Birmingham, November the 1st, 1861

Dear son Alphon,

We have just received your of the 21st which we were glad to hear that you were well and well satisfied. We also are all in good health hoping that these may find you in the same blissful state that you have not received no letters from us the must have been a misunderstanding of your James have written 2" and I one which I am sorry that you have not received now I want to you in regard of our work and how we was getting along the air getting along very well we have our work principally done. We expect to finish the corn asking to move that is the standing corn we have the crib and the smoke house all and we have the old grand to gather yet do your duty at all times stand like a man - always be in good cheer and always never regret that you have undertaking make yourself useful as far as you can improve your talent in your young days. Stouts boy is clean 14th Colbert son got heart under a low log got is ribs and breast bone broke it is expected that he will get well. Toms is soon hunting to night. I send en vous embrassant de coeur et de affection restant pour vous lire ton devoue.

Pere et mer et soeurs et amis.

Charles Gionve
Dear Beth,

I am well I haven't been doing much of anything this fall but gathering hickory nuts and walnuts and riding the horses. I have been to two apple cuttings. To Rich Rounds and I wish that had been here to West 10.

The singing broke up last Friday night.

So Waby has been teaching it for a while and so many bunch come that we had to break it up. We are thinking of having the singing at private houses I expect some basis will head our school this winter we feel very handsome without your lot we expect that town will soon be over and you will get to come home. The girls are going to write to you soon. I will come alone New year and we will have a turkey dinner.

Please excuse this long letter.

So no more at present

But remain your affectionate

Ellen Rounds

So good night

East Love
Dear Mother,

I have just received your letter with the envelope and was very glad to hear from you. Although it was much to my surprise that you should complain of the shortness of time I have written what I thought would be of the most interest to you. By the way, I sent you a letter already, but you told me what you have just received. I will tell you what I have received.

The first 3 months I did nothing at all from you. The 1st breach was your letter of Dec 20 and that was all that came at that time. I think I read your letter Jan 23. The next time was the General of the Constitution when I read your copy, with a line enclosed, the name was at once of one of the Ten Points a few days after your letter.
So many a time advice with a Written mail, since that the San Brant had our mail was a show. Such was the contradictory reports then all we do not know anything about it till the letters are placed in our hands. What I have received states there of hand, for 2 or a letter from Col. Warren. I am not 9:11 W.P. Feb 21 W. L the beauty. Feb 3rd. Exclaim and your joy and contenlate with light. And to day I got one from you and another from Mrs. Longson. Street some papers from Mrs. Warren, all I have read from you since in your lastly. Some of the letters have write have been from. Although I have time to write I have nothing to write about this present, we are about home from the stock and no not give it chance to know why what I do and thus is limited to. I see that you know but little of what they rule. our business is to pray and not to talk, we can talk with friends.
The officers want us to relate our business, and show but little inclination to have much to do with anybody beneath their rank. Even Geo. Fisher, a man does not show much disposition to talk much. He is pleasant, gentlemanly, and courteous, but state is not the same as when we were in the field together. Do you see it? He will not be expected that I should write much. I had personal matters and that correspondent is down to the first and has access to all the officers of the Army. My health is good. We have fresh provision and vegetables. The first potatoes that I have had since I left Lowell. Saw a few leg for which I bought yesterday. I had to pay for it, and that is the only vegetable that we have now. If you wish to know how I spent my time. We rise just before sunrise, breakfast at any time from 7 to 9. Play with the men to a line at 8 for Company drill. Guard mounting at 9 every other morning.
which takes from 12 to 2 if an hour.

play the regiment on a line again. At 10
for battalion aside. and move around
within them in the rear till 12 go to quarters
and have until 2 1/2 for dinner and
to wash face or anything else that you can
do in that time. Which is but little. We
cannot go away out of hearing. At 2 1/2
play the regiment on a line again. Dress
Parade. etc. and battalion or brigade
drill until 1/2 hour of sundown.
have supper and do anything that we like
until 9 when we have to play for one
hour for the pleasure of the officers.
At 9 make beds and "lights out at 9 1/2"
in stormy weather. We do nothing for
an hour around and keep as dry as we can.
as our tents are much了过来 and
are rotting fast. We get wet in rainy
weather. What short time we get. we
spend in getting wood (which is no
small matter). There are some
things that I do not care to write
about but will tell you when I get
home. about the Band, and shiftness
of some officers. Brooks too.
Tomorrow is Washington birth day
and is to be a holiday. Salutes and
process will be the order of the day.
I wish to say one thing and that is
that as far as my letters concern with
others I write to you much oftener than
two of the others write to their homes
and as far as Foote concerned write
they write you 3 to his one. The same
time when told me that he was done
writing home for to he had exhausted
the subject. Yesterday a rich prize was
brought in here $200,000 named the
Magnolia from New Orleans loaded
with cotton to the value of $1 100,000
This morning the New London Schooner
brought in 11 fishing smacks
captured the night before much mis-
fortunet was caused, many called if
the tail end of Boston's expedition they
came in in single file
The men here will be much disappointed to hear that Butler has yet the best of Gov. Andrew. We yesterday heard of another victory in Kentucky at which our forces took 18,000 prisoners. Burdett's Division of Band is an excellent one. Our division is 2 E♭ Cornets, 2 B♭ Cornets, 3 E♭ Alts, one Holo and 2 Harmonies, 2 B♭ Tenors, 2 B♭ Hutes, 4 Baritones, 4 Contrabass, 1 Bass Drum, 2 Side Drums, 1 Pair of Cymbals, 2 Boys, 1 Cork. But it is seldom that we have more than 10 or 15 out and as I said there are some things which render our stay here rather unpleasant. I shall be glad if they send me out of the Service. As regards my playing, I will say that I play my part without the book except 2 pieces and those we do not play but little. Richardson, Davis, Brook and Blanchard are sick and have been for some time.
I read 4 papers today which I have not read from the Dispatch, Tribune and Top of Jan 25 so wonder that we cannot get anything in less than 4 weeks. As far as a glass is concerned as the prospect that we shall be discharged at this spring I think it is best not to send one. Adams Express Co have this week advertised that they will take money and packages to any of the Northern Cities. I should judge by the latter part of your letter that you thought I was incapable of taking care of myself. I do not know how I can prevent so much I can do that I have not done. But I think that you are giving yourself much unnecessary trouble about it. I am sure I have at much desire to live and return home safe and in good health as anyone has for me and shall take all good care that that end may be accomplished as anyone possibly can
The Paymaster (Maj. Watson) of the 10th arrived there this week to see me. He shall be praised in the course of a few days. I sent a letter to you last Tuesday by the Constitution. Mr. Gilpin, a man who formerly worked with me on the Fremont. I do not know which will get there first. This is a very long letter. This time. Considering that I have to be on my knees to write. Dr. Cleaver is landed about to-day, on the island. I have not seen him yet. As I do not think of more to write. I will write tomorrow.

On Feb 22 I learn that there is a little fellow going to Lowell in the steamboat. This is to carry the mail and I avail myself of the opportunity of sending this letter. The day is to be a busy one in general. The mail closes at 10 this A.M. and as I have written all that I think. I am that brake is one dollar per pound. Yours is very than Keep well I wish you all the other things.

I am your brother Alfred.
Camp Mansfield August 21, 1863.

