

Secret Letters & Rolls

that my men sent up from either bank of the river,  
and the consciousness that I had done my duty  
more than compensated me for it all.

I think we will remain at Detmold a few days  
until Gen's Legis and Detmold come up with their  
divisions, when we will go in pursuit of Poiré, who  
is about thirty miles from Detmold with a force  
estimated at eighteen or twenty thousand men. There  
is at present every indication that he will take  
his position and give us battle, if he does, the  
question whether rebels or loyal men shall govern  
Missouri will soon be settled, if he does not  
it is expected that we will follow him south,  
while Gen Hunter from Fort. Cranworth and Gen  
Pope from Padalia attempt to cut off his retreat.

Please God my love to father and  
Yours Affectionate Son  
William H. Coyd

Camp near Stambel. Wm H Coyd  
July 4/62

Head Quarters 9<sup>th</sup> Iowa Infantry  
July 4<sup>th</sup> 1862

My Dear Mother

The Regiment is encamped tonight  
seven miles from Detmold, which place we will reach  
about noon tomorrow. I am writing in a very comfort-  
able log house, one of the old kind; with the chimneys  
between the logs open to admit the cold air, and a door  
hung on one hinge, at the end however there is a fine  
large old-fashioned fire place. The fire-places are  
the comfortable spots in this country, no matter how  
miserable the hut, they are sure to be good. We have  
now been eight days on the march since we left  
Rolla. The first two it rained, the next two it snowed  
the next two it froze and the last two, I believe it  
has done all three. So you may imagine that our  
march has not been one of the most pleasant