

Head Quarters 8th Va. Regt.
Buffalo, Va. Jan. 14th 1862

Col. Lucien Loeser

My dear Colonel

It seems to me as if I had forgotten half of the memos I meant to have put down on that important book.

Please find out whether we can muster in two chief musicians (a drum major & fifer) besides our twenty Co. musicians – if so how much is their pay.

If Woods discharge is not sent before you arrive had you not better bring Gramm a commission as Captain (his name is William Gramm).

So get our men some mittens if you can. I am told there have been plenty in Wheeling.

We ought to have a few better horses & if you can get authority for Capt. Browing at Wheeling to buy 15 or 20 for us – he will be able to find a good one for each of us & so get them for us at a reasonable price.

I wish you would complain of our knapsacks, they are terribly poor and we need better.

The men have drawn all the boots and as there were not enough to go half around of course there is much dissatisfaction. Can you not get 500 or 600 more.

In talking with the Adjutant tonight about the position of Major – he says his Father has got the Governors positive promise for the place for him, if that is so & the Governor insists we must make Rife Adjutant.

I forgot to give you the address of my friends in N.Y. – you will find D. P. Lerd my Staten Island friend at 46 Murray Street & you can find where my brother in law W. Wallace Merriam is from his brother of Merriam & Bell William Street (near Delmonico's) between Beaver & Exchange Place –

Now don't forget the above memos

Drum Major	Horses
Gramm	Knapsacks
Mittens	Boots
&c. &c.	

All quiet but have sent out two more scouting parties – much rain fell last night accompanied with loud thunder –river high and rising

Hoping you are enjoying yourself
I am yours &c.
John H. Oley