This is a Civil War letter from Rolla, Phelps County, Missouri, written by J. J. H. Duncan, Co. C, 145th Illinois Infantry. Written to a cousin, the letter discusses the death of Duncan’s father and contains miscellaneous camp news.

A 100-day unit, the 145th Illinois Infantry was organized at Camp Butler on 9 June 1864. The unit had 880 men on its rolls. The 145th Illinois departed for St. Louis on 12 June. After detaching two companies in St. Louis, the remainder of the unit traveled to Rolla. There the regiment established Camp Lackey, named after Col. George W. Lackey, the unit’s commanding officer. The 145th Illinois spent its time at Rolla performing guard duty and cutting logs for the construction of Fort Dette. The regiment moved to Alton, Illinois, in August, and was mustered out at Camp Butler on 23 September 1864.