

THE LOYAL STATES



UNION

New York



Miss Angelina Decker  
South Bernal  
Albany C  
A

ered according to act of Congress, in 1861, in the Clerk's Office of the District Court, for the Southern District of New York, by Reagles & Co., 1 Chambers St



"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."

Dismounted Camp March 18, 1862

My

Dear sister I now  
seize the opportunity to write a  
few lines to you to let you know  
how I get along, I am well at present  
and hoping these few lines will find  
you the same. Soldier's life  
agrees with me first-rate  
I have been a soldier 14 days  
I started from Lockport the 3  
of this month and enlisted the 1  
So I had about 12 furloughs and came  
to Elmira and stayed there over  
one week and then started  
for the front we got on the  
cars at 4 o'clock in the afternoon  
and got to Baltimore the next day,

about noon and then went  
to the Bull pen and stayed till  
about 7 o'clock In the afternoon  
and then went to the Boat we  
wasnt allowed to go a step with  
out a good title to us we rode  
on the Boat all that night and  
all the next day and all of the  
next night - till the next day  
at noon and then we reached  
City Point but the worst of  
all we had to take Deck passage  
and had to sleep out on  
Deck one night - It rained all  
sorts and the most of the  
Poor Buggars had to lay out  
In It but I slipped clear of that  
I went and crawled under  
some planks and kept dry  
I tell you It is a site to  
see the monaters and gun  
Boats on the river and the

parts along the way we came  
by father's Manor and the boat  
stayed there about two hours  
but we wasn't allowed to get off of the  
boat we brought 20 Disasters down  
with us and two of them was  
sentenced to be shot to day  
last night when the soldiers came  
to this camp from the point  
we came along the lake shore  
and there I saw dead horses  
and in one hollow there was  
two dead men of all smells I  
ever saw that copied all I tell  
you. I made a feller think  
of Home I have to go And Drill  
I have got through Drilling  
and I will try and finish my  
Epistle to you this is the first  
day I have been on Drill and  
I can Drill as well as the best  
of them we don't get mounted

Yet so we have to Drill  
on Foot yesterday when we  
were to City point there were  
about 100 Yonies came and  
give them selves up I tell you  
they are a ruff looking set  
they roged and Dirty of the  
ground I will tell you what  
rations I draw here last night I  
drawed Horshack Pork and coffee  
suges and I have jist bers and  
Drawed a ration of Soft Bread we  
Have plenty such as It Is I dont  
grumble at It any way I Expect  
we will draw our arms to morrow  
and I will have some photographs  
taken and will send you one  
I went to the Commissioners for  
for this paper It dont cost me  
any thing and that is Cheap

U. S.  
Christian Commission

"This is a faithful saying, and worthy of all acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners; of whom I am chief."

March 16

I will try to finish my letter  
I have just less a washing I got  
through In good season for it being  
11 o'clock yet I don't think you could  
beat that If you wish to get up  
and get your breakfast and get  
through washing by that time I  
have to cook my own grub  
I tell you how we cook our grub  
we have to go down on the bank  
and build a fire beside a stump  
and boil our coffee in a cup and our  
meat we roast on a stick to eat  
we draw potatoes and Beans and  
beans I am going to draw my  
arms In a few minutes day before  
yesterday there was a man down on  
gold and he went and got his  
ax and cut his arms half off

He thought he would get his  
Discharge but he will get fooled  
and then he jumped in the Backboard  
and then he went to the river  
and intended he was going to hang  
himself there was 3 men standing  
side by him but however he give  
that up and then he was going to  
Drown himself so he jumped  
in and went to the bottom and  
struck his arm to the corner and  
he would stick there till this  
time if they accident killed him  
out he is to the Hospital now  
there was a little firing up  
the river last night I cant  
think of any thing more at present  
Let Angelina see this tell her  
to write to me  
Direct W. H. Decker  
Dismounted camp near city  
Point to I. A. New York