

i live very saving i have not eat  
four ounces of butter since i left home  
and there is plenty of butter here at  
forty five and fifty cents a pound  
all the money that i spend is for tobacco  
i spend 75 Cents at Christmas for sweet  
potatoes and few pounds of Peas  
i dont growl nor grumble in no shape  
so you have plenty to eat and wear  
and plenty of Coal on the fire if i was  
at home i could save plenty to keep  
you all well and comfortable if you  
have not make use of them two shirts  
i shall never want them i wish i could  
send you two more but i cant get no  
chance to send them give my best Love  
to D Davies and Mrs Davies and family  
and my best Love to you and Ellie  
and kiss the baby and Ellie for me  
this in short from your  
Affectionate and Loving  
Husband Thomas Homey

Camp Near Suffolk Dec 26 1862  
My Dear Bella I receive your  
letter Christmas morning i was glad to  
hear that you and the children were  
all well i am still getting better the  
weather is in my favor i have the bowe  
complaint and it ant cold to get out  
at night or day Christmas day was more  
like the forth of July than Christmas  
this day is very warm and the roads  
are drie and dusty sum appearance  
of rain hear soon i have seen in the  
paper this day and over Brigade is with  
General Foster and have been fighting  
four Battels since they are a way  
the news is that they are coming back  
this week but it is not certain they  
may come they say two that wee that  
are left back hear wee are going to over  
Reigt wee are going of to morrow but i  
dont believe aney such stories over  
Reigt was <sup>at</sup> Goldsborow last week so they  
say and that is a bout a hundred and 20 miles