Canall Lee must starve or surrender or break through Grants lines and if he gets them out of the trenches they will leave him most asuredly and come over to our army or scedaddle for the mountains and his army will be as tho it was not Sheridan last night was between Richmond and Fredricksburgh about 20 miles from Richmond ready to join Grant at any time Sherman is a rooting along through North Carolina at his leisure pretty mutch unmolested the Rebs are a cussing Jef Davis and his bad luck

The Copperheads are sneaking about a looking out under the corner of their eyelids saying at every reverse that they meat with thats a lie thats a lie it aint official I dont believe it I tell you its a lie Show them the report they will say I dont care its a union lie to deceive the people Thats all you have done is to lie to deceive folks youll se bine-by when Lee Burigard and Johnson gets them plans consumated OH" you'd think that when they get ready this little continent together with Grant Sherman Sheridan Faragut and Thomas whould be hurled into oblivion in a gif What have you done towards subdueing the south you have taken Orleans Vixburgh Memphis and the Missasippi river you have taken the Tennifse and cumberland river you have taken Chattanooga Atlanta Savannah Charleston Collumbia Wilmington with evry fortified place between the Potomac and New Orleans and still the Democrats says the South is not injured any they are just as able and more so today to whip the North than they ever was before dont they know they lie?

Ashtabula goes ahead finely Mr. Watson who bought Willards Brick house is the Superintendent of this new road he gave ten thousand dollars for it and is agoing to lay out ten thousand more in building and fitting up Willards establishment Watson has ben assistant Secretary of War under Staunton ever since Staunton commenced untill last fall when he left to take the responsibility of the road You will se by the Telegraph that he is one of the leading men in the coal Company at hand Lake P.A. Willard has purchased the Alf' Hendry house and lot Hiram Hendry has sold half of his drug store to a man from Cleveland and he is a going to take charge of his other store at Mansfield, Ohio Mr. Crumb that has taken so active a part in our agricultueal affairs in this county has Bought out fields up by Deacon Brookses

Charley Sweet came home on Friday on a furlow untill next Saturday he remains at the hospital at Cleveland and is well suited Will' Atwater staid here knight before last he is agoing to Iowa in about three weeks to school Ally is at Mentor yet Sarah is agoing to Cortland County York State to school Philice has gone to Washington Chauncy stais at home Bill Wests wife has got back Roswell heard from Henry about 3 weeks ago he is all right I have not heard from Henry Eaton asince he left Irwin Taft lost his wife las fall and Jane Eaton has gone to keep house for him Eldad George they say must die!- Lewis Salen is all right about one hundred families of us is agoing to missoury. next year the snow has gone and mud in its stead york Stat Penn and aportion of Ohio are expearencing the greatest (freshet?) ever knew I will close, from Your Father

Wall Charles

As your father has left a spot for me I will write a few words to you and let you know that we have writen to you every week and sent you papers and we had not hird from you in over three weeks tell Saturday last last week I went to Mr. Smith and I stayed four days and worked for 1 dollar per day he give your father over one hundred for what he done for him when he was sick but you musent say anything about it when you come home I look forward to the time you will come home but I sometimes think that you will not see your father but hope you will he has got bad cough from your Mother

Envelope:
Ashtabula, Ohio, Mar. 29
Charles Eaton, New Orleans, La.

Ashtabula, April 1st 1865

Dear Charles

I seat myself to let you know that we are quite well and in good cheer for old folks and hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same blefsing I have nothing new to write only we have had a fine day today and I finished setting out my onion sets had three quarts more than I had ground for and carried them over the creek and swapped them for five pounds of sugar I got three shillings a quart for them Yesterday I set out 42 grape roots amongst the wine plants I sent you acouple of Newspapers last Monday and a couple more today You will se by them about how things git along in town and amongst the Rebs last nights report was that they were about to lay down their arms and quit fighting they are already tormenedly whipt (tormentedly whipped?) and they begin to know it or will soon I think Sheridan has taken another Raid in tending to destroy the last remaining road that can supply Lees army and they must soon surrender or starve

Gold and all other things are a comeing down but businefs continues to go on with the energy and alacrity that it ever has

Marcus Phelps has gone to the war again he gits one thousand dollars bounty Joseph McAdams has gone again he gets twelve hundred

Ashtabula has got her men and sent them to the front You will see by the Telegraph that some towns had a draft we dont hear quite so mutch about resisting the draft as we usd to the Copperheads are a getting quite mellow and pliable they used to condem everything but now they condem nothing

[This letter continued to next page]

Sunday afternoon April 2

Dear Charles

It appears that our struggle with our enemy is about over. Then comes the tug to establish our Government upon an equitable and prosperous foundation and future prosperity of the country will be commensurate with its moral progress. If it rises to greatness such as is within its reach, it must be by a rigid adherence to that character which it has hitherto professed to be a religious nation and it is improbable to ever attain to that with Leaders in politics and in government who are drunkards and debauchers. Our possessions and appetites were given us for wise and usefull purposes. It matters but little how much wisdom a Senate may possess unless it is conducted in the channel of puritie it can never save a nation from degredation. Wicked and vicious men will never rule our nation in prosperity it is essential that he who would inculcate National virtue that his aim and motives are pure or his teachings go for naught and how do we stand in relation to that principal today - Two thirds: nay? more that rule our Nation are either Drunkards Gamblers or are ready at a trival excuse to violate every law they have enacted. Can we expect such men to establish a Government upon an equitable and permanent foundation "I fear not". The fact is we have got to have a thorough revolution in our politics and see that we send no man to legislate for this nation but the patriot and a moralist he who will act expressly for the establishment of a permanent and prosperous Nation with Justice and equity for its chief cornerstone. Then and not untill then may we expect to become a prosperous people that will be acknowledged by every Nation on Earth to be the model of Nations.

