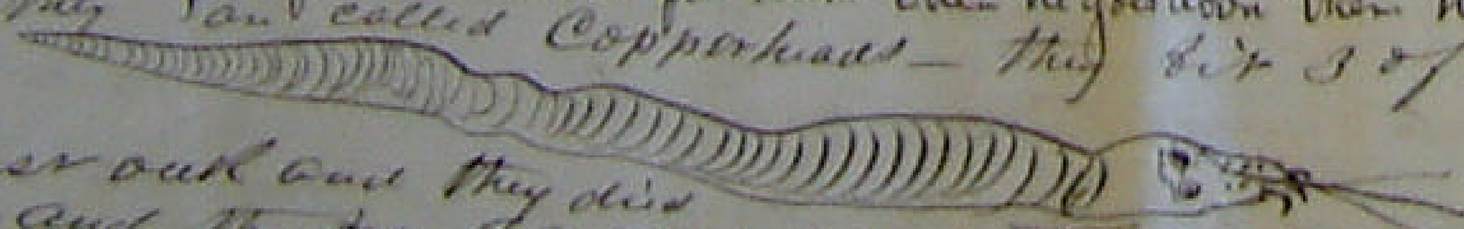
So far as Mr. Jones or Mr. Moss &c

One thing more will surprise you most of the Recruits which I came with which numbered about 400, only about 50 are ~~are~~ alive. I am one of that 50 had I known before leaving home that 3 out of 4 would die or be killed in 12 months I should have hesitated before coming. July 26. Now Helen Bradbury I am going to tell you a story.

do you see the poor little Chicken eating hard tack

July 27 Tuesday It is very warm I am gaining strength and feel much better than I did a week ago. It day the Colonel Two examining regiments I spoke complimentary of my style and said he was very glad the Col had one that could do their business in good shape he did not speak to my face but I know he was not flattering

— Children hear this story A little way from here down by the swamp the snakes are thick, your father looks out for them when he goes down there here is a picture of one they are called Copperheads — they bite 3 of our men



last week and they died they spelled up and the Dr. could not cure them — I tell them they had better keep away from the swamp if they don't work to get bit for they will go & I cannot stop them

Yours Ever Helen