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1/7/40

WINDSOR

Fort Scott Kansas

December 1st 1864

My Dear Mother

Since I have returned from the late campaign my time has been so thoroughly occupied that I have been unable to write home only the few hurried words I wrote to sister the night I staid at home, but now the business of the day is over and the camp has lost the noisy bustle which is so natural in the day time I think perhaps I can be permitted to spend the next hour in describing the late campaign and its results. On the 13th of October we started from this place enroute for Kansas City. In a distance of 125 miles which we accomplished in a little less than 48 hours we were ordered into camp a few miles from that place remaining that night and until dark the next when we were again started to ascertain if possible the whereabouts and probable force of the enemy. This was the 16th on the 18th after marching about 200 miles we were attacked by

The whole Rebel force numbering about 26,000
who were successfully combatted untill their whole
force were satisfactorily developd and we were
satisfied of what force we had to contend we
had engaged in this battle all told not to exceed
2000 men we then fell back in good order untill
we arrivd at Independence resting one night - we were
here reinforced by the Brig of Col Ford making in all
about 3000 men the fight commenced at about
four in the morning and continued untill dark
they with their whole force only driving us
seven miles this was termed the Battle of Little
Blue the next day we fought them again at
the crossing of Big Blue and were again compelled
by overwhelming numbers to fall back to the
State line where we attacked their left flank
driving them about four miles. when night
put an end to the contest. we then fell back
to Westport to get a supply of Rations and ammunition
of which there began to be a great lack we were
again arrourd at Daylight and ordered forward
the command was obeyed with a shout for
well we knew that before night we should be
reinforced by the Command of Genl Pharrington and

when that happened we were sure of success
here again our little band was massed
against the entire force of the enemy
until about 2 o'clock when the expected
reinforcement came then we charged
their column in conjunction with the fresh
troops just-arrived and the confusion
of the enemy was unparalleled in all that
I ever saw. To sum the matter up we
marched about 1000 miles was in six hard
fought-Battles in 40 days our company in
the whole campaign losing 1 man killed
and 13 wounded I don't think that in the
history of the war there has ever been any
thing more successful than the late battles
we have sustained the name already won
by the brave boys of our infant State that
is sufficient-praise for us. My health is
very good and my family were well a few
days ago I got a letter from them
do write from I have not heard from
you for a very long time and I seem to me
you are forgetting your soldier boy give my
love to all As ever D P