

Soldiers Home
Washington, D.C.
Sept. 1, 1863

Dear Brother

I received your letter and was glad to hear from you I am well at present and hope these few lines will find all the family enjoying the same great bleysing the weather is pleasant but the nights very cold I seen a few lines in a Meadville paper about the two Com. that went to Collumbus with Morgan how they got there at 12 oclock at night and had to sleep in the State House Yard with nothing on them but their blankets as though they were better than other Soldiers they layed out with nothing but two blankets over them in the cold month of July with only 2 blankets. and they only malitia and we the Presidents Guards layed out last fall with only our 2 blankets over us and in the morning was over covered with frost I had to laugh when I red it. I went all last winter with out anything on my neck once in a while I would pull the cape of my coat around and come out all right in the spring there is 1800 mules not far from here that keeps muleing all night and make a devilish noise they are U.S. last night two of the old soldiers at the home had a big fight one was stone blind and both big fat stout men the blind man kicked bully for him it is dinner time and I must make a stop. Just done we had Nudle soup for dinner yesterday we were mustered for two months pay every muster we have to come out with knapsacks on and be inspected. Bill Boggs is going to should r a gun so they say so then we will have one more private we drill every day at Guard mouht in loading and fireing without any powder in the morning when we go to shoot off our guns we practice marching by flank right and left and by right in to line and fire by rank or file twelve in rank two ranks rear rank fires first and comes to a shoulder when the front rank fires how many soldiers are there in Meadville to guard D.V. I heard there was a com or 3 how does the drafted men act by this time are the Copperheads doing anything in the shape of resisting the draft Judge Pettis was here Saturday night and had a dance he said if that was all the work a soldier had to he thought he could stand it a yes well George how does that dog of yours get a long well do as he will write soon from Bold Soldier boy, Willard A. Cutter Fort Waggoner still holds out.