Dear Cousin,

You see by the above that I am at last a soldier. We came into camp yesterday. I enlisted on the 14th. Before which time for a month. I was very busy harvesting. I have 4 letters which have been received more than a month ago and this is the first answer sent by me. I think that time will be plenty more now so that I can write more letters. We are here more than forty in one barrack but I think there will soon be less men and more acquaintances together. Frederick turned out almost in music and I am happy to say that it was among, if not the very first to make up my mind to go. As you have been in camp it is not necessary to tell
you of the card playing swearing, and other vices that abound but I hope that I will never engage in them. There is a very moral set of men from our town. If they can only be got together with me along, I will like it very much. Our company was just examined and only two of the 130 were rejected. The 120th will be here with us in a few days. Of course we know nothing about it but it is thought likely that we will not be here long, some think we will go to Kentucky, others to Washington, Captain, I cannot write any more, you just got caught to hear the voice in here; theistol remarks! I am not used to it yet. Please answer soon. I am always glad to hear from you. If I do not answer promptly at all times I would just say that I always answer your letters first except Mary's. Write for I am always glad to hear from
my favorite cousin
Direct Camp Mansfield Ohio
22nd reg. O V
care capt. Elliot
From
Florin Giangue
To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

Know ye, That having due trust and confidence in the patriotism, valor, fidelity and abilities of

I do hereby appoint him Second Corporal in Company D of the 50th Regiment of Foot Volunteers

in the service of the United States, to rank as such from the 28th day of September, one thousand eight hundred and eighty

He is therefore, carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of

Second Corporal, by doing and performing all manner

of things therein belonging. And I do strictly charge and require all Non Commissioned Officers and Soldiers under his command to

be obedient to his orders as Second Corporal. And he is to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time, as he

shall receive from me or the future Commanding Officer of the Regiment, or other Superior Officers and Non Commissioned Officers set

over him, according to the rules and discipline of War. This Warrant to continue in force during the pleasure of the Commanding Offi-

cer of the Regiment for the time being.

Given under my hand at the Head Quarters of the Regiment, at Camp, which 28th day of

September, one thousand eight hundred and eighty, in the Year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighty

By the Commanding Officer: [Signature]

Assistant of the Regiment: [Signature]
Sept 27th 1862

Camp Lincoln

Dear brother,

I set down to write a few lines to let you know I am well at present and have been since I have been here since the day I arrived. Some are sick, but not enough to much trouble. Some are going to the hospital all the time but they soon come back. We are having big times. You will have to get our dress coats and pant coats. We have all the shoes and our coats and will get the rest to day. We had a Baldwin dinner to day.

By lieutenant colonel.
he is a bully man the boys did us around Camp in the forenoon and in the afternoon the marching to Town and around Town a little then we formed on main st with the center on Third st then he ordered us to stand in line and the 20th had the pleasure of seeing The twenty first in dress parade then we formed and went to Camp and you bet it was tired to day our captain will issue the rest of the quarters to stores and I don't know no letters we will drill or not you caught to come down and stay a sort a watches here
we are just a bully old regiment you let me see there is some talk of an arm and some talk of us not leaving if I can't tell you about it it is generally thought we will leave in about two weeks but I don't see why we would leave soon here is The Twenty third in Texas who have drilled two weeks and have arms I should think if there was much hurry the arms would take them off golly they are publishing the big shock out in front the news I expect you have your corn all cut up and you had better get in a train and come down and we will try to
card and stay as long as you please we got plenty of grub and you can come and stay and soldier awhile I guess I had better quit scribbling here

Please write soon

J. G. G. Gayle

Of P. I inside you will find a small breast pin in the form of a fish it is not worth anything but if it was it is no use to me and I thought I would send it to you I got something else package from the 20th coolest 21
September 7, 1862
Camp Lincoln, Reading, PA

Enlisted

4th U.S. Infantry
Birmingham, Alabama
Vardaman, Co
October 21, 1862

Complaints of rifles as being poor quality.

Oct 2-1862

Birmingham, Iowa
Oct 21st, 1842

Camp, Lincoln, Rockville Co.

My Dearest.

I embrace the present opportunity of writing you a few lines to let you know I am getting along. We have not left yet but I guess we are under marching orders to leave at a moments warning. Our guns have come but the officers will not have them. They are pensive and the C's A and B have received theirs. They are the Enfield rifles such as we had here to stand...
Guard with the muskets are stacked up out here and the officers have telegraphed to the gen. to see if this was the best he could do and if he could do no better they would take them. Capt. Maginnis says he won't have them at all. I don't know how about them or when we will leave. I suppose you have got your care made up by this time and not much to do you might come down awhile. I seen John Tread to day he was up here. Orderly Woodson was here last Sunday. They are here at the hospital.
We are doing a good deal of drilling now. I got excused this morning on account of my leg which was a little sore. I was on seismish drill yesterday forenoon and battalion drill in the afternoon and my leg was all swollen up and red around. That old cut it looks like it would break open but I guess a little rest on it it will be all right. I guess I will not write anymore please write soon. Excuse this dirty paper the dust keeps flying so its is impossible.
December 17, 1862
Expedition setting out and eager for a fight

Monsieur, Charles Giaugue
Birmingham
Vanburen Co.
Iowa
Helena, Ark.
Dec. 17, '62

Dear Father,

We are going to leave here tomorrow. I guess at least there is an expedition fitting out and we have matching orders for tomorrow. I guess we are to go down the river. It is very pleasant today. Was yesterday but there was some little rain for about a week before it rained all the time. It is drying up now fast. The boys must all send their overcoats home today if sent mine we sent them in a barrel.
Received on the 5th of January 1868

Birmingham

Town
To Mess and Co. Via Fairfax
When they come you will find mine in the box
it is marked on a piece of paper with my name
where the paper get torn off you may know it by a pipe and tobacco pouch being in the front pocket of the coat
the tobacco pouch marked W. M. R. I had got it of
Will Robertson. We sent them home because we can't afford to carry so much weight the overcoat is not much used here any how it is warm enough to go with out rather than carry them.
I don't care if we do leave here it is away unheathy place but we was
getting fixed up so well that I must hate to leave

Too & I guess there is plenty of fighting ahead for us

and that is just what we want. The boys are all keen for fights now

for we have run around so much to get one any
can't find any that we begin to want to go in

a little now.

I guess I will not write any more at present

Please write and give us the news

so we more at present.


Corporal J. Giangue
Ch. D. 30th 12th P.V.

Jim Giangue
Corporal Ch. D.
30th reg A.V.
December 18, 1862
from friend Bechtel describing fighting near Wilson's Creek, Mo.

S. H. S. LeFever

Birmingham
Van Buren Co.
Iowa
Wednesday, Dec 18th, 1842
Houston Texas Co. Mo.

Friend Alfred,

I am once more permitted to try to write you a few lines, we sec your letter some time ago & by one waiting for the other to write one have delayed writing some on that account. So I thought I would pitch in this afternoon while the boys are out and'll go write a little. The boys that you know I believe are all well with the exception of myself. I have been unwell ever since the first of this month in the first place I had an attack of some kind
I do fear the Doctor didn't say what kind, but anyhow it has left me with a very severe cough which seems as if the Doc. can't help me. for I have been taking medicine just after dusk until I have got tired of it. I think I soon shall quit the medicine & let it have its own course since we got to the reg we have gone some very hard marching & also some hard scouting & tell you what if these long marches & tents don't try a man's constitution I don't know what will especially when it is raining weather we marched five days out of thirteen through the rain & do it didn't half rain neither part rained like all
We are with General Warren, brigade now, we are with Ditten Big...camped 25 miles south of Wilson creek on a small creek called Swan creek. We was with him about 3 weeks & then was ordered here. As some things, how long we shall remain & am not able to say for would have wrote to but the has been busy scouting so that our had much time to write to anyone do I have all of the writing to do awhile I remain at Camp I shall have to close for now have played and there is nothing to write about there that would be interesting to you.

Yours very at present

Please write down to answer all.

From your true friend, Marion Bechtel

Enclosed compliments to all whom my engine
P.S.  Houston, Texas Co. H 3rd Coast Art R
January 23, 1863

Most of company sick—heading for Petersburg opposite Richmond on river.