I am truly Yours
H. Eaton

Envelope: April 10
Charles Eaton, 2nd Ohio Battery, 3rd Division
Ship Island Via New Orleans
c/o Capt. Beach

April 2, '65

Dear Boy

How do you do this morning I am quite well and so are the children but your father is poorly he had a poor spell yesterday morning and this morning but I hope that they wont amount to much but I am between hope and fear about it we had a letter from Uncle Daniel yesterday and they were well and he said that they sent you there best respects and lots of good wishes and havent you writen to them since you left New Orleans for they wanted to know your adrefs and I have writen to them I dont see why you dont get letter for we write every week and send you papers and we do not get your letters but I hope you will get them from is time on we look-ahead now that you will be at home before long but it seams long to look ahead I talk some of going to Kingsville to see Brown and if I can get enough to pay me my trouble I shall go and take Mrs. Smith place and work at my trade but I shall not go without I can get 15 or 16 dollar a week and my board and that will pay for a girl at home and my trouble dont you think it will but I can do Allies bleaching as I did last year I am going to take my singing book to church today what do you think of that

Whale Charly I sung in choir today I caried my book and Minia is agoing when she gets over her cold she has got a bad cold so she cannot sing she and Edie will sing for you when you come home

I am waiting for my ship to come in and is doing very well for the first singing school but there is some that advanc faster than she dose but I hope that there will be some to go right on when Mr. Luce gets through

I will close but you must write every week if you do not get one for we write a good long one every to you if you dont get it so good by

Your Mother

Envelope: Asthabula, Ohio, Nov. 2
To Charles Eaton, New Orleans, La.

Ship Island April 5th, '65

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I seat myself in my old bunk to write you a few lines and to let you know how I get along down here on Ship Island I am well and enjoying myself first rate we have been now 3 months Our mail come this morning and I received a letter from you dated the 20th and a couple papers also 5 postage stamps I was glad to learn you were all well You warned me to take care of my health I shall try and do so you spoke about the diareah that has not bothered yet I am sorry you are out of potatoes and meat and foder for the stock but I am glad you concider yourself so well off but I recon when Richmond is taken we shall see better times I recon the Copperheads will find out before 3 months that the rebs are not just as strong as ever they was I am glad that businefs is progrefsing so finely I think that road will be a great help to Ashtabula You Say you write every week I do not receive one once in about two weeks I write everytime the mail comes wether I get a letter or not but we do not get the mail regular at all here

I am glad Mr. Adams has heard from Henry and glad to hear that he is well what regiment did Henry Eaton enlist in you said that Willie Atwater was going to Iowa to school I think the Atwater family is now prety well broke up you say their is a hundred families going west next year I guefs I will go along with you if you have no objections They are fighting at Mobile yet they sent here day before yesterday for some big guns they took two 100 pound (?) they brought the news that we was getting the worst of it they have got the hay full of torpedoes and they are rough on our gun boats Yesterday they fetched over 3 hundred prisoners here taken at Mobile there was one Major 10 Captains and fifteen Lieutenants some of them were those that were exchanged from this place and they had been gone from here just a month to aday pne of the Captains told one of the guards that came with them that it wouldnt take Mobile they were a prity rough looking set when they got off the boat they were guarded by the nigers on the Island and I tell you it made them mad I have not had any pay yet and I dont care now wether I get paid till my time is out I must close now write soon and often and all the news

Good Bye from Charles

Envelope: New Orleans, La., April 8, '65
Dr. H. Eaton, Ashtabula, O.

Asthabula April 10th, 1865

Dear Charles

[Note: Lee surrendered to Grant on April 9, 1865]

We have not heard from you in two weeks and am anxious to hear from you We are all well here and rejoicing to the full of our abilities One day last week we read the news of the evacuating of Richmond and Petersburg and they had a high day over the creek this morning we got the Intelligence of the Capture of Lee and his whole army which has called forth the greatest Exultations from the Inhabitants of Ashtabula that was ever known since Noah flood Every gun ever pistol Evry bell great and Small even the tea bells alarm bells old pans circle saws ware torn from their fraims evry drum could fine evry instruments of music was brought out and used they fired single guns then by Company then by platoons then by brigades they cheared they hallored sung and danced mounted the house tops and_cheared evry one they met I heard the outcry and thought I would go over and set them in order as soon as I reached the top of the hill the women from evryhouse to the post office saluted me with her tea bell frying pan tin pan or tea kettle Main street was over hung with flags the side walks lined with hand flags evry dry goods store had their fronts lined by taking whole pieces of red white and blue stretched in front evry means of exprefsiion was resorted to Mr. Robertson the head man of the New (Lisbon?) R.R. gave his whole magazine and told the boys to burn the whole in welcomb and then ordered a barrel of beer rold into the streets and given to all and said that he was good for 18 barrels if they could drink it the Copperheads are equally jubilant over the news they have pricipally turned in for two weeks past with the rejoicing and paid their full share of expences they concider it Constitutional

They are a making great preparation for tonight thare is a Brigadir General here that is agoing to lecture and the whole town is a spreading themselves for a big time tonight I fear that Beer will be the prominent feature of the proceedings as I observed that the most substantial inhabitants think that occasion justifies a drunken frolic- But in my View it shows a weakness that?= no cause can call up a justification for Debauchery inocent merriment is sufficient in all cases one transgression always gives excuse for another and man soon looses his standing the probability is that fighting is over and most likely you will get discharged if you are Secure all your papers and take good care of them they may be valuable here after I ama getting along tollerably well with my spring work for an old cripple

I have got that sod broke up beyond the chesnut tree and get out a part of the dung I have hired the colt pasture tomorrow we stopped milking the cow yesterday morning and shall drive her to pasture as soon as this grafs gets a little better

Bread and money runns short with me things are fast coming down here the weather is rather cold here I bought nine bushell ears of corn of Isaac Sweet that helps me along finely Henry Adams has been home and gone back.

