

Camp Near Falmouth Va,  
Apr. 7<sup>th</sup>. 1863

Mr Hodgdon

Dear Sir

I take my pen in hand  
inform that I have lost my right  
four finger within about three  
foils of an inch from my hand  
and I take this opportunity to  
inquire of you if I am considered  
fit to perform military duty, and  
what do you consider that duty  
to be and if consider me bound  
to do duty I cannot handle  
a musket and as I am situated  
I would like to be discharged from  
the Service I have not done duty  
since the 9 day of January and  
my wound is not healed now  
I will <sup>tell how</sup> it hapened I sat in  
the entrance of my tent with

my hand resting on one of  
the lozes that run out from  
the tent and it being dark one  
of my tent mates was out and had  
an ~~ax~~ ax to split some kindling  
wood with and not seeing my  
hand dropped the ax onto the  
log and cut <sup>my finger</sup> ~~it~~ most of the doctor  
did it out and by some means  
I got cold in it and it had to  
be cut of if I am entitled to  
a discharge and if not you  
will do me a great favor  
by answering this letter

Yours BC,  
Benj<sup>n</sup> F. Ramsdell  
of Co. F. 20 Regt Me Vals,

V. O. Apr 7, 1863  
Roamsdell B. K.

Wants discharge

B. L. Randall d. 20.<sup>th</sup>

at

Apr 7, 1863.

Wants a discharge.

"Don't believe it a good case"