

Corinth, Miss. March 27 [1862]

Dear Sister:

We are expecting the biggest [sic] battle here that ever was fought on the american [sic] continent. I think we have about fifty thousand men here & they are comeing [sic] in about fifty hundred a day. There is a great many more comeing than we can arm and feed. the yanks in twelve miles of here on the tennessee river. they leave their gun boats and come out in the country and take corn and cotton from the citizens. there was about four hundred cavalry came out a few days ago and taken two of the citizens. The cavalry we have here is not a cent. I want them to wait until our regiment comes. They will show them how to bring in prisoners. They will be in to day. I was sent here with thirty others on baggage detail. Our mules gave out at huntsville [sic] and we had to send our bagage [sic] on the cars, and on the trip someone stole my gun! I think our retreat from Bowling Green the most disgraceful thing that ever happened to the Confederacy. the retreat was not so bad but they have gained so much ground on us that we will have a great deal of hard fighting to get it back and we will never get Kentucky back again. I think we might have made a stand at Nashville. I never hated to leave a place as bad in my life. I was treated so well when I was there sick that I hated to leave. we have gave up the idea whipping ten to one but we can whip two to one. there is a great many of our troops disheartened and think we are going to get whipped. they ought not think so for our destiny depends on this fight and we have to fight troops that are flushed with vitry [sic - victory]. some think that we will have no fight here. they think the yanks will try to take fort pillow and if they take it we are all prisoners. the truth of it is I don't know nothing about it only the idea I have of such things. the our situation. that is all I can tell you about the war. I got a letter from you and another from mother. the other day you said you had been looking for me home. I have a certificate for a discharge and I think that I will get it as soon as the regiment come.

nothing more.

H. R. DUNMAN

Letter from
H. R. Dunman
[Elisha Henry Roberts Wallis Dunman]
at Corinth, Mississippi to
Sister
[Sarah Dunman Mayes]

Date: March 27

This original letter is in the possession of
Marsha Mayes Willcox
Wallisville, Texas

Transcribed for the Wallisville Heritage Park
By Kevin Ladd on February 22, 2003