I would send a paper but the news is of that nature that it will reach you long before a paper could we don't get many letters from you but we want you to keep writing in hopes we will get one once in a while

Hoping to hear from you soon I remain your
affectionate
Father H.E.

No envelope with this letter

Ship Island
April 15th, '65

Dear Parents

I take my pen in hand to write you a few lines I received a letter from you this morning dated the 29th and was glad to learn you were all well I was sorry to hear that you had such a bad cold I have a cold You do have singular weather thats the fact up in Ohio I do not expect I shall know Ashtabula when I get home it will be changed so I am sorry you are so short of things you need but hope things will be better soon but I am glad the colt and old mare look so well you must have pretty nice colt by your tell

We have very glorious news here that Richmond is taken and 25 thousand prisoners but Lee and old Jeff got away and Mobile is taken to there was two boats loaded with prisoners come here last night and there is another coming there is 4 or 5 thousand when they all get here there is two hundred and fifty officers here the highest is a Colonel the most are Captains and Liutenants there was between 5 and 6 hundred came here last week when they all get here there will be about 7 thousand of them It grinds them terribly to be guarded by nigers but they have to come to it there is some that are not over 10 years old one of the guards that came with them told me that there was a whole Brigade of boys they called them the Alabama reserves some of them are prety good looking men but the most of them are prety hard looking customers the officers some of them are firstrate smart looking men they are getting so many here that they had to send for more troops for the old Colonel is afraid they will make an attact some night there aint only about 4 hundred nigers here they have to stand guard about every 2 days it keeps them prity busy we do not have to stand over the prisoners I received a letter from Lizzie Brown they were all well when she wrote she said they had not heard from you in along time that must been a great (freshet?) I hope it did not injure Daniel you wanted to know if I got stamps I have had plenty so far I have 8 or 10 now

They are building a fort here and when they it built it is agoing to be a nice fort and a substantial one it is very bad here on our eyes when the sun shines on the account of the sand there is two been to the city that come when I did probably they will get their discharge in a short time I cannot tell how soon we shall leave here but there aint much sighns of it as long as prisoners keep coming

love to all
Charles Eaton

Envelope: April 8, '65

[Note the difference in dates. This was likely the wrong envelope.]

Ship Island April 26th, '65

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I take my pen in hand to write you a few lines to let you know we are on Ship Island yet I got a letter from you this morning and 5 papers I received a letter from Laura also I think the rebs are about played out how does it make the Copperheads feel up there this good nes I expect their faces are prety long you said you received a letter from Uncle Daniel I have not writen to him since I have been here but I must I get a letter from you everytime the mail comes but we do not get any mail once in two or three weeks our mail carryer does not tend to his businefs he is not a going to carry it anymore I think if you could do as well as you spoke of that you would be doing pretty well I am glad you are progrefsing so findly with your singing and hope you will learn a great deal the prisoners here are all agoing to be paroled and then there maybe some chance for us to get away from this place I hope so for it must be very pleasant in the country now for trees are all in bloom now and it would be very pleasant but there is nothing but sand here I believe their is a few blackberrys they are ripe now our last news was rather hard news the death of Abraham Lincoln it is true we have been haveing good luck and every thing was in our favor but this a pretty hard blow I dont know how they will manage the thing Ma we cant tell what Johnson will do wether he will be true or not a good many are getting scurvy but it has not come on me yet it is caused by so much salt meat and grease but I do not eat it at all no meat or grease that will be one thing to help us to get off the Island we get no vegetables if we did there would be no sick thing amongst us

I shall have to close you must excuse such poor writing for my pen aint worth a snap and I have a bad place to write there is some talk that we are going to be paid off before long the money is in the city I send my best love all From your Son Charlie Eaton
write soon and often

Good Bye

Envelope: April 29, '65, New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ship Island May 1st, '65

Dear Parents

It is with much pleasure that I seat myself in my bunk to drop you a few lines we got a mail yesterday and I received one from you and we get another mail today and I got a couple of Cleveland papers I was very glad to hear you were all well you say you have not received a letter in two weeks I write every week and oftener if the mail come any oftener You say they are having a big time over the creek and I should judge by your tell that they was I should like to be their to help make the noise we fired two hundred guns for our fun I am very glad you are getting so well with your springs work and have got a place to pasture the cow and colt I am very glad that things are coming down once more You say Henry Adams has been home was he sick the cause of it I hope you will receive my letters more regular for I write every week there was big boat come here Saturday with commissary goods it was such a large boat that it could not land there was another here for prisoners so we had (?) to that one and fetch them ashore we worked from early Sunday morning till after dark they are both very large boats and are going to take the rest of the rebel prisoners that are here they are all going to be paroled they have all come down to the wharf to load on there maybe some chance for us to get away from here now we mustered today for eight months pay the troops in the city have all been paid off the pay master is expected here this week and then maybe Il get a little money once more I have not had since I have been in the service I do not know how it will seem to get a little money once more I expect we will get six months pay and one enstallment of bounty it will be over a hundred dollars I shall send part of it home if I can over to the city by an honest man but I would not send it by the mail carryer that is carrying now for he cannot be trusted

I must close now for the mail is going out in a few minutes and I want it should go now

So Good Bye
from your son
Charles Eaton

Envelope: May 4, '65, New Orleans, La
Dr. H. Eaton,

May 4th, 1865

Dear Cousin

I recieved your Dear good letter and was very glad to hear from you
My Mother was at Port Huron today and the news are now that the
soldiers will be discharged before long (that is the most of them) I
hope it is so

If you are ordered to go to Vicksburg you will be so much nearer home

I had a letter from Aunty the other day with her Photograph in it
Oh it is so natural it looks as if it could almost talk to me

Well Charley how do you enjoy yourself nowadays Well I hope

I am attending store this summer for my enjoyment but is rather
lonesome there as it is a by place here some days I take in thirty
dollars and sometimes more but it is lonesome for all that

You have not been in any battles yet have you and I hope you will
never be in one

Do you think the war will end before long I believe the people
generally thinks that the war will end before long

The loosing of our Noble President was a hard blow to the Government

Charley write often and soon send me your Photograph or picture of
some kind

Good night Charlie

Your Cousin
Lizzie Brown
smith Creek, Mich.

