

one of these times to tell you
something of the people out here
and their habits etc but I cant
do night

There dont you think I have
made out pretty well considering
I had nothing to write about
but I must say good bye

Please give my love to Father
and Mother and Brothers and
Sister and receive a share yourself

From your Brother
Geo. W. Gould.

Camp Upton
Newport News V.A. Dec 13th 1863

Dear Brother

having a few leisure moments to spare
and thinking you would like to hear
from me it is so long since you have
I thought I would try and write a
few lines hoping they will find you
all well as this leaves me.

There is no news to write and
I am at a loss what to say to you
the fact is I write so often that
my letters must consequently be
rather dry some of them at least
but no matter it takes up my time
and keeps my mind from dwelling
on trouble as it otherwise would

I received a letter the other day
from James in answer to one that
I wrote him and was very glad
to hear from them once more.

Then I am stuck once more

and dont know how to proceed Oh I know what to say now it is pretty cold here or we call it so it is so much colder here than it used to be in Alabern we have not had any snow here yet but water has frozen here some nights as thick as window glass but I suppose that is nothing to what you have at the north I suppose you have had skating there and perhaps sleighing.

Recruiting is going on pretty briskly out here and great inducements are offered to those that recruit and I dont know but I should if it were not for my children but as it is I dont think I shall.

I guess I will tell you how we live here we have little or tents as they are called about 14 feet long and 8 wide with a stockade about three feet high then we have three

bunkers built, two large enough for two in each and the other just wide enough for one the two wide ones go cross way and the other runs length ways at the fort then we have a store and wood in the other corner and we have a space in front of a foot and a half for five of us to get round in so you can see we have to be pretty good natured I forgot to mention five guns and equipments that takes a conspicuous place in front.

There is three of us writing to night one is out on guard and the other lays here asleep one of them has just sat down in a bottle of ink and tipped it over and got his seat slightly marked

Well I reckon I have given you a right smart history of to night and I think I had better wind off for this time I intend