

Aug the 24<sup>th</sup>

Soldiers New House of Refuge St. Louis Mo

Dear Father

I seat myself to  
drop you a few lines to let you know  
how I am and getting along I am not  
much better than when I came home  
I am so as I could go around some  
but I have not got any strength at all  
there is no chance for me to get to Kentucky  
at this present time Martin he gets to  
go I wish I could of got to come up  
the river I think I could of got a furlough  
and if come home it is of no use to start  
from here in a fifteen day furlough so  
you need not look for me home very strong  
I got a letter from Mother a few  
days ago and she was well and  
one also from Harry he is at Pilot  
Knob he is well I have not got much  
to write this time and then I should feel  
sneak-like writing so I will quit  
for this time hoping to hear from you soon

L. N. Harding

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Wash. D. C. St. Louis Mo