

Send me the address of the Tribune

Head Quarters Camp Griffin  
Fairfax County Va. Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> 1861  
Dear Parents

Not less than four times have I sat down today to write a few lines and no sooner did I set down than a call came in from the Adjutant to detail some men for some police or fatigue duty. Yesterday we moved some two miles and today there is an amount of fatigue duties to do and as Orderly Sgt. it devolves on me to detail them and all of the guards and Pickets also. And then I have to keep all the Records of the Co. - an account of the men able to do duty of the sick of those in Hospital - of those in arrest or confinement (if any) - of every man that is absent from Roll call and make a written Report of it all to the Adjutant every morning at half past seven and go after my Report Book at noon and if I fail to be there promptly at the minute I am liable to arrest and be reduced to the Ranks. In addition to this I have to call out the Co. for Roll calls drills and all other purposes. Once I failed to get my Guard men to the Adjutants on time by about half a minute. I took a good round swearing at and was told if the thing happened again I should be sent in arrest. When I first commenced it kept me in a perfect stew. But now I have learned to take things cool although I should not work harder if I were at work on a farm by the month. Thursday (guess I said yesterday) and that made quite a busy day. Many of the men have been accumulating things covanted in Camp.