

2-12-1863

Letter from Thomas Kirby (New Bern, N.C.) to his uncle and aunt, Daniel Thew and Betsey (Lobdell) Thew, February 12, 1863

Thomas Kirby

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BURNSIDE'S DIVISION.

96 5th Regiment, N. Y. S. Volunteers,

Camp New Bern N. C. Feb. 12th 1862

Col. FERRERO, Commanding.

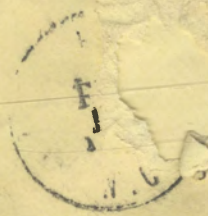
Dear Uncle & Aunt
One
& all It is with
pleasure that I seat my
self to write you a
few lines to let you
know that I am in the
land of the living yet
if you want to know

What kind of a seat
I have got I will tell
you it is to sit my
legs & down in the sand
and use my knee for a
table to write on but
that is good enough for
a soldier I would like
to be home for a while
this Spring Aunt I wrote
you three letters to you
but have not got but
one from you I dont
know but you are like
the rest of my folks
fule to big to write to me
but if you do I will
trouble you all I can
with writing to you I
sent Mother my likeness
today I wrote her a letter
I will write to her as

Captain as I can but the
rest of them if they do not
want to write to me
they can let it alone
Aunt I suppose you
would like to know what
kind of a time we
are a having in this country
I will begin back to start
Dec we left Suffolk VA the
third day of Dec and got
to this place the 9th we
left this place the 11th
and marched seventeen miles
the first day the next
day we had a brush
with the rebels we lost four
and captured sixteen and
killed seven the third day
we had a fight that
lasted two hours the fourth
day was at Kingston

There we had a good fight
it commenced about eight in
the morning and lasted untill
four in the afternoon there I
had as much fun as ever I
had in my life to see the
rebbs across the bridge there
was a big swamp where the fight
commenced our regiment went
around it and got behind
them while the others fought in
the swamp our Colonel was
sent on the bridge he and a
few of us went on the bridge
to put out the fire that
the rebbs set so we could not
get at the village but they
paid for we was into it before
they was out from Kingston we
went to Whitehall there we had
another fight of about half of a day
from there we went to Goldsborough
near we had another fight of about
two hours and then for home we
was gone eleven days and was in five
wounds but I must close for this
time give my love to all the friends
tell Helen to write to me write as
soon as you get this so good by
for this time direct to Gen. Benn. N. K.
No. H 96 N. Y. St.
From your nephew
Thomas H. Kirby

61.1
2/1/2



Mr. Daniel Shew
Peru
Clinton County
New York

