

Good stretch of work but there is always plenty of time to rest up. Indeed it is the boredom and monotony that is the worst.

Most of us are getting pretty sick of maneuvers. We have been on the march now over a month and I for one would like to sit in a chair. We little stand up here or lie down. Two months I am sure will be enough.

Some of our battery (we travel by batteries not as a regiment) have been captured and they had a grand time. They say you sweet fellows from all over and it is a great diversion.

Every now and then we are allowed to go to a neighboring town, but it is always so full of soldiers that there is not much fun in it. However

Sept. 9th

Dear Mother -

I am sorry not to have written before, but this outdoor life is not very conducive to letter writing. One I wrote a card, but it got lost before I could mail it. Received your letters regularly - thanks. I was interested about Bill. Gloria is quite common in the Army and in ^{many} for a discharge - too bad for Bill.

We have led a rather reckless life for the past month and now we have only about three weeks more. Our routine consists of reviews of problems which are military situations thought up at headquarters. Each problem lasts about 3 or 4 days. During that time we are always under war conditions - no lights, camouflage, night movements etc. Our particular

① Regiment is in a real army. We are supposed to be an invading army moving south from New Orleans. I understand that we have about 40,000 men on our side with about 60,000 men on the 'blue' or enemy force.

It is all quite confusing and most of the time we don't know where or what we are doing. I one night we got an 'alert' and had up and were off about 30 or 30 miles. We set out up camp to stay possibly a few hours or possibly a few days.

We are now out of the forest I wrote about and our camp sites are varied, sometimes in a field other times in a scrubby forest. We never do much more than make our beds on the

ground. Sometimes if it is not so there are too many snakes, we sleep in the trucks. I struggle enough I haven't been all all bothered with runs trouble. It is better than it has been all after. I can't understand it. I have though been bothered by poison sting. I have none of it still on my chest. I one of the boys had it bad and took injections. I don't think that bad. There has also been some dysentery, but so far I have avoided even the slightest touch. All in all I feel fine and am getting just and happy. There is nothing to do all day, just sleep and eat. Sometimes its too hot to sleep so we eat more.

When I see the work done by the engineers and infantry I wonder myself why lucky. Every now and then we have a

© these the whole time. But they
we might also move around.
anybody the address will be the
same.

Now I came to the big news.
Perhaps you know that they are
going to let some men out. Well
it looks now as though I will
be one of the lucky ones. I'm not
sure if it will be exactly a
month from today but the
chances are pretty good. It
hardly seems possible. Don't
however consider it positive because
a lot can happen in a month.
I only hope we don't go to war.

Now as usual I am full
of plans and ideas. Protesting
they don't want a troops train
home, the Army has I believe
5 cents a mile for transportation
to point of enlistment. It totals

about \$1000 from Texas. Now
if I get out in October and get
the money, a friend and myself
are wisely considering going
to the coast for about a month.

There are all sorts of ways we
can get out cheaply and I
ideas like an excellent chance
to see the country. We would
of course not be gone long just
a few weeks. We have relatives
~~there~~ who have asked him out
and I know a few fellows I
would like to see.

As yet it is only an idea and
a lot hinges on conditions - but
occasionally these ideas materialize.
Quite a few of the boys are
doing it but I would want to
go only with the one fellow. It's
all out though if they don't give
us the money.

I'll write more about it when I

known man, and I didn't want
it to come so a complete surprise
at the same time I would look
for a job. There are many
opportunities in the west and
I would be very glad to look
into them.

Well men call them rounded
and I have to go and look,
lots of love to both

Good.

went of us try it first for
the change and possibly be
bottle of beer after a hour wait.

Right now we (Bobby A) are
located near Colfax (11 miles),
we are in the woods and
sheltered under trees. We are
living mostly in the woods.

It is rumored that the blue
Army is very near and we are
about to be captured. It seems
the reds are destined to lose
this particular problem. It seems
it will all be over until the
15th when the first and
largest game starts which will
last two weeks steady. It is

going against army and will
probably include over a half million
men. We are sure just before
our segment will be, we might
very well be set up near a
bridge or rail road and stay



Mrs. Walter F. Bachelder

2 Harvard Street

Holyoke

Massachusetts

W. F. Bechelder, 24 China - A.P.D. #504, Raleigh, La.

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