

1863

## Lenoir, James, Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, to mother

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Ch<sup>c</sup> Amherst June 2<sup>nd</sup> 100

My Dear Brother

Knowing that you have not heard from me since the this battle fought at this place, & knowing that you are uneasy about me I take this opportunity of writing to you to let you know that I passed through without a scratch of a ball or any of other yanks brassbells, though they come in a way short distance of me several times, I have been in skirmishes about this place every day for 2 weeks I have never had the pleasure of taking a prisoner yet. I presume you woud wonder how I got on if I did take one, he woud show the hole of some of our men did that they took of the battle on <sup>Bakers</sup> creek I was all through that battle and was touched by only 1 ball that killed one of the bravest men in the ~~troop~~ company before hitting me it went through his head knocking one of his eyes out and hit me on the <sup>left</sup> shoulder paralyzing my arm and shoulder for a while though I did not stop for that.

There has been a great destruction amongst the citizens  
about it in this country, when the yanks have been  
they took all the mules that would go from some  
places and others they would make go, took  
all the mules and horses from all the  
plantations leaving nothing at all. They cows  
and plenty to stand no back ~~to~~ they would kill hogs  
and leaving them where they <sup>were</sup> kill.

They would go take as much water from  
the wells as they wanted and would throw  
sticks and filth <sup>such as</sup> into the wells and did  
worse though it is not necessary to mention it

When I mighting to brother I could tell him  
more though it is not necessary to mention here

Should they happen to get into our country  
they will destroy the farms and plantations so  
that they will not be repaired in a no. of  
years. The little gun that you were given  
me which you was ruffling up your  
nose at has done excellent service since  
I have had it, I will not be positive  
though I think I have slain a few  
of blue jackets since I have had  
it

I would say to you kiss Miss  
for me but knowing that you dis-  
like for me to mention her name  
at any time I will decline <sup>saying</sup> ~~at all~~ ~~at all~~  
~~at all~~

Give my love to all kindest  
regards to all my dear friends

P.S. I have not gotten a letter  
from you since I left home except  
the one that was sent by Angelo

Tell Mr Jack Gathens the money  
he sent by post was attended to and  
dearly after I got to Vicksburg could  
not get the postmaster in Jackson  
would not receipt for the letter and I would  
not send it from that place for fear  
he would act the dog about it and since  
I have been mounted here had the pleas-  
ure of making it my self

Your affectionate

son

James

I have had 14<sup>th</sup> stolen from me since I have  
been mounted I would like to buy a  
boy with me now if I could have him about  
me if I <sup>could</sup> get a horse if you ever get  
a good chance send him don't let him come  
by himself I do send his kindest regards to  
you & Brother  
Co B 20<sup>th</sup> Regt Miss Regt

P. S. (as said)

Co B 20<sup>th</sup> Regt Miss Regt  
Canton Miss

There was some of our men killed by a negro here  
a few days ago he was guarding him bring him  
from the yards and becoming very loose the  
negro got by his side snatching his gun from  
his hands and of knocked his brains out  
with the butt of it they have been running  
him with dogs all day but have not caught  
him