On board steamer Alexandria

Jan. 25th 1863

St. Louis at home as we expect some of these boats to go back the boys are all writing so I thought I would write I wrote to Al when we were at the mouth of White River I am well as usual Cousin Ben is very sick the doctor calls it inflammation of the bowels he is running pretty thin the talk is he will go up the river somewhere they allow mine to be taken up to the hospital up the river I don't know where they will be taken though the reg is all S. pretty moony 4th at has fifty
men on the sick list.
- John Avelone has been pretty sick, but getting better.
- John Bennett has been complaining some but is going around.
- Levi is well our officers and sergeants have all been sick.
  Corp. Todd is acting orderly and in command of the Co. Lieut. Randall
  is getting better Corp. he has resigned but this resignation has not been excepted by lieut.
- Leach is pretty near give up with the consumption.
  If we do much more steamboating we will all quit out I guess.
  We have been on the boat since the twenty second of Dec. and off about six or
  seven days all together.
Now you can imagine how nice it is for a girl to be on a boat so long. I have got enough of boating and snow for awhile. I expect we will try Vickough again soon though this arros is not fit for service yet but I think we are going to camp awhile we was down here before on a Christmas spree but found so many desests we thought we would go up the riv to have our call and sure enough we found our friends all dressed up. There too turned in and throtted them a little put them on a boat and sent them to addion to learm a little better sense and now we have come down.
to visit our friends again
and if they don’t receive
us right we will use
them pretty rough
well once there started
down. The new Vicksburg
is in sight, bully for
us as pretty as sight as
I ever seen a city
on a hill, bully for
Vicksburg, I can’t
write any more it is no use
I will give you the
views of Vicksburg
in a few days
so no more at present
please write soon

Pat Gianque
Capt. D. 30th Regt.
Iowa Vols
Dear Brother,

I received yours letter this morning and was glad to hear from you but sorry to hear of the death of Will Simons, who I thought a great deal of and how will you Sallie get over it. There never was I believe more agreeable brother and sister than they.

I have rec'd several letters from Mrs. Simons and she always spoke of Will and of her being so lonely without him to accompany her. I like to see you sympathetic with her for I believe she is one of best of girls.
All you see we are down in Ohio a little piece by this time and I think we will make a good thing of it too there is an awful army there the first thing you know we are opposite and below the city three or four miles they are working at the ditch we are here mostly for guard duty to watch the river I have not seen the ditch yet but I guess it is nearly completed. The health of the reg is very poor but not so bad as it was on the boat we have the small pox there is ten or eleven cases in the reg I sent Randall is well and is in command of the company Ben was sent up the river very sick I don’t know
where he will be taken to if
the river is open above Memphis
perhaps he will go to St Louis
if not he will be apt to be
left at Memphis Levi is well
the boys that are sick are few of
five miles up. The river Johnson
is up there as far as me I am
always well and I think that
most of the sick boys might as
well be if they would
well we have done pretty responsive
riving around been to vicksburg
before then went up and took
the arkansaw post and came
back down here I wrote to
you on the boat the last day
I wrote you once before
while at the mouth of white
rivers going up I suppose you
have got there by this time
I told you about the fight
Picket post below Vicksburg
March 15th, 1863

Brother Alf,

as I have not heard from home for some time and thinking you must be all dead or left the country I thought I would write to you and find out. I have written about every week for the last month and got very few letters well we are still below Vicksburg on picket that is five companies of our reg. Nothing occurs of any importance we are just living here with the Rebs on one side of the river us on the other all quiet except an occasional bomb from our mortars once in awhile one from the hills on the other side. The weather is very fine it is raining to drizzle a little
Things are all green here. We amuse ourselves standing picket every third night, drill in the forenoon play ball and pitch those shoes in the afternoon. We have a gay old time. The health is improving since we have twenty-nine privates and seven non-commissioned officers in our Co. For duty. Zev is well, so is John Bonnett.

John Walmer is still at the convalescent camp. We will get our pay up to the first of January next Tuesday. The river is very high. The canal has broke through. The water is all over these swamps. We can catch fish most anywhere. I tell you soldiers is the gayest business going. If Louisiana isn't a very good country to soldiers in, we get plenty of light bread now, got a bakery in our reg., get corn meal, flour, potatoes, and a while a few dried apples with fish and...
sour toot plenty of beans Beef rice also coffee tea and sugar in abundance neming and sow belly how dont you think that pretty good living now if we only could get a nice roll of butter from home and a few eggs we would be all right but I guess we can't well I know what we can do we can do without and live first rate thats what the matter you know there are men in the company that would complain if they had everything but you know I am not one of them kind I like soldiering just as well now as I did at camp it is true I have never been the least sick never took a bit of medicine yet though not much fever than when I left home I am a stout man and I think against I get out of the service I can be able to mash a few copperheads if they give me any of their slack I hope they will draft a few of them curious and send them
Down to fill our company then we will have somebody to bore you but we will keep them straight anyhow I just send some of them corner I owe we will pitch that out of them and learn them how to take a joke there are some fellows in the Co that ran at the first they don't get much rest you bet they don't well I believe I have about ran out of something to write so I believe I will quit

Please write soon

A. F. Giangue
Birmingham
Iowa

James Giangue
Corp C 13 50th
Iowa Vol Inf

P.S. I hope I want you to send me some music if you have hardboard watch I wish you send it to me if you should like to have a singing school if you can get one and send it to me and any other good music you may have and oblige Jim
March 15, 1863
On picket near Vicksburg.
His sentiments respecting
hated "Copperheads."

Mr. J.C. Giergue
Birmingham
Iowa
April 2, 1863

Camp six miles below Pickering

April 24, 1863

Brother All,

I see your faces of the 19th day and was glad to hear from you. I am still all right, no sign of a fever, we are still on picket. We had went up to the other camp but only stayed a few days. We went down to take recreation and on account of the rain Lancaster getting blew up. We did not go there as there was two trains ran the track the Switzerland got through of all but a hole in her wheel house. She is about two boilers. The weather is very fine here now it feels like as though I would like to be planting corn. It was this nice and it was up. Threw we expected the governor of Iowa here to day but he did not come. Had the reg'lar all but in line. I am on guard today in two posts a hot to camp so I fell in for as a color guard. I tell you I would like that position if it made me feel good to stand under those colors.
I was on Todd's right just under the old flag (Todd called the colors to day) he is the man that ought to carry that flag then I would like to be one of the guard not flapping any but he is just like myself no fear about him we have another Lieut. now G.W. Eberick is our first Lieut. the second has not been appointed yet Eberick is a bully man too so you see secondLieutenant of E & H fifth is outstanding so good a show as he would like the fifth have got down here yet they was not five miles above here but have gone up to gazuppp Brie Harvey seen them at Millikens bend when he came down a got a letter from Marion Rechtel for other has they were in camp near Ascadia Arbuckle I would write to him but cannot get stamps I wish you would lend me some stamps I wrote to Will Smith the other day but had no stamps thought he had plenty money franked it and I expect he will never get it. I guess I will write again to him if I can raise a stamp I wish you would
Tell me where our cousins Giangue that are in the army are. I would like to hear from them. Give me the addresses of all our cousins that are in the army. And if you said you would like to get a commission. Some of them conscripts wish you could and if you work it right to expect you can to be sure you put in in time we have gay times drilling. These pretty days I drill the company every day pretty near it or else the sick squad which is men that have just been returned too. We drill them separate. The health is improving wonderfully in the reg. We get good grub near that which the matter. We have plenty of bread now and other things such as dried fruits, sauerkraut and pickles and I don't see when we'd get printer to eat well. I believe I will close and write some to Lizzie on the other side. Please write soon and give me all the news going on.

