

there are some that, that would  
not suit, and ~~so~~ nothing but  
the abolition of slavery will  
suit them and they are generally  
the ones to stay at home, and  
call all democrats secession  
ists, And when the President  
he must come and break the promise  
he made the people in his  
inaugural address to not ~~meddle~~  
meddle with slavery where  
it existed - but he has ~~broken~~  
~~that promise~~ issued a pro  
clamation that shows how  
firm he ~~has~~ put his foot  
down and how firm he keeps it  
there to. You may think that  
this is a queer way for a soldier  
to write, I tell you what it is I  
love my ~~own~~ country as well as  
any one does, and am willing  
to lay down my life for  
her, but I am not ~~not~~ willing  
to lose my life or expose  
my health for a ~~nigger~~ nigger,  
and make him equal with me.  
When we first came here ~~that~~  
they (the niggers) came in side

11<sup>th</sup> 63  
Fort Thompson Feb 11  
Dear Uncle  
It is quite a while since I wrote  
to you, but it has been a long  
time since I have heard from  
you. I wrote to you about one  
month ago, but have as yet re  
ceived ~~no~~ answer to it, Why  
is it that some of you do not  
write oftener, there <sup>are</sup> plenty  
of you to write. And it will ~~not~~  
not take much time to do it, and  
then it would be a great satisfaction  
to me to hear from home a little  
oftener, and if ~~there~~ there is any  
place that letters are welcome  
received it is in the army. Mother  
sent me a letter that you wrote to  
her the 9<sup>th</sup> of Nov. in which I see  
the draft has touched very close at  
home, I am greatly surprised to



hear of the course that Felix has  
taken to get ~~rid~~ rid of going to war,  
There are some men that I do not blame  
for running their chance of being drafted  
such as have large families, but if  
they are drafted then I say go  
or send some one else in their place,  
I don't know the feelings of the folks  
there in regards to this war, but  
if it had been in Iowa ~~and~~ where  
I lived, that a man after he had  
been drafted, would ~~run~~ run away,  
he would bring such disgrace on  
himself and family, that the finger  
of scorn would always be pointed  
at them, The choice is layed before  
every man, to ~~enlist~~ enlist or run their  
chance of being drafted. And if ~~they~~  
any one chooses to run their risk  
of a draft, and they are drafted I  
think they had ought to go with  
out a mermor.

What does the folks there

think of this war, As for me  
and all the soldiers that I have  
seen yet, they are all anxious  
the war ~~shd~~ should come to a  
close, There was a time when this  
war could have been stoped without  
loss of any blood, or if they ~~had~~  
any blood ~~is~~ spilled it would not  
have been so much, But no that  
would not do. Abolitionists ~~and~~  
Congressmen said no union  
with Slavery, No Compromise  
with Slaveholders, If the fight-  
ing would have to be done by  
them and their clique, I would  
say fight, no peace untill they  
are all annihilated, But as the  
war is upon us now, I say crowd  
it through and not be so ~~slow~~  
slow about it, and put this  
rebellion down, and restore the  
Union as it was ~~to~~ and the  
Constitution as it is. But



But ~~is~~ is this war coming to  
a close very fast; I think not for  
I see that they are ~~are~~ going to  
raise 300 reg<sup>ts</sup> of Niggers to  
put in the field. It will take  
a long time to get them organized  
and formed in to reg<sup>ts</sup>, and then  
it will take a long time to drill  
them so they will be worth any  
things that is if they ~~are~~ ever are  
worth any thing. I dont think they  
ever will be ~~worth any thing~~ I  
think that if our ~~Country~~ <sup>Government</sup> has got  
so low that she has to get  
Nigger to fight her battles ~~then~~  
for her, that it is time that she  
be counted no more. Had then  
there are a lot of men whoes  
bravery and love of Country is  
counted by the dollars and cents  
that they gets per month for ~~the~~  
their ~~services~~ services, and as long

as they get their money, they are  
in no hurry to have the war close

The weather here is very  
changeable, on the 11<sup>th</sup> of last  
month it snowed about one foot  
deep. but it did not stay long  
the oldest inhabitants never seen  
the snow ~~so~~ so deep before, ~~and~~  
and last week it snowed about  
eight inches. but the weather  
is warm as April weather at  
the present time, we have a great  
deal of rain here, it generally rains  
about 4 forty eight hours, to a  
stretch before it stops, ~~we~~  
have been in the service for six  
months and have receive, but one  
months pay, but as far as Sam  
concerned I had just as leave  
Uncle Sam would owe it to me  
as to pay it, providing he pays  
up when he discharges me.  
How are all the ~~folks~~ folks



getting along; has ~~the~~ the boys  
on the road ~~to~~ enlisted, and  
gone to the war, How does  
grandmother get along.

My love to you, all

From C. A. Williams

Direct your letter as  
follows Cairo, Ill

38 reg<sup>mt</sup> Iowa Vols.  
Co. G, Care C. H. Miller

Be sure and put  
38<sup>th</sup> reg<sup>mt</sup> Iowa Vols,  
on the letter

of our lines, and wanted to  
cook for the boys there was so  
many come in that the Col. ord-  
ered them out and stay out. But  
here the abolitionist is ready to  
shout, he is a traitor he needs to be  
court martiald, and shot, but  
I think ~~so~~ not, the Col. thinks  
more of his men than he does  
of the Niggers, for if he ~~would~~  
would ~~let~~ let them in, we  
would in a short time have  
five or six hundred of these dirty  
nasty and ~~lazy~~ lazy beings  
in here to feed, Our rations  
are sent to us for ten, or fif-  
teen, or twenty days, and they  
must last that length of  
time, Now then if they are allowed  
to come in here, we have to feed  
them out of these rations, and  
you see that <sup>would</sup> put us on, rather  
small allowances,