

9-30-1862

## Letter from William McKinney to His Cousin Martha McKinney, September 30, 1862

William M. McKinney

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Louisville Ky - Sept 30<sup>th</sup> 1862

My dear cousin Mattie,

Your copy of  
the 8<sup>th</sup> inst - has just been received - and  
I hasten an answer. I received two  
letters from you at Nashville as we  
were marching through - but our commu-  
nications were then cut off and had been  
for some time and I could not  
answer - neither had I the time as  
I received the letters at 11 P.M. and  
marched at 4 A.M. the next day.  
We arrived here 5 days ago -  
having been on the march 92 days  
in succession - marching about  
650 miles - living part of the  
time on half rations and part of  
the time on nothing but green  
corn - we have had a rough  
time and some fighting.

Gen Buell's entire Army is here  
now and about 60000 men troops  
is all about 130000 men - all  
up with rail road men and  
Sant again after the Rebels, It is  
manifest that Bragg and General  
Buell this time - I only wish we  
had a leader worthy the brave  
men in the field. I am getting  
very tired of so much marching  
to so little purpose, we could  
easily have taken Bragg and  
his entire Army, I suppose we  
will have to make another  
campaign over the entire South.  
I am still in for it and will  
hold on till the war is over - if I  
do not break down - I am afraid  
of the chumination this winter - I  
have some opportunities every time  
I am exposed much. We had to  
leave all our baggage at Bowling  
Green and I hear that it has been

destroyed by the Rebels - if it had  
I lose about \$100,00 worth of baggage  
besides my Journal - for which I  
would not have taken \$50,00. We are  
without any tents or baggage. I  
am writing this short letter to you  
sitting out in the sun writing on  
a rough board - you will excuse  
its brevity - and style, I would  
or could write you 50 pages had  
I the time and conveniences.

We have had some fighting - a  
great deal of marching - and  
but little to eat - I will write  
you again as soon as I am  
more conveniently situated  
My love to all

Wm McKinney