

From D.R. Anthony to Dear Father

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Camp Denver near West Point Mo

Dec 22, 1861

Dear Father

Here we are again after a trip of six days to Kansas City- Independence[,] Harrisonville[,] to this place.

On our route we had several skirmishes with the enemy mostly with our picket guards. our force was only 250. We took 150 mules & 40 Horses-- 129 negroes and gave the negroes [11?] Horses & mules, a lot of oxen, [14?] waggon & two carriages and all loaded down with Household [MS. illegible]. the negroes train into Kansas was over a mile long.

In our skirmishes we killed Col Hierst of the 3rd Mo and 6 or 7 of his men/rebels.

We will not remain here long but will move further into Missouri to get forage-- and Beef[.]

Col[.] Jennison hopes to be promoted to a Brig Gnl[.] in that case I hope to fill his place.

I took a fine Secesh flag at Harrisonville. also a Secesh [MS. illegible] which I will send you- if I can.

The weather has been beautiful until this morning[.] there is 6 inches of snow. tis not cold.

How did Merritt stand the ride home?

[Truly?] D[.] R[.] Anthony