Envelope: Smith Creek, Mich, May 6
Charles Eaton, New Orleans

Ashtabula May 7th, 1865

Dear Charles

I seat myself to inform you that we are well except the children have had colds and almost down sick but I hope these lines will find you enjoying good health

The weather here is rather cold and raw yesterday it rained hard the most of the day but today the sun shines and it is quite pleasant vegetation is a getting a start here wheat never gave a better prospect of a heavy crop at this season of the year than it does generally through this county the prospects for fruit is good spring wheat and oats are a coming up finely corn and potatoes planting will be rather late this season Navigation is about to commence on the lakes The R.R. does a heavy businefs this spring Wormington is a putting up a heavy brick block for stores and a tavern-thare is strong talk of extending the piers at the harbour into the lake so as to admit all boats and sail to call on Ashtabula The copperheads and sympathizers have pretty mutch all turned union - outside - but their insides is filled with envy and malice and hatred to almost over flowing but as cowardice is their ruling passion they dose not give vent to their feelings the man of oildom are a coming up here to purchase them homstedes Mr. Southwick in Saybrook sold his 44 acres for \$8900 I understand that Mr. Russell has sold his Brick house to one of them his house was the first brick building on the plank road after turning from main street to go to the Depot Dicks old store and Read heads old shoe shop are taken onto the back streets thare will be no use of my mentioning the sad fate of the President and secretary as you will have heard of it long before this reaches you It is all right that Lincoln was killed by his opponents for it has served to unite the north they have always ben dillatory about uniting and being determined in the expulsion of the enimies of our government but that act has made them a unit that act has sealed their fate America has become aroused now to their duty they have already ferreted out all of the leading conspirators and got them secure and they will git nearly evry man that was concerned in it and that will comprise two thirds of the men that voted for McCleland they are all linked together all determined to put down our Republic by any means that they can devise they are each and every one guilty of the death of the President and assasination of the Secretary they have either contributed money influence or votes to bring this thing about If a man Countenances and upholds a thief a liar a murderer or a traitor he is in a measure Guilty of the acts they commit

Consequently thare is no dodging it former politics died with Lincoln Consequently it will be hence after Loyalist or traitor the dividing line is drawn in the first place they intended to distroy our Government and surplant

slavery in its stead but they hung themselves on their own galows in the next place they intended to assassinate our government and plant theirs upon its ruins and in the undertaking they have lost their identity and spilt their own hearts blood they have concorted and matured their own distruction and well may we laugh at their calamity they have paved the way for ther own distruction their wisdom is turned into folly and their secret doings are proclaimed upon the housetops

I will send you yesterdays leader that will give the plot of the conspirators and their intended escape I will also send you the Herrald and Telegraph and dollar times they will all furnish you with good reading I think you can come home in five or six weeks

I have a great deal of work to do here I have not planted my corn nor potatoes only for garden purposes I think if you come home that I shall take out a licence and go to practicing I can clear my \$100 dollars per month if I can stand it to ride and you can get the wood and that will be about as mutch as you will want to do this summer after being out of practice so long your Mother and minia has gone to meeting and I must close and go to getting supper or starve all send our best wishes

I remain yours truly
H. Eaton

A boy accidentally shot himself yesterday your Mother has been down this evening to see him they think he cant live through the night the charge went through his left hand and wrist and through his right sholder. He lives at Albert Harmonds Albert and Bush brock Sweets wives are down on a visit Rush is in the army

H. Eaton

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., May 10
Charles Eaton, Ship Island, New Orleans

Ship Island May 28th, 1865

Dear Parents

I received your letter of the 7th was glad to hear that you was all well I do not feel very smart today but I think that I will be all right in the morning we have a good deal of duty to do now but they say that the papers come today to muster out all men that there time was out in the first of Sept. I should like it first rate if I could get home now if you could do so well we have just got in to our new barracks now and I should not wonder at all if we should have to leave them soon the same as we did at the city I think that we will get payed off before a great while the troops around the city have been payed from six to eight months pay

I am glad that there is a good prospect for a good lot of fruit this year I will get home in time to devour a small quantity of apples and peaches I will close by wishing you all good luck

Give my love to all

This from your son
Charles Eaton

Write soon

Envelope: June 2, '65, New Orleans, La.
Dr. H. Eaton

Ship Island
Mifs May 28th, 1865

Dear Amelia

I take the present opportunity of writing a few lines to you hoping they will find you well and also the rest of the family Amelia I should not of written to you so soon if I had not thought it my duty to do so So by permission I will tell you all Charles Eaton is sick he has been sick for a long time I have asked him several times to let me write to his parents but he would not give his consent untill yesterday I told him I was going to write to you and he told me to say that he was not very well I think he has got the Consumption and I wish he could get his discharge so that he could get home where he has kind friends to car for him he is a good and kind Boy and I do not like to see him lay hear in the Hospital and suffer through this long summer in this warm climate I think he will soon get his discharge if they discharging troops that their time is out this fall Charles did not want I should write that he was verry sick but I will say that he is not fit for the service and the sooner he gets home the better it will be for him

I think the most of the soldiers will be home this fall for the war is over There are no news of any Importance to write

Amelia if Charles should get worse than he is now I will write again I will close by asking you to write soon I remain your fine friend

Yours with Respects

Sgt Justus F. Brumbly

Addrefs Care 2nd Inf. Ohio Battery
New Orleans, La.
Respects to all Goodby
Jst.

