

West Eau Claire June 27<sup>th</sup>

Dear Brother Ed

We have as you say neglected to write to ~~write~~ you but not as much as you think I guess for I have written one & mother two since I came home so you see the fault does not lay entirely with us, it must be in the mail. but we will try and do better in future. We thought that you would be home so soon that it would hardly pay to write, but I don't believe you will be home soon ~~now~~ you must try & come home before the fourth if it is possible. Mother is getting ready as fast as she can for the celebration, they expect to have the largest turnout of people that was ever seen in the Chippewa valley. There has been some trouble about getting a speaker. It seems that sometimes

was one of the committee for getting a  
speaker he forthwith sent off & engaged  
a regular copperhead the rest of the committee  
heard of it called a meeting & dissolved the  
whole thing. but have since had an  
other meeting & appointed new committes  
& now the doings are going on the same  
as before. they proposed to have a military  
company. There is to be 1st. Lieut but I dont  
know as they will raise one or not as there  
has been nothing done yet in that line.

Captain Sherman & Major Wheeler are  
to be marshals of the day. The celebration  
is to wind up with fire-works & two  
balloons in the evening together with a  
grand ball in the evening over the river by  
Chandler. We shall all be disappointed if you  
dont come home. Mary Jane Lib. & I went  
strawberrying yesterday we went down on  
Lewis boat the Phil Sheridan as far as  
Demings farm & had good time & got home  
about supper time but with but few  
berries. I am expecting to go to Madison

I received your photographs & a dear little note

to mustered out. Kent was ordered then  
& left yesterday morning I shall not go  
now before the fourth if I am sent for.  
There is none of the boys home yet. Henry  
Westcott is at Madison & will be here in a few  
days. Pug is in Miami Mrs. & George at  
Washington get but do not expect to be dischar-  
ged for some time. Linker got home the  
other day I saw him yesterday & he looked  
rough enough. he had on a common pair  
of cavalry pants all grease & dirt a pair of  
government shoes with the strings untied  
a citizens coat & a fancy military cap.  
he was down to the landing seeing about  
some freight. I hardly knew him he looked  
so shabby. he brought home a lot nice things  
among which were a 30 dollar soap a 20 dollar  
bureau & five new dresses for his wife.

Miss Wilkins asked him the other day  
when Ed was coming home. Oh says he you  
will see enough of him when he comes  
home. Mrs Wilkins said that if she had  
been there she would told him that

I do not like your picture only one  
the front view they want like the other  
I can't see through I can't see through I can't see through

she had seen you ever since you were  
a little boy & she had not seen enough  
of you yet. I received a letter last week  
from a young fellow that lived in a hole  
in the ground last winter with me  
he lives in Philadelphia & belonged to the 119<sup>th</sup> Penn  
he sent his photograph & I should like to send it  
to you but am afraid it will get defaced.

We are all well but Mary Jane & I are feeling  
rather dived today after our tramp yesterday  
she got a letter from Eng. he says that he will  
send her his picture I will have to stop for mother  
wants to write a few lines write soon

From your brother Fred

P.S. I will send George's directions so you can  
write

Co F 2<sup>nd</sup> Reg 1<sup>st</sup> U.S.V.

Washington D.C.

Dear Son We are disappointed you  
promised to spend this fourth with us  
& we have expected you would have antici-  
pated a good time but it will be a good time  
when you do come. I don't blame you  
for scolding about not getting letters we  
have written though & after the fourth  
will write ever so often. I am in a  
great hurry so good bye Mother