

Elmira NY
Nov. 13 1864

Dear Mother

I have the pleasure of announcing my safe arrival at this place after a somewhat tedious journey. I laid over at Watertown and succeeded in procuring transportation missing one train by thus doing but saving nearly five dollars, money being worth more to me just these days than time. It snowed about all day Friday, and commenced again Saturday winding up Sunday morning.

Saturday night 5 prisoners were caught in a hole trying to dig out. It was a hole started before I went away, and we knew all about it but was waiting to catch as many as possible in it.

I have learned nothing of the Regiment yet and can hardly say when my time will be out.

The Rebs are in sorrow over the election of Abraham. They hardly believe he is elected. I have been asked many times since my return, if it was really so. A friend of mine (a Reb) tells me that if he had had money to bet he could have made himself rich by betting in favor of Abe for the Johnnies all calculated that the election of McClellan was a sure thing. Too bad, isn't it.

I will write again soon.

Yours

John