

And such things have had a greater influence in producing, and keeping alive that great prejudices, known to exist for such an extent in the South against the North. Such misrepresentations, doubtly induced many a young man that knows no better, who placed implicit confidences in the work of his superiors, to leave his quiet home, and take up arms against his native country. It is no uncommon thing to hear men say through this region, that “if we had only known you were such men as you have shown yourselves to be, we would never have voted as we have, nor have done as we have. People are really and truly deceived in us, and in our treatment of them and their property. No person is molested, when found at home attending to his own business,

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Instead of destroying property, we protect it; and the people are now having confidence in the strength of our government and the justness of our cause. But I have written enough of this kind of matter, now for something else. I have not been to the city yet nor do I know when I can get there. Military rules are very strict here now and one cannot get of Camp for an hour even, without having his pass approved by at least half a dozen Generals, and I do not propose putting myself to so much trouble. I am still in command of the Company; the Captain at Barracks. I do not know how long we will remain here or where to next. Have not had a mail for a week, I wrote you last from Bowling Green, which I suppose you have received. When you write next, direct as follows, 15<sup>th</sup> Regt. Ind Vols, care of Col Wagner, 15<sup>th</sup> Brigade, General Wood’s Division, Tenn.

(signed vertically on page)

Your affectionate Cousin,

WM McKinney