

At Burns Creek Schoolhouse

Thurs. Oct 20<sup>th</sup> 1864.

Dearest Mary:

I take a few moments to write you a line to let you know we have all survived the Raid and are "alibe and kick-  
sing". I am at the school house it is noon and the children at play. You no doubt know all the news from Pice Co. better than we do we got a mail Tues. the first for nearly three weeks. I can't begin to tell you the thousandth part of what the rebels did here but I will tell a little.

They came here ~~over~~ to this branch of the R.R. on Thurs. P.M. Sept 29<sup>th</sup> tore all the track up that they wanted to, burned every R.R. station between St James & Franklin (Frank-  
lin <sup>Sta</sup> was burned) except Harrison Sta.

or Speedburg as it is generally called  
Genl Ewing was chased by the  
Scamps from Pilot Knob and got in  
to Speedburg just a little before the  
Rebs came. Speedburg is 12 miles from  
here up the R.R. Where they had a  
fight and Ewing drove them off  
The main body passed through  
St Clare a station some 12 miles  
from Sullivan. but there was lots  
of companies all around over  
the country before, after, and at  
the same time the main force was  
passing. There was ~~200~~ camped a  
mile from us, and more than a  
week after that 100 or more camped  
1/2 mile from us, but not one came  
to our house. Oh! you can't think  
of the mischief they have done steal-  
-ing horses was a little part of their  
thieving. There isn't hardly a stone  
left in the country and private  
houses were robed as well as stores  
the rascals took every thing by any

sure were always  
from  
went to the  
men  
A great many

thing they could find. And nearly every  
one they saw that they supposed had  
Green Backs they put the pistol to  
their head and made them hand  
over their money. There are hundreds  
of families left entirely destitute.  
To show you how they treat folks  
I will tell you of one man whom  
they found. They made him take  
his coat off, they put it on, then  
his boots, then his vest, and pants,  
and every thing he had one except  
drawers and shirt, and left him  
in the road, one old Dutchman  
they left him without a rag on.  
The union men here all took to  
the brush. Some were killed, most  
of them because they would not  
"halt" when they wanted them to.  
It looked like we were all gone  
one night we could see the light  
from Sullivan where it was burned  
and several other places and heard  
guns from their camp. The rebels, now

A great many men who went to the southern army from here were along with the forest and called on their friends.

