

[Mrs. Mary H. Coulson  
Starkport, Morgan Co., Ohio]

Marietta, Jan. 19<sup>th</sup> 1864

Dear Mary we arrived here  
between 10 & 11 o'clock the day we left home  
and on yesterday were examined and  
mustered in to service. on tomorrow  
we leave for Columbus where we will  
remain for further orders  
Capt. Barber thinks that if the Regt.  
is furloughed that ~~we~~ we will get to go  
home and stay till the expiration  
of their furloughs. There is a great  
many soldiers now on their way home and  
I never saw a heartier ~~set of~~ looking  
~~fellows~~ looking set of fellows in my  
life ~~there~~ was about fifty of them  
came down on the cars with us and  
are still coming in every day  
Bill and myself are enjoying ourselves  
as well as could be expected under the  
circumstances we have been up to the  
Seminary this morning and all through

the town. Tell mother we are doing very well at at present. Tell Adela that I tried to get the school bell for her but there was none here but when I go to Columbus I will try to get her one there. I bought a money purse for you which I will tell you how to open or you not know how to get your money into it. There is two small balls one <sup>on</sup> each side of the hinge which by pressing opens the purse.

I believe there is nothing more to say except that I want you to write as soon as you get this and tell me what you have concluded to do.

I donot know how to tell you to direct your letters except to Columbus

Your Obedient