

No 9

Morganza Bend La Friday June ^{th 10} 64

Dear Sister And

after two days hard marching I take the first opportunity to answer your kind letter received last Wenseday morning after we had marched about 4 miles we came to a halt and the mail carrier distributed our letters I was very glat to here from you and to know that my money had arrived all right we went out to Chapalyre River 19 miles to remove a force of Rebs that was Concentrating ther for the perpus of giving us a call before long we had two Brigads our Brigade was held as resureve and th other advanced 4 miles and drove the enimy it has rained about all the time since we came to this Camp we Will have 5 or 6 shoures through the Day and very often as many through the night we are wet to the skin about all of the time our shelter tents and Rubers can not stand so much rain without leaking I must tell you how we pased the night over to Chapalyre we camped in a swamp the mesquites was very thick as well as all other reptiles the Sargent Major and

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Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
MMN # 79450

Date: June 10, 1864

Description: John Day, a musician in the 14th Maine Regiment, wrote to his sister, Annie Mathews of New Hampshire, from Morganza Bend, Louisiana, about his regiment's march and night spent in a swamp.

Drum Major and one of the Drummers and myself
sat on a log talking and lisening to the
far of thunder or the boom of a cannon
from our advanced brigade or the discharge
of a gun from our outer picket the
mosqueters was so thick we could not sleep
th Drum Major broke out all to once
he says I dont see how a cristian can live
in La if ^ Chaplin says anything
more to me about swaring I will knock him
down the Sargent Major is beating him
self with a bush about half asleep and
says Somebody is stick thornes into his Balded
head as tired as we was we had to laugh at
this and remakes made by thoes that could
not sleep we herd a hub bub a little ways
from us and Jack Starr jumped up and
puled a Snake of from his boddly that
had got on while he was asleep and throwed
it on to some others that lay near him and
told them to get up there was a snake in to
bed with them one of the boys turned over
and says I He be Damed if I get up for
one snake just then it began to raine
and we went in to our bush house that we had
put up the first of the evening and when
we got in we found our house occupied by
a large snake we Dispached him in les than
no time he was 4 feet long So we pased the

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night fighting Mosquitos in the morning
at Day light we was put in line of March
for Morganza we arrived hear last night
bout 8 OclocK tired wet and wery
we had 9 men Sun Struck yesterday in our
Brigade of which I have since Died it was
the hottest Day that I ever knew it would
rain a while then the sun would come out so
hot it put me in mind of being close
to a Burning Builden I think it is always
goin to raine I have had to put my letter
away 3 times since I comence it ~~end~~ and get
under cover of my Ruber to keep it from
geting wet I am glad to hear that Mother
is all right I was afraid she would get
sick I supose your are tired of reading so I
will draw this long and tirsum letter to
a Close I received a letter from home a
few days since

I give my love to every
body that you think proper write often
I remain your ever tru and afect Brother

J W Day

To Annie Mathews
O I have seen S Gupill and all the boys from
Berwick they are all well

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at Day light we were first in line of March
for Morganza we arrived here last night
about 8 O'clock tired wet and very
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