Camp Page Mouth of the Rio Grand
February the 7th 1847

Most Honored Parents

once to write more I sit down to write you a few lines that you may hear from me, if I cant I from you, I was very much in hopes that I would hear from some of my friends before we left this place but in that I have bin disopinted I have not receive any word from any of you since you wrote me at Jefferson Barracks I have bin looking and waiting with my pockets full of dimes to pay postages but I see there is now chance to spend my dimes in that way, I have had my health exceedingly well the Southern climate agrees with me very well I have had one or two bad colds that lasted me for or five days that has bin the amount of my sickness whilst a Souldier I suppose you have hird of our misfortune which happened from a letter I wrote May English some ten or fifteen days ago we lost our horses in crossing the Gulf and we are acting as light infantry though we draw mounted Mens wages I presume that we will be remounted

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as Soon as possible though not till after
this more is over I think it will
be brought to a close in next Month
it is supposed that one more battle
will settle the task for them that
is the taking of ~~Vera~~ Vera Cruse which
place will be attacted about the
first of March the whole American
force will atact it by Sea and by Land
and our pulse beat Strong for that
place where we may have a chance
to signalize our selves as sharp Shooters
at that place I expet to kill the
first Mexican or get killed in the
attempt We have Some companys
in Camp wh have bin in all of the
engagements and de per to set and hear
them tell yarns it would make you
feel like you cold ketch a gray Squirrel
We will leave this place in the course
of 36 hours per Tampico we will go by
watter I was in hopes that we would
go by Land but by loosing our horses
we will have to take Shipping
Camp pages will be abusness place
Some day There is Ten or fifteen Buildings
here now There was but five when we
came here wages is very high men that
drives Teems here get $25 per month

Mechanics wages is very high and money is very plenty if I was a free man I could make an independent fortune in a short time in this country or a man with fifty dollars of capital we have a little shanty here in the shape of a bake shop that coins the money he will sell from one to five hundred little pyes at 20 cts a piece about the same number of loaves of bread at the same price and as many ginger cakes at 40 cents a piece and the cider and Chews I can't give you an idey but this is a daly business So you can have some idy what his chance is for money. I should be glad to send you forty dollars in Gold That I have by me at this time but I am afraid to risk it. Some men will have a hundred or two dollars one day and the next day none but I dont read much in them papers But I must close hoping you will excuse this hurried scrall for it is done on my knee I wish as youseal you to write me and direct to Comp G 1st M R Point Isabel to be forwarded forwarded nothing mor but remain your affectionate Son.

Corpl Benj. Wingate

Mrs. Wingate

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Wonce more I set down to write you a fiew lines that you may hear from me…no letters…I have not received any word from any of you since you wrote me at Jefferson Barracks I have been looking and waiting with my pockets full of dimes to pay postages but I sea thare isnow chyance to spend my dimes in that way, I have had my health exceedingly well the southerm climate agees with me vary well I have had one or two colds that lasted from fore or five days that has bin the amount of my sicknes whilst a soldier I suppose you have herd of our misfortune which happened from a letter I wrote May English Some ten or fifteen days ago we lost our horses in crossing the Gulf and we are acting as light infantry though we draw mounted mens wages I foresee that we will be remounted as soon as possebel though not till after this ware is over I think it will be brought to a close in next mounth [LETTER WRITTEN DAYS BEFORE BATTLE BUENA VISTA] It is supposed that one more battel will settel the Lark for them That is the taking of Vera Cruz which place will be atacked about he first of March the whole American force will atack it by sea and by land and our pulse beat strong for that place whare we may have a chance to signalize our selves as sharp shooters at that place I expect to kill the first Mexican or get killed in the attempt Wee have some companys in camp who have bin in all of the engagements and for to sit and hear them tell yarns it would make yuou feel like you could ketch a gray squirel Wee will leave this place in the course of 36 hours for Tampico wee will go by watter I was in hopes that we would go by land but by loosing our hourses we will have to taqke shiping Camp Page will be abussness place same day Thare is ten or fifteen Buildings here now thare was but five when we came here wages is vary high men that teems here get $25 per month Also hands wages is very high and money is vary plenty if I was a free man I could make an independent fortune in a short time in this country a man with fifty dollars in capital …damaged….about food prices…your affectionate son Corp Benj Wingate
Address leaf to Mr. M Wingate Lexington Scott County Indiana