Jim Giangue
Dear sister,

I received your letter some time ago but have been moving around some and had not time to write until now. You said you wrote one a few days before I never received it. Will Faiths about the same time I got yours you said that Martha and Alf was at a party while you wrote but you would not go to that you did not want to see them cowardly for they enjoy themselves I like that kind of grit but I would go to the partites just to run such fellows as Bill Hope Woodward and Josh down as I wrote all I knew how to.

I cannot write any more you will have to excuse me this time for such a short letter for no more at present.

P.S. you wanted a sign im. Grahame. Look at me that I don’t think it because you of an 25 D 36th Squa in before Vicksburg you will have to believe until it grows out I had it shaved.
Camp below Vicksburg
April 19th, 1863

Folks at home,

I was much pleased yesterday on receiving a mail to get two letters of rather four letters in two envelopes. I proceeded this morning to answer all in one.

This was the first mail we have had for two weeks and I am happy and I am well and able to work.

I received the song and sang some at them last night. I think they are good and like the skidoo the best. It may be because I sang it most.
I should like to be going back with one of those prices up there. At one of those big meeting a boat now I think it would make me feel about right. Nothing has transpired of importance except that eleven boats eight gun boats and three transports came down past Mechanicsburg all got through safe except one transport the Herald Clay was burned. The men all got off safe. The forest queen got a shot through the steam drum and one or two men scalded a little. I don’t know how soon we will do anything here our next quiet keeps.
giving Richmond a shell
once in a while we are
still on picket at the
Briggs plantation
the boys are all pretty
healthy Capt. Co. Capt.
Randall is not very well
he is up to the Convalescent
Camp we had an election
for 2nd Capt. sometime
ago with a good deal of
Scandalous bearing troopers
seeing there was no show
for him and that
he might get up a
small one of he succeed
in getting most all the
boys to vote for him
Hurt he got 145 votes
I got 15 I Corp. Pvt.
I live I don't know
whether the Colonel
will appoint Hurt or
I don't doubt it a little the fifth I was have not got down here yet some of the boys get a letter from them they were three miles below Milliken's bend if I see that man cotton I will hug him. I have twenty dollars I sold my Ewells for $18.50. The reason I did not send any home I had spent a good deal and was in debt so that it took pretty near all to pay up we would have got paid off again up to the first of March some time ago if our brigade had not been advance the brigades was not there to sign
the pay rolls are will be apt to get four months pay the first of may & hope then to be able to send a little pile home I may get another watch it is very inconvenient to be corporal of the guard without one I would have sent the twenty dollars home sooner but Lieut Randall told me I had better keep it a while that I might be promoted and would need it so I thought I would keep it until Uncle John came down now I will keep it to pay cotton Alf that was rather clear paying for
the ducks the house
must have been a damned
fool I wonder if he was
not afraid of being
Conscripted I should
think you wouldn't have
much team can't you
work those mules tell
me how they are getting
along and our colts
whether you got my colt
castrated or not I am
deeply interested in that
colt I intend to pay
father's for him and
I think I will have
a bully horse when
I get home you might
work him a little this
summer but don't ride
him until next spring
if you do be careful
about it don't him
him
To sprain his joints
I have been away
from horses long enought
now to take some care
of him if I had it to
he could take a pride
in carrying a horse now
the opinion here is
that the war will come
close I dont see why
we couldent take this
darned place over here
just as handy as not
if we only go at it &
know we can and
if we take vicksburg
who cant we take the
whole southern confeder
the water is very high
here at present she
have scarcely any
dry ground except
the levee there is a
break in the levee below here where the water just rushes in we have plenty boats call shift guns and drag outs we can go out fishing the boys got a great many the greatest thing here is a large bull frog and they are the nearest a bull of any thing i ever saw they are as big as a large duck and make a noise very near alike a bull it is about as big a noise if not quite the same i am going to display my french some day by having a mess of the fellows well i see plainly i shall have to quit or get more paper write soon jimm
April 19, 1863
Encamped near Vicksburg

Alf. Gierigle
Birmingham
Iowa
Jackson, Miss.
May 15th, 1863

Folks at home,

I embrace the present
opportunity to write you a few lines to let you know I am still well. We have had a pretty tough time since we left Milliken's Bend although we did not travel very far in a day but it was so hot and dry until yesterday it rained all day. We had mud about knee deep. We came about twelve miles yesterday. Our forces had some pretty sharp little fighting to get here but our division did not get to do any. We know have Jackson and I think we will soon have Vicksburg. I do not know whether we will stay here long or not. The division the Fifteenth in left this morning. We are to go on a scout today. It may be we will stay there some time. This is a pretty nice place. You bet our boys got what tobacco
and such things we wanted
the A. R. S. are not starved out
yet if they have access to all
their country but I think we can
soon starve them in Dickson
the way we have got them
now it does not make any differ-
ence whether we whip them out
or let em rip because we have
got them any way we passed
over some very rich country
in coming here but not so good
in Miss. as in Louisiana Corn
would take a horse up a long
the sides over in Louisiana
Louisiana is all flat with the
rives while Miss. is hilly
there is any amount of patches
through this country which will
soon be ripe berries are ripe
apples are very scarce I saw very few
you can bet we made chicken and
mutton suffer along the road
it made me very sore to March
you know I never could walk
when I was at home I would
get a transfer into Cavalry if
such a thing could be done
I am now acting as 3rd sergeant. Our 3rd sergeant Klooselton being left back sick. We have about fifty men in our Co. For duty. Mr. Lewis is well so is John Bennett. I saw Wilson Anderson the other day. He looks first rate. I have not seen Williams yet although he is in the same division with the fifth. We have not been together but twice and that was just at night so I did not have much time to look around for him. Captain Randall has not been very well on this march. He had to ride in the ambulance most of the time. We have not got a second flier. Yet I believe I told you in a former letter that Cotton was discharged and I would send the money that I intended to pay him with home but I will not now. I paid Todd the ten he let me have. I believe I have nothing of importance to write. I wrote this because I thought you would want to hear whether I got killed or not but I didn’t get killed. Remember I don’t know when you will get
To my dear son & expect
I have not had a letter from
home since we left the bend
although we got two mails on
the way there is not much chance
to write don't on a march do if you
don't get many letters don't you fret
I believe that is all I have to
write please write soon

Jim. Giangue
Co. D 30th Iowa
Vol. 3 Inf.
Clarksville Tenn June 23, 1863

Cousin Al,

This afternoon finds me again writing to you in answer to your long and patriotic letter. They are the kind to write and it is a pity that they cannot be read by the Copperheads at home. Do you let them know your sentiments sometimes. You have perhaps still some faint recollections of a benighted region called Holmes Co., Ohio. High Water for that place on the Roll of Infamy.

From what we hear about it, the are preparing to resist the draft in such a manner that it will require a few loyal bayonets to bring them to their senses. To what a low degree of ignorance
or hellbent must a man have
sends before he can give his sympathies
to an unprincipled league of traitors
and prepare to resist by force of arms
the laws of his native land - a land
that is blest with liberty and even
gone enemies across the sea admit that
it government is one of the best ever
known under the sun. To me
this does not appear to be simply
a war for Union or Reunion
and as concerning us alone, but
it is essentially a war of principles,
not simply a war for the plain
or slavery of the black race:
not confined to this continent alone,
but if we succeed, it means the
continued progress of freedom for
all mankind, if not a dark and
terrible reaction, and a return to
feudal times, when the few can
set their foot on the necks of the
many, irrespective of color
I read an extract from the Richmond Whig near the beginning of the war, the idea of which I remember and always will but the words are gone. It said unmistakably that they were born for empire and that the Yankees were by the laws of nature, destined to be ruled by the Southerners. The rich men of the South were to be the ruling class, as they were in superior intelligence, the poor white were to be soldiers and the blacks the laborers. I was about to ask you how you liked the arrangement but I don't want to insult you so I forbear. I wonder how our Copper-coruniumed friends of the North would take to be at the bidding of this Oligarchy? But judging by their action now it would be pleasant enough to them.
to kick the dust off their feet

I wish that better times are coming

I received a letter from James last night. He appears to be well satisfied and very hopeful of their final success. May they meet with a speedy and complete victory.

