

## James Cozen Letter

Murfreesboro Tenn. March 23 /63

Monday Evening

Cozen, [sic]

James

Sir received your letter dated the seventeenth and was happy to hear of your health being so good after such a hard spell of fever. This evening, James, I am setting in my shop and it is raining, this is a double rain you will perceive in the way I am spelling it. Cousin we have moved our camp since I last wrote to you we have fell back close to the city and are in camp here. We have been camping some two miles south and on Saturday evening we left there at a rather late hour in the night and came to the camp in which we are camping right now. I presume of course you would like to know the reason of our leaving camp at so late an hour. I will just state the fact as near as I can to you. On Friday evening four shells was drove in of [sic] to the left of the camp where we was and the Rebs [sic] was within one mile of our camp a Friday night so Friday night our boys was ordered out in line of battle and only one mile from our camp at that time and laid there till the next morning in line. Saturday all day was kept in looking and figuring on both sides. The rebels did not fire on us and old General Rosey's crew did not intend to fire on them until they did first for he's not quite ready for a battle yet. Maybe he cannot help it he says he does not intend to attack them just now but he keeps a good look out for them and will meet them with a harty [sic] response if they only wait a few days longer then he will advance on them. All he wants now is to hold his ground good as far as he has gone and when he gets things all ready then he will give them Canasters [sic] with his three thousand battery men and sixty twenty four pounders and one hundred ten pounders and one hundred six pounders and six guns carrying sixty pound shells. Those last guns is hauled by sixteen horses. This has been brought into field lately. I tell you James they are nice guns and have good gunners to handle them. They will make everything thunder before them. I will just say that Saturday night we left camp at a late hour. We had all gone to bed and slept minutes a turn. 6 o'clock there a order came for us to get up and pack up all the things and be ready to march in a half hour. You ought to have heard the boys swear. Them especially the teamster for there was no boys except one and the ones that was left behind sick to pack up all the tents and you can bet here that I did not hurt myself for I had just spent that kind of work but as at it we went and got loaded up and left for the other camps. Some wondered what was up. I thought we was agoing [sic] to have personal fights just moving. So we left and by the time dawn began the gunners began and the rebels got on a hill and over shot our boys and intended to shell-out our camp but they missed their scheme that time for we was not there to shell out so they sent alot of mounted infantry and 2 guns to make a charge at our line again our men fell back a little further and then sent out four batallions [sic] of mounted infantry and six guns and took half of their force that they had just there. I tell you how Old Rosey came to catch them. He fell back and then of course they advanced and he then swung his right around and caught them in a trap but

they fought like a lot of devils and some got away but if they had stayed fifteen minutes longer they all would have been captured as sure as the devil. There is [end of letter]