

LETTER 1

Indianapolis Ind

Oct 17th

1861

Dear Brother

I received your letter in due time And wrote you an answer some time ago. But as I neglected sending it I concluded that I would sit down this afternoon and write another. It has been five weeks yesterday since we came into camp. And we are enjoying ourselves first rate and are growing fat. I like drilling pretty well. we have not drilled any on horseback yet. Our company is full There is 76 men Captain First and second Lieutenant Making 79 men in the company. The men are not all supplied with horses. As soon as the company is all supplied with horses And we get our saddles we will then begin to drill on horseback.

<new page>

You wish to know if we have any music here. Well I reckon we do. we have brass bands, fifes and drums Violins banjos and singing. I dont mean that we have it all in our camp But you can hear some one of those different kinds of music almost any time of the day or night. There is at this time encamped in and about Indianapolis I should think something over 2000 soldiers. And there has I should think 5 or 6 thousand left here for the seat of war since we came in. It is raining this afternoon and I am writeing in the tent. And there is only 6 other men in here. One playing on the banjo and all makeing a fuss generally. So you must not be much surprised if I do make blunders. You wish to know when we will leave for the seat of war I dont know. we are looking for

<new page>

our uniforms and equipments every day. we may stay here all winter or we may not stay here a week. I have been to Aunt Elizabeth's several times since I have been here I was there last sunday. The folks, were all well Theodore is going to war again. He is going as a cook for a band He cooks for 26 men. went into Camp yesterday

How is all the folks at home and how are you getting along, I want you to get Mother's likeness taken for me as soon as you can But you need not send it. As I do not know where I shall be. How does Frank get along. is he a Union Boy.

Tell Mother I will write to her before long. I want you to write often. And I will let you know how we are getting along. How is Aunt Susan I have not heard from her for a long time. I will now close

<new page>

for the present. Give my best love to all the folks And write soon From your Affectionate Brother

C.F. Lee Robert D. F. Lee

PS. you may direct your letters unless I give you different directions Thus

Robert D. F. Lee

Indianapolis

Ind

Care Cap't Moreau

Indiana Cavalry

LETTER 2

Camp Fremont

Indianapolis

Ind Oct 24th 1861

Dear Brother,

As I am not on guard tonight and have nothing in particular to do
So I thought I would sit down and have a little chat with you.

It begins to sprinkle a little and may be a rainy night. So you
can imagine that I am not very sorry that I am not on guard to night. The
guard are detailed every 24 hours. We have three reliefs 4 men in each
relief. Each relief is 4 hours off and 2 hours on.. If the weather is
pleasant. I don't mind it much. Night before last I was on and I tell you
it was pretty cold we had a real old fashioned frost. Day before yesterday
Our Captain was sick all day. And in the evening he concluded to go home (
To Knightstown) So about 6 O'clock he left camp to take the train. When he
got to the Depot he found he was about an hour and a half too soon for the
train. And not feeling well enough to wait He came back to camp. When he
came into camp The boys began to wonder why the Captain came back. And for
a joke on them he told them That he had received marching orders. That we
had got to start at 8 or 10 O'clock in the morning for St. Louis. The camp
was immediately all excitement. There was cheering and shouting. Some of
the Boys went to work and wrote letters home to their friends to let them
know that they had got marching orders. Some did not go to sleep at all
that night. In the morning

<new page>

when they found that they had been Humbugged Some of them felt pretty
spunkey about it. And some made sport of others for making such
preparations to leave.

One of the boys that we were joking pretty strong said he thought it real
mean Of the Capt to tell such a Lie. I will now close for to night and go
to Bed

Nov 1st 1861

I find that I shall have to throw this sheet aside as I have often done before When I have not finished them when I am writing. I think I shall let this go for what it is worth And go on with the matter. To begin with - yesterday we got our uniforms. And fixed up and went out on dress parade And I tell you we were a pretty fancy looking Company. We got Overcoats pants boots and jackets, But I have got somewhat ahead of my story. We got our Saddles, Bridles, Halters and spurs, several days ago. And have been drilling on horseback we have much fun. We got up this morning ate our breakfasts curried our horses. The Capt then told us to fix up for a tramp So we all had to put on our Uniform And he marched us (on foot) down to (and all over) Town. And finally brought us up at the quartar Masters Department. where we (each) received our Holsters Swords, and one Revolver. (We get another revolver and a carbine yet Some day if we ever do)

We then marched back to camp. This afternoon the first Lieutenant handed me your Letter. This Afternoon we were ordered to fall in for roll call. After we had got

<new page>

in line The Capt Told those men that wished to go home to step two paces in front of the ranks, There were not many left in the ranks. fourteen I think was left, myself among the number. The others are to go home tomorrow and return on monday Those that remain are to guard and attend to the Horses and quartars while they are away. This afternoon it commenced raining And when the roll was called at six Oclock And the quards detailed. As it was raining the Orderly told us that there would be no roll call at 8 Oclock as is customary. As I was not on guard And was free untill the 6 Oclock roll call in the morning I concluded to go down Town and spend the evening with Aunt Elizabeth So I gathered up my carpet sack, put my Revolver in it and started. Got down there Found Aunt I, Aliexina, Jimmy and John well Uncle and Tommy are out at Ogden Theodore is with the 39 Regament in Kentucky

One of the neighbors girls came in and we all hands tried my Revolver with caps, and concluded it would do

Now I guess I will go to bed so good night, Tell Emily I will answer her letter soon.

It is supposed our Company will leave here next week

From your Brother

C.F. Lee

Robert DF Lee

<new page>

Give my Love to all the folks and write soon

Direct your next Letter to
Indianapolis
Box 590

And I shall get it if I do leave here before it comes
R Lee