

Camp Borawoth. March 31st A.D. 1862

Dear Mother, Brothers Sisters &c.

I now sit down to write a letter for all hands though not with the expectation of its ever reaching its destination for I have ~~ever~~ written about ten letters and have not received an answer yet. I received three letters at Grand Junction, and two more just as I arrived in Smiths, I cannot think the mail goes very straight or I know I would receive a letter about three times every week from either the folks at the St Louis Hotel or from some of those at the St Charles. If you only knew what pleasure it gives one to hear from home I know I would hear often from them. As for news we are regularly supplied with newspapers only all day from print both New Orleans & Memphis. What news you have all day we have the next so you see we are all posted as to the

now going I am getting pretty well have
not had a chill for some time, hope I
am perfectly well and will not have
another while here. Guess I will not.

I am now getting along first rate
in the line of eating, also tell which
number the boys have become acquain-
-ted with an old lady in town and
run the blockade regularly every day and
there got one good meal every day I
rather think that is what has
got me well so quickly now last
sunday I with the rest of the men
and got a splendid dinner.
the bill of fare was as follows firstly
we had a fine chicken stew with
potatoes. then we had a splendid
roast pig with a few cold ham to
go as a side dish and to wash
all this down with we had plenty
of real coffee and some first rate
home made beer. we then returned back
to camp and strutted around there
like a lot of fighting cocks. the other
boys found it out and want to

know where it is that we get our
dinners but they cannot come it for
if we tell them they will all commence
going there and some of them will
get caught by some of the officers
and then they will know where the
place is and will catch us. to
there is a good job. Ference Mc Connell
and myself have on our first Lentil
which is this, this morning He the
Lentil. Ference & myself went to town.
(this time with permission) and while we
were there He asked us where we got
our dinners when we went to town he
said he knew perfectly well that we came to
town every day and got our meals, well
we told him we thought we would have to
tell him where the place was and that
if he would go down to the Hotel
we would go around and tell the old
Lady that we were coming to dine with
her but in reality we wanted to go
there and warn any of the boys that
might be there that the Lentil, was
coming and that they had better
get out of the way if they did not

want to get caught by him (the
Lent)

April 1st 1862

I will now
finish the letter I commenced yesterday
morning it is now half past eight
in the evening and we will be by
moon before morning though not
far not more than ten or fifteen
miles at the out side it is to meet
the Enemy which I hope we will
succeed in doing we have tried
to meet them three times and have
failed every time and I am now
dispaired of meeting them at all.
I must now close this uninteresting
letter to a close so with much love
to all I remain your ff Son & Brother

S.S.

Elliott W. Mudge

Please send me done up in the
shape of a newspaper demandant
paper I have just rec'd one little
from Mother & am frusally.