



JAMES GATEB, GEN.

**The Star Spangled Banner.**

Rolla Mo Jan 27 '62

Dear Friend Marsh.

Your welcome letter was received in due time. Since receiving it we have, as you see by the date of this, changed our location.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> we once more received marching orders. All was, as you may imagine, bustle and confusion. There were some however made wise by frequent follies thought they would wait the turn of events, and were not so much excited on the



subject as others. Various were the surmises respecting our destination some supposing that it would be down the river, others that we would go to Rolla &c. &c.

Thus matters went on till the 21<sup>st</sup>, when we received orders to have our knapsacks packed ready to start on five minutes notice. Our destination was generally understood to be Rolla.

The train was made ready and about half past eleven last Tuesday night we were ordered to fall in line with everything on. We got on board the cars and were soon on the move. We passed the night very comfortably with the exception of a cold water bath



at one of the stations where the engine stopped to water, It suddenly started up and we received a portion of the contents of the hose in our car.

About 5 A.M we arrived in this place. We remained in the cars till daylight and were then marched to the quarters of the Iowa Fourth where we were treated to an excellent breakfast. After breakfast we marched to our camp ground about a mile from town. Our tents arrived soon after and we are now once more living in tents.

Our tents are the common army tent for six men. This morning we received the Sibley tent instead which will accom-



To St. Louis Mo

Direct Co of Officers

modate 18 men, with there is  
 also a stove furnished with the  
 tent. Tomorrow we start  
 for Springfield to cut off  
 Price. Other regiments have  
 gone on before us, and alto-  
 gether we shall be quite a  
 formidable body. We are un-  
 der the command of Gen  
 Curtis, and it is said are to  
 form his body guard. The  
 route from here to Springfield  
 is through a rough and broken  
 country intersected with innum-  
 erable streams which have to  
 be forded. So here goes for  
 a life of hardship. Perhaps  
 our correspondence may be interrup-  
 ted but do not fail to write often  
 Your Friend Henry W Shepard





Onward to Victory.

Rec'd Jan. 31. 1862.

Ans Feb 9. 1862



Henry J. Marsh  
Oraniet  
Allegany Co  
N. Y.