We are still lying here doing post duty. I wish to leave for the front but that is impossible. We wish for others to order us to go to where we like. This is a good healthy place to be and perhaps would be the same as if we were to move. We get soft bread here and the rest as much the same as it was at other places.

The Inspector General was here some time ago and yesterday at dress parade, an extract of his report
was read to the men. He said that as to soldierly appearance and correctness of movement on review, and as to cleanliness and completeness of arms, clothing, and accoutrements, he did not hesitate to pronounce us the best new regiment he had seen in the Department. I believe this is an important point as it is well adapted to command the river and as a railroad passes through it is surrounded by a fertile country and must be coveted by the rebels on that account. This in command of the rebels, and communication with them would be cut off and from this point go out scouting parties by land and water, keep the river clear of guerrillas in each direction. The Fifth Iowa Cavalry passed through here lately on their way to Murfreesboro. Do you know any of them? The citizens of this town have a wholesome dread of them. They were here after
Wars are disgraceful, surrender and they
are helped themselves to whatever they
fancied whether it was in private
farms or public shops.
The weather is warm here but it
is not selling as the citizens and
it cannot, not by any means. The
health of the regiment is better than
that of the citizens. Harvest is about
over here and corn is high as my
head. How are the rest of the family?
Please give my respects to my
father and mother. I should like to
hear from them also from the
girls. Audie perhaps I should say
for they must be grown up by
this time. We got two and
paid the other day. We are now
padded up to the first of May.
Hoping this may find you
well and enjoying yourself.
I am
With respect, your cousin
Flo. Giaugue
Walnut Hills Miss.

June 24th, 1863

Dear Crities

I received yours of the 10th yesterday, and was glad to hear from you. I wrote to you about a week ago. I wrote to Urie yesterday.

I am well at present and I feel satisfied. I think Vicksburg will soon have to come over there is a rumor here that there is a pretty strong force in our rear but let them come that is just as good a thing as we want. Gen. Burnside's division (the division the fifth are in) went back to Big Black yesterday morning. It is also stated that

Burnside had gone around to come in on their rear if he succeeded we will be sure to bag them then when we get Vicksburg we can go right on east and take them. Places that the eastern army have been fouling around so long you say you have some notion of going into the Dixie Can I will not say anything further against it but you must remember that soldiering is nothing to think especially if a man can't stand up to it. I think too that the cavalry will be kept longer than the majority of infantry for this reason after we get all the main points this infantry will be of no use only enough to garrison these places while the cavalry will be of service to hunt up and keep down guerrillas but should such be the case if our leg is discharged when we get the
Main points — and the car kept while I intend if I can go home a month to go into the car and see the thing through.

I want to give cavalry service a little trial anyway and oh wouldn't I like it if you could have a good position where you would not have to much guard but to do it would not be quite so bad.

If you don't stay to go to school I can let you have it as I intend to pay for that Colt that is all I want you to get home and I guess he will be worth sixty dollars again if you'll take care of him.

I drew out my pay last Saturday and I will not need any more now. While my sutler bill was pretty heavy on account of my not being well enough to eat. Soldiers grub and I have spent some since we drew it and I only have fourteen dollars left out of twenty six. The pay master promised to pay it out next payment right away after we are mustered out.

As to that other matter I told you enough compound it when I say a thing I mean it so that all about that. The neighbor boys are all well here has been rather unhealthy since we have been here than since we came into the service. He is well and hearty of my thing hurts as it will be a want of exercise I shall have to close as I have come to the end of my paper please write soon.

Jim Siaogue
July 4th 1863

Walnut Hills Miss

July 4th 1863

Brother Alf

The Rebs surrendered

this morning at ten o'clock

last night Adj Pemberton came

out and told Grant that he would

surrender on conditions. Grant

told him he wanted an

unconditional surrender and gave

them till ten o'clock today. Early this morning they were

all up on their breastwork

and we went out on the hills
to see them, no firing done.

at ten o'clock they came

outside and stacked their

arms. Our troops took charge of them.
and went with them into town we are still in our old camp I don't know what we will do we may go in vacant lots night or we may have to go back on Black river after Johnson we got an order this morning before the surrender to be ready to march with ten days rations this has been a very quiet fourth of July but it's very happy one to me there has not been a gun fired to day only the national salute by the gunboats I was out on the rebel works to day it is well for us we never attempted to charge any more there works are very formidable they have any amount of ammunition but we was out of grub I guess it will quit I wrote you yesterday Jim Gianque
Camp at Black River Bridge
Aug 3rd 1863

Brother Alf,

I embrace the present opportunity to write you a few lines.
I have two letters from you unanswered of the 7th and 12th.
I received the one of the 7th when we were on the march at Clinton.
The reason I have not written sooner, I have not been very well since I
have been here and did not feel like writing. I am better now I
took the first dose of medicine yesterday morning (except for three pills) that I have taken since I have been in the service.
All the matters as I have just got
run down and will be all right after a little rest we have
had a pretty hard time since
the Fourth of July but now
are in camp where we expect
to stay some time we have been
here about a week I guess
we have a very pretty place to
Camp nice and plenty of water
handy and if the railroad
the cars make two trips a day they have began to furlough but it will be a long time till we all get furloughed.
Three men are five percent of our Co and three are going as soon as they get this paper. The three that I see to go are George Saddles of Bumpity Corns,
April 5th, Farmington and Jim
Stockwell of Nebraska
These are married men. Well these are three more
married men. Well, these men will have to have
the next furloughs, and we have
Twelve married men here. So that
will take four months to get
them off land. You see there is
not much chance for young
bucks like me. The married
men can fix up so much better
excuses always. Some things are
matters I have a good mind to
get married while I get home
So I can get furloughs. I should also like to be at home
for a while to have some good old
dings with you. I have not
seen much fun in my new look of
course since we have been on the
March all this time, and the boys
were behind in my pay pack
as we were marching through
Brandon we passed a lot of rebel
hospital rats on the street. I
sang the 'Skeleodle' how savage
they looked at us. They didn't
like it a bit. It didn't go well
on old Johnson.
Well, I don't see that I have any
thing to write, so I will close up.
I might write more if I felt
better. But, you will have to
excuse me this time.
Please write soon.
Your brother,
Jim Giongue

Jim Giongue
C. D. 30th Iowa
Vol. I, Infantry
Richmond
Miss
Black river Rail Road bridge  
Aug 10th 1863  

Brother Alf  
To Captain is going to  
start home in a few minutes & take  
the opportunity to write you a few  
lines to school by him. I am  
well now that is tolerably well  
I am better than I had been  
for some time. I see groups of the  
10th a few days ago.  

we have not visited our post yet.  
I wish I could have had some  
to send to Captain. He asked to  
get pale, but we are having  
a pretty good time here now.  
plenty up sheo, melons, and so on.  
I was on picket last night in  
black жив, and we more than  
went on such things got them  
as the teams come in  
Some rebels came in under a  
flag of truce with sealed orders  
to Gen Grant. I don't know who  
it was for there were five or  
six cavalry men that were inside  
our lines yet I hope it means  
well. I don't expect a  
furlough now till next summer  
for it will be winter before  
there is a chance to go and  
I would not go in the winter  

To freeze my nose and cause  
me to feel worse than I had before.  

