Dear Friend Donnelly & Lady,

[Page 1] I will write this as a Family letter, you will see by the heading of this letter that I am in the far famed City of Washington. Now I will tell you how I am writing this letter and where, we are encamped on Capital Hill about ten minutes walk from the Capitol, it is Sunday afternoon and there is no drill to day. I am seated under a tent where there are ten of us together, our mess contains the following persons, Kendall, Wycoff, (who is the chief of our Mess.) (each Mess has three tents.) Harrison, Dere, Mansfield, Mathews, Pusey, Demey and the undersign H.W. Lindergreen, I am writing this on a cartridge case with ten rounds of cartridges inside of it and if I make any mistakes you must excuse them, our ink has run out so that I have to write with a lead pencil, our camp is called “Camp Minnesota”. Well now having commenced this letter I will turn back and give you the incidents of our journey to this place, June 22nd embarked on Board of steamers Northern Belle and War Eagle and proceeded to St. Paul, from where after taking our last farewell, and the last kind word we again steamer away for LaCrosse, (by the way I learned that you were in

[Page 2] St. Paul that day, I expected to meet you in Hastings but of course did not, well we arrived in Hastings about 11 o-clock, and there I was disappointed I neither saw you nor Mrs. Donnelly nor any one that I knew except Kate Agnes, well from there we went to Red Wing before we landed again and there we all went through the same maneuvers that we did in Hastings and it was the same at Lake City, Wabashaw and Winona. We arrived at La=Crosse at 12 o-clock that night, where we slid on to the cars and away we rode for Chicago, Well then I went to sleep for that night, so end’s the first day. Well the next morning we woke up about ten o-clock and expected to get something to Eat, but nary a thing until 1 o-clock when we got some fat pork and Oh! How fat. We arrived in Chicago at 6 o-clock where we Marched through that fast town, and received the applause of thousands of Ladies and Gentlemen. Embarked again in about an hour on the Pittsburg Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, the same thing in the line of waving of hankerchifs was gone through. With all along the Route at Every farm house, town and City we were received with the same enthusiastic applause. By the way we passed through the town of Louisville where we were well received, I believe that is the place Mr. Faiver used to live at, arrived at Pittsburg about 1 o-clock at night but they were ready for us with hot coffee, pies and cakes, and every thing that was good to eat

[Page 3] and drink, we changed cars here and started for Harrisburg where we arrived the next afternoon about 3 o-clock and pitched our tents for the first time, started the next morning at 3 o-clock for the Plug=Ugly City of Baltimore at which place we arrived about 3 o-clock that afternoon, two of the
Companies had their guns loaded, but one did not, we marched about 2 miles through the city, our regiment was the 2[?] Regiment only that ever got cheered going through that Renowned place, but it was hot. Started for Washington, and arrived there about 12 o-clock that Wednesday night and stopped in a large unfinished building, next morning we had leave to roam over the City the first place that Kendall and myself made a break for the Capitol, that was at 6 o-clock. Went all over it and to the very highest place that we could climb to on the Dome, I will write more about this building after I see it again, from there we made tracks for a restaurant where we had one good meal of beefsteak and coffee and from there we visited the Patent office but I will write all about that building in my next. Yesterday which was Sunday I visited the National Monument and the Treasury Department, besides Walking around the House that Jeff Davis was going to dine in on the Fourth of July, but which I think he will not [Page 4] until he walks through two hundred thousand bayonets there are quartered now in and around this City. One hundred and 50 thousand troops. I have just come from the Mermon Regiment they are a hardy set of men and look well. A regiment has just arrived from California[?] I saw one of them there is the best of feeling among all the troops quartered here in Washington. Our uniform came to day and tomorrow or next day we pass in [?] before Uncle Abraham and Grandfather Scott they say here in Washington that the Minnesota Regiment is the steadiest, best behaved, and one of the best drilled Regiments in this City. Yesterday on dress parade there were about 2 thousand person’s viewing us and the boys done their prettiest. Yesterday I visited the Washington National Monument and like every other Yankee, took a chip of Marble from that celebrated institution. visited the Government Printing Office where there are twenty six Adam’s Presses in one room quite a Printing Office almost as large as the “Emigrant Aid Journal Office” in the far famed City of Nininger it is quite warm to day, but as yet none of our boys are sick, but I must stop writing as I have [Page 5] to go and drill soon, by the by, I understand you are a Military man, well success to you and your Rifles, as soon as I get my uniform and my pay I am going to get my ugly face taken and send it to you, and in Return I would like your’s and Mrs. Donnelly taken and put in one case and sent to me, I don’t consider that I have many friends in Minnesota but your Family, I would like to have you answer this immediately as there is no knowing how soon we may be called away from here. I will give you a history of camp life in my next letter. Give my best Respects to all of my friends in Nininger, and to Miss Ruddy [?] in Philadelphia when you write to her again, Kendall will write some on this dirty sheet of paper if you can read this you will do better than I can, but I cannot help it, so good Bye,

From your Friend, Henry W. Lindergreen
Dear Friends:

Lindergreen requests me to say a few words in addition to his already well-filled letter, and I am at a loss what more of interest—there is to write of at present, but I think if I could have a small [?] to hold this sheet of paper still I could write more conveniently. Our journey to this place was short and wearisome; but at the same time novel and pleasant, more so to me on account of its being my first experience in [?], and my first view of the country so far east. I was not at all surprised at the speed of the cars, nor at the change of climate; for the one went slower and the other changed more gradually than I had expected and prepared myself for. The only change that I perceive here is that the nights are some what warmer than they were in Minnesota. The last day that we drilled in Snelling was more oppressive than any day we have had here. The crops, until we come to Pennsylvania, were not any more forward[?] than at home; especially corn which is nearly out of the ground, and as a general thing looks poorly; and no where does the wheat stand as heavy nor grow as tall as at home, though nearer ripe. Fruit is of course is more abundant and more forward, Just as I commenced this page, I [?]. I bought [?] and I ate a pint of most luscious blackberries; and as

[Page 7] you will see, I have left my mark on the corner of the other sheet, and ripe cherries, are very plenty. [?] apples (very green) are commencing to come into market. Peaches are coming on finely, and the supply will be plenty. Their method of counting change rather surprises me; [?] when I were [?] told I could pay a [?] for a pie, I was at a loss to know whether I was able to do so or not, but I paid the 12 cents a [?]. It will take some time for us “back-roads men”, as they call us here in Washington, to [?] ourselves in their city ways and phrases. We could plainly hear the report of the guns of the steemer Freeborg during her engagement with the rebels at Matthias Point, in which Capt. Ward was killed. His private Secretary was at our camp next day and said that at first the enemy’s bullets fell some distance short of the vessel, and that he stood on deck in plain sight and fired some twenty shots from a Minnie rifle when the balls commenced flying nearer his head them [?] his pleasure, which compelled him to beat[?] a hasty retreat behind the wheel-house, from whence he continued to fire for some time, and thinks that some of the rebels must have gone to their [?] through his influence. But enough for the present Please direct to Company “H”, 1st Reg’t, Min. Vol. Washington. From you young friend

Julian J. Kendall

[Page 8] Lindergreen said that the ink had just run out, I say that it has just run in, I “hooked it.”