

Excuse poor writing and pencil

Courtesy Miss

March 15th 1862

8 P.M.

Dear Sister Joe

I received yours of the 16th yesterday, and I can assure you it afforded me a great deal of pleasure to know that I was so kindly thought of at home and ~~you~~ I can assure you I never lie in bed to sleep without thinking of you all at W. Orleans, and praying that I may be safely returned to you all. I received Sister Con's letter at the same time that I did yours but will not answer it until after we have the fight that we all expect tomorrow night and then (if I am not killed) which I do not expect to be)

I will write you ^{up} a good long letter,
long enough I'd say so that I can not read it
over three or four times in the course of a day
then dear sister you will not be tired out
in hearing the same thing over and over
again. I wrote Sister Sally the other
day asking her to send me several things
of your I had her help she sends them you
will please tell her not to send them
to Grand Junction but to Corinth,
where we now are and where we
arrived in rather an uncerimonious
manner, which was as follows.

Last Thursday evening about eight or
nine o'clock as we were all retiring to
bed we were all called upon to strike
tents and be ready to march in $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour.
We all gave our big yells and then
set off with our good fellows, for we
were ~~all~~ all eager for a fight, so in
about half an hour we were all
ready to march with our little all

and our backs, with our guns in
our hands, they kept us waiting about
another half hour and then we took up
our line of march, and marched six
miles and mud up to our ankles and
I can assure you I was pretty tired by
the time I got to the end of our destination
which was the Junction (if you must
remember we were not encamped in town
but out in the country about six miles)
and there we remained all night or at
least most of the Regt. And but I
with about ten others were detached to
load all the baggage on the cars
and then were packed down in some
box cars and transported to this
town (Berrett) like so many hogs.
There are about 20,000 there in and
around Berrett. Gen. Ruggles
is here with all his staff. I saw
young Tippi Ruggles this morning
Cape Horn is there and all well.
O. Oliveret's father's message to him

The Yankees have been seen within
15-miles of this place, and they have
printed on their banners

To Covert. & to kill.

so we will likely have a fight, two
of our pickets were killed last night
I wish I say once I do not mean the
Covert Regt. but the Confederates
at this Station.

It is now bed time, so I must close
I would like to write you a good long
letter but really have no time as we are
sleeping pretty hard at work I in par-
ticular for they have taken a great fancy
to my strength, and rather impair it.
And now dear Sister with much
love I remain your aff brother

E. W. Mudge

Give my love to
Your affectionate brother,
C. W. Mudge