I could do some sleigh riding then it might do  
it will be quite a joke on you.
if you get drafted wont it
lot if you do you wont apt to have much it do I don't believe but I would hate those
among so many @pperbeads and
called a drafted man at that
I expect I had better bring this
& a close comrad of I cant fix
anything here to write about any
please because such a poor letter
and write soon

Jim Giangue

James Giangue
Srgt Co D 30th Iowa
Nicksburg Miss

Jm Giangue
Co D 30th Iowa
Vol 9th

Srgt Jim Giangue
Co D 30th Iowa Vol 9th
Aug. 29, 1863

Port Hospital, Clarksville

Cousin Alfred,

Your letter of the 30th ult. [month] was received with pleasure. You will see by the first few words of this that my health is not the best. I came here a little more than two weeks ago, had at that time a touch of the fever for which I had been taking huge powders of quinine. When I came here the Dr. began to pay much more attention to my lungs than to anything else. Have you ever seen the fortunate foreman of a big fly bluster? I was lately. I am getting better every day.
his morning and evening walk and if followed would be seen in the woods swinging to a bent willow with his hands. — Also I'm sorry to say, occasionally, in an orchard which he does not own.

This is a good hospital. The building was one used for a Female Seminary and when you remember that it was built for the use of aristocratic southern women and this is a town of much more wealth than size, you may know that it is a house of some pretensions. There are more than one hundred rooms in it. I am in the "Big Hall." I think it is 150 by 100 feet in size. A row of pillars runs lengthwise through the center, the windows are of painted glass, from the ceiling hang eight chandeliers with four burners each (gas light). There are are three very suggestive paintings—Washington.
Franklin and Lafayette around their motto ("Fame, education, our aim; the public good, our end") the three colors, red, white and blue are prominent. Their motto should be, "The education of the wealthy, our aim, the good of the few, our end."

It is their motto and has run:

Are you a user of tobacco? even if you are I presume it would disgust you to see (if you have one) "The weed." I believe it is an ancient habit here among women and girls. Passing along the street you may see a woman looking out of the window and chewing that abominable snuff-covered stick with great glee. Refined! There are many things which a soldier would like to have changed if he could. E.g. I wish we were where we could see a little more of the elephant. We are called a good
regiment by the inspector, why keep us here so long? We and the Fifty-Second Battery of the Second Illinois are the only forces here. Last night seventeen car loads of horses came here for our regiment. Oh how I hate the idea of being mounted. I don’t like to have anything to do with horses and never did. There are not enough horses for all and I do hope Co. H will not be mounted—perhaps they will not. If we were to be regular cavalry with light carriages instead of long heavy guns it would be a mitigation of the evil and indeed the wild, dashing life of the scout might compensate for all. We shall see how it will turn out.

The health of the regiment is good, there are not a dozen men ill but now in all. There are perhaps fifty in the hospital. There are three men in here of the Fifth Iowa cavalry, none of them are from your neighborhood. I got a letter from Jim the other day, he is tolerably well. The weather here not too warm and dry. I hope the hottest is past.
I see by your last letter that you are about to begin to study, the end of which is to be a profession. I believe the course to be a wise one and am glad you have thus made up your mind. I would like to tell you how much I wish you complete success, but I cannot. I must tell you though that you have my heart felt good wishes. Of course you will meet with many difficulties and discouragements but the prize is worth the winning. We get nothing worth having without a struggle. May you live to be an honor and ornament to your country and your profession and a powerful champion of the principles you now profess.

You have asked for my picture perhaps I will get some photographs soon, if I do I will send one. Send me your wants you? I would like to have it very much. Do you remember the time we
played upon the creek on sleds—floating on pieces of ice and some
plank. We are yet young, still changes
have taken place since then.

In closing, your last you say
you have written enough to forego
you have not yet written enough
to do that. You stand in the
the fold of correspondents
whose letters are highly prized.

You write long letters a rare
virtue and you have a style
which is your own and which is
pleasing and— "Well I am glad
when a letter comes post-marked
"Birmingham."

I believe I have written enough
so I will close by asking you
to answer as soon as convenient.

Hoping you will give my respects
to all the family. SAm

Sincerely yours

Florin Geoghe
October 2, 1863
near Corinth
about camp life

Camp two miles South of Corinth
Miss. Oct 2nd 1863

Brother Alf.

I received yours of the 14th on the 23rd the day we left Vicksburg so you see the reason I did not answer right away.

We are now in Camp on a very pretty piece of ground about two by two and a half miles South of Corinth. We got in Memphis last Monday evening. Came out here Wednesday got in Camp yesterday. I don't know how long we are going to stay here some think we are going to stay some time others think we will go on to Chattanooga.

Well you see I never fret about such things so I don't pretend to know anything about it.
The Captain came to Memphis the
Dance evening that we and I got
the things which are all right
the boots fit first rate then the
box of things you bet they are all
right the bread was first rate
and the Cakes were the nicest thing
I have had for some time.
I have not opened but two of
the cans the butter and one of
the short cans which is plum
butter or jelly or something awful
good on bread I don't know
which that butter was nice
but I got fooled when I got
the things we was expecting to
start and I supposed the two
long cans were both butter so
I sold it all but about a pound
thought that would do none on the road
now that is but come to look in the
other can it is not white butter.
Levi happens to have a can left and we mess to gether so I have butter yet if you ever get a chance to send anything else I want a small cheese of your own make for I like Mothers Cheese better than this strong stuff that we get here in the army. Alf you need not mind how I have been writing for this is for another above aver on the other page where I commenced about the box down. To here I didn’t think about or I would just wrote Mothers a letter. Well Alf & reom if you will be getting married some of these days you say you expect going to school is played out so that makes me believe there is something up. When you say that those Twenty Dollar you can keep and do what you please with you need not say you will keep it if I say.
So when I had already sent it to you if I let you have more I don't care what you do with it you say you don't go any thing on Shiloh up there well I think he won't do much for it I am sure they don't go much on him in the thirty I think he has played himself out and had better go to Keosauqua and hunt his hole. Well this is an awful poor letter and I believe I will quit before a worse it excuse such a letter and write soon.

Your brother

 Jas. D. Giaugue

P.S. You will notice I have put on other letters in my name I took it from the letters of our Co which is as good a Co as ever was a Co Sergt. J. D. Giaugue.
Bridgeport, Alabama
Nov. 20th, 1862

Brother H.

We are ready to march now, but at all
times I write. I have a few
letters I received two letters
from you yesterday. We are at
Bridgeport this morning and just
crossed the river. We are going
to wait for the rest of the men.

To get detached we have

a pretty tough old march
since we left. Our men
are going away up through Den
to Pulaski and Fayetteville which
made a long road and we are
pretty well down. But have

to push ahead. We don't have

to have a little turn. Before
long, we are getting pretty

close to the enemy and we

would not want another little
fight now. I-I have a sad

memories of lost. many

men. Captains and Col. We will
never

make as good officers as they were.

The loss of our Captain

we have elected our second lieutenant

for Captain and we are not allowed

a second lieutenant with our

donations. I will not have
time to write any more as soon as
we stop. I will try and
Write you a letter if you can make it, and I will do pretty well. I received the letter from Lizzie and Minnie and I will answer them when we stop. Here's such a letter as this and write often.

P.S. I don't intend this as an answer to the last. I just wrote it to let you know I was all right.
November 20, 1863
from Bridgeport, Ala.
Tells of sad fight in which Colonel and Captain were lost.

From Jim

Mr. M. Giaquoge
Birmingham
Power
December 10, 1863
Buchanan, Ala.
Expresses opinion of Hooker and
other officers in battle.

