



BURNSIDE'S DIVISION.

96 5<sup>th</sup> Regiment, N. Y. S. Volunteers,

Camp New Bern N. C. Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> 1862

Col. FERRERO, Commanding.

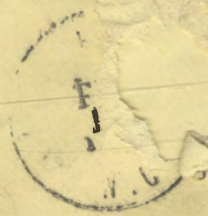
Dear Uncle & Aunt  
One  
& all It is with  
pleasure that I seat my  
self to write you a  
few lines to let you  
know that I am in the  
land of the living yet  
if you want to know

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 9<sup>th</sup> we  
left this place the 11<sup>th</sup>  
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