Envelope: New Orleans, La., June 2, 1865
Miss Amelia M. Sweet, Ashtabula, Ashtabula Co., Ohio

Ashtabula June 4th 1865

Dear Charles

We received a letter from you dated May 1st I have deferred writing until now thinking you would leave there and would not be likely to get it but I was down to Kingsville Station called on the Widow Fobes she had received a letter from her boy dated the 17th of May and was on the Island yet so I concluded to write you again to let you know how we get along up here the rain storm got through with early in the second week in May and we have had no rain since we have had a very wet cold backward spring here but wheat never looked better grass is better than last season Spring wheat and oats are no more than midling corn rather backward my early potatoes got cut down with frost but they came again and I have hold them the second time my corn is up and will want hoeing soon

The bugs and worms have dismayed my cucumbers watermelons and muskmellons and I planted them over this morning but it is too late to expect mellons The cow came in a week ago yesterday but the old mare wont come in this year - The colt is a doing finely he has shed his old coat and is as sleek as a mole the soldiers are a flocking home here every day and we expect you soon as there appears to be no more call for fighting and the hanging can be dispensed with with fewer hands we heard here that your battery was disbanded early in May and supposed it to be so until recently I think now that you will leave before this reaches you I have expected that when you left the Island you would write and we have been anxiously awaiting a letter but it does not come I think it cant be otherwise than you will be dismissed before your time expires Your Mother is a making bonnetts and I am a grunting I cant do more than three hours work from Sun to Sun

Armenia has a verry hard cold and Eddie is rather miserable the weather is so dry that I fear that my carrots will not come up until it rains the turnips appear to be a coming but slowly my onions are my crop so far they look nice Armenia and Eddie have peas in the (blau)

I am expecting you home soon and I will tell you the rest So I will close by subscribing my

Self Your Father

Dear Charles

It has been along time we have herd from you and along time since we have writin to you but the reason is that we have been looking for you to leave there and thinking that you would write to us when you left there I have been over anxious to here from you and Battery have been in hopes that

you would been at home before this time and now hope that you will be here to spend the fourth with us be carefull when you get your money that it is not taken from you on your way home I want you should get you a farm so that what you and your father dose will be your own and your father wont have to work so hard I begin to think that our best days are a coming if you live to get home which I think you will if nothing happens Write and let us know when you will be here and I will have some pancakes I talk some of going to Rochester on a visit but cannot tell write soon goodbye
your Mother

if you have not left bring home a few oringes

Envelope: Ashtabula, O., June 5
Charles Eaton, New Orleans

Ship Island
Miss June 17th 1865

Dear Father and Mother

I have long neglected writing to you for this reason I have ben sick and in the Post Hospital and I did not wish to let you know that I was sick for fear that you would worry about me but I have come to the conclusion to write and let you know how I am getting along and I wish that I had of written to you before this I have ben in the Hospital for five week now and I do not get any better I am in hopes to get away from hear soon for it is not the best of place for one to be sick Captain Beach has just gone for to get propor papers for the purpose of mustering out the one years-men and those that enlisted in 1862 and I expect we will be mustered out before the last of June the Doctor has sent in my papers for my Discharge but I think that I will be Discharged by General Order before the papers return Father and Mother you need not write to me for I probably will be on my way home before your letter will get down hear this from your affectionate Son .

Charles Eaton

My Dear Friend Mrs. Eaton

Your son has ben sick for a long time I have watched him closely and cared for him like a Brother for I knew he was young and needed a friend and I have ben one to him I have a long time tryed to have him let me write to you but he would not untill now i have written to Mifs Amelia Sweet about his being sick I suppose she has told you if there should be any change in Charles I will write and let you know as a friend I would be glad to hear from you Adieu

Your Respectfully

Q.M.Sergeant Justus F. Brumbly
2nd Indfit Ohio Battery
New Orleans, La.

Envelope: June 20,1865, New Orleans
Dr. H. Eaton

Ship Island
Mifsissippi June 23rd, 1865

Dr. H. Eaton

Dear Sir

As a friend to yourself and family I will write a few lines in regard to your Boy, Charles Eaton He is quite low in health I think he has the consumption in it's worst stages he is still in the Post Hospital here on the Island His Discharge has come and we was at work all day yesterday making out his papers and final statements he will go to the city of New Orleans upon the first boat that Lands here Captain Beach will send a good responsible man to the city with him for the Purpose of getting him into a Private dwelling of a good family where he will have good care taken of him untill he is able to go up the river to Ohio.

The one year men will be Discharged before the first of July then they will take charge of Charles and bring him home If I have an opportunity I will write again.

Yours with Kind Regards

Adrefs: Justus F. Brumbly
Q.M.Sergeant
2nd Infit. Ohio Battery
New Orleans, La.

Envelope: New Orleans, La, June 26, '65
Dr. H. Eaton, Ashtabula

Justus

Galeville, La
July 4, 1865

Dear Sir Mr. Eaton ;

I thought that i would write you a few lines to let you no the news the news is very heard i will form you of your Son Charley Eaton death he was letle ways from me he was to Mr. Yeards and he had the best of care and was bared in the dist (best) of care they was lots of foax thir to his funal It was as nice a funel as they ever was in the wearld and he had a nice cofen and he was bared by the side of Mr. Yeards father where they could see to it for they thought as much of him as if he was thire son he was discharged from the surveys and when he did get it they was no hops of his livin becos he had to have sombody to help him and so they that that he had beter go thir be cos mrs yearde did take lots of the boys to her house and she did care them but he was to fur gon to save and when Mr. Tomson brote him thir they sent to the city for the best doctor that they was in the city and he sad that he would hot licke and he did not live long but he had the best of care tuck as much care of him as if he was thir boy before he dide he was vary well and then they thote that he was goin to liv it did not last but a litle while and then he did go fast when he began to go (woen a Way?) in a litle while he did try to say something just before he dide he dide with the consumption then when he dide mr yearde did take his mony and he is goin to exprefs one hundred and tin dolars that was what that they was left after paing his expens he had to pay the doctor and then pay for his cofin and he wasent cape the first sent he will write to you when he sens the mony to you