MRS. ALF. J. Giroug
Birmingham
Pone
Bridgeport, Ala. Dec. 10th, 1863

Dear brother,

I received your kind letter of the 25th of this evening and was glad to hear from you. We are still at Bridgeport putting on store having dress property and I am playing potsomac on it. I don't know whether we will stay here long or not. I expect we will leave soon. I am fat and healthy and doing first rate. I've got our pay a few days ago and I have about one dollar left. I reckon you will think that is spending.
Money pretty jest but money is no object here.
The division the fifth Iow and eight the 80th Ohio are in is here the other two divisions of our corps have not got back from Knoy. will get the fifth Iowa were pretty neat all gobbled if you have not heard yet who was in Co & Ht may be of some interest to you if I tell you they were Wilt Shaw the two Huffman boys Fred and John Lou Garling House George Overturf Pete Knapp Frank Mills.
Manibal Johnson John and Si Whittem Dem Colbert.
This is all I know of now I think there was some more but I cant.
think of them now we was not with our corps but in the fights our division was in with old Hooker we don't like him. He run us in at Ring Gold without artillery but you can bet high on old Austerhous. He is a man that is always around everywhere among his men. In a fight you ask me what my prospects were they are about as good as any thing else that is if I keep on being contrary it is not quite so bad with our captain but I use to cuss Elerick every day while he was in command you need not say anything.
but he is a real ignoramus he don't know how to do anything. Our new captain is smart enough he is as good a businessman at any offices in the reg but he is a damned Englishman and has his English ways. I am glad you have laid up such a lot of show-belly for me. I intend to try for a furlough so to be home on your birthday if I can possibly. I am glad to hear of you doing so well in the farm that little old hilly place will be all right yet. You need not send for that long messages for me. I will send for it though. Singing has about played out with me. I see I will have to quit write soon.
December 31, 1863
Woodville, Ala.
Not enough discipline for a volunteer such as he.

Mr. A. C. Giangue
Birmingham
Iowa
Woodville, Ala.
Dec. 31st 1863

Brothers Alfa,

I received yours of the 14th yesterday and was glad to hear from you - we are now stopped on the Memphis railroad about thirty mile from stevenson but have not gone into a regular camp yet. I don't know whether we will remain here or not but it is generally thought we will have muster to day at one O'clock - it is very muddly been raining for about a week & looks so the glazing here to be so
near New Year's & expect you are doing some big fixing up there now & would like to be in somebody's kitchen up there to day if I wouldn't take an everlasting fill it would be something strange. The prospect for furloughs looks rather gloomy & am afraid they will not give any more furloughs nearly all the old vets are going into the veteran service they get furloughs right away. I wish we could go into that veteran arrangement you would see me go fast enough if I serve my time out I intend to go into the regular cavalry I would never enlist in volunteers.
again, they don't have discipline enough to suit me. If I am a soldiers & want to be a soldiers whole hog or none. Soldiering suits me bully. I am fat as any old hog ever you seen. Well, I guess I have written about enough so I will quit please write as soon as you get this or some.

J. D. Bianque

P.S. We will draw our pay in about a month. I can send you about twenty dollars if there is no chance for a furlough. What money I have sent you you will need and can keep.
and if I send you any more you can keep it until I want it of course if you get up for your self you will need money and you had just as well keep it for me as anybody. I could not realize enough at once to go into that loan that's all Jim.
Dear brother,

I received your letter of the 7th. yesterday and was glad to hear from you and much obliged for the pretoige stamps I received the paper some time since and was much obliged to you for that. I am well so honest and that is just as well as a man could be.

Levi is well and hearty the boys are all healthy the weather is somewhat colder to day than it has been for awhile. I expect pretty near as cold as it is in Ohio now. I know it feels as rough to me any way as it used to then.
We are beginning to think some little of staying here a while but then you know we can't tell anything about it but we may stay here if we do we will have a good time. We are only about a half mile from Paint Rock and you know we will have a good time swimming and fishing. The boys have caught a good many fish already. If we don't stay here we will have some fighting and either will suit me if we have a share in all the fights. You know we will have a share in the home so I don't care which way it goes. On that arrangement I guess has played out I have not seen the fellow since I guess he got men enough out of the veterans.
to make his company without taking out of our regiment. I would like to have went into it for a little fun and adventure. Well we have been in the service now nineteen months and it don't seem like it had been half that long. Soldiers is the best way to spend time easy that a fellow can go at & don't care how hard some fellows try to make it out & I know I would rather for the work of it & I would rather soldier than work any time but then I don't like to be away from society and friends so long for that reason I would rather be home of I was not needed in the army. Our time will soon roll around now and if the war is not over nor likely to be soon
I will go into the U.S. regular Cavalry but if the prospect is good for it to soon be over I will go into some Vol. Cor, but my opinion is that we will see it over before our time is up. I think next winter that the rebels will come to most any kind of terms we want to give them. Well I have about wrote out a set for I have got on the same old thing I write always. It may be before you write an answer to this that you will come into the Union. I will wish you all the happiness imaginable. Please write soon.

Your bro.

Jas. D. Giaugue
March 16, 1864. Alabama has been in service for 19 months and hopes to get into the Cavalry.

Mr. Alf. Giangue

Birmingham

Palace
Nashville Apr. 2nd 1864.

Dear Cousin,

In this I mean to be in sober earnest; to say nothing in jest, nor anything intended to have the least approach to flattering.

I received your letter today. Your picture surprised me; I might have known better; yet I wrote to you as though you were, and supposed you to be more of a boy than you are. Jardon some, perhaps, very silly letters. This picture shows you to be a large, dignified, intelligent (rather so weak among men that you have been a man for some time;—a gentleman I always supposed you to be. I shall come into your presence with more
respect hereafter, but still you are Cousin Alf.

You honor me by saying that I imagine you still retain your candor and manliness of which you were possessed when I knew you, and I imagine you would be one in whom I would readily confide. I do not know much about myself when I last saw you I know that I was a little bit of a green boy and I think a pretty bad one. If I had any such traits as those you mention at some fortunate accident for which I am thankful. Since I have grown to be a larger boy though perhaps I do not merit it, I would be very sorry indeed to be so devoid of honor as not to deserve the confidence of my friends, or so unfeeling.
as to fail to sympathize
with them in their sorrows
or their joys. I have had
the confidence, Alfred, of some
of Mary, especially. — But perhaps
This is too much self-praise;
please excuse it.
You say you know your letter
will be a little rickening; and
ask me to tell you frankly
whether I am “bored.” — With
all frankness imaginable, I
tell you that for a man in
your circumstances your letter
is not even sentimental — is a
very practical affair; and
that I was far from being
bored. I was interested very much.
As to your marriage (which
should have been happily con-
summated) it is not as a matter
of ceremony that I wish you
much happiness, a perpetual
honeymoon, that no harsh word nor meanful thought my mind may ever bear the tender word which now binds two hearts as one, and instead of flowery letters substitute galling chains of iron. I would be very glad to know more about my new cousin. Does she know that you are acquainted with a rough soldier lad in "way down in Tennessee"? Please give an introduction in your next letter.

I shall try to go to Swanton some day to see my friend, Raw cousin. Louis C. here not long ago. He looks well. I was very glad to see him as it was a long time since they left. Of course we did not know each other. Cannes sent sick to the hospital before he left. Am pretty well again. Had intermittent fever, have a continual pain in left side.

Good night. Florence.
July 1st 1864

Dear Brother,

As I don't get many letters, I will have to write the more so when I do get them. I still get a few of them. I just thought I would write you a line to let you know that I am all right yet, and to get you to send me some paper, envelopes and a few stamps. The little stock I bought with me did not last long, the boys being all out and I no chance to get
and has no possibility

chance to get any yet.

We are more looking

behind the breast works

in front of Reamsau

about three miles to the

right of where we are.

When last wrote home

we are still picking away

at them. I was out

skirmishing the day

that made the charge

all around (the 24th) plane

and got in a pretty

hot place. I tell you

but got out all right

the charge did not

amount to much.

We only gained their

first line of works.

