Head Quarters 4th Regt O.V.I.
Blue Springs, Tenn. April 7th, 1862.

Dear nephew,

This morning, hastily drop you a line to acquaint you of my safe arrival to Camp. I got back to my Regt on the 27th March after a tedious old journey of five days travel on the Old CRT which was not altogether pleasant; though a part of the way I enjoyed myself hugely—between Louisville and Nashville we had a "Smash-up" resulting in the death of one man killed and two wounded— and 150 beef cattle killed. It was a freight train which left Louisville 14 hours before us. The accident was caused by one of the rails of the tracks giving away— fourteen cars were smashed to pieces. We detained us until 4 o'clock in the evening—having to wait until a train would convey from Nashville—did not get into Nashville till 6 o'clock at night— and here had to lay over— and also at Chattanooga, which caused
me to be two days behind time in reaching my Reg't, but it was all right and nothing was said. I am staying with the Colonel in the absence of the Adjutant who has gone home to conduct recruits to the Reg't. He expects to be gone about two months. I hear (at this time) a pretty heavy skirmish going on between our pickets and the rebels. It may result in a battle. Yes the Regiments are forming in line of battle, all the Artillery is in position. Here goes the first shell. Give my love to one and all, and excuse my badly written letter for I am in a big hurry.

Addres = C. M. Rogers
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2nd Regt. 1st Div. 4th A.C.
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Blue Skins' Field.