

Washington June 21 1862

Dear Sister Daphne

It is needless for me to tell you how glad I was to receive a letter from you yours is the only letter I have received in over one month. I expect that they do not reach me for I saw one of my letters advertised in Washington papers

Well you will see by this letter that I am still alive and in the land of the living though I am pretty near not being for the typhoid fever gave me as bad a call as the enemy's bullets ever did, but through the hand of a kind providence I have been restored to my usual health and strength I was taken sick the next day after the battle at West Point and I lay on the ground burning with the fever for ten days my bed was anything but comfortable but I would not go to my hospital for they would not let me go with my papers for my discharge as soon as I was able to go home but I was bound to stay with the boys let what would come and I am with them yet and enjoying myself tip top. You wish to know whether we were in the fight at Williamsburg or not. there was not but a part of us in the hottest of the fight at that place for we had the ammunition train to guard and consequently we or a part of us was kept in the rear to bring up the ammunition to the rest of the men that were engaged

At West Point the programme was about the same, only our ammunition was on steam transports in the river at this place there was not but one battalion of our reg in the fight and they were ~~on~~ with the advanced artillery, we stopt at West point with the ammunition for fifteen days and then we went up the Pamunky river to the White house landing I guess that I will not tell you any thing more about the affairs on the Peninsula for you will see by the heading of this letter that we are not there now we were ordered back to Washington by the secretary of war to be mounted we went on board the steamer South America on the 22 of May and arrived ~~in~~ here the next Sunday morning and we marched from the landing up through the city to our old camp that we left sixty days ago we have got our saddles bridles and arms and expect our this week we probably shall join Banks division when we are mounted You wanted to know who our captain and col is now Oaph my motto is if I cannot speak any good of a person so not I speak at all so I will just mention their names Col John Beardsley Capt B F Chamberlain of Randolph. I have some very nice specimens that I brought from the rebel forts at Yorktown I will send you some cotton seeds that I got there. You want to know what I think of their institution I can assure you that I do not think

of their institutions I found the people of both colors more ignorant than I had any idea they were or could be in this day and age of the world I will just repeat a little conversation that I had with a young lady of apparently high rank I stopped at her house to get a drink of water I asked her how far it was to Yorktown she said its a rite smoot of a way Creckon tis. Then asked her if she had seen any Yankees go by that morning. Oh yes a rite smoot of em to there was. they were on foot warent they. Oh yes Creckon they was. Then said that I did not go on these hard times. she says how do you go I told her that I came up by land on a steam boat. a rite smoot of a way that is Creckon Well I told her she could see the craft by going down to the road. Professor Lowe gas generator happened to be passing at that time she went and looked at it and then run and called her mother to see the yankee steam boat on land. after that went past I asked her how many men Johnson & Magruder had at Yorktown. Dont know but there is a rite smoot of them Creckon. Then asked her if she had heard the latest news. she said that they had not well I told her that the news we had was that the Yankees under Commodore Foot had come over by land with their gun boats and set the James river on fire and had burnt up the Magrines. she looked at me as sharp and said that was rite smoot but that

they could not have taken the Marmora
any other way. Then took my leave of
her and shouldered my gun and started on.
I find that there is but difference between
the whites and blacks the negroes go about
our camps and pick up cloths that the soldiers
throw away so they are most all of them dressed
in uniform when we came back to Washington
we fetched back quite a number of those slaves that
helped make the forts at Yorktown.

It is now time for
me to go on duty so I must bring my
letter to a close. I should like to write more but
must stop now. Dr. Wattermar is in a hospital
here in ~~the~~ the city some where but I cannot find
him if you hear where he is please let me know
give my respects to all and write soon.

Yours in haste

C. P. S.