Charles Eton lent to Mr. Tomson 70 dolers he will send it to you he kolected to hundred and 78 dolers when he was discharge from the surves will see that his close is sent home and see that his mony is exprest to you so when i come home i will tell you all about his dath of your son
Charles Eton

i must close it is gitin dark so i will send you my best respets to you you most exkueze me for writin so poor hand this leter is from
Alfred Fobes

I would till you where to direct to me the batry is goin home

Envelope: July 6, '65, New Orleans, La
Return address- Sanitary Commission Soldier's Letter
Mr. Dr. Eaton, Ashtabula County, O.

[I tried to find "Galeville, La" on Google maps and it came back with "Garyville, LA" which is located about 25 miles west of New Orleans. Garyville is not an official city or parish, but is a US Census Designated Place (CDP). Given my ancestor's awesome spelling ability, I suspect that Garyville was the true location. - DH]

New Orleans La
July 11th 1865

Dr. H. Eaton Dear Sir

The bad news which I am about to write to you, paines me verry much
Your Son Charles, was sent from Ship Island Some three weeks ago he
was Discharged, Mr. Thompson, a friend of mine brought him to the
city and took him to a Private house to be cared for untill he would
get Strength Sufficiant to go home, but he was to far gone, he only
lived some three or four days after arriving at the city, I have not
learned the Particulars of his death since I have ben hear I have
heard that the People he Stayed with while he was hear, have sent
his money and clothing home to you, I have not had time to go and see
them since I have ben hear but I will see them and get all the
Information in regard to him that I can,

Your with Respects

Justus F. Brumbly

Envelope: New Orleans
Dr. H. Eaton, Ashtabula, O.

[I couldn't read the date on the envelope]

New Orleans
Nov. 25th, 1865
Horace Eaton Esq. .

Dear Sir

Your letter - ? August 26th I have received and it is the only letter I got since I wrote you in July last I get it about 14 days ago I had called very often at the Post Office very often but was disappointed in getting a letter from you, at last I called at the express office and got the letter with your sun portrait- they told me it had been in the office for some time, it was not deterred to me I expect the cause was as I lived out of the Parish of Orleans it was not delivered to me. I concluded I would not send the Satchel and contents until I heard from you thinking as you had not received my letter in remorse I now send the satchel and contents by Adams (Liffness?) this day. My wife was very much affected by reading your letter and seeing the portrait of your son which caused her to shed tears as she had become very much attached to him the short time he was with us. It is the custom in the south to dress the graves of departed friends and relatives in the first day of November which is all Saints Day and Poor Charley's grave was not forgotten the grafs was nicely cleaned off and drefsed with wreaths and flowers. Your son died very easy and without a struggle I asked him if he had anything to say as I intend writing to his parents he gave me no answer Just before he died he was praying which showed that he was ready to meet his God in Heaven, he had all the attention possible that could be rendered to a human living. I see by your letter that Wm. Burrill told he had handed me \$20.00 to me he is mistaken he handed my wife a ten dollar bill in the presence of Wm. Carl Foster to my wife who was at my house at the time and who was a member of the 2nd Ohio Battery it is very strange in Wm. Burrell saying he handed \$20.00 instead saying he handed \$10.00.

Very Respectfully
Your Friend
Henry M. Yard

No Envelope

**INDEX OF
POLITICIANS AND MILITARY LEADERS**

NAME	PAGE
Brown, John	59
Burigard	94
Burnside, General	84
Butler	66
Chase, Mr.	60
Dahlgreen	55
Davis, Garsett	55
Davis, Jefferson	94, 102
Farrigat	52, 94
Garfield, General	21
Grant, General	4, 8, 40, 52, 55, 64, 65, 89, 92, 94
Hood, General	52, 55, 66, 68, 76
Johnson	28, 94, 103
Kilpatrick	81
Lee, Gen.	52, 94, 96, 100, 102
Lincoln, Abe (old abe)	4, 10, 11, 13, 15, 18, 19, 22, 23, 27, 28, 31, 54, 56, 59, 66, 86, 103, 106
Porter	66
Price	23
Sheridan	4, 5, 89, 92, 94, 96
Sherman	4, 5, 18, 21, 33, 52, 54, 55, 59 61, 62, 64, 65, 66, 68, 76, 81, 86, 89, 92, 94
Thompson	52, 55, 66, 76, 94
Weldon	55

GENERAL INDEX

NAME	PAGE
A	
Adams	116
Adams, Armenia	72-74
Adams, Henry	85, 90, 99, 101, 104
Adams, Mr.	78
Admas, Mrs.	88, 99
Adaline (Eaton)	15, 22, 60, 66, 74, 76, 78
Amory, Unckle (Uncle)	56
Amasa, Unckle (Uncle)	5, 14, 68, 79, 81
Ally	95, 98
Armsder, Barny (Jet)	37
Atwater, Chauncy	56, 95
B	
Bars, Barney	94
Beach, Capt.	27, 112, 113
Bidwell, Mrs.	61
Blakesley, Billy	79
Bracks ?, Ed	90
Brewster, Mr.	58, 72
Brookses, Deacon	95
Brown	98
Brown, Aunt	37
Brown Family	86
Brown, Lizzie	15, 22, 24, 42, 46, 51, 62, 63, 64, 71, 78. 102, 105
Brown, Lucie Aunt	57
Brown, Wade	90
Brumly, Jesse	51
Brumly, Justus, Sgt.	64, 109, 112, 113, 115
Brumley, Marion	37, 41, 47, 57, 59, 60, 61, 66
Buel, miss	72
Burrell, Capt.	29
Burrell, Charley	2, 4, 12, 13. 14, 15, 18, 23, 24, 33, 34, 37, 43, 51, 57, 75. 84, 91
Burrell, Mr.	51, 57
Burrell, Mrs.	37, 41
Burrell, William	116
C	
Carl	10, 26
Castle, Lisa	19
Castle, Mrs.	
Castle, Warren	1, 7, 14, 15, 19, 21, 22, 23, 26, 31, 41, 47, 51, 54, 56, 57, 62 64, 68, 70, 79, 90