I think we will soon
from Yorktown on the

The talk is we have
time pretty near surrounded

now. I don't know what
good news the fourth of
July will bring us this
year, I wish it was as
good as last year.

We mustered yesterday

I don't know whether we
will get any pay more
dwn or not, I expect
not untill we get into
Camp, we have six mount
and has now. I have
been last for Bosnic
since I got back to
the regt. I wish you
would send me

Babylon is fallen and
The Hawk eye Volunteers
July 1, 1864. - Penrose Mountain. 
Tell Joe of "getting into pretty hot places," and ask brother to stick himself in alias Bay State Territorial and when we get to Camp, I will want some more cloth. If I wear it just before the battle. Mother, send me these things if you please, I am sorry I cannot get one yard yet awhile. I would like to send that twenty dollars to Mr. Simonds any way but I am afraid we will not get at home. I shall close for this time. Give my regards to all your folks that is for and this Simon. Sallie and Mrs. King. Write soon. 
Yours, 
Jno. A. Bailey.
Rifle pits 30th Iowa Vol.
Aug. 10th, 1864

Brother Alf,

I read your kind letter a day before yesterday and the songs last night for both of which I am truly obliged to you especially the song.

We had been looking anxiously for the songs for some time. I could just reflect two verses of each song and sing and Jim Drewitt and I were singing them pretty near all the time and every time we sang them every body hurried and wanted to know if that was all of them and sing the rest so you see we was...
anyone to get them. We did not care about the music—
to the Hunskegge volunteers and only wanted the music—
of the others to get the tenor I could not select the tenor and base but could not sing
the tenor. We are a pretty good trio. Sgt. Privett is a good tenor.
Jim sings air and base and we once in a while get an invitation to come and
sing at Headquarters.
We are now in the front line came in last night and pretty close to the Johnnies
and have to keep close or get our supplies taken. We always
fortify now their fight the
days. In detail of skirmishers
we can soon make pits after
we get in position timber
being plenty. We just put up logs
about three feet high then dig a ditch about two or two and a half feet high, deep, and wide enough for two ranks to stand in comfortably, put the dirt on the outside and have a pretty good work. Our skirmishers are not very far front here on account of rebels being in the road but we will soon have them out of the way. Our men are in pretty good health considering the very long campaign. We have only four men died in hospital that have been left back since the campaign they are Sgt. Hurt, Levi Anderson, John Bonnett, and Max Leatimer. John Bonnett was pretty sick. Levi is getting better so the boys say that I have came to the right lately.
We are now looking every
day to see these of chanies
get out that we may
to go int to exam it
to rest awhile we are
all out of muer too
there is not only one in
the s. got more than 25 cts
the last of this month
we will have eight months
due. I sent you a
journal of our moves a
few days a go it was.
from June 8th to Aug 3rd
you will please take care
by it and I will send
you more as soon as I get
enough to send through
mistake I sent these to
Birmingham I suppose
you will get them though
No more at present
write soon your bro.

P.S. D. Llanquen
On Field, Near Savannah Ga
Dec, 18, 64

Brother alf,

As we have again communication with the North I thought I would write you a few lines & enclose $20.00 for it has been so long since I borrowed it & I never had a chance to send it that I was rather afraid Mr. Simons would think he not very good for I will risk the 20 by mail any way. We have had quite a little tramp since I last wrote but have had a good time fared well for grub there being plenty of forage. Since we have been here it
have been pretty short on account of the scarcity of forage & Our rations having run out some 4 days ago, but we have now got the boats up the Ogeechee and will draw rations. I will send you the details of our march in a day or two. Please tell me in your next if you got my journal up as far as the Camp at Gaming Station & if not what I was the last date. Tell Mr. Simmons that I have never got to see one of the 25th Bat as he is in the Div. train & I could never find him.

We have some new officers again Capt. Wm. Dixon having resigned. Mr. Geo. Elerick was appointed to take
Corpl. Henson is assigned to 1st Lt. for meritorious conduct. In the way of sinking well I have not told you where we are yet. We are about 7 miles south west of Savannah on Anderson's plantation a large rice plantation. The ground is very low & can be over flowed with water any time. There is a creek of salt water between ours and the John Skimmish line that the tide raises about 8 feet. So they have to have levees & blinder gates they have gates to let the water through. The weather at present is very warm & a member needs a mosquito bar worse than blankets. We have only had two or three days
of cold weather yet
have had very little rain
to what they generally have
this time of year
I believe I have nothing
of importance to write
Do I shall close hoping
to hear from you soon
I am
Respectfully,
Johnbro.
Jan.
Camp 13th Iowa Infantry
Near Goldsboro N. C.
April 2nd, 1865

Brother Alf,

Yours of Feb 13th and 14th were both read a few days ago & I should have answered them sooner but I received them the day our forage party was disbanded & that day Cousin Louis came over & wanted me to go down & stay with him a few days. I went back yesterday evening. They are camped 20 miles from here on the Wilmington Railroad. I'm fat & healthy & belongs to the Shoulder strap race 2nd Lt.

I had a very nice time he took me out in buggy & sent me back in a buggy nearly every man in
Kilpatrick's Command had a buggy, well Alf. I was glad to hear from you it had been some time since I heard from you or any body else. I have had a pretty good thing. On this campaign I was mounted in foraging party and generally had pretty good horses to ride and of course as our business was to get something to eat we always had plenty of as good as the country afforded. Such as hams, chickens, turkeys, corn or wheat bread, often eggs & butter besides honey, molasses and some little things plenty good wine to drink cigars to smoke, in fact we were gentleman cavaliers or what ever you might call it we never worked only always went to fought for.
grub if necessary then make
the negroes on the place load
and hitch up wagons and drive
them had our cook & hostlers
of our skirmishes they would
not amount to anything to
Infantry soldiers but to cavalry
they would be pretty sharp fights.
I shall not give you an account
of the campaign for I kept
no diary so I could tell you
nothing about it but what you
have seen in reports before this
time. It will say that we had
pretty good times at Columbia
and that we had nearly as many
refugees coming from there to
Fayetteville as we had soldiers.
This has been a hard campaign.
Some days we could not get enough
forage for the men country being
very poor in some places
worse than all was a great
many men wore their shoes out
and had to march barefooted. We are now drawing clothing will soon be rigged up again.

the success of our arms in the capture of Charleston & Wilmington you can blame

Genl. Sherman and his children for. Our move by cutting the Rail Roads done it. We have a huge army here now and when we move we will do something. I shall close for the present write so

I am Respectfully,

Your bro,

Jim

P.S. you have improved in writing please excuse my bad writing for to day is the first I have written since I wrote you at Mephersonville.

Jim Bianque
Camp near Raleigh, N.C.,
April 23rd, 1865

Mon Cher Frere

I thought I would write you a line to pass away the time and let you know what we are doing. We are in Camp North East of Raleigh 3 miles putting on style and talking of going home have been thinking the war was over for some time until last night we heard a rumor that Johnson was about to back out and that we would go for him in a few days.
I don't believe it —
I do not think Sherman
would have ceased hostil-
ities if he had not been
sure that it would be
all right why citizens
have been allowed to
come in our lines just
as they pleased a get
old mules and horses to
get to farming. I would
rather though be going
for Johnston as laying
there on suspense a week
seems nearly as long as
a month asked to when
we were chasing them
like the devil! but I
think yet we will be
home before our time
is out if not it is
only 4 months whatever
is done will be done.
Soon for Old U. & E. is
in town & I expect we
will be reviewed by the
Old Genl. tomorrow.
The cussed drummers are beat
for drill and I will have
to fall in & I will enclose
you two songs write soon

Respectfully,
J. D. G.

P.S. The songs are
printed on Rebel paper
I sent will with the
Song Genl. Logan and
the 15th Army Corps

Respectfully,
J. D. G.