



WM. BALLANTYNE, 436 7TH ST., WASHINGTON.

UNITED STATES CAPITOL.

Washington  
 Headquarters Ke Hill Regt., 150<sup>th</sup> Camp Soldiers Home Co. TC

Oct. 17. 162 Dear, Brother I received  
 your letter on the 14<sup>th</sup> and was glad to hear  
 you are all well. it rained here last Night  
 it was the first big rain we have had  
 here it commenced at half past 11 O'clock  
 I had just come off of guard and had got  
 on the porch and Bill Yong had just  
 went on as I came off it rained like  
 the D... for two Hours and then slacked  
 up, at 9 O'clock this morning it was as clear as  
 a bell and warm again, the news came  
 at 7 o'clock night before last that the Rebels  
 were on the other side of the Potomac and

Mrs Lincoln had to have the guard  
Doubled for fear the Rebels would take  
the Place, and all the guns were loaded  
for the first time for three Weeks, to  
stand guard with, the Major was here  
last week and we had a good Drill the  
two Companies were brot up in Spine of  
Battle and Drilled awhile and then  
Co R had five rounds of Blankes Cat  
ridge's gave them and we fired by  
File and by Co till they were used up.  
Co D left last week for the City to guard  
the Soldiers Retreat and our Co has to  
guard the Soliers Home alone, so we  
come on. Guard offener, Mae R. Dowell  
Clover Yong Yokum and Butter tent  
to geather all my meps are well at  
Present, I was down to the city day  
Before Yesterday and seen more than  
in all my life the first place we went  
to see Cap Fays Co wteh is guarding  
the White House Hop Fay has been  
Sick for 3. or four Weeks, With a fever

we started from there to go to the <sup>249</sup> Navy Yard. so we got on the street cars and rode down to the Navy Yard. Where we went to see the Monitor is now Repairing But they would not let any one go in so we rode back and went to see the Patent Office Where all the Patents that was ever got up is, there we seen Gen Wash<sup>ton</sup> Vest and Coat that he wore before he Resined his Commission, his Sword Camp Chest gridiron and all his books and Mensels also a cane that Frank lin Willed him, also a Japapanese Saddle that was Presented to Old Buchanan Dr Kamin the artic Regions With his Bear Suit or gun and sword that he had when there, from there we went to the Smiths Sonian Institute where there is every kind of Animals or birds from the size of a Mouse to a Bear and Birds from half

the size of a humming bird to the S  
of an Eagle, I seen an aligator 7 feet  
long I seen a lump of Copper that was  
Bought from The Indians for  
\$ 5.654 and Sea Shells as big a half  
a bushel and Crabs twice as big  
as your foot me and Philip got  
weighed when we were down Philip  
weighed out 136 and me 161

Behind the Capitol there  
was a Pond Full of Gold  
fish about as big as sun  
fish some all Yellow some  
with a spot on the head or tail  
the steeple on the Capitol has never  
Been Finished yet there was  
men to work Building Front  
of the Capitol and they are Build<sup>ing</sup>  
another story on the was Department  
to Morrow we are to have a drill of load<sup>ing</sup>  
ing and firing laying down  
so I must come to close  
So good by  
send 2 steel Pens W. A. C. W. T.