

6th Mo 26th
Camp 10 miles west of Black River

Honored Father Mother
Brothers & Sister.

I have the privilage of
once more writing you a few
lines. I am thankfull to
be able to inform you
that I am in good health
the health of the company
is good there being but
one man sick Evans is
his name. we came out here 4
days ago and are laying on the
road that crosses Big Black river
10 miles east of here there is part
of our division here and several
other troops we are some 10 miles
from our camp on the Yazoo we
did not bring our tents or knap
sacks out and will probably

go back to our old camp in
a few days. The country
is very hilly here and on
to the Black River it is the
same way, our men have fort-
-ifications a short distance east
of here. we had to perform the
-sad task of laying one of
our number in the cold grou-
nd last ~~7th~~ day, the one we
mourn for was Alfred H Ballard
he was a large robust looking
man but was not sick only
about a week he had the typhoid
feaver he had been subject to
short spells of sickness ever since
last fall but had never been
sick long at a time. The weath-
er is quite warm here and will
be likely to be more so before
long the weather does not get
much warmer here than up
north I am of the opinion but

continues longer. Part Hudson
has fallen and Banks has
come up with a part of his
force to Warenton to keep
Johnson from getting in
from that quarter to retterovick
burgh, in all probability—
Vicksburgh will surrender
in a very few days they have
made 2 or 3 fruitless attempts
to charge out through our
lines but were driven back
every time Grant opened on
them with 368 cannon which
was to match for them he
has 3 200 pounders playing on
there fortifications now, there
is no possible chance in my
opinion for Johnson to get
in here to raise the siege.
I saw Polio Burris son
the other day he is in the water

Iowa Reg. I received a letter
from home the day before we
came out here, and have writ-
ten 2 I think since we come
down the River, the report here
is that the Rebels planted a
battery some place along the river
and captured one of our mail
boats a few days since like-
ly some mail for us. There is
a division of eastern troops down
here New York New Hampshire Rhode-
island and Pennsylvania troops.

I have nothing more to
write at present. Write often
as convenient.

Your wellwishing Son
John Mills

6th mo 26th 63 (June 26, 1863)
Camp 10 miles west of Black River Miss

Honored Father Mother—Brothers & Sister.

I have the privilage of once more writing you a few lines. I am thankful to be able to inform you that I am in good health the heath of the company is good there being but one man sick Evans is his name. We came out here 4 days ago and are laying on the road that crosses Big Black river 10 miles east of here there is part of our division here and several other troops wee are some 10 miles from our camp on the Yazoo wee did not bring our tents of knapsacks out and will probably go back to our old camp in a few days. The country is very hilly here and on to the Black river it is the same way, our men have fortifications a short distance east of here. We had to perform the sad task of laying one of our number in the cold ground last 7th day, the one we mourn for was Alfred H. Ballard he was a large robust looking man but was not sick only about 1 week he had the thifoid feaver he had ben subject to short spells of sickness ever since last fall but had never been sick long at a time. The weather is quite warm here and will be likely to be more so before long the weather dos not get mutch warmer here than up north I am of the opinion but continues longer. Port Hudson has fallen and banks has came up with a part of his force to Warenton to keep Johnson from getting in from that quarter to retreve Vicksburgh, in all probability—Vicksburgh will surrender in a very few days they have made 2 or 3 fruitless attemps to charge out through our lines but were driven back every time Grant opened on them with 36 [or 360 ?] cannon which was to mutch for them he has 3 200 pounders playing on there fortifications now, there is no possible chance in my opinion for Johnson to get in here to raise the siege. I saw Rolin Burris' son the other day he is in the 40th [? *not entirely legible*] Iowa Reg. I received a letter from home the day before wee came out here, and have writen 2 I think since we came down the River, the report here is that the Rebels planted a batery some place along the river and captured one of our mail boats a few days since. Likely some mail for us. There is a division of eastern troops own here New York ,New Hamshire Rode island and Pensylvania troops.

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