

[Transcribed on 2/28/2022]

[Color image of a woman in armor holding a spear with an American flag attached. She's pointing to some red and blue letters that say "THE WAR FOR THE UNION"]

Camp Suffolk Va.

March the 7th 1863

I commenced writeing to you  
the 4th of this Month  
and when I got my sheet full I was  
Detailed to go on Picket before I had  
time to put my letter in the office and  
have been on duty every day since and  
if I think that I am agoing to get a  
chance to write or do any thing for my  
self I cannot more than get commenced  
before there will be some thing for me to  
doe and I will have to thro every thing  
one side and start at one minutes warning  
I do not tell you this to complain for  
I see as easy again times as I expected to  
when I inlisted I write this so you can  
see how much time I get to write so that

[2]

you will not blame me if I do not write  
very often and if I should not answer  
your letters as soon as I get them I believe  
that I have answered your letters prety  
punctual so far but it has been through  
luck and chance you must write often  
and I will try to answer all of your  
letters I am well and hope that you are  
all well there has a bill passed the house  
to grant the Commanders of Regaments  
to giv five per Cent of their Command  
Furlows to go home for the space of  
thirty days and all it lacks now is  
for uncle Aberehan to sign the bill

and I guess he will and the ones that can fix up the best story and can make it appear that it is the most necessary that they should go home will be the ones that will get the Furlows I do not know as there is any use of my coming home until I am discharged it would cost me as much as fifteen

[3]

dollars to go and come but a man draws pay for his time just as much when he is at hand on a furlow as he does when he is in the field I do not know how soon we will draw pay again but we expect our pay by the middle of this month Uncle Sam oughts me fifty two Dollars and I wish he knew how bad my poor Children are suffering for the want of it and would let me have it to send to them I expect you think that I might have sent you more when I drew before but I have done the best that I could with the money with the exception of that likeness and the money that it cost to send the Bible to me and I have been entirely out of money every since I sent my likeness to you I have to depend on little jobs of making fingerings and putting sets in rings and shaving the soldiers to get my tobacco and postage stamps until I draw pay again

[4]

March the 9th We are having real warm weather down here now and frequent showers there is one Regiment of our Brigade moving from here to day

they are a going to Norfolk about  
twenty five miles from here they wer  
Pa. Drafted men and prety good  
Fellows two I hate to have them go  
for feer that we will not get another  
as good Regt in their plase they  
are the 177 P.A. Drafted men  
they wer incamped on our right and  
the 167 PA Drafted men on our left  
I had rather they would have taken  
the 107 by all odds for they are as  
Dutch as Grout. Charles got a  
Letter from Lorenda and Waity  
Benjamin last Night and the tal  
ked as if they wer having a great reviv  
eal among the Seventh Day Babtist  
D.H. to C.H.H