

Camp near Savannah Ga.
Dec. the 31, 1864

(John C. Esarey to his wife)

Dear Wife: I received your welcome letter yesterday evening and was glad to hear from home and that you were well. I am in good health and spirits. We had high old times coming through when we struck the rebel lines. The second day we were relieved and marched down to Kings Bridge where we camped two weeks. I wrote two letters from there home. We then marched up through Savannah and camped a few days and then moved down here on the Little Ogeechee River. We have a fine camp here but the water is bad. The boys are all well except Sim Shircliff and Toak Sprinkle. They were very low when we last heard from them. Sol is getting well. He is my right hand man. You wanted to know something about our treatment. We are treated just as well as the Veterans in every respect. Our descriptive list has not come on yet; and we cannot be paid off until it does come. We have no marching orders. From here, we expect to go to Charlestown. When we leave here you need not be uneasy about me for I am doing very well and as far as danger is concerned, I ran into danger once and that taught me a lesson. They came near getting my scalp that time. I wrote Father a letter yesterday and John one the other day. I will send you five dollars in this letter. It is Indiana money and I cannot pass it here. You need not send me anything until I write for it. I have some money yet and stockings to these envelopes and stamps come in good play but I have plenty now and I will write often to you. It was all right about the hogs. Take good care of your corn and don't sell it until spring if you have any to sell. I would keep the oats until spring, if you have not sold them. If you get any money more than you need you can pay it to Pap but spend enough of it to live comfortably. Take as good care of the stock as you can. Take good care of yourself and Johnny. My time commenced the day I was drafted, 3 months and 4 days of my time is out. We were sorry to hear that Bill Sprinkle did not come to this Regt. Anthony is well. John H. Deen is well and sends his love to all his friends. Furloughs are played out in this army. Keep in good spirits. There's a better day coming. So Goodby. Kiss Johnny for me. I remain your loving husband until death.

John C. Esarey. direct to Co. G 53 Ind.
Vet. Inf. Savannah, Ga. (to his wife).