

In Camp near Falmouth Va April 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

Dear Brother Edmund

With pleasure to me I take my pen in hand to answer your kind letter of the 23<sup>rd</sup> of last month I am glad to hear that you are a getting over your sickness and hope before this reaches you you will be intirely well.

I am glad to tell you that I am in the enjoyment of quite good health at present. The weather has been very bad out here most all last month the day before yesterday it commenced to snow & rain together and it lasted most all night making the roads in a miserable condition. Our Colonel has been relised from under arrest and is now acting Brigadier he was under arrest for more than 3 months. We are all glad that he is released for the Boys likes him as they know what he is, and have the fullist confidence in him as a leader. We are a getting along first strate and what little I have seen of the Army they all feel in good spirits and are ready to meet the Enemy of our common country as quick as we git orders to do so. We expect to git payed off in a little while, as the Government pays



us Five months pay. They are getting very strict in our  
Brigade now we have to drill 3 times a day and  
answer roll calls a day. I suppose the Brigade  
wants to make regulars out of us. well all I have got  
to say we will halft a bay orders.

Give my love to Ma & Pa Ann Louisa & her Husband  
Henry and Charra not forgetting to receive a due share  
your self. I am glad that Thomas writes to you  
so often I am glad to hear that he is well and in  
a little while he will be home once more if nothing  
happens to him. It is strange that John does not  
write but you must bear in mind that he is on  
the move and a man has not the chance to do so  
when so situated. I hope and pray nothing has happen  
to him for in that case God only knows what  
is to become of his wife and little ones he is depending  
on him for support. As for me if God should so ordain  
it that I should be carried away I am like a blighted tree  
desert there is nothing that lives under my shelter  
And I thank God for it. So let come what will I  
am ready to meet it and if I fall I fall with the  
proud conscience of having done my duty to my  
Country & my God. I do not despair of the Union.

more will I as long as there is a plank of the old  
constitution left to stand on. All we want for  
those to do that told us to go to the war is to take  
care of the home traitors (and I consider all traitors  
that is trying to imbarress the government by speeches  
against the government) and we will do the best we  
can with the Rebels that is piled against us in the  
field. Edmund as I feel my heart & soul is in this  
cause for I believe it is the duty of every man  
to give what little he is able in support of the best  
government that was ever given to man. It is all very  
well for men to cry peace when there is no peace there men  
if the truth were told is in their hearts rebels to this govern<sup>ent</sup>  
and they have done more to imbarress the government  
than the rebels that is in arms. in my estimation  
I was up to the 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment the other day this is the  
regiment - Frank Allen belongs to they seem in high  
glee because they are going home the latter part of  
this month. There is no news of importance out here  
at present - as the weather is bad one day nice the  
next - either raining or snowing the Officers has got  
to carry their tents on their backs the same as the



high privates this in my estimation is a very good thing. they will not march the men quite so hard on a long march the Officers did not care before as they had nothing to carry but it was different with us as we have got 40 rounds of cartridges and a heavy knapsack to carry besides other things, I am glad you got the few tools that was to Peato as they were in the way to her house I wrote a letter to Phebe and also one to Moe I hope they both get them. Edmund you need not send me any paper as it will cost too much I thank you for offering to send me a paper but as you are situated it would be a great deal of bother to you.

You must write often to me and I will try and do the same so hoping this will find you all well and hoping to hear from you soon I will close by sending love to all of you

From Your Brother.

Wm. P. Allcott

Direct as before  
Wm  
P  
Allcott  
E. C. Allcott