

From E.P. Duncan to Mr. S. Wildbahn and Ransome Butler

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Desha Co[.] Arkansas

August the 17th 1864

Mr. S. Wildbahn & Ransome Butler

Dear Sirs[.]

I write this letter to let you know my whereabouts, this County is bounded on the east by the Mississipy River and I am a bout 16 miles of the same not knowing what Rout I will next take, having since I wrote to you changed my plan of procedure [MS. illegible] to go with the army, but yesterday I fell in with my old friend from Western Mo[.] Mirrit Young[.] who commands a redgement in General Greens' Division from St[.] Louis Mo[.] he advises me not to undertake to go with the army for it would be more than I could stand in my feeble condition and, that my mare never would stand the trip, consequently I have partly declined going with the Army, and must fall on some other plan[.] that plan has not developed its self yet but I think I will try to get on a bout or Cross the Miss[.] River and go up on the other side but what may turnup to change my notion in a day or two I cannot say for I am changing my notions and plans every day to suit the emergencies of the cases as they present them, but I intend to keep trying every plan to accomplish my homeward movement[.]

I have learned from hearsay that the present movement of Price (General) I should say is to go to Mo. and that is the cause of his refusing to let any person pass his lines in front[.] his Adjutant General when I went to get a pass stated that the movement was for Mo[.] this I learned after I wrote to you from Camden but I have to know nothing, on the subject but what common rumor says but there is no dout [doubt] but what there is a bigg expedition on foot and that towards Mo. I passed Prices pontoon bridges on the road to this place on Sunday and all the army that I have passed is go that way[.] I passed a briggade yesterday and was halted by the advanced pickets and kept till day break. I never know when i'm out of there pickets

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