

Sunday Feb 15th 1863

Dear Mother

I have a few moments to spare and I thought I would write a few lines to let you know how we are getting along all of us Boys are well at present and hope to hear you ^{are} all the same yesterday Orders came at five O'clock to be ready to March at 6 I was on Guard at the time we were taken off and only three were put on we went to Camp and Packed our things and got Packed all Ready for to March When Orders came to be Ready by six Sunday Morning, Mrs. Lincoln and Old Abe were at the window

and he together
 and seen us all Packed She
 Sent down for to know if we
 would stay Old Abe said if
 we could not be his Guard
 he would have no Guard
 one of the men come running
 Down to see the Lieut. if he wan
 ted to stay Lieutenant called
 the Com. together and took a
 vote on it and it was stay
 by a big Majority all but
 one for to stay. So the Lieut
 tenants went up and seen
 the President and he signed
 his ^(transcript) name and it was taken
 to Gen. Martindale and fixed
 it so we got Detached from
 the Reg. this Morning the Col
 Come to the White a Parading
 Col Knickerbocker Come to
 see if he could not get

as to go to but could not do it.
 the Bols said they would not
 go with out Com K^r but they
 did, the Regiments left at three
 so we are left Behind to
 Guard the President as long as
 he wants a Guard, the Rumor
 is here that Gen Lee is in
 the City in Disguise, Last
 Friday Night at 8 o'clock Gen
 Thomas Thum and Wife was
 at the White House till 9 $\frac{1}{2}$.
 I was up and seen them
 Com had a big Plug hat on
 his wife was about as tall
 as Eva but not near as heavy.
 That was the smallest couple
 I ever seen that is all at present
 so good By our Captain come
 late last Night From Willard, D. C. letter
 Do not answer it till I send the Reg.
 Directions or they will ^{go} ^{to} ^{the} ^{Reg.}