

Lake, Providence Louisiana,
Feb. the 24th 1863

Miss Maggie,

Dear Sister,

It is
with pleasure that I seat myself to
write a few lines to you this is
a fine pleasant morning warm
as a may morning in Ohio
well we got aboard of the
transports on ~~Saturday~~ it was
Friday after night when we
got on that is our reg^t - we
lay there till Sabbath morning
when we weighed anchor and
pushed out on the broad waters
of the mighty Miss, left
Memphis about 8. O. clock and
arrived here about 3. O. clock
last evening
The name of the boat we came on
is the Edward Walsh. She is a

Got a letter from man dated Feb. the 12th 1863.

you may direct to Lake Providence also. I got Mr. Hengie is well so is all the boys

Very large boat we moved out here and put our tents up last night it was very cold when we left Memphis but is pretty comfortable here. Mr. Arthur's division is here with us you look in the map of La. and you can find about where we are on the west bank of the Miss. river and on the South bank of Lake Providence the Lake is some 7 or 8 miles long and about $\frac{1}{2}$ a mile wide it is only a few rods from the river that is the east end of it and then it extends back 7 or 8 miles we are only about 50 miles from Vicksburg by land but we are some 75 or 80 by water or by the river they are digging a canal from the river in to the Lake and then I believe they are to dig one

a distance of some 13 miles
about 3 miles of it is
already finished col. M.D.
Legget having charge of it -
it will be pushed with
energy, I assure you
it is getting pretty warm
here, ^{it is as} warm as May is in
Ohio, so you may judge
what kind of weather we
have in the summer I
said in my other letter
that there was 200 acres
in the cotton field in which
we are camped well I have
come to another conclusion
since I saw it - all I have
come to the conclusion
that there is 2500 ^(acres) in it -
it is 4 or 5 miles long and
in some places 2 miles wide
the river is 4 or 5 feet
higher than our camp

we had a small discussion the other day in regard to the making
of must as we drew a little corn meat (hog) I want you to tell me if you
put any flour in much or not - if you please

I think I have written a letter
to you since I came here and
I don't believe that I stated
any thing about company
records we got and sent
home I sent one and of A. S.
one you will if you please get
a nice frame and glass and
put it on if you can get
them they will be left at the
post office at Glasgow where
if you call you will get
them till in your next letter
if you got the money \$10, and
the records safe and sound
I suppose all eyes are anxiously
turned toward Vicksburg
it is expected a great battle
will be fought there but
not for some time yet to present
we are cutting a canal from
the Mississippi into this lake and
from the lake to red river

I never expected to see the soil of La. & in putting down this relation
don't know when we may go yet

from the Lake to some river
the name of which I do not
recollect just now in order
that the gunboats may get
below port hudson as the
river comes into the miss.
below port hudson some where
Gen. Grant is going into the
Canal business pretty extensive
whether success will attend
them or not I do not know
hope it may but I have not
very much faith in so much
of it one thing I know it was
successful in the capture of island
no. 10 above Memphis we are encamped
in a large cotten field or farm
for it contains near 200 acres
all under cotton never picked
we had a very pleasant trip
on the Boat - it was a little
cold the 32nd Ohio is in our
division 4th Brigade before we

got a letter from James dated Sept. the 15th 63

left Memphis we were paid 2
months wages and as we were
coming down here and not
knowing when we would be paid
again I thought it a good
plan to keep about the half
of my pay or a little more
I sent \$10. to you the boys
from the settlement all expressed
their money to Alexander Denham,
in Wellsville I did the same
it was expressed, you can I
suppose get by ^{it} calling there
mind the place Alexander Denham,
Wellsville, this makes in all that
I sent home \$60. Does it not
you may put it to what ever use
you think best and of most benefit
to your selves well I must come to a close
So no more at present but remain yours
as ever

Laughlin

we are all well and in good spirits
Give my respects to all inquirers