Castle, Kate(Cate)	14, 19, 23, 47, 56-68-79
Chauncy (Atwater)	95
Comp, David	89
Crumb, Mr.	95

D

Daniels, Steeve (Steve)	60
Darius	21, 82
Dick	106
Dibble, Charles	11
Dibble Place	14, 18, 30, 41, 90
Dibble, Mr.	30
Dibble, Mrs.	41
Dodd, Mr.	11
Dorn, Sullivan Uncle	49, 64

E

Eaton, Adaline	15, 22, 60, 66, 74, 76, 78
Eaton, Henry	29, 74, 78, 79, 81, 90, 91, 95 99
Eaton, Jane	95
Eaton, Roswell	29, 79, 95
Eliga	57
Elizabeth	38, 57, 60, 70
Ellen	60, 61
Emeline	4, 8, 10, 11, 13, 18, 24, 51, 60, 64 73, 82
Eatone, Lieut.	39, 92

F

Fobes, Alfred	114
Fobes, Widow	110
Foster, Wm. Carl	116
Fowler, Osker (Oscer)	56, 68

G

George, Eldad	95
Gillett	37, 46
Glasons, John	37

H

Hammond, John E.	90
Harmond, Albert	107
Harmond, Frank	21, 31, 56
Harper, Lieut.	31, 39
Haskel,	60, 79, 90
Haynes, Girls	51

Hendry, Alf	95
Hendry, Mr.	86, 90
Hendry, Widow	90
Henry	51, 79, 88
Hubbard, Dr. John	28, 39
Huntley, Phebe	14, 24

J

Johnson, Mr.	56
Jonathan (Rood)	73

K

Kellogg, A.	93
Kellogg Family	21
Kellogg, Mrs.	81, 82

L

Landon, Mrs.	11, 18
Loomis, Laura C.	93, 103
Luce, Mr.	56, 57, 61, 70, 73, 98

M

Malissa	60, 61, 66, 67
March, Mrs.	90
Markham, Eliza (Marcum, Liga)	57, 79
Matson, Mr.	11
Morton, Elder	19
Moses, Charley	13
Moses, Mr.	51
Mc Adams, Flin	43
Mc Adams, Job	19
Mc Adams, Joseph	43, 96
Mc Cleland (McIelen)	31, 54 106

N

Nat	19, 61
Newell Family	66
Newell, Stephen	61, 76

P

Parker, Horace	21
Patten, Charles	28, 39
Phelps	21
Phelps, Marcus	96
Philice	95

R

R?, Aunt	82
Rachael Read	81, 106
Reed, Editor	28
Rice	60
Robertson, Mr.	100
Rood, Edwin	14, 24, 51, 54, 73
Roods Family	78
Rood, Henry	64, 73
Rosa (Roas), Aunt	4, 51, 64
Rush	107
Russell, Mr.	106

S

Sackett, Daniel Uncle	4, 8, 10, 11, 17, 18, 26, 33, 35, 44, 49, 51, 57
Sackett Famly	64, 66, 70 72, 82, 85 86, 98, 102 103 90
Sackett, Mary Aunt	49, 50, 57, 64, 70
Sackett, Minnie	49, 50
Sackett, Willie	49, 50
Salen, Lewis	95
Sarah	95
Shears	5, 10
Sloan, Miss	5
Sloan, Mrs.	47, 62
Smith, Mr.	11, 83, 88. 92, 95
Smith, Mrs.	78, 89, 98
Smith, Robert	79, 82
Smith, Timothy	74
Southwick, Mr.	106
Staunton	95
Stephens, Betsy	82
Stephens, Mr .	74
Strong, Mr.	94
Sweet, Amelia M.	29, 51, 109, 112
Sweet, Bock	107
Sweet, Bush	107
Sweet, Chsrles	21, 95
Sweet, Deb,	21, 81
Sweet Family	61
Sweet, Harry	57, 61, 76, 79, 82, 88
Sweet, Henry	30
Sweet, Isaac	82, 101

Sweet, Jesse	11-18-28 39-56-73
Sweet, Mrs.	41
Sweet, Widow	8, 60
Sweet, Willard Uncle	85

T

Taft, Irwin	95
Tagget (Taggot)	21, 47, 82
Tallmadge, Mr.	54, 66, 81
Taylor, Charles	30
Thompson, Mr. (Tomson)	114, 115

U

Ufford, Horace (Upherd)	19, 21, 26
Ufford, Nathaniel	79, 82

V

VanSlyke, David	90
-----------------	----

W

Watson, Mr.	95
Webster, Dr.	82
West, Charles	79
West, William (Bill)	11, 79, 88, 95
Whaples, Tom	51
Whitmans, Mrs.	72
Whitton	21
Wilkinson	2
Wilkinson, R.H.E. (may be Elizabeth or Emeline)	58
Willard, George	90, 95
William, Uncle	49
William	85
William, Wilder	21
Wintropes, Unckle (Uncle)	81
Wormington	106

Y

Yard, Mr. Henry (Yeards)	114, 116
Yard, Mrs.	114, 116

GLOSSARY OF NOTABLE CHARACTERS AND TERMS

Brown, John

Born May 9, 1800, was an abolitionist who was hanged December 2, 1859. He was captured, tried, and executed by the Commonwealth of Virginia for a raid and incitement of a slave rebellion at Harpers Ferry, Virginia.

