

Washington June 14<sup>th</sup> 66

Dear Father

It has been a long time since I have heard from you. I do not know why I have not I think I wrote you two letters while we were on the advance. or on the Peninsula you see by the heading of this letter that we are not in the field now we went within eight miles of Richmond or to White house landing and then our term of detachment run out and the men would not serve in in that branch (infantry) of the service any longer so they put us under regular officers and our officers kept back out of harms way and that did not go down very well we came pretty near being mustered out of service as cowards on account of some of our Col lies for prove that we have not played the coward I will tell you what Col Hunt told Gen Palmer. Said he those men & (speaking of us volunteers) have been shamefully abused for being reported as cowards for they are not cowards nor did they prove themselves so in action at Williams Burg they were the best men I had there I should have lost my

batteries if it had not been for them. My men  
(this man were regulars) run of and left them when  
the enemy charged on us but those men stuck  
to the pieces I ordered them to load with double  
charges of grape and canister shot that to fire one  
of the pieces my self we soon broke their ranks  
and shot the horse from under their leader  
and then they retreated in great confusion. these  
men were eager to pursue them. that appears  
to be the opinion of ~~of~~ an officer that had the  
command of our men in an engagement. let men  
do as we have don and they be called cowards  
is most to much. we had to take care of the  
ammunition for the whole advance and load it  
and on load it from one vessel to another from the  
vessels into waggons one night when we expected  
a battle the next day. our company was detailed  
to go and get ammunition on shore and load it into  
waggons we had to carry over the decks of six steamers  
before we could get it on shore I carried it a cross one  
vessel alone the boxes of shell weighed two and fifty  
lbs

Well I will not write any  
more about what transpired in the field seeing we  
are not in it now we were ordered back to  
Washington to be mounted we have our  
saddles and arms but not our horses yet

Received by the Army and Navy Department  
Washington D.C. 1862  
copy of the original or in your name - I am sorry you cannot  
write me know how you get along and how the  
the

I will not forget from the does well  
 we expect there very day when we go  
 into the field again we will go as men  
 not dogs if not they can count me out and  
 leave me behind in the guard house or  
 where else they please I never shall go into the  
 field again on foot let what will come. we have  
 very easy times here now the weather is very  
 warm We received or have received four  
 months pay since I have sent any money home  
 I have exprest fifty dollars to H. Kennedy in  
 care of Eldred Gott for you if you will be  
 so kind as to get it and keep it for me until I  
 stop for it I will send a box to you with  
 some things that I got from the rebels I shall  
 have to send them soon for I will lose them  
 all for the boys have stolen some of my most valuable  
 articles which included my silver mounted  
 revolver that was worth 25 dollars of any mans  
 money I will send the box to Kennedy also there  
 is nearly two months pay due us now I have 20  
 dollars with me now and a good hunder watch  
 I will send five dollars in this and a confederate  
 note to please give that to Bob when you write  
 let me know how your infantry gets along I  
 wish I could see my little brother and sister  
 Glizzie but cannot now tell Albo that if he will  
 drive cratch<sup>a</sup> round and drive the business on  
 farms I will make him a present of that

I hope you will be down one of these times  
 I will be glad to see you and your family  
 I will be glad to see you and your family  
 I will be glad to see you and your family

I will be glad to see you and your family  
 I will be glad to see you and your family  
 I will be glad to see you and your family

I still remain your dutiful Son

C. P. Churchill

These verses are for Horra  
tell Craylin and Homer to write me  
a letter I will answer them

pleas write immediately  
for I shall be anxious to  
hear from you