On board the Continental
lying at Kilkins Bridge near
Pan 8th /63

Dear Parents,

It has been quite a while since I have written to you. I have to say that all those that have any mail to send can send the day at 4 P.M. So I thought it would take the opportunity to write and to hear anything from home since I left Helena. I fear you have heard nothing from us since.

Well my kind Parents! I have been in another fight and came out without a scratch, thank God! One week ago to day our Co. (A) had a fight with the Rebels. We had quite a hot time for a while but we drove them into their breast works. They threw a few shells from the breast works but we being under cover of a piece of timber they did us no damage. I believe I had better commence now at the beginning.

We came down the river from Helena as far as the Mouth of the Yazoo River. We did not have any trouble so far. Took up the Yazoo R. & landed at Sidney Johnson's Farm the day after Christmas there we lay over night & the next morning we were ordered on board again & started further up the Yazoo R.
After going about 500 miles further up the river, we were then supposed to be about 5 miles North of Richborough. There we were ordered to camp with 2 days rations and no baggage. Our baggage was all left on the boats. We went, we had to form our line of battle in a large cotton field standing as high as our heads. After forming our line of battle, two companies were sent out as skirmishers. After skirmishing an hour or two they retired. Then Co. A was sent out. Supported by Co. F, they passed out of the field and entered a hilly timbered valley along a piece of ground on which ran a brook or a small creek. After skirmishing in timber about a mile, we came to side of a hot post of Rebels. Probably about 700 strong after advancing within shooting distance, we fired on them. They returned the fire very briskly for a while but soon made the place too hot for them. We followed them up and till the regiments threw shells at us. So we thought it better to withdraw. We did not get something that would through shell too. There was sound of artillery which brought forward & gave them a few, it was then getting very light, & we had pickets put out & lay quietly for the night. & must tell you how our boys. That is my Company.
Although the balls came among them pretty thick, yet there was not known that eflinched, except who it required to dodge the balls, I had to dodge myself. Several times to keep clear of them, none of the boys were hurt, one of them had his pants cut.

The next morning (Saturday) there was a heavy fire was opened on the right wing, we being on the left, about sunrise our artillery gave them a round which was answered with shell. We could do nothing with them with the infantry. They were fortified on the side of a hill (we were ready) and boyzettas fired at one time to charge up the hill onto their breastwork, but as we were rushing the order wascountermanded, all this time they were shelling us, none of our Co. was touched except Joe Kilgore, who was struck with a ball on the hip, not hitting him far, but glancing along his thigh and thigh running his leg for some time. He is over it now however. One of Co. B was killed by a sharp shot, his Co. being sent out that day as sharp shooters on our left, several of our Regiment was wounded that day, all day the Division on our right kept up a heavy fire that was perpetual (Division) (We being in Steel's Div.)
Do not know much about the arrangement. Now we are lying on the Miss. above the mouth of the Yazoo. Since commencing I wrote
stand there has a mail come in for us if I get a letter + have time to write with this I may write more. I have not time now to write you any more forthinst.

Yours son
David

Direct to
Col. A. J. Pinchus
Via Cairo

Oct. 6th. I just recd a letter from
you dated 22 Oct. 22 was glad to hear of
your welfare.
January, 1863

25th Iowa - Sherman's Yazoo expedition (see Dec 1862) 2nd Brig. 4th Div. - became Z Brigade, 1st Div. 15th Corps Army Tennessee to December, 1863)

1-1-63 - Emancipation Proclamation issued (100 days expired)

1-3-63 Letter from Continental-Milliken's Bend.

1-2-63 end of Murfreesboro Rosecrans defeated Bragg.

1-3-63 (from 12-20-62) Sherman's Yazoo Expedition 25th Iowa

3rd to 10th - Expedition to Arkansas Post, Ark 25th Iowa

10th - 11th - Fort Hindman, Arkansas Post 25th Iowa

1-11-63 Col slightly wounded in left foot

1-14-63 - Wallerston on Emancipation Prov.

1-23-63 25th Iowa moved to Young's Point, La on duty until April