

St Louis is a solid built town nearly all brick and stone. We could the people say as we marched what big men Wisconsin has got and how well they march. The Barracks were built by Genl Fremont last spring there is three miles of them enough to hold 50 thousand men they are one story buildings built around a square the mess houses are just behind them then back of these are the stables there is two Regiments of Cavalry here with their horses besides three Reg of Infantry two of them came in to day the No 23 and Iowa 15 that is three more just come to town but have not got to camp yet also the 9th and 10th Wis Batteries have just arrived. The 7th & 8th Batteries went to island No 16 where they had <sup>the last</sup> fight yesterday Reg are coming and going all the time The 14th Wis is encamped on the fair ground and expect to go tomorrow to island No 16. Oh I forgot to tell you in my last letter that I had sent home my old blue and blue blanket by express you will find them at home. I must close about soon Direct to Benton Barracks St Louis Wis Cavalry Co E  
 Williams C. Spencer

P.S. If you will be so kind as to send me a gold dollar or bills will not pass in your next letter I will be much obliged as I am about out of money and postage stamps. I will try and give a better description of our camp.



FIRST REGIMENT  
 Col. E. Daniels, Commanding.

Camp Benton Barracks  
 St Louis, March 20th 1862

Dear Father,  
 first opportunity to inform you of our safe arrival at our new camp in Dixie. We did not start from Kenosha until Monday on account of not getting cars any sooner. We packed up most of our things Sunday and struck our tents at seven Monday morning. marched to the cars there the people of Kenosha gave us a lunch before starting. It took three trains to hold us and baggage. it took until noon to get ready to start. got to Chicago at three marched about three miles through the streets to the Alton & St Louis depot. There we had hot coffee before starting. the Chicagoites said we were the largest men and the well drilled as any they had seen. Started from Chicago at dark.