



2/1/7
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Camp of the 96th A.C.

Mar 24th / 1865

Dear Uncle & Aunt

I received your
very welcome letter of the 11th
of this month and you cannot
think what pleasure it is to
me to think I am not forgotten
by those I have left at home
I call it home there for
all I have that is near
and dear is left there
while I am on the field of
strife to fight for the
honor of my Country I
cannot regret that I am
here for I think that a
man that would not defend
the only true Banner that
ever unspunled its colors in

This Country yes I may
say in the House is a
disgrace to all decent society
I may not have as much of
worldly property to leave as
some but the light I look
at such things is that
they have the more to do
with and should be the first
to offer their service not
wait for a draft to
reare them out of their
boots if such people will
fill our vacant ranks and
march shoulder to shoulder
with men that is not
afraid of death if it is
for their Country they
would not be a disgrace
to the best Government that
ever was known but I
may be saying to much
for the benefit of some

Of my relatives but I
cannot help thinking
how some of them stir up
their nose when my name
is mentioned I know it would
please them to well to
know that I had swallowed
one of old Jeff's pills but
it is not to please any
one that I care to take
a doast of them they are
not good for the stommack
so I prefer to let them
alone for a while yet
there is not much of a
stir here for we are where
we cant do much unless
they move from Richmond
and they will have to
do that before long as
they will be to late I
am shure that this war
will end before July next

The Conspiracy is in about
as bad a fix as a man
would be trying to hold a
pig by the ear and then
greased but I must close
for this time give my
love to all write soon
and oblige

Your Stephen

Wm H. Kirby