Brown, Mary Elizabeth

Also know as Lizzy Brown, was Born Nov 27, 1849 in Jefferson, Ashtabula, Ohio and died Jul 5, 1917 in Kimball Township, St. Clair, Michigan. She was Charles' adoptive cousin. Her mother was Lucy Sackett who was Hannah's sister. Her father was Parker Morrel Brown. She had 2 children by her first husband, Diogenes John Mallory.

Burrell, Charley

He was a friend of Charles Eaton and enlisted simultaneously. They served together. His father was a captain of a boat on the Great Lakes.

Butler, Major General Benjamin F.

Born on November 5, 1818 and died on January 11, 1893. He had the distinction of being the most disliked General of the Civil War on both sides. He oversaw the construction of the Dutch Gap Canal, known as Butler's Canal, which created a shortcut for Union ships on the James River, in Virginia, bypassing a bend controlled by Confederate batteries.

Castle, Warren

He was another friend of Charles Eaton who stayed home and married a girl named Cate (Kate?).

Consumption

An early synonym for tuberculosis (TB). It is a bacterial infection that primarily affects the lungs. It was a major cause of death and illness in the 19th and early 20th centuries, earning it the nickname "the Great White Plague." During the Civil War, disease was the primary cause of death, with roughly two-thirds of all fatalities attributed to illness rather than battle wounds.

Copperheads

The term "Copperheads" referred to Northern Democrats who opposed the war and advocated for a peaceful resolution with the Confederacy. They were also known as Peace Democrats. Primarily located in the Midwest, they believed the war was unconstitutional and violated states' rights. Copperheads strongly opposed the war effort and President Lincoln's policies, including conscription and the Emancipation Proclamation. They favored a negotiated peace settlement with the Confederacy, even if it meant accepting the continuation of slavery and the division of the nation. The Copperhead movement largely dissolved after the Union victory and Lincoln's assassination.

Eaton, Abigail Orsaville

Born on May 5, 1849 in Ohio to Hannah Eaton and died August 10, 1853 when she was only 4 years old. She was the first child of Hannah Eaton that was born alive.

Eaton, Armenia D

Also known as Minnie and Minia, was born March 21, 1853 in Ohio to Hannah Eaton and died April 27, 1918 in North Kingsville, Ashtabula, Ohio. Armenia was Charles' adoptive sister. Her older sister, Abigail, died when Armenia was less than one year old. She went on to marry Avery A. Hawkins. She is the Grandmother of Mary A. Hawkins and Great Grandmother of Dennis Jay Hawkins.

Eaton, Charles C.

Born Charles C. Loomis on May 13, 1846 in Jefferson, Ashtabula, Ohio and died on July 1, 1865 in New Orleans, Orleans, Louisiana. His birth parents were Abiram Loomis and Sarah Ackerman. His mother died during childbirth. Dr. Horace Eaton was her attending physician. Charles was then adopted by Dr. Eaton and his wife who had given birth to a still born boy about 9 days earlier on May 4, 1846. The details of the adoption are few. Charles had a sister, Laura, from his birth parents. His birth father lived in the same town and died when Charles was 18. Note that some records incorrectly state that Charles was born April 13, but it would be difficult for his mother to die during childbirth when he was a month old.

Eaton, Edwin W

Born December 25, 1858 in Ohio to Hannah Eaton and died November 17, 1914 in Sheffield Township, Ashtabula, Ohio. He was Charles' adoptive little brother and Armenia Eaton was his big sister. Edwin had two wives, but no children.

Eaton, Hannah B (Sackett)

Born July 6, 1818 in New York, United States and died on January 22, 1906. She married Horace Eaton in 1842. In 1843 she gave birth to a still born baby boy and another on May 4, 1846. Later in 1849 she gave birth to Abigail Orasville Eaton, in 1853 to Armenia (Minnie) D. Eaton, and finally in 1858, to Edwin W. Eaton.

Eaton, Dr Horace

Born on Apr 13, 1796 in Ashford, Windham, Connecticut and died on February 15, 1872 in Sheffield Township, Ashtabula, Ohio. Horace was first married to Lydia Rogers. They had 4 children. Lydia died in 1839. Horace (age 45) then married Hannah B Sackett (age 23) in 1842. They had 5 more children, but only 3 live births.

Emeline

Also, Eveline and Emiline. This appears to be a young woman with at least two small girls that were staying with the Eatons. There doesn't seem to be any direct relationship. Her husband and last name are never mentioned. There is a reference to cutting down trees in her pasture which indicates that she probably owns land nearby. The 1860 and 1870 census does not show anyone living with the Eatons. She may have been Emmeline (Stevens) Wilkenson, b.1812 d.1876, a neighbor who's husband died in 1858 and who had a daughter.

Loomis, Laura

Born in 1843 to Abiram Loomis and Sarah Ackerman. She was Charles Loomis' biological sister. Both she and Charles stayed in contact. Both were aware that Charles was adopted.

Pattan, Charles

A local man from from Sheffield, OH who was one of several union conspirators who were caught trying to burn Chicago and free the Confederate prisoners being held at Camp Douglas near Chicago.

Sackett, Daniel Eaton

Born August 5, 1831 in New York and died June 20, 1909. He was Hannah Eaton's little brother and known to her kids as Uncle Daniel.

Secesh

"Secesh" is a term used during the American Civil War to refer to a secessionist, or a supporter of the Confederacy. It was an informal and often derogatory term used by Union soldiers and civilians loyal to the Union.

Sherman, General William Tecumseh

Born on February 8, 1820 in Lancaster, Ohio and died on February 14, 1891 in New York, NY. He was a prominent Union general during the American Civil War. He used scorched earth tactics that left much of the South in ruins.